

A Ghost 601

Chapter 601 Hidden Boss Key

I had acquired three wonderful items from conquering the dungeon, or whatever, and even a fourth one in the key.

[Random Item Box (C Grade)] x5

A Random Item Box containing up to C Grade Materials of all types, which can be used for Alchemy and Crafting, or even Cooking! Once opened, a roulette will begin, press the button to get what you want. Be careful, the roulette goes very fast.

[Magic Potion of Wizardly (B Grade)] x5

A Special Potion crafted with top tier ingredients which can permanently increase MP and Magic by 100 up to 1000 when drank. Cannot be used as material for ingredients, if used, it will explode.

[Grimoire of Dark Reign (B+ Grade)] x1

A Special Grimoire left behind by the Ancient Black Dragon, Dark Reign. A powerful Black Dragon that inhabits the Svartalfheim Continent. His knowledge over Dark Magic and the depth of the Abyss knows no bounds.

By reading this Grimoire and comprehending its wisdom and then using it as an item, Darkness Attribute Damage increases by +10% permanently, and Comprehension over Darkness Magic increases greatly. There's a 50% chance for a 3 random Dark Attribute Magic Skills to Level up from 1 to 5 levels, and a 10% for them to Evolve into greater Skills.

I consumed the potion of wizardly, increasing my MP and Magic, and then I tried to read the damn Grimoire... But the very first time I tried to read it... I found this dragon was a big chuunibyou. All he wrote was done extremely edgy. It gave me a lot of cringe, and I felt like wanting to kill myself even when I was already dead. This dragon would certainly be an interesting person to meet face to face one day.

Anyways, reading this out loud will be extremely cringe, so I'll just read it silently inside of my own Soul Scape. Thankfully it is more than possible to use my own consciousness, divide it, and read it inside of my Soul Scape with nobody there to look at me and laugh at the cringe-worthy thing I'm reading.

And as I began reading it within there, I already started to feel weirder and weirder. Is this how you fall into the abyss of darkness?! Dark Reign, you're a strange fellow!

....However, it also helped me learn a bunch of new stuff. First of all, Dragons got their own Elemental Progenitors! Dark Reign, a Dark Dragon, has a Progenitor named Svartalf.

I wonder what the progenitors of Lucifer are and Brunhild... I guess they're fire dragons, so a fire progenitor? They're like gods or something? I think I heard from them that they died in the war of the gods long, long ago. Or something, perhaps some remain alive for all I know.

After all, if they're alive why wouldn't the other guys be alive then?! Right? It makes total sense that some of our dragon progenitors might be alive!

...I hope.

Dark Reign doesn't specify anything, he just says he's the descendant of her. Oh, wait a moment. He's not a dragon like Lucifer or Brunhild at all. This guy's a direct son of the dragon progenitor!

This means Dark Reign's a Divine Dragon, a Dragon God! If the creator of this weird book I got is still alive, then perhaps there might be other Dragon Gods out there, somewhere.

Anyways, let's check the key now...

[Swamp Dungeon's Hidden Boss Key (A Grade)] x1

A Special Key designed by the Swamp Dungeon Core, which allows for the summon of the powerful Hidden Dungeon Boss, a monstrous being of many heads and a monstrous appetite. Riches await those that dare to fight it and manage to defeat it.

Huh, straight to the point I see. It looks pretty interesting. I have to admit it. Maybe we can do this later, right? After we enjoy a nice meal because I am actually starving right now. I need me some food to satiate this endless void inside my soul... Or how it's usually called, [Phantasmal Stomach].

Anyways, I might as well open the Random Boxes for now... I grabbed them and then simply touched them, the boxes opened in an instant and suddenly a roulette appeared, with several items spinning around it.

"Huh, I wonder if there's a way to cheat this?" I wondered while thinking about it. "Well, let's just try my luck for once."

F L A S H! FLASH! F L A S H! FLASH! F L A S H!

I just pressed the roulettes buttons and then ended them all five at the same time. Several items emerged out of the roulettes, as the entire box disappeared into particles of light.

The items materialized in front of me after that.

Ding!

[You opened a Random Item Box!]

[You acquired [White Spirit Tree Branch (C Grade)] x1!]

Ding!

[You opened a Random Item Box!]

[You acquired [Solar Stone (D Grade)] x1!]

Ding!

[You opened a Random Item Box!]

[You acquired [Mysterious Potion (??? Grade)] x1!]

Ding!

[You opened a Random Item Box!]

[You acquired [Underworld Jackal's Fangs (C Grade)] x1!]

Ding!

[You opened a Random Item Box!]

[You acquired [Fire Elemental Orb (D Grade)] x1!]

Wow, they were really all just random. But I guess the first one seems interesting, a White Branch from a Spirit Tree, huh? Maybe I can get something nice out of it. Perhaps if I plant it at home, a special white spirit tree could sprout out?

Though my Alchemy senses are telling me to wait before using them and to save them for now... It might come in handy in the near future for all I know.

And just as I was halfway through reading the book of Dark Reign (yes, my reading speed is hundreds of times that of my human self), I was drawn by the smell of grilled fish and salamander meat. Brunhild's started a big bonfire using her fire breath so Lucifer and her quickly started cooking the meat.

"Ah, this smells nice..."

Chapter 602 Summoning The Dungeon's Hidden Boss

"You're finally back. Come on, let's eat something together before leaving." Lucifer said with a welcoming smile.

"Mama!" Nyx flew to my side and hugged my head with her tiny arms.

"Nyx, did you got rewards too?" I wondered.

"Nom nom!" She said.

"Ah... I guess you ate them? Were they even edible?" I sighed.

"She seems to be alright." Brunhild said. "I think she's okay."

She quickly offered me a plate with a big piece of fish. This meat was that of nobody else than the Ruler of the Swamp. Once detoxified, it turned pure white once grilled, with some sea salt and a bit of garlic and butter, it ended tasting delicious.

"Hmmm! So soft! And it is rather sweet as well! I can't believe this meat belonged to the ugly fish I beat down..." I sighed in relief.

"Hey! Give me some of that as well!" Tyr complained, appearing at my side.

"Eeeh? No! This is mine!" I quickly tried to drive him off.

"Here's some for you as well Tyr." Brunhild served Tyr his own plate, as he opened his strange jaws and began munching on the fish.

"UOOOHHH! This taste... I am actually tasting things!" He cried in happiness.

"You couldn't before?" I asked.

"Of course not! One of the strange things that happened to my body once Loki corrupted it with his Chaos was that I couldn't have any sense of taste, everything tasted like sludge to me..." He sighed. "Somehow, being in this spirit form really makes food taste incredible..."

"Interesting..." I nodded, while eating the fish with some baked potatoes they handed to me.

"So we just conquered the dungeon..." Helga sighed. "This is bound to make waves around the entire country... Maybe we should keep this a secret."

"Although I would love to just make everyone envy us, it is better to just not cause a fuss." Blackard agreed.

"Eeeh? But that's boring!" I said angrily. "We're telling everyone! The more they know how strong we are, the better our guild will be respected. You guys can't think about that?"

"Yeah but it will also make everything a fuss, and we'll get annoyed all the time..." Helga sighed.

"R-Right..." I realized. "But is there another way then?"

"A newbie guild doing all of that... It is bound to not fare well with the rest. They'll be suspicious and people may even try to target us." Blackard said.

"That much!?" I asked in surprise. "Okay, let's keep it a secret then... what a drag."

We talked about various things while having lunch in this bonfire, we got to rest for a while, until I decided to drop the bombshell.

"Hey so I just got a key to go to a hidden boss, is anyone up for the challenge?" I wondered.

Everyone looked at me with eyes wide open.

"H-Hidden Boss?!" Helga asked.

"We've never heard of that!" Blackard added.

"Maria, is this true?" Lucifer wondered.

"Yeah, it's true! I think the monster might be pretty strong, the key is A Grade." I said with a nod. "How about we go for it after we're done eating?"

"Hmm... Maybe, we didn't really do much aside from beating those weak monsters." Lucifer seemed up for the challenge.

"Uuuh, I don't know if I want to, but I guess there's not much option if you really want to do it." Sighed Emeraldine.

"Sure! Let's go beat that thing right away!" Partner was excited.

"Nice! I want to try fighting a hidden boss!" Takeshi agreed.

"Me too, we'll keep our distance." Laura said.

"Mama!" Nyx wanted to fight as well, but I don't know if I can let a baby do it.

Then again, she'll definitely end up going with us for tomorrow's dungeon, I doubt anybody can really contain her... Well, I'll use a Phantom Clone to keep her in the back.

"And about you guys?" I asked.

"Nope, we can't do this." Helga sighed. "I have children and... I am not up for the risk.

"Y-Yeah, we better stay out of it." Blackard said.

"No doubt about it."

"There's no way we can do it."

"We are better off waiting outside if you don't mind."

"Well that's okay, I don't want you to risk your lives in vain. For now let's finish eating and then we go beat a hidden boss really quick, this time no holding back! Let's see how truly strong we've all grown! Root, you're also fighting!" I said.

"Let's fight a big monster, gyugyuh!" Root was celebrating while flying around in his Spirit Embodiment form.

Like that, when we finished having a feast, we were all prepared and ready. The only one that was feeling slightly unwilling was Emeraldine.

"You don't really have to do this if you don't want to." I told her. "Relax."

"Eeehh... But if I don't go, then I'll miss all the fun." She sighed. "Don't worry, I'll be going, but let's finish this quickly, okay? I want to go rest, take a warm bath and get all this swamp smell away from my body..."

"Ah, I understand that perfectly well." Brunhild agreed. "Alright everyone! Let's get this done quickly."

FLAAASH!

Her small humanoid form quickly changed, as an enormously tall and beautiful red scaled dragoness emerged, her wings stretched further, as blazing flames emerged from them.

"Yeah, let's do this for real now, no holding back!" Lucifer smiled maliciously.

FLAAASH!

His humanoid form quickly changed, a gloriously evil-looking three-eyed death dragon emerged from the black lightning, just as tall as his big sister, with enormous black wings and a third red-colored eye.

"Gyuh!"

FLAAASH!

And even Root joined the fray, his small Spirit Embodiment Form changing into that of a gigantic Walking Tree. I used my Phantasmal Aura to help him levitate off the ground, his gigantic form truly made him resemble a guardian.

"Alright then, we're ready, let's do this!"

I quickly took out the key I acquired from my Inventory, using it right away, as an enormous portal in the middle of the empty air opened. And from within, a gigantic being emerged, reaching the swamp.

SPLAAAAASH!

Its enormous body was so big its legs reached the bottom of the swamp easily. The enormous beast was as tall as Lucifer and Brunhild, but it had five enormous and long snake-like heads, and a scale-covered wingless dragon-like body.

"That's... A Hydra!"

Chapter 603 Five Headed Tyrant Hydra

"GRUOOOHHHHHH...!"

An enormous Monster stood before our path, the creature covered most of the swamp, and its five heads looked at us with its ten eyes. The monster had four legs and a long tail, while having five heads. It was wingless yet it really looked like a very fat four-legged dragon.

Each head resembled that of a snake, with equally long necks and sharp fangs filled with deadly poison. The beast looked quite literally ready to bring destruction to this entire Dungeon. Whoever this Dungeon Core is, it is really quite insane to ask us to beat something like this on our own...

Well, of course, that would be if we were any weaker than now.

[Displaying Status...]

[Status has been upgraded, Weaknesses can now be detected within the Status of an Appraised Monster.]

[Five Headed Tyrant Hydra: Lv89] [Rank: A+++] [Status: Furious, Hungry]

[Description]: A monstrous aberration that was mistakenly summoned by the Demon Core due to a Mana overdrive decades ago. It was uncontrollable and enormously strong and devastated any monster it found. The Dungeon Core sealed this beast to contain it, but sealing it away drained more Mana than it should. Now, the Dungeon Core has freed this monster, hoping for someone strong enough to defeat it.

It has five powerful heads which can regenerate almost instantly. The power to unleash a deadly venom breath, fire breath, wind breath, ice breath, and darkness breath, and insane defenses with its draconic scales. However, it is extremely sluggish and cannot move that quickly.

Weakness: Behind the five heads there's its actual brain, destroy the scales and reach its brain, destroying it would stop its regeneration and the beast will die.

[Skills]: [Draconic Magic Reflecting Scales] [Giant Body] [High Speed Super Regeneration] [Venomous Snake Fangs] [Enormous Crushing Jaws] [Poison Breath] [Fire Breath] [Ice Breath] [Storm Breath] [Darkness Breath] [...]

Oh, what is this?! I can see weaknesses now?!

This is new! And pretty good as well!

"GRUOOOOHHH!"

"GROOOARRRR!"

"RAAAAARRRR!"

"GROOOOORR!"

"GRYYYARRR!"

All five heads roared differently, yet all their roars mixed together into a nightmarish roar that echoed across the entire floor of the dungeon. We made sure nobody was left in here, so we were just us and the boss.

"Everyone, its actual brain is behind its five heads, right over its back. Aim there and try to destroy its spine and brain, that's where all its power is coming from. It's also slow so don't worry about trying to overspeed it." I told everyone.

"Oh, so you can see its weaknesses?" Asked Lucifer in surprise. "Amazing! Very well then... This is going to be fun! Been a while since I've gone all out!"

"Heh, so that's it..." Brunhild smiled. "Lucifer, Maria, let's go charge forward and aim at the brain, everyone else could attack from a distance, and keep the five heads busy?"

"Sounds like a plan." Emeraldine nodded.

"Huh?! I want to charge forward as well!" Said Partner.

"How about you slice its head to entertain it?" I asked her. "You can drink as much blood as you can from it."

"Oooh! Now that sounds interesting!" Partner smiled. Her Blood Aura surged around her as it shaped into a swarm of bats made of blood, lifting her off the ground. Her two spears shining brightly with an evil aura from within.

"Root, stay with us as well, I've got an idea about how we can use your help." I said.

"Got it!" Root transformed into his Spirit form again as it was just easier to move around, especially giving him the ability to fly.

"Then let's do this!" I said with a smile.

With Lucifer, Brunhild, and Root, we rushed forward towards the Hydra, who was slowly walking across the swamp while inspecting for any snacks to eat. If it has been sealed for so long, it was probably very hungry.

"GGRRRRRRHHH!"

The beast's five eyes easily noticed our presence approaching from the skies above, as its five heads opened their jaws in an instant, a multi-elemental breath attack quickly engulfed all of us!

BOOOOOOOMMMMM!!!

However, a combination of my Abyssal Barrier and Lucifer and Brunhild's Draconic Arts named [Dragon Scale Shield] combined together into an enormous shield that easily protected us from the explosion of elements.

"GROOARRRR!"

The Hydra lost its shit as it saw us being untouched, unleashing several more breath attacks, never ending storms of fire, winds, darkness, poison, and ice reached us, as we flew around and tried to reach its back.

The barriers we erected constantly shattered into pieces, as we made our way into the Hydra's back. The bastard was able to easily dislocate its own neck and shoot breaths at us even on its back. And its scales got in our way. My magic wasn't easily piercing through them as they had Magic Reflection abilities, over half of my magic power was reflected when they hit them.

I guess magic reflectors are really a pain, is this common in high ranked monsters? Agh, maybe I could go more all out if this thing wasn't attacking us constantly!

"Here we goooo! Vampiric Arts: [Blood Frenzy]!"

Suddenly, a flash of red light emerged across the skies. Two spears sliced through the Hydra's heads, all five of them at the same time!

SLAAAASH! SLAAAAASH!!!

It was Partner! She was overflowing with red energy, this was the power of her Vampiric Art [Blood Frenzy] that made her go insane like a berserk, while sacrificing her HP as well to drastically boost her stats. The more she sacrificed, the stronger she grew.

Well, she had always been the reckless type of fighter, but this was a rather ultimate move. She'll be all hungry later, I bet.

"GRYYYYAAAGGGH!"

The Hydra agonizingly cried. Its five heads gone! It should had died like that, usually myths go by that rule. But this world had RPG game mechanics, so its HP was still at around 90%! And to make things worse, five more heads began to emerge.

"Gahahahaha! So much blood!"

However, Partner was sure enjoying herself, she was absorbing all the blood coming from the sliced necks before they regenerated, drinking it and then gathering it above the tip of her spears.

"Blood Magic: [Crimson Moon]!"

Chapter 604 Going All-Out!

Partner conjured a powerful Blood Magic spell, a gigantic mass of spiraling Blood Energy appeared atop her spears, as she launched it against the still-regenerating Hydra's heads!

FLAAAASH!

The sphere reached them, flashing with bright red light before exploding!

BOOOOOOOOOOMMMMM!!!

It was a devastating Magic Nuke! I can't believe she has gotten this strong... Although she need tons of Blood to conjure the strongest stuff.

FRSSSSHHHH!

The necks began to be toasted as they had an even harder time regenerating. Meanwhile, Takeshi and Laura combined their powers, wrapping the fishing bait around the Hydra's front leg and then making it explode.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOOMMMMM!!!!

CLAASH!

The Hydra suddenly lost balance, tilting a bit into the swamps.

As all of this happened, Emeraldine, from the distance with Nyx, prepared a powerful arrow imbued with her spirit's powers.

Meanwhile, Nyx was helping in her own unique way, as she began summoning several Phantasmal Dragons with her special Summoning Skill, and then slowly beginning to merge them into something bigger...

And as all of that was happening, we were not just looking at the scene dumbly, we were working our asses off!

"Draconic Arts: Draconic... HELLFIRE!"

Brunhild roared, as her entire body erupted with ridiculous quantities of flames, completely covering her entire surroundings as the Holy Flames she was able to control and conjure consumed the Hydra's scales, melting them away and then shattering them one by one with her powerful fists!

This Draconic Art enhanced her entire body and covered it in so many flames that it made her resemble a being entirely made of fire! I had only seen it once when she fought the Ant Queen, but Brunhild was truly amazingly strong when she went serious!

"And now...! Draconic Arts: Meteor... SMASH!!!"

Brunhild suddenly flew towards the Hydra, reaching the monster in a mere instant as her right arm suddenly was coated with a ridiculous amount of Holy Flames, propelling her fist to move to an even more insane speed and clashing against the Hydra's scales, shattering them in an instant and hitting through the skin!

CLAAAASSSSHHH!!!

FLUOOOSSHH!

An enormous explosion of flames spread further around our surroundings. Her powerful Holy Flames easily giving us all an opening, as Lucifer flew down like a meteor made of darkness, while I began overcharging the palm of my hands with all the Mana I could muster!

"NOW!"

Brunhild gave us the command, as Lucifer attacked first. His entire body was coated in Phantasmal Flames. He could no longer wield his family's Holy Flames, but he had developed his own powers while he grew once more as strong as he was now.

"Draconic Arts: [Underworld's Hellfire]!"

FLUOOOSSSHH!

His body erupted with black flames, not blue ones, which were even stronger than the blue ones and filled with the power of cursing the very soul of his targets. His black flames covered the Hydra's wounds, as a loud explosion continued breaking through the enormous wound while melting the nearby scales.

"Death Scythe!"

His Phantasmal Aura and his Death Black Flames converged together, materializing through his special Skill, which allowed him to summon an enormous scythe that could cut through souls!

"Death Scythe Arts: [Soul Piercing Slash]!"

SLAAAAAASH!

He swung the enormous scythe vertically, slicing through the Hydra's flesh and soul at the same time, and making the beast's entire body suddenly fall down in agony, its head already regenerating began screaming in agony, but too busy dealing with Partner.

Root in the other side shapeshifted his entire body, stretching his roots and branches all over the Hydra and sucking on its vitality and mana constantly, draining it from its total energy and weakening it severely! Thanks to his advanced draining abilities stacking with mine, the Hydra was quickly weakening.

And as this happened, I was ready myself too!

I combined the power of several of my Skills once more.

Chaotic Meteor, Phantasmal Flames, Black Lightning Strike, Dark Storm, and more, and then imbued it all into my gigantic Blade... Yeah, this is my strongest blow, using my hybrid weapon between a sword and a staff...

[Abyssal Necrolord's Accursed Demon Blade (A Grade)]

[Level]: [0/60]

[Durability]: [25000/25000]

[Effects]

[HP]: [+20000]

[MP]: [+40000]

[Attack]: [+45000]

[Defense]: [+10000]

[Magic]: [+35000]

[Agility]: [+20000]

[Darkness Attribute Damage]: [+30000]

[Death Attribute Damage]: [+30000]

[Abilities]

[Hybrid Magic Weapon: Staff]: A weapon that works as both a Staff and a Longsword. Enhances Magic Damage, Conjunction and Spell Speed, and Magic Control by +60%. Decreases Spell MP Cost by -30%.

[Hybrid Magic Weapon: Longsword]: A weapon that works as both a Staff and a Longsword. Enhances Slashing Damage, Weapon Technique Speed, and Reflexes by +70%. Decreases Techniques and Weapon-related Skills MP Cost by -20%.

[Necrolord's Treasure]: Enhances Darkness and Death Magic Attribute Damage by +100%, decreases MP Cost by -50%. Raised Undead or Contracted Undead receive a buff that enhances all stats by +50% as long as they're within the user's range of 100 meters.

[Cursed Demonic Blade]: Can devour Souls, Negative Energy, Phantoms, Magic, Life, and Blood from foes to increase its Level and gain more bonus Stats. Once enough is absorbed, everything can be unleashed in a powerful [Demonic Catastrophe] that deals +500% Damage and ignores -70% of a foe's defenses, however, the weapon takes -5000 Durability as Damage.

I had already absorbed souls, blood, and negative energy from the swamp monsters, and with this last infusion of power, I quickly activated my sword's ultimate technique...

"[DEMONIC CATASTROPHE]!"

I swung my blade vertically just into the wound, with all my strength! The black sword began overflowing with a monstrously dark aura, spreading further everywhere, and turning the entire world completely pitch black!

SLAAAAASSSSHHHHH!!!

The enormous slashing attack reached the Hydra's bones, finally slicing through them, the combination of Brunhild and Lucifer's draconic breaths quickly came from both left and right side, combining with the slashing attack of my [Demonic Catastrophe]!

"Now!"

And as if that wasn't enough, Emeraldine converged the enormous Phantasmal Dragon that Nyx summoned with her Spirit Power-imbued arrow, firing a gigantic arrow that reached the skies and then fell from above, fusing with my attack and that of Lucifer and Brunhild as well!

The convergence of powers spiraled together, like a piercing spear! It went through the Hydra's bones and then, pierced its brains, crushing them and then blowing them all into pieces as the convergence of powers exploded!

CLAAAAAAAASSSSHHHHH!!!

"GRYYYYAAAAAAEEEEEGGHHH...!"

The hydra gave a last cry of agony, its entire brain was disintegrated, and its life ended in that very second!

BOOOOOOOOMMMMMM!!!

Chapter 605 Hidden Boss Slain! Almost Max Level

BAAAAM!

The enormous Hydra fell into the swamp, splashing the water everywhere. There was a large quantity of monsters that had come to see what was happening, these hundreds of critters were crushed by the Hydra's heavy body, sadly for them.

SPLAAAASH!

An enormous tsunami of water emerged, splashing around the entire swamp's floor. The water reached as high as the stairs going upwards. Thankfully, Takeshi and Laura protected the dwarves in the back. Mostly, Takeshi, who manipulated the water through his Unique Skill and created a water bubble, protecting everybody.

Ding!

[You and your Party have defeated the [Five Headed Tyrant Hydra: Lv89] [Rank: A+++] x1!]

[You've defeated the Dungeon's Hidden Boss, you received bonus EXP!]

[You gained 12000000 EXP!]

[Because you defeated the Hidden Boss, you've been rewarded with Special Items]

[You acquired [Random Item Box (A Grade)] x1, [Void-Gazing Eye (A Grade)] x1, and [Forbidden Watch (B Grade)] x1!]

[Hel, the Goddess of Death, is pleased by your accomplishments, and amused over your strength and determination.]

[She says she expects you to crush the other Dungeon before it is too late.]

[Hel has decided to reward you.]

[You gained 5000000 EXP!]

[You acquired the [Underworld Essence Elixir (A Grade)] x1, [Crystalized Vampiric Bat Tyrant's Blood (A Grade)] x1, and [Fafnir's Blood Elixir (A Grade)] x1!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Your Level has increased from Level 71 to Level 74!]

[All Your Stats have increased!]

[You gained bonus System Points!]

[Name]: [Maria Fuentes Belles]

[Status]: [Strengthened, Cursed]

[Race]: [Beelzebub]

[Job]: [Dark Shadow Spectral Death Spirit Queen]

[Level]: [71/80] -> [74/80]

[EXP]: [963000/6500000]

[Rank]: [A++]

[HP]: [162000/162000] -> [168000/168000]

[MP]: [373000/373000] -> [385000/385000]

[Attack]: [102000] -> [106500]

[Defense]: [104000] -> [108500]

[Magic]: [362400] -> [374400]

[Agility]: [162000] -> [168000]

[Aether]: [115]

[System Points]: [622000]

[Soul Grimoire Abilities]: [Analysis], [Skill Shop], [Creation], [Deletion], [Transfer], [Enhance]

[Characteristic Skills]: [Ultimate Skill: Yog-Sothoth] [Unique Skill: Supreme Magic] [Unique Skill: System]
[Unique Skill: Goddess] (Sealed) [Undead: Lv--] [Dark Element: Lv--] [Death Element: Lv--] [Poison
Element: Lv--] [Illusion Element: Lv--] [Elemental Spirit: Lv--] [Fiend Language: Lv10] [Shadow

Transportation: Lv8] [Abyssal Body: Lv10] [Supernatural Senses: Lv10] [Poison Body: Lv9] [Plague Body: Lv7] [Abyss Eater: Lv4] [Lesser Soul Scape: Lv2]

[Resistance Skills]: [Status Effect Immunity: Lv--] [Greater Magic Damage Resistance: Lv8] [Darkness Resistance: Lv10] [Fear Resistance: Lv10] [Elemental Resistance: Lv9] [Poison/Toxin/Venom Absorption: Lv-] [Erosion Resistance: Lv5] [Holy Light Resistance: Lv4] [Ice Resistance: Lv4] [Water Resistance: Lv5] [Skill Resistance: Lv1]

[Physical Skills]: [Phantasmal Grasp: Lv9] [Masterful Stealth: Lv6] [Cursed Abyssal Blade Arts: Lv4] [Barbaric Dark Axe Arts: Lv4] [Phantasmal Limbs: Lv8] [Fist Strike: Lv10] [Piercing Spear Attack: Lv7]

[Magical Skills]: [Greater Curse: Lv7] [Life Absorption: Lv8] [Phantasmal Puppeteer: Lv3] [Dark Sun: Lv7] [Dark Storm: Lv8] [Abyssal Spear Arrow: Lv6] [Abyssal Barrier: Lv6] [Abyss Manipulation: Lv6] [Black Lightning Strike: Lv6] [Transfiguration of Death: Lv5] [Soul Devourer: Lv4] [Undead Detonation: Lv9] [Shadow Thread: Lv8] [Disease and Poison Creation: Lv8] [Pandora's Box: Lv9] [Shadow and Death Domain: Lv9] [Gorgon's Five Cursed Eyes: Lv7] [Gorgon's Transformation: Lv7] [Chaotic Dark Meteor: Lv6] [Dungeon Manipulation: Lv3] [Abyssal Demon Transformation: Lv4] [Illusory Delusion: Lv5] [Mind Bending: Lv5] [Insect Manipulation: Lv5] [Miasmic Essence Manipulation: Lv5] [Gate of the Underworld: Lv4] [Phantasmal Flames: Lv4] [Bone Weapon and Armor Creation: Lv4]

[Support Skills]: [Shadow Storage: Lv10] [Death Restoration: Lv4] [Erase Presence: Lv10] [Summon: Lv8] [Spirit Summon: Lv6] [Spirit Connection: Lv4] [Spirit Fusion: Lv3] [Aura of Famine: Lv9] [Embodiment: Lv3] [Cooking: Lv4] [Hunting: Lv4] [Split Thinking: Lv8] [Mental Mapping: Lv7] [Phantasmal Stomach: Lv9] [Farming: Lv3] [Alchemy: Lv3] [Mining: Lv3] [Dismantle: Lv3] [Taming: Lv2] [Mana Transfer: Lv4] [Novice Alchemist Recipe Book: Lv3] [Smithing: Lv2] [Chopping: Lv2]

[Title Skills]: [The Dark Witch: Lv8] [Dungeon Conqueror: Lv7] [Big Game Slayer: Lv9] [Taboo Mark: Lv8] [Bringer of Misfortune: Lv10] [Undead Queen: Lv9] [Evil of the World: Lv7] [Pickpocket: Lv7] [Apprentice Swordsman: Lv9] [Apprentice Axe Warrior: Lv7] [Apprentice Spear User: Lv4] [Apprentice Thread User: Lv6] [Spirit Queen: Lv5] [Spirit Mediator: Lv5] [Poison Queen: Lv6] [Merciless Assassin: Lv6] [God of Light Nemesis: Lv5] [Shameless Degenerate: Lv4] [Opportunistic Buyer: Lv5] [Plague Exterminator: Lv3] [Gluttonous Eater: Lv7] [Saint of Death: Lv6] [Deceiver: Lv4] [Undead Slayer: Lv5] [Slime Slayer: Lv3] [King Slayer: Lv5] [Dungeon Master: Lv4] [Dungeon Destroyer: Lv4] [Queen of Flies: Lv3] [Sin of Gluttony: Lv4] [Mold Breaker: Lv5] [Sacrilegious Existence: Lv3] [Vampire Slayer: Lv1] [Little Farmer: Lv3] [Bookworm: Lv2] [Clandestine Brewer: Lv3] [Greedy Miner: Lv3] [Butcherer: Lv3] [Gotta Catch Them All!: Lv2] [Mythical Beast Slayer: Lv4] [Purifier Of Chaos: Lv3] [Explosion Maniac: Lv3] [Infernal Queen: Lv2] [Ice Monster Slayer: Lv2] [Human Slayer: Lv2] [Apprentice Blacksmith: Lv2] [Bone Queen: Lv2] [Lumberjack: Lv2] [Dragon Slayer: Lv2] [Relentless Hunter: Lv2] [Soul Scape Master: Lv2] [Calamity

Kindergarten: Lv2] [Merciless Killer: Lv2] [Yggdrasil's Botanist: Lv2] [Swamp Queen: Lv2] [Aquatic Monster Exterminator: Lv2]

[Divine Protections]: [Hel's Divine Protection]

[Soul Scape Spirit Treasures]: [Withering Trees of Death (Lesser Spirit Treasure)] [Red Flowers of Blood (Lesser Spirit Treasure)], [Purple Flowers of Poison (Lesser Spirit Treasure)] [Black Flowers of Darkness (Lesser Spirit Treasure)]

Damn I got a lot of stats from just three levels... And above all, tons of my Skills leveled up as well! Although I didn't get any Skills or Titles this time around, I still got some nice level ups. Now I am only 6 levels off getting my next evolution.

However, above that there's the big rewards I got! Not only was I given special rewards from the dungeon itself, but Hel has decided to continue her loyal sponsoring as she gave some new A Grade items I had not seen before at all.

However, much like the ones I got before, which were ideal for Nyx and Root, I feel these three are also the same case. They're ideal for Partner and Lucifer, I think. Though there's no ideal one for Emeraldine or the twins, but I guess that might change in the future.

Though it still pisses me off she forgot about my elf wife.

[Hel, the Goddess of the Underworld and Death has heard your prayers.]

[She has given you a reward for your little elf bride, so you stop crying.]

[You acquired the [Spirit Queen's Essence Phial (A Grade)] x1!]

Wait, can she read my thoughts or something?!

Chapter 606 August, The Ancient Fallen King Of Alfheim

Within The Underworld, a large throne made of bones erected in the middle of a gigantic and near endless castle. While in the outside of such castle, enormous Undead wandered about, fighting, devouring one another's souls, and living in this endless dark world, their Queen sat down leisurely atop her throne made of bones. She looked into several system-like windows in front of her, while a portal leading to a pocket dimension where she kept her treasures quickly closed.

Seconds ago, she had taken a few of the items kept inside within such an endless treasury she had kept growing since time immemorial. She never thought she would ever have any use for so many items, so she freely handled them over to her favorite Apostle of Death, Maria, and her allies. Although she was smiling now, a slight amount of annoyance was clear in her flawless, youthful face.

"Maria's really cocky. She doesn't know that as long as she's directing her thoughts towards me, I can hear them a bit? This is how prayers work at the end. And how the gods can see so many things without being present..." Hel sighed.

Gods were able to see and hear those that prayed to them, what they talked about, and even a part of their memories if they prayed. All gods always could get an update of the world around them by hearing the prayers of their believers.

For a long while now, nobody has ever prayed to Hel, except Maria. Although Maria had only done it... without knowing. Every time she thought about Hel or "talking to her" Hel heard her complains and did things accordingly to her ideas.

The whole ability of granting her rewards depending in her accomplishments was something Hel came out with thanks to hearing Maria's ideas all the time. Despite handling treasures carefreely, it still hurt her a bit to give her rewards, but she knew it was an investment.

Indeed, the queen of the underworld was very greedy and liked to hoard treasures for all the eternity she had lived in this world since her birth. This was also a reason why she was only giving Maria some low-quality items for now.

"Ungh, did she really had to get so greedy?! That Phial has the essence of the Spirit King! It took me so long to get a few dozen of them. She thinks I can just freely handle them over?" She angrily thought, but quickly composed herself. "Well, it was only one... Yes, I have to just think that."

Hel looked into the mirror she had in front of her, made of an enormous mass of bones, a Living Skeleton Mirror Sentinel, a powerful High Ranked Undead Servant she created to see the world above her domain through the eyes of her newest vessel... Root!

Indeed, she had planted a divine protection on him not only because he could become a powerful Calamity in the future, which could help her and her father's plans later on, but she also designed this special divine protection so she could see through his eyes.

Before, she wasn't that interested, so she missed the opportunity on Maria and everyone around her. Thankfully, due to sheer luck, Maria picked up Root, who had accidentally acquired the Seed of Calamity that the Abyssal Ant Queen was holding before being slain.

The small sapling died due to corrosion, but its soul was strong enough and had a strong sense of will and living, so it stuck to the dying sapling with the Seed of Calamity. When Maria arrived, she changed this tiny tree's fate forever. Now, the tree evolved into a powerful Tyrant Treant Guardian after training for a whole day inside the dungeon.

The tree never thought it would ever grow this fast! Although it was in fact a combination of the Seed of Calamity and also the Divine Protection Hel gave to him, alongside that one Yggdrasil Sap she handled, which was also a rather precious item she had to bite her nails to gift to a walking tree.

"It's all an investment... I have to think like that, yes... All an investment." She sighed, trying to calm down. "But seriously, she's growing fast! I never thought she would aim for the Hidden Boss right away. This one Dungeon is the biggest after the Sealed Dungeon, if I am correct... Thanks to her own efforts and my help, she's growing faster than anticipated."

Hel looked into the mirror as she saw Maria and her allies interact, they seemed exhausted after everything they had done, and decided to quickly go back to the surface once their dungeon adventure was over.

POOF!

Suddenly, a large skeleton wearing a black knight getup emerged at her side, it was immense, towering over six meters of height. His powerful blue eyes blazing with deadly phantasmal flare.

"Milady, your father seems to be wanting to enter the Underworld once more."

"Oh, again? Sigh... He's really annoying lately, don't you think, August?"

Hel sighed, as she rubbed her face over the hard metallic armor of the skeleton, hugging him as if he were a teddy bear for him.

August was one of the many Gatekeepers of the Underworld, who took care of the souls that entered, and all of that deal.

He also used to be a King in Alfheim, who was cursed by his political foes and then burned alive on the stake as he was given false accusations.

However, amidst the despair of his death, he made a pact with "Lady Death", Hel.

In such a pact, he rose as an Undead and tormented all those that wronged him for a hundred years before he collapsed, and then emerged in the Underworld, becoming Hel's eternal servant.

He has a very stern and serious personality, but Hel treats him like her teddy bear.

"M-Milady, I think its enough with hugging me..."

"But I like hugging my big August! Mooch."

Hel gently kissed his skull face, as August flames grew red in embarrassment.

Despite being the embodiment of death she was a captivating and charming young lady.

August's undead heart has long ago fallen for her charms.

"T-To receive such affection... I am not worthy..."

Chapter 607 Secrets That Hel Better Keep For Herself

"M-Milady, I think its enough with hugging me..."

"But I like hugging my big August! Mooch."

Hel gently kissed his skull face, as August flames grew red in embarrassment.

Despite being the embodiment of death she was a captivating and charming young lady.

August's undead heart has long ago fallen for her charms.

"T-To receive such affection... I am not worthy..."

He sighed, kneeling before her. August was an extremely timid man when it comes to these things, so he always ended getting too flustered over her affection.

But that's what Hel liked anyways.

"Hehe, you're so fun to tease~"

Hel giggled playfully, touching his bony chin.

"M-Milady... Is it okay for you to act so close with a mere pile of bones as me?"

"You're my special pile of bones~"

"A-Ahh..."

Hel began caressing the top of his skull, one of his sensitive parts.

"Milady please, let's not... delay your father's visit..."

"Geez! Alright dear, bring him in."

"Very well."

August immediately summoned enormous gates leading to the outside world, as they opened, Loki quickly walked inside, now on his male form, which was the most well known around the gods and the one he used most of the time.

"Did you had to use the front door this time? You always just sneak inside, dad." Hel said while sighing.

"Aw dearie, I know! I just wanted to be more formal this time. I always remember you get angry when I just sneak inside, saying I break the rules of the world and all of that stuff..." Loki said while shrugging.

His appearance quickly changed in an instant, the shapeshifted god didn't wasted any time as he quickly transformed from a gorgeous man to a gorgeous woman. Long purple hair, wide and sexy hips, and a big chest even left August's flames growing redder.

Her clothes quickly changed as well into a long black and gold dress, with long black heels. Loki sighed in relief as he changed into her female form, which she enjoyed greatly.

"Phew, what a relief~" She sighed.

"You really love to become a woman around here..." Hel sighed. "Can't you do it in the realm of the gods as well?"

"Yeah but father always looks at me with weird, judging eyes, and the other gods close to where I reside are just as annoying." Sighed Loki. "They always say "why are you turning into a woman?" or "what's wrong with you?" sometimes they are as rude as to say "you're such a weirdo!" so annoying!"

"I guess they're just a bunch of assholes, yeah." Hel sighed. "You look gorgeous, mom."

"Aww, I knew you would be happy to see your mommy~!" Loki smiled happily. "But yes. They all have a stick up their asses! They can't let me be me~ I have to run away into my daughter's realm to be freer."

Loki hugged her daughter and gave her a kiss in her cheek. Her large breasts pressed over Hel's face, annoying her daughter.

"Ugh, okay, stop rubbing me your giant milk jugs for once...!" She sighed. "What do you want now mom?"

"Fufu, I heard from a little squirrel that you've been raising some tiny little Calamities~ Is this true?" Asked Loki while smiling charmingly. She rested her arms over the throne made of bones, as her large butt was showing clearly in front of August's face.

August, as an honorable man, couldn't simply fall to such temptations, as he quickly decided to retreat, despite being greatly captivated by Loki's female form, his heart belonged to Hel.

"I-I'll take my leave now, milady."

"Aw, come on dear, why are you leaving when I just got here?"

Loki tried to stop August, caressing his skull gently.

"Do you like what you see?"

"A-Ahh... I-I..."

"Mom! Only I can tease him!"

Hel was very possessive of her servants.

"Geez~ Fine, don't get so angry now, baby."

Loki let go of August as he quickly disappeared into an explosion of darkness.

POOOOF!

"You really like him, don't you?" Loki asked teasingly.

"W-What are you talking about?" Hel asked while blushing. "H-He's merely someone I like to tease!"

"Hmmm~ Sure." Loki giggled. "Anyways, back to the main topic... Is what Rat said true?"

"Of course. Did you think I was going to just sit down and leave all the work to you?" Hel asked. "Maria has been helping more than I thought though. One of her daughters and a new tamed monster she got both have Calamity Seeds. Including her, there's three."

"Hm, I see... Our army is growing stronger." Loki smiled. "Though, those that should be helping us are all fighting between themselves. Also didn't she just went and killed one Calamity?"

"Calamities are a threat to the world; you're playing with fire. Maria is a safer option for me, she's sane, and so the other two calamities at her side... Well, I wouldn't call her sane though, but maybe not... a mindless monster?" Hel said.

"Hmmm..." Loki began thinking. "My father is already moving within the shadows. The Vanir Gods at this point are the only ones not helping him. At least those are not our foes."

Hel began thinking...

"(Should I tell him about Maria fusing with the fragments of Tyr and awakening his consciousness?)" She wondered internally. She loved her mother/father more than anything, but she still knew Loki was quite suspicious sometimes. She couldn't really guess what could be inside his mind.

Of course she would never dare harm her children, but if its another being that gets in her plans... She could quite literally crush them, even if they didn't meant anything bad, the same thing happened to her adoptive brother, Tyr, the God of War and Law.

Although it was a whole plot including his father and the other siblings, Loki was still one of the gods that helped the most at crushing him and then turning him into a monster, and even using him as an excuse to create an artificial "evil" everyone had to fight, hiding his true intentions.

She doesn't really know how Loki would react if he realized the possibility of the one she crushed to revive was closer than ever... She wanted to protect Maria and her family, so she decided to keep some secrets for herself until a better time came.

Chapter 608 Loki's Vengeful Will

"What is grandfather planning this time?" Hel wondered.

"Haven't you noticed? Since eons already... He wants more than just ruling, he wants to become the Absolute." Sighed Loki. "She crushed the Titans because he wanted to rule above them all, even helping me kill his own son... He's a monster amongst monsters. Compared to him, we are innocent little chicks recently hatched from our eggs."

"You're being overly ambitious as ever. But I've given up in trying to stop you long ago. I've also realized he won't simply let us be forever." Hel sighed.

Hel and Loki knew very well of Odin's schemes and his plans. Since the beginning of this world that the wars and battles around the world had been caused by him mostly than anybody.

When the world started, the Yggdrasil Tree held several Realms within its fruits. The Titans came first, created by the World Tree to rule the realms, and protect them.

The Ancient Dragons came right after, the true guardians of the world, with their hard scales, and ferocious claws and blazing breath, the dragons and titans lived in peace protecting this world from the menaces of the "outside".

But then, amidst the many fruits, the world tree gave birth to the Aesir and then the Vanir, Gods smaller than Titans yet more intelligent and cunning, with grater elemental and magical powers and the great ability of manipulating others into doing their will.

They created humans and other races as well, spreading them through the world. With their worship, they slowly began to farm the power of humans and converted it into Divine Power, helping them become stronger... Before most of the Titans and Dragons could realize, the Aesir became incredibly strong, and waged a war against them.

An immense war that destroyed the realms, merging them together from their ruins into the world every living being is inhabiting now. The realms were split into countless pieces, and only fragments of them remained, converting themselves into gigantic continents covering the world.

The titans, one by one, died by the hands of the gods. Although the gods had many loses as well. It was a bloody battle to the death... However, ultimately, the gods triumphed as Odin killed Ymir, stealing his powers for himself.

At the end of such a war, he adopted a child, a young titan, grandson of Ymir, Loki. He decided to adopt him and leave him as his servant, detecting a great power within him... And like this, his adoptive son, Loki, joined the Aesir.

Since the beginning everything has been brought to the state it was due to Odin's schemes and greed. Loki, after learning the truth about his upbringing and his ancestry, grew increasingly frustrated with how he was being treated. It felt as if he was merely a trophy or a pet his father grabbed from the battlefield.

He detested him for having killed almost his entire family, while those that remained alive had to hide from the gods, some becoming their slaves... the prideful titans that ruled the world in harmony with nature were near extinction.

Not only his true father was gone, but also his grandfather, Ymir, was violently slaughtered, and his body parts were used to forge the new world where every living being is inhabiting now. Meanwhile, his spine was used to forge Odin's staff.

Loki has been simply saving such anger, he had been patiently waiting, and plotting. His revenge against Odin and his entire family of detestable hypocrites was drawing closer, after thousands of years of preparation.

Hel, as her daughter, knew very well about this. She knew of her mother/father's anger, frustration, and her endless desire for revenge. She felt the same in many ways, but was someone that was also used to peace and tranquility brought by living in the underworld

However, she knew such conflicts were inevitable. A war was coming, and the gods would once more slaughter one another. Mortals and anything below their foot will be crushed by such a catastrophe, like mere ants.

"I want them to pay for what they did..." Loki sighed, looking into the distance. "Father, grandfather, my mother, my siblings... all those people I could have been raised with, all those people... I never truly meet."

Loki sighed, as her beautiful face seemed completely gloomy. The more she thought of the possibility of having been raised by her true family always put her into such a state of depression, she felt like her very soul was crumbling apart.

The moment she learned she was being raised by those that slaughtered her entire family, her very concept of everything changed so much, her mind twisted several times. A never-ending desire to destroy everything started to emerge within her heart.

"Mom..."

Hel sighed, caressing her mother's hair.

"You and your two siblings are the only things precious to me. You're the only people... I truly care for, nobody else." She sighed. "I hate them... I hate them all."

Loki began to cry, her hands shaking in fury.

"I'm going to crush them all... I'll bring chaos... Ragnarök."

Hel sighed, hugging her, and letting her sit in her throne.

"Calm down, okay?" Hel sighed. "I've told you multiple times that I don't really like when you get all homicidal."

"Ehhh~? You're the goddess of the underworld, wouldn't you be happy I bring you many new friends down here?" Laughed Loki, quickly changing her expression as she was healed by her daughter's love.

"I am the goddess of the underworld, but that also makes me the ruler of death. Death is a cycle, if you only bring death, the world will one day become stale. We need life. You need to be conscious of the things you might provoke in the future... The calamities are already an immense threat, and they're not partially your fault either. Odin and the gods used your powers to create them so the mortals never go out of proportion in their numbers, don't they?" Hel asked. "Are you truly intending to use such uncontrollable beasts to fight them? You can't even control them!"

Chapter 609 Eccentric Family

Loki looked back at Hel while narrowing her beautiful red eyes.

"Dear, since when have you been so attached to these mortals?" She asked. "I remember you never really cared."

"...I've changed, okay? People change!" Hel said while crossing her arms.

Loki smiled, knowing what was going on.

"Oh, it is your little Apostle? Is it?" Loki asked, whispering to her daughter's ears. "Maria, right?"

"Ugh..." Hel sighed. Loki was very good at reading people, especially her daughter. "So what if its about her? I've seen things through her. The journey and all... I've learned there's good people out there, not everyone is worth... killing."

Loki sighed.

"What an idealistic little girl I have here." Loki laughed, grabbing her daughter, and putting her over her beautiful thighs.

"H-Hey don't treat me like a little girl anymore!" Hel complained while blushing.

"Well, we don't truly know what might happen in the future. But for now my real goal aren't the mortals out there... Though, as the god of chaos, I cannot really side with anybody. It is within my nature, honey." Loki said. "You and your siblings are the only exception because you're my dear babies I love more than anything! Mooch~ Mooch~!"

Loki began kissing her daughter's cheeks like a mother that loved to spoil her adorable daughter.

"S-Stop it! Uughh..." Hel was getting tired of being treated like a little girl all the time.

Her two siblings, Fenrir and Jörmungandr were currently roaming the Underworld and growing stronger by devouring Undead and other monsters. This has been their training for a few years now. Because the two of them were always busy, she had to deal with her mother's affection all the time.

"What are you going to do about the Fragments of Tyr?" Wondered Hel.

"Huh? What with that question out of the blue?" Loki asked.

"The humans are using his fragments. And there are other forces doing the same around the world..."
Said Loki. "Do you not intend to grab them back?"

"Well, Tyr is long gone. He's merely just another tool to cause more chaos, nothing more than that..."
Loki smiled.

"Do you not regret what you did to him?" Hel asked.

"Regret it?" Loki wondered. "What? Are you pitying him?"

"No... I mean... No, not at all." Hel said.

"Hmph, well, I did what I had to do. I don't regret it, nor I care. I didn't liked Tyr anyways." Laughed Loki.
"It was amusing how father asked me to do it though, I never thought my holy father would desire to crush his own son, he's really a monster, isn't he?"

"...You're not so different." Hel sighed.

"I am different!" Loki said. "I would never do that to you and your siblings, for example."

"Huuuh~" Hel sighed, quickly floating into the air as she transformed into her phantasmal form. "Fenrir and Jormungandr should be close by, let's go see them for now. You haven't talked with them in a while."

"R-Right! I should go meet them right away." Loki said, quickly generating bat-like wings from her back and flapping them rapidly, rising into the skies of the underworld. "Ahh~ I wonder if I look good or should I get some more makeup?"

"Leave it at that, you're already pretty as you are, geez." Sighed Hel.

"Aww! Your compliments always makes me so happy!" Loki tried to catch her daughter in midair to give her a hug, as the two flew towards the two other children.

Meanwhile, as Loki chased his daughter playfully, a massive black wolf with sharp red eyes and an utterly gargantuan, purple-scaled snake with a third red eye on the middle of his forehead looked around the horizons of the underworld. They were nobody else than Fenrir and Jormungandr, the Wolf and the Snake, "aberrant" children of Loki discriminated by the other gods.

"The world is changing..."

The enormous snake spoke, with a calm and composed androgynous voice. His true sex was never clear, not even to his own family. However, the beautiful and gigantic snake laid enormous eggs where her children slid out from, filling the world. She was the mother of all snakes, and also their father.

"Once more?"

Fenrir looked back at his sister... or brother. Jormungandr didn't mind being called either of the two. The tall black wolf, with his beautiful black fur let the winds of the underworld pass through his body, showing how indescribably fluffy he was.

"Yeah..."

Jormungandr looked into the distance. Her eyes opening wide.

"Hm?!"

She was suddenly surprised.

"What?"

Fenrir asked in surprise.

"S-She's coming..."

"Who?"

"M-Mother..."

"Mother? But she's- Ah, father, you mean?"

"Well she likes to turn into woman sometimes, you know..."

"Yeah I know... Wait, she's here?!"

FLAAAASH!

An enormous pressure almost made them fall into the ground, the chaotic divine aura of Loki emerged atop her two children, as she slowly descended with Hel at her side.

The moment she reached the ground, she ran at an incredible speed towards her two children in front of her, with arms wide open.

"My two little babieeeeees!"

FLAAAAAASH!

BAAAAM!

She hit Fenrir with her entire body, throwing him into the ground while hugging his entire face.

"Awooo! M-Mother! Do you have to be so rough?!" Fenrir cried.

"Aw come on, you're not a weakling to say that hurt you!" Loki laughed, kissing her son. "I missed you! Why don't you come to see your mother more?!"

"I-I was busy..." Fenrir actually didn't liked being with family as much, he wasn't really sociable. However he still loved his mother. He quickly licked her entire body with his gigantic tongue. "But I am glad to see you."

"Mother, you're back. It has been a while." Jormungandr greeted her mother. "Here, I've brought you a gift."

"Ooh, my little snake baby! You're so big! Did you grew a few more kilometers?" Loki wondered, suddenly receiving Jormungandr gift. It was an enormous dead rat. "A-And thanks for the gift..."

"It is a delicious treat; you should eat it whole." Jormungandr said with expectations.

"M-Maybe later!" Loki laughed.

Indeed, the entire family was eccentric, to say the least.

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Chapter 610 Odin's Eye

Once Loki finished his greetings, the entire family gathered at Hel's castle. Of course, some were too big to enter the castle, so they stayed outside and had a feast. Hundreds of undead served them delicious food made out of highest quality meat and ingredients. However, the carefree conversations quickly shifted as they spoke about what they had been feeling... especially the two beast children.

"Mother, I've felt this more lately... The world is changing. Something is approaching." Jormungandr said.

"Yes, I can sense something. I can almost smell it." Fenrir nodded.

"You two had always been very connected with nature and have an acute sense." Loki said. "What do you exactly feel?"

"The world... there's a new darkness approaching." Said Fenrir.

"A new darkness?" Asked Fenrir. "Mine, perhaps?"

"No, mother is not truly darkness." Jormungandr said.

"Odin... his children..." Fenrir said. "They're planning something. Whatever you have planned, mother, you must hurry."

"They have... something planned?" Hel wondered.

Loki didn't change her expression as she nodded.

"I guess that's right... It's pretty clear Odin and the rest have something against us." Said Loki. "But they also threatening the world? Ah, the Era of Calamity is approaching as well. Do you two want to go to the surface or something?"

"It's not our time yet..." Fenrir said.

"Indeed." Jormungandr said. "However, a decisive battle might happen in the near future..."

"However, there's something else... A being of indescribable power is developing. And those around her are also growing stronger... They might seem small to us right now, but in the near future, they'll be a big game changer." Fenrir analyzed.

Hel immediately realized who they were talking about...

"(Maria?)" She wondered. "(If she really collects more of Tyr's fragments, I guess that's not so far from the truth... And all her allies, her family itself, she's someone that could actually become a "New Darkness")"

Hel began to think that the developing Maria might had also threatened Odin. After all, she was the hot topic of the gods some time ago. Especially Odin, who's overly cautious, already thought the ghost could be a threat to him in the future.

And well, his ability to see the future didn't fail him at this point, Maria was containing to grow stronger and stronger... nobody knew how far she would reach, and she seemed to not even take that many breaks herself.

Loki was thankfully unaware. Hel thanked her own mother for seeing those in the mortal world as little more than playthings she loved to see suffer and struggle with her dungeons and trials. However, now that a war between gods, which might inevitably force even mortals to act might be approaching... she knew that life couldn't be as leisure anymore.

And she knew her mother would act when Odin least expected it... But was Odin truly aiming at Loki, or was there something else he desired? It was up to Loki to investigate.

"Well, for now, I'll be going." Loki said with a beautiful smile. "Take care you three. Your mommy will be working hard to protect you. Love you all~!"

Loki kissed her children and then quickly disappeared.

"She still hasn't changed her mind about this..." Fenrir sighed.

"Indeed..." Jormungandr said.

"Are you two willing to fight at her side too?" Hel wondered.

"Of course." Fenrir said. "I wouldn't mind mauling a god or two... or an army of them."

"To protect mother, I would do anything, even giving my life." Jormungandr said. "She and the two of you... are everything to me."

Hel sighed, smiling back at her siblings.

"I guess you're right... I've not been raising and making my army of Undead stronger for nothing either..." Hel smiled. "A new asset is developing rapidly as well~"

One side of Hel didn't wanted unnecessary slaughter, but the other wanted to make her mother happy and protect her above all costs, she had already made up her mind... if she had to go against Odin and the other gods, she would, without a doubt.

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Within a golden palace at the top of the heaven realm of the gods, which had barely survived as a gigantic dimensional fragment, Asgard, Odin and other gods gathered within a massive hall. Stretching in the middle of the hall there was a golden table, a few of his children and other Aesir gods sat down there, watching their all father think and plan.

"Father, have you found something?" A burly and bearded blonde man asked. It was Thor, the God of Thunder and War.

"I have." Odin said, his single eye opening, as a flash of piercing divine light emerged. The two crows sitting at each side of his shoulders talked as well.

"The Era of Calamity is approaching! CRAAH!"

"CRAAH! Darkness abound!"

"However... New opportunities! CRAAH!"

Odin smiled.

"The possibility to attain the Apotheosis is drawing closer." Odin smiled. "The World's Will is weakening. The World Tree will get to its weakest point once the Era of Calamity begins..."

"So you truly plan to take advantage of the monsters that Loki created..." The God of Thunder said.

"So it's time..." Asked the Goddess of Water, a beautiful woman with sharp blue eyes and long watery hair.

"Well, this is what I've been waiting for..." The God of Earth said, his body made of steel and stone, a beautiful appearance and tall, muscular like a mountain.

"The world shall truly be ours once we accomplish such a goal... Interesting." The God of Sunshine spoke, a fair face and a slender handsome man, holding upon a long bow.

"Patience, brothers." The Goddess of Beauty spoke. "It is not yet the time... Right, father?"

Although they seemed different, all of them supported their father's intentions of attaining "Apotheosis".

"Yes... the ascension we are planning is drawing closer. However, there are certain things we might have to get out of our way, eventually..." Odin spoke. "Are your Chosen Heroes growing stronger?"

"Mine is."

"Yes, they are."

"Many Heroes are awakening around the world."

"Their fates entwined with ours."

"Good..."

Odin smiled with a malicious smile, as he looked into the distance.

"Then employ their power and crush them. Especially that ghost woman and her band of misfits... I have a very bad feeling about them. My Golden Eye of Precognition is reacting after all..."