

## W. Secret 341

### Chapter 341: Battle I

After leaving the forest, Merlin quickly took out the slave contract. Using it, he could easily contact Wizard Banmou.

Sensing that Wizard Banmou's location was still quite a distance away, Merlin communicated via the slave contract, "Banmou, come to Kingswood in the Imperial City as fast as you can."

Wizard Banmou had just entered the Imperial City when he felt the message emanate from the slave contract. A look of helplessness flashed across his face.

He had not wasted a single moment in rushing to the Imperial City, and now before he could even catch his breath, he was again galloping at full speed towards the royal forest. As it was an order from Merlin, Wizard Banmou did not dare disregard it.

Moments later, Banmou finally rushed to the fringes of Kingswood. Even from a great distance, he could see Merlin standing outside.

"Master!"

Wizard Banmou presented himself before Merlin. His face was slightly pale, betraying the tiredness he felt from the arduous journey.

Merlin nodded in relieve. Banmou had arrived. Seeing that Banmou must have exhausted his magic powers in rushing here, as well as for the sake of the upcoming battle; Merlin reached into his ring and extracted thousands of elemental crystal stones. He handed them to Banmou. "The reason I have summoned you to come to the Imperial City is for something immensely important. After this, there may be a fierce battle, you must quickly replenish your magic powers!"

"A fierce battle?"

Wizard Banmou grimaced and shook his head with an air of helplessness. He had already guessed it in his heart. If Merlin made him rush all the way from Prakash City to the Imperial City, something big must have happened.

Since Merlin had termed it a 'fierce battle', then Wizard Banmou would not dare to underestimate the situation. He took the elemental crystal stones and nodded deliberately. "Don't worry master, I will recover my magic powers as fast as possible."

"Alright, let's go. You should follow me inside without alerting anyone. Once we enter the Kingswood, you will quietly hide yourself and follow me closely. No one besides me should know of your presence, so in the upcoming battle, you can wield an unexpected edge!"

There was a flash of sorrow in Wizard Banmou's eyes. He completely understood what Merlin meant. He nodded his head.

Seeing that Wizard Banmou had fully understood his intentions, Merlin felt slightly relieved. With Wizard Banmou by his side, he also felt more secure. In addition, the eighth prince's chance of victory had also increased.

Merlin entered Kingswood with Wizard Banmou, after which the latter curiously disappeared into the crowd. Wizard Banmou was so skillful that even Merlin could not locate him. If not for the fact that he could still sense Wizard Banmou via the slave contract, Merlin might even wonder whether Wizard Banmou was still inside the forest.

"It seems like Banmou's concealment skills are quite advance, this plan is even more foolproof than I thought!"

Merlin stopped trying to search for Banmou's physical location and returned to the square. He took his place behind the eighth prince.

The eighth prince turned around to give him a slight nod, before resuming his full attention on the grandiose ceremony.

The ceremony continued for another two to three hours before it finally ended.

After the ceremony, King Bhutto XVI slowly stood up and regarded the many princes, princesses and nobles with affection. Softly, he spoke, “Recently an elk king has appeared in Kingswood. It is very rare. Whoever succeeds in hunting this elk king will be the winner of this hunt!”

This practice was largely similar to the past annual hunts in Kingswood. At times, victory was determined by the highest number of kills, and at other times, victory was determined by whoever caught a specific creature first.

The elk king chosen this time was extremely rare. Even normal elks were uncommon in the Kingdom of Blackmoon, what more the elk king.

Many of the noblemen’s sons appeared to be excited to start the hunt. After all, the winner would receive a handsome reward from King Bhutto XVI.

The fourth prince and eighth prince, on the other hand, did not move a muscle. Both princes were staring daggers at one another. The measly reward did not mean anything to them. It was not the hunt that they were fighting for.

It was the throne!

King Bhutto XVI’s gaze suddenly landed on the fourth prince and eighth prince. For just a moment, a complicated expression flashed across his face, but disappeared almost immediately. He waved his hand, “Alright, go! Start the hunt!”

“Rumble.”

Almost everyone stood to their feet and gave a small polite bow to King Bhutto XVI. A few noblemen’s sons could no longer reign in their patience and immediately sprinted off into the deeper parts of the royal forest.

Princess Chyne’s expression was grave. Taking one look at the fourth prince, she lowered her voice and whispered to the eighth prince, “Be careful!”

The eighth prince narrowed his eyes as he watched the fourth prince lead a battalion of men into the deep forest. He took a deep breath. There was a glimmer in his eyes as he smiled back at her, “Don’t worry, I’ll be back!”

“Let’s go!”

Upon the order of the eight prince, Wizard Leo, Merlin and numerous other Sixth and Seventh-level Spell Casters began to enter the deep forest.

Some of the noblemen immediately sensed something amiss. Both the eighth prince and the fourth prince had brought a large battalion of powerful Spell Casters deep into Kingswood. There was no way that the mere task of capturing an elk king would require such powerful wizards.

The noblemen were all intelligent and vigilant people. Looking at the scene unfolding before them, they immediately had a bad premonition. Those who were more cautious even sent people into the royal forest to retrieve their sons.

Perched high above on the throne, King Bhutto XVI too casted his gaze on the eight prince and fourth prince’s battalions gradually disappearing into the deep forest.

A personal aide beside King Bhutto XVI spotted an inscrutable look on his face. Unable to hold himself back any longer, he whispered, “Your Majesty, the fourth prince and the eight prince...”

Before he could finish his sentence, King Bhutto XVI interrupted him with a wave of his hand. The king’s tone was heavy as he said, “This is their destiny. Even back then, I ascended this throne in the exact same way...”

There was as if a trace of regret in King Bhutto XVI’s demeanor. As a member of the Blackmoon royal family, this was their fate!

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Deep in the royal forest, on a lush green grass-covered slope, colorful butterflies were fluttering about. It was truly a beautiful scenery to behold.

“Whoosh...”

Suddenly, a light gust of wind scared away all the butterflies.

A group of horse riders gradually emerged on the slope, trampling the lush green grass beneath them. Their presence also brought about the noisy neighs of war horses, disrupting the previously tranquil atmosphere.

The horse riders climbed up the slope and stopped. The eighth prince looked around and sneered loudly, "The choice of location is not bad at all! Fourth brother, really, you shouldn't have!"

Following the remark by the eighth prince, a large group of horse riders immediately appeared from behind the slope to face the eighth prince's team. At the front of the riders, leading the men was, of course, the fourth prince, who had been the first to enter the forest.

The fourth prince looked calm and unfrazzled. He spurred his horse a few steps forward and looked down towards the eighth prince in a condescending manner. His voice was calm as he spoke, "My dear brother. After so many years, this is the first time you called me 'fourth brother'. Tsk tsk. This is a nice place indeed, more than sufficient to be your final resting place..."

There was a staggering pause before the fourth prince's expression suddenly turned thunderous. "Everyone says that you're intelligent, but this time you're an utter fool! If only you had pretended to be sick and stayed out of the hunt, I would not have harmed you. It's too bad that because you acted foolishly, I will have to send you to your grave!"

The eighth prince did not respond except with an indecipherable look. He spoke up, "Fourth brother, are you truly that confident?"

"What? Do you think you could possibly defeat me? Haha, just with that one Leo from the Dark Magic Region? He is only a Sixth-level Spell Caster, my dear brother. You are so naïve..."

The fourth prince's tone was stern as he affixed his gaze on the group of men behind the eighth prince, including the cloak-clad Wizard Leo. It seemed that he was well-informed about the strengths of the eighth prince's battle camp.

The atmosphere between both sides began to tense considerably. Even the bright blue sky appeared to darken, perhaps due to the vibration of elements from the large number of Spell Casters.

Merlin, on the other hand, was gauging the surroundings. This place was a barren ground in an open area. The only things nearby was a few big trees growing sporadically along the slope. Other than that, there were only bare rocks and lush green grass all around.

In such circumstances, Banmou should be further away and it would not be easy to hide, yet Merlin could clearly sense via the slave contract that Wizard Banmou was standing close to him.

It seemed that Wizard Banmou had a very unique concealment technique. Even amidst this group of Spell Casters, including two Eighth-level wizards, no one had noticed anything out of the ordinary.

Even though it was a critical situation with both sides ready to draw their swords and descend into a fierce battle at any time, Merlin had no intention of letting Wizard Banmou appear yet. If Wizard Banmou were to appear, then his appearance should be completely unexpected. In fact, it would be even better if it was strategic enough to sound the sweet gong of victory for their side.

Therefore, Banmou must only appear at the most crucial moment!

“Boom.”

At this very moment, a deafening noise, like a clap of thunder, rumbled across the sky. It was so loud that everyone’s ears began to ring. They looked up in horror. Somehow unbeknownst to them, a Giant Thunder Net had formed in the sky above their heads. The Giant Thunder Net descended from the sky towards them, effectively trapping the eighth prince and all his men underneath it.

Threads of lightning flashed threateningly across the Giant Thunder Net, emitting a dangerous vibe.

“Heh heh, why waste time spouting nonsense? Kill them!”

Wizard Morston said sinisterly, clad in a black cloak. His body was flashing with waves upon waves of endless Thunder Element. This Giant Thunder Net was an Eight-level spell casted by Morston!

No one would have thought that Morston would be so bold as to start attacking immediately. Moreover with just one spell, he managed to trap almost all of the eighth prince’s men. In the blink of an eye, the eighth prince’s camp found themselves at a great disadvantage.

After all, this was an Eighth-level spell. It would not be easily countered by ordinary spells. If the Giant Thunder Net fell on top on them, then the eighth prince's camp would suffer huge unrecoverable losses. Countless number of Spell Casters would be killed by the Lighting and Thunder spells before they could even cast a single spell.

“Wizard Leo!”

Looking at the Giant Thunder Net in the sky, the eighth prince could not help but change moods, turning his gaze towards Wizard Leo.

Chapter 342: Battle II

“Rip!”

The black cloak on Wizard Leo's head was instantly ripped into shreds, revealing his heart-wrenching bloodshot eye.

At the same time, looking at Giant Thunder Net descending from the sky, the vertical bloodshot eye in Wizard Leo's forehead burst open and shot out an intense blood-red ray.

“Darkness Eye, disintegrate!”

The blood-red ray vibrated violently, and like a blood-covered sword, penetrated a hole into Giant Thunder Net. The remaining wisps of lightning and thunder then gradually dissipated into thin air.

Merlin narrowed his eyes and fixed his stare firmly on Wizard Leo. He was well aware that the skill displayed by Wizard Leo was the third form of Darkness Eye, which was also the strongest form that could be controlled by Wizard Leo.

When Merlin stood off against the Flame Image on the Ship of Nikola, he had used the bracelet which contained the sealed energy of a small portion of Darkness Eye. When Darkness Eye displayed its third form “disintegrate”, only then was he able to defeat the Flame Image.

Therefore, only Merlin knew that the attack cast by Wizard Leo was not as simple and easy as it looked. In fact, it was already one of the strongest attacks by Wizard Leo.

“Good!”

Seeing that Wizard Leo could “easily” counteract Morston’s spell, the eighth prince could not help but exclaim, a trace of smugness displayed on his face.

As long as Wizard Leo could contain Wizard Morston and Wizard Tanin, the eighth prince had a chance of winning the battle.

“Haha. Fourth Brother, it seems that the great price you paid to obtain those two Wizards was for naught! Come on, then. There’s no room for compromise in the fight for the throne. This is written in our destinies!”

The eighth prince’s body began to float into the air. Halfway up the sky, he glared challengingly at the fourth prince.

The fourth prince bit his lip and said fiercely to Tanin and Morston, “Wizards, kill Leo as soon as possible!”

With that, he leaped into the air and soared into the sky for a face-off with the eighth prince. Despite the great distance between them, both princes were emanating a daunting vibe. The two royal princes’ powers were not at all inferior to some Seventh-level Spell Casters.

“Kill!”

Seeing that the two princes had begun to engage in battle, the Spell Casters in both camps roared in unison. Each of them cast their attacks, and the melee began!

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Wizard Tanin and Wizard Morston exchanged a look. Similarly, their black cloaks were ripped apart, revealing countenances that were not much better than Wizard Leo’s.

Wizard Morston said to Wizard Tanin, “Tanin, you deal with those Seventh-level Spell Casters under the eighth prince. Leave Leo to me!”



Wizard Tanin nodded. Without a word, he prepared to fly toward Wizard Leo.

“Darkness Eye, exterminate!”

A blood-red ray shone directly toward Wizard Tanin. Even though Wizard Tanin was an Eighth-level Spell Caster, the reputation of Darkness Eye was too infamous. He did not dare deflect the attack straight-on, so he retreated to avoid it.

“Eh? You want to control the two of us? Now that’s digging your own grave! Tanin, ignore the others. Kill Leo first and obtain his Darkness Eye!”

Seeing that Wizard Leo stopped Wizard Tanin from leaving, Wizard Morston immediately knew Leo’s plan, which was to control both Eight-level Spell Casters in order to buy time for the eighth prince and his men.

Regardless of Wizard Leo’s strength, he was still only a Sixth-level Spell Caster. Between Sixth-level and Seventh-level, laid a significant threshold with fundamental differences. It was only upon achieving the Seventh-level that a Spell Caster would be qualified to be called a higher-order Spell Caster.

Naturally, Morston was furious. He no longer paid attention to the others. First and foremost, his priority was to join forces with Wizard Tanin and kill Wizard Leo. Moreover, both Wizards were hungrily coveting Darkness Eye wielded by Wizard Leo.

Therefore, the two Eighth-level Spell Casters unleashed waves upon waves of Eighth-level spells. The power of the spells was so terrifying that it disrupted the fluctuation of elements within the vicinity. Several Spell Casters who wanted to absorb the elements found that they were unable to do so due to the disruptions from the Eighth-level spells unleashed by Wizard Tanin and Wizard Morston.

The face-off with two Eighth-level Spell Casters caused Wizard Leo’s expression to turn exceptionally serious. In his forehead, Darkness Eye slowly turned crimson, the color of blood. Slivers of blood-red rays shone through it, almost enveloping Wizard Leo’s entire body. It made him look extremely strange, like a glowing bloody blob.

In the beginning, the eighth prince and his men were quite worried whether Wizard Leo could control the two Eighth-level Wizards Tanin and Morston. Nevertheless, they later realized that no matter what spells were cast by the two Eighth-level Wizards, all of them could be disintegrated by Wizard Leo's Darkness Eye.

This was the third form of Darkness Eye. After killing Osseus, Wizard Leo gained a deeper understanding of it.

Hence, Wizard Leo was now able to continuously release the disintegration power of the third form of Darkness Eye. He was much stronger now compared to when he first killed Osseus.

Once they witnessed that Wizard Leo was able to control the two Eighth-level Wizards Tanin and Morston, the Spell Casters under the leadership of the Eighth prince gained a lot more confidence. A ray of hope sprouted in their hearts, and they were able to fight the battle with much vigor. For a period of time, they managed to equalize the advantage initially wielded by the fourth prince and stabilize the situation.

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"Merlin, die!"

From the start, ninth Wizard Oden had already eyed Merlin. Once the melee began, he immediately rushed toward Merlin. However, he kept a considerable distance between himself and Merlin, never coming too close. He only cast spells at Merlin from afar.

It seemed that Oden was still afraid of Merlin's Darkness-type Spells, and was fearful of being ensnared in an illusion again.

"Get lost!"

Merlin snorted coldly. Without sparing Oden a single look, he cast Flash Wind and flew forward. His targets were the fourth and fifth Wizards from the nine core Wizards!

The fourth Wizard was a silver-haired old man while the fifth Wizard was a charming beautiful female Wizard. They originally intended to combine their skills together and with their powerful strength, make a clean sweep of the numerous Spell Casters led by the eighth prince.

This was because besides the Seventh-level Spell Casters, no other Spell Casters under the eighth prince could possibly oppose the combined strength of the fourth and fifth Wizards.

“Whoosh!”

Riding on Flash Wind, Merlin instantly evaded Oden’s entanglement. He stopped in front of the fourth and fifth Wizards, and declared calmly, “My dear Wizards, your opponent is me!”

“Are you the one who killed seventh Wizard Els?”

The fourth Wizard squinted his eyes at him but did not rush to attack. Instead, he gauged Merlin carefully.

Merlin’s expression was calm. He grinned and answered, “Yes, that’s right. The seventh Wizard died in my hands. Soon, both of you will end up just like seventh Wizard Els!”

“Nonsense!”

The beautiful fifth Wizard huffed at him coldly before flipping her long blond hair.

“Swish swish swish!”

The fifth Wizard’s hair suddenly grew at an alarming pace. Each strand of hair was like a tree vine, flying straight at Merlin.

Countless strands of hair danced in the sky, almost intertwined into a large web to trap Merlin inside.

“Alpine Beast People?”

Merlin immediately knew the fifth Wizard’s identity. She must be one of the alpine Beast People. Otherwise, she would not possess such strange powers.

The fifth Wizard's hair strands could be soft or hard as she intended. Merlin could sense its intimidating power. If the hair got too close to him, maybe even Fifth-level Defensive spells and robe would not be able to block it.

Moreover, not only had the fifth Wizard started attacking, but the fourth Wizard too had transformed himself into a ball of fire. Then, the fiery flames roared up and further transformed into a huge four to five-meter wall of fire, crackling furiously as it moved in Merlin's direction.

These were all Sixth-level spells with such a terrifying show of power!

"Merlin, die!"

Behind Merlin, the voice of ninth Wizard Oden rang once again. His speed was not as fast as Merlin's Flash Wind, but he managed to catch up right at this moment. His face portrayed a sly expression as he waved his hands. Ice crystals began to condense rapidly into a single icy arrow, heading directly toward Merlin.

Ninth Wizard Oden hated Merlin with all his heart. Initially, the eighth prince had planned for four Sixth-level Spell Casters to control other Wizards besides the fourth and fifth Wizards. However, Oden's sight was so steadfastly fixed on Merlin that the other Spell Casters were unable to catch up to him. They were too late to stop Oden from sneaking up to Merlin from behind.

At that moment, Merlin's situation became precariously dangerous. The fourth, fifth and ninth Wizards were not only Sixth-level Spell Casters but they were also immensely powerful. All three Wizards were casting their strongest spells at Merlin.

A flash of anger flashed across Merlin's eyes. It was obvious that this was not the first time that the fourth and fifth Wizards have worked together. Their combination was undeniably admirable with the fifth Wizard binding the target while the fourth wizard unleashed his strongest attack. Of course, not forgetting also ninth Wizard Oden's stealth attack from behind.

Facing such a dangerous situation, Merlin took a deep breath. Just as he had predicted, Flash Wind had no effect on binding spells regardless of its speed.

Fortunately, this time, Merlin had constructed Perfect Armor, which was also fused with Pandora Demon Ability, Fuse Earth. He estimated that any spell below Seventh-level, as long as there was no Pandora Demon Ability, would not be able to penetrate the defense of Perfect Armor.

Nevertheless, it was only Merlin's guess. Right now, it was the best time to test Perfect Armor!

"Perfect Armor!"

Merlin's body was swiftly covered with a rich ocher light. The light then speedily molded into a gigantic armor, covering Merlin's entire body. He looked like an ocher giant.

"Boom!"

There was a huge impact. The fourth Wizard's flames, like a raging sun, had enveloped Merlin entirely and was burning furiously.

Almost simultaneously, ninth Wizard Oden's icy arrow, which packed a mighty penetrating power, also stabbed mercilessly on Merlin's Perfect Armor.

As for the fifth Wizard's hair strands, they bounded Merlin and immediately tightened further. The hair strands also sprouted many sharp spikes that were exceptionally hard, all of which were mercilessly lodged into Merlin's Perfect Armor.

In an instant, Perfect Armor was subjected to three fierce attacks by Sixth-level spells.

"Hum."

At that moment, everyone could clearly see an incomparable ocher light ray emerge from within the flames and into the sky. The next moment, the light ray expanded in the sky into a gigantic armor measuring tens of meters tall.

Within the armor, a black-robed figure was vaguely visible.

Chapter 343: Battle III

In the air, the huge ocher armor was like a giant stretched out in the sky, its body still burning with blazing flames.

However, the menacing flames could only burn on the surface of the huge armor. It was extremely difficult to harm the figure inside the armor, and downright impossible to melt down the armor.

This was after all Perfect Armor which had been fused with Pandora Demon Ability, Fuse Earth. It was able to withstand any Sixth-level spells attacks. Thus, with the protection of Perfect Armor, Merlin could not be harmed by the fourth Wizard's attack.

Moreover, a distinctive trait of Perfect Armor was its maintenance which only required a very negligible amount of Magic Power. Even though it was continuously consuming Magic Power, Merlin did not fear anyone.

“Crack!”

Ninth Wizard Oden's icy arrow landed on Perfect Armor, but all it did was cause Perfect Armor to vibrate slightly. Following that, the icy arrow shattered into pieces – it did not stand a chance against Perfect Armor.

“Tsss.”

The fourth Wizard mumbled under his breath as he gazed at the gigantic armor in the sky. “Perfect Armor! I can't believe that the eighth prince gave all the royal spells to Merlin! Perfect Armor can be considered the strongest defensive spell among Third-level spells!”

The fourth Wizard had followed the fourth prince for many years and had heard of many rumors surrounding the royal spells. Naturally, he had heard of the famous Perfect Armor. Although it was merely a Third-level spell, once paired with an enhancing casting tool, its Magic Powers would be boosted tremendously. That was the reason why it was called “perfect”.

The reason it earned such a big reputation for itself was precisely due to the uniqueness of Perfect Armor. Its defense was all-rounded and had almost no flaws or loopholes.

“No matter how strong the defense of Perfect Armor supposedly is, it shouldn't have been resistant enough to withstand a combined attack from the three of us!”

The fifth Wizard retracted her long hair and grumbled gloomily.

The fourth Wizard took a long, hard look at Merlin who was suspended in mid-air. He growled, “Pandora Demon Ability. It’s a Demon Ability that can be fused into spells!”

“So, you’re saying that Merlin possesses a Pandora Demon Ability that can be fused into spells?”

The fifth Wizard was stunned momentarily, followed by an involuntary flash of surprised thrill on her face. For an average Spell Caster, it might be the first time they had heard about Pandora Demon Ability, and definitely would not know the vast differences between the various Pandora Demon Abilities.

The fifth Wizard was a Sixth-level Spell Caster who had had a wide exposure to the world. Therefore naturally, she was well aware that among Pandora Demon Abilities, any Pandora Demon Ability that could be fused into spells was extremely rare and precious.

It was not surprising that the fifth Wizard was sorely tempted when she discovered that Merlin possessed a Pandora Demon Ability that could be fused into spells.

However, before the fourth and fifth Wizard could launch another attack, the situation changed dramatically.

Merlin, who was high up in the sky, discharged a brilliant flash. The blazing flames that were encapsulating him suddenly disappeared without a trace. They were completely absorbed by his body. With the suppression of the Flame Maxim, these blazing flames would not cause any harm to Merlin. On the contrary, they would be rapidly converted into Magic Power.

Without the restraint of the Flame Maxim, Merlin promptly turned around to glare directly at ninth Wizard Oden behind him.

“Oden, last time you didn’t die, but this time, you won’t be as lucky!”

Merlin declared. Once again, flames appeared on his body. Only this time, it was the white flames of Fiery Collapse.

“Condensed Fire!”

Small fireballs began appearing one after another. These were highly compressed fireballs which contained terrifying powers. It was the spell Merlin had constructed recently, a Third-level fire-type spell which was much more powerful than his Sea of Purgatory Fire.

“Whoosh whoosh whoosh.”

A series of small fireballs flew at breaking speed from every direction. Ninth Wizard Oden could not avoid them and could only cast a defensive spell to protect his body.

Nevertheless, Wizard Oden was extremely confident as his greatest forte was defensive spells. Back then, Merlin had used a Darkness-type spell to temporarily entrap Oden in an illusion but still failed to kill him. It was evident to Oden that his defensive spells were sufficiently unique.

However, Merlin was no longer the same person as he was back then!

“Chi chi chi.”

A few small fireballs hit Oden’s body successively. They did not give a very strong impact nor did they seem to cause any harm to Oden.

Soon enough though, the small fireballs began to grow aggressively. It was as if they were stuck onto his body. The flames swelled up and quickly spread across Oden’s body, turning it into a mighty blazing flame, encapsulating Oden.

“Impossible. Absolutely impossible... Fourth Wizard, fifth Wizard, help me...”

The angry flames had already engulfed Oden. This time, his luck had run out. Merlin’s Third-level spells – Fiery Collapse and Condensed Fire were already a match for the strongest Sixth-level spells, thus it was easy to break Oden’s defensive spells.

Trapped within the formidable fire of Fiery Collapse, it was a matter of time before he would be burned to ashes.

“This isn’t good. Quickly, save Oden!”



The fourth Wizard's face turned grave as he shouted. The surrounding temperature immediately fell. Layers of ice crystals started forming all the way from the ground to mid-air, quickly spreading toward Wizard Oden to freeze the white flames on his body.

"Hmph. It's too late!"

Merlin's heart ticked, and the Fiery Collapse burned even stronger. The white flames burned all the way into the air, wrapping around the ice crystals and melting them into droplets of water, dripping onto the ground.

In those few short moments, there was no longer any sound from Wizard Oden. Upon closer inspection, there was no longer any trace of life.

"Oden is dead?"

Both the fourth and fifth Wizards expressions were extremely grim. No matter what, Oden was a Sixth-level Spell Caster. Right now, however, he was killed in an instant by a single spell from Merlin. This was a feat that even the two of them could not hope to achieve.

As such, when they turned their gazes back to Merlin again, their faces were grim. They no longer behaved carelessly. Instead, they joined forces with one another.

With one wave of his hand, Merlin reclaimed the flames of Fiery Collapse. On its way back, a ring also fell into his palm. It was Wizard Oden's ring.

Oden had already turned into ashes, so only the solid ring was left behind to be acquired by Merlin.

Merlin was also in slight disbelief. Before coming to the Imperial City, he could only have a face-off with Oden in a cautious manner. Now, on the other hand, he could easily kill Oden with a snap of his fingers. The improvement between the two occurrences was so quick that it was almost dream-like. It was quite hard for him to believe that it was real.

Nevertheless, he glanced at the strength-filled armor on his body, and his heart was filled with pride. This was true power. Even when under siege of three Sixth-level Spell Casters, he had come out unscathed. Anything less than a Seventh-level spell, as long as it was not a Pandora Demon Ability, could no longer threaten him!

“Fifth Wizard, reveal your true form. I’ll also use my strongest skill. Otherwise, it may be dangerous for us today!”

The silver-haired fourth Wizard looked at Merlin warily, his expression turned grave.

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“The legendary Darkness Eye is indeed powerful!”

On the other side, Wizards Morston and Tanin had surrounded Wizard Leo from the front and back in mid-air. These two Eighth-level Wizards should not have been lightly regarded by anyone. Yet, Wizard Leo appeared uncannily calm, almost as if he was unaware of the gravity of the situation that he was in.

In the earlier battle, Wizards Morston and Tanin had discovered that no matter how powerful or bizarre the spells were, they would still be broken by Wizard Leo using the third form of Darkness Eye.

Legend had it that Darkness Eye possessed seven forms. The fact that merely the third form was already so powerful not only failed to deter Wizards Morston and Tanin but instead made them even more determined to obtain Darkness Eye.

There were no other Spell Casters in the vicinity of the battle between Wizard Leo and Wizards Morston and Tanin. All the Spell Casters had drawn their distance from them as the battle between these three Wizards was no longer a battle that could be interfered by an average Spell Caster.

Just the mere aftershocks of an Eighth-level spell might easily render a Sixth-level Spell Caster helpless, causing irreversible damage and perhaps even death.

Moreover, Wizard Leo’s Darkness Eye should not be underestimated as well. If anyone was touched even by a sliver of the blood-red ray, their entire body would immediately rot and decay. It would be an extremely ugly death.

Therefore, everyone kept their distance far away from Wizard Leo and his opponents, in fear of being accidentally struck by the fallout of their battle.

“Tanin, don’t hold back any longer. Use your Pandora Demon Ability! Haha. We’ll see if his Darkness Eye is enough to defeat both our Pandora Demon Abilities!”

A devious grin suddenly flashed across Wizard Morston’s face. The next moment, his body exhibited a white-water veil.

The white-water veil was flowing continuously – it was a sight to behold.

“Water-type spells?”

Wizard Leo watched the strange white-water veil which had appeared on both Wizards Tanin and Morston’s bodies. It was a very rare Water-type spell.

Water-type spells were neither good for general attacks nor for defense, and even its binding capabilities were not very strong. It was considered one of the naturally weaker type of element. Therefore, most Spell Casters would not create Water-type spells.

Nevertheless, Water-type spells also possessed some special characteristics. Some Water-type spells were able to treat injuries. In fact, many Water-type spells had healing properties.

It was just that most Spell Casters came prepared with potions, therefore the healing properties of Water-type spells were not a priority. Coupled with the fact that its attacking powers, defensive powers, and binding powers were all somewhat lacking, naturally, there were few who were interested in creating Water-type spells.

It was unexpected that Wizards Tanin and Morston had not only created Water-type spells but also cultivated Water-type Pandora Demon Abilities. That white layer of water veil was also the ultimate skill of both Wizards Morston and Tanin.

Wizard Leo frowned. The bloody eye in his forehead twitched slightly, and a blood-red ray flew directly toward Wizard Morston.

“Darkness Eye, disintegrate!”

It was the same third form of Darkness Eye that was difficult to block even by Eighth-level spells. Previously, Wizard Morston would have evaded it completely or continuously cast a series of defensive spells to fend off its attacks.

This time, however, Wizard Morston stayed in place, allowing the blood-red ray of Darkness Eye to engulf his body.

#### Chapter 344: Battle IV

The third form of Darkness Eye that even the Flame Image on the Ship of Nikola could not fend against was not something that could be overlooked, naturally, it would not be something that could be blocked by mere Seventh-level Spell Casters. Even Eighth-level Spell Casters might not be able to resist the third form of Darkness Eye if they only used normal spells.

Previously, Wizard Leo and the two Eighth-level Wizards Morston and Tanin had battled for a very long time. The fact that neither side had prevailed already spoke volumes of the power of Darkness Eye.

Right now, however, the blood-red ray from Darkness Eye was shining directly on Wizard's Morston's water veil. Layers of ripples bubbled rapidly across the white layer and proceeded to smoothen out just as quick.

The originally unbreakable and invincible third form of Darkness Eye was now unable to break this fragile-looking protection of the water veil.

Seeing that the white-water veil was still undisturbed, Morston's face showed a smug smile. He exclaimed loudly, "Heh heh, Leo, bet you didn't see that coming! You may have Pandora Demon Abilities, but did you think that we didn't have them as well? Although not as powerful as your Darkness Eye, our Pandora Demon Abilities have the powerful ability to be fused with spells. In addition, when we were constructing our Seventh-level spells, we had already cultivated the Third-level Pandora Demon Ability. Your Darkness Eye has only achieved its third form, it can't break our defense!"

Wizards Morston and Tanin both possessed the Third-level Pandora Demon Ability that could be fused into spells.

Even though this Pandora Demon Ability was a Water-type, once cultivated to the Third-level, its prowess would be unrivaled. Moreover, both had used Eighth-level spells with startling defensive power. Just by using the third form of Darkness Eye, it was impossible to overcome their defense.

It was not surprising that despite Tanin and Morston's unmatched cruelty and having once upon a time destroyed a few Spell Casters' families, they had managed to survive hundreds of years until now. They had a trump card up their sleeves.

Once Morston finished speaking, he revealed a greedy look on his face. He stared daggers at Leo, obviously coveting Leo's Darkness Eye.

"Leo, if we get your Darkness Eye, coupled with our Pandora Demon Abilities... Heh heh... We'll be completely unstoppable!"

Morston was thoroughly aware of the power of Darkness Eye. It was apparent just by looking at Wizard Leo. He was merely a Sixth-level Wizard but with the third form of Darkness Eye, he was able to fight on an equal footing with two Eighth-level Wizards. Until now, neither side had prevailed against the other.

If Darkness Eye was to be cultivated to the fourth or fifth form, it was yet unknown how much more terrifying the power would be. Perhaps the power of Darkness Eye was limited to the same level of Wizard Leo and could not be cultivated into more advanced forms. As Eighth-level wizards, Tanin and Morston obviously still hoped to cultivate Darkness Eye to its fourth and fifth forms, and maybe even more advanced forms beyond that.

Seeing that Tanin and Morston were inching closer, no longer afraid of Darkness Eye, Wizard Leo finally said, "Even if you obtained the knowledge of cultivating Darkness Eye, it would be of no use. In order to cultivate Darkness Eye, you need to construct Darkness-type spells!"

"Darkness-type spells? Who said we didn't construct Darkness-type spells?"

A sinister grin appeared on the corners of Wizard Morston's mouth. Following that, traces of Darkness-element began to fluctuate subtly around his body.

The changes on Wizard Morston's body caught Wizard Leo by surprise.

Before this, Morston had already demonstrated Wind-type, Water-type, and Fire-type spells. With the addition of Darkness-type spells, it meant that Morston was a Four-Elemental Spell Caster!

“I see, so you’ve even constructed Darkness-type spells. You hid it very well!”

Wizard Leo’s face revealed a sneer. Tanin and Morston were both well-known for their ruthlessness. As a Sixth-level Spell Caster in the Dark Magic Region, Wizard Leo was of course, well-informed about most matters.

However, he had not expected that these infamous Spell Casters had concealed Darkness-type spells and these powerful Pandora Demon Abilities.

“Heh heh. We have so many enemies. If we don’t conceal some of our abilities and keep a trump card, how do you think we’d be able to survive this long? You, on the other hand, are a mere Sixth-level Spell Caster. Yet you hunted down Osseus for thousands of miles and killed him, and now you’re interfering in the royal family’s matters. Tsk ts. Do you think that you could have a clean sweep just with that one Darkness Eye? Tanin, attack!”

Suddenly, Morston roared loudly. His speed doubled, and his body entwined with the Wind-type element as he rushed toward Wizard Leo. In addition, menacing-looking flames started appearing on his body as well.

The same was true for Wizard Tanin. His entire body was like a Flame Giant, rushing toward Wizard Leo from behind. Surrounded by the powerful fluctuations of Fire Elements, Wizard Leo descended into real danger.

...

“Rip.”

There was a sound of cloth tearing. The fifth Wizard’s robes were ripped into shreds, revealing a milky white body underneath.

However, the naked body of the fifth Wizard had become the least enticing to anyone. This was because almost immediately after stripping, her milky white skin began sprouting numerous black spikes throughout her body. At the same time, her initially slender figure also started ballooning up beyond recognition. She looked extremely ugly.

Not too long afterward, the fifth Wizard revealed her true form. It was different from Snake Elder and the others. Her true form was especially curious – it was a giant black hedgehog.

Seeing that the fifth Wizard had revealed her true form, the fourth Wizard also inhaled deeply and pulled out a black bracelet from his ring. Underneath the sunlight, the black bracelet radiated a shiny glimmer.

The fourth Wizard caressed the bracelet gently. There was a trace of reluctance in his expression. He mumbled softly, “I thought I would never use this black obsidian bracelet, but who knew that I have to use it so soon...”

The fourth Wizard gritted his teeth and Fire Elements began to fluctuate around his body.

“Let it burn.”

Following the words of the fourth Wizard, flames began to burn everywhere around them. The black bracelet seemed to emit some mysterious fluctuations. The next moment, the flames began to burn much more ferociously.

Even Merlin’s expression waned slightly. He could sense that the fourth Wizard’s spell powers suddenly increased, becoming much stronger. In fact, the potency of the flames was no less than his Fiery Collapse. It had reached the peak capabilities of a Sixth-level spell.

“Hmm, that black bracelet can enhance the power of spells so it must be an enhancing casting tool... I didn’t expect that the fourth Wizard had such a precious enhancing casting tool with him!”

Merlin no longer dared to underestimate any of the Spell Casters. Even though the fourth Wizard was a roaming Wizard, it was not easy for a roaming Wizard to become a Sixth-level Spell Caster. He must have had some treasures hidden away at the bottom of his trunk.

The fourth Wizard’s hidden treasure, or his last trump card, was apparently that black bracelet. It was indeed an extremely rare and precious enhancing casting tool.

“Crack.”

As the flames burned stronger and stronger, small cracks began to appear on the black bracelet in the fourth Wizard's hands. In the end, it snapped apart.

There were many types of enhancing casting tools. Since they were extremely rare and precious, they were very difficult to make. As a result, most of them could only be used once and would be destroyed after.

The black bracelet in the fourth Wizard's hands was obviously a one-time use enhancing casting tool. It could only be used once before it was rendered useless.

Merlin felt the temperature of the surrounding flames increasing significantly. In addition, the fifth Wizard had revealed her true form. Despite possessing Perfect Armor, Merlin had no desire to face both of them head-on.

Therefore, he prepared himself to cast Flash Wind to retreat temporarily. Nevertheless, it seemed that the fourth Wizard had already predicted his move. With a single wave of his hand, a Sixth-level binding spell appeared, trapping Merlin inside a narrow space.

"Whiz."

Initially, Merlin could have used Fiery Collapse to defeat this binding spell, but it was too late. Once he was bound, the fifth Wizard took the opportunity to rapidly roll her body into a gigantic ball, completely covered in sharp, hard spikes. She rose into the air, whizzing straight toward Merlin.

This was the fifth Wizard's true form, which was also her most powerful form. Using the spikes on her body, she had killed countless powerful Spell Casters, including Sixth-level Spell Casters like herself.

Moreover, the fourth and fifth Wizards were obviously in perfect synchrony with one another. Leveraging on the exact moment that Merlin was bound, they both launched their strongest attack.

It was quite scary to have two ultimate Sixth-level Spell Casters working together!

Merlin took a deep breath. He no longer had time to break the binding. He could only face it head-on.



“Fine, let’s see if you can break my Perfect Armor!”

Merlin’s eyes also showed a trace of seriousness. Right now, he had no choice. Moreover, he had confidence in Perfect Armor. As long as the spell did not exceed the power of a Sixth-level Spell Caster, Perfect Armor should be able to withstand it.

“Thud.”

The fifth Wizard’s true form, the giant hedgehog, packed with terrifying powers, smashed brutally against Merlin’s Perfect Armor. For a moment, Merlin’s Perfect Armor began to change rapidly, its outer light flashing intermittently as if it was going to be broken at any time.

However, with Merlin’s crazy injection of Magic Power, his Perfect Armor stabilized once again.

“It didn’t break?”

The fifth Wizard was a little taken aback. This was already her strongest power. Usually, once she revealed her true form, no matter how strong the opponents were, they would not be able to resist her attack.

“Boom!”

Immediately after the fifth Wizard’s attack was the fourth Wizard’s enhanced Fire-type spell. With the assistance of the enhancing casting tool, it had achieved the peak powers of a Sixth-level spell, no lesser than Merlin’s Fiery Collapse.

Even the fifth Wizard who was a considerable distance away could feel the extreme heat emanating from the flames. She could not stand it anymore and retreated a few steps.

“Fifth Wizard, don’t lose focus. Continue to attack!”

The fourth Wizard looked at the motionless fifth Wizard and said with a severe expression.

The fifth Wizard nodded her head. She could sense that despite the powerful flames blazing wildly, Merlin's life force was still present among the flames. This showed that Merlin was still holding on and was not dead yet.

"Whiz whiz whiz."

The fifth Wizard shot black spikes from her body using a special method. Like a rain of arrows spanning all the way from the ground to the sky, they flew straight toward Merlin, who was trapped in the flames.

Chapter 345: Leo Explodes I

"Thud thud thud."

A countless number of spikes flew toward Merlin just like raindrops. However, once they entered the flame, the arrows seemed to hit a hard, protective cover. The indestructible spikes were either broken directly or flew back in the opposite direction.

"Fire? Enhancing casting tools are indeed strong, but unfortunately, you shouldn't use Fire-type spells!"

A nonchalant voice rang. Subsequently, the flames that were on Merlin's body burned bigger and started to flash rapidly. Then, like a powerful suction, all the flames were sucked into his body.

"Hum hum hum."

No matter how strong the flames were, they could be suppressed by the Flame Maxim. Moreover, it would instantly be converted into Magic Power. As the burning flames on Merlin slowly subsided, the pale white flames reappeared and regained its momentum. These Fire-type spells did not belong to the fourth Wizard, but to Merlin.

"How could this be possible? My spell, through the enhancing casting tool, must've achieved the peak power of a Sixth-level or even a Seventh-level spell. How could you be completely unscathed?"

The fourth Wizard's expression was slightly pale. The enhancing casting tool was his trump card – it was rarely used. He had managed to obtain a few one-time use enhancing casting tools before this. Each use was reserved for the most dire of moments and would successfully avert the crisis by annihilating even the strongest of his enemies.

This time was the first that the fourth Wizard had used the enhancing casting tool but did not manage to vanquish his opponent!

“Swish.”

At this very moment, the fifth Wizard transformed into a giant hedgehog once again. Then, she turned into a whirlwind and swept directly into Merlin. The force that was contained within the attack was clearly tremendous.

“Boom!”

The fifth Wizard's true form slammed into Merlin mercilessly. This attempt, however, was not as smooth-sailing as the last few attempts. When the fifth Wizard's true form met Merlin's Perfect Armor, the pale white flames started burning wilder and extended themselves toward the fifth Wizard's form.

These pale white flames were all part of the terrifying Fiery Collapse. It was partly the fifth Wizard's fault for being too complacent. She was not like the fourth Wizard, who understood these flames perfectly. It was only when the pale white flames started burning on her body that she realized it. However, it was too late.

The pale white flames of Fiery Collapse traveled down the spikes on her body rapidly, and in an instant, covered the entire giant hedgehog.

Suddenly, the fifth Wizard who was engulfed in the flames cried out a series of chilling shrieks. The power of Fiery Collapse was not one that could be withstood by anyone. Even though the fifth Wizard was of the alpine Beast People and had a more resilient body, it was impossible to withstand the burning power of Fiery Collapse.

“Let's go!”

When the fourth Wizard saw that the fifth Wizard was engulfed by the pale white flames, his expression shifted. Right now, both Sixth-level Wizards had used their trump cards and could not prevail over Merlin. On the contrary, it looked like the fifth Wizard herself would die in Merlin's hands.

The fourth Wizard was a Spell Caster who had lived for hundreds of years. Naturally, he was very alert and prepared to leave immediately.

"Swish."

Just as the fourth Wizard's figure started to move, a gust of Wind Element fluctuation flashed. Merlin's figure was already right in front of the fourth Wizard.

"Leaving already? Too late!"

After absorbing a large amount of fire element from the fourth Wizard and converting it into Magic Power with the help of the Flame Maxim, Merlin was overflowing with unimaginable levels of Magic Power.

"Boom boom boom!"

Balls of condensed fire exploded in an instant, turning the sky into a sea of fire. Even the fourth Wizard could not endure these endless waves of Fiery Collapse. The Sixth-level defensive spells that he had employed in that moment were rapidly consuming his Magic Power...

It was only a matter of time.

Merlin was not the least in a hurry. He had Flash Wind, so he was not afraid of the fourth Wizard escaping. Compared to the fifth Wizard, the fourth Wizard was undeniably more difficult to defeat.

The fourth Wizard's Sixth-level defensive spells were indeed quite powerful. In addition to the defensive robes he wore, even Merlin did not have the ability to easily vanquish the fourth Wizard.

Nevertheless, with unlimited Magic Power, Merlin might be able to exhaust the fourth Wizard to death. Thus, that was his battle strategy, which was to continue exhausting the fourth Wizard's Magic Power. Once the fourth Wizard's Magic Power ran out, he would be killed.

Although the fourth Wizard had already discerned Merlin's plans, he had no choice but to endure it bitterly.

Merlin saw that the situation was completely under control, so he shifted his attention to other parts of the battlefield.

At this moment in the forest, there were several ongoing battles. Especially the remarkable battle between the eighth prince and the fourth prince. There were various types of top-level spells as well as an exchange of Pandora Demon Abilities. The aftershocks of their battle had already leveled the forest around them.

As members of the royal family, particularly outstanding members who were in line for the throne, the fourth and eighth princes both possessed mighty abilities. With the added bonus of the royal family's resources, both their abilities were no less, or perhaps even more powerful, than those Seventh-level Spell Casters.

Presently, however, the fourth prince and the eighth prince were equally matched. Neither of them was prevailing over the other. Merlin shifted his gaze to the rest of the battle.

On top of the hill where lush green grass was flourishing, there were stone debris flying and whirlwind twirling around. Occasional clouds of smog and dust filled the air. It was full of various chaotic elements.

Merlin squinted his eyes and used a great amount of Mind Power to direct his vision toward the battle of chaotic elements. Through his Mind Power, Merlin could see the situation among the chaos clearly.

It turned out that this was the battle between three Seventh-level Spell Casters. The three Seventh-level Spell Casters under the eighth prince were all top-notch Spell Casters. On the other hand, the first, second and third Wizards under the fourth prince, too, were very powerful.

Among them, the third Wizard was also of the alpine Beast People and could transform into a giant striped tiger. The tiger was extremely ferocious, and his roar could cause mental damage as well as spell failure.

He was perhaps one of the top-most powerful alpine Beast People. There were extremely few people who would be able to match the powers of an advanced Seventh-level alpine Beast People. Such alpine Beast People was also terrifying to behold as once they revealed their true forms, their powers were astounding.

Presently, the three Seventh-level Spell Casters under the eighth prince looked like they were on a lesser edge. However, it seemed that they were yet to play their trump cards, so there was still a chance. It was not easy to defeat a Seventh-level Spell Caster unless one possessed actual crushing strength. Otherwise, it was a battle of endurance.

The battle between these Seventh-level Spell Casters would not relent for a while, so Merlin shifted his gaze again, this time landing on Wizard Leo.

Suddenly, Merlin narrowed his eyes. He saw that Wizard Leo's Darkness Eye seemed to have no effect on Wizard Morston and Tanin. These two Eighth-level Spell Casters had finally shown their trump cards, and apparently, they possessed extremely powerful defensive Pandora Demon Abilities that could be fused into spells.

Wizard Leo's only crutch was Darkness Eye. If even Wizard Leo's third form of Darkness Eye could not harm Wizards Morston and Tanin, then Wizard Leo was naturally in a bad place.

At this moment, Merlin did not hesitate at all. Through the slave contract, he commanded Wizard Bammou. "Bammou, act now! If Wizard Leo dies, you'll accompany him to his grave!"

"B\*stard!"

Wizard Bammou's face could not help but turn dark. Wizard Leo's current situation was extremely precarious. Not only was he surrounded by two Eighth-level Spell Casters with Pandora Demon Abilities but his Darkness Eye was also ineffective against them. It could be said that danger was waiting outside his door.

Now, he would have to battle with not only two Eighth-level Wizards, but two Eighth-level Wizards with Pandora Demon Abilities. If it was before this, Wizard Bammou definitely would not have interfered in such a dangerous situation. Right now, however, he was Merlin's slave and had no way to defy his orders.

If something actually happened to Wizard Leo, based on Bammou's understanding of Merlin, there was definitely hell to pay.

Thinking along those lines, despite the great reluctance in his heart, Bammou had no choice but to act.

“Whoosh...”

No one noticed that a slight breeze flew by. In fact, there was no fluctuation of elements – just a gentle breeze. At this moment, Morston was emitting a murderous vibe, his full concentration set on trapping Wizard Leo. Behind him, Wizard Tanin too was guarding him carefully. Leo was completely trapped.

“Heh heh. Leo, die!”

“Boom!”

An earth-shattering spell exploded. The two Eighth-level Spell Casters did not hold back at all. The level of power from the spells was simply heaven-moving and earth-shattering. A unique fluctuation spread in all directions within the vicinity.

“Crack crack.”

All the trees and rocks that were hit by the fluctuation were instantly pulverized into powder. Even a few Spell Casters who had not escaped in time turned into a bloody mist.

This was the effect of Eighth-level spells. If a powerful Eighth-level Spell Caster released a wide-range attacking spell, even a bustling city with a population of hundreds of thousands could be turned into ashes in an instant!

“Teacher Leo!”

Merlin’s gaze was locked on the powdered dust caused by that horrifying spell. This level of spell power was no longer one that he could interfere in. Despite his confidence in both Bammou and Leo, he could not help but worry about them.

Would Bammou and Leo be able to overcome such a powerful spell?

“Please don’t die!”

Merlin prayed desperately in his heart. Within the Dark Magic Region, the person that Merlin was closest to and most grateful toward was unquestionably Wizard Leo. Naturally, he did not want anything to happen to him.

“Oh right, the slave contract!”

Merlin was so overly worried that he almost forgot about the slave contract. Through the slave contract, he could detect Wizard Bammou’s condition.

Hence, Merlin quickly took out the slave contract. Through the slave contract, he could clearly feel the exuberant life force of Wizard Bammou.

“Bammou isn’t dead! What about Teacher Leo?”

Merlin’s heart leaped in joy. He hurriedly turned his gaze to the sky in a distance, where Wizard Leo’s figure had been swallowed by the earth-shattering spell.

Chapter 346: Leo Explodes II

“Cough. Cough. That was dangerous. I was almost done for!”

Amidst dust and smoke, the voice of Wizard Bammou rang out. Amazingly, beside him stood Wizard Leo without a single scratch on his body. He was completely uninjured by the powerful spell released by the two Eight-level Spell Casters – Wizards Morston and Tanin.

Upon seeing an unknown Spell Caster appear in the battlefield and had gotten involved directly in the battle between the Eighth-level Spell Casters, many Spell Casters on the ground had begun to pay attention.

However, the spell which was released was so powerful that no one could see clearly what had happened. Naturally, they also did not know how Wizard Leo had escaped.



Only Wizard Morston and Tanin with their sullen faces knew how Wizard Leo had escaped. It was all because of the unknown Spell Caster who had appeared beside Leo.

Morston narrowed his eyes. He could distinctly sense that the life force on Wizard Bammou belonged to a Seventh-level Spell Caster. However, the spell that he used to save Leo was incredible beyond comprehension. His speed was inconceivably fast – it was not a level that a Seventh-level spell could achieve.

“Pandora Demon Ability, it must be Pandora Demon Ability. Moreover, it’s an extremely strong Wind-type Pandora Demon Ability!”

Wizard Morston’s face darkened. If his opponent was just Leo alone, he was not afraid. After all, Leo was no longer able to escape his doom. Regardless of how powerful Darkness Eye was, it had failed to break through their defensive Pandora Demon Abilities.

Now, on the other hand, with another Seventh-level Spell Caster with Wind-type Pandora Demon Ability, the battle would be vastly different than before. If they were unable to fight back, they could now escape. Moreover, based on the power demonstrated by Wizard Bammou earlier, his speed was inconceivably fast. Even a Ninth-level Spell Caster might have problems stopping Wizard Bammou.

“Who are you?”

Morston asked with a sullen tone. Through the fourth prince’s intelligence, Morston had grasped almost all information about the slightly more powerful Spell Casters under the eighth prince. However, he did not have any impression of this unknown Spell Caster.

“Phew...”

Wizard Bammou exhaled a long breath of relief. Seeing that Wizard Leo was unscathed, he chuckled. “Thank heavens you’re safe, Wizard Leo. Otherwise, my master wouldn’t have spared me.”

Wizard Leo’s blood-red vertical eye opened slightly to scan Wizard Bammou, seemingly doubtful of him.

Wizard Bammou hurriedly explained, “Wizard Leo, my master is Wizard Merlin! It’s a long story about how that happened, but maybe we should think about how to deal with those two Eighth-level Spell Casters first?”

Wizard Bammou shifted his gaze toward Wizard Morston and Tanin. Sure enough, the two Eighth-level Spell Casters were coming toward them again, intending to trap both of them together.

Countless thoughts flashed by Wizard Leo’s mind. His Darkness Eye could not only see through any disguise or illusion, but it could also gauge a Spell Caster’s ability.

Wizard Leo saw that Wizard Bammou was a Seventh-level Spell Caster and had even constructed an Eighth-level spell. A Spell Caster of his level would usually be a core wizard in any organization, and yet Bammou was Merlin’s slave.

What was a slave? It was someone who had signed the most unfair slave contract; where his life and death were fully controlled by his master. Regardless of a Fourth, Fifth or Sixth-level Spell Caster, no one would sign a contract like that.

Wizard Leo knew that most probably this was a prize that Merlin had found during his trip to the Kurdmansla Islands. Many strange encounters must have occurred for a powerful wizard like Bammou to agree to become his slave.

Following Wizard Bammou’s gaze, Wizard Leo also saw the approaching Wizards Morston and Tanin. These two Eighth-level Spell Casters with Third-level defensive Pandora Demon Abilities were very powerful. Just a moment ago, they had caused Wizard Leo to be trapped in an extremely dangerous situation.

Even with Wizard Bammou’s help, all they could do was escape near death. Naturally, Morston and Tanin would not give up. Hence, Wizard Bammou and Wizard Leo had only two choices. Either they use Wizard Bammou’s Flash Wind to escape or they engage Wizards Morston and Tanin in another big battle.

Nevertheless, it was not so easy to escape. Even though Wizard Bammou’s Flash Wind was unmistakably faster than Wizard Morston and Tanin, if they continued the pursuit, then they would still have to fight them in the end.

“Wizard Leo, what should we do now? If you want to escape, then we have to prepare now. However, I don’t know if we can outrun these two Eighth-level Spell Casters. Eventually, it’ll boil

down to whose Magic Power gets exhausted first! If you want to fight, I can help you control one of them!”

Wizard Bammou said through clenched teeth. Controlling one of these two was already pushing his limits. Before this, Wizard Bammou would not have easily volunteered to fight an Eighth-level Spell Caster.

Right now, however, he no longer had a choice. It would be difficult for Leo to defeat the two Eighth-level Spell Casters, Wizards Morston and Tanin, just by himself.

“Escape? If I escape this time, then I won’t have another chance to become a Seventh-level Spell Caster...”

Wizard Leo raised his head and looked up in the sky. Within the two empty eye sockets, there seemed to be a hint of a glowing black light which was extremely strange-looking.

He had been stuck at the Sixth-level for too long. Cultivating Darkness Eye was not a smooth-sailing journey, and Wizard Leo had paid a huge price!

One of the costs rendered his chances of becoming a Seventh-level Spell Caster to near impossible. It had become almost like an unattainable fantasy to him. This time, the Tear of God in the eighth prince’s hand renewed his hopes of becoming a Seventh-level Spell Caster again. If he missed this opportunity, he was afraid that it would be difficult to come by again.

“Whoosh.”

Wizard Morston attacked again. It was the same menacing flames. The raging flames burned with unrivaled viciousness.

Wizard Bammou gritted his teeth firmly. Strong flames began appearing on his body. His flames appeared to be even more intimidating as the tiny spaces in between the flames were burned into distortion.

Wizard Morston’s flames was an Eighth-level spell. They were constructed using Morston’s own understanding of flames. Starting from Seventh-level onward, there were no clear distinctions of levels for spells. It all depended on the Spell Caster himself and the depth of his understanding toward the spells he derived.

For example, a Spell Caster with a deeper understanding of flames would be able to derive more powerful Fire-type spells.

“Hiss hiss hiss.”

Wizard Morston’s flames and Wizard Bammou’s flames were intertwined with each other, engaged in a fierce competition. Both spells were Eighth-level spells. These flames was also the only Eighth-level spell constructed by Wizard Bammou.

Soon, Wizard Morston’s expression flickered. Looking at the competition between the two Eighth-level flame spells, it was obvious that Wizard Bammou’s flames were superior. They had obviously suppressed Morston’s flames.

“How is this possible?”

Wizard Morston was shocked to the core. His understanding of flames was the best among all his other spells. Yet his Eighth-level spell was weaker than Wizard Bammou’s flames.

The two flames were still intertwined, but Wizard Bammou’s flames would quickly suppress and devour Wizard Morston’s, then transform into bigger and more vicious flames. Ironically, from Wizard Bammou’s flames, Wizard Morston could see a kind of fascination which greatly deepened his understanding of fire. It was much better than what he could achieve just by researching in the dark on his own.

Thus, it was not surprising that some powerful Spell Casters continuously challenged other same-level Wizards. They were trying to gain a deeper understanding of spells through their battles in order to construct more powerful spells.

While Wizard Morston was astonished by the flames, Wizard Bammou was quite indifferent to it. He had absolute confidence in his Eighth-level Fire-type spell.

When he was imprisoned in the Flame Prison on the Ship of Nikola, Wizard Bammou had suffered the mother of all suffering. The flames in the Flame Prison contained some Maxim powers.

It was precisely during his suffering in this horrible Flame Prison, however, that Wizard Bammou's understanding of flames grew leaps and bounds. With that understanding, he was able to construct a brand-new Eighth-level flame spell.

Moreover, it was with the help of this brand-new Eighth-level flame spell that Wizard Bammou managed to hang on for hundreds of years in the Flame Prison. It was then that Merlin managed to pass the three levels, obtain the Flame Maxim, seize the Ship of Nikola, and release him from the Flame Prison.

Therefore, Wizard Bammou had absolute confidence in Fire-type spells. It was also proven that with this Eighth-level spell, Wizard Bammou was able to counter the power of another Eighth-level spell.

Of course, an Eighth-level Wizard would not be so easily defeated, nor would he only have one Eighth-level spell. Once his Fire-type spell was almost completely suppressed by Wizard Bammou, streams of water elements began to fluctuate on Wizard Morston's body.

Morston and Tanin had both constructed Water-type spells. Therefore, when Wizard Bammou's flames encountered their Water-type spells, especially fused with Pandora Demon Ability, it was rendered useless. It could no longer pose a threat to Wizard Morston.

"Damn it! Wizard Leo, their Pandora Demon Abilities have been fused into their spells. It's too strong, we can barely cause them any harm. Let's use my Flash Wind to escape temporarily!"

In his heart, Wizard Bammou wanted to gauge his powers. He was actually curious to find out if he could compete against an Eighth-level Wizard. Nevertheless, this time, Morston and Tanin were both extremely powerful. With the inclusion of Pandora Demon Abilities, Wizard Bammou could not gain an upper hand.

The order that Merlin gave him was to ensure Wizard Leo's safety. Therefore, he thought about retreating. By using Flash Wind, Morston and Tanin would not be able to defeat them at least for a moment.

"Swoosh."

Wizard Bammou turned his head but found that Wizard Leo was no longer there. Wizard Leo did not have the slightest intention to retreat. Instead, he was charging headfirst at Wizard Morston.

Wizard Leo's expression was undeniably firm, especially the blood-red vertical eye in his forehead. It was stretched open to the limit, that even the faint glimmer of light deep inside could almost be seen...

Chapter 347: The Fourth Form, Control!

"Darkness Eye, control!"

Wizard Leo growled softly. In his forehead, the blood-red glow of Darkness Eye had faded into a dim flicker. It appeared monstrous and hideous.

As for Wizard Leo himself, he was trembling slightly and his face was incomparably pale. He looked as if he was holding on through sheer determination. This meant that activating this attack of Darkness Eye was something even Wizard Leo could not bear.

Darkness Eye had seven forms – the first three were delude, exterminate, and disintegrate. This time, Wizard Leo had activated "control", which was clearly the fourth form!

"The fourth form?"

Merlin's eyes sharpened slightly. He witnessed the changes occurring in Wizard Leo and knew that this was Wizard Leo's trump card – the fourth form of Darkness Eye. It turned out that Wizard Leo had cultivated the fourth form of Darkness Eye!

It was just that with Wizard Leo's current strength, activating the fourth form of Darkness Eye appeared to take an unprecedented toll on him. He could not even maintain it for long. If he used it for just a moment too long, Wizard Leo would suffer grievous harm that would be difficult to recover from.

Wizard Bammou could only stare dazedly at the beams of dim light in Wizard Leo's Darkness Eye. As a Spell Caster from several hundred years ago, one with a certain degree of knowledge about Darkness Eye, Wizard Bammou knew very well what the fourth form of Darkness Eye entailed.

"How can there still be someone who could cultivate the fourth form of Darkness Eye?"

Wizard Bammou mumbled softly.

Presently, the target of Wizard Leo's fourth form of Darkness Eye was Wizard Morston. The flames around him had been extinguished completely, and there was not a single trace of Elemental fluctuation.

The beams of dim, black light were like a cage, sealing Morston within. In the dim light, Wizard Morston could not sense any Elemental fluctuations as if he had been stripped off his spells.

A smile stretched across the corner of Wizard Leo's mouth, although anyone could see that the smile was forceful.

Wizard Leo's current situation was not much better than Wizard Morston's. His face was drained, and his lips fresh red as if they were about to bleed. His cheeks were sunken like he was just skin and bones, causing his forehead to protrude. In particular, in the middle of his forehead, Darkness Eye bulged with a mixture of crimson and dim light as if it was about to pop out.

Wizard Leo was in a disastrous situation. It was evident that he had to pay a hefty price to forcibly activate the fourth form of Darkness Eye.

"The fourth form of Darkness Eye, control! What it controls are the elements! How could any of you understand the greatness of Darkness Eye?"

Wizard Leo was laughing coldly. Following that, Wizard Morston could distinctly feel that the water veil around him was gradually breaking up.

Even with the fusion of Pandora Demon Ability, it was completely useless. The Water Element quickly dispersed. This was due to Wizard Leo's usage of Darkness Eye, for his control of Water Element was even stronger than Wizard Morston's control.

Therefore, Wizard Leo could easily disperse Morston's water veil. A Defensive spell of unparalleled strength, which was able to block the attack from the third form of Wizard Leo's Darkness Eye, was easily erased by Wizard Leo just like that.

Furthermore, in the face of the fourth form of Darkness Eye, it was futile to try casting any spells for Wizard Leo was in control of all Elements!

Perhaps only those powerful Ninth-level Wizards or Great Wizards, by relying on their tremendous mastery of the Elements, could counter the control of Elements exerted by the fourth form of Darkness Eye.

The water veil surrounding Wizard Morston was dispelled immediately. Wizard Leo's Darkness Eye had stripped away the Water Element. Therefore, Wizard Bammou grabbed this rare and hard-won opportunity to quickly cast his Eighth-level Fire-type spell.

"Whoosh whoosh whoosh..."

Wizard Bammou's flames began to burn vigorously, becoming increasingly powerful. Wizard Morston had no Defensive spells left. Even if he wanted to cast it again, all Elements have been removed by Wizard Leo's Darkness Eye. He could not squeeze out any spells at all.

At this point, a terrified expression had washed over Wizard Morston's face, and he roared, "Tanin, save me! Leo won't be able to maintain the fourth form of Darkness Eye for very long!"

There was still Wizard Tanin. In fact, Wizard's Morston's reminder was unnecessary. Wizard Tanin had already made his move, and his first response was to cast a Binding spell.

"Darkness Eye, control!"

Wizard Leo pointed lightly with one finger. Instantly, his entire body seemed to dry up, and he appeared incomparably withered. His life force was also rapidly diminishing.

At the same time, Darkness Eye in Wizard Leo's forehead flourished in its might, and a high-pitched whine even rang out faintly.

Presently, Merlin felt that Darkness Eye seemed to have "come alive" and was largely different from its previous listless appearance. Based on Wizard Leo's appearance, Merlin was afraid that he had paid a huge price this time in order to exhibit the fourth form of Darkness Eye twice in a row.

With Darkness Eye in control of all Elements, Wizard Tanin was unable to cast any spells. Even if he cast one, the Elements would be controlled instantly by Wizard Leo's Darkness Eye, and the



spell would be dispelled straight away. Hence, Wizard Bammou seized this chance to attack. The flames around him split into two and raged toward Wizard Morston and Wizard Tanin.

This was Wizard Bammou's strongest power. His Eighth-level Fire-type spell had persevered back when he was in the Flame Prison. It was no longer an ordinary Eighth-level spell and could be considered a spell that was marked by the Maxim's power.

A spell like this did not need to use much power in dealing with two Eighth-level Spell Casters who had no Defensive spells at all. The robes they were wearing were burned to ashes immediately, and their anguished screeches could be heard from the blaze.

Tanin and Morston, two Eighth-level Spell Casters who had run amuck for centuries, had now died at the hands of Wizard Leo. In other words, they could not have killed these two powerful Eighth-level Spell Casters without Wizard Leo.

"It's a shame that their rings were reduced to ashes. Otherwise, we could have gotten the treasures that these two had plundered over the years."

Wizard Bammou saw that Morston and Tanin had been turned to ashes, and spoke somewhat regretfully. His Eighth-level spell had been too powerful that even the sturdy Spatial Rings were unable to withstand it. Thus, as it eliminated Wizard Morston and Wizard Tanin, it destroyed the Spatial Rings as well.

"Haha, Tanin and Morston are dead. Fourth Wizard, can you still escape?"

Merlin could now turn away and check on the rest of the battlefield. The first thing he saw was that Morston and Tanin were both burned to ashes by Bammou's flames, and he could not help but cry out.

The fourth prince had been relying upon Wizards Tanin and Morston. It was because of these powerful Eighth-level Spell Casters that the fourth prince had thought that victory was in his grasp. However, now that Tanin and Morston were both dead, it was over. Many Spell Casters who were initially following the fourth prince began to hesitate, and some even retreated stealthily.

"There's no hope left. I didn't think that Darkness Eye of the legends would be so strong. Wizard Leo has really proven himself to be the powerful Spell Caster who could hunt down a genius of Ozmu!"

“The fourth prince is defeated, and it’s a crushing defeat at that. There’s no chance for a recovery. With Wizard Leo around, no one can contend against his Darkness Eye. In addition, there’s that mysterious and formidable Seventh-level Spell Caster. The Eighth-level spell he created could even overcome Wizard Morston’s Eighth-level spell. Who else under the fourth prince could ward them off?”

“All is lost for the fourth prince. We’d better leave first...”

Initially, the fourth prince was still at an advantage in general, but after the deaths of Wizard Morston and Wizard Tanin, these Spell Casters had no fight left in them anymore. They each cast their spells and escaped while they could.

These Spell Casters had sided with the fourth prince in order to receive certain benefits. Now that they saw the fourth prince had no hope of triumph, these not-so-loyal Spell Casters would naturally not throw away their lives in vain.

“Master, let me help you.”

Wizard Bammou saw that Merlin was still fighting to the end with the fourth Wizard, and appeared beside Merlin in a flash. He instantly conjured a sea of fire, and after compressing the flames, shot them ferociously toward the fourth Wizard.

Perhaps Wizard Bammou was somewhat disadvantaged when he was handling Wizard Tanin and Wizard Morston, but it was a piece of cake to kill a Sixth-level Spell Caster like the fourth Wizard.

The flames engulfed the fourth Wizard. Before he could even cry out, the fourth Wizard who had spent so long battling Merlin was reduced to ashes.

Merlin swept his gaze across the battlefield. The eighth prince’s forces seemed to be unstoppable. Many Spell Casters began to strike back as if with no regard for their lives, and the balance of victory shifted in favor of the eighth prince.

Moreover, they still had Wizard Bammou!

“Bammou, get rid of the strongest Spell Casters under the fourth prince one by one!”

Merlin commanded Wizard Bammou. Wizard Bammou relied upon Flash Wind and the Eighth-level Fire-type spell and undoubtedly became one of the key factors influencing the outcome of this war.

Furthermore, since Wizard Tanin and Morston were both dead, there was no one in the fourth prince's camp who could defend against Wizard Bammou.

“Swish.”

Merlin did not continue picking another opponent but instead flew to Wizard Leo's side.

“Teacher Leo, are you alright?”

Merlin gently supported Leo. Although they had Bammou who was like a one-man army, the one who actually turned the tide of the battle and ensured victory was Wizard Leo.

If it was not for Wizard Leo's fourth form of Darkness Eye and immediate termination of Wizard Tanin and Morston's spell which was fused with Pandora Demon Ability, there would have been no one who could hold back these two powerful Wizards.

Nevertheless, even Merlin could see that Wizard Leo had paid much too great a price for unleashing the fourth form of Darkness Eye. Currently, Wizard Leo seemed to have deteriorated by a decade in an instant, and even his life force appeared feeble.

What made Merlin even more alarmed was that Darkness Eye in Wizard Leo's forehead was emanating an active life force. Darkness Eye seemed to have “come alive” from its “lifeless stillness” in an instant.

Chapter 348: Fulfilling a Promise I

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Presently, Wizard Leo had already displayed four forms of Darkness Eye – delude, exterminate, disintegrate, and control. The fourth form controlled the Elements including the spells cast by Wizard Morston and Wizard Tanin, two Eighth-level Spell Casters, overcoming those spells in an instant. The great power of Darkness Eye was displayed before everyone.

However, very few people knew that Darkness Eye was a cursed power. Besides Wizard Bammou who had mentioned that before, even the eighth prince had said it – Darkness Eye was a cursed power to anyone who cultivated it, other than the Great Legend of Darkness, Wizard Oflas himself. There was not a single Spell Caster who had cultivated it successfully as most had died a violent death due to all sorts of mishaps.

Merlin also knew of the rumors that Darkness Eye was a cursed power, so after perceiving the changes of Darkness Eye in Wizard Leo's forehead, he had immediately shifted his guard.

“Merlin, give me Darkness-type elemental crystal stones. I need a colossal number of those stones, as many as you have!”

Wizard Leo's current situation was not a favorable one. His entire body looked like a wizened corpse, which was terrifying.

Merlin immediately sought all the Darkness-type elemental crystal stones in his ring and handed them to Wizard Leo. These Darkness-type elemental crystal stones each turned into a black mist. There seemed to be a whirlpool within Wizard Leo's body, frantically gobbling up all these elemental crystal stones.

As Wizard Leo was frantically consuming the Darkness-type elemental crystal stones, his Darkness Eye in his forehead bulged outward as if it wanted to break free from Wizard Leo's forehead.

“Seal!”

Wizard Leo's eyes opened and his hands flickered with intense Darkness Elemental fluctuations, following which he slammed his palms upon his forehead. Bursts of dazzling crimson and black light instantly distorted and weaved around each other.

Only after a long moment did Wizard Leo gradually release his hands. In his forehead, Darkness Eye had calmed down for now, but Wizard Leo seemed to have aged by many years, and his energy levels were far from what they were when he first arrived in the Imperial City.

It was to an extent where his terrifying appearance, resembling a dried corpse, would make anyone shudder at his sight.

Wizard Leo shook his head slightly, saying in a soft, self-mocking tone, “Ah, a cursed power... I was nearly unable to subdue it earlier. For the Tear of God, a bit of risk is worth it!”

Wizard Leo’s eyes lighted up at the thought of the Tear of God. His display of the fourth form of Darkness Eye this time around had cost him more than when he had fought against Osseus.

At that time, Wizard Leo had sacrificed an arm. This time, although he did not seem injured, in truth, Wizard Leo had suffered a greater loss. Ordinary folks would never know what price Wizard Leo ultimately had to pay in order to unleash the fourth form of Darkness Eye.

However, Wizard Leo was willing to make such a big sacrifice for the sake of the Tear of God. As long as the Tear of God truly served its purpose, allowing him to alleviate the defects of cultivating Darkness Eye and become a Seventh-level Spell Caster, then that would be his biggest reward. No matter what the price was, it would be worth it.

“Swoosh.”

Wizard Leo stood up abruptly. His body frame, as withered as a skeleton, was only shrouded by a thin robe. Wizard Leo had ended up like this because of the price he paid for forcibly activating the fourth form of Darkness Eye.

The situation of the current battlefield had undergone a fundamental shift. Many Spell Casters under the fourth prince’s command had either escaped or were killed. Overall, there were only a scattered few who were still resisting.

This was even more so with Wizard Bammou constantly “wiping out” their opponents. Anywhere that Wizard Bammou arrived at, there were no Spell Casters or forces that could defend against him.

Flames were raging everywhere. Other than the two Eighth-level Spell Casters, Wizard Morston and Wizard Tanin, the most powerful ones under the fourth prince were the first, second, and third Wizard. However, at the moment they were nowhere to be seen.

“Bammou!”

Merlin used the slave contract to summon Wizard Bammou.

“Master!”

Wizard Bammou glanced at Merlin and called out respectfully.

“Where are the first, second, and third Wizards under the fourth prince’s command?”

These three Wizards were Seventh-level Spell Casters, and Merlin did not see their bodies lying around anywhere. Therefore, Merlin had asked as Seventh-level Spell Casters were rather remarkable and would be valued by any spell casters’ organization.

Upon hearing this, Bammou could only smile bitterly. “Master, the first, second, and third Wizards were rather shrewd. Before I could get to them, they had already fled.”

“They’ve fled?”

Merlin was somewhat startled. Nonetheless, after some thoughts, it seemed reasonable. Three Seventh-level Spell Casters would form a formidable force, but once they face Wizard Leo and Bammou, it would not be enough.

The fourth prince had lost beyond hope. It would be utter idiocy to die here for the fourth prince!

“It’s just as well that they’ve fled. It saves us lots of trouble. Let’s go, there’s only the fourth prince left!”

Merlin saw that most of the Spell Casters under the eighth prince had begun gathering, silently watching the battle between the fourth prince and the eighth prince from a distance.

Although the two princes were merely Sixth-level Spell Casters, they had already constructed the strongest spells of the royal family and cultivated Pandora Demon Abilities. Therefore, the might of their battle was in no way inferior to Seventh-level Spell Casters, and most Spell Casters would not dare approach.

Only Wizard Bammou, Wizard Leo, and those three Seventh-level Spell Casters could go slightly nearer. As for Merlin, he used Pandora Demon Ability, Fuse Earth to cast Perfect Armor, and could just about stand with Wizard Leo and the rest.

Countless pairs of eyes watched the fourth prince, yet he seemed utterly oblivious to his situation as his body flickered with an icy force. The eighth prince, on the other hand, had a whistling gale in addition to a devastating blaze and appeared awe-inspiring as well.

Presently, the two princes were evenly matched, and neither could outsmart the other. It was obvious that they were familiar with the spells and Pandora Demon Abilities that the other one had constructed and cultivated. As they battled, they each saw through each other's powers.

Therefore, other than causing a huge commotion, in reality, neither prince was really injured.

"Fourth Brother, you've lost!"

The eighth prince stood in mid-air. He knew the situation of the battlefield like the back of his hand. Wizard Leo had unleashed his extraordinary might, defeating Wizard Morston and Wizard Tanin in one blow. This was key to turning the tide of the entire battle.

From that moment on, the fourth prince was doomed to lose!

The fourth prince swept his gaze quickly across the battlefield. He could not see any of the Spell Casters under his command. There were those who had fled and those who had been killed. It had been a favorable situation, yet now things had descended to such a stage.

Before he had set off on this journey, the fourth prince had never thought that it would end like this.

"You're right, I've lost! This is the fate of us descendants of the royal family... Haha..."

The fourth prince began to laugh like a maniac. The struggle for the throne was ruthless. It was just like when Bhutto XVI had ascended the throne – who knew how much royal blood was on his hands?

“Hum...”

Flames began to flare up ferociously on the fourth prince. In the soaring flames, the laughter of the fourth prince rang out across the forest, and even seemed to reach the square...

“Is that the fourth prince?”

Bhutto XVI suddenly raised his head and looked off in a certain direction, his face filled with complicated emotions.

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The raging blaze crackled as it incinerated the fourth prince. The eighth prince looked on with a complex expression at the fourth prince who was submerged in flames. This was the fate of descendants of the royal family. The moment he had chosen to fight for the throne, he had already made this decision.

Only he was now the victor!

“The eighth prince! The fourth prince is dead, and it’s time for Your Royal Highness to fulfill the promise!”

Suddenly, Wizard Leo spoke in a raspy voice.

Wizard Leo seemed to have turned into a bag of bones. The hoarser his voice became, the more piercing it was.

The eighth prince’s face shifted slightly, but thereafter, he broke out into a smile. “Of course. Our great victory this time around is all thanks to Wizard Leo’s mighty display of power, defeating Morston and Tanin. Otherwise, I’m afraid that the one reduced to ashes in the flames would have been me!”

The eighth prince eyed the ashes that the fourth prince had become. He knew very well that the forces of the fourth prince initially had the upper hand, but the final outcome was the eighth prince’s victory. A crucial factor of this reversal of fortune was Wizard Leo’s sudden explosion of power.



Darkness Eye was a special Pandora Demon Ability of the legends. As expected, it was a strange, mysterious, and inscrutable power. Not even the eighth prince, who had an understanding of Darkness Eye, had thought that it would be so powerful.

The eighth prince was even somewhat tempted by Darkness Eye. However, upon looking at Wizard Leo's current ugly appearance, which was neither a man nor a ghost, the eighth prince shook his head. Admittedly, Darkness Eye was powerful, but it was ultimately a cursed power. Any Spell Caster who cultivated Darkness Eye would not end up well.

The exception to this was the Legend of Darkness, the Great Wizard Oflas, who had created Darkness Eye. Therefore, even if the eighth prince was tempted by the might of Darkness Eye, he would not cultivate it.

The resources of the royal family were deep and extensive. It was not like there were no special Pandora Demon Abilities that were comparable to Darkness Eye. However, the eighth prince was presently just a prince and had no access to the deepest secrets of the royal family. Only when he became king and held that position of power would he be able to acquire the full legacy of the royal family.

“This is the Tear of God!”

The eighth prince drew in a deep breath and took out the Tear of God. To other people, the Tear of God would be a pretty ornament at best, but to Wizard Leo, who suffered from defects caused by the cultivation of Darkness Eye, it was a priceless treasure.

Wizard Leo immediately extended a withered arm and grasped the Tear of God. He swept his Mind Power across it and quickly placed it in his ring.

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Chapter 349: Fulfilling a Promise I

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## Chapter 350: Fulfilling a Promise II

In the royal forest, the hunting had ended. King Bhutto XVI, sitting high on his throne, looked down at the crowd of aristocrats, and slowly said, “Marquis Wilsen!”

A middle-aged aristocrat immediately came forward from the crowd, bowing slightly toward Bhutto XVI. “Your Honorable Majesty, Wilsen is here!”

“Very well, Marquis Wilsen. You’ve killed the elk king. According to the rules, you’ve achieved victory – naturally, you must be rewarded. I hear that you have two sons, and one of them will be unable to inherit your title. In that case, I bestow upon your second son the non-hereditary title of viscount!”

Bhutto XVI immediately granted him the title of viscount. This was no mere label. The aristocrats of the Kingdom of Blackmoon possessed tremendous privileges, and almost every aristocrat had a corresponding territory.

This possession of territory was at the root of the aristocracy. A viscount, even if a non-hereditary title, meant a rather large fief. To the Wilsen clan, this was incredible news.

Thus, Marquis Wilsen was overjoyed to hear this, and said gratefully to Bhutto XVI, “I thank Your Majesty’s generosity!”

There were many who envied Wilsen. He was merely lucky enough to kill the elk king and did not contribute much to the kingdom, yet he received an aristocratic title.

“Huh? Where’s His Royal Highness the fourth prince?”

“That’s right. I’ve seen His Royal Highness the fourth prince leading some people in a majestic manner into the forest. Surely they are alright?”



Some of the uninformed people, upon discovering that there was no trace of the fourth prince, began discussing in low voices.

Bhutto XVI furrowed his brow slightly and looked toward the eighth prince. He inquired slowly, “The eighth prince, have you seen the fourth prince?”

The eighth prince’s expression remained the same as he looked deep into the eyes of Bhutto XVI. Following that, he replied calmly, “Your Majesty, His Royal Highness the fourth prince encountered some ferocious beasts in the forest, and in a moment of carelessness, lost his footing. He fell off his horse, and died...”

There were so many far-fetched flaws in this story. The fourth prince was a splendid Sixth-level Spell Caster and was surrounded by so many powerful Spell Casters. How could he have fallen to his death from his horse due to a mere encounter with a wild beast?

However, even with such a reply full of loopholes, Bhutto XVI nodded his head slowly, and let out a long sigh. “Guards! Search for the body of the fourth prince, and bury him in the royal mausoleum!”

With that, Bhutto XVI left Kingswood under the protection of many guards and Spell Casters. As he passed by the eighth prince, a complicated light flashed in his eyes.

The eighth prince looked at Bhutto XVI’s departing figure, and mumbled, “Back then, Father had eliminated the other princes one by one and finally ascended the throne. This is the fate of us descendants of the royal family, a fate we can never escape...”

There was also blood on Bhutto XVI’s hands. In the beginning, he had gone through a similar process. Of course, he would understand that the outcome of the battle between the fourth prince and the eighth prince had been determined.

Although he was the king of the Kingdom of Blackmoon and had great power, Bhutto XVI had no authority in the matter of selecting his successor, and could not even intervene.

This was because the ones who determined the final candidate for the throne were the group of elders of the royal family, made up of the strongest individuals throughout generations of the royal family. They were the ones who decided on the candidate together, and not even Bhutto XVI could interfere.

Thus, even if the eighth prince and the fourth prince, and the subsequent ninth and thirteenth princes, and so on, wanted to kill each other, Bhutto XVI's hands were tied. He could only pay them no mind, and let the chips fall where they might, silently waiting out his final five years on the throne.

...

In the great hall of the eighth prince's manor, two rows of seats were filled with Spell Casters. On the right, Wizard Leo was at the head, after which sat Merlin, Wizard Bammou, and other Spell Casters.

This seating was not by accident, and it was not just anyone who could take these seats. Merlin and Wizard Leo were able to sit near the front naturally because the eighth prince had determined their capabilities and ranking.

"Everyone, the fourth prince is dead. In the entire Imperial City, there are no more members of the royal family who pose a threat to me. This time, I have to thank Wizard Leo in particular. I believe that everyone has witnessed that if it wasn't for Wizard Leo's mighty display of power which salvaged our desperate situation, I'm afraid we would've been in grave danger."

The eighth prince directed his gaze at Wizard Leo. Although Wizard Leo now appeared to be just skin and bones, no Spell Caster dared to look down on him. Even Morston and Tanin, these two Eighth-level Spell Casters of impressive reputation, were dead. Although it was not Wizard Leo who killed them, he was the main reason for their deaths.

"It was because of Wizard Bammou that we were able to avoid having too many casualties. Many Spell Casters were saved by Wizard Bammou's appearance. Wizard Bammou is Wizard Merlin's aide, therefore, we couldn't have achieved our great victory today without Wizard Bammou and Wizard Merlin!"

A strange light flickered in the eighth prince's eye. He had been somewhat surprised that Merlin had a Seventh-level Spell Caster as his aide. Furthermore, this Seventh-level Spell Caster appeared rather extraordinary. He had constructed an Eighth-level spell, and thus had the chance of becoming an Eighth-level Wizard.

A Seventh-level Spell Caster with the possibility of becoming an Eighth-level Spell Caster... Wizards of such Spell Caster Quality were usually at the high-level core of spell casters'

organizations. However, Bammou was willing to be Merlin's aide and followed Merlin. This also made Merlin seem to be full of mystery.

Following that, the eighth prince rewarded each Spell Caster. The eighth prince's overwhelming victory this time around would result in these Spell Casters benefiting even more in the future.

Nonetheless, Merlin and Leo did not publicly receive any such rewards. For Leo, he had already acquired the Tear of God, and he required nothing else.

As for Merlin's reward, the eighth prince would need to spend some time to fulfill it.

"Wizard Merlin, we're still gathering the potion materials you need, and will likely still require some time."

The eighth prince smiled as he spoke. After defeating his mortal enemy, the fourth prince, the eighth prince had recovered his confidence and emanated a subtle dignity.

Merlin shook his head and replied calmly, "It doesn't matter if the potion materials arrive late, but as for the royal Spell Library..."

As soon as Merlin mentioned the royal Spell Library, the eighth prince frowned. This matter would be difficult to carry out, but since he had promised Merlin from the start, he would need to carry it out no matter how difficult it was.

Thus, the eighth prince gritted his teeth. "Be rest assured, Wizard Merlin, I'll surely gain you entry into the Spell Library! There's no time to lose – let's go and try now. Wizard Merlin, please follow me."

Merlin felt a rush of glee and stood up to take his leave. In a rare instance, Wizard Leo advised him, "That's right, Merlin. The collection in the Spell Library of the royal family is even more extensive than what we have in the Dark Magic Region. You must seize this chance. I'll try using the Tear of God in the manor to resolve my own afflictions, so I might need a while."

Following that, Wizard Leo got up and left the hall right away, heading toward the anechoic chamber the eighth prince had prepared for him.

“If Wizard Leo could level up to a Seventh-level Spell Caster, I shall become even more powerful!”

The eighth prince looked at Wizard Leo’s departing figure and was filled with satisfaction. Wizard Leo was currently already so powerful. If he could break through and become a Seventh-level Spell Caster, would he not be even stronger?

Although the fourth prince had been defeated, it did not mean that the eighth prince could rest easy. There were still the ninth prince and the thirteenth prince. They had not given up on the idea of fighting for the throne, and a battle sometime in the future was inevitable.

Therefore, the stronger Wizard Leo was, the more of an advantage the eighth prince would have. He too hoped that Wizard Leo would be successful in using the Tear of God to alleviate his ailments.

“I hope Teacher Leo would be able to successfully heal his afflictions...”

Merlin silently wished Wizard Leo well. He had never cultivated Darkness Eye and did not know what flaw it was in its cultivation that resulted in Wizard Leo being unable to become a Seventh-level Spell Caster until now.

Now, he saw that Wizard Leo looked somewhat excited since he had the Tear of God. There should be a slight hope that he could level up to a Seventh-level Spell Caster.

“Wizard Merlin, let’s go as well.”

The eighth prince brought Merlin away from the manor. They boarded a magnificent horse carriage and gradually made their way toward the Palace.

On the horse carriage, Merlin and the eighth prince exchanged a few simple words. Those potion materials were not an issue for the eighth prince to fulfill his promise. On the contrary, the difficult part was the Spell Library.

After all, the Spell Library was only open to members of the royal family, so only the eighth prince could enter. If he wanted to bring in an outsider, he would need the approval of the king.

For something like this, even if the eighth prince went and beseeched Bhutto XVI, it was likely that he would not receive the approval.

“Eighth prince, how are you going to gain me entry into the Spell Library?”

Merlin could not help but ask. He did not think that it would be so difficult to enter the Spell Library and that one would need the permission of Bhutto XVI to bring in outsiders.

“Don’t worry about that. All that matters is I’ll fulfill my promise!”

The eighth prince gave Merlin a profound look. He had learned that Merlin was able to face the fourth and fifth Wizard by himself. Furthermore, Merlin had Wizard Bammou as his aide, who was a Wizard at the peak of the Seventh-level, and was able to take on Eighth-level Wizards.

With this kind of power, Merlin would naturally ascend quickly in rank in the eyes of the eighth prince and become second only to Wizard Leo.

Therefore, although it was difficult to enter the Spell Library and any other members of the royal family would be at their wits’ end, to the eighth prince, it was more achievable.

It was just that if he really wanted to let Merlin enter the Spell Library, he would have to use up that one “promise”. The eighth prince was still evaluating if Merlin was worth such a “promise”.

“Merlin himself has powerful capabilities. In addition to Bammou and his relationship with Wizard Leo...”

Countless thoughts flashed across the eighth prince’s mind. Soon enough, he had decided. With Merlin’s current strength, in addition to his connection to Wizard Leo, he could, in fact, be considered the strongest force on the eighth prince’s side.

Merlin’s importance was self-evident! Therefore, even if he had to sacrifice that “promise”, it was worth it to gain Merlin an entry into the Spell Library.