Vile 471

Chapter 471 Employee Satisfaction P4*

"Awesome. I want more!"

Agatha said and kissed Eren on his lips. She could feel that Eren's dick was poking against her tummy as she did that. Ehs reached out her hand between them and took a hold of it.

She started working along its length as her tongue invaded Eren's mouth. Then she made him sleep on his back by slowly putting her body weight on him. The young anthrope was on top of the butcher again.

Agatha kept on stroking Eren's 8incher as she lay on top of Eren. the latter had made a habit of adjusting the length and girth of his little guy according to the women he was being with as well as their needs at the time.

Agatha started kissing Eren on his neck first before proceeding to his chest. She kept kissing her way downwards before she reached her intended spot. The young anthrope didn't wait long. She tried to take Eren's whole dick in one go in an attempt to show that she knew what she was doing.

"Cough! Cough! cough!"

Too bad, she choked on it when the dick's tip hit the uvula. The young anthrope's eyes become watery when she looked at Eren before trying to look somewhere else.

Eren was watching her every move. He chuckled before adding.

"Hahaha! It's fine. Take your time. A simple, slow and steady blowjob is better than any exotic one."

Eren said and lay on his back again with his head looking at the ceiling. He then pulled out his smoke and started smoking as Agatha resumed her work with revised guidelines from him.

Agatha first started sucking on the tip of Eren's cock as she fondled his balls. She then started letting his dick slide inside her mouth bit by bit until she had taken almost all the length in.

This time, the gag reflex didn't kick in. Agatha's mouth produced a lot of saliva on its own. Saliva began dripping from her mouth. She used the same stuff to dip her hands in before caressing and playing with Eren's balls.

'Hm. Natural talent. I'm more blessed by women of natural talent. Except for that young elf. She was a total noob. Wonder what she's doing now.'

Eren first acknowledged Agatha's skills. Then he thought of Lensa for some reason. He would often think of random things when he was smoking Stellar Sativa. As if his soul was interacting with the mysteries of the world and he had no control over it.

Eren then smoked with one hand while grabbing Agatha from the back of her head with the other. By now she had started taking his dick in and out of her mouth at the usual speed. The saliva her mouth secreted acted as a natural lubricant and helped her a lot.

"Hmmm! Good job. Now take it all in."

Eren soon finished his smoke and held Agatha's head with both of his hands before starting to lift his hips, matching her rhythm. Of course, he didn't increase the speed of his thrusting all at once. He increased it gradually while enjoying the process of getting his dick sucked by the virgin talent.

A low grunt was heard.

And Agatha felt like something hot had been poured into her mouth. Like some liquid metal that was highly volatile. She didn't need to exert much effort gulping it down because Eren had already released his seed at the back of her throat.

Eren gave an appreciative nod at Agatha when she looked up and met his eyes. Her confidence rose as a result. So she rubbed the trace amount of Eren's cum with the back of her right palm.

Agatha cast her water element spell and cleaned herself and Eren up before charging herself some more. Her jaw hurt because of the moves she had just performed. So she channelled her mana and used Eren as an energy source to fix that about herself.

Agatha got up on her fours and approached Eren while her pelvis moved rhythmically. Her knees were soon placed on either side of Eren as she lowered her groin over Eren's. She rubbed her pussy over his flaccid dick before kissing him again.

Eren soon found out that Agatha still hadn't dispersed her spell. She had produced the azure water in her mouth. Her spell-imbued lips sucked more stamina out of Eren as the kiss continued.

'This cunning girl. I would have been a dry skeleton by now had I been a Novice ranker.'

Eren thought as he slapped Agatha's buns with both his hands at the same time before grabbing them hard. He squeezed them and parted them further. Then he rubbed his now-erect dick over the entrance of her pussy.

"Aaah... do... do it. Deflower me."

Agatha mumbled to herself. But Eren heard her message loud and clear. He did not need any more encouragement. He adjusted his dick with his hand before driving its tip inside Agatha's cave.

Agatha bit on Eren's lips and kissed him like her life was dependent on it when she felt his member get inside her. She had used the kiss as a self-induced silencer. But that soon turned out to be futile when she felt her pussy walls getting stretched further.

"Aaaaaaaaaaaah!"

Agatha cried while wrapping her hands around Eren's neck. The latter could hear her scream clearly since it was released right beside his left ear. But he didn't mind. With one hand he caressed her back. With the other, he stretched her right leg and made it spread even more before pushing his rod in.

The tip of Eren's dick had felt that something was blocking his way. The force with which he rammed his dick inside was strong enough to deal with it as soon as he felt it.

Something hot and not slimy dripped down Eren's dick. He could easily discern the smell of blood in the air when it was released this near to him.

"You are a full-fledged woman now, Miss Manager. Thanks for letting me open your shop. I'll be its only permanent customer from now on."

Chapter 472 Employee Satisfaction P5*

"You are a full-fledged woman now, Miss Manager. Thanks for letting me open your shop. I'll be its only permanent customer from now on."

Eren laughed amusingly and grabbed Agatha's waist before driving his shaft into her wet hole. The latter had tightened the farce of her arms around his neck. She used a few beastly features of her anthrope transformation subconsciously to deal with the not-so-pleasant pain amid the waves of ecstasy she was feeling.

"Aaaaaaaah... Er... Eren... slow... a bit slower!"

Eren heard Agatha's request and decided to slow it down. But he also knew that she just needed to be excited some more before she could feel the true bliss of getting pounded by him.

Hatchlings of the Flame!

Eren cast his go-to spell for these activities and made the fire snakes work on the various sensitive parts of her body. One of the snakes crawled near her wet hole where Eren's dick was still active and started licking the place. The other hatchling crawled to her rear entry and started licking it with its forked tongue.

The other two snakes wrapped around her waist and started sucking on both of her nipples, occasionally biting on them.

It didn't take long for Agatha to come around. In her drunken haze, she whispered sweet nothings into his ears.

"Go... go... go A bit faster. Har.... Harder."

Agatha urged and Eren obliged. He lifted his pelvis in the air a bit using his folded legs and increased the force and pace of his poundings.

Taaaph! Taaaph! Taaaph!

Agatha opened her tightly shut eyes gradually. As her pussy clenched on the ever-restless member coming in and out of her cave, only to return with even more vigour, she was starting to feel turned on. She let go of all her self-imposed restrictions and moaned her heart out.

"Aaaaaaah! Aaaaaah! That's... that's it. Deeper.... Go deeper."

'They always want it to go deeper after a while. Lucky for you gals, I can always go deeper.'

Eren smirked and increased his dick's size mid-coitus. He also increased his pace some more while holding Agatha's hips from both sides, lest she gets rammed so hard, that she flies over his head.

Agatha's snowy and round butt turned red as a result of all that excessive collateral damage they were receiving. The owner of those now-red buns was equally surprised by that fierce pounding. She wasn't ready for this.

"Wh.... Aaaaah.... Ere.... Eren... Aaaaaaaah!"

This time, Agatha didn't try to dictate Eren's moves because she couldn't. Although she wasn't comfortable at first, she soon found out that this was the sought-after level up she was seeking. She channelled her mana throughout her body and made it bearable enough for her to take that pounding from her master.

Eren kept at it for some time. His intensity only kept increasing with each passing minute. The anthrope took some time to reach her tipping point. But when she did, they both knew that it would be more intense than her previous ones.

"I.... I'm coming...."

Agatha announced. But Eren could already tell that after gauging the way Agatha's pussy walls were reacting. They clenched his dick before releasing another gushing fountain of love juices.

Agatha emptied whatever stuff her wet canal had stocked up on and dropped it on Eren's torso as if she was lifeless. She was also breathing heavily as she kept her right ear close to Eren's heart.

"Want more?"

Eren asked with a slight chuckle as he caressed Agatha's back. The latter took some time to answer. But her answer wasn't verbal. It came through the execution of her signature spell.

"This is a form of cheating you know."

Eren complained while smiling but didn't stop Agatha from drawing his stamina for herself. Agatha was gaining her lost strength back the more her spell stayed activated without any resistance from Eren.

She replied as soon as she had the strength to do so.

"Fancy coming from you, my master. All means are valid as long as you get what you want without incurring losses. That's what you told me once. I'm only beginning to find some logic in it. That's all. Hehe!"

Agatha said while sitting on Eren's tummy with her legs bent. The butcher smiled mirthlessly when he heard Agatha's counter. It was his chickens that had come home to roost after all.

"Heh! Don't get cocky just because you can recover using my strength. I can see that it had its limits. Every time you use it, it gets less effective. That means you also receive a reduced rejuvenation in return."

Eren said this while he raised his torso from the ground with folded arms. Then he used one of his hands to caress Agatha's face and smiled mischievously before adding further.

"If there are limits to your spell, let's test them out, shall we?"

The night of pleasure was over. Eren had predicted it right. Unlike his ability, Agatha's spell came with plenty of restrictions. By the middle of the night, she couldn't absorb Eren's essence even if she wanted to and collapsed.

Eren was tired as well. He too slept with Agatha in his arms without any care in the world. The dawn break had to arrive for Eren to open his eyes. He had had a good night's sleep after a long day. As a result, he was thoroughly refreshed, even if only mentally.

Physically, he was starving. So he walked towards the same window he had left half-opened last night and opened it completely. The morning wind and the warm sun rays greeted him when he did that.

Eren took out some beef jerky from his storage and started eating it while observing the dense forest behind the inn and the warmly lit morning sky.

He then uncorked another bottle of dwarf rum and started drinking from it in silence, sans the thoughts and schemes in his head. Just like his balls, yesterday's session had thoroughly emptied his mind of all his mental clutter.

The butcher had to admit that the act of ploughing was one of the most effective remedies to most of his worries.

Chapter 473 Laying Foundation

"Eren, you... you woke up already?"

Agatha asked while getting up from the bed, rubbing her eyes. As soon as she got up, she could feel that her hips and legs were sore because of yesterday's prolonged session.

"Morning, Miss Manager. Care to join me for a drink?"

Looking at Agatha, Eren asked where he stood. The latter looked at the same brand of the bottle that had made her feel like she was drinking lava and decided to ignore the offer.

'I... I'm a mess.'

Agatha said to herself when she looked down at her body. Her hair had turned unkempt and her body could use a bath. Plus, the fatigue wasn't completely over for her.

So she channelled her mana throughout her body and relaxed her muscles. Then she cast her azure-water spell and let it gather around her, drawing life essence from the surroundings. Her sore body and fatigued state were curbed to some degree.

Agatha then freshened up by quickly immersing her body in the azure mass of water. Finally, she changed into an adventurer's outfit while her body was covered by the spell.

Agatha was ready to face the day within a few minutes of her waking up. Eren had to admit that she broke a huge stereotype with her day-to-day moves alone. Meanwhile, he still stood by the window naked and not caring about how he reeked or looked.

"Eren, wear some pants maybe. Altashia will come to meet us soon, you know."

Agatha said and pouted while looking at her master. But not before taking a sneak peek at his crotch. She then smiled to herself and contacted the inn and told them to bring some food overusing the array disk.

Eren nodded at Agatha and threw a rune-sealed document at her. He then retrieved his set of clothes and started wearing them while dictating the course of actions Agatha needed to take.

"This is another copy of the document that states the plot of land that I had talked to you about belongs to us, the White Raven Guild. Keep this to yourself."

Eren said while channelling his fire-element mana throughout his body. The butcher got clean even faster than Renita. If the latter had broken a stereotype with how fast she got ready, the former had strengthened it for his gender with his move.

Agatha imbued her mana into the document and realized that now it was bound to her mana signature. She quickly released the rune and started reading it while sitting at the edge of the bed.

Eren then threw another bunch of documents and scrolls on the bed beside her while pulling his pants up. He added further as he buckled his pants.

"This would be our rough plans about the land. In these documents, you'd find the references, the right person we can contact for the right job, and some other smaller plots of land we can obtain from other owners that are attached to the land we already have under our name."

Agatha looked at Eren suspiciously when she heard his intentions to buy more lots of land. The one that they had was already enough to establish a decent-sized city. For now, they didn't need to waste more money on buying more land. At least that was the first thought she had when she heard her thrifty master's diabolical decision to spend money extravagantly.

Eren smirked at her when he figured out what she was thinking. He clarified it for her.

"It won't be for our use. We'll buy those lands now and sell them after the entrance to Minerva's Utopia gets discovered. Kekekeke. We'll sell those lands for quadruple the amount of their current buying value and rankers would still buy them.

We don't have to wait for our guild's city to be built for this instant profit. Investing in this way will allow us to make a quick profit. We can then use that money on our big project."

Eren said while buttoning his shirt. Agatha realized what Eren's plan was when she heard Eren's plan. It made sense to her. But there was still one huge problem.

"Eren, we don't have that much money lying around. Sure, we can purchase a piece of land or two that is on the outskirts of our ground zero with what we have right now. But to buy the quantity you want us to buy..."

Eren sighed when Agatha addressed this problem. He shook his head before replying.

"I know what we have is a chump change for the plans we have hatched. But let's start slowly. Take one step at a time. Sell some of our assets in the Lionheart duchy if you have to.

Meet with people. Raise a legal query in any information guild, bribe the city officials, or arrange a recon using black-market channels. But try to find out about the owners of those lands. And use any means necessary to get those lands at the lowest rates possible. Target the weakest owners first.

Lie, beg, borrow, and steal. But get most of those lands under our wings."

Eren said and started wearing a dark brown runic jacket over his white-coloured shirt. He then groomed his hair using his fingers as a comb before adding more.

"The documents and scrolls I have given you should be helpful to you in your task. The rest of the blanks you would have to fill in yourself.

I know it's not an easy task if you are the only one doing it. Plus, the scope of your share of work would only grow if our initial plan comes to fruition. Maybe we'll find somebody in the future who can help you. But for now, you have your hands full."

Then Eren walked towards the door after breakfast had been delivered outside their room. He brought the food trolley near the dining table and prepared Agatha's platter before handing it out to her. He didn't use any plate for himself and started eating the food straight from the vessels placed on the trolley.

"Eren, there's one more problem. Even if everything works out according to our plan for the future, we still have to live in the present. We don't have any substantial weight at the moment. All our plans are based on the fact that Minerva's Utopia would appear on the land we own.

I will never doubt you. But how will you convince the others?

And even if we manage to convince the parties, how will we stop them from taking us out of the picture entirely when they understand the land's true worth?

I'm sure that the Derringers would have plenty of ways to make an Ace ranker submit his land to them."

Chapter 474 Agatha's Past?

"I'm sure that the Derringers would have plenty of ways to make an Ace ranker submit his land to them."

Agatha said while eating with a worried expression on her face. Eren nodded at her to indicate that he agreed with her line of thoughts. But then he smirked before responding.

"That is indeed true. Our side is bound to appear weaker in negotiations with the big leagues if you and I lead the negotiations. But what if a high-ranked entity with a solid background does that for us?"

Eren said and started eating. Agatha had ordered his favourite kebabs for him skewered with what appeared to be mega toothpicks. The meat was prepared from an unranked mana beast.

So it didn't have any rank-strengthening properties. In ranker's terms, it was fast food. But that didn't stop Eren from having it. He liked fast food. He had lived almost all of his previous timeline's life on fast food after all.

Agatha had ordered herself a bunch of Novice ranked dishes. Eren wanted to tell her that buying stuff in small quantities only to have more of it in terms of varieties shouldn't be seen as maintaining a healthy diet. But he refrained from saying that and let her process what he said.

"You mean you have someone who can do that for us? Your aunt Nina?"

Eren shook his head in denial before answering her.

"I won't mind Nina representing the White Raven Guild as well. And she would happily do it since she is also here, in the Nightshade duchy. But we need someone who is not only a high-ranked entity but is also backed by a known and powerful organization. Only then can we successfully get into business with the Derringers.

Don't worry though. I have just the person in mind. I'll take care of it before the meeting with Derringer takes place."

Eren said and gobbled almost all of the kebab pieces from the food trolley. He then turned his attention to the escalope served with salsa. He started eating it piece by piece without using the utensils as he listened to Agatha's next question.

Agatha finished her breakfast and cast her spell again to clean her hands. Then she started massaging her forehead just above her eyebrows as if she had just started to understand the hectic workload lined up in front of her.

"Alright. I'll let you worry about it. It's not like you haven't done crazy things before. I'll leave now and start working on these things.

Sigh. You sure know how to make me work."

Agatha smiled nervously. She then took all the documents and scrolls Eren had given her into her storage and prepared to leave the room. But then she felt a light tug on her right wrist and before she knew it she was in Eren's embrace.

"How was our first time?"

Eren asked Agatha while caressing her hair and planting a kiss on her forehead. The latter was taken aback by the sudden development. But she welcomed it nonetheless and replied with a smile on her face.

"Couldn't have asked for anything better."

Eren smirked before responding.

"Look forward to the next time."

Eren released his embrace and let Agatha go. They had already worked on some of the finer details about their plan the rest they would figure out as per the situation.

Eren was laying the groundwork to enter the pool of sharks and carve out a piece of territory for himself with his grand-scale plan of establishing White Raven city. Land of Minerva's Utopia was going to be a guild asset, as well as a source of fortune and trouble for the guild.

However, he found the potential problems that would arise to be too mediocre. He would always compare those problems with Eliza in his mind and would laugh at himself for underestimating them. He knew his perception of danger had been changed forever ever since he met the first Sage in his life. And yet, he could do nothing about the way he processed his situation.

"The vultures are bound to appear when they see a juicy piece of unclaimed meat."

After some silence in the inn room, Eren spoke. He took a long drag out of his smoke before speaking to himself once again.

"Let them come then."

Eren said and walked out of the room, heading downstairs using the array-powered platform serving as the lift. Altashia had already told him that she had gotten fresh and was waiting for him at the inn's lobby.

'I'm surprised you didn't enslave Agatha with your Sins ability, Eren.'

Alephee asked Eren when he was heading downstairs. The lift had no doors or walls. It was just having a slow and steady descent through an open passage meant for its dedicated use. The scenery in front of the butcher kept on changing as he answered her question.

The target's perception of me changes because of that ability. I can't control that part of the ability yet. Why would I break my assistant's personality just to make her do the same stuff while looking at me with starry eyes?

Changing perceptions is dangerous. Women who are enslaved by me using that ability can never offer me any advice or object to anything I say. Because for them, everything I do and say is correct.

Although I take a lot of precautions when doing something, it's better to have an unfiltered second opinion. That's why I won't abuse that ability recklessly.'

Eren said as he stepped off the array-powered platform. He could see Al in the distance, sitting on the couch that was meant for the inn's guests. So he started approaching her.

But he was frozen in his steps just a few meters away from Altashia when he heard Alephee's next words.

'That makes sense. By the way, Eren. I didn't say this yesterday because you were busy with Agatha. And I guess she doesn't know it herself. Someone has also used masking magic on her.

But she's a real half-blood.

Maybe you should listen to her story when she tries to tell that to you the next time.'

Chapter 475 Arangar Collosseum

'Maybe you should listen to her story when she tries to tell that to you the next time.'

Alephee suggested Eren nonchalantly. The latter was so shocked that he forgot to greet Altashia even though she had come to stand in front of him, flashing a smile.

'That spell she performed in front of us... that gave her away?'

Alphee pondered a bit before responding.

'More like... I didn't pay much attention to her until she performed that spell. And her status as a half-blood was apparent as soon as I did.'

Eren regretted not letting Agatha explain how and why she had joined the Beast Bloods. Now he wanted her to tell him everything he needed to know about her past.

Eren had planned on contacting half-blood forces in the future that were hiding from the normal populace somewhere. He had been wanting to do it ever since he realised how necessary it was to know about Eliza. They must have a lot of information about her.

'Hmm. If she doesn't know about her half-blood status do I assume that half-bloods live their lives without knowing about their roots?'

Eren asked this question before shaking his head in denial. Alphee had shared another crucial piece of information that told a different story. Masking magic altered a person's mana signature. It also had some other features. But for the most part, it was used by really cautious high-ranked entities to hide in the shadows for whatever reasons.

A low-ranked entity using masking magic was unheard of because they weren't capable of casting them. Only high-ranked entities would dabble in these forms of magic that played with the very existence of a ranker.

The fact that someone had used this magic on Agatha indicated two major things. One was that at least her parents or someone she knew were aware of her status as half-blood. They had used the therianthrope transformation as a medium to hide her half-blood powers in plain sight.

Second, since even Agatha wasn't aware of her status as a half-blood as per Alephee's deductions, it could be safe to assume that her parents, like the rest of the half-blood community, wanted it that way. The community must have come up with a set of guidelines that they were supposed to follow. It meant that something must have happened to Agatha's family before she was given the rite of passage to know about these things.

Eren realized that the conclusions he had reached so far must have been very close to reality, despite the large gaps left by Agatha's untold history. He was about to ask more about Agatha to Alphee when he felt a series of taps on his left shoulder.

"Eren.... Eren... why are you zoned out like that? Everything alright? Where's Agatha?"

Altashia had been trying to talk with Eren for a while now. And she had thought that he was listening at first. But then she realized that the butcher wasn't paying attention to her when she asked him a couple of questions but got no response from him.

"Oh? Hmmm... sorry. My bad, Al. I was thinking of something else. Agatha had her work lined up so she left early in the morning. What were you saying?"

Eren spoke quickly after recovering from his unresponsive state. Al felt like she wanted to ask him something else but decided not to. She sighed and repeated her previous question.

"I was asking if you would like to come with me to the Arangar Colosseum or do you have any other plans? You are not obliged to return the favour just because I accompanied you yesterday, you know."

Eren raised his eyebrows when he heard the term Arangar Colosseum. This was the top attraction point of the city and its major source of income. He had heard of the place in his past. But at that time, he was too poor to get in as a spectator and too weak to participate as a contestant.

"Heh! The Arangar Colosseum is one of the main reasons I came to this city. Of course, I'm coming with you."

Eren tapped Al's shoulders in a friendly gesture. He then hinted at Al to lead the way with a smirk and an elegant bow.

"Ladies, gentlemen, and rankers of all kinds, welcome to the Arangar Colosseum. Just like every week, we have something special planned for you this weekend. But before that, let's start with today's scheduled matches.

First, we will have...."

Eren had found himself inside a big amphitheatre. Measuring 588 metres in length, 556 metres in width and 457 metres in height, this multi-storey architecture looked eye-catching. It was capable of housing a large crowd comfortably.

The architecture of the Arangar Colosseum blended with the visual style of the overall city. Built of limestone, it boasted a sturdy construction. And with the strategic engraving of runes and arrays, the colosseum would ensure that plenty of light and fresh air gets summoned to make spectators' viewing a pleasurable experience.

There was heavy security all over the place. Rankers ranging from Rank F to Rank D were serving as security detail at various entry points of the colosseum. One could imagine that there would be additional security that included even more powerful ranking entities, which wouldn't be visible to the spectators.

The spectator's seats were arranged in such a way that they would be easily able to see what was happening on the centre stage. Plus, big spectral screens were projected in the air, covering multiple POVs, to allow an immersive experience for viewers sitting anywhere.

The noises of cheers and jeers were coming from every corner of the colosseum. The food vendors would add to that noise by shouting about what they were serving and delivering them to their customers' seats with even greater zeal.

One could imagine that this setting had become a norm for the audience of the Arangar Colosseum. Everybody in the amphitheatre was able to talk to their neighbours amid the cacophony of noises.

Chapter 476 Layla Returns

Eren had been sitting in a reserved seating area inside the colosseum, which was separated from the normal populace. There were only fewer than 100 seats at his booth. And most of the seats were empty. Therefore, the spectators at the butcher's booth sat sparsely and away from each other.

Al was sitting beside Eren in the front row of the reserved booth, looking at the spectral screen in front of her. It was projecting an image of a man in his early 50s announcing various names to the audience.

These were the names of the participants that would soon begin battling each other for the spectators' entertainment. The entries of duelling pairs would keep on getting added to the ever-refreshing battle list displayed on the spectral screen as the announcer announced them.

The Novice rankers' battles were first to get scheduled. The Ace rankers' battles would take place after that. Plus, there was only one D-Rank calibre duel that was supposed to happen at the end of the event.

This was supposed to be the special event of the day. But Eren couldn't figure out how special it was other than the fact that the duel would involve Adept ranked entities.

"Dear spectators, before we start with the first match of the day, I would like to congratulate all the participants for earning a spot today. That's because the winner within the F and E ranks would be able to join the annual Titus tournament without having to go through the qualifier rounds.

This year's Titus tournament is special. Sponsors have come forward with their initiative to offer many prizes to the participants. The biggest and most lucrative rewards would be given to the winner of course.

Let's not talk about the non-monetary rewards and only consider the grand prize of 100,000 Extols. Tempting isn't it? Hahahaha!"

Eren narrowed his eyes when he heard the prize money for the game.

'No wonder so many rankers want to get inside the ring just for the sake of others' entertainment.'

He thought to himself.

Eren looked at the respective spells and BTPs arranged in front of them. The display of participants' spells and their BTPs did two things. First, it made each one of them aware of their opponent's cards. This would allow them to take necessary precautions against them, making the battle a tough nut to crack for all of them.

Plus, the display of the participants' BTP values would allow the betting organisers to calculate the odds of someone winning or losing matches. They would decide the betting amount in favour of and against each match and its participants.

'You want to take part in the Titus tournament?'

Alephee asked Eren when he seemed to be pondering over something. She knew his dire need for money after all. The latter just chuckled internally before answering.

'Hell no. I don't have time for these games. I had enough of them in LA. I just want to replace someone who's bound to win and take all the money and prizes for myself.Pa nda

Novel Hehe. I don't have to create Blood Seed to transform into humans either. I'll just need to select my target well, get the money, and make everything about him disappear into thin air.'

Eren thought as he started studying the names of the participants who had already been selected for the Titus tournament. He then zeroed in on a few of the Ace ranked ones that had fire or lightning affiliates.

'Interesting. I have no idea how promising those who have already qualified are. I need to check the betting values placed on all of them. That would give me an idea of who to target.

But first I need to know about this tournament.'

Eren thought to himself before asking Altashia.

"What is the Titus tournament, AI?"

Eren asked while reading through various spectral screens that displayed information about multiple players, their records, their achievements in the colosseum so far, their losses, their active years in the colosseum so far, and even their injuries.

Altashia was also looking at the spectral screen the same way. She replied in mana imbued soft ice that could be heard by Eren even with all the noises the duo was surrounded with.

"Well, Alexander Titus is the current city lord of the city of Arangar as well as a baron. The tournament was first organised by the first city lord of this city who had that as his daily name. Hence the name Titus tournament.

The annual tournament in itself is pretty simple. The participants in the final round have to survive for 100 hours and become the last person standing. But the competition for the event is always brutal no matter which year it is. A lot of rankers die. There are cases of even those who had successfully won the contests succumbing to their injuries before they could enjoy the fruits of their labour.

If you are thinking about joining the tournament, I suggest you don't. First, we have army duties. Second, nobody will be held responsible if you die in the tournament. The risks might not be worth the rewards for you since your progress in the Ace rank is not high enough."

Altashia said and flashed a look of concern in Eren's direction. The butcher smiled mildly and assured her.

"I was just asking, Al. Anyway, you said you had some work here, right? What is it?"

As a response, Altashia suggested that Eren look at a particular screen. There was one unique screen at the top that hadn't been changed since it was flashed. That's because it only had one entry "XXX vs. XXX" written as its content.

This was supposed to be the main event of the day scheduled at the end of the day, fought between two Adept calibre rankers. Eren didn't take long to conclude.

"Oh! You are duelling with someone, I take it. Who is it? And why are your names and everything about both of you redacted?"

Altashia smiled mirthlessly when she heard it. She replied the answer to that question with one word.

"I'll be battling with a Renar."

As if this shock was not enough, Eren felt a weird mana pulse coming from his pendant. He predicted that Layla had returned. She soon proved him right by speaking to him over his voice channel.

Chapter 477 Fire Wings

'Eren, we need to talk.'

As soon as Eren felt Layla's presence inside his pendant, she immediately spoke. He understood that the work Eren was required to do for Eliza had been decided by the young witch.

'How much time have we got?'

While staring at the spectral screens, Eren asked Layla. He got his response soon afterwards.

"We have time. It's just that we don't have many means to do these tasks."

Layla said and sighed.

'Let me worry about the means. I just want a clear picture before I can make my moves. Anyway, let's talk after I'm done for the day.'

Eren responded and looked at Al who was looking at him with keen interest.

"What?"

Eren asked the warrior ranker while shrugging his shoulders. The latter looked at him carefully and narrowed her eyes before commenting.

"You are acting weird today."

Eren realized that he must have spaced out again after hearing Layla's voice out of nowhere. So he fake-coughed and asked her another question.

'So who is this scion of Renar? And why do you have to fight him here?'

Eren asked Altashia on the voice channel while waving at a food vendor, asking him to come over to the place. He got a bunch of burgers for himself. He then looked at Al and then at the variety of food that was prepped up nicely on the cart. The latter pursed her lips before getting some crispy nuggets to herself.

'He is from Royal Ren of course. My batchmate. The guy's mother is a Renar so his father married into the royal house. He is so far away from the line of succession that he shouldn't be seen as Royalty at this point.'

Al said and had a crispy nugget to herself. Eren, who was observing her, found the action to be cute. But he waited patiently for her to add on.

'I once fought with him during the ranking battles and beat him. He has been possessed to beat me ever since. He must have convinced someone from the Titus house to organize this event.

It is rare for someone with an official Renar surname to take part in these kinds of public events. So it's no wonder that they obliged.'

Eren nodded at Altashia after hearing her explanation. Then he processed the term 'Adept calibre battle' that the announcer had specifically used. He concluded that the Renar that was in question would have to be nearly as talented as Al for him to get tagged as an Adept calibre ranker along with Al.

The announced duels were taking place in multiple battle rings hosted by the colosseum. There was a large body of water serving as the base ground. There were five large, rune-inscribed battle rings levitating over the artificial lake. The battles would be fought over the five rings at the same time.

Getting kicked outside the battle ring was considered the opponent's loss. It was the same for knocking them over until they could not respond to the referee. Other than that, the ranker had to admit their defeat and get ready to accept a penalty from the Colosseum's management at the cost of saving their life by quitting their match.

The main objective of the duel was entertainment for the audience. They liked to see the brutality getting unleashed on the battle rings. That's why the duelers weren't allowed to use any defensive artefacts. In addition, neither of them could quit early without making the battle worth it to their audience. Otherwise, they both would receive a penalty.

Everything else was fair in the battle. The competition emphasized aesthetics more than any other part.

The Arangar Colosseum was not liked by old rankers who meant business. But it was a huge success among young and impressionable rankers as well as the rich mortal populace. People from all over the Nightshade duchy would come to the city of Arangar to watch these matches. As such the city was very prosperous generating huge revenue. It also paid a large chunk to the kingdom in the form of tax.

As the battles continued, Eren paid close attention to a bunch of lightning and fire element Ace rankers who had made it to the qualifier rounds. There were only 2 lightning element rankers. Both didn't fit Eren's criteria for a new 'skin' to get morphed into. One of them had almost the same spells he had in his arsenal. But Eren knew the guy wasn't strong enough to make it past the qualifiers.

The other lightning element ranker focused his battle style on a completely different set of spells. Therefore, Eren had to drop him too.

Eren finally settled on a guy with fire element affinity. He was a 20ish looking young man named Tuan Aag who used almost the same type of spells as Eren. He just used a different spell to base his battle style on, which was Fire Wings.

Two wide wings made out of orange fire would appear behind the back of Tuan on either side. He would use and control those wings using his mana sense to temporarily fly in the air. Then he would come crashing at his opponents while folding the wings around him. This made him look like a mini meteor that was falling from the sky at an amazing pace on his enemies.

And since the opponents weren't allowed to use defensive artefacts inside the colosseum, they would have to either dodge Tuan entirely or face him with the same explosiveness as he had. Nobody was prepared for a confrontation like this. Especially if the defensive artefacts were removed from the picture.

As a result Tuan easily made it to the qualifiers. With an amazing betting amount skewed towards his win in the semi-finals, people in the colosseum were cheering his name with much enthusiasm.

'Haah! There's no easy meal in the world. Time to learn Fire-Wings while this guy works hard to reach the finals.'

Eren realized he could display the spells he had just fine, making them seem like they were his real trump cards. But he couldn't take the guy's go-to spell out of his battle style completely. That spell had made him too famous for the butcher to ignore.

Chapter 478 Go Wild!

Eren had decided to replace Tuan and enter the final round of 100 hours in his place. The qualifiers, the semi, finals, and the finals would take place over a few weeks. So the butcher still had time to learn about Fire-Wings and incorporate them into his fire-element based battle style.

Of course, Eren hoped that Tuan would make it to the finals. Otherwise, he would just be wasting his time learning about a new spell he thought he had no use for in real life. Because in real life, the usage of defensive artefacts was not restricted. So after a successful block, the user of such a battle style was exposed to a severe counterattack from their opponent.

'I hope you reach the finals and bring me good fortune, Tuan. You have my best wishes.'

Eren finalized Tuan as his next "skin" and decided to do some recon on him afterwards. Then he looked at Agatha once again, took a sneak peek at her shapely bust, and asked another question.

'That explains why that guy is fighting with you in such a way. Since you beat him in the ranking battle, his win over you has to be a public event to regain his image as the pristine "royal" that he is. And this Colosseum would give him all the audience he would need to do that."

Al smirked and narrowed her eyes in the void before saying out loud.

"Hmph! If he wins that is."

'Feisty! I like you a little bit more every day.'

Eren smiled at Al's reply and commented on Al's reply. The latter looked at him keenly and tucked her hair bangs behind her ears. She didn't say anything. Nevertheless, Eren concluded that she appreciated his confession dubbed as a compliment.

Eren fist-bumped her shoulder from his side and asked her another question.

'But that doesn't explain why you were ready to take him up on his scheme. What are you getting in return?'

'A transcendent-grade spell and a transcendent-grade artefact. The idiot's offering me a fortune for his vanity. I would be more of a fool than him if I did not take advantage of his royal reach, however limited it may be. Hehe!'

Finally, the winners of the Novice and Ace ranks were decided. The competition that lasted almost all day was finally over.

Now it was time for the main event.

"Dear spectators, we at Arangar Colosseum, always strive to make your viewing experience as immersive and intriguing as possible. Today is no different. What you are going to see is a rare event. So please ensure that you pay attention to everything that unfolds at this stage. Pa nda

Novel How rare, you might ask? Well, the final event will let you witness..."

The announcer knew his job well. He took a dramatic pause to build up the excitement before declaring it out loud.

"The final event will let you witness how a Renar fights. That's right! We have a royal in our midst. And he will show us what it means to have a royal heritage."

The crowd grew wild after knowing that they would be able to see a royal fight. Some of the spectators tried to contact their peers outside the colosseum to summon them inside. Some tried contacting guilds that dealt in information.

For all of the spectators, this was indeed a rare opportunity. That's because the royals rarely displayed their battle skills, often skipping public events like these to keep their image unsullied. Even if they knew they could win, they kept their appearances to a minimum to maintain a mystic image.

And yet, there was a royal willing to go to such extra lengths to engage in a duel with someone, in such an extravagant manner. The incident was bound to create waves.

"But if you think that's all we have in store for you, you couldn't be more wrong. Our royal lad's rival is just as special.

She's known as the prodigy of the Argas clan. The granddaughter of one of the kingdom's most celebrated heroes, Crimson Ghost, also known as Altair Argas."

Eren opened his eyes wide when he heard the name Altahir. Then he looked at Altashia as if pondering over something.

'Hmm. My endeavours are riskier than I thought they would be. Her surname was bothering me a bit. Now I understand why.'

Altashia also knew what Eren was thinking about when she saw him looking at her with interest. She smirked at him before commenting.

"What? Got cold feet?"

Eren seemed to be in deep thoughts after hearing the question as he finished his grub. He answered after dusting his hands off of any crumbs.

"The cold has seeped into my bones and frozen my blood. Want to warm me up?"

Eren said seriously before starting to laugh. Altashia could only maintain her frown for a while. She too flashed a smile at him, finding some form of comfort in his answer.

In the meantime, the announcer kept on speaking about the two contenders and their backgrounds. Finally, he called out the opponents.

"Without further ado, let's welcome Rodrick Renar."

By now the five battled rings had come together and fused using earth element mana to form a unified battle ring. A young man with dark brown hair and tall stature appeared seemingly out of thin air in the middle of the unified ring.

He carried a stoic expression on his face. He was wielding a broadsword with one hand. His green eyes seemed to be looking for someone in the crowd.

The young man remained calm and maintained serious expressions amid the series of claps, cheers, and calls made for him. The crowd was just beginning to cool down after some time. But then

"Now let's welcome Altashia Argas with equal enthusiasm."

The announcer called out to Al and looked in her direction as if he were already aware of her presence.

"Well, that's my cue."

Altashia got up from her seat and climbed the railing of the gallery-like platform the next moment gracefully, like an ever-restless butterfly. Her movements generated light gales as if the wind was making way for her while carrying her weight. She looked halfway back only to receive Eren's encouraging words.

"I shall think of paying completely for our date in the future if you win this duel. Go wild!"

Chapter 479 Countering A Prodigy P1

"I shall think of paying completely for our date in the future if you win this duel. Go wild!"

Altashia heard that and had blank expressions on her face for a while before bursting into a burst of cheerful laughter. She looked back at him and gave him a cunning smile before turning to look ahead once again.

"Hehe! I'll hold you up to that."

Altashia said and jumped from the railing—a gust of wind following her. Eren made a gulping sound and sent his mana sense into his storage space to count the meagre Extols he had.

'Err... maybe I shouldn't have said that. Especially to someone like Al who is used to having a "good life".'

The now-broke Eren thought to himself and sighed. He then recalled the condition that he needed to beat AI before asking for a date. And that gave him some form of relief. This way, he had some time to become rich again.

The crowd grew hysterical when they saw someone so gorgeous jumping from the high railings only to land directly a few meters away from Rodrick. The gale she had brought with her was so strong that it created a cloud of dust.

The wind almost blew the announcer's wig that stood nearby. Luckily, he was fast enough to pin it over his head with both his hands before it could fly off. He laughed nervously to himself and concluded that nobody saw that.

'She did the protagonist jump. I like that.'

Layla spoke out of nowhere. Eren just pretended that he didn't hear her.

[&]quot;Hello, Miss Altashia Argas."

Rodrick greeted his opponent first with a light bow. The latter also returned the gesture by nodding at him. The royal scion carried on with his words.

"I'd like to thank you for indulging me in my request. As promised, I will hand over to you both the items I have promised you if you win this duel. I shall also share any of them you wish, even if you lose."

Al narrowed her eyes when Rodric talked about her loss and still being given the awards. She didn't like that Rodric was making it look like a charity event for her. That he had already assumed that he would win the duel. Rodrick understood what Altashia was thinking and offered a clarification.

"Don't mistake my acknowledgement for arrogance, Miss Altashia. I have learned my lesson well. Fighting with you in the ranking battle has been an eye-opener for me. Please consider this an exchange of gratitude."

Rodrick spoke with seriousness. Altashia sighed and nodded at him. The announcer, serving as the referee for the final match, saw that verbal exchange was wrapped up between the two celebrity participants. So he announced loudly while channelling mana through his vocal cords.

"Alright. The greetings are over. Now's the time for action. Commence battle in...

3...

2...

1..."

'This should be fun. Now I'll know what I'll be up against.'

Eren thought to himself as the spectral screen that was showing the countdown in sync with the announcer's announcement displayed the number all the spectators were waiting for.

'0!'

Swoosh!

The moment the countdown hit zero, Rodrick Renar gripped his broadsword and swung it towards the seemingly motionless and expressionless Altashia. One could swear that the Altashia that laughed at Eren's silly puns and the Altashia who stood before Rodrick were two different rankers.

A sword slash made of water-element mana was birthed into existence out of thin air before travelling towards Al. In response, Al raised her hand and swatted at the incoming sword slash.

Fwoosh!

The sword slash was met with a near-impregnable wind element layer that seemed invisible at first. But when it travelled some more through the same layer, the wind-element mana was made visible to the naked eyes with its light grey coloured hue. It was apparent that Al had increased the density of the mana she had employed in that attack.

Altashia closed her raised hand and the water slash was crushed by a large wind-element hand that had just manifested. As a result, water poured out of the wind-elemental hand, indicating that the sword slash was dispersed.

'Sigh. There ends my reliance on Rigor Mortis and Purple Reaver when battling with this girl.'

Eren thought to himself as he watched the scene unfold in front of him through Sedated Perception. The time-element spell was used to see Altashia's battle style without missing any detail. He was sure that if it was the previous him, he would not have messed with a girl like Altashia even if he was offered money to do it. It spoke volumes about Altashia's level of threat to the current him. Because the past-him would have done almost anything for the money, except sell his ass for it.

He also understood Altashia did not use any special spell to defend herself. Her mastery over the elements had been incorporated into her regular spells. She could make her elemental mana as tangible or intangible as she wanted, enabling her to exert more than 100 percent of the spell's power.

She could step into the Adept rank in terms of the effectiveness of spells if she went all out. This was beyond Eren's current field of expertise.

'Maybe I am indeed trying to nail someone way out of my league.'

Eren whistled as he saw the wind-element mana losing its shape only to be reformed into a long chain. He didn't understand the purpose of those chains, but he could clearly see that Altashia had been nothing but effortless in whatever she was doing in the battle ring.

'Heh! That's what makes it fun.'

Eren thought amusingly with a wicked grin on his face as he kept on watching the duel.

"Impressive. Miss Altashia, allow me to praise you for your progress in the way of the elements. This is one of the most impressive displays of one's mastery over the elements I've seen from our generation."

Rodrick did not shy away from praising his opponent. He was not deterred from having his attack blocked. He was expecting the same outcome anyway. But he also realized that he had underestimated Altashia once again. Her mastery over her elements had increased once again since the last time they fought, even if by a small margin.

Rodrick wanted the world to see how capable Altashia was as a ranker. He wanted to justify his loss in the Ranking Wars. It was one of the reasons he had arranged this grand spectacle in the first place.

But he also wanted the world to see his latest development. As if he was trying to prove his worth by winning over someone as talented as Altashia.

Altashia simply nodded at Rodrick's praises. The latter smiled and gripped his sword with both hands before adding more.

"But you are not the only one who has improved since our battle."

Chapter 480 Countering A Prodigy P2

"You are not the only one who has improved since our battle."

Rodrick declared and cast his spell. He was using a school of spells that required him to perform a series of hand signs corresponding to that spell. The berserker threw his weapon in Altashia's direction and ran towards her chasing the weapon while performing hand signs.

Altashia narrowed her eyes when she saw Rodrick's actions. She didn't retreat. Instead, she raised her hands and used her mastery of the element once again.

This time, instead of hands, the wind-element mana manifested as grey-coloured chains. The corners of each of the links in the chain were lava red. The grey links with lava-red details looked like the chain had just been made by the forger after taking the links out of the blacksmithing forge.

Altashia had displayed that she could combine her mastery of wind with her mastery of fire with this move. Most of the spectators in the first row felt a dangerous sensation when she launched her attack.

A swarm of chains that had sprouted out of nowhere approached Rodrick and his weapon with the same ferocity they were approaching Altashia with. Several chains were aimed at the weapon. The other swarm of chains headed straight for Rodrick.

Just then, a giant water snake appeared behind Rodrick. He had used the water below the platform to expedite the casting process while adding more ferocity to the animated spell. With the amount of water that had been used to create the water snake's body, it wouldn't be easy to get rid of the spell.

Kiyeeeeee!

The water snake had an umbrella-like fin around its neck that was raised when it released a sharp cry. The chains that were directed at Rodrick changed their direction and headed for the dragon instead. However, the sheer density of the water snake's body prevented the mana-generated chains from pinning it in one place.

On the other hand, the weapon that Rodrick threw released sword slashes on its own when the chains were about to wrap around it. The sword slashes released this time were even more ferocious as they cut through the chains like they were cotton threads.

The broadsword released a different kind of mana signature that didn't belong to a human or any other living entity for that matter. Yet one could feel that it bore some resemblance to the mana signature Rodrick had.

'That's a transcendent-grade artefact. Controlled by an Ace ranker, no less. My my! Even if the consciousness of that weapon is at an infant stage, it has indeed been awoken. It is a huge achievement for the boy. Altashia needs to step up her game soon.'

Layla spoke in Eren's head. Eren narrowed his eyes and watched Al's next moves with keen interest. He was collecting data on his opponent after all. He needed to understand her and her capabilities first before even thinking about challenging her to a duel.

Altashia saw that both her chain attacks were ineffective in stopping Rodrick's advances with his weapon. So she tried to retreat to create a distance between herself and her opponent.

That's when the second water snake appeared from behind her. By the time Altashia realized something was approaching her from behind, it had already caught up to it.

The water snake at the back seemed to have gulped Altashia's body first. Trapping her in its stomach. The weapon Rodrick threw penetrated the snake's body without any resistance, aiming at the now-trapped Altashia. Meanwhile, the first water snake and Rodrick arrived on either side of the second

snake with vigilance. Rodrick executed another two water snakes and was ready to attack Altashia no matter where she appeared.

Splash!

The snake that had gulped Altashia started exuding fiery red light, which spread from its stomach to its entire body at crazy speeds. It wasn't long before the snake cried in pain before its body burst like that of a water balloon.Pa nda

Novel Instead of a temporary escape, Altashia chose to destroy the snake without worrying about her mana consumption. When she came out of the snake's belly, the spectators saw that she was still fine and not even drenched in water. But a large volume of steam could be seen coming out of her skin and clothes.

The weapon attacked on its own while the remaining dragon opened its maw and shot a high-pressure stream of water in Altashia's way. Meanwhile, Rodrick started making some more hand signs. The mana signature he was releasing at this point was even more intense than before.

"Miss Altashia, you'd pay dearly if you keep on underestimating me."

Rodrick said out loud while increasing his speed of making hand signs. Altashia, who was busy dodging the attacks of the sword and the water snake, heard that and looked in the berserker's direction while narrowing her eyes on him.

Rodrick had changed his attack style since he had fought Altashia. He had compromised on his berserker's way of handling things and decided not to approach the warrior girl like the last time. It had put him at a disadvantage of not being able to use the explosiveness of berserker attacks. But at least it prevented him from suffering major injuries like last time.

Saying that Altashia was proficient with her scythe would be an understatement. Her weapon mastery was as impressive as her progress in the way of the elements. At close range, she was able to defeat Rodrick easily. He couldn't fill that large of a gap even with his transcendent-grade weapon due to his limitations.

Rodrick had lost badly in his previous battle against her. And he had to admit that she was a superior ranker than him in more than one area of expertise. If he was any other ranker, he wouldn't have challenged Altashia unless he was sure he could beat her.

But as a royal, he needed to keep up appearances. Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to survive the politics and members of his own family coming for him. This duel was no different than a battle for survival for him.

That's why Rodrick decided to put Altashia at a disadvantage from the very beginning while facing some adverse effects of using a different battle strategy. Using his wits and planning, the guy was trying to win over the prodigy.

Rodrick decided not to let Altashia exert her full potential in the battle. He put her at a disadvantage by not allowing her to use her weapon to its fullest. The spells he cast on her would be able to deal with her weapon just fine.

Even if she could destroy his spells, the elemental and surrounding advantage he had would allow him to cast the spells all over again. Plus, he knew about the peculiarity of her attacks. The flying weapon flashes released by her weapon were able to catch fire at her behest. So keeping his distance from her would give him enough room to dodge those time-bombs of attacks.

With this approach, the battle would then be about endurance. The ranker who could keep on fighting till the end while keeping their mana consumption in check would win.

Rodrick placed his bets on not letting Altashia use her superior weapon mastery and her preference for close-range combat to put her at a disadvantage. Plus, she did not have her demon beast with her in this fight, which could allow her to use long-range attacks effectively.