

Vile 921

[Chapter 921 Consequences Of Legalizing RDX](#)

"Know thyself, Master Jiana.

Tell me, do you believe yourself to be a capable leader or administrator? Or do we talk business for real?"

Eren's question made Jiana look deep into her psyche. As harsh as Eren's words were, they were unapologetically honest. And something like this was bound to strike a chord in her mind.

Jiana shook her head frantically as if to get rid of all the negative emotions. She then looked at Eren and Nina standing together and narrowed her eyes at both of them before commenting.

"You know, Eren. There's one more thing I haven't told you or Master Nina. I didn't want to sour Master Nina's mood or create unnecessary friction between her and the rest of the guild members because of her connections with you.

This is perhaps the biggest reason why I am hesitating to assimilate my guild into yours. Even when I know you would probably offer me the most generous offer out of all the upcoming ones."

Eren's interest was piqued when he heard Jiana's careful statement. His silence was the green signal for Jiana to continue forward.

"Do you know what the cultists used to destroy my guild's lands? The explosives they used to wreak havoc in the city of Curar and my guild are the same kind you launched some time ago."

"RDX!"

Eren exclaimed in surprise. He cursed his channels for only doing what they were asked to do. They should have dug deeper than what he had told them to do and informed him about the product profile of the explosive used in the attack. That way, he would have been better prepared to handle Jiana.

Eren and Jiana had a mini stare-down at this point.

'Well, well, well. If it isn't the consequences of my actions?'

A butcher thought to himself as he swallowed an empty breath. Still, he maintained a stoic face, inviting Jiana to explain further.

"These cultists had stocked a lot of RDX in Delva Gorge before the army launched a preemptive strike on them. This was why the army was only supposed to look after the seized properties and items from the cultists.

These cultists were researching RDX in their hideout. The Kingdom's research team told me their research didn't yield them any results because they found out that the products couldn't be counterfeited."

Eren couldn't help but smile when he heard that. He then quickly covered his smile by pressing his lips against each other. RDX couldn't be counterfeited by the cultists because it was based on Lensa's Ability.

The synthesizing process for RDX was also very complex, making it impossible for anyone to even come remotely close to counterfeiting his products.

'Heh! The elusive monopoly of the market! No wonder my profits have skyrocketed these days.'

Jiana wasn't aware that Eren was thinking about his profits at the time when he had such a grim face to show to his audience. She looked at him intently before continuing.

"However, the cultists didn't lose much in their research either. They were tipped off by some unknown source and managed to take lots of RDX with them before the strike even took place.

Their counterfeiting project had failed. But they had gained something else from that research. They created a highly unstable fire-element array to enhance the explosive effects of RDX.

There were many defensive arrays and security precautions in place in the city of Curar. My guild lands were even more heavily fortified. But the combination of your RDX and the fire-element array developed by the cultists was enough to blast away all those precautions."

Nina was worried that the deal wouldn't come through because Eren's products had such a big hand to play in the attack. She looked at Eren with a concerned face. However, she wasn't aware of how thick-skinned he had gotten.

"I am sorry to hear that, Master Jiana. But what does that have to do with my guild? I fail to see why you would hesitate to let me take over your guild just because the cultists had used RDX in their attacks."

Jiana looked at Eren scornfully when she heard Eren's blatant refusal to take responsibility. Amory was also not aware of this. He too looked at Eren as if the butcher had personally attacked his guild.

The latter raised his free hand and gestured for everyone to keep calm so that he could explain what he wanted to say.

"I mean... with or without my products, the cultists would have attacked your guild, all the same, Master Jiana."

He then looked at Amory before asking him.

"You have lived a long life by now, Master Amory. Did the cultists' attacks not take place in the past before my product, my guild, or even I came to be? Did the cultists not achieve similar success in the past over a lot of other organizations they attacked?

My products were not available at the time. Then how did they manage to do that?"

Amory tried to come up with an answer. In a short time, however, he couldn't think of any. The butcher smirked at him before adding further.

"The intentions to cause mayhem are cultivated by the cultists themselves. My products can only make their job a bit easier. You can't hold that against me.

I neither invented potion bombs nor introduced them to rankers' markets. Weren't they around even before my guild came into existence? If anything, my products are relatively safer to sell since they can't be counterfeited.

There are a lot of ways to achieve the same results the cultists achieved during their attack even without the use of RDX. Would you have hated the established players on the market if it wasn't RDX but something else?

I am not telling you to see me as a saint here. But you can't accuse me of something others did with my products. No business would run on the lang of Anfang if it was like this."

Amory opened his mouth to speak but no words came from his mouth when he listened to Eren's logic. Jiana was in a similar condition. All the things the butcher had said were right. Potion bombs in general were not his invention. He had just revolutionized the market with his explosives that had a wider blast radius and were relatively affordable.

'Eren, you might want to dial down the mention of potion bombs...'

Nina looked at Jiana wearily as she suggested Eren. The butcher, on the other hand, had a different opinion.

'Sometimes honesty is the best policy, Aunt Nina. Just trust me on this. I'll handle this.'

[Chapter 922 \[Bonus\] Power Of Money](#)

Eren asked Nina to postpone her line of questioning for later.

"Look, RDX is not at fault. A knife gets used in the kitchen and street fights the same way— to cut something up. The holder of such weapons is responsible for their actions, not the weapons themselves.

Same way, I serve as a distributor of my products. I can't be held responsible for what the buyers do with them afterward."

Eren said before walking up to his desk. Argo was also paying close attention to what his master was saying and could follow his chain of thoughts. He released a low growl at the audience behind Eren's back before speaking in a beastly voice.

"Master be spitting facts, yo. Don't hate the player, hate the game."

Eren was glad that Argo played it safe by voicing his opinions with objectionable words when there were Master rankers present in the room. The demon beast was bold but not stupid. He respected the boundaries of the other side if it was stronger than him and not directly threatening him.

Nina, Amory, and Jiana looked at the lion-type demon beast, which was chewing on a Monster King's meat in peace, with various emotions in their eyes. They had so many questions to ask Eren about how he was able to tame such a unique and fierce demon beast. Or how did he get his hands on the Monster King's meat? Or how could he afford to give the meat as a treat to his beast rather than treat it as a precious ingredient for his potions?

Eren chuckled looking at Argo and sat down in his seat before speaking up.

"My purpose in bringing my products to market is to help rankers get out of the tough situations they face every day. It is also supposed to help them in the upcoming war should they decide to participate in it.

I won't claim the success my buyers achieve in their lives because of my products. So I should be spared from being seen as someone responsible for their actions as well.

Don't you agree?"

Eren posed a question to a pensive-looking Jiana, hoping she would buy whatever he was selling at this point. Because he had done his best to pack it nicely.

He had to admit that taking over Jiana's guild was getting more difficult than he had initially thought. He couldn't just make the complications arising from RDX's involvement in the attack disappear.

Jiana was a tough nut to crack. Still, the butcher had redeeming qualities. Due to his determination to give his all to everything he planned to do, he didn't stop his progress with Jiana midway. He looked at the kingdom-bonafide ranker with a tinge of confidence in his eyes as he carried on.

"Besides, I have been through all the legal troubles before selling my products. I have only sold RDX to a select few people whose identities had been approved by the kingdom itself.

So I'm guessing that the cultists got my products through illegal means. Am I right?"

Jiana looked at Eren with mixed emotions in her eyes before dropping her shoulders. She sighed before nodding at him. The reports had made it clear that the RDX used in the attack had been stolen from a kingdom-sanctioned guild's warehouse.

This was also one of the reasons why the kingdom of Edinburgh wanted to just get over with the matter instead of pursuing it like it was supposed to do. First, it had bigger fish to fry in such a tense atmosphere. Second, the more it tried to dig, the more it would appear that its decision to legalize Eren's products would be questioned.

After such a horrendous incident, Edinburgh would have revoked Eren's RDX selling rights if it had happened at any other time. It might not have approved open selling in the first place.

However, these were not normal times. The kingdom needed Eren's products. The product can also support rankers participating in the war. As such, the kingdom was in silent agreement with Eren even after the attack on the city of Curar and Healers' Nirvana.

The butcher was also counting on this scenario when he decided to sell RDX. But he had never thought that his actions would bite him in the arse from another angle.

Jiana sighed as if giving up on the argument. She said her next words in a weak voice.

"Yes... those RDX potion bombs were stolen goods. I won't blame your guild anymore. Still, I need some time to think about my guild's future. I can't just..."

Eren scrunched his nose when he heard Jiana's words. She stopped objecting to his proposal. But she was yet to say yes to him. This wasn't the kind of outcome he was hoping for after he did so much convincing.

'Damn it. I don't think I've taken this much effort to convince a woman in a long time. My luck with elves is really not that great.'

Eren said to himself and sighed in his head before cutting her off.

"If it still makes you restless in your heart, how about I offer you something that would wash away most of your bitterness?"

Eren's words stopped Jiana in her tracks. She looked at Eren with a curious gaze, prompting him to elaborate.

"Don't you want to get revenge on the cultists who attacked you?"

Jiana chuckled and looked at Eren as if he was some naive kid. She sneered at him before answering his question.

"Of course, I do, Eren. But it's not just those damn cultists. The kingdom of Layos who sponsored them is also equally responsible for the destruction of my guild. You think you and your guild are strong enough to take my revenge on both of them?"

Eren raised his eyebrows before answering.

"No... but who said I had to be strong to target a mere cultist organization and an enemy kingdom?"

Eren flashed a wicked smile at Jiana before posing her another question.

"Do you want to see what I can do with the kind of money I have?"

[Chapter 923 Targeting Midnight Moon](#)

"Hehehe. I was just thinking about you, Mr. Eren Idril. How can I..."

Fiona Fenris seemed to be en route somewhere when she received Eren's communication request. She was on her colt, traversing the wilds. So a small area around her was projected inside Eren's study in real time when the connection was established.

At first, Fiona was very excited to greet Eren. But then she saw that he had company and stopped what she was saying. She looked at Jiana, Amory, Nina, and Argo in the back before commenting.

"Who are these people?"

Eren was leaning onto his deskâ€” half-seated. He had folded his hands and was looking at Fiona with amusing expressions. The half-blood was very cheerful whenever he spoke with her in private. But today she had her guard up for obvious reasons.

"Forget about 'em, hon. I got something for youâ€” a business proposition. Patch me with Sirius this instant."

Jiana didn't like that Eren had just made her look like a part of his crowd of underlings. She could already feel that dealing with this man would not be easy if she chose to dissolve her guild into his.

She had added the name of the kingdom of Layos as her target on a whim. She just wanted to shake Eren a bit with her talk. That was not to say that she didn't think of avenging her guild's destruction in

the kingdom of Layos at all. But she had always thought that it would be a long-term project and not something that could be achieved with the snap of her fingers.

Jiana's fatal flaw was that she was emotionally driven by people she cared about. However, she wasn't weak as a ranker. There was a reason she was given the kingdom-certified title of Goldy Wings despite just being a healer.

As such, Jiana had considered taking part in the upcoming war. Taking revenge on an entire kingdom was not something she could do just because she was a Master ranker. As emotional as she was, she wasn't delusional. But when Edinburgh's forces banded together, she would be able to gain strength from them and achieve her goals all the same.

In regards to the cultist organization Midnight Moon that carried out the attack, Jiana had decided to ask for help from anyone who bought her guild. That is if she continues with the process.

Jiana's plans weren't perfect. And for the most part, she had just crafted them to make sense of the negative feelings she was experiencing. Her subconscious mind believed that having vague ideas of vengeance was all she needed to cope with the stress she felt.

Jiana wanted to apply a long-term strategy to avenge all her fallen guild members that had died in the attack. Her personal growth would be affected if she followed through with the plan. But that was a trade-off she was willing to make at this point.

She could not believe that someone who was indirectly responsible for her guild's destruction would offer her sought-after revenge like it was no big deal. She didn't know what to make of Eren's diabolical nature.

The connection with Fiona was reestablished after a brief pause.

This time, someone else was also looped into the communication array. A spectral form of Sirius Fenris was standing in front of Eren with his hands behind his back.

He seemed to be wearing a wolf mask to hide his identity. Fiona was standing beside him. She had decided to pause her journey and listen to what Eren had to say first.

Sirius was wary of Jiana even though he didn't show it. Fiona had many things to worry about so she didn't pay close attention to Edinburgh's internal politics. But it was Sirius' job to do so. He could never fail to identify someone who had a kingdom-bonafide title attached to them.

'As far as I can remember, this class is the only healer among Edinburgh's title holders. Still, not much is known about her since she likes to keep her cards close to her.

Anyway, why was I summoned in her presence?'

Sirius looked at Eren with an enquiring gaze. He liked dealing with the butcher because the guy was just as straightforward as him. But he was also aware that Eren was not as simple as he was made to believe either.

Eren looked Sirius in the eyes as he spoke.

"I want to target Midnight Moon. Also, I want to bomb some significant places in the kingdom of Layos. You know, something that will make a big splash.

How much will it take?"

Eren spoke casually while scratching Argo's mane. The audience present in the room was shocked again by his words. Jiana was most shocked by Eren's words. She looked at Fiona and Sirius with an astonished expression. She wondered who they were since Eren wanted something from them.

Nina and Amory looked at Eren, Sirius, and Fiona intermittently, wondering where this conversation was heading. The half-blood girl was the first to speak up.

"You must be joking, Eren. Targeting Midnight Moon? Terrorizing the citizens of Layos? You think they'll just let us do what we want because of you..."

"100,000 Extols!"

Eren cut off Fiona's words with an offer while maintaining eye contact with Sirius. The latter also didn't say anything. Fiona took charge of the conversation once again.

"Hehehe. I think too much money has gotten into your head, Eren. Some matters are beyond..."

"200,000 Extols."

"Are you even listening to me? It can't be done. How can you expect us to..."

"500,000 Extols."

"You! Don't think money is everything there is..."

"1 Million Extols."

"Madness... Sir Eren, please. You need to understand the risks..."

"10 Million Extols."

Fiona was lost for words when Eren kept increasing the reward amount. She gulped in anticipation at the thought of receiving 10 million Extols. The half-blood woman clenched her fists and mustered the strength to register her unwillingness to get on with what Eren was asking of them.

"This is not about..."

Fiona was just about to say something when Sirius interrupted her in his deep voice.

"Fiona dear, this is not the way to speak to our esteemed patron. Stay out of the talks and let me handle things from here."

[Chapter 924 Someone Who Has Been Bitten By A Snake Will Always Be Afraid Of Ropes](#)

"Fiona dear, this is not the way to speak to our highly-esteemed patron. Stay out of the talks and let me handle things from here."

Sirius placed a gag order on Fiona. His beastly blue eyes shone with intrigue as he looked at Eren. The latter smirked at Sirius when he decided to play ball.

"10 million it is then. We'll set a framework for the job soon enough. Of course, there will be a bonus involved if you do more than what is asked of you. A fair deal, right?"

Sirius chuckled before nodding at Eren. "We'll be in touch," he said before disappearing along with Fiona Fenris.

Sirius was a man of few words. Eren could tell that the man was considering getting involved himself in the mission. 10 million was just the entry price— something to establish a deal. The reward amount would most likely have to be doubled in the end.

The half-blood bastion had a network of cultists working in the dark. People knew this group of cultists as the Ancients. The Ancients also had a lot of shell cultist organizations under its banner like the Beast Bloods, for example.

These shell organizations would play a vital role in the task and the Ancients would control them from behind the scenes. Sirius would get the Ancients and its shell cultist organizations radically motivated in the kingdom of Layos for the kind of money Eren was throwing at him.

Fiona and Sirius had not planned anything before coming here because they weren't aware that Eren would ask something so terror-inducing of them. As such, her resistance was purely based on her experience as an on-field member of the Last-Blood Bastian.

Sirius also kept his mouth shut and didn't reply to any of Fiona's words addressed to him through private communication. Without any guidance, she could only do what she thought was right by opposing Eren's proposal. In doing so, she had unwittingly played her part in the negotiation just the way Sirius had wanted her to. She was made to step aside only when Sirius found the reward amount Eren provided was worth the risk.

Messing with the Midnight Moon was no big deal. But Sirius didn't want to show any favoritism to any particular kingdom. Both were his enemies in his eyes. But he could also understand the practicality of establishing firm ties with Eren.

10 million Extols was no big deal for Eren at this point. He would be able to get his money back in a month or two. However, it didn't mean that he would just throw his money up for the possibility of hiring a Grandmaster ranker. He would make sure that he was getting what he paid for.

"Eren, who were those people?"

Nina asked Eren wearily. The latter chuckled before answering.

"Just a bunch of people I'm working with, Aunt Nina. They are a bit rough around the edges but I'm sure they'll get the job done."

The butcher then looked at Jiana before speaking up.

"This is the least I can do if any of my products unintentionally became the reason for your loss, Madam Goldy Wings. You can expect some heartwarming news regarding my arrangement soon.

Meanwhile, you can take your time and decide the future of your guild. You can consider the targeting of Midnight Moon as my gift to you should you decide not to dissolve your guild into mine."

Eren was betting on Jiana's character when he said that. The latter remained speechless at the butcher's actions for quite some time before deciding to speak.

"You... you shouldn't have done a deal with the cultists. They are nothing but snakes that often bite the hands that feed them. I could have managed to do something about the Midnight Moon myself, given..."

Jiana assumed that Sirius and Fiona were part of a cultist organization, which was half true. She wasn't surprised by the fact that Eren was in cahoots with the cultists. She knew that kingdoms also liked to use cultists when it suited them. So she couldn't judge him on this.

Eren didn't correct Jiana's assumption. However, he found those words a bit funny nonetheless.

"Hahahaha."

Eren started laughing when he heard Jiana speak. He tapped his fingers on the desk playfully before responding to her.

"Your revenge plan is to use the system and the upcoming war to attack your enemies, right?" No offense, but that strategy sucks hairy rats' balls."

Eren then pursed his lips as if he didn't like the choice of words he had used to express his opinions. He sighed and looked at Argo. Only now did he realize where the demon beast got his signature trait from.

"Please forgive me for whatever I have said after stating "no offense", Master Jiana. Because I have come to realize that's when I have said the most offensive shit ever."

Eren sighed and shrugged his shoulders before continuing.

"Look... the kingdom of Layos will always be a step ahead of you if you use the system to fight it. It targeted your guild specifically because it knew the kind of impact your healer-specific guild would create in the upcoming war. And it would do that again if you continued acting as naive as you always have been.

It is imperative to treat venom with antivenom. No other medicine would provide better results. Same way, cultists should be handled by another bunch of cultists. After all, if you try to play by the rules when the other side has thrown the rulebook in the dustbin, then whatever happens to you afterward will completely be your fault.

I don't know about you. But the White Raven guild has a reputation to maintain. It dealt with all its enemies with a heavy-handed approach. And it won't change its ways whether you decide to join us or not.

I guess this is it. I'll host Master Amory in the White Raven city until you come to a decision. I'll start looking for other master rankers just in case.

Just let me know, alright? Take care, Master Jiana."

As Eren waved goodbye to Jiana with a graceful smile, he cut off the spectral communication. Seeing the elf's baffled expression, he smirked at the end.

'Hehehe. Someone who has been bitten by a snake will always be afraid of ropes. She'll come around. I can bet Argo's left nut on that.'

[Chapter 925 Corvo Bianco Vineyards](#)

Corvo Bianco vineyards. Resanstour Valley. The southernmost region of the city of White Raven.

An uneventful-looking evening. The night skies were somber and starless. The winds carried a distinct winter chill with them, creating a serene atmosphere in the valley.

The Resanstour valley was artificially created by White Raven city's administration by using earth-element rankers as laborers. They had transformed the barren region into a lush green valley that is now considered one of the most renowned vineyards in Edinburg.

White Raven ale was Eren's signature liquor brand but it was not the only one. The city had started producing a lot of wines and other brewed concoctions ever since the formal launch of Eren's premium products. Wine-making was just the investment he wanted to add to his portfolio to diversify it.

He started cultivating Resanstour Valley after he started seeing profits in his business. The valley was now decorated with lush-green resources ranging from F to B ranks.

In the Resanstour valley, three wineries were established. The grapes would be taken to these wineries by a bunch of trained plant monsters for wine concoctions.

There were a lot of plant monsters in the Resanstour valley. Eren had also sent his woodland creatures to better control his estate. He had to thank Rey Remus for providing him with such a convenient way of taking care of his land.

Corvo Bianco vineyards— or better known as White Raven vineyards— was where Eren had erected a small house. This suburban-style house was in the middle of the vineyards, serving as the butcher's weekend home whenever he found time to celebrate his off-work hours. He would often practice potion-making here as well.

Seraf— the plant monster that had been trained by Will Evaan served as the caretaker of Corvo Bianco vineyards. He would also maintain the small house that often remained unoccupied because its owner was never inside his city.

However, the house will not stay empty tonight.

"This... this looks like our house in the city of Osan."

Nina mumbled to herself as she stood in front of the small house Eren had created inside the Corvo Bianco vineyards. It was almost a replica of the house they shared in Osan before Eren left for LA.

The butcher smiled lightly before commenting.

"Hehehe. Surprised? We left the duchy of Lionhearts for our reasons. But we don't have to leave this piece there anymore. With this house, it has followed us here."

While he stood behind Aunt Nina, Eren smiled and said aloud. The latter had no words to express how nostalgic she felt at the time. Not about the house per se but the passage of time it represented in her life. A relaxing break from the ruthlessness of rankers. She wasn't busy with her guild responsibilities when she used to live in this house. She had no missions to complete, and no party members to meet.

The butcher knew Nina had decided to leave this house behind only because of him. She was happy to stay in this house with him. She even had trouble achieving her ranking breakthrough during her peaceful stay in Osan, but she did not complain because of the respite she received in exchange.

Thus, Eren decided to recreate the feeling of that time for herself.

"You mean...?"

Nina couldn't help but smile joyously as she predicted the butcher's intentions. The latter chuckled before confirming.

"Yep. You can live here from now on, Aunt Nina. Your very own peaceful haven. You can use this entire vineyard as your front yard and backyard."

Eren made Nina in charge of all the arrays placed in the region after saying that, which was kinda like giving her the keys to the house. After spreading out her mana sense, the Master ranker immediately controlled all the arrays according to her preference.

Eren had given large fertile land to Aunt Nina so that she could cultivate her herbs like she was supposed to. It was just that the quality, scale, and rank of her herbs and resources would be on a completely different level than before. This is thanks to the plant monsters under Nina's control.

This was the most sought-after gift Nina needed without her ever knowing about it until she got it. She turned around and hugged Eren right after he said that. But then she lifted her face off his chest and looked at him suspiciously.

"You haven't brought anyone here, have you?"

Eren chuckled when he heard Nina's question. He knew what she wanted to ask so he assured her right away.

"Except me, you'd be the first person to have seen this house since its creation. I come here and practice potion-making. I'll show you. Want to go inside?"

Nina smiled when she heard that the place was made exclusive by Eren from the very beginning. She wouldn't have liked it as much as she did now, knowing that Eren had not brought any of his "flames" here.

Eren rubbed Nina's back with his hands. His ever-restless fingers couldn't help but graze her mushy buns as he did that. Nina also had playfulness reflected in her eyes for a brief moment before she smiled mischievously. She didn't say anything or prevent Eren from doing anything. She just nodded at his question and prompted him to lead.

The butcher held Nina's hand in his and walked towards the front door. His presence was sensed by the protection array laid under the house's foundation. As a result, the door opened on its own, welcoming the couple inside

"The small potion lab we used to make potions almost every day. For those grumpy old men at the Healers' Association. And those stairs leading upstairs. The kitchen and the dining table. And that sofa..."

Nina started mumbling as she started roaming inside her newly-built house. The butcher had made sure that he got the details of the house down to a T, so the insides of the house also looked just like what he used to live in.

Eren sat on the sofa while Nina took a small detour from the house. The house was larger and better. And yet, it had just the right kind of nostalgia mixed into it.

[Chapter 926 The Unspoken Burden Of Success](#)

After wrapping things up with Jiana, Eren took Nina out and spent a few hours exploring some of the most interesting places in his city. The latter was excited to see the fruits of Eren's labor the most as well.

Nina didn't get to see the entire White Raven city. But when she heard about the vineyard from Eren, she decided to prioritize sightseeing in the valley instead.

After all, Nina could call the city her new home at this point. She could explore it anytime she wanted. So there was no need to see everything at once.

Nina felt that she was back in the city of Osan when she was inside the small suburban house. She also had an apothecary attached to the house, making her remember the previous profession she used to do in the city of Osan. Just being an off-field healer with no life-and-death responsibilities.

Laughter and more laughter could be heard inside the house. A lot of other noises were also added to the mix that would tell the listeners the occupants were busy with their work.

Eren and Nina were reminiscing about their past and reliving old memories. They had started potion-making in their old-looking newly-built house just like they used to in the past.

The apothecary is in the front-left, an array-operated potion storage bank at the back, and the potion lab in the middle. The couple was currently in the potion lab— making basic potions just for the sake of it.

Nina was a healer first and a potioneer second. So, her expertise in the field was relatively limited for a Master ranker. Yet, she couldn't believe her eyes when she saw Eren folding his sleeves and doing potion-making like some sort of gifted potion-maker.

"When... when did you get time to refine your potioneering to this degree?"

The healer asked in a voice coated in shock and disbelief. What she was seeing in front of her eyes was an artist creating artwork. She stopped her potion-making right away and started looking in Eren's direction. Her curiosity wouldn't allow her to close her eyes for a second.

Whenever Nina thought that she couldn't get surprised by Eren anymore, he would go ahead and prove her wrong. Due to the butcher's involvement in guild and city matters as well as his consistent advancement in the ranking, she assumed that his potioneering would have been lacking. But turns out she was wrong.

Nina saw Eren refining the raw ingredients and processing another set of them inside an alkali liquid at the same time. She saw him control his elemental flame and introduce minute changes in its nature to enhance the quality of the concoction by a notch.

She saw him do all that and then some more without using any array mechanism, controlling a lot of potion-making processes in a parallel way. That too without introducing any kind of error in any of them.

"Hahaha. I just focus on working on the basics that you taught me. The rest will work itself out. You have always been great at teaching, you know. You taught me well."

Eren complimented Nina once again and chuckled as he maintained fine control over his potioneering. One had to note that he was still holding back quite a bit. Nina would start to question her life choices if she were to see what the butcher was capable of. His ability to introduce various elemental attainments in the concoction process alone was mind-boggling if one knew about it. He didn't want to give her an inferiority complex by showing her that.

The benefits of Alephee's regime were becoming apparent at this point. Thanks to the extensive mana-circuits control training he had been through almost every night, the butcher became even more precise with his potioneering than ever before. His potion-making skills were improved even further as a result.

Nina pursed her lips and smiled. She looked down and shook her head in denial as if saying she had given up the hope of getting real answers about Eren's dramatic personal growth from him.

Eren was helpless as well. Putting in the effort, making the best use of available resources, and bits of luck were one thing. The butcher's gains in various fields couldn't be explained by any stretch of conventional reasoning.

Eren didn't want to tell Nina that he devoured people to achieve his all-inclusive growth. Not because he didn't like what he was doing or he didn't trust her. He would walk steadfastly on his path.

However, Eren had come to realize that not every truth needed to be said out in the open. Some truths are personal. Something that no one could wrap their heads around because they hadn't lived the truth bearer's life.

Eren was sure that Nina would never hate him even after knowing what he had to do to achieve the success he had achieved. The people he had to kill and devour— the rankers he had to scheme against— the deals he had to make with potentially dangerous players. And the bull's eye that was now painted on his back because of his success.

Nina would only find fault in herself that she was there to help Eren when he was struggling through so much on his own. She would blame herself for not being with him when he must have needed her the most.

Eren wasn't expecting Nina's help at any stage of his life. At least not in his current timeline. That's because he had come to realize that she was not meant to handle his truth.

The unspoken burden of success was for the butcher to bear alone.

Nina also came to realize that Eren liked to keep his struggles to himself. Not because he didn't trust her. But because there was nothing she could have done about it. She can no longer assist him in his life, despite her rank.

'Well... I can help him let off some steam. Hehe.'

Nina thought to herself before looking at Eren playfully.

[Chapter 927 Trip Down Memory Lane](#)

Nina and Eren kept talking about a range of topics as they arranged Nina's new home for her.

The healer had started unloading a lot of her stuff from her storage.

The more they talked, the more both of them realized they had so much to talk about. The subjects of their talk changed from time to time and they had many things to add to their answers.

One had to say Nina did not know how to pack light. She had so much stuff stored in the house that Eren thought maybe he should build a chateau for her instead later down the line.

Eren rolled up his sleeves and got to work. And so did Nina. It was imperative to her to have a personal touch to her space so she started arranging things normally without any magical help.

Dinnertime arrived before the couple even realized it. Thankfully, they didn't have to prepare the food themselves. A majordomo assigned to the estate arranged everything for them at the right time.

A polished wooden table was adorned with plenty of sumptuous dishes. Nina and Eren were sitting in front of each other while a plant monster was standing behind Nina.

"Seraf... likes... to know how food tastes?"

The plant monster Seraf asked Eren and Nina as he kept serving more food to Eren and Nina at their dinner table. This was the same plant monster Will Evaan, Renar, and Viper had trained. He was then employed as one of Eren's clean-up crew members.

The plant monster had been given a new assignment since then— to be in charge of all the plant monsters working in the Corvo Bianco vineyard. He was also the majordomo appointed to the small house. His expanded responsibility would include serving Nina and all her guests.

Eren looked at Seraf and was impressed by how quickly he was learning the human language. He nodded at him before responding.

"The food tastes delicious, Seraf."

Eren said while taking a bite out of his kebab. There were other cuisines for the couple to choose from but they both preferred kebabs.

It had been a while since Nina had a tasty meal like this. The last time she had them was when Eren took her on a camping date. At that time, he had made the kebabs himself.

Eren had naturally passed his recipes on to Seraf who had done an excellent job of getting things right. The monster had a vegetarian diet most of the time. But that didn't stop him from becoming a pro chef in meat-based cuisines.

Nina smiled to herself when she realized that this was another way Eren was making her take a trip down memory lane. It told her that he had taken his time to plan for her arrival in the city ever since she told him that she'd be visiting him soon.

She felt that these small gestures mattered a lot. Especially when Eren was supposed to be handling the big stuff for his guild and his city.

Eren had paid close attention to Seraf's potential ever since he learned that the monster could clean his crime scene like a pro. He had invested a lot of his wood-element resources in him so that he could keep on growing. He also told Will Evaan and Renar to teach him more about the rankers' society. The butcher himself had taught him many things whenever he got time to do so.

Eren thought of teaching the plant monsters some more so he commented.

"You know... it would be so much better if you could stop referring to yourself in the third person."

Eren then thought that Seraf shouldn't deviate from his path as a plant monster so he added on.

"And it's terrific that you are learning a human language. But you should never forget your roots. Get it?"

Seraf looked at Eren with a puzzled expression. He then looked at his feet which still had root-like organs serving as his feet and toes.

"Seraf doesn't understand. Who is the third person? Will he also eat with you? And why would I forget about my roots? They are a part of me."

Eren had a blank expression on his face when he heard the line of questioning Seraf had asked him. It was clear that Seraf had taken the word "root" quite literally. He sighed and responded.

'Haaah! I say the most ambiguous things to monsters whenever they are around me and create confusion for both sides. This... this is a pattern.'

Eren shook his head before responding to Seraf for real.

"Um... never mind that. Why don't you bring us some wine from the well?"

Nina laughed the whole time when she heard Eren's pun about Seraph's roots. However, she was intrigued by his mention of wine and well in the same sentence. She looked at him with an enquiring gaze as a result. Eren met Nina's eyes and explained it to her with a smile on his face.

"There was a wine you used to like, right? Be Erna Soliflore. You stopped drinking it because it was only meant for C-rank entities and didn't have the potency you needed."

"Oh yes," Nina said and sighed.

She liked the flavor of the wine that she used to drink in Osan. She could get the same wine in the Nightshade Duchy as well after placing a custom order. However, once she attained B-Rank, the wine's effects stopped working for her. So she could only change her brand reluctantly.

Eren smirked at Nina before giving her the good news.

"Hehe. I managed to concoct the "inspired" version of that wine using B-Rank resources. The well you saw in the backyard of this house contains this wine."

Seraf returned with wine crockery and a jug full of red wine before Nina could express her surprise. He served the two rankers their drinks and placed the jug in the middle so they could refill them on their own.

Then Eren gestured to Seraf to leave the vineyards along with the other plant monsters. He needed some alone time with Nina. In fact, Argo and Alephee roamed the city on their own, giving him the privacy they thought he deserved.

[Chapter 928 Inhibition Lifter](#)

Nina stirred the wine by swirling the contents of the glass.

She brought it closer to her nose and inhaled the intoxicating fragrance with affection. She could immediately tell that the inspired product packed more punch than the original.

She brought the glass to her lips and gulped a small sip with her eyes closed. Her taste buds felt exhilaration to no end when she did that and her mana responded to the ranked resources added to the concoction.

The healer let the taste and fragrance do a number on her senses before gulping the wine down her throat. Her mana circuits were stimulated when she did that. The blood circulation in her body was enhanced and she had a bit of a red tinge on her cheeks.

Nina felt light-headed for a brief period when the effects of Eren's wine kicked in. She could tell that the taste and fragrance of the wine were almost identical to the original product. However, the effects of the wine were taken up a notch in Eren's edition.

She looked at Eren mischievously before adding further.

"You know Erni, you don't have to get me drunk for what we are about to do."

Eren chuckled before responding to Nina's provocative words.

"Yeah... but wine is your inhibition lifter. It certainly helps me help you get in the zone."

Nina looked at Eren with a curious expression. The latter smirked and explained his game plan.

"It won't be like the last time, Aunt Nina. Times have changed. I'll call the shots once we get into it."

Nina understood the fire she saw in Eren's eyes. He wanted to outlast her in bed. She chuckled when she remembered how she had practically turned him into a dry twig during their previous sessions.

"Hehehe. Little rascal, don't bite more than you can chew. This is not a competition, silly head."

Eren narrowed his eyes at Aunt Nina before speaking up.

"Your smile tells me you don't believe in your own words. Not a competition? Then why are you thinking of all the instances where I had to call for a timeout?"

Nina bit her tongue when Eren read her like an open book. She then made expressions of someone who had been apprehended on the right grounds but pretended to be wrongly convicted before speaking up.

"Listen to me Erni... you can't use your soul sense on me. I don't like it one bit when you use that against me."

Nina said before gulping a large dose of her wine in one go. Her complexion brightened and she poured some more wine for herself right away.

Eren knew that Nina would contradict her stance once again. Just earlier, she had told him that she was glad that he had awakened his soul sense. That way, he could know her intentions and act accordingly.

Nina was part surprised and part fascinated when she heard about Eren's soul sense awakening. One had to note that people who knew him closely like Levie, Agatha, and Rodrick knew about his soul sense. Nina was added to that list.

Nina also experienced signs of soul sense awakening after she achieved the Master's rank. So she was surprised when Eren had managed to break the lucid barrier and awaken his soul sense before her. As fast as she could tell, she hadn't heard about someone of Eren's caliber unlocking their soul sense. This alone was a testament to the butcher's monstrous progress on his ranking journey.

The couple finished their dinner and drinks soon enough. Nina was feeling a bit tipsy due to the wine's effects. But it was more like she was allowing herself to feel this way.

They got up and decided to do what they had done before this time as well - to pay tribute to their time together in the past. They watched an immersive play on the array disk late into the night.

They then started dancing in each other's embrace to a slow and melodious tune. Their talks turned into whispers. And those whispers turned provocative.

They started getting handsy with each other while they danced. Nina felt Eren's hands on her tushy and she couldn't help feeling excited about what was to come.

A simple cream-colored tunic and dark brown pants to go with. This was Eren's attire. The color scheme and the loose fit of the clothes gave him a casual vibe that complemented his presence at the time.

Nina was also not in her ranker-like outfit. She was wearing a knee-length split dress. The sleeveless design and impeccable fitting accentuated her bodacious figure. Her left leg was exposed more than her right leg because of the split style, making her look even more ravishing than normal.

Eren and Nina started to intrude on each other's boundaries as they fondled each other's clothes, threatening each other to rip them apart.

"Ummm... Your touch always invokes fire in me, Erni."

Eren couldn't reply to Nina's words because he soon found out that his lips had been sealed in Nina's lip lock right afterward. He was reminded that she was always more passionate about smooching him than anything else.

Eren made her remember what he enjoyed doing with her most soon enough. He squeezed her ass some more while embracing her in his arms, bringing her closer.

As soon as the foreplay started, Nina felt like she was about to be sent to cloud nine. She felt a strong thirst in her soul that could only be satiated by mating with Eren.

Her eyes were intoxicated. She started rubbing her body parts on Eren as she kissed him. She welcomed his fondling of her ass and more and responded to it by inserting her tongue into his mouth.

Mark of the Seven Sins: The Mist of Lust

Eren activated his Ability right away while Nina was busy kissing him. He had activated the Ability to elevate her experience a step further.

It was safe to say that Eren was not about to hold anything back against one of his fiercest partners in bed.

[Chapter 929 Nina's Boudoir P1*](#)

Nina's boudoir was an elegant and yet opulent space.

This bedroom was magically enhanced so that it packed more space than its normal dimensions entailed. It had large skylight windows that would let the moonlight in if Nina wished. There were two large circular windows on one side of the room which gave a landscape view of the vineyards.

The floor was made of a white marble-like material that was smooth to the touch. It could become as reflective or opaque as Nina wanted it to be. It was also very durable considering a Master-ranked entity was going to live in the room.

The room was empty except for a king-size bed. Nina was expected to decorate her boudoir her way. So Eren didn't add anything to the room from the get-go.

Moonlight seeped into the room. Although they looked closely, the windows let in the fresh, cool night air. A vista of the vineyards and the backdrop of a valley could be observed from a wooden deck that was outside the windows.

This room was empty for a long time after it was made. But tonight, it was going to welcome its first occupants.

An array circle appeared in this room all of a sudden, which drove away the influence of deathly stillness. That was because it had teleported two rankers inside the room.

"Ummmm."

A seductive feminine moan and an air of sultry entered the room. Eren and Nina were unfazed by the teleportation array's effects on them. They were busy smooching each other— feeling each other with their ever-restless hands.

Eren started kissing Nina's neck while she drove her fingers through his hair. She guided him on her neck as she felt his back with her other hand.

Bzzt. Swoosh. Thud.

Nina's perspective changed all of a sudden. She found herself lying on her plush bed with Eren on top of her. If she could open her eyes and see, she would see the star-studded night sky and the bright sickle of the moon.

However, she was busy feeling Eren's touch on her body with her eyes closed.

"Little devil... you.... Aaaah... you have done something to me, have... haven't you?"

Nina moaned and writhed under Eren's body as she felt all of the weight on him.

"Ooooooh.... This level of thirst... it's not normal."

Nina voiced her doubt as she realized her body was reacting to Eren's touch way more desperately. As if her entire existence was dependent on it. She felt that she could snap out of this effect if she tried. But she didn't. Instead, she asked Eren, demanding an explanation

The butcher stopped kissing Nina. He also stopped fondling her boobs and raised his head. He looked into Nina's half-closed eyes and smiled before asking her a question of his own.

"Should I take that as a complaint?"

Nina didn't stop feeling his back with her hands even when Eren did. She also locked her legs around his waist and locked him in his position. She barely managed to open her eyes before responding.

"No... but you should... you should have given me a heads up."

Nina licked her lips with her long tongue and stuck it outside as she looked at Eren seductively. She rolled over and pinned Eren on the bed before adding more.

"You... you have only made matters more difficult for yourself, you know that?"

Eren heard Nina whisper in his ear as if the universe was telling him untold prophecies. Her seductive raspy voice and her deep breaths made him excited to see his doom.

"Now you can't leave anywhere unless I tell you to."

Saying that Nina brought her face closer to Eren before kissing him once again. This time she bit his lips and was more aggressive in her approach. She started rubbing her lady mound on his now-erect bulge.

"Kekeke. Wouldn't have it any other way. I admit that winning seems difficult. But let's exhaust each other and make this a tie."

Eren said and rolled to his side. He was again on top. He didn't waste any more time. A blazing fire consumed both their bodies in an instant. And it was made to disappear into thin air as well. However, it had done its job for which it was summoned in the first place— getting rid of Nina's dress.

Nina was made to display her assets in her undergarments. Her body looked like the epitome of mature feminine perfection. Her light brown skin, her huge tits, and her thick thighs were a lethal combination. Her long hair and lusty eyes added extra oomph to her appeal.

She was wearing a delicate-looking Fuschia-colored brassiere that had thin lacy straps. There was an embellishment attached to the center gore of the bra, but it was not visible because it was hidden under the valley of the tits. The cup seams and side seams of the bra sport an additional layer of embroidery coating.

The underband of the bra accentuated Nina's massive jugs' size by elegantly highlighting them. Eren looked down to see Nina was wearing undies of the same color, style, and pattern as well.

'Hmm? This is Fuschia? Isn't this just pink?'

Eren scratched the back of his head as if the color wasn't as mysterious as he wanted it to be. Of course, he didn't voice his opinions because he didn't want to make matters worse by provoking Nina once more.

'Heh! This fuschia ain't so shabby either. And anyway, what use is the color of this thin piece of article is going to disappear soon.'

The butcher came up with an answer to his dilemma before resuming his work on Aunt Nina. He started grabbing onto her boobs as he licked and bit her earlobes. The latter welcomed him into her arms and decided to get rid of his clothes too.

She placed her hands on his back and cast a simple water-element spell. A thin layer of water appeared over Eren's body and it started to dissolve his clothes like a teaspoon-worth of sugar disappearing into a glass full of water.

[Chapter 930 Nina's Boudoir P2*](#)

Hmmm. Woosh. Disappear.

The thin layer of water disappeared along with Eren's clothes.

Nina made Eren come into his birthday suit within a fraction of a second before rolling on the bed once again. It seemed like the couple was competing to stay on top of each other for longer.

Eren's enhanced body stats had done wonders for his already lean and muscular physique. He would look shredded if he stressed his muscles. Despite his relaxed state, his body looked full of testosterone-driven vitality.

Eren's emerald green eyes had a life of their own. They would shine every time he felt a few elevated emotions of any kind. They exuded a certain pull on their spectators that was difficult to escape from.

His jet-black hair and his well-defined face made him charming. Combine that with all his other physical qualities, and the butcher could be said to redefine the standard male beauty standards.

A nine incher dick awaited for Nina's eyes to land on when she looked down. With its shape and color, the exposed mushroom head stood out. Nina found out that Eren's girth had also increased more than

before. His little member was bound to stretch her pussy walls some more with its newfound impressiveness.

"My my. You have grown into a man, Erni. Mine. All mine... for the nights to come. Hehe."

Nina declared as she traced the muscle definitions on Eren's torso. She felt the highs and lows of his abs and chest definitions with the tip of her fingers. The butcher smirked at her before propping his head on his folded arms.

"Nights! Plural, huh? Good thing I already made some arrangements so that we can have all the time we need for ourselves."

Eren narrowed his eyes at Nina's seductive body frame as he said it. He freed his one hand and gestured with his index finger as he added.

"Come at me."

Eren enhanced his Ability's influence even more as he watched Nina's eyes getting smitten by his look. He chuckled as he watched her eyes reflect the longing she had for him.

The butcher could tell that the Sin of Lust worked so potently on Nina despite their ranking difference because she already had those feelings for him. Their unavoidable separation only suppressed their carnal needs. But now that they were together, the Sin series Ability only resurfaced what was already buried deep within her psyche.

Nina first tied her long hair behind her head in a knot so that it wouldn't get in the way of her next "job". She then launched her campaign on the well-defined landscape that was Eren's body.

She kissed him before reaching for his neck. Nina traced his chest with the tip of her tongue. By placing her hands on his chest, she felt his steady heartbeat and decided to raise them.

Nina licked her way toward Eren's erect member. She maintained eye contact with him as she played with his dick with her hands. She stroked it for a bit before kissing its head.

"How strong is your head game, Nina?"

With a deep voice and playful gaze, Eren asked. He seemed proud of his manhood standing upright in salute. Nina looked at him with even more intimidation before responding.

"As strong as you want it to be, hon."

Nina said before taking his entire dick into her mouth in one go. She fondled his balls with one hand and used her other hand to excite her now-drenched pussy.

She played with the tip of Eren's erect member with her tongue inside her mouth. This was as she started giving him one of the most impressive blowjobs the butcher had ever received in both his timelines.

"Hmmm!"

Eren grunted as he felt Nina's tongue and her mouth working their magic around his dick. He licked his lips and felt thirsty as well. Lightning struck and Nina's position was changed a bit as per his preference.

"Uuuuuuuugh!"

Nina's moan was muffled by the dick in her mouth. But the ecstasy she felt at this moment was reflected in the moan that escaped her mouth. That was because she felt Eren's fingers tracing her most sensitive region.

Eren had a sudden change of heart. Two massive buns blocked his view of the skylight windows. He licked his lips with his abnormally stretched tongue and felt the need to maintain this position for a long time.

He first inhaled the feminine aroma Nina had there and felt intoxicated by it. Out of all the pussies Eren had a chance to smell, Nina's was the most tempting of them all. He felt Nina's drenched vertical lips with his fingers over her wet panties. He rubbed over the fuchsia-colored article before pulling it to the side.

A sought-after view unfolded before Eren's eyes. Two pussy lips, a dripping hole, and a clean-shaven look awaited him. Eren gripped Nina's head with both his hands from either side and drove his dick deep into her mouth. And at the same time, he made the tip of his tongue reach her puffy clitoris.

A wave of carnal pleasure washed over Nina as she felt her pussy getting lapped by Eren's abnormal tongue. She stretched her legs and sat on his face properly while driving his dick in and out of her mouth at a rapid pace.

The healer started moving her hips to rub her pussy over Eren's nose which was already sunk into her pussy. She started using his nose as a mound to rub the carnal itch she felt between her legs.

Eren had to acknowledge the fact that Nina's blowjob skills had unlocked a new level as she added her water-type elemental attainments to the mix. As a result, he felt like he would burst into her mouth soon.

'Damn it. I'm about to come and this demoness doesn't look like she's anywhere close. Gotta up my game.'

Eren thought to himself as he drove his tongue deep into her wet hole. As a bonus, Eren started squeezing Nina's buns with his left hand. His right hand on the other hand was given a new assignment.

"Ugggggh!"

Another muffled but loud moan escaped Nina's mouth as she felt her anal sphincter being stretched by Eren's finger.