

W. Secret 231

Chapter 231: Resolution 1

“We finally have it – the complete cultivation method of Darkness Eye!”

Wizard Hobbes’ voice trembled as he spoke, and he seemed rather worked up. Beside him, Wizard Gryzllo and Wizard Bahrain gazed fervently at Wizard Hobbes’ latter half of the cultivation method.

They were all Seventh-Spell Casters who were experts in Darkness-type spells. They believed that since a Sixth-level Spell Caster like Wizard Leo managed to cultivate Darkness Eye through this method, there was a high possibility that they would be able to cultivate it as well.

When that happened, the overall power of Abyss Fort would be increased to an extremely terrifying level.

However, as they continued reading, an odd expression quickly washed over Wizard Hobbes. When they had finished studying the entire cultivation method of Darkness Eye, he began to seethe with anger, which was a terrifying sight.

“Damn it! Leo had given us a cultivation method that’s impossible to achieve!”

The expression on Wizard Hobbes’ face became unpleasant. Beside him, Wizard Gryzllo and Wizard Bahrain felt a jolt of their hearts when they heard what he said, and they hastened to ask, “Did Leo give a fake cultivation method?”

“Hmph, it’s worse than fake! If it was fake, we can go to the Dark Magic Region and ask Leo to hand over the real cultivation method. However, this second half of the cultivation method is the real thing. If one really cultivates Darkness Eye by following the stated method, the success rate is truly pitiful. Even if we have all our Sixth-level Spell Casters working on this, it’s possible that not even one will succeed. Those who don’t succeed will almost certainly die!”

Wizard Hobbes gnashed his teeth as he looked toward where Wizard Leo and Merlin had left, his heart filled with hatred.

“Since it’s so difficult to cultivate it, how did Leo manage to succeed?”

Wizard Gryzlo and Wizard Bahrain exchanged a glance and asked in puzzlement.

Wizard Hobbes slowly retracted his gaze from the distance, and still clenching his jaw, replied in a low voice, “Leo is a madman. If it wasn’t for his great luck, he would have long been dead. How lucky he is to have cultivated Darkness Eye! He was determined to do it at all costs, but can other Spell Casters persist at all costs like him?”

After Wizard Hobbes had spoken, the surrounding became quiet.

After a long moment, Wizard Bahrain said softly, “Let’s go back. No matter what, we’ll have to let the others look at the cultivation method of Darkness Eye, and even trouble Wizard Hegleman to have a look. Perhaps Wizard Hegleman would be able to amend a few aspects of Leo’s method, and refine it further?”

Wizard Hobbes’ eyes brightened, and he nodded. “That’s right, Wizard Hegleman is a Ninth-level Spell Caster. He might be able to improve Leo’s cultivation method! Let’s go, we’ll return now.”

With that, Wizard Hobbes and the other Seventh-level Spell Casters turned around quickly and returned to Abyss Fort.

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“Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!”

A burst of white light suddenly flashed across the tranquil beach. Following that, two figures appeared on the beach.

One of them had an ugly face with hollow eyes and a crimson third-eye in his forehead. It was Wizard Leo who had just returned to the Dark Magic Region from Abyss Fort.

Wizard Leo eyed his surroundings and turned around wearing a rather complicated expression. “Merlin, there are many prodigies, but not all of them can become a great Spell Caster. This is as far as I can help you.”

After a pause, a sorrowful look suddenly washed over Wizard Leo’s face as he mumbled softly, “If Raydore hadn’t died then, perhaps he would’ve become a truly great Spell Caster. Back then, he was determined to be a Six-Elemental Spell Caster...”

Wizard Leo then turned around and entered the Dark Magic Region by himself, leaving Merlin who was deep in his own thoughts.

Merlin stared at the vanishing figure of Wizard Leo. He knew some parts of Wizard Leo’s story. Wizard Leo had killed his younger brother Raydore with his own hands, and this became a nightmare that Wizard Leo was never able to escape. Even his cultivation of Darkness Eye and his tireless hunt of Osseus were all for the sake of avenging his brother so that he might achieve peace in his heart.

This was to the extent that Wizard Leo had helped Merlin so much simply because Merlin shared some similarities with Raydore. For the first time, Merlin suddenly felt that the disappearing figure of Wizard Leo, who had shaken up so many spell casters’ organizations, seemed to be somewhat lonely...

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When he had returned to the Wizard Tower, Merlin stayed inside for almost half a month. He was not carrying out any cultivation. If he wanted to quickly improve the present state of his Mind Power in a short time, he would need to rely on more than just Blueberry Potion.

Even if he added Phantasmal Magic Potion to the mix, he would need to consume it over many years to see an improvement in his Mind Power. Furthermore, the Dark Magic Region did not have the materials for Phantasmal Magic Potion.

Therefore, during this period, Merlin did not take in potions to boost his Mind Power but instead familiarized himself with the powers he had.

Now, Merlin was not just a Six-Elemental Spell Caster. Besides having powerful Six-Elemental spells, Merlin also possessed Glacial Finger, Fiery Collapse, and Darkness Heart that he had just cultivated in Abyss Fort. All in all, he had three types of Pandora Demon Ability.

An individual having three types of Pandora Demon Ability – Merlin did not know what the situation was in other spell casters' organizations. However, in the Dark Magic Region, Spell Casters who possessed Pandora Demon Ability were already rare hence it was even more rare for a person to have three types of Pandora Demon Ability.

Although having three Pandora Demon Abilities was considered many, he would still need to familiarize himself with their power and unleash the limits of their unique capabilities. In this manner, only then would he be able to truly demonstrate the superiority of the three types of Pandora Demon Ability.

Merlin had already completed the first stage of cultivating Glacial Finger. Its power was already very formidable, and most Third-level Spell Casters would be unable to withstand such an attack and became frozen immediately.

As for Fiery Collapse, its power seemed to be even more terrifying with its raging flames that covered the entire area. The first form of Fiery Collapse already had such frightening strength, and even Third-level Defensive spells would be consumed in the flames.

As for Fourth-level spells, Merlin had not encountered any Fourth-level Spell Casters so far, so naturally, he was unsure about the extent of Fiery Collapse. Would it be enough to threaten Fourth-level Spell Casters?

Glacial Finger and Fiery Collapse were both Offensive Pandora Demon Abilities, but Merlin's Darkness Heart was a Supportive Pandora Demon Ability.

Although it was of a Supportive nature, the boost of power that Darkness Heart provided to Merlin's Darkness-type spells would be a great one, especially since Merlin had constructed an extremely formidable spell among the First-level spells, Dark Light Realm. Once it was cast and enhanced by Darkness Heart, it might just trap the average Fourth-level Spell Caster in an illusion.

When Merlin took note of all the powers that he possessed, he noticed that his capabilities had been greatly enhanced without him realizing it. Third-level Spell Casters would no longer be of any threat to Merlin.

"It's time for a trip to Floating City to resolve matters with Riesen!"

Merlin muttered ominously. Of course, he had not forgotten Wizard Riesen's sneak attack on him in the ancient monument, and how Wizard Riesen had also trapped him in it.

It was possible that Wizard Riesen had never considered that to cultivate Fiery Collapse, one would need to be in the ancient monument. He merely possessed the cultivation method but had no way of cultivating Fiery Collapse.

Conversely, it was Merlin who had discovered a silver lining while he was trapped in the ancient monument and managed to cultivate the first form of Fiery Collapse.

Now that Merlin's powers were significantly increased and at his current mind power, there was no chance that he would be able to construct a Second-level spell, so he instantly thought about settling matters with Riesen.

"After I've resolved matters with Riesen, I'll look for Laurinka. I'm a First-level Spell Caster now, so I can have my own attendant!"

Merlin had not forgotten about his initial promise to Laurinka. Once he had become a First-level Spell Caster, he would take Laurinka as his attendant so she could return once more to the Dark Magic Region.

This was Merlin's promise, and now was the time for him to fulfill this promise to Laurinka.

Therefore, Merlin stood up right away and had opened the door when he found that a familiar figure was standing outside.

"Elena?"

Merlin furrowed his brows and cried out in surprise.

Elena jerked her head up, and a delighted expression appeared on her face when she saw that it was Merlin. "Wizard Merlin, you're finally out! I've come by a few times but you always seem to be busy, so I didn't disturb you."

It turned out that Elena had come by a few times, only she did not want to disturb Merlin.

Merlin smiled and asked, “Is there any reason you’re looking for me?”

Elena smiled as well. “Nothing much. I just wanted to thank Wizard Merlin. If you hadn’t saved us back then in the ancient monument, I’m afraid that I wouldn’t have had the chance to return to the Dark Magic Region.”

As she brought up what happened in the ancient monument, Merlin was instantly reminded of the fact that he had rescued Elena and Wizard Glen in passing back when he was in the ancient monument.

“It’s nothing much. It was a simple effort.”

Merlin paused for a moment. He considered how, this time around, it might not be easy to search for Riesen in Floating City, and further recalled that Elena’s clan was a Spell Caster clan in Floating City. Perhaps he could request Elena’s assistance.

Thus, Merlin said, “Wizard Elena, I’m returning to Floating City, and I’m afraid that I have a favor to ask of your clan.”

“Oh? Wizard Merlin is going back to Floating City? In that case, how about I tag along with you? If it’s a matter in Floating City, I believe that I would be of some help.”

Hearing that Merlin was going to Floating City, Elena became more enthusiastic. After all, Merlin was currently a rising star, a gifted Spell Caster in the Dark Magic Region, and an even greater talent than Kleis. Befriending Merlin would be hugely beneficial to her position in her clan.

“Well, thank you for your help Wizard Elena!”

Merlin bobbed his head and did not turn down the offer. With Elena’s help, it would be a piece of cake to search for Riesen.

“There’s no time to lose. We’ll leave now!”

Merlin professed in a level tone.

After that, Merlin and Elena went through the Runic Magic Circle together and quickly left the Dark Magic Region.

Chapter 232: Resolution 2

The Dark Magic Region did not have a Runic Magic Circle that reached Floating City directly, so Merlin and Elena could only arrive at a Runic Magic Circle nearby Floating City, and hurried along the rest of the way.

This journey took far longer than when Merlin had gone to Abyss Fort with Wizard Leo. At that time, Wizard Leo had brought Merlin along using flight, so they had traveled very quickly, whereas Merlin and Elena were not Fourth-level Spell Casters and were unable to construct spells with the power of flight, so of course, their pace now was not very encouraging.

Merlin and Elena only reached Floating City after two days.

Floating City seemed deserted compared to the last time Merlin was here, it was perhaps the leaked news about the ancient monument that had attracted many roaming Wizards. Now that such a long time had passed, Floating City had gradually recovered its peacefulness.

Merlin's heart gave a jolt as he thought of the ancient monument, and he asked Elena, "Elena, the last time we entered the ancient monument, how did things finally end up?"

"Ancient monument?"

Elena muttered irresolutely to herself for a moment, and a peculiar expression gradually washed over her face. Thereafter, she said softly, "It's strange now that I think about it. Although the monument was dangerous in the first place, there were many Spell Casters who had already made their way in. However, not long after we had exited the ancient monument, some changes happened inside, and many patterned spiders appeared and terrifying monsters killed Spell Casters on sight.

"As these monsters were too strong, many Third-level Spell Casters were no match for them. Thus, there weren't many Spell Casters who would dare to enter the monument rashly. In the end, the passage to the ancient monument was sealed shut, and no one knew what really happened that caused such a change in the ancient monument."

After she spoke, Elena shot a suspicious glance at Merlin.

Merlin's face remained calm and did not reveal anything out of the ordinary, but inwardly he knew very clearly that the changes were induced by the flame sprite in the ancient monument.

The flame sprite had found Merlin who managed to cultivate the first form of Fiery Collapse. Therefore, the flame sprite had hopes of escaping its bind.

The flame sprite no longer needed so many Spell Casters in the ancient monument, so it controlled the patterned spiders and the puppet to eliminate the remaining Spell Casters in the ancient monument before sealing it shut.

This was good news to Merlin. No one could enter the monument now, so once he had become a Fourth-level Spell Caster, he could enter the monument to cultivate the second form of Fiery Collapse.

"Where do we go first?"

Now that they were in Floating City, Elena directed the question at Merlin.

Merlin mumbled inaudibly to himself and then said in a level tone, "We'll go to this one place first. If we can't find out anything about Riesen there, then we'll have to trouble your clan!"

On their way here, Merlin had already mentioned Riesen to Elena, but he did not explain in detail, only saying that he came to Floating City to search for Riesen.

Following that, Elena trailed behind Merlin as they headed to where Merlin wanted to go. Naturally, it was the residence of Wizard Sammir. He did not know where Riesen was staying and had only gotten acquainted with Riesen at Wizard Sammir's residence.

Therefore, if he wanted to know the latest information about Riesen, he would have to ask Wizard Sammir.

Merlin brought Elena and rounded a few street corners, then quickly made his way into a small alley. Before him was Wizard Sammir's residence.

However, Merlin did not go in right away but stopped where he was and frowned.

A faint commotion could be heard coming from the yard.

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In the yard, sat a few unfamiliar Spell Casters. One of them who was wearing a scarlet Wizard robe said in a sinister tone, "Hehe, Wizard Sammir, you were the last batch to leave the ancient monument. Didn't you find anything inside? Wizard Sammir, we only want you to let us take a look at it, and maybe even trade you for it according to the principle of equivalent exchange."

Wizard Sammir's face was ashen as his icy gaze swept across these Spell Casters. He snorted coldly. "Equivalent exchange? All I found was some potions, not the Pandora Demon Ability that you're thinking of! Moreover, in the ancient monument, there was no such thing as Pandora Demon Ability at all."

The scarlet-robed Wizard's face turned cold and he stood up abruptly, saying to Wizard Sammir in a chilly tone, "Wizard Sammir, think carefully. Pandora Demon Ability is not something you can keep only for yourself!"

Looking at the scarlet-robed Wizard's overbearing manner, Wizard Sammir was not worried. Conversely, it was the two Third-level Spell Casters behind the scarlet-robed Wizard which made Wizard Sammir apprehensive.

Wizard Sammir used to be one of the top few Third-level Spell Casters among the roaming Wizards of Floating City. However, after news of the ancient monument had spread, many Third-level Spell Casters had hurried to Floating City one after another.

Unfortunately, some unforeseen change had happened in the ancient monument. In addition, there were some who spread the news that the monument very likely contained Pandora Demon Ability.

Although this was simply a rumor, it was firmly believed by many roaming Wizards. Since Wizard Sammir and Wizard Bren were among the last ones to leave the ancient monument, many roaming Wizards had kept their eyes on these two Wizards.

However, Wizard Bren had long left Floating City, therefore many of these Wizards turned their gazes to Wizard Sammir alone. The roaming Wizards were afraid of Wizard Sammir's powers and did not dare to pay him a visit so brazenly, but these three Third-level Spell Casters at the present were from outside Floating City. They were not afraid of Wizard Sammir at all and had visited him directly to demand Pandora Demon Ability.

"I've never obtained any such Pandora Demon Ability, whether you believe me or not!"

Wizard Sammir snorted coldly. At that moment, his Alchemy Creature came forward quickly, shielding Wizard Sammir as its watchful eyes fixed onto the three Spell Casters before it.

"Is that so? In that case, we'll see if you really have Pandora Demon Ability on you or not!"

The scarlet-robed Wizard gave a humorless laugh, and the two Third-level Spell Casters behind him came forward instantly. Wizard Sammir was surrounded and the atmosphere became tense.

"Wizard Sammir!"

Suddenly, a voice rang from outside the door, and the Spell Casters directed their eyes toward the sound.

Two young Spell Casters, a man and a woman, walked inside. The force surrounding them was rather weak, yet the two did not seem to be afraid of anything, facing these Third-level Spell Casters indifferently.

Wizard Sammir stared at these two who suddenly appeared, and a surprise took hold of his face. He cried out hastily, "Wizard Merlin? You actually survived the ancient monument. Bren and I had thought that you and Wizard Riesen were dead. You actually survived!"

"Riesen?"

Merlin's eyes sharpened, and he said in a low voice, "Wizard Sammir, I happen to be looking for Riesen. Do you know his whereabouts?"

Before Wizard Sammir could reply, the scarlet-robed Spell Caster rolled his eyes as he sized up Merlin. Following that, he said in an icy voice, “You came out from the ancient monument, so you must know Pandora Demon Ability!”

The scarlet-robed Spell Caster waved his hand slightly, and his Alchemy Creature immediately bounded toward Merlin.

Merlin was unperturbed, but beside him, Elena’s expression shifted slightly. She was able to see that these Spell Casters were powerful, and they had to be Third-level Spell Casters as well to be able to browbeat Wizard Sammir to such a situation.

Although they were roaming Wizards, the might of Third-level Spell Casters could not be underestimated, so she yelled out urgently, “You dare to attack? We’re Spell Casters from the Dark Magic Region, and Wizard Merlin is furthermore an official member. If you dare to harm us, you’ll immediately suffer the merciless hunt of the Dark Magic Region.”

“An official member of the Dark Magic Region?”

The scarlet-robed Wizard squinted his eyes and a wave of Mind Power swept across Merlin. When he saw the robe that Merlin was wearing, the scarlet-robed Wizard’s face changed slightly, for he had seen that logo which represented the Dark Magic Region on Merlin’s robe.

A logo like this could not possibly be imitated by anyone else. Merlin was a bona fide official member of the Dark Magic Region.

The scarlet-robed Wizard evidently had some hesitations. Roaming Wizards were still rather fearful of spell casters’ organizations. No one was willing to face the relentless hunt of a spell casters’ organization.

“I’ll ask you once more – do you know of Pandora Demon Ability in the ancient monument?”

After a long moment, the scarlet-robed Wizard seemed to have made a decision and asked them soberly.

Merlin frowned slightly but did not bother with the scarlet-robed Wizard’s question, and only kept his gaze on Wizard Sammir. “Wizard Sammir, I’ve come now to find Riesen. Do you know where he is?”

Wizard Sammir shook his head lightly and smiled bitterly. “I don’t know what really happened. After you and Riesen disappeared in the ancient monument, he seemed to have vanished without any news whatsoever. I’ve been back in Floating City for so long and haven’t heard anything about Riesen.”

Riesen was such a cautious person that even Wizard Sammir did not know his whereabouts.

As he did not learn of Wizard Riesen’s whereabouts, Merlin felt rather forlorn and his face slowly became gloomy.

However, the scarlet-robed Wizard who had questioned Merlin was even more downcast. Seeing that Merlin took no notice of him, a cold light flashed in his eyes.

“So what if you’re an official member of the Dark Magic Region? I’ll kill you and obtain Pandora Demon Ability – at worst I’ll live incognito and stay far away from the jurisdiction of the Dark Magic Region! Darling, kill him!”

A nasty grin appeared on the scarlet-robed Wizard’s face, after which he directed his Alchemy Creature to attack Merlin.

Just then, Merlin was feeling irritated for not gaining Riesen’s whereabouts. Hearing what the scarlet-robed Wizard said, Merlin’s murderous intent hardened, and he raised his head suddenly. As he stared at the malicious grin on the scarlet-robed Wizard’s face as well as the Alchemy Creature bounding toward him in large strides, an icy detachment flashed across Merlin’s eyes.

Thereafter, he lightly raised a hand and extended a finger toward the Alchemy Creature of the scarlet-robed Wizard.

Chapter 233: Resolution 3

“Crack!”

An icy blast of air flew from Merlin’s finger and wound itself around the scarlet-robed Wizard’s Alchemy Creature. Then, the Alchemy Creature stiffened all over, and cracked open like a shattered eggshell, falling apart onto the ground.

“This... This is Pandora Demon Ability?”

The scarlet-robed Wizard had some knowledge of this and was able to tell at a glance that what Merlin had wielded was the Pandora Demon Ability that he yearned for. However, although he longed to have Pandora Demon Ability, he felt how terrifying it was when confronting Pandora Demon Ability in reality.

“Let’s go!”

The scarlet-robed Wizard knew instantly that the Merlin standing before him was definitely not someone he should provoke. Even his Alchemy Creature was unable to withstand the attack, let alone the scarlet-robed Wizard himself. It could have been known that the greater part of an alchemist’s strength came from the Alchemy Creature that they had transfigured.

“Dark Light Realm!”

However, Merlin had no intention of letting this scarlet-robed Wizard go. He had not learned of Riesen’s whereabouts from Wizard Sammir and was feeling ill-tempered. The scarlet-robed Wizard was extremely unfortunate to have infuriated Merlin at such a time.

The light surrounding them began to distort, and the scarlet-robed Wizard and his group immediately observed an inky darkness all around them, which not even their Mind Power could penetrate.

This was Dark Light Realm. Once it was cast, it would twist the light rays to form an area of absolute darkness. Adding on the enhancement of Merlin’s Darkness Heart, the spell was able to trap Third-level Spell Casters in the illusion, even if it was not the strengthened version.

The scarlet-robed Wizard and his two companions – all of them Third-level Spell Casters – were currently enclosed in Merlin’s Dark Light Realm. The strong illusive effect of the spell, boosted by Merlin’s Darkness Heart, made its power terrifying, even though it was merely a First-level spell. The scarlet-robed Wizard and his group were instantly caught up in layers of illusions.

“Fiery Collapse!”

Following that, Merlin uttered a soft command. A burst of white flame appeared instantly, and it appeared exceptionally prominent in the dark.

However, these white flames were frightening indeed. They swallowed the scarlet-robed Wizard and his companions, who were trapped in illusions, one after another, and began to burn furiously. In a flash, the three Spell Casters were reduced to a pile of ash.

Merlin waved his hand once again, dispelling Dark Light Realm and the white flames.

The white flames were, in fact, Merlin's second Pandora Demon Ability, Fiery Collapse. This was the first time Merlin had used Fiery Collapse against an opponent, and its results were rather satisfying. Merlin was very pleased.

"Wizard Sammir, you really don't know where Riesen is?"

Merlin dusted off his hands, looking as if it took him no effort to kill the scarlet-robed Wizard and his group.

Seeing the look in Merlin's eyes, Wizard Sammir felt his heart tremble slightly. Each time he met Merlin, he felt that something had changed as if Merlin's powers were growing every time.

The scarlet-robed Wizard and his group were not average Spell Casters, for they were powerful Third-level Spell Casters. In addition, they had their Alchemy Creatures. As long as they did not provoke Sterling House or the few large Spell Caster clans in Floating City, they could do as they like without restraint. Even Wizard Sammir was apprehensive about these three.

However, these three Spell Casters who ran amuck were slain by Merlin in the blink of an eye. The last time when Merlin killed DeMarco, their powers were still at a comparable level. However, this time, Merlin's might had clearly far surpassed that of a Third-level Spell Caster. The average Third-level Spell Caster would no longer pose any threat to Merlin.

Therefore, under the weight of Merlin's stare, Wizard Sammir seemed to feel a shapeless strain of pressure, so he could only say in a low voice, "Wizard Riesen is secretive about his location, and outsiders would find it hard to track him. I truly don't know where is his exact location."

Merlin looked carefully at Wizard Sammir. Under Merlin's attentive observation, Wizard Sammir could not possibly be lying. He was telling the truth – he truly did not know where Riesen was.

When he came to this conclusion, there was nothing that Merlin could do even if he was reluctant to give up. He could only say throatily, “I must find Riesen. If Wizard Sammir finds out where he is, please let me know as soon as you can. I’ll be staying in Floating City for a while to search for Riesen.”

“Be rest assured, Wizard Merlin. If there are any signs of Riesen, I’ll inform you immediately.”

There was a deferential note in Wizard Sammir’s tone. It was not like the days of the past. Wizard Sammir no longer put on an arrogant air when he was with Merlin.

“Wizard Elena, let’s go. It seems like we would still need to mobilize your clan’s influence to locate Riesen.”

Merlin turned his head and frowned as he told Elena.

Elena was still caught up in the shock of how easily Merlin had killed the scarlet-robed Wizard and the other Spell Casters. She only “sobered up” upon hearing Merlin’s voice, and as she looked at Merlin, her face wore a complicated expression.

A mere First-level Spell Caster, yet he was able to kill Third-level Spell Casters so casually. Not even Kleis of the Dark Magic Region could do that.

“As soon as Riesen appears in Floating City, the Delman clan will surely be able to track him down!”

Elena proclaimed confidently. The Delmans might not be influential in other matters, but no incident in Floating City – no matter how significant or trivial – could be concealed from the Delman clan. As soon as they mobilized the Delman clan’s influence, it would not be difficult to find Riesen at all.

Merlin nodded. “Let’s go to the Delman clan and locate Riesen as quickly as possible.”

After he spoke, Merlin immediately turned and left Wizard Sammir’s yard.

After Merlin had left, Wizard Sammir heaved a long sigh. He directed his perplexed gaze onto the direction where Merlin had left, and mumbled softly, “Riesen, how did you provoke Wizard Merlin? I’m afraid that things don’t look good for you right now...”

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A luxurious, black horse carriage stopped gently before a small building. The building had been quietly purchased by a mysterious individual a few months ago, but no one had seen anyone entering the building. This had long attracted the attention of the people living nearby the building.

Still, there were all sorts of strange characters in Floating City. After two months of observation, the ordinary Spell Casters who lived nearby the small building had not seen anyone moving into the building. Thus, they gradually forgot about the mysterious owner of the small building.

However, now that a luxurious carriage had suddenly stopped before the building, the interest of the others was piqued once more. After all, ever since the building was bought, it seemed like no one had moved in.

“Creak.”

Nonetheless, the doors of the small building suddenly opened, and a Spell Caster with an aged countenance walked out, hurried to the carriage, and bowed his head in a very respectful manner.

This caused no end of bewilderment to the neighboring Spell Casters. They had always thought that the building was uninhabited, but it was now clear that the mysterious owner had returned a long time ago and had been quietly staying inside the building without anyone noticing.

The owner of the small building stood courteously before the carriage. A handsome young man stepped out from the carriage. His head of dark blonde hair was draped lightly over his shoulders, and the boots he wore stepped on the ground with a crisp sound.

After seeing the old Spell Caster, the handsome man seemed to turn aloof and entered the small building directly without saying a word. As for the old Spell Caster, he lifted his head and scanned his surroundings before entering the building as well.

“You’re an associate member of Floating City?”

After entering the building, the young man sat on a stone chair. He narrowed his eyes as he looked over the old Spell Caster standing before him.

The old Spell Caster rose up from his seat politely, and then respectfully replied, “Your Honor Sir Wizard Weiss, I’m an associate member of Ozmu, Riesen. I’ve received orders from Ozmu to lend my full strength to assist with Sir Wizard Weiss’ mission in Floating City.”

“Riesen?”

A cold sneer flashed across the young Spell Caster’s face. As an official member of Ozmu, he completely looked down on these so-called “associate members”.

There were only a few official members of Ozmu – other than true prodigies, they would not go as low as to recruit common Spell Casters. However, as a formidable force that was comparable to large spell casters’ organizations, Ozmu naturally would not only employ gifted Spell Casters. They still needed a few ordinary Spell Casters who were not as gifted.

Thus, the associate members were recruited. These associate members had not much of a status in Ozmu and were mostly cannon fodder in the completion of missions.

Therefore, the associate members’ status in Ozmu could never be compared to the official members’ status.

Of course, there were some benefits to be enjoyed as associate members of Ozmu. In fact, theoretically, these associate members could become official members, except that this was, only theoretical. Being an organization that recruited only prodigious Spell Casters, Ozmu was very cautious and stringent about taking in new members.

In the long history of Ozmu, the number of those who had been promoted from associate member to official member could be counted in one hand.

Thus, as he stared at the associate member – Riesen – standing before him, the young Spell Caster Weiss acted bluntly.

Riesen's expression displayed utmost respect, but inwardly he was aggrieved. He had been an associate member since the development of Ozmu and had always stayed in Floating City to spy on the happenings in Floating City and reported them to Ozmu.

This could not be easier for Riesen, and he had even taken advantage of his position to obtain many benefits from Ozmu. He had even entered a few ancient monuments, and his powers grew very rapidly.

A few months ago, he had entered one such ancient monument and obtained the cultivation method for Pandora Demon Ability. He had been overjoyed, and immediately laid low, hiding in the most inconspicuous places that he owned in Floating City, in order to cultivate Pandora Demon Ability.

However, he only failed in the end, because there were a few rare treasures, which even he had not heard of, that were needed for the cultivation of that Pandora Demon Ability.

Just when his spirits were at their lowest point, Riesen received orders from Ozmu, which explained that an official member of Ozmu, who was a Third-level Spell Caster, would be coming to Floating City to carry out a mission.

This caused Riesen no end of distress. Since the beginning, Ozmu had sent people out on missions mostly to steal the talents of some spell casters' organizations or Spell Caster's clan. If they were careless, an official member of Ozmu would still be able to escape, but an associate member like him would finally have to face the ruthless retaliation of the furious organization or clan.

In that manner, many associate members had inexplicably ended up as cannon fodder for Ozmu.

Riesen had been an associate member of Ozmu for decades now. Of course, he knew that once again, there would be a lot of trouble here in Floating City, and he would soon be caught in a dangerous situation.

However, Riesen dared not express any form of dissatisfaction. The punishment for members who dared to disobey the orders of Ozmu was extremely harsh. Not even the best of the talented ones would dare to disobey the orders of Ozmu, not to mention an associate member like Riesen.

Thus, Riesen could only calm himself down for now, and gingerly lifted his head to look at the young Spell Caster Weiss, before asking softly, "I wonder what mission Sir Wizard Weiss will be carrying out here in Floating City?"

“What mission I’ll be completing – is that the business of an associate member?”

The young Spell Caster Wizard Weiss looked at Riesen and barked in cold laughter. He did not seem to think much of Riesen at all, although he was similarly a Third-level Spell Caster.

Chapter 234: Resolution 4

Riesen’s face stiffened slightly as hatred stirred in his heart.

‘Damn him! A mere Third-level Spell Caster, he’s only an official member of Ozmu. Just wait until I’ve cultivated the Pandora Demon Ability, Fiery Collapse. Who will you be in comparison?’

Despite the dark hatred in his heart, Riesen did not dare reveal any of his dissatisfaction. In fact, he forced a wide smile on his face. “Naturally, I won’t dare to get myself involved in Sir Weiss’ mission. However, I have a better understanding of Floating City, so perhaps I may be of some help to Sir Weiss’ mission.”

Wizard Weiss frowned slightly, then his expression softened somewhat. He replied in a level tone, “That’s right, aren’t associate members like you tasked with gathering information? This is the essence of your job, and if you haven’t carried this out properly, then Ozmu will not have any need to keep you guys around. Tell me about what’s happening with the Wright clan. Remember to only highlight the important points.”

“The Wright clan?”

Riesen blanked out for a moment, but he quickly figured out the real purpose Ozmu had sent Wizard Weiss to Floating City. It could be for the sake of the gifted Spell Caster, Wizard Shane of the Wright clan.

Shane was reportedly only an Entrance-level Spell Caster but had already displayed extremely astonishing talents. Currently, he had already constructed Four-Elemental spells and was constructing a fifth spell.

Even if Shane did not join any spell casters’ organization, his future accomplishments would surely be incredible. The Wright clan seemed to have pooled all its resources into Shane.

There was no doubt that Ozmu had sent Wizard Weiss to Floating City because of Shane.

“Wizard Weiss, Shane is heavily guarded by the Wright clan. I’m only afraid that it won’t be easy to sway him.”

Wizard Riesen muttered to himself for a moment before venturing to speak carefully.

“Not easy to sway him? What a joke! Who among those that Ozmu have set their sight on, would not be swayed? Shane won’t be a problem. However, after the big battle with the Dark Magic Region, Abyss Fort, and other spell casters’ organizations, both spell casters’ organizations and Spell Caster clans have been heavily guarding against Ozmu. We’ve only just come in contact with this Shane, but we were discovered by the Wright clan, and now Shane is confined within the clan.

“However, to think that a mere Spell Caster clan wants to resist Ozmu – what a wishful thinking! Thus, Ozmu did not plan to waste any more time with the Wright clan and have sent me to go straight to the clan and bring Shane out. I’m afraid that I’ve only heard a small piece of news regarding these Spell Caster clans, but it doesn’t matter. I’ll just have to head straight for the Wright clan and take Shane away. Whoever stands in my way will be killed!”

An arrogant expression had crept over Wizard Weiss’ face. Not only did he think nothing of Wizard Riesen but he even made light of all the Spell Caster clans in Floating City.

Riesen should have known that those in Ozmu were all maniacs with delusions of grandeur, but now that he had met such an egotistical madman from Ozmu, he felt helpless.

However, Riesen, who had a clear understanding of the capability of the Wright clan could not help but to warn Wizard Weiss. “Wizard Weiss, the rest of the Wright clan might not be much, but there’s an old fellow who is a Fourth-level Spell Caster. I’m afraid that it would be troublesome. How about we hold on for now, and properly come up with a foolproof plan that will allow us to take Wizard Shane away without causing any disturbances.”

“Bring Shane away secretly? That’s not Ozmu’s style, and what’s more, it’s not a style of mine, Weiss! He’s a trifling Fourth-level Spell Caster and a Three-Elemental Wizard. Who knows how many puny Spell Casters like him I’ve dealt with before? That’s enough, Riesen, go make your arrangements. Tomorrow, we shall call upon the Wright clan and I shall bring Shane away. No one can stop me!”

Wizard Weiss' voice was soft, but his words were filled with confidence.

'He's a madman and a megalomaniac with such a stupid plan. Does he think that the alliance of the Spell Caster clans is merely for show? Even if most Spell Caster clans dare not interfere, what about Sterling House? Although Sterling House had never meddled in struggles of power, Floating City is a stronghold of Sterling House. If too much trouble is made, it's hard to guarantee that Sterling House would not take action...'

Riesen considered things comprehensively and was careful in all matters. He had stayed in Floating City for so many years, yet not a single person knew who he truly was except that one could see Riesen was prudent and cautious in doing things.

Although Riesen was scolding Weiss inwardly, when he looked up and saw Wizard Weiss' haughty expression, he gaped in silence and did not offer any more advice. He knew that even if he mentioned the possibility of Sterling House's involvement, Wizard Weiss, with such a brash arrogant attitude, would not change his so-called "plan".

'Hmph, if you want to die then do it alone. I'll better prepare, so in case things go wrong, I'll be able to pull out immediately and let the lunatic throw away his life.'

Wizard Riesen had his own plan, but he still felt very dejected. Once he had pulled out, he would no longer be able to return to Floating City. This would put an end to his scheme to obtain benefits for himself from Ozmu while collecting various cultivation resources in Floating City.

However, after some careful evaluation, Riesen decided that his life was more precious. He would not act insanely like the madman Wizard Weiss.

...

"Ozmu sent Wizard Weiss who had arrived in Floating City. Moreover, he's presently at the secret residence of Wizard Riesen, an associate member of Ozmu."

In an exquisitely decorated room, a few Spell Casters were standing in a group, discussing a rather important issue.

That previous report was given by a Third-level Spell Caster.

“Weiss? I’ve heard that he used to be a member of a medium-sized spell casters’ organization in Thule, but under the influence of Ozmu, he betrayed his organization without hesitation. He defected to Ozmu and became its member. Now that so many years have passed, although he’s still a Third-level Spell Caster as before, I’m afraid that his powers have increased many times over. It should be known that those in Ozmu have the ability to kill an opponent beyond their own level. Each and every one of them is a maniacal freak.”

A blue-robed Spell Caster said in a low voice.

“Matthew, you’re the clan elder of the Delman clan, so what should we do now? Do we send our honorable Fourth-level Spell Caster to help the Wright clan and oppose Ozmu together, or do we sit back and do nothing, quietly observing what happens?”

They were headed by a lanky Spell Caster who was dressed in a gray Wizard robe lined with gold. This was the clan elder of the Delman clan, Elena’s father, Wizard Matthew.

Wizard Matthew had remained silent, furrowing his brow thoughtfully. His white palm was grasping a small black magic staff and he kept fiddling with it. They could see that Wizard Matthew was struggling with his complicated thoughts.

After a long time, Wizard Matthew finally raised his head and looked at the Spell Casters. Everyone who was present here practically made up the core of the Delman clan’s strength, but there were only five Third-level Spell Casters, including himself.

Additionally, there was an old Wizard who was a Fourth-level Spell Caster, but he was the strongest the Delman clan had. They would not usually bring out this old Wizard, much less send him into risky situations.

Most Spell Caster clans in the entire Floating City were similar to the Delman clan. The difference in power, when compared to spell casters’ organizations, even the smallest ones, was far too big.

“Everybody, we’re different from spell casters’ organizations. Our power is far too weak. A few months ago, the Dark Magic Region, Abyss Fort, Fire City, and Ashes Region had joined forces to oppose Ozmu, and a Seventh-level Spell Caster in Ozmu even died. However, we’re not a spell casters’ organization. This time, Ozmu had only sent one Third-level Spell Caster, yet it’s as if we’re preparing for a great enemy, and we’re even unsure if we’re able to win this round.

“However, to the powerful Ozmu, a Third-level Spell Caster is barely anything. It’s only because Shane from the Wright clan had somewhat piqued their interest that they had sent Wizard Weiss here. We, of the Delman clan, are not even qualified to contend against Ozmu, so my decision is to recall any member of the Delman clan who is currently outside. For these few days, we must not carelessly leave the clan, and we’ll quietly observe what happens!”

After Wizard Matthew had spoken, he looked toward the other Third-level Spell Casters.

The Third-level Spell Casters each wore a despondent look. It was true, the disparity between them and Ozmu was too big. The Dark Magic Region and other spell casters’ organizations could still join forces and battle a few rounds with Ozmu, but Spell Caster clans like them were not even qualified to be Ozmu’s opponent, even if they formed an alliance.

Therefore, Wizard Matthew had made the most proper and most rational decision.

“We agree with the clan elder’s plan.”

Wizard Matthew nodded. “Alright, all of you should head down to make arrangements to recall all members of the Delman clan who are in Floating City, and have every one of them return to the clan.”

Wizard Matthew gave his official order, and these Spell Casters turned around and exited, ready to make arrangements to recall all clan members.

Soon, the entire room became quiet, and only Wizard Matthew was left. He gave a slight, bitter smile. “Oh Wright, how can Spell Caster clans like us possibly retain a true prodigy? Perhaps you should’ve sent Shane to Fire City in the beginning, then you wouldn’t be facing a crisis as you’re in now!”

Wizard Matthew mumbled softly as his faced filled with a powerless look. In private, he was on good personal terms with the Spell Casters of the Wright clan, but the present matter was far too serious. If one was not careful, one’s clan might end up destroyed completely, so even if he was good friends with the Wright clan, he dared not mobilize his clan’s power to help the Wright clan.

...

Floating City was initially bustling with movement, but in a short period, all the clan members were speedily recalled back to their clans. The big Floating City looked empty and desolate, creating a eerie scene.

“What has happened here?”

Merlin followed behind Elena as they walked toward the Delman clan. They witnessed Floating City becoming desolate in the blink of an eye as if many people were escaping from something. This made Merlin very suspicious.

“Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!”

Suddenly, a mysterious rune appeared on Elena’s hand. It was glowing and vibrating slightly.

Elena’s face changed. “This seems to be the clan’s order to summon all members back. Merlin, something might have happened. Come on, let’s hurry to the clan.”

Following that, Elena quickened her pace, bringing Merlin as they rushed toward the Delman clan.

Chapter 235: Resolution 5

In the Delman clan, Spell Casters were bustling about in a frenzy, constantly coming in and going out. Fortunately, the Delman clan’s territory was large enough with many spaces set aside so that the Spell Casters who were recalled had a place to stay.

On usual days, the Delman clan did not appear to have many members, but after Wizard Matthew sent out the order to recall all members, this crowd of people appeared all at once.

“Merlin, wait for a moment in this room. I’ll go and find out what actually happened.”

Elena frowned in a vexed manner. One could see that she was feeling rather anxious as she did not know what had happened in her clan.

Merlin nodded and replied, “Wizard Elena, as you wish.”

Following that, Elena left the room to find out what had happened in her clan, whereas Merlin quietly observed his Mind Power, which was currently at the level of a Third-level Spell Caster.

Moreover, the six Spell Models in his Awareness, under the control of his tremendous Mind Power, had not made any error. At every moment, various Elements in the air were absorbed and transformed into Magic Power to be stored inside the Spell Models.

Even during such an idle period, Merlin did not break off his cultivation but instead began meditating. Although this was a busy time, he would cultivate the advanced Mind Meditation Spell at every opportunity he had. By doing this, he would increase his incredible Mind Power as always, but compared to the amount of Mind Power Merlin needed, such a small increase seemed to be negligible.

However, the advanced Mind Meditation Spell still served its purpose for Merlin. Perhaps once his Mind Power broke through the barrier of the Third-level and reached the stage of the Fourth-level, the advanced Mind Meditation Spell would no longer be of much use to Merlin.

“Merlin, I have news about Riesen!”

Just as Merlin was cultivating the advanced Mind Meditation Spell, Elena suddenly barged into the room with a gleeful expression.

“Hmm? You’ve found Riesen?”

Merlin opened his eyes and the force surrounding his body, which had been calm, became sinister and terrifying in a flash, causing Elena’s delighted smile to freeze on her face.

This was because Merlin had cultivated Darkness Heart, and the force he involuntarily emitted was filled with a strong, imposing Darkness. Merlin quickly became aware of this and immediately retracted the force around his body. With that, Elena recovered and said in a low voice, “At first, I went to inquire why the clan had recalled all its members, and unexpectedly, I also learned of some information about Riesen.

“It turned out that Riesen was still hiding in Floating City. He’s an associate member of Ozmu, and he sure knows how to hide well! However, his true identity was no big secret to the Delman clan and a few other Spell Caster clans.”

Merlin's eyes sharpened, and he asked hoarsely, "So where's Riesen now?"

Elena could clearly sense Merlin's murderous intent toward Wizard Riesen, but she still softly advised him, "Wizard Merlin, it might be troublesome if you're planning to kill Riesen. He's currently by the side of Wizard Weiss, a gifted, Third-level Spell Caster from Ozmu."

"Weiss?"

Merlin narrowed his eyes, his face full of inquiry.

"Wizard Weiss is a Third-level Spell Caster from Ozmu who came from a medium-sized spell casters' organization in Thule. He defected to Ozmu, and his powers must've increased many times throughout his days of training in Ozmu. Now, he's acting under Ozmu's orders, and has come to Floating City for the Wright clan's Wizard Shane."

Merlin grasped the situation immediately. Wizard Shane had displayed an incredible talent, and Ozmu's modus operandi had always been to target gifted Spell Casters like him. Ozmu had always dared to steal the talents of large spell casters' organizations. Hence, it was of no surprise that they came for the Wright clan.

However, Merlin was not concerned about Ozmu. Whoever they were planning to steal was none of Merlin's business. He cared only about Riesen.

"Where's Weiss and Riesen then?"

Merlin asked with a deep searching look.

Elena hesitated for a moment but finally answered, "Weiss will head straight to the Wright clan tomorrow. Being Ozmu's associate member, Riesen will be sure to follow."

"The Wright clan!"

Merlin lowered his head and mumbled to himself, before drawing in a deep breath. "Fine, tomorrow we'll go to the Wright clan earlier and wait for Riesen to arrive!"

Elena opened her mouth and it seemed like she was about to say something. In the end, she said nothing, and quietly left the room.

...

At dawn the next morning, before the fog in Floating City had even dispersed, the Wright clan came alive with noise and movement. Spell Casters constantly gathered in a group and fixed their gazes on the doorway.

The strongest of the Wright clan, the Fourth-level Spell Caster Wizard Moyi, was staring sternly at the doorway shrouded in thick fog. Beside Wizard Moyi, there were many other Spell Casters – these were the Third-level Spell Casters of the Wright clan.

With the strongest gathered here since early morning, looking embattled, it seemed that they had heard the news about Weiss, and dared not let down their guard at all.

“Whoosh...”

Suddenly, two blurry silhouettes slowly appeared in the fog. A gentle gust of wind broke up the fog, and a Spell Caster was yelling, “It’s Weiss, they were right. Ozmu had really sent Weiss!”

The fog dispersed, and Weiss led Riesen to the doorway of the Wright clan. Seeing that the entrance was crammed full of Spell Casters, Wizard Weiss showed no sign of fear, but instead called out loudly, “Moyi, release Shane right this instance. He’s already a half-member of Ozmu. So, if you don’t release him, I’m afraid that the Wright clan will vanish completely today...”

“Wizard Weiss, are you that confident?”

Wizard Moyi, who was sitting on a chair, got up leisurely. Although his face was aged, his eyes burned with a bright spirit.

“Kill!”

Wizard Moyi’s faced changed suddenly and he roared hoarsely. Instantly, the crowd of Spell Casters hiding in the mist cast their respective spells with a cry. The wild torrent of spells flew toward Wizard Weiss in a flash.

As Wizard Riesen looked at the sky of spells, his face dropped immediately, and stepped back instinctively. Perhaps on their own, the spells were nothing much, but altogether they formed a terrifying attack. Not even a Fourth-level Spell Caster could be sure of withstanding this.

However, Wizard Weiss' expression did not shift. He looked up at the barrage of spells filling his vision, and a disdainful, mocking smirk tugged at his lips.

“Gale, rise!”

Wizard Weiss muttered softly, and suddenly a wild wind twisted itself into a giant vortex that began to sweep out horizontally.

The tremendous power of Gale completely swept away the barrage of spells, crushing them into dust.

Even Wizard Moyi was dumbfounded. His eyes burst wide open as he stared at Gale, stunned to his core. He knew that this was not the power of a Third-level spell or any spell for that matter.

“Pandora Demon Ability!”

Wizard Moyi mumbled in a low voice.

“So, it's a Pandora Demon Ability. It's been said that Wizard Weiss had betrayed his organization and defected to Ozmu because the latter had offered a Pandora Demon Ability that very much suited him. Could it have been this Wind-type Pandora Demon Ability?”

A few powerful Spell Casters were still hiding under the dense cover of the fog. Their Mind Power was able to easily discern everything that had happened in the fog.

These Spell Casters were Third-level Spell Casters at the very least, and were evidently Wizards from the Spell Caster clans of Floating City. They had come across descriptions of Pandora Demon Ability before, and the spell that Weiss had just unleashed was different from Wind-type spells, for it had unbelievable power. It was far beyond the limit of Third-level spells to be able to smash the barrage of spells that had covered the sky into smithereens.

Only Pandora Demon Ability could accomplish this. It was not surprising that Wizard Weiss was so confident, completely unafraid of the entire Wright clan. It was true that once his Wind-type Pandora Demon Ability was cast, the number of opponent Spell Casters was irrelevant in the face of its marvelous power.

“It seems like Wizard Moyi is in danger this time around, and the Wright clan would find it hard to escape. Ozmu’s might is indeed terrifying and great. Even a Third-level Spell Caster whom they’ve sent out has mastered the powerful and mysterious Pandora Demon Ability!”

After witnessing Wizard Weiss casting his Pandora Demon Ability, the Third-level Spell Casters of the different clans felt a lingering fear in their hearts. If they had really decided to assist the Wright clan, their clans would have been caught up in this dangerous situation too.

Even the Fourth-level Spell Casters, especially the ones like them who came from Spell Caster clans, would not be sure of a victory over Weiss, who possessed Pandora Demon Ability.

Weiss’ possession of Pandora Demon Ability was the greatest shock, not to others, but to Riesen who was behind him.

Riesen had suffered and toiled to finally obtain one Pandora Demon Ability, and he was not even able to cultivate it for now. Conversely, when Weiss had defected to Ozmu, his prerequisite was that he would acquire Pandora Demon Ability.

Now that Weiss had already cultivated Pandora Demon Ability successfully, his strength was far greater than the average Fourth-level Spell Caster. This was the true basis for his confidence. Weiss truly had the right to look down upon the Wright clan.

“Die, you old thing!”

A wild expression shone in Wizard Weiss’ eyes, and violent fluctuations of Wind Elements rose around him. Suddenly, a raging gust of tornado emerged. Its power was even stronger than the one before, making the heart of Wizard Moyi, a Fourth-level Spell Caster, race furiously.

Wizard Moyi understood that he was unable to withstand Weiss’ Pandora Demon Ability. It was not really an exaggeration to say that the prodigies of Ozmu were able to transcend their ranks and vanquish powerful Spell Casters. Wizard Moyi was currently about to become one such stepping stone for Weiss.

Furthermore, this battle would be a time for Weiss to truly shine!

“Kleis, I’ll show the higher-ups of Ozmu that it was a foolish decision to choose you!”

Wizard Weiss’ face twisted slightly and turned sinister. It appeared that he was only determined to make such a big show of destroying the Wright clan because he was dissatisfied with the higher-ups of Ozmu.

Moreover, the so-called “gifted Spell Caster Shane” was no longer a significant factor in Wizard Weiss’ mind.

Chapter 236: Resolution 6

“Matthew, how can your Delman clan remain so unconcerned? If I’m not mistaken, your clan and the Wright clan had a close personal relationship. How can you have the heart to watch the Wright clan be completely destroyed?”

A Spell Caster said in the thick fog. He wore a black robe; his hair was thin and almost bald.

Wizard Matthew and a few other Third-level Spell Casters from the Delman clan had arrived. After all, the future progression of Floating City would be greatly impacted by the existence and survival of the Wright clan.

Moreover, Ozmu was very threatening. Although they were not evenly matched, it was clear that their strength was extremely formidable.

Wizard Matthew looked at the bald-headed man and drifted his gaze back at the Wright clan, his eyes filled with uneasiness. He said sullenly, “It seems that the Wright clan doesn’t want to leave Shane. If you leave him, you would have unbeatable strength. Do you all not know the strength of Ozmu?”

Wizard Matthew glared at the Spell Casters surrounding him, each of them bowed their heads in disgrace.

After a long pause, the bald-headed Wizard fiercely raised his head as he sneered with a sharp voice. “Hehe, you don’t think we know the strength of Ozmu? Their entire fleet is composed of countless madmen, but each of them is truly gifted. No Spell Caster would willingly enter Ozmu only to have their power destroyed.”

This was one of the strange rituals of Ozmu. Every single Spell Caster in Ozmu behaved strangely and had radical views, and they also conformed to a very peculiar ritual. All the Spell Casters who cultivated in Ozmu would return only to destroy their own power.

It was because of this strange group of madmen and rituals that brought Ozmu so many hateful enemies and resistance against themselves.

Neither Spell Caster clans nor spell casters’ organizations would want their own prodigies to betray them and turn to Ozmu, only to end up destroying themselves one day.

The Wright clan wanted to leave Shane, but they were still slightly reluctant to give him up and this led to a disaster. Shane was already bewitched by Ozmu and had begged to join them.

All this led to the scene now where Ozmu sent Weiss forward to take Shane by force.

“Die! Die! Die!”

Wizard Weiss behaved like a madman and howled. The frenzied wind beside him grew stronger and more formidable as it strangled Wizard Moyi.

Wizard Weiss heaved a sigh. He had been in Ozmu for many years but was still not promoted to a Fourth-level Spell Caster. In fact, he became a worthless Spell Caster in Ozmu.

However, Wizard Weiss’ situation had become even more difficult since Kleis arrived from the Dark Magic Region and took refuge in Ozmu. It was more often than not that he would only carry out unchallenging, simple tasks. Of course, there were little rewards for his pitiful missions.

“Without Kleis, my life wouldn’t be as bad. He has ruined my life! Kill! I want to kill all these people and show the superiors of Ozmu that I, Weiss, am the prodigy of Ozmu!”

Wizard Weiss' expression became particularly savage. His rage was caused by all his jealousy and injustice.

This Wind-type Pandora Demon Ability was the same one Ozmu had used to bewitch Wizard Weiss to join Ozmu. In the end, he was able to successfully cultivate the Pandora Demon Ability, but he was never able to break through the threshold and become a Fourth-level Spell Caster.

Not every prodigy can go on to become a powerful Spell Caster. Many of them were stuck as Third-level Spell Casters and could not progress any further, forever restricted.

Weiss' Wind-type Pandora Demon Ability was terrifying. It howled as it strangled and destroyed anything in its path. It exposed its demonic strength within the Pandora Demon Ability.

“Wright!”

Wizard Matthew looked among the many Spell Caster of the Wright clan and saw a burly Spell Caster. It was the clan elder, Wright, who was also a close friend of Wizard Matthew.

However, Wright was about to die, and Matthew did not dare to interfere. If he did, the hot-headed Weiss may turn his anger on the Delman clan.

Weiss had his back on the mighty Ozmu. It could easily withstand the formidable power of many large-scale spell casters' organizations and hence, there was no way to destroy it.

Albeit it was just Weiss on his own, there would not be much the Delman clan could do. The formidable power from the Pandora Demon Ability made even Wizard Matthew, who was a Third-level Spell Caster, lose all hope.

“Resist! We must resist!”

Wizard Matthew clenched his fists for dear life. He watched as the fierce wind got closer and closer to Wizard Wright. If it engulfed him, all hope would be lost, and no one could save him.

Wizard Matthew was not the only one who was anxious. The other Spell Casters from the large-scale Spell Caster clans of Floating City watched as the advanced Wright clan was now almost

destroyed. The Spell Casters from the other Spell Caster clans felt sorry for the Wright clan and thought that perhaps they could establish a new one in the near future.

“Haha, die! All of you, die!”

Wizard Weiss cast the Pandora Demon Ability to his heart’s content as his eyes gleamed a red glow. It was a terrifying sight indeed.

“Hmph, people of Ozmu, you’re getting too arrogant!”

Suddenly, a cold tut was heard, and at the same time, the sky began to condense into snow in a sudden attack.

“Ka-chak! Ka-chak!”

The ground quickly froze into a layer of ice crystals and eventually froze the fierce wind in mid-air.

“A Fourth-level spell?”

Wizard Weiss furrowed his eyebrows and he smirked. “Hmph, who dares stop Ozmu? Whoever dares to stop me will die!”

Wizard Weiss raised his finger and a stream of green light shone out from his body. The whirlwind that had been frozen into ice crystals was enraged once more as it broke through the ice crystals.

“Crash!”

Thousands of ice crystals were smashed. In the fog, a figure was faintly revealed. Many Spell Casters used their Mind Power to inspect it and were immediately surprised.

“It’s Wizard Busson from Sterling House. There’s no way Sterling House would allow the people of Ozmu to make such a great attack on Floating City.”

“Wizard Busson, quickly save the Wright clan. Floating City is one of the strongholds of Sterling House. The people of Ozmu have made such a crazy move, who would dare come to Floating city after this?”

“Yes, but the Great Wizard Sterling only sent reinforcements, could it be that he’s also afraid of Ozmu?”

The many Spell Casters of Floating City became livelier as they realized that the figure in the fog was indeed Wizard Busson.

After all, it was Sterling House which made up most of the forces in Floating City. Although they did not participate in many battles, it was impossible to ignore the forces of Sterling House.

Sterling House would forever be a force to be reckoned with as long as the Great Wizard Sterling was around.

Wizard Busson had just suffered a loss. He was a peak Fourth-level Spell Caster with incredible Magic Power. The spells he constructed were much stronger than the Spell Casters of the Spell Caster clans. Therefore, it was possible for him to freeze the Pandora Demon Ability of Weiss in one fell swoop.

However, Weiss was a prodigy and he was also the prodigy of a medium-sized Spell Caster clan. He had spent many years cultivating the Pandora Demon Ability, so it would be very powerful.

Thus, the slightest addition of power allowed him to break through Wizard Busson’s spell which made Wizard Busson very anxious. Perhaps Wizard Busson was desperate, and Weiss was willing to fight to his death. That was why he was able to resist Wizard Weiss’ Pandora Demon Ability, but that would be in desperation. Wizard Busson did not want to fight mercilessly against Weiss.

So, Wizard Busson said positively, “Wizard Weiss, Floating City has already declared, and Sterling House still exists. We don’t care if you take Wizard Shane. However, you have a strong desire to kill and I’m afraid that makes you an enemy of Sterling House.”

Wizard Busson knew how powerful Ozmu was, but he also knew that Ozmu was now surrounded by all the powerful Spell Casters. Both sides had been fighting and Ozmu could easily play to their advantage, but it would be too much. The last time the spell casters’ organizations of the Dark Magic Region and Floating City joined forces and blocked Ozmu’s upper hand, it did not end smoothly.

Hence, Wizard Busson believed that even a fool could weigh the gains and losses of the battle. If Ozmu attacked Sterling House, the situation could become even worse.

However, Wizard Busson had ignored an important point. The people of Ozmu did not use common sense!

“Haha, so what’s with Sterling House? They let a Fourth-level Spell Caster like you represent them? Go to hell!”

The Wind Element around Wizard Weiss’ body began to fluctuate vigorously as it rushed to engulf Wizard Busson. It appeared that Weiss had intended to kill Wizard Busson.

“Maniac! The people of Ozmu are all crazy!”

Wizard Busson’s expression changed drastically. He could sense the formidable force of Weiss’ Pandora Demon Ability. He was not ready to fight Weiss to his death so he just shook his head slightly. His figure rapidly retreated and disappeared into the fog.

The Spell Casters of the Wright clan looked miserable. If even Sterling House was not ready to fight against Ozmu, then who could stop the madman Weiss?

Chapter 237: Resolution 7

Elena breathed heavily in the thick fog. She and Merlin had been among the Wright clan from the start, hiding in a secret spot.

When Weiss arrived, they realized that although he was alone and a mere Third-level Spell Caster, Fourth-level Spell Casters were easily beaten by him.

Elena was shocked. She had finally realized the strength of Ozmu!

“Let’s go, the Wright clan are already doomed. We have to deal with the issue between Wizard Riesen and me!”

Elena was still distracted when she heard this. She turned her head and stared at Merlin with astonishment.

“Wizard Merlin, although I don’t know about the grudge between you and Riesen, with a maniac like Weiss, could it be...”

“It’s already been accounted for!”

Before she could finish speaking, Merlin had interrupted her. He kept himself composed, stood up, and walked on.

“Dark Light Realm.”

Immediately, a fog began to appear beside Merlin. It turned black as the light around distorted into complete darkness and the fog scattered rapidly into its surroundings.

...

“Ka-chak!”

The Fourth-level Defensive spell that Wizard Moyi cast was instantly destroyed by Weiss’ Pandora Demon Ability. It was smashed into a million pieces and scattered all around.

Wizard Moyi’s face began to flush and his body trembled as the fierce whirlwind finally engulfed him.

“Wizard Moyi!”

The survivors of the Wright clan watched as the figure of Wizard Moyi vanished into the horrifying whirlwind. Their faces filled with sorrow.

“Die, Moyi, die! The Wright clan is completely doomed!”

The Spell Casters who watched the battle between the Wright clan and Weiss were stunned. It would be useless for them to fight against the powerful Ozmu.

“Let’s go. The Wright clan are already doomed. It’s best to not interfere and be remembered by the maniac Weiss. We should leave instead.”

The other Spell Casters watched Wizard Moyi die and prepared to flee the scene. Who knew what the maniac Weiss would do next? He already dared to fight against Wizard Busson of Sterling House, what would he do to the other Spell Casters?

“Riesen, go in and get Shane! Hehe, he already knows the ritual and today I could lend him a hand. He won’t have to make a trip in vain for I’ll simply destroy the Wright clan now!”

Wizard Weiss laughed coldly as he turned his head to look at Riesen. His eyes were filled with madness and Riesen could not help but shudder. He knew that the official members of Ozmu were powerful, and if he really cultivated Fiery Collapse, it was still difficult to tell whether it could beat Weiss.

Riesen was already frightened by Weiss, and he heard his demands, so Riesen immediately walked forward.

“Whoosh...”

At that moment, the once white fog now had a trace of darkness in it. The darkness spread rapidly and in the blink of an eye, it became a black veil.

“What’s happening?”

The Spell Casters who were just about to leave saw the strange darkness. Wherever they went, the light would distort and turn into darkness.

“The Darkness-type First-level spell, Dark Light Realm? Is it someone from Abyss Fort?”

Wizard Weiss squinted slightly. He was a Spell Caster from Ozmu and instantly recognized that as the light turned into darkness, it might be the Darkness-type First-level spell, Dark Light Realm.

Abyss Fort is the only one to truly master Darkness-type spells!

Everyone felt the eeriness of the darkness and wanted to escape it. However, it spread too quickly. In the blink of an eye, everyone was enveloped within it.

The many powerful Spell Casters were enveloped in the darkness and they were afraid for they did not wish to be trapped in an unceasing illusion.

Nearly all the Spell Casters had fallen into an illusion. They treaded along like zombies and looked dull. They might as well have been killed as they might never be able to free themselves from the illusion.

“Boom!”

However, among the crowd were several dramatic fluctuations of Mind Power. These fluctuations could have been from Mind Powers of the Fourth-level or higher.

Merlin did a mental calculation and realized it could have been from Spell Casters with Fourth or Fifth-level Mind Power. He had cast a common Dark Light Realm and did not enhance it. However, it was increased by his Darkness Heart and therefore Third-level Spell Casters would fall into the illusion.

The Fourth-level Spell Casters would indeed have Fourth-level Mind Power and so they did not fall into the illusion as easily.

“Who is it? Which Wizard is it from Abyss Fort?”

In the darkness, an enormous amount of Mind Power gathered around a figure.

“Merlin of the Dark Magic Region!”

The figure in the darkness was conspicuous as only a few people in the darkness were still conscious.

“Turns out it’s a Spell Caster from the Dark Magic Region. Merlin? How have I never heard this name?”

“This is the First-level spell, Dark Light Realm. Such incredible power and unbelievable strength – the Spell Caster must be very skilled in Darkness-type spells. It could only be Wizard Leo!”

“Hehe, you’re all wrong. There’s a Spell Caster in the Dark Magic Region who is even more gifted than Wizard Kleis. Wizard Merlin, the Six-Elemental Spell Caster, I never would have thought that you would come to Floating City!”

Finally, a Fourth-level Spell Caster recognized Merlin. These Fourth-level Spell Casters were few of the most powerful Wizards in the Spell Caster clans in Floating City. They had all been hiding among the crowd, and if Merlin had not cast Dark Light Realm, they would not have been discovered.

“The Dark Magic Region! It’s always the Dark Magic Region! Go to hell. Kleis was from the Dark Magic Region and anyone who comes from there should die!”

Suddenly, another Spell Caster who was not affected by Dark Light Realm growled deeply and it turned out to be Wizard Weiss. Although he was a Third-level Spell Caster, his Mind Power had reached the Fourth-level and so he was not affected by Dark Light Realm.

Wizard Weiss growled and with his incredible Mind Power, he destroyed Merlin’s Dark Light Realm.

Immediately, a glimmer of light appeared and spread out rapidly, finally dispelling the darkness. Merlin’s Dark Light Realm had been completely destroyed by Weiss.

“What happened?”

“It was like I was enveloped in the black veil. ”

“Hey, who’s that? Why is Weiss glaring at him? Is it a Spell Caster from the Wright clan?”

...

The Third-level Spell Casters who were shrouded by Dark Light Realm did not have a clue as to what had happened as they entered the illusions.

Therefore, as they saw the “stranger” Merlin and the maniac Weiss go head to head, they were immediately shocked.

However, among the crowd was one who saw Merlin and looked very uneasy.

“Merlin, how did you survive and escape the ancient monument?”

Wizard Riesen’s face expressed a disbelieving look. He even saw it with his own eyes. He had trapped Merlin in the ancient monument and the stone doors were already very difficult for a Fourth-level Spell Caster to break down. Even with Merlin’s Pandora Demon Ability, it would have been impossible for him to leave the ancient monument.

However, it was clear that Merlin had, in fact, lived to escape the ancient monument. His gaze met Merlin’s cold stare and Riesen could not help but shudder slightly as he felt powerless.

The Darkness-type spell which was cast earlier could have been cast by Merlin. His spells had become very powerful, not to mention Merlin possessed Pandora Demon Ability. Riesen knew he did not want to be an enemy to Merlin.

“Riesen, you must pay for your actions!”

Merlin did look at anyone else as he just glared at Riesen.

“Sir Wizard Weiss!”

Riesen retreated a couple of steps and hid silently behind Weiss.

Merlin furrowed his eyebrows. Weiss was a very troublesome character, just as all the people of Ozmu were.

“I only want to kill Riesen. I don’t care for Ozmu or the likes of the Wright clan!”

Merlin continued to advance toward Riesen.

“Ice Seal!”

A cold breeze advanced toward Merlin and the ground began to freeze rapidly with ice crystals as it tried to restrict Merlin.

This was a Third-level Ice-type spell and Weiss had acted impulsively.

“Guardian Monument!”

Merlin immediately cast Guardian Monument a couple of times. He used the Enhancing casting tool to strengthen his Guardian Monument. Its strength was easily comparable to that of a Third-level Defensive Spell.

Therefore, Weiss’ Third-level spell was easily stopped and could not get to Merlin.

“I hate Spell Casters from the Dark Magic Region! You and Kleis are both the same. You both come from the Dark Magic Region!”

Wizard Weiss lifted his finger and the fierce whirlwind took form again. It howled as it advanced toward Merlin. The sound was terrifying – it was no different from when it killed the Fourth-level Spell Casters before.

“I’m not interested to indulge in an entanglement with a madman. Pandora Demon Ability, Fiery Collapse!”

Fierce Fire Element began to fluctuate around Merlin’s body. Traces of white flames appeared out of thin air and quickly expanded to form a strange white sea of fire.

“Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!”

The white sea of fire was like a veil of light. It violently blocked the whirlwind and entangled with it. The two Pandora Demon Abilities looked like an ancient godly giant as they entangled within

one another with unceasing Wind and Fire Elements. The two created a spectacular scene as they collided fiercely in mid-air!

Chapter 238: Resolution 8

The collision between the two Pandora Demon Abilities shocked Merlin. This was not the first time he had cast Fiery Collapse, but it was the first time he had used it against another Pandora Demon Ability.

The wind howled and dispelled the dense fog within a hundred-meter area, revealing . The white sea of flames seemed endless as it wrapped around the fierce wind. The collision between these two elements seemed to defy all laws of nature.

The collision of fire and wind had become a terrifying scene. In that moment, Merlin had a thought.

Merlin recalled that back in the church of Blackwater City there were religious murals he had seen. These murals depicted the God of Light possessing incredible powers that could expel darkness and punish the Devil.

Could it be possible that the “God of Light” was actually an ancient Spell Caster who possessed the incredible Pandora Demon Ability?

The idea had popped into Merlin’s head as he watched the two Pandora Demon Abilities collide against each other.

However, Merlin did not think much of this revelation of his. The Church of Light was incompatible with most Spell Casters. Throughout his years in the Dark Magic Region, Merlin was yet to hear of a Spell Caster that did construct a Light-type spell. Despite Light Element being just another Element and could be constructed into a Spell Model, no Spell Caster had ever constructed a Light-type Spell.

“Huh? Pandora Demon Ability? You have one too?”

Wizard Weiss saw the raging white sea of fire and his face lit up slightly. He too had Fire-type spells and could construct the Fire-type Pandora Demon Ability.

Weiss had also cultivated the Pandora Demon Ability himself and knew the incredible strength it possessed. Pandora Demon Abilities were very rare, even in Ozmu, they were very difficult to obtain.

Weiss realized that Merlin possessed the Pandora Demon Ability and decided that he would kill Merlin to retrieve it. He did not seem the slightest bit worried that he would fail.

This was the general mentality of the Spell Casters from Ozmu. They believed that no one, other than the official members, was as great as they were or would be able to rival their power.

“Wind Storm, form!”

Weiss roared, and the mad wind became even more terrifying. It almost completely crushed the white sea of flame.

Merlin furrowed his eyebrows. He knew that it would be impossible to kill Riesen while Weiss stood in his way.

“If that’s the case, I’ll fight with all my might!”

Merlin’s gaze was focused and soon the Darkness elements on his body began fluctuating to create an enormous force. This was the result of cultivating Darkness Heart. Previously, those who possessed Darkness Heart were called the Minions of Darkness and would be a mystery to many as they possessed terrifying powers and were frightful embodiments of the Darkness itself.

“Dark Light Realm!”

Merlin shouted, and a strengthened form of Dark Light Realm was cast in an instant. Almost as soon as it appeared, Dark Light Realm had distorted the light in the space around Weiss and had turned it into absolute darkness, even mind power could not probe this endless void.

Merlin’s Dark Light Realm was now strengthened from the Darkness Heart, even Spell Casters at the peak of Third-level and Fourth-level Mind Power would fall into the illusion.

Merlin had never encountered a Fourth-level Spell Caster and though Weiss was a Third-level Spell Caster, it would seem he had the mind power of a Fourth-level Spell Caster.

The darkness had closed in on Weiss and he could not help but give in to it. The power of the Pandora Demon Ability Weiss cast had greatly reduced, and it collapsed rapidly.

This meant that Weiss had fallen into an illusion.

“Demon Ability, Fiery Collapse!”

Merlin watched as Wizard Weiss’ momentum was greatly reduced and cast a strengthened form of Fiery Collapse without hesitation. His Magic Power for the Spell Models of Fireball and Furious Flame was instantly depleted.

The white sea of flames soared and then crashed into Weiss’ Pandora Demon Ability.

“Darkness-type spells are strange, but my Mind Power is equal to that of a Fourth-level Spell Caster, even with your Dark Light Realm and Enhancing casting tools there’s no way you can delude me!”

Suddenly, a calm voice came from within the darkness. Then, the power of Weiss’ Pandora Demon Ability enraged once more and formed an enormous storm.

The two Pandora Demon Abilities went head to head again. Each tried to deplete the others energy. Although Merlin had many Spell Models in his Awareness, he was a mere First-level Spell Caster. This was nothing against the incredible strength of the Third-level Spell Caster Weiss.

Merlin could never deplete Weiss’ energy and this was his biggest disadvantage!

“Oh no, Wizard Merlin of the Dark Magic Region may not be Weiss’ rival, but the two are attempting to deplete the other’s energy. If his Pandora Demon Ability runs out of energy, it would not be long before Merlin is defeated.”

The other Fourth-level Spell Casters watched the battle between Merlin’s and Weiss’ Pandora Demon Ability. It seemed that Weiss had a definite upper hand, given the fact he was a Third-level Spell Caster.

Naturally, Riesen was relieved at the sight of this. He could feel Merlin's rage towards him. If Merlin did not die now, Merlin would become a huge threat.

Now, Weiss was already in an advantageous position, and if Merlin was killed, Riesen hoped that he would be even luckier to be able to retrieve the treasures required to cultivate Fiery Collapse. He did not possess the necessary items and this had hindered his ability to cultivate Fiery Collapse.

Merlin was able to cultivate the first form of Fiery Collapse, this must have meant that he possessed the treasure required. If he had not used it all up, Wizard Riesen could take it and cultivate Fiery Collapse for himself.

Merlin had used Fiery Collapse against Weiss. The terrifying strength of Fiery Collapse made Riesen very envious and his desire to cultivate Fiery Collapse grew more and more intense.

Merlin took a deep breath. He had only used the Pandora Demon Ability, Fiery Collapse, but the battle was escalating to a point that Merlin was getting overwhelmed. Besides Fiery Collapse, he also had another Pandora Demon Ability.

"Pandora Demon Ability, Glacial Finger!"

Merlin extended his pale white finger. It had already been recovered to normal because he had cultivated the first stage of Glacial Finger.

Moreover, this would be the first time Merlin cast Glacial Finger since he had cultivated the first stage!

Merlin stared into the Dark Light Realm. Weiss' Mind Power was truly strong and Merlin's Dark Light Realm was of no use against him.

He could only depend on his Pandora Demon Ability. After all, the spells in Merlin's Awareness were all First-level spells, and Weiss was a powerful Third-level Spell Caster. Merlin was not a threat to him.

"Shoo!"

Glacial Finger did not seem that impressive. It was not as terrifying as Fiery Collapse, but it was still a Pandora Demon Ability and its power was not inferior to Fiery Collapse.

“Ka-chak ka-chak!”

A layer of ice crystals rapidly froze the ground. It spread quickly and finally met Weiss’ feet.

Weiss and Merlin were evenly matched with an offensive Pandora Demon Ability on each side. However, Merlin now had two. Two Pandora Demon Abilities against one made a world of difference.

Weiss’ Pandora Demon Ability was entangled with Fiery Collapse, there was no way he could pay attention to Merlin’s Glacial Finger as well. So, Weiss could only depend on his Defensive Third-level Spell to vainly attempt in blocking Glacial Finger.

A gray light flashed as Weiss cast his Defensive spell. However, the cold breeze from Glacial Finger spread too quickly and froze Weiss’ entire body.

Weiss finally felt a trace of fear. He never thought he would die, especially at the hands of a First-level Spell Caster like Merlin!

“No, I am the prodigy of Ozmu! I will not die. I am destined to be a powerful Spell Caster!”

Weiss’ tone became extremely sharp, it made Merlin furrow his eyebrows.

“Crack!”

Merlin’s voice fell and immediately the layer of ice that enveloped Weiss began to crack open. Merlin’s Glacial Finger had not reached its final form, yet it could easily break through a Third-level spell, it was terrifying.

Furthermore, even though Glacial Finger had only reached the first stage, Weiss’ spells could not block them. The ice crystals cracked and soon, his whole body shattered like eggshells.

The broken ice crystals fell to the ground and the fierce wind collapsed as soon as Weiss died.

At that moment, the first gleam of sunlight appeared and seeped through the thick fog. A few of the low-level Spell Casters could clearly see the shattered pieces of ice crystals that was Weiss' body.

There was no blood and no tears of loss. The obnoxious Weiss who wanted to destroy the Wright clan had been defeated. The atmosphere was tense, and they gazed at Merlin with awe.

"The Six Elemental Spell Caster from the Dark Magic Region, not to mention a First-level Wizard, and his various Pandora Demon Abilities...He is even more promising than Kleis from the Dark Magic Region. From this day forth, Merlin will be much more famous than Kleis. He could be the first true prodigy of the Dark Magic Region, Abyss Fort, Fire City, and the Ashes Region. We won't have any more issues!"

"He-he, there certainly are some very talented people in the Dark Magic Region. Kleis has left, but now the more promising Merlin has appeared. However, because of today's events, the Dark Magic Region's difficulties will begin."

"I heard that the Dark Magic Region has already given the order to kill Kleis. Any Fourth-level or lower Spell Caster who kills Kleis will be rewarded. I am somewhat expecting a confrontation between the old and new prodigies of the Dark Magic Region!"

The other Fourth-level Spell Casters had witnessed the epic battle and Merlin had come out the victor by successfully killing the official member of Ozmu and Third-level Spell Caster, Weiss. They all felt a sense of relief wash over them.

After all, unlike Ozmu, a Spell Caster organization like the Dark Magic Region did not intermingle with Floating City, it was impossible for them to threaten the Spell Caster clans of Floating City.

Merlin picked up a ring covered in ice crystals from the ground. It was Weiss' ring.

"Ka-chak!"

Merlin used force to crumble the ice crystals and retrieved the ring.

"Who would have expected that from Weiss and Ozmu?"

Merlin looked at the ring and immediately thought of Kleis. The first prodigy of the Dark Magic Region had betrayed them and now turned to Ozmu.

Perhaps one day, Merlin would have to battle Kleis.

“Wizard Riesen, there is something we have to sort out!”

Merlin put Weiss’ ring away without inspecting it and instead focused his gaze onto Riesen, who was still in shock.

Chapter 239: Resolution 9

Riesen’s face turned pale. He had seen the powerful Weiss killed by Merlin. He now regretted not taking the opportunity to flee while both of them were occupied with the fight.

Riesen noticed the dark elements around Merlin intensify. In response, he immediately took out a roll of animal skin from his ring as he shouted to the Spell Casters around him, “I have the cultivation method of a Pandora Demon Ability in my hands. Whoever helps me defeat Merlin shall have it!”

Riesen was desperate at this point. He was willing to lose the cultivation method of Fiery Collapse to save his life.

“Pandora Demon Ability?”

“Is it really a Pandora Demon Ability?”

Many Spell Casters glanced at the roll of animal skin in Riesen’s hand. There was a hint of surprise in their eyes as they stared eagerly.

Merlin stopped in his tracks and his eyes swept his surroundings. Suddenly, the Spell Casters around him did not seem eager anymore, even the Fourth-level Spell Casters just shook their heads and held back their temptation as none of them had dared to move forward.

The Pandora Demon Ability was tempting, but after witnessing the battle between Merlin and Weiss, the Fourth-level Spell Casters knew clearly how dangerous getting in Merlin's way would have been. They would resist this temptation to live another day.

From this point on, it was clear that Merlin was a much more powerful Wizard than Weiss!

"It's useless to avoid death!"

Merlin shook his head as he calmly watched Riesen. Merlin was not the same newbie Wizard he was when he first joined the Dark Magic Region. He now had the mentality of a strong Spell Caster and he could face any obstacle!

"Fire!"

Merlin shifted slightly and suddenly, a white flame rose from Wizard Riesen's body. The flame swelled up and soon Riesen's entire body was enveloped in flames.

Merlin watched calmly as Riesen struggled in the flames. Riesen eventually fell to the ground, his body burned beyond recognition. Merlin waited till there was no movement when he finally waved off the flame.

All that remained on Riesen's body was his ring and the roll of animal skin that had recorded the cultivation methods of Fiery Collapse. The surrounding Spell Casters watched Merlin pick up the roll of animal skin with a desperate glow in their eyes.

However, the roll of animal skin was already in Merlin's hand, and they knew Merlin already possessed a Pandora Demon Ability. It was like Wizard Leo, everyone knew he had successfully cultivated Darkness Eye, who would dare to foolishly stand against him?

This was because of the reassurance that Merlin had gained from when he killed Weiss. He was sure now that his strength was in no way inferior to that of a Fourth-level Spell Caster. In fact, there may not be a Spell Caster in Floating City that would dare oppose Merlin!

Therefore, even if they knew Merlin possessed the Pandora Demon Ability, they would not dare act and they took warning from the shattered pieces of Weiss' as an example.

“Elena, let’s go!”

Merlin put the roll of animal skin and the ring away and bid Elena to leave. Wizard Matthew of the Delman clan watched Merlin leave with Elena with a horrified look on his face.

“Elena? It is her, why did she not mention that she and Merlin were students of the same tutor?”

Wizard Matthew thought of this with a hint of joy on his face, and then, he quickly left the Delman clan.

...

The vast ocean seemed endless, and any continent seemed tiny amongst the ocean.

In the depths of the ocean was an unnamed island. On it was a resplendent and magnificent palace that gleamed so bright that it could be seen from far away.

“Kleis!”

In one of the houses on the palace grounds, a tall ponytailed female Spell Caster with tight-fitting clothes shouted across the room at another male Wizard who had his eyes shut.

The male Wizard furrowed his eyebrows and looked annoyed as he quickly opened his eyes.

“Bluebird, what’s the matter?”

The female Wizard was called Bluebird, it seemed more like a code name than a real name.

“Kleis, the idiot Weiss is dead!”

Bluebird had an unsympathetic look on her face.

Kleis frowned slightly, unlike Bluebird who was grinning. He whispered as he asked, “Weiss is dead? Didn’t he go to Floating City to perform a simple task? Other than Sterling House, Floating City does not have a huge amount of force, even if you include Sterling House, the best Spell Casters of Floating City are only Fourth-level Spell Casters. Weiss is not that powerful, but he would have been able to easily defeat the Fourth-level Spell Casters of Floating City. What happened?”

Bluebird snorted. “The person who killed Weiss was not from Floating City but was, in fact, a Spell Caster from the Dark Magic Region! It seems your Dark Magic Region is truly amazing. After you left, a Six Elemental First-level Spell Caster had emerged, he was the one who killed Weiss.”

“Six Elemental Spell Caster!”

Kleis was calm before he heard Bluebirds explanation. His body flashed with outrageous energy. He himself was a Five Elemental Spell Caster, he knew how difficult it was to become a Six Elemental Spell Caster.

Kleis had once considered becoming a Six Elemental Spell Caster but in the end, he gave up this pursuit.

Now there was a Six Elemental Spell Caster in the Dark Magic Region and Kleis was surprised.

“Wait, I have some recollection of this. In the Dark Magic Region, there was a Spell Caster who was assigned to Wizard Leo’s Tower. He was a Six Elemental Spell Caster but had yet to become a First-level Spell Caster. Could it be him? If I recall, his name was Merlin!”

Kleis recalled some of the things that happened when he was in the Dark Magic Region. He remembered hearing rumors of a Six Elemental Spell Caster, but Merlin was just an Entrance-level Spell Caster at that time and very far from becoming a First-level Spell Caster. Kleis could not have remembered him.

“That’s right, it is Merlin! Leo truly is amazing, he could even cultivate Darkness Eye. Sir Osseus died at the hands of Leo too. Not only is he incredible, but his students are also very powerful...”

Bluebird said emotionally.

“What do the upper-class think?”

Kleis asked with a slight squint.

“At first, they thought to seduce Merlin to betray the Dark Magic Region. Hehe, unfortunately, the agreement between the Dark Magic Region and Floating City cannot be broken for the time being. Therefore, they can’t send a Fourth-level Spell Caster forward, it would be too obvious. The upper-class is preparing to send a Third-level Spell Caster instead, I have already applied for the task.”

Bluebird’s expression gradually became more serious as she laid out the situation in a low voice.

“Huh? You’re going?”

“Yes, I won’t let anyone threaten your position in Ozmu. The idiot Weiss overestimated himself, he wanted to compare himself to you. I’ve always wanted the opportunity to kill him. Luckily, Merlin has helped me, it is clear that Merlin is quite strong. Kleis, you know the tradition of Ozmu, the more gifted the Spell Caster the more valuable they are. If Merlin arrives in Ozmu, I am afraid it will pose a serious threat to your status!”

“So, I’ve applied to deal with matters this time. Not to rope in Merlin, but to ensure he never threatens your position, or I will kill him!”

Bluebird’s eyes turned cold yet her tone remained calm, it was very unnerving. Only when she looked at Kleis did her expression return soft.

Kleis felt uneasy as he looked at Bluebird, he extended his arm and gently stroked her hair. He said calmly, “Okay, Bluebird. I will be relieved if you go. If not, shall I cultivate the Demon Ability Ozmu gave me and personally meet Merlin to see how truly amazing this rumored Six-Elemental Spell Caster is?”

“What? Are you sure you want to cultivate the Demon Ability? No one in Ozmu has successfully cultivated it before. Too many gifted Spell Casters have died at the hand of this Demon Ability.”

Bluebird heard Kleis and her expression changed greatly, she was very nervous.

Kleis continued to stroke Bluebird's hair, he smiled and reassured her with a calm voice, "Is it not worth it to betray the Dark Magic Region? Ordinary Spell Casters could never become a powerful Spell Caster, but I am not destined to be ordinary!"

Kleis said with a hint of madness on his face.

Bluebird fell silent for a while, but she eventually calmed down. She knew that once Kleis had decided on something, his mind could not be changed.

"Fine, after I kill Merlin, I will return as soon as possible. If you die, I will accompany you!"

At that moment, the cold Wizard Bluebird seemed gentle.

...

Floating City, in the Delman clan.

Wizard Matthew walked in from the courtyard. Although his position in the Delman clan was high, he did not dare scorn at the people in this room.

"Squeak!"

The large doors suddenly burst open as Wizard Matthew raised his head fiercely. He saw a young Spell Caster dressed in black robes from across the room.

"Wizard Merlin!"

Wizard Matthew shouted hurriedly as Wizard Elena followed behind him.

Merlin looked at Elena with a confused look on his face, and Elena stood awkwardly as she whispered, "Merlin, this is my father."

Merlin remembered Elena briefly mention that her father was the clan elder of the Delman clan.

“Wizard Matthew, is something wrong?”

Merlin’s gaze met Wizard Matthew’s as he asked calmly.

Wizard Matthew smiled and whispered, “Wizard Merlin, this is the case, we, the Delman clan, are willing to pay any price to copy the Pandora Demon Ability on that roll of animal skin!”

“You want the Pandora Demon Ability?”

Merlin squinted slightly as he gazed gently at Elena, whose face was red with embarrassment. Then, Merlin turned his gaze to Wizard Matthew, a hint of coldness in his eyes.

Chapter 240: Transformation

“Wizard Matthew, I am afraid this Pandora Demon Ability may not bring any good upon your clan, but, in fact, disaster!”

Merlin looked coldly at Wizard Matthew. These Spell Caster clans could not resist the temptation of the Pandora Demon Ability. Due to them being such weak Spell Caster clans, the Pandora Demon Ability would do more harm than good.

Merlin looked over at Elena’s reaction to Merlin’s polite response. He ignored Wizard Matthew and decided to leave the Delman clan.

Elena followed after him and apologized awkwardly, “Merlin, please excuse us. I had tried to advise my father before, but the Pandora Demon Ability is too tempting, that is why he asked for such a favor.”

Elena shook her head lightly. They had no choice but to ask, even the stronger Spell Caster clans did not possess a Pandora Demon Ability let alone the weakest clan in Floating City.

It was feared that the Spell Caster clans of Floating City would face certain doom if the Pandora Demon Ability was to fall into their hands.

Elena nodded as she asked, “Merlin, how long will you stay in Floating City? You have just killed a Spell Caster from Ozmu, I am worried you may be in danger.”

“Danger?”

Merlin furrowed his eyebrows, he was aware of the agreement between Ozmu and the Spell Caster organizations of the Dark Magic Region and other places. If Ozmu did not plan to break their side of the agreement, surely, they would not send out a few Fourth-level Spell Casters in that short amount of time.

If it was not Fourth-level or higher Spell Casters, Merlin was confident he would be able to handle them without much trouble. He had gradually gained confidence in himself as his strength had improved significantly.

Merlin looked at Elena, who was clearly worried and nodded. “I will leave Floating City soon, but first I will visit Sterling House to buy a few potion ingredients.”

Elena sighed with relief. Merlin had already refused her as a servant, but as long as she maintained her relationship with him, her position within her clan would remain unchanged, it may even improve.

Therefore, Elena did not wish for Merlin to encounter any problems, it was best if he left Floating City as soon as possible while it was still safe to do so.

However, Elena did not know that upon leaving Floating City, Merlin would not return to the Dark Magic Region immediately. His mission to settle his issue with Riesen was only one of the missions he had in mind. He still wished to look for Laurinka to fulfill his promise.

...

Merlin stood before Sterling House. Wizard Busson, who had battled Weiss, was also from Sterling House. He was truly one of the most controlled Spell Casters.

Wizard Busson looked uneasy as he saw Merlin. He too knew the result of the battle between Merlin and Weiss. The collision between the two Pandora Demon Abilities would make a Fourth-level Spell Caster like him shudder as well.

Although he was a Spell Caster from Sterling House, he has never possessed any type of Pandora Demon Ability before.

“Wizard Merlin, why have you come to Sterling House today? Would you like to buy something?”

Wizard Busson personally welcomed Merlin, a sign of his respect towards Merlin.

Merlin had already prepared a list of the ingredients required for the Phantasmal Magic Potion and handed it to Sterling House. The Dark Magic Region did not have the necessary ingredients, so Merlin had to buy them from Sterling House.

“Huh? These ingredients are very rare. We don’t have much of it right now, but if you wait a couple of months, we will have a lot more sent over.”

Wizard Busson furrowed his eyebrows as he looked at the detailed list.

“How many months?”

Merlin shook his head and said, “I don’t have much time to wait. In that case, just give me whatever you have left.”

Merlin was not worried about not having enough elemental crystal stones. He had just killed Weiss and Riesen, surely, Riesen’s ring would have a lot of elemental crystal stones.

Riesen had saved up over the years, he was prepared to buy the rare treasures required to cultivate the Pandora Demon Ability. However, the treasure required for Fiery Collapse was only available in the ancient monument, even Sterling House did not have any. Hence, Riesen never spent the elemental crystal stones, this made things easier for Merlin.

Even though Weiss did not have as many elemental crystal stones as Riesen, he still had quite a wealth too. Now, Merlin was rich, and he could buy even more potion ingredients.

“Very well, please wait a while, Wizard Merlin.”

Wizard Busson called over the other Spell Casters in Sterling House and asked them to prepare the potion ingredients Merlin needed.

After a while, Wizard Busson stared at Merlin, he seemed uncertain. It was clear that he wanted to say something but stopped himself every time he was about to.

“Wizard Merlin, could you possibly take out the Pandora Demon Ability in your ring?”

Finally, Wizard Busson could no longer resist and had posed his question. He was extremely envious of the Pandora Demon Ability Merlin had in his ring. However, he was only envious. He had seen Merlin’s power with his own eyes, even a Fourth-level Spell Caster from Sterling House would not dare to oppose Merlin.

Now, Merlin had finally developed and was no longer the newbie Wizard who had just walked into the Dark Magic Region!

Merlin smiled, he did not reject Wizard Busson but instead smiled as he said, “Wizard Busson, you must be aware of the rarity of Pandora Demon Abilities. What more could I have? Of course, if you had another Pandora Demon Ability, I would consider a trade.”

“Another Pandora Demon Ability?”

Wizard Busson heard this and his face dropped with disappointment as he shook his head. If he had another Pandora Demon Ability, he would not be as envious of Merlin’s Pandora Demon Ability.

“Wizard Busson, the ingredients are ready.”

Sterling House had placed all of Merlin’s ingredients for the Phantasmal Magic Potion in a ring.

“Wizard Merlin, please go over the contents!”

Wizard Busson handed the ring over to Merlin. Merlin went through it and immediately, he noticed that there were many ingredients in the ring, even more than he had initially wanted. It was enough to prepare a few dozen portions of Phantasmal Magic Potion.

Although Wizard Busson had mentioned that they had very few potion ingredients, it seemed that Merlin could prepare a few dozen portions of the Phantasmal Magic Potion just from this amount. He was very pleased and nodded as he said, “Not bad, this much of the potion ingredients should be enough.”

Merlin placed the potion ingredients in his own ring and paid a hefty amount of elemental crystal stones. Then, he got up to leave Sterling House.

Wizard Busson watched Merlin’s figure leave and shook his head. He hesitated a little as he said, “Actually, Sterling House does have a few Pandora Demon Abilities. Great Wizard Sterling had mastered these Pandora Demon Abilities. However, it is not for me to take...”

Wizard Busson was very tempted by the Pandora Demon Ability Merlin had on himself but knew very well that he could not take on Merlin in his current state. Even if he attacked with all he had, it would still be certain that his fate would end like Weiss.

...

“I am still weak and do not have enough strength. It doesn’t matter if it’s Wizard Matthew or Wizard Busson, they would both take action!”

Merlin had returned to the Delman clan and stayed in his room alone.

The Pandora Demon Ability possessed an unbeatable and incredible power, it attracted the likes of many Spell Casters. Although Merlin had lingered in Floating City, no one had made an attack yet. This was because the sheer strength of the Pandora Demon Ability was revealed when Merlin killed Weiss!

It was similar to how no one dared to take Wizard Leo’s Darkness Eye.

“I should check Weiss’ ring and see if the Wind-type Pandora Demon Ability is there.”

Merlin took out Weiss’ ring. Before this, he had stayed in the room and used elemental crystal stones to recover his Magic Power, he did not get the chance to look through Weiss’ ring and see what treasures it may contain.

Of course, the most precious of them all would be Weiss' Pandora Demon Ability. It was used by Ozmu to seduce Weiss into joining them.

Merlin searched for a bit and suddenly he gave a startled look at the ring.

"Well! It really is here!"

Merlin quickly pulled out a perfect-thread-bound book. The first few pages recorded a type of Wind-type Pandora Demon Ability.

Not to mention, the cultivation method of this Pandora Demon Ability, its history, strength and more were all recorded explicitly in this thread-bound book. It was much more detailed than Merlin's Glacial Finger and Fiery Collapse.

Merlin flipped through the pages quickly and deliberately, his expression turned unsightly.

"What a shame! I can't cultivate it!"

Merlin looked disappointed. Weiss' Pandora Demon Ability was called Destructive Wind, it was clear that this was a particularly powerful Pandora Demon Ability just from the name itself.

In order to cultivate Destructive Wind, the pre-requisite was the construction of an Offensive Wind-type spell. Merlin was a Six-Elemental Spell Caster and had already constructed a Wind-type spell. However, it was a Speed spell, there was no way he could reach the requirements to cultivate Destructive Wind.

Therefore, although Merlin had obtained Destructive Wind, he had no way to cultivate it.

Merlin reconsidered for a moment. Despite him not being able to cultivate it, he still possessed the Pandora Demon Ability, he could return to the Dark Magic Region and request a trade for the Pandora Demon Ability in the Dark Magic Region.

The Dark Magic Region had prioritized Merlin's training and the consequence of that was that he could uncover a few secrets. The Dark Magic Region had a long history and they too had a few Pandora Demon Abilities. However, they were not easy to obtain and were kept in the Resource Tower, where it was also impossible to be traded for.

Only those who had an outstanding contribution to the Dark Magic Region, or the official members of the Dark Magic Region who could retrieve the corresponding treasure would have a chance at obtaining the Pandora Demon Ability of the Dark Magic Region.

Pandora Demon Abilities within any Spell Caster organization were kept very secretly, unlike Ozmu, who would distribute Pandora Demon Abilities to seduce Spell Casters into joining them.

Merlin placed Destructive Wind away, he then carefully looked through Weiss' ring once more but found nothing valuable.

Merlin was about to put the ring away when the bowknot casting tool on his chest began to pulsate continuously as it gradually let off a warm energy.

Merlin paused and removed the pulsating casting tool from his chest as his face gleamed intriguingly.