

Abyssal A 461

Chapter 461 - 461: Limiter Removal

While Alice and the others were slowly closing in on Esna, Keira hovered above the clouds while a flaming aura flickered around her body.

During this entire time, she wasn't just watching. No, she has been accumulating as much power as her body could contain.

If she was a normal human, she would've long reached her limit. But as a hybrid, the benefits of being a beast allowed her to accumulate far more energy than what should be possible.

In fact, it is because she's a hybrid that she could get the benefits of both sides. The control and utilisation of Abyssal Energy of a human and the capacity and adaptability of a beast.

A constant tether to the Abyss that funnelled power directly into her body.

Breathing in the air around her, Keira could feel the pulse of energy running through her body.

After all this time of accumulating energy, her appearance had changed somewhat.

Three pairs of flaming wings had long unfurled behind her. Its radiant aura shrouded by the light of the sun.

A halo of flames spun behind her and on the halo, miniature stars orbited.

One attack with all her might. To completely erase the existence of Alice. An attack that she had been preparing for the last few days.

"Ah~ I can feel it." Keira muttered, raising her hands towards the sun.

The apex of her power, the absolute limit.

Clasping her hands together, she shattered her bestial form and activated her second resonance.

Human Beast Hybrid!

Around her, obsidian armour and flaming cloth decorated her body. A fusion of red, purple and orange.

Ribbons of energy danced around her while the spectral visage of her bestial form hovered behind her.

Should Alice see this with her own eyes, she'll recognise it to be the fully manifested version of the Bloodline Release!

Tapping into her bestial bloodline, Keria's pupils turned draconic while scales and armour appeared along her arms and legs.

Now that she was in her second resonance, she activated a ritual.

Beneath her, a ritual circle manifested.

"Energy levels exceed regulation. Second Resonance activated. Subject 12, designation Keria, requesting for limiter removal." Keira muttered as flames exploded from her back.

Around her, the flames coalesced into humanoid figures.

Her aura spiked as the figures stood in silence and soon, one stepped forward.

[Failure is not allowed. Eliminate the enemy at all cost.]

"Accepted."

[Your identity shall not be divulged and secrets shall not be revealed.]

"Accepted."

[Leave no survivors. Eliminate all witnesses.]

"Accepted."

A smile appeared on the humanoid's face as their figures began to disappear.

[Limiter removal approved.]

*CLANG SHATTER!!!!

The sound of chains breaking could be heard as her aura increased by threefold.

Golden lights converged from around the world as Sigil markings shimmered across Keira's body while the rapid pulsing of energy through her veins could be seen.

The ultimate power that she could harness, one that rivalled that of a Lord!

*BANG!!!

Flames erupted from her eyes as the obsidian armour around her body shattered leaving only the garment of fire.

Flying up until the world around her became a balance of the infinite cosmos and the realm of man, Keria hovered and glanced down at the world.

Behind her, the flaming wings began to expand.

The spectral beast behind her cracked open its jaws as the energy from her wings began to dissolve into strands of energy that gathered into a singular orb.

Opening her mouth, she swallowed the orb. At that moment, her body began to immolate as she fell towards the impact zone. Flames continuously gathered around her, transforming her into a devastating meteor of destruction.

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As they approached the last stretch of the journey, Alice let out a sigh of relief.

Around the next mountain, they'll finally be able to see Esna. Even though her the warnings in her gut never faded, it'll soon cease to be her problem.

"Maybe you should sleep for a bit. You haven't slept at all the last few days." Selen furrowed her brows in worry. She had tried to convince Alice previously but she was stubborn, saying that she couldn't rest while still feeling the danger.

But no matter how they scouted, nothing was nearby. Yet despite this, Alice still maintained the defensive grid around them.

"It's fine. It's just one more mountain." Alice shook her head with a smile.

She could feel a cold chill from within her body, it wasn't the chill from her surroundings but rather the chill from not sleeping.

No matter how powerful she is, she still has to respect the limits of her body otherwise it'll collapse from stress.

"We're basically home already. Even if something happened, can't they send reinforcement quickly?" Egil followed up as Alice was somewhat swayed.

He wasn't wrong. With the retreat of the frontlines, Esna had become a hub of warriors. Any incident this close to Esna would have the warriors rushing over rather quickly.

But at the same time, this was a Hybrid that they were talking about. It wasn't something that the average warrior could handle as proven by the ambush when they were journeying to the port.

If the Hybrid that could manipulate the Void better than she could were to appear once more with an army, how were they supposed to respond? What if the Zenias send more hybrids? After all, she didn't know how many there were.

In the end, Alice nodded her head and retrieved her grid. Fatigue immediately flooded her body as she had continuously fuelled the grid for the last few days. But even so, she couldn't sleep.

The grid may have disappeared but she still wanted to stay awake at least until they reached Esna.

Pulling out some fruit, Alice gave it a bite. The fruit's healing effect was soothing as usual but wasn't as effective as she expected. Granted, the fruit was more for the body rather than mental exhaustion.

"I feel like I can sleep for 24 hours." Alice groaned, causing Selen to laugh.

She would prefer it if Alice indeed slept for 24 hours after everything that has happened.

*Drip...

Furrowing her brows, Alice noticed that she was sweating. In this weather?

Glancing around her, she noticed that people had taken off their fur coats. The snow around them was slowly melting and the warning signs were screaming in her mind.

"I didn't know the north had a summer this late into the year. Isn't it close to winter now?" Selen asked Egil who tilted his head.

"Hmm... it is a bit strange. It's not supposed to get this hot."

Hearing this, Alice immediately stood up and expanded her grid once more, trying to pinpoint the anomaly but it was no use. Once again, there was no danger around them.

'Cayla, is it Solaris?' Alice questioned. The first thing she thought when it came to heat was the sun God but Cayla shook her head.

[There is no sign of divinity. This isn't Solaris' doing.]

Furrowing her brows, the bad feeling continued to grow.

At this point, even Torgeir was concerned about the sudden increase in heat as the snow around them had completely melted away.

Shielding her eyes, Alice glanced up at the sky. It felt as though she was suddenly transported to the desert with this heat. But the way the temperature was climbing up was clearly abnormal.

It wasn't a gradual climb, no. It was as if someone was turning up the dial.

At that moment, Alice noticed a slight fluctuation within the sun's radiance. Upon noticing this fluctuation, the uncanny feeling returned to her heart as her pupils shrunk. A shock went through her system as she was jolted awake immediately.

"BARRIERS! DEFENCES! NOW!!!" Alice shouted at the top of her lungs, shocking the people around them.

Without hesitation, Selen immediately activated her time slow barrier.

Torgeir glanced around for signs of danger but questions flooded his mind.

"Where?"

"It's not the sun! It's the enemy's attack!" Alice shouted back, activating her Sigils.

She wasn't a defensive fighter so the only thing she could do was try to offset the attack with an equal or greater power. However, she wasn't sure if there was even enough time to prepare something powerful enough.

Not only that, but the flickering orb of fire was still gathering energy with each passing second.

Upon hearing her shout, everyone glanced up and saw the spiralling orb of flames that began to dye the sky in a deep red. Black, red and purple flames twisted to become an icon of destruction.

Many of the defensive warriors wanted to create barriers but as the meteor came closer, the difference in energy rooted them in their spot.

Even if they were to put barriers, it would be akin to using a piece of paper to stop the crashing tides. It was inevitable.

Gritting her teeth in anger, Alice created a bow and gathered her flames into a single arrow.

Resonance!

Briar thorns and spider lilies manifested across her body but it still wasn't enough.

Partial Bloodline Release!

"Feast!"

Activating both the bloodline release and her ritual with Alyss, the flaming arrow on her body exploded with power but it was still lacking in the face of this attack.

Even with the embers of a fallen divinity, she lacked time to properly gather this power. Hell, even with the proper time and preparation, the flood of energy from the meteor from this distance was enough to tell her that it was far beyond her capacity.

Trying to contest it was simply foolish but it doesn't mean Alice was willing to roll over and die. There was only one choice left. A Sigil that allowed her to increase her maximum capacity while draining those near her.

Since they weren't going to prepare a barrier anyway, they have no use for their energy!

Fifth Sigil activated!

Scarlet Wings, Demonic Descent!

Chapter 462 - 462: Meteor Incarnate

Upon activating her fifth Sigil, Alice felt a stabbing pain in her back.

Gritting her teeth, flames and blood erupted behind her as it began to twist itself into a pair of scarlet wings.

However, it wasn't limited to just herself. The world around her seemed to bend to her influence. A malevolent aura spread out, dying the world around them in crimson.

Everyone who looked at Alice felt a chill down their spine. It felt as though looking at her for too long would siphon the soul from their body as none of them dared to look for longer than a second.

Killing intent oozed out of every part of Alice as she activated the second skill of Scarlet Wings, Demonic Descent.

The first skill was Crimson Immolation which she didn't need right now. She needed to keep her sanity rather than go into a berserker state.

The second skill, however, was why she needed this skill at this moment.

Halo of Ruin!

Energy converged above Alice's head as a crimson halo started to manifest. A crimson ornament that radiated a malefic light.

With this light, Alice's entire body seemed to be covered by a deep shadow, leaving only her eyes, spider lilies, halo and wings visible. A contrast of black and red.

Within this light that covered the caravan, semi invisible hands latched onto the soldiers and began to siphon their energy before funnelling it into Alice.

Immediately, the arrow in her hands exploded out with power like never before. The energy of countless soldiers funnelling into her caused blood to seep from her eye and mouth but Alice maintained her concentration.

Even with this boost in power, it was still inferior to the meteor descending upon them. If she were to release the arrow now, it would only shatter apart in the collision!

While Alice was gathering power, her aura continued to spread as the world seemed to shift. It felt as though a personal realm was being expanded but that was not the case. It was simply her aura distorting the realm around them.

At this moment, Alice felt a cold hand touch her shoulder.

A rift was beginning to form between her and the surface.

Similar to how one feels when they are jumping off from a tall building, Alice could 'see' where the 'ground' was. If she was to reach that, she would be expelled from this realm.

Biting her lip, Alice pulled back harder on the arrow as black tendrils of energy started to slither out of her body. Countless crimson eyes could be seen within these tendrils as their scarlet light helped Alice siphon more energy from her surroundings.

The more Alice siphoned, the less 'human' she felt. Even Selen felt a chill like no other as it seemed like Alice was going down a path that no human should walk down.

*Badum... Badum...! Badum!!!

The Abyss Heart began to beat in Alice's chest. With the increase in energy, a portion was filtered into the heart, awakening it from its slumber.

Behind her, another pair of wings sprouted while fragments of obsidian emerged from her chest and fused with the Halo of Ruin. Its scarlet light was dyed a deep black as the world seemed to freeze.

*RUMBLE!!!

The essence of the Abyss flooded out from the tip of Alice's arrow.

Torgeir's pupils shrank in shock as he was familiar with this energy! Abyss Break!

Instinctively, he could sense that Alice was causing a fracture to manifest between the dimensions as suspicion filled his mind. Is she the reason why they were able to use the Abyss Break in Kvía? No, it wouldn't make sense. After all, an Abyss Break happened while she was away.

But then what is her connection to the Abyss? Or at least, how was she able to utilise its power?

*BANG!!!

A fissure exploded in front of Alice as strands of energy from the Abyss began to coil around her arrow. Countless weaves twisted together as a spiral of energy drifted down from the arrowhead.

With how much energy was now flooding through Alice's body, her skin began to tear apart as her blood only fuelled her attack further. However, no matter how eager Alice was, she knew that this was her limit. If she was to go beyond this, her body would break apart before her arrow even left the bow.

Void Flux!!!

Releasing the arrow, a moment of silence followed before a torrent of energy shot towards the meteor.

The ground beneath Alice shattered apart as a pulse of energy exploded out, shattering the trees and wagons around her. Warriors were flung into the air while those who reacted fast managed to stabilize themselves on the ground. However, the ground they stabilized themselves upon was ripped from the earth and disintegrated from the residual energy of Alice releasing her arrow.

Above, the meteor tore through the clouds.

A flash of light blinded the world before dying it in a horrific shade of black and red.

Within the meteor, the silhouette of a serpentine beast crafted from flames roared out. The loud whistle of the meteor entering the world and shattering the sound barrier roared out as Keria collided with the arrow.

*BANG!!!

Upon collision, several rings of fire pulsed out, obliterating the mountains that hid Esna from view. Following the rings of fire, a wave of heat melted the snow and withered the trees.

Gritting her teeth, veins bulged on Keira's neck as she couldn't believe that a single arrow made in a panic had enough power to hold her back.

"ARGGGG!!!" Letting out a shout, she raised her right foot before slamming down, causing a secondary explosion to erupt as she gained another boost in power.

*CRACKLE!!!

Detonating beneath her, the Void Flux erupted into a maelstrom of energy, forming a singularity beneath Keria's feet as raw energy exploded out, threatening to consume everything in its path.

Bolts of energy crashed against the surroundings with no care of who it hit as several Warriors couldn't even scream before they were reduced to dust.

Above them, reality began to warp. On one end, the unstoppable power of a meteor incarnate and on the other, the wrath of the Abyss that attempted to swallow anything and everything.

*CRACK!!!

Cracks began to form across the singularity as Alice widened her eyes. She had already deactivated her fifth Sigil. If she continued to siphon energy, her body would break!

"It's not enough!" Alice gritted her teeth. It was only a matter of seconds before Keria was to break through the resistance of the arrow.

Within this time, she needed something to reduce and eliminate the force of the collision! But no matter how Alice scrambled her brains, she couldn't find a single solution.

All of her abilities lacked the definitive power to stop this calamity as the sense of death flooded Alice's chest.

*SHATTER!!!!

Shattering the first layer of the singularity, the fabrics of reality cried out as a tertiary explosion erupted, breaking apart Alice's arrow while overwhelming heat and energy crashed down towards them.

A roaring column of light and fire signalled their end.

Raising her other foot, Keria stomped down as another explosion roared out behind her, shattering the last layer of resistance.

A victorious smile appeared on her face as this was the end. She won!

Gritting her teeth, the thought of defeat crossed Alice's mind but she refused to go out like this!

One last attack! One last attempt with everything she had on the line!

Slamming her hand down, the energy of Ruinous Void exploded out as Alice activated its Singularity Form.

But she wasn't done. Raising her spare hand, she grabbed the Ruinous Void and attempted to activate the Unbound form at the same time as Singularity.

The energy from the Artifact tore apart Alice's arm in an instant but she didn't care. Bones and flesh regenerated instantly as she grabbed hold of her personal Artifact and activated its power.

The unbound form was capable of opening pathways to the Void at will, letting her harness the forces of push or pull while the singularity form allows her to use it as a medium, enhancing her power, casting speed and gaining high levels of control over the Void.

Pain flooded Alice's body as the meteor travelled closer. She could feel the heat boiling her body but this was do or die!

Fractured Form!

The third form of Ruinous Void's casting forms.

A form that unleashes the chaotic nature of the Void and allows it to overlap reality.

*COUGH!!!

Vomiting out blood, Alice felt her insides being torn apart as both Alyss and Cayla frantically tried their best to maintain Alice's body long enough for her to fight back.

With the three states of the Ruinous Void now unleashed, Alice could feel the piercing coldness of the Void assaulting her body, threatening to swallow her in its infinite expanse.

At this moment, Alice recalled everything she had learned in this life. Every speck of knowledge, every speck of theory. All for the chance of survival.

She recalled how the Sigils worked, how it balanced out the power. How resonances form.

She recalled the strands of energy, the flow of power.

A gateway in her mind opened up as a flood of theories filled her mind.

A single sentence. A sentence from her mentor, her mother figure.

"50% of a Hunter's growth lies in experimentation. Finding the conduit of your power, how the Sigils manifest their abilities and how far these abilities extend."

And most of all, the biggest advice that Allura had for any Hunter.

To think outside the box.

"Find the conduit of power, how it manifests its abilities and how far these abilities extend..." Alice muttered.

At that moment, a metamorphosis occurred within her mind. Connections formed between ideas, theories into reality. The gates of her limits and potential were punched open as Alice clasped her hands together.

Across her body, the icons of her Ruinous Void began to glow. The spider lily within her eye shattered apart before forming into a singularity.

A grin appeared on Alice's face as pure ecstasy filled her mind in the face of danger.

Blood dripped from every orifice but Alice laughed.

Artificial Resonance! Ruinous Void!

Chapter 463 - 463: Artificial Resonance

Resonance, the power of harmony between three Sigils. In the past, she had attempted to create a single Sigil resonance but that tipped the balance in her body, leaving a permanent side effect.

If Resonance was the harmony between three Sigils, then couldn't she do the same with her Personal Artifact? Especially since it has the passive effect of adaptability.

If she were to imbue each form with a different Sigil and force a harmonic reaction between all three, wouldn't that be the same as a Resonance? All three forms grant her an aspect of control over the Void.

Should she succeed in fusing all three, it would give her dominion over the forces of the Void. On top of that, since it used the basis of resonance as a reference rather than her risky single Sigil resonance based on the ability of beasts, it should be far safer to execute.

But considering her current predicament, there was no point worrying about safety when her life was at stake.

Feeling the power of the Void flowing through her body, Alice could sense the changes occurring from within. To shape her into a better vessel so that she could accept the power of the Void.

Gritting her teeth, Alice raised her hand.

She couldn't spare the energy for a perfect transformation since that would take too long with a literal meteor above their heads. One attack. One attack to empty out all of this energy within her body.

*BANG!!!

A singularity spun to life above Alice's palms as black and white energy coiled around her. Stars flickered while the golden rings of her personal artifact wrapped around her wrists.

There was only one thing that Alice wanted to do right now. And that was to send Keria into the Void!

Golden strands began to form around the singularity as she pulled back her hand before launching the attack into the air.

*BOOM!!!

Expanding into a cosmic array of stellar radiance, the meteor collided with this barrier as a spray of blue flames splashed out from the collision.

Clenching her fist, Alice utilized the pushing force of the Void to slow down Keira but it wasn't enough.

Even though she was using the power of the Artificial Resonance without it being fully manifested, it was still far more powerful than what she used initially. Yet she could still feel Keira's power eating away at the resistance and forcing a path through.

*BANG! BANG!!!

From the struggle, she could hear the sounds of explosions as Keira punched her way through the layers.

"Even this isn't enough?" Alice gritted her teeth as sweat rolled down her face.

Clasping her hands together before opening it, a spectral array could be seen as Alice attempted to compress the space that Keira resided within.

The array was an advanced version of her grid formation that she used with her blood and metal. Only this time, she was utilizing it with the abilities of the Void. To mark down grids onto reality so that she could make it easier to manipulate.

Glass fractures began to appear around Keira...

***SHATTER!!!**

Alice's hands were forced apart as her pupil shrunk. Keira's resistance was simply too strong. A truly unstoppable force that Alice couldn't hold back. But above all, Alice could sense hints of corrosion from Keira's attacks. The effect of eating away at the opponent's energy.

"YOU CAN'T HIDE ANYMORE RAT!!!" Keira's voice howled out as she shattered the final resistances of Alice's attack.

With mere moments away from a collision, Alice let out a shout as glass fractures appeared around them.

The flames from the meteor condensed into a single pillar that stretched into the sky before disappearing. And from the impact, a dome of gold, red, white and purple expanded in a single instance, burning away everything within the vicinity.

Lightning crackled down from above, the clouds parted and the lands trembled. The nexus of destruction tearing a hole in the reality they resided within while a blinding light flooded the lands.

A secondary pillar of destruction pierced the skies, dying the world in a purple and red radiance. Sparks shot into the sky while rings of destruction shot out. What used to be a land of beauty, a land of snow was reduced to a flaming disaster. Mountains crumbled in the face of such power.

Those from Esna could see the pillar of destruction as a maelstrom of wind crashed into the city, tearing houses from their very foundations and sending people flying through the air.

A wave of debris from the mountains crashed against the walls while smoke and clouds rolled out like a tsunami.

Despite the barrier around the outpost, it was shattered by the residual energy of the attack.

Following the expansion came the implosion as the air was sucked back towards the explosion.

A secondary barrier was hastily activated by any captains who could still stand as they turned towards the mountain range that had disappeared. In its place, a column of smoke and fire with the lands bubbling from the head as though it were liquid.

However, as the flames cooled rapidly, what remained shocked anyone who saw. A geometric marvel of cubes and straight edges. Pieces of the land looked as though it was glass shards or layers upon layers of crystals.

In the place of mountains, a forest of crystals now stood. Yet strangely, there was no one in sight. Not a single person, carriage or debris from the fight.

Complete emptiness without a single sign of life.

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"Urg..." Groaning in pain, Selen felt a sense of weightlessness as she opened her eyes.

She believed that she'd see the light of the sky but instead, she was greeted by the sunless stellar expanse of the Void. Sitting up in a panic, she tried her best to remember what had happened as flashes of battle appeared in her mind.

The final collision as Alice tried her best to destroy the meteor.

Remembering this, Selen widened her eyes as she quickly looked around for everyone. She could see debris floating in the Void with many passed out around her.

There were several floating islands and it seemed like everyone was dragged into the Void.

Countless questions flooded Selen's mind such as how were they alive if they were stuck here? Then there's also the question of how long they were passed out for and what happened in the end.

Forcing herself to stand up, she limped around the island, hoping to find Alice or Egil in the masses but they were nowhere to be seen.

In the distance, large serpentine beasts with an otherworldly appearance could be seen 'swimming' in the sky. Its body was segmented and covered in fluorescent blue spikes. There was no head to the beast nor eyes from what Selen could see. If anything, rather than serpentine, it was more akin to a worm.

Yet strangely, they didn't approach them at all. However, Selen wasn't going to complain since it was better that way.

She could still recall the experience she had last time with Alice, how they travelled through the Void.

Walking to the edge of her island, she gave a light hop as her body floated through the air and landed on the secondary island without any issue. Spotting Egil's large stature in the distance, Selen let out a sigh of relief before looking around for Alice.

Most of the Warriors that were part of the caravan was here but Alice was still nowhere to be seen.

Even after going to the third island, Selen could only see Bo and Torgeir who she recognised.

'Where is she?' Selen frowned.

The cluster of islands they were on consisted of three large islands and a few smaller ones. The smaller ones didn't have anyone on them.

After checking through every island, there was only one left that Selen hasn't checked and that was the small island a little further away from the cluster.

Aiming her jump carefully, she launched herself up and grabbed hold of the ledge. Pulling herself over, her pupil shrunk in shock as she saw a giant crystal situated in the centre of the island. What's more shocking was that Alice was inside that crystal!

"Alice!"

Quickly running over, Selen looked for a way to get Alice out of there but there was nothing that she could see.

Furrowing her brows, she pulled her arm back and prepared to punch it in order to chip off small pieces.

But just before her punch could land, a long smoking pipe blocked her punch.

"!!!"

"I wouldn't do that if I was you." A charming voice rang out as Selen jumped back in shock.

She could see a woman sitting next to Alice's crystal while holding a smoking pipe. But rather than smoke, it seemed like entire galaxies were being exuded from the pipe.

The woman had black and blue hair with the back being weaved into three braids. A pair of charming crimson eyes and dark lipstick.

She wore a tight fitting asymmetric attire with silver decorations and weaves of multicoloured fabric that seemed to shift with every passing second. One arm had gloves that went up to her bicep, the other had silver ornaments and same with her legs.

"I assume this is your friend?" She asked, tapping her pipe against the crystal that Alice was encased within.

Furrowing her brows, Selen nodded her head.

"Who are you? What have you done with Alice?"

Raising an eyebrow, the woman took a deep breath from her pipe before exhaling a cloud of stellar smoke.

"Hah! Why would I do anything to your friend? I don't see a reason to do something so boorish." She laughed in mockery.

"As for who I am? A little rude to not recognise the owner of the house. The Void is my realm, young one."

Chapter 464 - 464: Ruler Of The Void

"As for who I am? A little rude to not recognise the owner of the house. The Void is my realm, young one." The woman rolled her eyes as Selen recoiled back in confusion and shock.

'The Void is her realm? Is she a God?'

As though reading her thoughts, the woman sighed, tapping Selen on the back of the head with her pipe.

"!!!" Jumping forward in surprise, Selen didn't even know when she appeared behind her. She was just sitting next to Alice a moment ago.

"Just because I'm the owner of this realm doesn't mean I'm a God. I swear all of you humans are the same. Everyone I greet thinks I'm a God even though you lot already know of the actual Gods above." She exhaled a mouthful of smoke.

Taking a step, she blinked out of existence and manifested back on her seat next to Alice.

"What do you want?" Selen questioned. Now that she understood the identity of the woman, it's only natural to wonder why she's even here.

"Let me put it in a way that you humans will understand. I am enjoying my time in my house, relaxing my body and eating some food.

"Suddenly, someone throws a brick into my window, I'm concerned but nothing more. After all, this happens often.

"Next, I see a building being thrown into my house. I go what the f*ck. I'm now more concerned than before as it's always been limited to bricks. But since my house isn't a major realm, it shouldn't be an issue and I ignore it.

"Lastly, I have the roof of my house torn off, several buildings thrown in and people barge into my realm. Now you'd think it's over but it's not. Next, these people decide to try and lay claim to a portion of my house before falling asleep.

"As the owner, isn't it natural for me to see what kind of intruder appeared this time?" She summarised with a shrug.

"So what happened to Alice?"

"Your friend?" Glancing at the crystal, the woman thought for a moment before tapping it with her pipe.

"I don't know what she did but she tried to resonance herself with my realm. Basically suicide. Humans aren't built for this realm after all." She laughed.

"Look over there, you saw that worm right?" The woman gestured at the beast swimming through the sky.

Nodding her head, Selen couldn't help but wonder why the woman wanted her to see it.

"Now look back at me."

Flicking her wrist, she opened a fissure before pulling out a small earthworm.

Throwing it into the Void, she tapped her finger five times as it began to rapidly mutate and transformed into the same kind of beast that Selen saw.

"This is what happens if you stay in the Void for a prolonged period. Of course, natural resistances extend this safety period but that's highly dependent on the individual. Now what do you think would happen if your friend tries to resonate with this realm of mine? Her safety period is basically negated." The woman chuckled before crossing her legs.

"I do wonder what kind of beast would appear once she comes out of the cocoon. You lot, on the other hand, are far luckier than her. She managed to create this sanctuary for you lot so you don't succumb to the effects. Once all of you wake up, I assume there will be a way for you lot to escape."

*CRK!!!

Pausing for a moment, the woman glanced at the crystal and saw a single fracture across its surface.

From that fracture, a malefic energy leaked out, causing a chill down her spine. Instinctively, she stood up and took a step back as more cracks began to form.

Within the crystal, a heartbeat could be heard as a crown manifested above Alice's head. Red spider lilies and briar thorns coiled around her limbs as patterns bled across her body. Little by little, she started to open her eye as the crystal began to crack further.

*BANG!!!!

As the crystal shattered, both Selen and the woman jumped back in surprise.

Rather than a red spider lily, a singularity could be seen in Alice's eye.

"She's not fully conscious yet." The woman muttered with a frown. But the most shocking thing to her was Alice's adaptability!

As the owner of this realm, she was clear on the influence it had and its energy. And right now? Alice was beginning to exude the same form of energy. She had successfully resonated with her realm and ignored the mutation effects.

Though considering her 'scent', it's more accurate to say that the mutation couldn't latch on.

"Kill..." Alice muttered.

Selen's pupils shrank as she immediately conjured her staff and activated a time slow barrier. Just as the barrier was formed, she saw Alice's fingers right in front of her eyes.

However, Alice was stopped by the woman pushing against her head using the pipe.

"Why don't we calm down a little young one." She narrowed her eyes, tapping down with the pipe.

At that moment, Alice's body was flung back as a fissure opened, launching her across the sky before slamming into the ground.

But the woman didn't drop her guard. She could sense Alice trying to use the forces of the Void against her, causing her to scoff. The Void is her realm, she is the Void. Thinking that it could even work on her was laughable.

Snapping her finger, Alice appeared in front of them as the woman kicked Alice in the chest, throwing her back once more.

Twirling her pipe, several worms lunged out from the Void in an attempt to restrain Alice using their tendrils.

*KRKK!!!

Briar thorns whipped out as violet flames roared, above them, Alice stood with blood covering her entire body.

"KILL!!!"

A crimson halo spun to life above her, merging with her crown while crimson wings unfurled.

*BANG!!!

Rushing towards the woman, Alice created a blade in hand and imbued it with all the energy she could.

Void Flux – Cleave!!!

Letting out an exhausted sigh, the woman tapped her pipe against Alice's slash, sending it phasing through them before flicking Alice on the head.

*CRASH!!!

Tumbling across the ground, Alice crashed into the debris left behind by the previous crystal.

"How annoying. I'm not even the one you were fighting against, you sent her elsewhere in my realm."
The woman spat out in annoyance.

Not only did Alice and the others intrude into her house, but she's now making a mess of it. No matter how patient she was, there was still a limit.

Before Alice could go further, the woman snapped her fingers.

The power of the Void flooded around Alice as she wrapped herself in violet flames.

"???" Raising an eyebrow at these flames, the woman was rather surprised but it was no issue. Isolating the flames in their own 'space', she separated it from Alice.

Slamming her hand down, Alice activated her partial bloodline release, granting herself another boost in strength.

"You seriously have too many tricks in your sleeves."

Shaking her head, the woman tapped her feet against the ground in front of her.

A ripple rolled out as the entire realm seemed to change.

***BANG!!!!**

A cloud of dust erupted where Alice stood as Selen couldn't even process what the woman had just done.

However, she could see Alice knocked out cold in a crater.

"Jeez, youngsters these days are exhausting." The woman complained while pulling her hair back a little.

However, there was a frown on her face. Right before her attack hit, Alice was actually able to react and even attempt to offset it.

All while she's half conscious too. Ridiculous instincts and skills to match that, she couldn't help but wonder what kind of person taught this monster how to fight.

Somehow, she felt like the Void wouldn't be peaceful while this girl was still here. Just thinking of it gave her a slight headache as she valued her peace and quiet. It's why she became the ruler of this place to begin with.

###

*BANG!!!

A torrent of flames tore apart a Void Worm a figure could be seen walking out from the burning flesh.

Veins bulged on her neck as her eyes were bloodshot.

Right before her strongest attack struck, Alice was able to somehow drag them all into the Void.

If it was a standard fissure, it wouldn't be an issue since her attack would still hit. But Alice targeted only the people meaning her attack had completely missed the target.

She knew this when she crashed into the island without any flames around her. All the energy that she gathered disappeared and the ritual was now enacting a side effect upon her body.

Lightning crackled across her body, forcing her to kneel down in pain.

In order to get rid of this punishment, she had to get rid of Alice and the others. To complete the requirements set for her during the ritual.

A corrupted wyrm jumped out from the ground in an attempt to take Keira by surprise but she had long sensed its presence. She turned her bloodshot eyes towards the beast as a thick wave of killing intent roared out. Scales appeared across her body as flames gathered in her mouth.

*BANG!!!

Releasing a breath attack, the entire upper half of the beast was eradicated as Keira kicked its corpse aside.

She had to find Alice within the vast expanses of the Void. But considering how Alice transported them hastily, it shouldn't be an issue for her to find them. She just needed to be quick.

Activating her resonance, she transformed into a beast form and soared through the Void.

Chapter 465 - 465: Paradoxical Energy

Alice walked in the dark. Countless strands of energy filled her surroundings.

There were some that she recognised and some she didn't. Power from the Abyss, her Violet Flames, her Sigils, the Heart, Crown and Eyes of the Abyss, Bloodline Release. The energy from her strange constitution created by Nyer, hints of Velouria's fallen divinity.

And finally, the foreign strands that appeared.

The power that belongs to the Void. These strands were... Strange. They moved differently from the ones she has control over.

Strands from the Abyss are dominant, volatile and aggressive. Her Violet Flames are greedy and vicious. The energy from her Sigils is passive, weaving themselves with the other strands and hardly seen on their own.

The trio of Abyssal relics are all encompassing. They act as a foundation, a land for her other strands to reside on. Bloodline release was similar to the strands of the Abyss except they're less volatile and aggressive.

But the most dominant of all, is the energy from her constitution that now holds hints of Velouria's divinity. It's the glue that holds everything together, the chains that bind the contradicting energies and stopping it from tearing her body apart. The safety net that keeps her safe.

And finally, the energy of the Void.

Ephemeral yet strangely persistent. It bobs and weaves through reality, leaving behind its mark before disappearing. It's both there and not there, a paradoxical energy.

People harness the power of the Void to bring it into reality. But that's...

"Inefficient." Alice couldn't help but mutter.

After her Artificial Resonance, she synchronised herself with the energy of the Void and understood its true properties. The Void isn't meant to exist in reality for an extended period of time. It simply cannot sustain itself that way.

By forcing it to manifest in reality, whether that be for her artifact forms or creating large portals, the cost of the skill increases exponentially.

The key essence of the Void is to keep it in short bursts. To retain its ephemeral nature and utilise its properties in that split moment where you have control.

The reason why Alice hasn't been able to fully bring out the powers of the fourth Sigil despite thinking that she has, was because she's been trying to control it over a long period of time.

Unless she's in the Void realm, that's the incorrect way of using her power. Even the Seraphim only used the Void in short bursts.

In order to 'swallow' that meteor, what Alice should've done was expand the portal in a single instant. A single moment of pure concentration and power. Only then, would the Void manifest itself true and obey her orders fully before disappearing.

Had she done that, she wouldn't have needed to send everyone into the Void forcefully. But it worked in her favour. The moment before impact, the split second where she had to make a singular choice, Alice managed to tap into the power of the Void fully for the first time.

It allowed her to perform the astonishing feat of sending everyone and even Keira into the Void.

Ideas flooded Alice's mind, ways of utilizing her abilities to the maximum. The awakening that she experienced without knowing had lifted the veil in her mind. The only thing she wanted to do right now was to test out her theories and ideas but she was trapped in this space.

She didn't know why she was here or how she could get out. All she could do was observe her energy.

"My my, so many sources of energy. The human greed knows no bounds, don't you agree?" A voice rang out, shocking Alice as she immediately jumped away and turned around.

She could see a featureless figure except for a wide grin on its face.

The Will of the Abyss.

Furrowing her brows, Alice wondered why he was here.

Letting out a chuckle in amusement, the Will strolled through Alice's internal world without caring that Alice was observing him.

Stopping in front of the energy that represented her constitution that held hints of Velouria's divinity, the Will gave it a gentle caress.

"It's good that you're greedy. If you weren't, I'd be disappointed. But don't overestimate yourself. After all, despite all the work Nyer has put into you..." The Will trailed off before turning back to Alice.

"You're still incomplete."

Before Alice could question what he meant, the Will waved his hand as Alice was flung from her internal world.

"ARG!!!"

Sitting up in shock, Alice looked around her in a panic. Right after her shock, confusion filled her mind as all she could see was the infinite expanse of the Void.

"What the..." Furrowing her brows, Alice saw that she was alone on an island. Closing her eyes, she tried to look for Alyss and Cayla but found the two sleeping while sprawled out on the ground in pure exhaustion.

Considering the risks she was taking at the end, it didn't surprise Alice as she allowed the two to sleep.

Standing up, Alice felt a flow of energy that she never felt before. A connection to the realm around her and a constant stream of power going through her body.

Just as she was looking down, a pair of fingers opened her eye wide and Alice could see a woman observing her.

"You've really gone and adapted to this realm. Has anyone told you that your adaptation is rather impressive?" She asked.

Registering that someone was able to appear in front of her without her notice, Alice swung her leg out of instinct but the woman disappeared and reappeared on a shard of crystal nearby.

"Who are you?" Alice frowned.

The energy coursed through her body as she prepared to fight if needed.

"Tsk, why do all of you youngsters prepare to fight the moment I appear? Do you always break into someone's house and demand to know the owner's name?" The woman scoffed in annoyance.

Hearing this, Alice's smile twitched.

"Do old people just like to touch others without their consent and appear two inches from them without a warning?" Alice clapped back as the woman blinked her eyes.

"Feisty little sh*t aren't you? I preferred it when you were half conscious."

"Can't exactly help it when I don't know what's going on and who you are." Alice shrugged, ready to activate her Sigils at a moment's notice.

"I thought I told you that already. This is my house, my realm. And I'm its owner." The woman's voice rang out beside Alice's ear.

"!!!" Alice's pupils constricted in shock as she kept her eye on the woman without blinking but she still traversed that space in an instant. It wasn't speed but more so teleportation.

Just as she was about to swing out of instinct, a pipe tapped against her hand, preventing it from moving further. It felt as though Alice was trying to move a mountain.

"So you're the owner of the Void? Then I must apologise. I assume you want me to leave immediately." Alice forced a smile as cold sweat dripped down her back.

Just one short exchange told Alice everything she needed to know. This woman outclassed her!

"Naturally. I'm a woman who enjoys three things in life—peace, sleep and food. As long as these three aren't missing, I'm content. However, your little stunt dragged quite a few disturbances into my realm so I would indeed prefer it if you were to leave. However...

"I don't suggest that. At least not for you." The woman shook her head.

Hearing this, Alice frowned.

"What do you mean?"

"Are you perhaps familiar with being exiled from a realm?" She asked, surprising Alice who paused for a moment then nodded her head.

"That makes my job easier then. I don't know how you did it, but you were slowly being exiled by your realm. With such a gap 'inside' you, you then filled it by resonating with my realm. Now, what do you think would happen if you were to go back into your own world?" She asked, taking a deep breath of her pipe.

"Bang~" She exhaled.

"A collision of two realms because of what you did, tearing a hole through the barrier and allowing the energy of my realm to flow out into your realm. Naturally, as the person in the centre of that, I don't have to explain what kind of effect it'll have on you." She smiled.

Seeing Alice's shock, the woman nodded in satisfaction.

"I'm only joking. You won't break the barrier if you were to go back but you should've seen your face."

Alice's smile twitched.

'Is this woman serious???'

"But I still don't suggest going back. The first half of what I said is partially true only that it'll affect your body rather than the realm. You have the essence of two realms inside you, going back now would only cause one side to be torn out. You won't die but it won't be pretty." The woman shrugged.

"And you're telling me this because?" Alice asked, understanding that she must have a goal if she was being this patient with her.

"You're one smart little cookie. Here, have a treat." The woman clapped her hands lightly as a piece of rock flew into Alice's mouth before she could react. Just as she was about to spit it out, the rock began to melt and an assortment of flavours flooded out.

One would think these myriad flavours would conflict with each other but strangely, it was harmonious and complimented the different tastes. Alice couldn't put her finger on what it tasted like either. Sweet but not quite sweet, sour but not quite sour. Spicy yet mild. A contradiction like the state of energy that flowed in this realm.

This burst of flavour caused Alice to ignore the fact that this woman practically read her mind.

"While you're waiting for the right time to go back, I want you to deal with the little annoyance you brought with you. Do that for me and I'll patch you up and send you back, how about it?"

Chapter 466 - 466: Void Steps

Hearing the woman's offer, Alice couldn't help but let out a sigh of relief inwardly. She thought this woman would've asked for something absurd but in fact, all she wanted to do was have Alice take out Keira.

It was already something she was planning to do once she recovered but this just makes it easier.

"Sure, I'm assuming she's still roaming the Void right? Or did her friend come and get her?" Alice asked curiously.

"Nope, she's still going around in the Void, killing everything in sight and looking around for you. She doesn't have a clue where you are though." The woman shrugged.

Based on her estimates, if Keira were to continue aimlessly, it'll only be a matter of time before the mutations hit and she'll change into a monster of the Void.

If that happens, she'll be reduced to her baser instincts and wreak even more havoc in her realm. At that point, she'll have to take matters into her own hands which she'd rather not do.

That requires her to make an effort after all.

Just thinking of it tired her out as she let out a groan of annoyance.

"If you can take care of the trouble you started, I'll patch you up and send you back. In fact, if you do it quickly I'll even teach you how to control that Void energy of yours considering you've already fused with it." The woman offered.

Blinking her eyes in surprise, Alice couldn't help but wonder what she was going to teach her and how the control would affect how she used her abilities.

"With enough control, you can do something like this." She chuckled, appearing behind Alice.

Just as Alice turned around, she disappeared once more and reappeared at her crystal.

"Impressive right?" She gave Alice a smug smile.

Folding her arms momentarily, Alice closed her eyes.

Leaning her head against her hand, the woman glanced at Alice in amusement. She could tell that the girl was trying to figure out her trick. This skill of hers wasn't something based on speed, it's purely about control and understanding.

With Alice being such a novice at Void energy, it was impossible for her to grasp it.

*BANG!!!!

A loud collision rang out beside her as she froze up for a moment. Slowly turning right, she could see Alice in a rubble of crystals while clutching her head. One of her legs was missing as she seemed more annoyed than in pain.

Stretching for a moment, she regenerated her foot.

"Okay, maybe it's a bit harder than I thought. If I'm not careful more of my could be shredded." Alice mumbled.

The woman no longer had a smile on her face. There was only shock in her eyes.

"How did you just do that?"

"Hm? I thought you would know since you're the one who showed me no? You're sliding the energy and creating friction between the Void and reality aren't you? It's a half opened portal and forcefully propels me in a direction. Though stopping is a bit harder than I thought." Alice replied while standing up.

She could see that the woman was making use of the Void's ephemeral nature. A split second of control to open a path back to reality. By having it collapse almost instantaneously, the two realms rub against one another and creates a warp point within the same realm.

It's akin to trying to leap into reality but being squeezed back into the Void because the portal disappeared. But with enough control, it doesn't sever whatever was in the way due to a protective barrier. It'll push them out instead.

With these conditions in place, a near instantaneous teleportation technique is born though there are other issues with this. First was how to control the destination of the teleport and the second was how to stop.

If it wasn't for the crystal in the way, Alice might've been flung further out into the Void than intended and left to drift.

While thinking of ways to make some modifications, Alice didn't notice the woman looking at her with pure disbelief.

Even if Alice was able to adapt to the energy of the Void, this was too fast. Her understanding of it should be shallow at best.

But in order to accomplish this skill, it's a requirement to understand how this energy works and make the most out of it. Since Alice was able to trigger the reaction despite failing to stop, it meant that her understanding had reached the necessary level!

Above all else, it meant that Alice could see how the energy moved when she performed the Void Steps just now.

Never in her life has she seen someone more absurd than Alice. Someone who soaked in the knowledge around her like a sponge, someone who was this sensitive to the flow of energy and someone who had adaptability levels that were off the charts.

Once again, she was left to question what kind of monster raised this kid.

"Stopping after triggering the Void Steps is a little harder to execute than just controlling the energy. I'll show you how once you do the job for me okay?" She tried to convince Alice.

After all, if Alice were to stall, it would get to the point where she'd need to make a move.

"Honestly... That'll be a little boring. I think I can figure it out myself if I have enough time with it." Alice replied after a short pause. There was a devilish grin on her face as there was only one thought in her mind.

Scam the sh*t outta this woman.

It's rare that she bumps into anyone with such in depth knowledge of how the Void works. Since that was the case, she couldn't pass up this opportunity to gain as much as she could from her!

Hearing her response, the woman's smile twitched as she had to hold back the urge to smack this girl over the head.

"Fine, if you can resolve this quickly without me needing to make a move then I'll teach you something else other than the Void Step."

"Deal!" Without giving the woman a chance to back out of this, Alice accepted the agreement while making her way over to the edge of the island.

Earlier, she had expanded her senses and recognised that Selen and the others were below her. Since they were all safe, Alice didn't have to worry much about them. They just needed a short break to recuperate.

Since she needed to deal with Keira, she'd send them back first. It's not like she could go back to begin with.

That brief contact with reality, even with a barrier around her was enough to tear her legs apart. She didn't even want to imagine what would happen if she were to fully teleport back to reality.

Just the thought alone was enough to give her shivers.

"So where do I need to go?" Alice glanced back at the woman who curled her lips into a grin.

"I don't know, you'll have to find out for yourself. Me helping out would be considered as making a move after all."

Alice's smile twitched before shrugging her shoulders.

After her near death experience, it felt like her mind had opened up to more ideas than before. Right now, she had a theory she wanted to test in order to track down the hybrid.

Taking a deep breath, Alice sat down at the edge of the island.

All three of the Abyssal Artifacts had their own uses. But what Alice discovered was that it could replicated to some extent. While not to the same degree of effectiveness, it was still far better than not being able to use it.

With Cayla sealed, her methods of obtaining information was limited. But Alice could still remember the sensation.

Now that she had achieved a similar resonance with the Void, replicating it could be possible. But only if she was in the Void.

Summoning Ruinous Void, she activated the Singularity form. Unknowingly, her eye began to change as a singularity appeared in her eye rather than red spider lilies.

Her senses expanded rapidly, resonating with the strands of energy within the Void realm.

It felt similar to a large spider web where Alice would sit in the middle and feel the vibrations through the strands. The signs of battle occurring throughout the Void.

Conflicts between Void beasts, colliding islands, fissures being opened momentarily, pre established portals that are being maintained and even vaults.

Blood began to drip from her nose but Alice wiped it away and focused her mind.

This was too much information. She needed to categorise and filter out the unnecessary things and focus only on the uncanny energy that the hybrids exude naturally.

While Alice was replicating Cayla's method of gathering information despite the strain on her mind, the woman watched with an interested glint in her eyes.

She didn't even think of this method of gathering information. Despite being the owner of the Void, she had to do things manually which exhausted her. Eventually, she gave up and decided to be lazy, letting people do whatever they wanted as long as it didn't disturb her.

But if she had thought of this method many years ago, she would've had an easier time managing this realm.

Of course, she wasn't about to tell Alice. After all, if the little greedy minx found out she had learnt something from her, she might turn around and demand payment.

'Absolutely not.' The woman thought to herself while smoking her long pipe. Alice had already learnt the method of Void Step while demanding something more.

If she had to owe the girl another favour on top of that, she'll be exhausted by the time she's done. At that point, she might as well take care of the strange beast herself.

After all, a lazy life is the best life.

Soon, Alice stood up and stumbled a little but recovered. There was a glint in her eyes as she curved her lips into a grin.

She found Keira.

Chapter 467 - 467: To Stare At One's Reflection

Sensing the uncanny energy from the hybrid all the way to the west, Alice's lips curled up into a twisted smile as killing intent began to radiate from her body.

From Keira's current path of travel, if Alice was to do nothing, Keira will be lost in the Void having missed them entirely. But that was a fate too good for her.

She could still remember the sense of death, the desperation she felt as she watched the meteor. Of course, the brush with death allowed her mind to be opened to more theories and her potential unleashed but Alice wasn't about to let Keira have an easy way out.

No, that's far too good of a fate.

Three times they've encountered one another. The first was her loss as she was forced to escape at the watch tower. The second was her win as her friend came and saved her in the nick of time. And the last? A tie for neither of them managed to severely hurt one another and was transported into the Void.

Alice had never fought a proper opponent four times but she was going to end it now.

Standing up, Alice gave her body a stretch as she took a deep breath.

But patience is key. She was going to get Selen and the other's out first before attacking Keira without a care for spectators. She'll use everything of hers to thoroughly crush Keira's soul and spirit before killing her.

Sensing the malicious thoughts from Alice, the woman shivered.

'Twisted little sh*t.' She couldn't help but think to herself.

"If I deal with her quickly, you'll teach me something new right? And is there a limit to how much damage I can cause to the realm?" Alice asked, wanting to make sure the owner was fine with her trashing parts of the house if needed.

"Go wild. It's not like the Void can't recover from the damage anyways. It's mostly just floating rocks, debris and Vaults. If anything, I'd be more concerned about you destroying some random family's vault and they send their goons to you." The woman shrugged while smoking her pipe.

Nodding her head, Alice jumped down to the islands below. She could see that most of them were resting while Torgeir was trying to organise things.

Seeing Alice, he quickly ran over as he learned from Selen that she was the one who sent them here.

"Before you ask anything, I'll make a portal so you can take everyone out of here. I need to finish what I started and deal with the f*cker that tried to kill us with a meteor." Alice held up her hand as she was sure that Torgeir had plenty of questions.

Overhearing Alice, Selen frowned.

"Are you seriously fighting again right after breaking out of that crystal???" Selen shouted over, while Egil tried to calm her.

"Ehehe~ Just one fight. I need to get revenge for the sneak attack after all. And surely you don't expect me to leave her be after almost killing all of us?" Alice stuck out her tongue.

Wanting to retort, Selen choked on her words as she too wanted vengeance against the hybrid.

Plus, having this kind of ticking time bomb trying to track them down was going to be annoying. It was no wonder that Alice forced herself to stay awake all this time. If it wasn't for her, they wouldn't even be here right now.

"Fine. How confident are you?" Selen sighed. After all this time, she understood that stressing about Alice's choices would only age her. Alice was stubborn after all.

"I'm feeling pretty confident. This is practically home ground after all." Alice gave her an ok hand sign and a grin.

With her recent adaptation to the Void, she felt stronger than ever. It felt as though the entire realm moved to her command. Naturally, that's not the case since the woman earlier is the true owner but it was just a feeling.

"Just don't come back unable to move and I'll be happy." Selen waved her hand as Alice nodded her head.

Meanwhile, Torgeir stood there in silence with countless questions in his mind.

There's one thing he understood though. To nod and have Alice send everyone back. There's no point trying to understand the weird split haired sadistic war machine over here.

Gathering everyone onto one island, Alice activated her personal Artifact and used the Singularity mode.

Using it as a catalyst, she created a bridge back to reality and had Torgeir lead everyone out.

Waiting until she was the last one, Selen turned back and made a cut on her arm. Filling a small vial with her blood, she threw it towards Alice.

"Use it if you need."

"Will do." Alice chuckled, giving Selen a wave.

Once she was gone, Alice closed the portal and sat down. Sweat dripped down her body as keeping a portal open long enough to send everyone through was rather exhausting.

But now that they were gone, she could take this chance to recover and take her time with preparing a sneak attack.

One attack on the level of the meteor that Keira unleashed. However, she also needed to make sure she could fight after unleashing that one attack. She needed something powerful but not disable her right after.

To measure out her current limits and work within that boundary.

She couldn't replicate the attack that she did back in Kvía, doing so would leave her defenceless if Keira survives.

'I need something powerful. Something that can guarantee a solid hit against that armour of her's and destroy it to pieces. Void Flux isn't enough anymore. Even if modify it for the piercing variant the damage it deals will be healed in an instant.' Alice thought to herself.

She thought about all the Sigils she had. All the powers, all her knowledge and even the new ideas that she executed earlier.

The paradoxical energy of the Void that flowed through this realm.

She was going to use it all to create a new attack. One that belongs to Alice Agnelia.

Not a variant of Void Flux, not a enhancement of her cleave. A brand new strike designed to pierce through armour.

In order to do this, she had to remember the origin of Allura's Nova Core. The skill created for her by Kaden.

It's a skill designed to contain all of Allura's power with all of her Sigils.

Therefore, Alice must think of something that encapsulates all of her powers.

Fire, Blood, Metal, Void and the newest addition, Ruin.

Flames cancel and eat away at abilities. Blood acts as the outline, a malleable shape for her skills and creations. Metal acts as reinforcement. Void tears apart the target between two dimensions and navigates space. Ruin...

Ruin siphons, adapts and enhances at the cost of creating a rift. A double edges sword with a powerful strike.

Aside from her Sigils, she has her Resonance and the Artificial Resonance from her personal Artifact.

Closing her eyes, Alice began to piece together the skills like a puzzle. The benefits of each ability, how it would synergise, how the energy flows and how it may conflict with one another.

Even with her awakening, she struggled to combine them. This only further increased her respect for Kaden as she understood just how hard it was to create something from scratch.

She couldn't just throw all her energy in one direction either, without a proper idea of what she wanted to do, it'll just be wasted effort.

*Drip...

Hearing the sound of a water droplet, Alice opened her eyes and found herself in an empty realm of white.

She recalled the lesson she had with Nanna, the Apostle of Immortality. To observe one's reflection and see the truest part of your soul.

It was at that moment that she saw her twin. The soul of the original Alice.

But if her twin was to sleep, what would she see within herself? What is the Soul of Alice Agnelia? Product of Nyer, student of Kaden and Allura.

Slowly, a mirror appeared before her and Alice slowly raised her hand.

She could see a slight tremble. She was still afraid to see herself, to see what Nyer had created.

Letting out a small chuckle, Alice took a deep breath and reinforced her gaze. She had already made a vow back in the Inverted World. Whatever the answer is, she is Alice Agnelia. She knows her family, she knows her purpose. Thus, her path is clear.

###

Noticing the fluctuation of energy around Alice, the woman couldn't help but raise an eyebrow. There were several influences in her meditation right now. Methods of the Moon, ideologies of the Abyss and the nature of the Void. But she wasn't getting lost in this information.

In fact, she was thriving in this. Her aura was experiencing changes as she reflected on her own soul. A new metamorphosis different to the adaptation to the Void.

*BANG!!!

The ground fractured around Alice as the woman felt a chill. A chill from looking at something so unnatural that your body and mind rejects every notion of that 'thing' existing in the same plane as you. A primal repulsion from seeing something so unholy you cannot accept that it exists.

But the strangest aspect was that Alice's energy started to condense behind her. A spectral woman began to form.

Her body was created from the Void, a stellar darkness filled with glimmering stars. Long flowing white hair that danced as though it was underwater. Imprinted upon the hair was a crown like silhouette.

Slowly, her eyes began to open. On the left, the icon of red spider lilies. On the right, a singularity.

From partial to full, Alice activates Bloodline Release!

Chapter 468 - 468: Alice's New Skill

Opening her eyes, Alice slowly glanced up at the spectral visage of a woman behind her.

Clenching her fists, she could feel the flow of energy through her body as her physical powers were being reinforced. She could finally feel what a true Bloodline release felt like.

But more than that...

"Uwahh my soul looks freaky." Alice muttered. She could see black blood pooling at the edge of the spectre's eyes before dripping down into black blood tears.

If she were to see this in a dark hallway, she'd probably try to run into sunlight before trying to fight.

Just looking at it gave her the shivers but it was her own soul after all, she couldn't hate it.

Frankly, she could understand why it took the form it did. With Nyer forcefully resonating and fusing fallen Divinity into her body, taking on aspects of Velouria's appearance was to be expected.

But all of this was just Alice activating one form of amplification. She still hasn't created her own skill yet. Most would be happy with this but Alice wanted more.

She felt greedy.

What kind of skill can she create with her fully unlocked bloodline release? What kind of powers did it offer? What else can she add to the puzzle that she was trying to solve?

In her eagerness, she remembered a key detail regarding Bloodline Release. A stable connection had to be formed with her spiritual heart and by extension, her soul.

In the past, she failed to achieve this kind of state because of Velouria's restrictions, holding back Alyss's soul. It prevented a proper channel from being opened and thus could only be a partial release.

Looking back at her Soul Form, Alice furrowed her brows. Did Velouria's restrictions loosen up or possibly disappear? Impossible.

Alice could still feel its presence. She could still feel the restraint placed around her twin, around the flames to prevent it from consuming her. So how was she able to unleash a full Bloodline Release?

There was only one answer that Alice could think of.

Her own soul.

After all this time, her own soul had matured to a state where it could finally be used as a basis for a Spiritual Heart.

The connection between her and Alyss had always been Alice controlled the physical while Alyss held the key to the soul. Conjoined and never to be separated.

But after the Inverted World, it was clear that they were two beings trapped in one. And following the awakening and reflection she did just now, her own soul became unique enough to 'detach' from her twin.

She had become a 'person'. Both Soul and body.

Even her mind recognised herself as an individual.

Right now, she is a prison for Alyss despite their connection.

To put it cruelly, if someone were to take Alyss away right now, there is a chance that Alice could survive with her own soul.

But in the past, this would be impossible since Alyss was her lifeline.

A sense of guilt and bitterness welled up in Alice's chest but she set it aside for now. These questions can be answered once the fight was over. All she needed to know right now was that she could tap into her own soul and use it for Bloodline Release.

While she could feel the flow of power from her Bloodline Release, she could also feel the limit rapidly approaching. It exhausted far more stamina and power compared to the partial variant.

Alice estimated that she could probably maintain this state for around 1 minute at most. 2 minutes if she pushed with everything she's got.

Letting out a deep breath, Alice focused her mind.

"Let's see what you've got." She muttered, giving her soul a side glance.

At this moment, her soul revealed a freakishly wide smile as blood continued to pour from her eyes. Spider lilies began to bloom across the body with the tips of her fingers being dyed a deep purple that bordered on black.

Alice could sense the world warping around her as her vision began to distort. She felt as though she was travelling through the Void at high speeds despite not moving and soon, her vision locked onto Keira who had just finished killing another Void creature.

Instinctively, she felt like she could travel this gap and attack Keira instantly.

If Allura's skill set could be summarised as half focused on flames and half focused on severance, right now Alice would be half violet flames and half Void.

For Nova Core, Allura's flames acts as the foundation while the main 'attack' was her ability to ignore defence.

In Alice's case, she too will use her Violet Flames as a base. Its ability to eat away at Abyssal abilities will come in handy when it comes to ignoring defence. As for the Void? It'll help her bridge that gap and by using the friction between two realms, she'll use it to tear her opponent's in half!

A formation of ideas condensed in Alice's mind as the new skill was beginning to form.

As for the catalyst, naturally, it had to be in the form of a singularity. A miniature black hole that can be replaced by either her own Void Control or her personal Artifact. That way, it could be used even if she didn't want to activate her Artifact.

*KSHH!!!!

Lightning crackled around Alice's body as energy surged towards her palm, converging into a singularity with an accretion disk. However, this was no ordinary disk. Violet flames flickered around the singularity, transforming into a circulating blade of energy that tore apart anything related to the Abyss.

*BANG!!!

The spiralling energy jumped off from the singularity, shattering a piece of the island that Alice was standing on.

Right now, in this form, the attack was highly unstable. The rotation of the disk wasn't helping it either as one moment of blunder would cause a piece of this energy to whip against her surroundings and in the worst case, even harm her.

Taking a deep breath to focus her mind, Alice crouched down slightly as she held the rampaging singularity next to her body.

The path ahead was clear, the route was secured.

Resonance!

Briar thorns wrapped around Alice's body while red spider lilies blossomed. Her dress fluttered against the gale kicked up by her attack as she then activated the Seraphim's power. A ritualistic circle manifested beneath her feet as lightning crackled in front of her, transforming into a warp point.

"Bloodline Release activated... Resonance activated..." Alice muttered as her personal Artifact appeared next to her.

"Artificial Resonance activated!"

A singularity spun to life in her eye as the Violet flames sparkled with the light of the Void. The three forms of her Artifact embedded themselves into Alice's body as the black hole trembling above her palm began to warp the world around it.

"All conditions met. Let's f*cking do this you hybrid f*ck." Alice twisted her lips into a maniacal grin.

*BANG!!!

Stomping down, the island shattered beneath her feet as the singularity above her palms condensed into a single thumb sized orb while maintaining the disk around it.

Her body flashed into the Warp Point, disappearing from the island and taking the malefic energy with her.

###

Landing on an island, Keira took several deep breaths in her bestial form. She could feel the energy of the Void assaulting her body with each passing moment. An attempt to mutate her further and force her to become a monster of the Void.

If she were to revert back to her human state, it would only be a matter of time before she loses her sanity and become a mindless war machine.

It also doesn't help that her ritual earlier was still backfiring. She could feel the power tearing through her insides the longer she waited.

She had to find Alice and soon.

Biting her lips, Keira was thinking about whether or not she should risk another ritual in her current state. To track down her target and finish two rituals all at once.

But if she didn't activate a second ritual, her fate was practically sealed. There's no guarantee that she'll be able to track down Alice within the infinite expanse of the Void. However, the Ritual to track down her target wasn't a guarantee.

There were countless conditions and variables mixed together and the success rate was low.

Even if it fails, a price still needs to be paid.

Once again, Keira found herself at the end of her sanity thanks to a certain rat.

Blinking her eyes, Keira froze up.

Right in front of her, a woman with two strange eyes stared at her before warping her mouth into a smile. The illusion disappeared like a phantom but what came next sent Keira's body into a frenzy of panic.

There was no fighting instinct. Only the instinct to flee and not turn back!

But by the time she felt this instinct, it was already too late. She couldn't even register when Alice had manifested in front of her but the roaring singularity collided against her scales.

A single palm strike to bury the singularity into Keira's chest.

***BANG!!!**

Pain was none existent. Rather, there was no time to register this pain.

In an instant, a cavity formed in her body and carved out her back. An unstoppable vortex of flashing disks sliced apart everything within this maelstrom of destruction.

Every flash of light that whipped across the realm would eradicate whatever it brushed past and warp the Void.

There was no extravagant phenomenon, just raw destruction and the collapse of space within a single point.

Whatever pride Keira had towards her identity as a hybrid disappeared and was replaced by anger, fear and denial of Alice's existence.

She simply couldn't fathom how it was possible for such an anomaly like Alice to exist. Wasn't she part of the honoured few that actually survived? Wasn't she part of the glorious new race? The new rulers of this land? She should be standing at the apex of the food chain with the other hybrids.

But if so...

Then what the hell is this monster in front of her?

Chapter 469 - 469: Keira's End

With the eruption of the singularity within Keira's body, both of them were launched from one another as Alice furrowed her brows and revealed a slight frown.

The initial stages of her skill were fantastic. To traverse all this space in a split second and hit her enemy with an attack that they practically can't dodge. However, the second half disappointed her. Too much of the energy was wasted and instead of harming her enemy, a lot of it took out the surroundings instead.

There were still plenty of improvements to be made to this skill before she could give it a name and use it consistently. But for now, this was enough since it achieved the purpose of breaching Keira's defences.

'I don't have the energy to use this attack anyway and it takes too long to charge. It's more of a skill to open a fight rather than be used throughout one.' Alice thought to herself as she stood up and created a blade from blood.

Even though Keira was missing a large chunk of her body, the flesh still writhed, aiming to regenerate.

"I believe this is our fourth meeting now isn't it? I don't think we should go for a fifth so why don't we end this here?" Alice asked with a smile, rushing towards Keira as she unleashed an upward slash.

*KRRR!!!

From her blade, a wave of energy tore forward towards Keira. Violet flame surged from the wave and crashed against her bleeding flesh, causing her to cry out in pain.

"YOU! F*CKING!!! RATTTTT!!!" Keira roared as her flesh bulged.

She refused to let a rat like this kill her!

"Why do you keep getting in my way?! Why couldn't you have just died at the tower!?!?"

*BANG!!!

Slamming down with her fist, a pillar of energy erupted from her body as her form began to shift.

Second Resonance! Human Beast Hybrid!

"Why are you able to survive my attack?! Why are you standing in front of me unharmed?! Why? WHY? WHY!?!?!" Keira screamed as the flesh bulged around her wound.

Purple veins reached down from the emptiness of the Void and melded together with her flesh.

Realising that this was the Void mutating Keira further, Alice wanted to step in but the tsunami of energy erupting from Keira prevented her from pushing ahead.

"I'm a member of the new glorious race! How dare a filthy rat stand before me!"

The spectral image of a beast appeared behind Keira as Alice understood that she too was using Bloodline Release.

'Did the Zenia's get a sealed lord to teach them?'

However, considering how Selen has the power of Miralith, it is only natural.

Each time she ran into a member of the Zenia's, the deeper this rabbit hole went.

However, with Keira's unstable state, her second Resonance began to break apart, revealing the purple spines digging through her flesh.

There was only one thing on her mind and that was to kill the rat in front of her.

*BANG!!!

Disappearing from her spot, she appeared next to Alice with her arm pulled back.

Flames erupted on her fist as she punched toward Alice who flipped over the punch with ease.

Her physical prowess had increased tremendously after unlocking a full Bloodline Release.

Right now, she was a bonafide five Sigil Hunter with the physique to match! Hell, she was actually stronger physically due to the passive enhancements that her Sigils granted her!

Twisting her body, Alice was about to release a Void Flux – Cleave when spikes shot out of Keira's back.

Abandoning her plan of attack, Alice released a horizontal slash and parried the spikes.

Digging her hands into the ground beneath her, Keira threw a boulder at Alice.

Furrowing her brows, Alice snapped her finger and warped herself away from danger. Right now, Keira was panicking and Alice could see that. It felt like a child throwing whatever she could at the danger she was perceiving.

Seeing that Alice had dodged, Keira snapped her head towards Alice's direction and cracked open her mouth.

A torrent of flames fired at in an instant but Alice wasn't phased.

Slamming her hand down, the Shards of Kara gathered as Alice funnelled her Bloodline Release into it as well, reinforcing the shield and blocking the breath without any issues.

"Is this all you've got? For a proud member of the new race, you are sorely lacking. But I suppose that's only to be expected when you're nothing but a cheap copy." Alice taunted while stomping down with her foot.

Briar thorns jumped out of the ground, whipping around Keira's limbs and securing her in place.

From behind her shield, Alice gathered her energy into a tiny spark in front of her finger and fired a Void Flux.

*BANG!!!

"ARGGGG!!!" Feeling the explosion on her shoulder, Keira let out a cry as her arm was torn off.

Her flesh twisted and writhed before regenerating once more.

A forced smile appeared on Keira's face.

"You'll never kill me. I'll keep regenerating! This is the difference between us!"

Hearing this, Alice couldn't help but find it rather laughable.

But more than that, there was something familiar about Keira's body.

Now that she's been weakened to this stage, Alice could sense it clearly. A hint of her own blood inside Keira.

While it was present within her, it was extremely diluted.

"PFT!!! AHAHAHA!" Realising this, Alice couldn't help but let out a laugh, confusing Keira.

"Do you even know what they did to your body?" Alice asked curiously but her question only served to confuse Keira.

Ignoring Alice, Keira unfurled a pair of wings behind her as her speed increased drastically. Disappearing from where she stood, she appeared behind Alice and punched towards her head.

Tilting her head to the side, Alice dodged easily before creating a singularity in her palm. Slamming the singularity against Keira's elbow and ripping it off, Alice grabbed what remained of her arm and threw her away.

With Keira in the air, Alice snapped her finger and several sparks manifested around Keira's body.

*BANG!!!

An explosion of violet flames erupted as Keira's body was sent crashing towards the ground.

Her regeneration hindered by these flames as confusion filled her eyes.

But Alice wasn't about to give her a break.

Dashing in front of Keira, Alice swung her leg and kicked her in the face, breaking several teeth before grabbing her by the hair.

Creating another singularity in her hand, she jammed it into Keira's mouth, ripping off her jaw and throwing her away once more.

*BANG!!!

Crashing against the wall, Keira coughed up blood as she struggled to regenerate. She could feel the Void digging deeper into her mind and body, stripping her bare as tears ran down her face.

"Why!? Why couldn't you have just died!?" She screamed.

Flesh burst out from her wounds, transforming into the mutated flesh of Void beasts as Keira slowly lost her resemblance to that of a human.

The mass of flesh began to expand as Alice was silent. She watched as Keira became this colossal beast of flesh, bones and spikes. She had no distinct form as her mind was still wrestling against the influence of the Void but even Alice could tell that it was over.

If she was to leave now, Keira will devolve into a mindless beast with no future.

But that's not what she was about to do. After all, she promised that Keira would die by her hands.

Taking a deep breath, Alice activated her fifth Sigil as a crimson halo appeared above her head.

Scarlet wings unfurled behind her as she closed her eyes.

To release one burst with everything she's got. To exhaust the remaining time she had left of her Bloodline Release.

*BANG!!!

A crimson aura burst out of Alice's body as she aimed her palm towards 'Keira. Sparks began to manifest around her, transforming into large crosses of energy that circled the beast.

Fear dominated Keira's mind as the mass of flesh tried to escape but she couldn't move her body. It felt as though the weight of a thousand buildings crashed down upon her, securing her in place.

"No..." Her voice trembled.

She could sense the energy converging towards her location as the Void around her began to warp.

"NO!!! LET ME OUT!!!" She roared, realising her death was approaching.

The mass of flesh exploded into countless limbs that slammed against the barrier that Alice had put in place with the Shards of Kara but it was no use.

Artificial Resonance!

Motes of darkness formed around Alice as black blood began to drip from her eyes much like the image of her soul.

Reality began to distort. The space around them collapsed into a hybrid of three realms. Fragments of each warped and blended into one another as iridescent energy coiled around Keira.

"I WANT TO LIV-"

Before she could even finish her final cry of desperation, energy erupted into a brilliant display of armageddon. Energy collapsing towards a singular point creating a darkness that swallowed all. Lightning crackled down from above as the realms cried out in pain.

A swirl of violet, blue and red energy dyed the realm in stellar blaze as all traces of Keira was swallowed away by this attack.

What was left behind was only the phenomenon of Alice's attack. A symbol of raw destruction control over the forces of the Void.

Within this singular point, all uses of Abyssal Powers were stripped away by the violet flames, leaving one defenceless against the countless forces tearing against your body.

Having witnessed all of this, the woman who ruled the Void was silent. She contemplated a single thought after seeing the power that Alice wielded.

Whether or not she should get rid of this anomaly before she becomes the bane of the realms. The archon of destruction that brings about the end.

Chapter 470 - 470: Feris

*CRACK!!!

Breaking the glass in his hands, Troy frowned as veins bulged on his neck.

Next to him, Elowen was sitting on a chair with a composed expression.

"Troy... I believe you told me that Keira was just going to take care of them rats before coming back?" She asked slowly, her voice calm and devoid of anger.

"That's... What she said yes." Troy replied after a light pause. His voice was strained as he was holding back his anger.

"So why is she dead? Why has a precious hybrid died in battle? We don't even know who she fought." Elowen asked. A dark creeping aura began to exude from her body.

Even those outside the room felt suffocated by the pressure but they dare not speak a single word.

Silence dominated the room as Elowen let out a fatigued sigh.

"Forget it. What's done is done. We'll need to monitor the north a little more carefully after this."
Elowen stood up as she adjusted her dress.

"Don't do anything stupid and follow orders like what you're supposed to do." She glanced back at Troy who bit his lip and nodded his head.

After Elowen left the room, he gritted his teeth and clenched his fist.

"Stupid idiot..." He muttered, recalling Keira's confidence only for her to die when he wasn't around to cover for her.

###

Looking at the mark left behind by her attack, Alice folded her arms as her Bloodline Release and Resonance faded away.

Exhaustion kicked in but Alice managed to remain on her feet. There was one last problem now.

The woman who owned the Void.

It was brief and barely noticeable but Alice definitely sensed an inkling of killing intent. Her guard was up as she glanced towards the top right and spotted the woman sitting on a boulder.

"I don't suppose you're going to teach me the thing you promised now. I did finish the task rather quickly if I can say so myself." Alice smiled despite the danger she was feeling from the woman.

Narrowing her eyes, she blinked from her spot and appeared behind Alice.

"Of course. But first, a few questions."

"Go for it. But every girl has her secrets so whether or not I answer might depend on what you ask." Alice glanced back but the woman had already disappeared and reappeared near the singularity she had left behind.

"For what reason have you gained all this power?" She asked, confusing Alice momentarily.

"Why does anyone get power? I got it because I wanted to keep myself safe and get revenge on those who wronged me. I also want to rebuild my mother's old home." Alice replied honestly.

Her reason for power had always been to keep herself safe from the Zenias and prevent more like her from appearing.

Hearing this, the woman was silent. She contemplated Alice's words and the truth behind it. Eventually, she nodded her head.

"Alright. Just don't make a mess out of my realm or the realms connected to it." Waving her hand, the Void began to repair itself at a visible pace.

While Alice was impressed by the owner's control over her realm, she didn't know the woman was actually shocked.

The attack should've been repaired instantly with nothing left behind. Instead, it was healing slowly with the realm struggling to piece itself together.

'If I didn't do anything, this would've been left like this.' She thought to herself before turning to Alice, hiding her surprise.

"So what do you wanna teach me?" Alice asked with a grin, seeing that the slight moment of hostility disappeared.

"Greedy minx..." The woman's smile twitched before letting out a sigh.

"You already know Void Steps, what else do you want to know? Unless you want me to teach you how to stop yourself." She asked, blinking to a boulder and sitting down.

With the question thrown back at her, Alice paused for a moment before folding her arms. She wasn't sure what she wanted to know from the woman considering a lot of the knowledge can be self taught through experimentation.

Seeing as how Alice was struggling to say something, the woman smoked her pipe in boredom.

"Can't think of anything?" She called out.

"Can we... postpone this? I'll come back another day or something when I think of what I want." Alice asked with a smile.

"Hah??? Are you stupid? Why would I burden myself with keeping an eye on you whenever you appear in the Void? Either think of something now or shoo." The woman clicked her tongue in annoyance.

Coughing awkwardly, Alice furrowed her brows and scrambled her mind for anything she wanted to know about.

"Actually, rather than teaching me something what about some assistance instead?" Alice asked as an idea appeared in her mind.

"Hou? What do you need assistance with? And don't you dare tell me it's a favour for the future because I'm not honouring it if it is."

"No no, it's nothing like that don't worryahaha. I just need your help with completing my surprise attack that I used earlier. When I collided with the hybrid, a lot of the energy was lost. How can I prevent that?" Alice asked.

Since she was trying to create a personal skill for herself focused on using the Void, who better to ask than the owner herself?

Blinking her eyes, the woman nodded her head.

"If that's what you want then sure."

After all, how hard could it be?

"I wasn't looking properly earlier. Show me how you activate this skill." She gestured.

"Erm... I'm a bit exhausted right now. Activating it is a tad impossible." Alice scratched her cheek.

"Just do what you can, I'll piece together the rest."

Seeing as how she was confident, Alice nodded her head and closed her eyes.

She began to move her energy while hints of her Resonance showed signs of activating. The control of the different forces within her body and the visualisation of her attack.

After a short demonstration, Alice stopped and opened her eyes.

She could see the woman furrowing her brows.

"So? How is it?" Alice asked, waiting for her response.

"Take this. If you need my help or if you think of anything else in the future just channel it when you're in the Void. Okay bye~" She threw over a small tablet to Alice before disappearing.

She's the ruler of the Void for gods sake not the master of energy. With so many sources of energy within Alice's body, it was a miracle that she wasn't blowing up on the spot yet she wants her to help her? Impossible.

She'd rather let Alice call back this favour in the future than try to figure this sh*t out right now.

"Huh???" Blinking her eyes, Alice caught the tablet hastily as she was confused as to why the woman ran away so quickly.

"At least tell me your name before you go!" Alice called out.

However, the woman didn't reply. Instead, the tablet began to glow and a name appeared on the surface.

[Feris]

Seeing this, Alice couldn't help but shake her head and stored the tablet away. Seems like perfecting her skill was going to be harder than she expected if even Feris didn't want to help.

"WAIT! DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE GOING TO HELP ME GO BACK TO REALITY?!" Alice widened her eyes just as she was about to make a portal. If Feris wasn't going to help, who knows how long it'll take her to go back.

But there was no response. Not even the tablet glowed as Alice was met with silence.

Her smile twitched furiously as she grabbed the boulder that Feris was sitting on earlier and threw it into the infinite Void out of frustration.

She was now forced to wait before opening a portal back. During that time, there was no doubt that Selen is going to be worried and give her a lecture once she returned. Just thinking about the lecture gave Alice a headache.

###

Folding her arms, a tall woman frowned as she looked at the traces of battle left behind.

The flames have already extinguished but the mark of energy was unmistakable.

"Tiamat." Allura muttered, brushing her hands against the charred ground. Even now, she can sense the destructive energy left behind by the attack.

How did she even get out? Did a hole appear in Terminus? Were the barriers broken? Who opened the path?

Questions flooded Allura's mind but there was no one to give her answers.

"I'm guessing this is a bad sign?" Gin asked while looking at the reformed landscape.

Just standing here gave him chills.

"Just a tad. A sealed Lord broke out of Terminus and she's gathering energy quickly. It'll only be a matter of time before she's back to full power." Allura shrugged.

If she was to fight Tiamat right now, she might be able to force a draw. But if Tiamat gets any stronger, Allura understood that it'll be near impossible to pull her back into Terminus.

"The fact that you didn't give me a confident response is already plenty to worry about. My old bones can't handle this sh*t." Gin complained while opening his flask to take a drink.

With Allura being unable to give him a proper response, Gin already knew the kind of danger this sealed Lord could bring.

The two of them were definitely not enough and it didn't help that they were being pursued by a bunch of fanatics from the different churches. They had to draw attention away from Alice after all.

"It'll be fine. I'll just need to find a few old friends to help us if Tiamat does indeed recover. And..." Allura trailed off. She didn't want to say it out loud but she'll need to find Kaden if Tiamat recovers.

The only issue was... if she was to see that face again...

She might kill him by accident.