

A Ghost 841

Chapter 841 A Meeting Of Souls

(Maria's POV)

I decided to help Fabian, as I had promised. I glanced at the many souls, not only noticing the gigantic soul of the Pharaoh, but the dozens of other smaller souls, each one was rather strong, and could make powerful ghosts or undead.

But for now, it wasn't really the time to think about that, I had inspected the area and the children's bodies were nowhere to be seen, all these sacrificed souls lacked their physical bodies, and there wasn't even their corpses to make them into zombies.

Maybe becoming ghosts is their only option, unless I could somehow built them new bodies based in their physical appearances they have in their minds, I could use the available materials, and other undead to quickly create rather beautiful-looking bodies that would be hard to differentiate from living ones.

That's how far my Necromancy has advanced, considering how I can do this makes me think I could revive people, but at the end, even as "alive" as they look like, they'll still be classified as Undead...

Nonetheless, all of that is without considering how the souls would feel. If they don't want to become an undead, then there's very little I can do about that, I don't want to force them, and I told that to Fabian beforehand.

But for now, let's gather his friends, I can sense them, their minds, their thoughts, the children wronged by fate...

"Come, all of you."

FLAAASH!

Their souls flew to my side, as if my words were a natural order they had to instinctively follow, they flew in front of me, a dozen of strong souls, slightly contaminated by the miasma and chaos of their former, monstrous vessel, therefore, they were quite strong souls.

"You are in a daze, I can tell." I sighed, feeding them Mana slowly, as my Mana divided into dozens of rivers of light, reaching their bodies. "Feed on my Mana and wake up, your friend is here to meet you, after a long time, he has come to rescue you... Even if it might be too late, he wanted to see you all one last time."

The souls slowly took shape, resembling their former physical selves, the children looked around in confusion, but quickly guessed what had happened. Some started to cry as they realized they had died, others seemed to show no emotions.

Among some of them, there was a girl with long white hair, pale-looking skin, and clear blue eyes, who quickly recognized Fabian.

"Fabian!"

"S-Spectra..."

Her soul ran towards his side immediately hugging him, yet, because she was ethereal, she only ended passing through him.

"Ah..." Spectra realized she was long dead, looking at herself, and falling to her knees.

"S-Spectra..." Fabian moved to her side. "Everyone... I'm sorry, I couldn't protect you all... I couldn't do a single thing... You're all dead, and it's my fault..."

The other children's souls that were not paying too much attention, quickly directed their gazes towards Fabian, finally recognizing him as they woke up from their daze.

"Fabian, you came back for us..."

"Even now?"

"But how- Ah, these people?"

"Are they friends?"

"What happened?"

They all gathered around him, all his beloved friends, which he had shared so many memories with them. Fabian couldn't help but continue crying, seeing their faces, even as ethereal beings, brought him so much pain, as he was reminded of their deaths.

Of how he could not do a single thing to save them... to help them. He continued crying as Spectra gently touched his shoulder, she wasn't physical, but he could sense her mana around his shoulder.

"Don't cry, it's alright..." Spectra smiled gently. "You did what you could. We never expected you to do anything else than protect the kids."

"I did my best to keep them safe..." Fabian cried. "I'm sorry, I couldn't do anything else... I wanted to come to help you so many times, but I knew it could be a trap from those red eyed bastards... If only I was stronger, I could had..."

"It's alright, buddy."

"Calm down, man!"

"Yeah, you came and you set us free!"

"It was really hell over there, I couldn't keep living as a huge monster thing."

"Thanks for being here with us, Fabian!"

Both boys and girls thanked him, from all sizes and appearances, their gentle smiles and bright eyes made Fabian only more emotionally hurt.

"Still..." He sighed. "I... Ah! Maria here... She said she can bring you back. Not as living beings though, she's... a Necromancer."

"I can." I nodded. "I could rebuild you new bodies resembling your previous selves, they might even be much stronger than you were ever before... But I cannot revive you, I'm sorry... You would still be Undead, without hunger, without beating hearts, and cold."

"..."

The children looked at one another, some seemed to be up for the task, others... not so much. In fact, the majority seemed to not like the idea. They wanted to peacefully pass away.

"After everything that I've gone through, to live again... What a pain..."

"Mom and dad are not alive, so I... I want to go back with them, whenever they are..."

"My little sister died too... I don't want to leave her alone."

"Sorry, Fabian..."

"I-It's fine... It's your right to decide by yourselves." Fabian smiled painfully.

However, there were a few that stayed, as the others walked away, and they were Fabian's best friends.

"Hey, don't look so down now! We're staying!" Spectra smiled brightly.

"Come on dude, what with that face of yours? Cheer up a bit!" Laughed a purple haired boy.

"I-I want to stay with Fabian..." Said a little boy with blue hair. "A-Are you okay with that? Even if we're dead..."

"Even if we're ghost or whatever, we're friends forever, right? Like you said back then!" Another boy said, much taller, taller than all other kids, with brown skin and short black hair.

"Everyone... Spectra, Nick, Beery, Garon!" Fabian started crying, as his friends hugged him with their ethereal souls.

"Looks like it is decided." I smiled. "Those that want to pass away, come with me. Emeraldine, Jonathan, can you help me? Also, among the others here, do you want to pass away or become Undead?"

I asked at the rest of the wandering souls, as many more came rushing towards me, more than I expected...

Chapter 842 Creation Of Death

Thanks to Emeraldine and Jonathan's Holy Light Spells and Magic, the souls were able to safely pass away, slowly flying into the skies beneath the sun's light, however, a bunch stayed with me, deciding to stick around like other Undead usually just want to serve me.

Among them, there was the Pharaoh, Akhenaton. His human-like form was surprisingly handsome, no longer looking like a wicked black skeleton, his phantasmal appearance looked like an Egyptian pharaoh, brown skin, shaded brown eyes, long black hair, his body decorated with gold and red jewels, tall and muscular, with a dignified appearance.

"So anyways, we've got a lot to talk! Akhenaton, right?"

"Yes, that used to be my name, but you may call me however you desire now, my Summoner."

"Well I'll just keep calling you like that then... So anyways, why did you decided to join us?"

"I heard what you talked while we fought, in my monstrous form, I heard about your desires to defeat the Gods, those damned bastards... that destroyed my Kingdom and took everything away from me..."

"Well yeah, they hate me too, and we've already fought their forces a bit... We've triumphed, but I don't know what else they are planning to do. Hence, I want to grow as strong as possible to kick their asses."

"Heh, I like your attitude, a bit lacking in manners, but to the point." He laughed. "I used to excel as a powerful Black Magician, as I treaded into the arts of curses and poisons, I was feared as the Death Bringer by many, but my people knew well I was a benevolent ruler, but I was merciless to my enemies. You may turn me in whatever you want, but something that could be good at magic might be recommended."

"How about a Lich? I have yet to raise a proper one yet." I rubbed my chin; we were currently walking around the Ruby Palace's castle.

The big feast celebration was still going outside, and it was already night, with the stars illuminating the clear and beautiful night sky.

"A Lich sounds fitting." He nodded. "My skeleton has been defiled and destroyed, sadly..."

"I'll use some of the mummies available as materials, are you okay with that?" I asked.

"The bodies of my fallen brethren... Well, if that's possible, then I would gladly accept, even after death, I suppose they might be eager to help their ruler." He said proudly.

He was indeed quite the guy...

We gathered with him and the souls of Fabian's friends, whom I decided to give new bodies, the other souls weren't eager, so I might use them to raise new Undead once stronger bodies become available. I had already considered turning the Giant Sandworms we caught into Undead to easily traverse the desert.

"Alright everyone, are you ready? Just stand still while I do my work." I said, the ghosts quickly lined up as I took out the materials.

Using a variety of Skills, from Undead Transfiguration to Shadow Threads, to Synthesis, and even other Alchemy Skills, adding on top of that my Shadow Sculptor Subclass Abilities, I started working.

I created new skeleton replicas based on the ghost's specifications and the memories they had of their own appearances, crafted their muscles off a mix of many monsters muscles I maintained inside my Inventory, added new organs, skin tissue, molded, and put it all together, and of course, I added Cores.

They were very important for Undead, most Undead had them inside, they were their true "hearts" and allowed them to move, conjure magic, and continue growing stronger, much faster than those that lacked one.

The process was rather swift as I made what I had in my mind into reality, replicas of everyone's body made with completely unrelated materials were made rather fast. And as for the Pharaoh, I decided to go for a classic skeleton lich, he didn't mind at all.

"Alright now, possess these bodies and then I'll fuse your souls with the bodies, so the connection feels much stronger and deeper."

Everyone nodded, doing as I told them. They possessed the bodies, stood up, and then I used my Soul Connection Spell to fuse them into their new bodies.

The process was really swift, and my Undead Transfiguration Skill ended leveling up quite a lot more than I expected...

Ding!

[Because you've created intricately crafted and powerful Undead, your Skill Proficiency over the Arts of Necromancy have progressed greatly.]

[Your [Transfiguration of Death: Lv8] Skill has Leveled up Twice!]

[The [Transfiguration of Death: Lv10] Skill has evolved into the [Creation of Death: Lv1] Skill!]

[The Skill has evolved into a Unique Skill that only you possess! It has been added to your Characteristic Skills List instead of Magic Skills.]

Oh wow, would you look at this! We've done some progress, finally!

Wait, did I really just had to craft some Undead bodies to get two more levels?! I thought I had hit some wall that asked me to make millions of Undead or something, but I just needed to do that?!

Huh, well, anyways, let's check it out.

[Creation of Death: Lv1]

You're the Embodiment of Death. As you've become the Embodiment of Death, you can create replicas of your own existence, and Create Undead, that can reach some similarity, but cannot grasp the true meaning of your existence, forever only being copies of you.

Grants the Ability to Create all sorts of Undead-type Monsters. As long as there's a Soul and some Materials, you can create anything you can imagine as long as materials and mana is available.

Through the powers of your Soul Grimoire of Necromancy, specific and special Undead Recipes can be unlocked and acquired.

Enhances the Stats of Undead Created, their Skill Powers, their Mana Conductivity, and their Latent Potential by +300%, with an additional +25% with each Skill Level.

Decreases the Mana Consumption and other Special Resources needed for the Creation of Undead by -20%, with an additional -3% with each Skill Level.

All Undead Stats will increase by an +100%, with an additional +25% with each Skill Level whenever they're fighting or working for their master's goals.

Undead will gain Special Titles and Skills based on their Innate Potential and Materials Used.

All Undead will always remain loyal to their Creator, no matter what.

It was an insane Skill!

Chapter 843 Reviving Fabian's Friends

The moment I rose the Undead, my Soul Grimoire emerged in front of me, looking more diabolical than ever as it had beautiful bone decorations, and even an evil-looking red eye on top of it. Its pages opened and flickered by the wind, engraving new knowledge and runes within.

Ding!

[Your Soul Grimoire has activated! Materials have been used to create Powerful New Undead!]

[To create all five of the new and powerful Undead, you have paid 4.000.000 System Points.]

[You have created the [Abyssal Death Chimera Demon: Specter: Spectra (C+ Rank)], [Spectra] received the [Phantasmal Child] and [Spectral Lady] Titles!]

[You have created the [Abyssal Death Chimera Demon: Fire Djinn: Nick (C+ Rank)], [Nick] received the [Fire Djinn Child] and [Blazing Little Warrior] Titles!]

[You have created the [Abyssal Death Chimera Demon: Gnome: Beery (C+ Rank)], [Beery] received the [Gnome Child] and [Earth's Blessed] Titles!]

[You have created the [Abyssal Death Chimera Demon: Earth Giant: Garon (C+ Rank)], [Garon] received the [Earth Giant Child] and [Little Titan] Titles!]

[You have created the [Curse Casting Ancient Lich Pharaoh: Akhenaton (A Rank)], [Akhenaton] received the [Curse Casting Warlock] and [Abyssal Curse Creator] Titles!]

[The new Created Undead have been saved within the [Soul Grimoire]!]

The System Point cost was surprisingly high due to their complexity and incredible amount of Talent though, I could have chosen not to spend the points, and make them weaker, but I wanted to spend some of these points, honestly I might have too many so I didn't really care.

The results were incredible! I was able to create a new race of "undead people" called Abyssal Death Chimera Demons, which could come in a variety of "sub-races" from Specter, Fire Djinn, Gnome, or Earth Giant.

All of these went well with the children's soul capabilities and talents, and also were very close to their original appearances, if not looking even fresher and stronger than when they were alive.

And as for the Pharaoh himself, he became a black-colored skeleton lich, covered in pharaoh get-up I got from his remains, he looked quite stylish with his staff, golden accessories, and other things.

"Hmm, excellent, this was what I was waiting for!" Laughed Akhenaton. "I shall now use this power to aid my master in slaying the damned Gods! Bwahahaha! HAHAHAAAA!"

He was going nuts! Well, to be expected of an Undead so resentful as Akhenaton, we could tell how much he hated the Gods through our fight.

"Uwaah! I can't believe it! It was THAT easy?! No way!" Spectra was amazed. "My body is all back! It doesn't even feel like I was once dead! Oh nice, even my Phantasmal Powers are possible with this physical form!"

"I feel much stronger than before too..." Beery said. "Oh, what is this sparkly magic thing in my hands?! Plants are coming out of it!"

"My flames seem stronger than ever!" Nick celebrated, conjuring fireballs, and making them float around him.

"I'm as tall as I remember, and my muscles look even more reinforced, this is just plain awesome!" Celebrated Garon.

"You guys are finally back!" Fabian cried, running to greet and hug his friends.

They were all really happy they could hug one another again. Spectra even gave him a big kiss on his cheek, making Fabian immediately turn as red as a tomato in embarrassment.

"Those children seem promising." The Pharaoh said. "It seems their wills to fight are stronger than their desire to pass out into the afterlife. We might not be so different from one another; I can tell they also want their revenge against their perpetrators."

"Indeed." I nodded. "So, anyways, let's go eat for now! Akhenaton, you better tell us a bit more of the past too! Like what happened with you and everything."

"My mind has become much clearer now with a body to sustain my soul, so certainly, I shall tell you the tragic tale of my past." He sighed, although he seemed rather excited about telling us about it.

As we walked outside the room that Sanctus II had left for us to do all this, I was greeted by the rest of my friends and family, little Nyx came flying to my side, hugging me tightly.

"Mama! There's a huge feast, let's go eat with everyone else!" She said excitedly, wagging her tail around.

My little girl had developed a lot since she hatched! I almost feel a bit nostalgic whenever I think about how much she had grown... She talks much more fluently now, and can fight on her own, she even evolved into an awesome new dragon.

[Name]: [Nyx Luna]

[Status]: [Happy] [Hungry]

[Race]: [Five-Eyed Abyssal Ghost Dragon Princess: Ahi Vritra]

[Level]: [18/80]

[Rank]: [A+++]

[HP]: [290.000/290.000]

[MP]: [350.000/350.000]

[Attack]: [275.000]

[Defense]: [275.000]

[Magic]: [300.000]

[Agility]: [285.000]

[Aether]: [150]

[Characteristic Skills]: [Dark Element: Lv--] [Death Element: Lv--] [Poison Element: Lv--] [Illusion Element: Lv--] [Fiend Language: Lv10] [Shadow Transportation: Lv8] [Abyssal Dragon Body: Lv10] [Supernatural Senses: Lv8] [Poisonous Scales: Lv8] [Ancient Dragon Heart: Lv--] [Morph: Lv--] [Shapeshift: Lv6] [Super Self-Regeneration: Lv7] [Hardened Dragon Scales: Lv8] [Ancient Death Dragon Domain: Lv8] [Little Gluttony: Lv6] [True Dragon Form: Lv5] [Lesser Divinity: Dragon Phantasm: Lv1] [Divine Phantasmal Dragon Body: Lv1] [Ahi Vritra Embodiment: Lv1]

[Resistance Skills]: [Status Effect Immunity: Lv--] [Magic Damage Resistance: Lv8] [All Element Resistance: Lv8] [Poison/Toxin/Venom Absorption: Lv-] [Erosion Resistance: Lv7] [Holy Light Resistance: Lv6] [Chaos Absorption: Lv1]

[Physical Skills]: [Phantasmal Grasp: Lv9] [Phantasmal Limbs: Lv8] [Abyssal Chaos Breath: Lv8] [Phantasmal Death Claws: Lv7] [Venomous Dragon Scale Powder: Lv7] [Third Draconic Eye of Death Perception: Lv5] [Fifth Draconic Eye of Phantom Control: Lv1] [Obsidian Demonite Crystal Scale Armor: Lv1] [Void Piercing Spear Tail: Lv1]

[Magical Skills]: [Greater Curse: Lv8] [Life Absorption: Lv9] [Spectral Phantasmal Flare: Lv1] [Abyssal Dark Star: Lv1] [Mana Mastery: Lv8] [Ancient Dragon's Aura: Lv8] [Void Shadow Spear: Lv1] [Blood Feast: Lv8] [Soul Devourer: Lv7] [Spear of Death: Lv8] [Summon Phantom Dragon Familiar: Lv7] [Fake Life: Lv5] [Shadow Sneak: Lv5] [Phantasmal Dragon Fusion: Lv5] [Phantasmal Dragon Fusion Magic: Lv1]

[Support Skills]: [Shadow Storage: Lv7] [Undead Healing: Lv7] [Summon: Lv6] [Spirit Summon: Lv5] [Materialization: Lv6] [Phantasmal Stomach: Lv8] [Draconic Phantom Boost: Lv1]

[Title Skills]: [Daughter of the Apostle of Death: Lv6] [Little Dragon Princess Of Death and Darkness: Lv6] [Chaos Bringer: Lv6] [Lesser Calamity: Lv6] [Gluttonous Eater: Lv6] [Tail Biter: Lv8] [Dragon Slayer: Lv4] [Plague Slayer: Lv5] [Little Devil: Lv7] [Fish Slayer: Lv4] [Amphibian Slayer: Lv4] [Undead Slayer: Lv6] [Ahi Vritra: Lv1]

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

Her Stats had increased by a lot, and she gained a lot of new Skills too! She even evolved some of her older Skills into much stronger and more amazing Skills too!

I noticed her Stats were growing rather evenly as well, and after glancing at her Growth, she gains +5k to all stats... with each Level! That's more than all of us, no?!

Only I have a higher growth in MP with 10k and Magic with 8k... But she wins over everyone else. Her stats might be lower than any of for now, but she might caught up really soon with those stat growths.

I find it funny her Tail Biter Title has been progressively leveling up too...

Oh, and who is the question mark divine protection?

It kind of makes me feel a bit concerned that they don't want to reveal their identity...

Chapter 844 Finally Taking A Slight Break

After checking my daughter's status, I felt slightly proud, she was really OP! It made me rather happy, to say the least. She had combined both my powers and those of Lucifer and Crystal, and on top of that, she was also a Little Calamity, further boosting her power.

After checking her Status, I was greeted by everyone else, who were looking for me for a while, seeing as I was with several new Undead, they were wondering what had occurred.

"Hey, who are the newbies?" Wondered Partner.

"Looks like more Undead." Emeraldine noticed.

"Even more?!" Lucifer was tired of them...

"Haha, well, the more the merrier, as they say!" Jonathan was trying his best to act cool about it.

"Veredorr was also an Undead..." Tear sighed, caressing her necklace.

"I just raised them as Undead, this is the pharaoh, and these kids are Fabian's friends." I introduced them to the rest of my party. "I guess I didn't explained things too much about what happened to them, how about we talk about this, and also about the Pharaoh's past while we join the feast with Sanctus II?"

"Alright!" Partner nodded immediately. "I'm honestly starving!"

"You always are starving, you never change." Laughed Catarina, who was accompanying them. "Since I know you that you've never been satiated, haven't you?"

"Huh? Wanna pick a fight or something?" Asked Partner angrily. "You're a much lesser Vampiress than me so you should be more respectful to me, humph!"

"Seriously, this girl..." Laughed Catarina.

"Catarina... Was Partner your boss back then?" Asked little Silva, who had leveled up a lot after she, Catarina, the twins, and Nyx defeated the Chimera.

"Oh no, I was her boss." Catarina lied while laughing.

"Oi! What are you talking about?! She's lying, Silva! I've never served her stupid ass!" Partner was furious, but at the same time, she was really funny when she gets angry.

"Auntie Partner always gets easily teased." Takeshi laughed. "Now that Catarina is here they'll be bickering all day."

"I missed this small dynamic a bit." Giggled Laura.

"Sigh, Partner, stop screaing so loudly, for everything that is sacred!" Lucifer facepalmed.

"Shut it, you emo dragon!" Partner crossed her arms.

"Hey! Don't call papa like that! Auntie Parnter, I don't like you anymore!" Nyx said angrily, pouting.

Partner instantly changed her expression the moment Nyx spoke those words. "E-Eh? Nyx! S-Sorry! I didn't mean it!"

However, Nyx ignored her, crossing her arms and pouting angrily, furrowing her cute eyebrows! She was totally not paying attention to her auntie!

"Hahaha! You guys are so hilarious, there's never a second of fun with everyone around." I smiled, laughing.

Honestly speaking, I love my party's banter, its what makes my life as a depressing undead all lively and fun. Without them around me, quite honestly, I would had never gotten this far.

"See? We made the lady laugh." Catarina smiled. "Don't get so angry now, Partner."

"Ugh, shut up." Partner sighed, crossing her arms. "Nyx! Please don't get angry with meeee!"

"Rarr!" Nyx showed Partner her little fangs!

Things got serious out of the blue.

"Eep!" Partner hid behind me. "Mariaaaa... she hates me now!"

"Sigh, the don't disrespect her father!" I gave her a little karate chop in the head.

BONK!

"Ouch... I guess I deserved that." She sighed. "Sorry, Lucifer... I won't call you a stupid, idiot, emo dragon ever again..."

"You just made it worse, but fine, whatever..." Lucifer sighed.

"Come on now, let's get along!" Emeraldine smiled radiantly. "We've been through a lot together, let's not fight, we're all family here."

"Yeah, yeah, I guess that's how we are, it's not that we hate each other anymore." Lucifer smiled.

"Yeah, what he said!" Partner nodded. "It's just what we are... He's a dumb lizard sometimes- Oops, I mean, an intelligent... scaled fellow."

"Hmph..." Nyx said, squinting her eyes. "I may forgive auntie Partner if she relinquishes her meat to me..."

"E-Eh?! But I'll starve!" Partner was about to die inside.

"Then a part of it..." Nyx smiled deviously.

"Okay..." Partner sighed, defeated.

"Yaaay!" Nyx raised her hands triumphantly.

They were quite indeed the goofy goobers.

"Is this how your party talks all the time?" The Pharaoh wondered behind me.

"Yes, get used to them, or well, you can just get inside my shadows." I shrugged.

"I might do that once we're done talking about my past..."

He wasn't the talkative type, I see.

"Welcome!" Sanctus II greeted us. "Come and join the Royal Feast! I've invited a lot of my political allies that were also in the jails down below, let's have a nice feast together!"

"Thanks for the hospitality, Sanctus Second~" I giggled, as we sat down to enjoy the feast.

The atmosphere was warm and entertaining, there were even musicians around, the food was abundant, mostly fruits and veggies, but we added our own meat we've had saved, and the chefs made a variety of amazing preparations.

What I loved the most was the Curry and Rice they had here! Yes, the Goldsand Confederation is rather famous for their Curry Spices, Rice, and other grains, so the food was filled with new and exotic tastes.

"S-So this Lich right here is the Pharaoh? And the Vampires had him? So the Dungeon down below..." Said Sanctus II in disbelief. "You cleared it?!"

"Yep, I conquered it and made the dungeon mine too, so the monsters will be regulated easily." I nodded. "You don't have to worry about this Dungeon any longer."

"Wow... Well, thanks a lot for that!" Said Sanctus II in surprise. "A-Anyways, sir, you said you're the Ancient Pharaoh of the Gerophyteles? I remember hearing they were the tribe of people that existed in the Goldsand Desert before we arrived here from the farther lands of the north..."

"Indeed..." The black skeleton nodded, with a dry and coarse voice, his presence made more than a few weaker politicians tremble. "I am the ancient pharaoh of such a huge civilization... Our demise was meet when we decided to defy the Gods, and used the Ancient Magics and Relics they had left behind..."

Chapter 845 The Scepter of Radiance

"We were once a prosperous Kingdom, that ruled over the Endless Sea of Sand with our great magical talent and magical artifacts." The pharaoh spoke. "Until we came across what sealed the fate of my people, the Ancient Relic known as the Scepter of Radiance, one of the Ancient Relics left behind by the God of Radiance and Sunlight, Baldr, one of Odin's sons."

"The Scepter of Radiance?!" Sanctus II asked. "I have heard about that treasure before... There are legends saying that it once was held in this city, but was given to someone else... A ruler from one of the confederation cities."

"The God's Relics are dangerous items, they hold the divinity of the gods, usually, they're left behind in our worlds sealed within dungeons." Sighed the Pharaoh. "We foolishly thought it was a gift from the gods themselves, and used the scepter for our own selfish means, utilizing its endless energy to create larger and larger magical artifacts. Our aim was the skies and the High Heavens, to reach Asgard, the Land of the Gods, and visit them! Alas... such dreams were foolish."

"It just happened one day, as our latest project, the Divine Star Carriage, a large magical artifact we were designing to travel across the stars was about to be finished. Light descended from the skies. A ray of judgement destroyed everything. My people... instantly vaporized. There were no screams, only a blinding light."

"Those that survived, including me, had done by escaping the surface and digging underground. The light was kept there, and would instantly burn anybody that moved to the surface into ashes..."

"At the end, our divine carriage could never be finished, and we were forced to do the least thing imaginable. Utilizing my subjects magic and life force, they sacrificed themselves to seal me within the pyramid's depths. However, it seemed that such a thing did not work as intended. The sealing failed, and the life of my subjects was sacrifice for nothing, as my body slowly decayed, and I became an undead instead of remaining in a state of hibernation."

"And so... we come here now, after having been controlled by those Vampires, as you call them, we are here... Now that I've been given a second chance thanks to the sacrifices of my subjects and master's benevolence, I wish to finish the Divine Star Carriage and reach Asgard, so I can make those Gods pay for taking away everything precious to me. I know it's selfish, some might think it was a deserved punishment for taking the Scepter... But I like to think that others would agree with me."

"It reminds me of what happened to me..." Tear sighed. "Though I was the one controlled by the Crown. It is strange how those gods left those relics behind and then blame us for taking them. Shouldn't they had simply destroyed them in that case?"

"Well, they are not really that smart to begin with." I sighed. "And above all, they seem to see mortals as nothing but little ants, its natural in a way, but at the same time, rather wicked. I don't know much yet, but I do know that since their conception by the Yggdrasil Tree that the Gods had been waging wars for supremacy, Odin is the most selfish and greedy of all the Gods. He battled Ymir and the Titans to reclaim the world for themselves, and by doing so, it ended splitting apart and merging together into what it is now. Now, he's going after Hel, Loki, and everyone else standing on his way. He might be aiming to attain something greater through the Evil God Fragments, and that might also be the reason why the Empire of Light is using the fragments to such an extent."

"The Evil God... Odin... Ugh, this conversation quickly became very overwhelming. Are you guys really... into that sort of thing? Ah, well, you're our saviors but..." Sanctus II was rather nervous.

"Don't worry, we will not bring the war against the Gods to these lands." Lucifer sighed, crossing his arms. "Don't worry about a thing, foolish human. We'll be leaving soon, probably to never return."

"Ugh, do you have to be so edgy about it?" I facepalmed. "We might return sometimes to trade materials and spices! But yeah, what he said... Don't worry."

"Phew..."

Several of the nobles present in the conversation, who were just as overwhelmed by the entire chat sighed in relief. Once we finished our big meal, we moved our conversation to a more private area, knowing that Sanctus II and the rest of the nobles didn't wanted to dip their toes into such a terrific subject, that might get them divinely punished.

"So we've learned a few things at least, that Scepter is pretty strong, and it could be distributed in the other two cities within Goldsand." I said. "The other thing is... This Divine Star Carriage thing, is it like a spaceship type of thing? Maybe we could use to get to Asgard, because I doubt we'll easily get into the skies without getting bolted a thousand times."

"Certainly." Laughed Akhenaton. "From what I remember, we were developing the Carriage within our second and third pyramids, far away from here. It seems that the people that came to the deserts after our fall made their cities around our pyramids, or above them, without realizing it. It must be because our Water-producing Magic Artifacts must have created Oasis, and the Dungeon that our Pyramids became provide with Magic Stones and Monster Materials, which seems to be what drives these cities to some sort of prosperity..."

"Kind of." Catarina shrugged. "It's better than... nothing at all, but not really good either. There's a lot of corruption. Thankfully, I hope things can be better now in here with Sanctus II."

"He better be, or we'll come here to dethrone him once more!" I laughed rather evilly. "Maybe we'll get Sanctus III by then..." I squinted my eyes.

"Enough tomfoolery for today..." Lucifer sighed. "I've grown rather tired of this place, should we move on now that we've found what we were looking for?"

"You're so hasty... But you're right, let's depart tomorrow morning." I nodded.

Chapter 846 The Divine Star Carriage

As we decided to move on to our next stop, the second city of Goldsand, Sapphire Temple, a city ruled by the Church of the Water Goddess, which has a rather tight grasp on Ruby Palace, we continued talking in private.

"Excuse me, Akhenaton..." Jonathan asked. "I... I don't know if you're aware, but I am a "chosen hero", a human given a Blessing from a young age. I was given the blessing of Baldr when I was a child. And since

then, I've always believed he was at least better than his father Odin. But... is this true? Did Baldr really do this to you?"

"We don't know if it was exactly him, but the Scepter belonged to this God, and he is known as a God of Brilliance and the Sun. That brilliant flare light that consumed it all... It couldn't had been anybody else. I doubt it was Odin, as the King of Gods, he wouldn't just come down to punish us, he would probably believe we are not even worth his time." Shrugged Akhenaton. "But it remains a mystery. If we ever find the Scepter, we could learn exactly who it was, if that god decides to attempt to punish us again for holding his treasure."

"I see..." Jonathan sighed. "Well, at this point I should just stop thinking about it too hard. Although, even after betraying the church, I have not lost my powers, which feels strange. Could it be that their blessings cannot be taken away once given?"

"Maybe." I shrugged. "Or maybe Baldr still considers you worthy... We don't really know. Though, at this point it must be really hard to take away the blessing because you've grown so powerful, your level is high and most of your skills are very high level too. Isn't it?"

"Y-Yeah, right..." Jonathan sighed. "I just have this weird paranoia where I might get my powers taken away from me at any time."

"Divine Blessings are not just some sort of piece of equipment that can be easily taken away from you. A god gifts you a piece of their soul, boosting your power, talent, and growth speed." Explained Akhenaton. "At first, it might be easier for them to take it back, but as you become stronger, it should be almost impossible, unless they come for it personally, or send a Divine Spirit to kill you and retrieve their Fragment."

"You sure know a lot..." Partner laughed. "How did you knew all of that?"

"We used to have those like Jonathan in our kingdom. Blessed ones, we named them Champions. There was the Champion of Water, the Champion of Light, and the Champion of Sun. But their appearances were brief amongst our history." Akhenaton explained. "Now, it seems they have once more appeared in other areas of the continent, I see."

"About Divine Spirits, do you know what they are?" I wondered.

"They're special beings, Spirits created by gods to carry their will, my kingdom, in more ancient ages, were visited by them, oftentimes bringing news from the gods themselves. Other times, they came to seal away an Evil God Fragment. They're silent and cryptic..." The Pharaoh said. "That's all I know."

"Well, we fought and killed one, that was serving Thor..." I laughed. "He wasn't that much of a big deal though, once I evolved to my current state, I squashed him like a bug."

"Impressive!" Akhenaton seemed rather fascinated by the tale. "Could I learn more about how you did it?"

Like that, we spent the rest of the day talking about many things. We learned a few more things about his kingdom, and about his people. And how it could be that some of the descendants of his people could quite possibly be the citizens of Goldsand now.

At the next morning, after having a hearty breakfast and leaving a lot of trees to produce fruit for the people as a new sustainable method to generate food for their population, we decided to depart.

Fabian and his friends had already decided to come along with us, and Catarina as well. Although she was free to go wherever she wanted, she decided to stick around and see this to the end.

"Thank you for everything, I hope we can meet again, Lady Maria." Sanctus II smiled, bowing his head to us.

"Sure, we'll come check things out from time to time." I smiled, waving my hand.

Lucifer was already on his gigantic dragon form, spreading out his huge black wings, and setting into flight.

"Bye-bye!" Little Nyx said, waving her tiny hand.

"I guess this might be the last time I see Ruby Palace." Fabian sighed. "Once we're done with this mission, we'll go to Lady Maria's village." Silently admiring the city as we slowly departed higher and higher into the skies.

"Oh, is that so?" Spectra wondered. "Sounds interesting, I guess. I am not going to miss the desert's sunlight at all though!"

"Ugh, I heard it's a bit cold over there, is it? I don't know if that'll be a good thing... We come from the desert and all after all, guys!" Said Nick. "We'll freeze even harder!"

"Aren't we like, freeze-proof now with our new bodies?" Beery wondered. "I think we'll be fine, Nick!"

"Hmm, it will be fun to set into faraway, and distant lands we've never seen before." Garon smiled into the distance. "Let's make sure to help Lady Maria as much as we can!"

"Eh? Ah, sure." Nick said, he didn't seemed to be that willing.

"Don't worry guys, it's not like I want you to work for me or anything, just stick around for the adventure." I shrugged. "Don't feel forced to do anything that you don't want to do."

"Well, thanks for the comforting words." Fabian sighed. "Ah, and Silva..."

"Hm?" Silva wondered, tilting her head.

"Sorry about being rude to you back then again... I know I've said this a few times already but... Sorry." Fabian sighed. "I wasn't right in the mind back then, so much stress and hunger... I..."

"It's fine!" Silva smiled gently. "We're all friends now, right, Fabian?"

"Silva..." Fabian sighed, giving the little lamb-like girl a few head pats. "Yeah, I would happily be your friend!"

With such adorable words, we set off to our next destination, Sapphire Temple, where the Second Pyramid was located, and where one of the Parts of the Divine Star Carriage were sealed.

And of course, to try to look for my little brother...

Chapter 847 The Oasis City Where Water Costs 1 Silver Coin

A tall and beautiful woman with a voluptuous and seductive body glanced at the large lines of filthy commoners that gathered around the Church of Springs. Her long blue hair waved by the wind, as her sharp sapphire-colored eyes looked at these people as if they were mere insects.

Wearing a series of white robes wrapped around her body, alongside dozens of golden accessories, rings, necklaces, and wristbands, she smiled, while drinking some fine wine.

"Another day, another bunch of useless commoners crying for water." She sighed. "Wouldn't it be about time our Goddess got rid of so much filth, I wonder?"

The people of Sapphire Temple gathered in front of the largest building in the city, the Temple of Springs to ask for water every day. This was because the Church of the Goddess of Water has been regulating the water from the Oasis ever since the last Lord was dethroned by the church itself.

Back then, people could get water from many wells, but now, the wells had been completely dried, and everyone had to come ask for water to the church itself, who closed all ways to get to the Oasis, tightly guarding the place with many guards and high-level paladins.

Of course, it was quite clear it was all a plot by the nobility, who had grown just as corrupted as the church. They happily gave water to anybody that came asking for it, yes...

For a price, that's it.

"Please, my child hasn't drank water in many days! Her head hurts and her lips are all dry! Please spare some water...!"

"Sorry, ma'am, but a cup of water is one silver coin."

"I-I don't have that much money! Nobody here does!"

"Get her out of here."

The blue-robed priestess quickly called a Sapphire Paladin, as a tall, muscular man wearing blue armor stepped in, grabbing the famished woman away and throwing her into the streets.

BAAM!

"Agh...! M-My arm...! You're all so awful... Sniff... Why are you asking for money?! The oasis is said to be a gift of the goddess! It never dries out thanks to her magic! Why are you keeping it all for yourselves?!"

The woman screamed, only for the paladin to glare at her with eyes filled with disgust.

"The gift of the goddess is, naturally, for those she favors. Filthy commoners that have done nothing but be a nuisance to nobility and the church have no rights to the water. Earn your right to drink or die. Next time, I won't go easy on you."

The man walked away after saying those cold words, the woman felt defeated, yet nobody came to her help. She slowly stood back up, running back to her house to find her child famished, with dried lips, and barely breathing.

She has been feeding him whatever liquid she has found, but even now, they could barely afford some dried, stale bread she was paid for her work in the fields, or the grasses she often ate, which had a bit of water in them.

Fruits and the like were too rare and expensive... So people often drank blood from animals or giant bugs, though that only got them sick most of the time, and it was a last resort thing.

"D-Don't worry dear, I will give you something to drink... Mama will not... give up on you."

As the woman said those words, a few tears flowed from her eyes, which she gathered with a spoon and feed them to her child silently.

Around the church, the people kept bringing whatever pennies they had, being given a cup of water, half a cote, or somethings a few cups if they had a bit more wealth.

The money kept coming every day, the priests and paladins smiled, and the Saintess looked from afar, atop her Temple.

"Give us water!"

"Water is a right! You can't just not give us! Stop this!"

"We all work hard here to drink!"

"We're dying! Please help us!"

"W-We don't have any money..."

"Someone, please- Urgh!"

Of course, there were always protestants that would try to get water brute force. Those people would be dealt by the Paladins, who kicked them, punched them, and dragged them away.

This was a sight of almost every day, some found it rather unsightly, yet others were finding some amusement to it, especially the Priests.

Knock, knock!

Suddenly, the doors leading to the room of the blue-haired beauty were gently knocked by someone.

"Saintess Emilia."

The voice of an old man came through.

"Yes? You can come in."

Creaak...

The door opened to reveal a tired-looking white-haired man, wearing rather good-looking clothes, brown-skinned, and with emerald eyes.

"Oh, but if isn't the Ex-Lord, Sir? Is there something you need?"

The blue haired woman smiled back at him almost mockingly.

"Please stop this... I am imploring you!"

The man got himself on his knees, asking with all his soul for her to stop.

"Stop what?"

"Please stop asking the commoners for money in exchange of Water! Let the wells be filled again! The water of the Oasis is endless! You know that! So why are you denying them a gift that everyone can get?!"

"Sigh... So it was that what you were asking about. Once again, Ex-Lord, you see..."

Emilia slowly walked towards the pitiful man, gently lifting his chin.

"The water is a blessing of the goddess, and the goddess told me to not give it to filthy commoners without a price. This money goes directly to the maintenance of the city and the church. Even the nobles get a share." She laughed. "Why should I disobey her orders, which benefit us all for a better future?"

"It's inhumane... The goddess would never ask such a thing!" The Ex-Lord cried.

"So annoying. You squirm like a rat and speak like an insect, are you really nobility?" The Saintess laughed, kicking the man's face.

BAAAM!

"Urrgh...!"

The man pathetically rolled over the floor, bleeding from his nose, despite looking so gorgeous and delicate, the woman's Strength Stat was enough to crush his skull into pieces if she wanted, yet she was quite gentle with that kick.

"Go away, before I call the Paladins. And they won't be so gentle... Remember our deal. If you try this again, your family will pay for it." The Saintess said. "Got it~?"

And then, she gave him a gentle smile, filled with sarcasm.

Chapter 848 Arriving At Sapphire Temple

After half a day of flying across the skies, at the distance, we were able to see a large city, surrounded by huge walls made of stone. It seemed rather similar to the Ruby Palace city, but one key difference is that it lacked a huge palace where the Lord lived, and instead had an enormous temple, built using blue colored stones.

It must be the Temple of the Goddess of Water, where the church operates. I doubt the church is going to be anything by friendly, and they might be already in cahoots with Vampires for all I know. But our first mission there is to investigate things.

In Ruby Palace things were easier because we happened to find those kids, which pretty much helped us learn everything, but we don't know if there's the same thing in this place.

"Alright Akhenaton, get inside my shadow for now."

"Very well, Master."

The Pharaoh instantly merged into my shadows to hide from the public. A huge skeleton like him was bound to bring attention.

Fabian and his friends looked a bit odd as well, but they could still be thought to be Majin or Beast People, which weren't that common, but that we did see in Ruby Palace.

"Look! Silva look!" Nyx was excited about the city. "We can see it already! Papa's bringing us there! It's the Saphir... palace thing!"

"Woow!" Silva seemed just as amazed to discover a new place.

She and Nyx had already become good friends, they seemed to be around a similar age too, so it was rather easier for them to get along. And although Fabian was friendly with them, he was much more interested in his revived friends now.

Of course, there was Takeshi and Laura, who were already very close with Nyx, and Silva was accepted just as easily as well.

"So this is the Sapphire Temple City." Takeshi said, rubbing his chin. "Hmm, I smell a lot of water, their Oasis is bigger than the one from Ruby Palace."

"Yeah, but it's odd..." Laura's eyes glowed brightly, utilizing her sight-enhancement abilities. "It seems... like they're surrounding the whole oasis with another wall? What in the world?"

"A wall?" I wondered. "Let's see..."

I opened my eyes more widely, and channeled Mana into them, and then many more eyes opened within my single eye thanks to my Gorgon's Eyes Skill.

And indeed, she was right. I noticed how their huge Oasis was surrounded by several gigantic walls, and the temple was right in front of it, the entire walls were guarded by many paladins.

This is odd... Why are they guarding the Oasis so much when it produces endless water with the artifact Akhenaton spoke about?

"It's really weird! Are they saving the water for themselves or something?" Nyx wondered. "That's a bit mean!"

"Catarina, have you been here before?" Emeraldine asked. "This is really strange."

"A few times, but I had no idea about that. I usually don't get that far from the suburbs, where I save people. Sometimes I give them food and stuff, and then just go off." Catarina shrugged. "But I have heard that for the last ten years, the church over there has become... increasingly corrupted. We should go and explore the place thoroughly."

"I agree." Lucifer nodded. "If this is like this, we need to find out what's happening. I am beginning to think that not only the Vampires are the problem in these cities anymore..."

"A church, huh? I-I hope they don't recognize me." Jonathan sighed.

"Well you're a handsome blonde man with shiny eyes! I think it would be hard to not be recognized as the hero of light and stuff!" Said Partner. "Make sure to at least wear a mask or something..."

"Ugh... Well, that's an option. I'll try to wear my helmet." Jonathan said, putting on a huge golden helmet.

"Wouldn't that bring even more attention to you?!" I asked in surprise. "You look like a Templar that came from a legendary crusade..."

"Is it really that bad?!" Jonathan panicked.

"I guess we are bound to get attention to your group, we all look very different and big... Myself included." Tear sighed. "Anyways, we're getting closer... Lucifer should go down if you don't want to scare the people."

"I know." Lucifer descended at a safe distance, as we made our way into the Sapphire Temple City by foot, reaching the gates, which were being guarded by a small group of guards.

"Well, well, this is quite the party, are you Adventurers? There's nothing much here. Our Dungeon's just filled with mummies." Said one of the guards.

"Yeah, I'm Adventurer Mary, nice to meet you." I tried to be polite. "Is there any entrance fee? Is showing our cards enough?"

"Even with adventurer licenses, the entrance fee is one silver per head." Said another guard.

"So expensive!" Partner said. "What? Is your damn city made of gold or something?!"

"Outsiders like you have no right to talk like that! Outsiders are the ones that need to pay, citizens can enter and go outside for free." Sighed another guard. "If you don't like it, you can come back from where you came from!"

"What did ya say?!" Partner was about to beat some sense into that guy, but I stopped her.

Money wasn't really a problem, so I didn't mind paying as much as they wanted anyways. I gave them a bag filled with enough silver coins to pay for all of us, and once they counted them, we were allowed inside.

"Please control the behavior of your little Majin friend, we don't like rude people here."

"Who are you calling Majin?!" Partner was looking for a fight again. "I am a- Mffgh?!"

I covered her mouth before she were to say something dumb, as we made our way inside the city. Vampires still count as Majin, but saying she's one so openly is bound to get us in trouble.

As we were already mixing with the crowd, Partner sighed, asking for forgiveness. She had been a bit hot-headed there.

"S-Sorry... I think the heat is making me a bit irritable."

"I can tell... Well, now that-"

"Please, anybody... can someone give my child some water?! He's dying! Please!"

Suddenly, a woman carrying a dehydrated, famished child started screaming in the middle of the crowd, nobody paying attention to her.

Chapter 849 Helping

"Please, anybody... can someone give my child some water?! He's dying! Please!"

Suddenly, a woman carrying a dehydrated, famished child started screaming in the middle of the crowd, nobody paying attention to her.

"Water? She's asking for water? Shouldn't that be available easily through the wells?" Asked Emeraldine. "Do you need some water? I think I could conjure some easily."

Emeraldine suddenly took out a cup of water from her bag and filled it with water with a simple Water Ball Magic Spell, which anybody with some Magic Circle knowledge could conjure even without talent.

"A-Ahhh...! W-Water! Thank you! Thank you so much!"

The woman quickly gave the water to her child, and the small boy, who looked to be around five years of age, slowly drank the cup until it emptied.

"Hahh... Hahh..." The famished boy seemed to feel much more refreshed, his eyes shining bright blue.

"Better now?" Emeraldine smiled.

"Well, I was about to give her water, but I guess you won the race," I added.

"If you need more, I could make some blocks of ice for you, they'll melt in a while and they'll become drinkable water." Said Tear.

"T-Thank you so much, you're not from here, are you not? Travelers with the power to conjure water... Magicians of much strength, I see..." She muttered. "Ugh..."

"Of course, take some water yourself too." Emeraldine offered the woman water as well.

"T-Thank you!"

"Water?"

"I saw her! She created water!"

"A priest?!"

"No, I've never seen those clothes around here!"

"T-Travelers...!"

"Please give us water, any!"

"If it's easy to conjure, it wouldn't bother you, right?!"

"We're too thirsty! We need water, please, we implore you!"

Suddenly, a large flock of people started to gather around Emeraldine, Tear, and me. They were all desperate for water. And I could tell, their faces looked tired and older than they should look.

They had big bags below their eyes, not provoked by lack of sleep, and their lips were as dry as raisins. They were suffering and needed some water.

And naturally, we'll supply it!

"Sure, please, stand in a line. We'll give you as much as you need! Bring anything to carry it!" I decided to just bear with the responsibility now that we went so far.

"T-Thank you so many adventurers!"

"We'll be right back!"

"P-Please don't go away!"

"Thank the goddess, she has not abandoned us!"

"Are you sure about this?" Lucifer walked in while raising an eyebrow.

"It's not like we can step back now." Emeraldine sighed. "I cannot bear seeing people like this just for something as normal as water, something we think for granted is a privilege here. That can't be real!"

"I guess we'll be distributing water for a little while." I shrugged. "Might as well get a bit comfortable."

I took out some seats and a table from my inventory and sat near a house with Emeraldine. I made a big wooden sign saying, "FREE WATER!", and if there were any cocky thugs, Lucifer, Jonathan, Partner, and Tear stood around us, looking big and strong, nobody dared come to us asking for more water than the rest.

When the day ended, we had supplied water to who knows how many people, perhaps over a thousand. This city was much larger than Ruby Temple, and while we distributed water, we talked with the lady we helped beforehand and her child whom we had given some fruits and sandwiches.

Her name was Nia and her son's name was Celes, both were just commoners, like many others. She had lost her husband to the disease two years ago, and since then has been raising her little son all by herself even in these terrible times.

"The church... it happened ten years ago. The Lord suddenly gave the entire city to the church, and since then, they closed the Oasis and dried the Wells, leaving us with no water." Nia sighed. "Since then, they had been asking for money in exchange. Fifteen copper for half a cup, a silver for one cup, and one gold for a liter."

"A-Are you kidding me?! They're asking money for water?!" Partner was seriously angered. "Not even giving it some flavor or making it into a soup at least?"

"Those without money had been surviving by drinking animal blood or eating grass that has a bit of water inside. Even cactuses are too expensive, intensively farmed by slightly wealthier commoners." Sighed Nia, her brown skin and long dark green hair made her look rather gorgeous, despite how tired and famished she looked after enduring for so long.

"Mama, this sandwich is very tasty!" Celes had been practically reborn, the green-haired boy with bright blue eyes was happily eating his third sandwich already, and his stomach was already very big. "Have some too!"

"I already had one, save it for later dear. We won't have this much food in the future." Nia caressed his little head. "Okay?"

"O-Okay..." Celes nodded, wrapping his sandwich with a piece of cloth.

"If possible, once we're done here, you'll have enough food to eat every day, as much as you want," Emeraldine said with a gentle smile.

"Yep. We've come here to shake things up a bit." I laughed. "We would like to ask a few other questions, but in private..."

"O-Of course, come, although I am dirt poor, I do have a small, tiny house of my own," Nia said, as she led us to almost the end of the suburbs, a small house with just a single room. She had hidden most of her things underground so they wouldn't steal them, though she barely had anything anyway.

"I don't have much to offer you other than some dried cactus..." Nia said humbly.

"It's fine," I said. "Thanks for the meal."

We accepted her food to not be rude... It was chewy and had no flavor at all and left my mouth tasting like ashes! Ugh, they eat this every day?!

"So anyways." Lucifer started to conversation after Emeraldine began growing a huge tree behind her house with fruits. "Have you heard any rumors about... human experimentations? Anything in that regard? Vampires? People disappearing? Or chimera children?"

"T-That's..." Nia immediately had a rather surprised reaction yet seemed to know something. "Well... it is already well known that... people that are jailed after trying to get water from the Oasis are never seen again. I heard someone say... they turn them into monsters."

.
. .
. . .

Meanwhile, within the Sapphire Palace's church, Saintess Emilia enjoyed yet another delicious dinner filled with many plates, alongside her loyal Priestesses and her Paladins.

However, out of nowhere, a low-ranking priest entered the room, bringing her some rather... bitter news, ruining her evening.

"What?! You say some foreigners came and gave away the blessings of the Goddess so easily?!"

Emilia instantly grew furious! Her flawless face turned red, and her hair seemed to be waving by the aura of anger she exuded.

BAAAM!!

She hit the table with a furious fit of rage and then calmed down, glaring back at the messenger.

"Dammit! Immediately send your strongest paladins to deal with those knaves! If they're adventurers, they won't be easy to take down. But nothing you guys can't do with your improved bodies."

Chapter 850 The Myth Of The Divine Oasis Spirit

"T-They turn them into monsters?!" Asked Emeraldine. "Ah... Wait, why am I acting surprised? We've seen this way too much at this point, it should have been expected. Still, it's terrible..."

"I-I am not really sure myself, that's mostly what we've heard around." Nia sighed. "But in these parts of the city, there have been many of my friends that couldn't afford water anymore, and tried to steal some of the water from the Oasis, I never saw them ever again..."

"That's way too extreme though, why would they do that just for water?!" Partner was losing it. "This is too extreme! What in the world is going on in those people's heads?"

"We all can relate to that, they're simply insane... The church of the water goddess used to be a really nice place, they often did charity, shared food, and even sometimes helped us with money." Sighed Nia. "However, things changed once that woman appeared here... The Saintess of Water, someone that was sent from the Empire of Light to "supervise" us..."

"The Saintess of Water?" I asked, feeling intrigued. "What do you know about her, Nia?"

"Very little, I just know she showed up a few years ago. She never shows herself except on very special occasions, once a year, and in front of everyone to give some sort of speech... Everyone hates her because she's the one that has made our city like it is now..." Sighed Nia. "She must have been told to gather money for the church or something, and ended up doing this strategy, forcing the population to drain their pockets and pay the church for the "water goddess' blessing" as she calls the water in the Oasis..."

"So that bitch just came here and ruined everybody's lives." Partner sighed, crossing her arms. "Huh, well, not like we haven't met our fair share of assholes like these before..."

"The Empire of Light sent her?" Wondered Jonathan. "I doubt she came here just for the money, it might as well just be some sort of strategy, to make people desperate, to cut the population, and both

generate money and also opportunities... for her and whoever she's working with to take prisoners through "legal" means, such as punishing the "sinners" for trying to steal the water goddess' blessings..."

"T-That's..." Nia muttered. "Ah, I... remember something else, there was this rumor circulating that she had told some Paladins she came here looking for the Oasis Spirit Reincarnation..."

"Oasis Spirit Reincarnation?" I wondered, as I noticed Nyx and the kids playing around with Nia's son, little Celes, who had regained his energy and vitality after eating a lot.

"It is an old tale... Our city, before they came and stopped us from drinking the water, has prospered for many generations. The Oasis wasn't without its guardian. A Spirit inhabited that Oasis, someone everyone prayed to and offered offerings." Nia explained while drinking the tea we prepared.

"So she was like an actual goddess should be, unlike that water goddess bitch that came and stole the water of people." Partner nodded.

"Partner, I am not someone that usually thinks about these things but mind your manners for once." Lucifer sighed. "Though, yeah, she sounds like a bitch."

"Hahaha... W-Well, it is on the writings of our city, the beautiful Oasis Spirit protected the city, and helped everyone live happily." Nia said. "I remember always hearing tales of her from my mother... Not only from all the tales of people receiving her help and blessings but also... of the tragedy that struck her."

"A Tragedy?" Wondered Tear. "Wait, she's not a myth but a real being, is it possible for such a big and powerful spirit to exist?"

"Ahem!" Tyr suddenly materialized above me. "She was most likely a Divine Spirit, they're special beings that are like you guys, Demigods. Also, to ascend and all, you need to turn your souls into Divine Spirit Realm, which is pretty much what you're doing unknowingly."

"W-What?" Partner wondered confusedly.

"Anyways, they're like the ones Emeraldine has, right?" I asked.

"Hmmm, not exactly, those guys are still small, they gained Divine Qualities but are dependent on Emeraldine's own Divinities, so they're Lesser Divine Spirits, maybe." Said Tyr. "Anyways, this Oasis Spirit girl... It's a bit suspicious, did the Pharaoh know about his Oasis having that?"

"No, I don't remember any sort of divine spirit appearing in the Oasis we created." Suddenly, the Pharaoh appeared from my shadows, scaring Nia.

"A s-skeleton!" She cried, pointing at the skeleton emerging from my shadows.

"D-Don't worry, he's a good guy now!" I said. "I am a Necromancer, so I deal with all sorts of Undead... Sorry for not telling you before."

"A-Ah... H-He's not going to harm me?" The young mother wondered.

"Hahaha, don't worry." I laughed. "He's a good ol' pile of bones! Right? Come on, rattle your bones to entertain the lady."

"Hmm... I'll go back for now." The Pharaoh didn't obey my orders and just went back to the shadows, meeting the sleeping Arachne in there.

"A-Anyways! Can you continue?" I asked. "Sorry about that... Also, I'm surprised you didn't react surprised when you saw Tyr appear."

"Tyr? Who?" Nia wondered.

"She can't see me unless I want her to see me, so don't worry about it," Tyr said. "Anyways, I want to know more about this Divine Spirit. She might have some sort of relationship with the Goddess of Water. In fact... I am beginning to think that the reason her Saintess is here looking for the spirit's reincarnation is this very connection."

"Huh, well, can you continue?" I asked again. "I'll serve you another tea~"

"O-Oh, yes..." Nia sighed. "Sorry for acting surprised... We usually only see Undead in the Pyramid Dungeon, and nobody steps foot in there due to its dangerousness... Its gates are being protected by the church. Well, there used to be a lot of adventurers coming here from all around the continent, but now because it was closed forever, our market has become staller without the adventurers coming here, which also attracted merchants..."

"I see..." I nodded. "You must have terrible memories about Undead, sorry about that."

"I-It's fine, anyways... Well, this is the "end" of the Divine Oasis Spirit's tales, the tragedy that struck her..." Sighed Nia.