

Apocalypse 789

Chapter 789 - Magic Scroll And Arcane Circle

"Host, I don't think this is going to work. Look—you've already failed twice!" 008's voice rose in panic as Kisha's second parchment turned useless.

It seemed her focus was skewed—she was channeling most of her consciousness into potion-making and distributing mana into the brews rather than into her inscription work. She had just successfully completed a batch of Stamina Boosters, and another batch was progressing smoothly. The potions' quality hadn't dropped, so there was clearly no problem there.

But the inscriptions were another matter entirely.

Unlike potion-making, where she was still at a novice proficiency and minor mana fluctuations didn't result in outright failure, inscriptions required much more precision. A slight misstep in mana control during inscribing could ruin everything. Intermediate-level inscription demanded delicacy and intricacy—each stroke had to be exact, each line infused with perfectly balanced mana.

In potion-making, her Silver Flame was aiding her by maintaining the precise temperature for the key procedures, easing much of the burden. But with inscribing, it was all on her—her mana control, her focus, her execution. Even the slightest slip could distort the contract.

This was tricky, but also exciting. The greater the challenge, the greater the reward. If she could pull this off, wouldn't it mean she'd be able to multitask effectively? Who said telekinesis was useless now? A grin tugged at Kisha's lips as inspiration struck. She set a fresh magic parchment in front of her and refocused her mana through her feathered pen.

This time, however, she wasn't going to attempt the intermediate slave contract. It demanded too much mana and concentration. Instead, she opted to inscribe a lower-tier 'Magic Scroll'. With the lower-tier 'Magic Scroll', she'd need far less mana and precision, making it the perfect training ground to refine her mana control and focus while multitasking.

So, what did she decide to make now? Hmm... a one-time-use fireball magic scroll. This time, in addition to controlling her mana during inscription, she also had to draw an intricate magic circle.

Fortunately, the fireball was a beginner-level spell, so the required magic circle and mana consumption were relatively low. Her main challenge would be ensuring the circle was drawn correctly.

Mages typically used these scrolls in emergencies. In the Fantasy world, casting a spell like a fireball required a chant, which took time. But in urgent situations, when there was no time to chant, a pre-made 'Magic Scroll' could be activated instantly. Even non-mages—ordinary humans without mana—could use it, making it incredibly convenient and valuable.

Since it was a pre-made spell, a 'Magic Scroll' was very expensive—but also incredibly useful. She believes this would also sell well in her store, serving a dual purpose for her.

If Kisha were to compare it, it was similar to the talismans she had been using, like the lightning-attracting talisman or the speed talisman. 'Magic scrolls' were tools that many mages could craft, but the complexity and power of the scroll depended on the mage's level. For instance, a high-tier scroll that could summon a meteor shower could only be inscribed by a 7th-circle mage.

Even so, inscribers and mages were two different entities. Inscribers typically lacked combat prowess, while mages excelled in battle. However, some mages also trained in inscription. These individuals had to put in double the effort—mastering not only mana control and battle magic, but also studying ancient texts, intricate magical patterns, and forgotten arcane circles.

However, because many mages study inscription as part of their magical research, most of them have at least a basic understanding of how to create magic scrolls and similar items.

Still, their work often lacks the refinement and precision of a dedicated inscriber. Inscribers are like craftsmen—they devote themselves to mastering their craft. Mages, on the other hand, are more like versatile scholars; they know a little of everything but rarely specialize in inscription.

That's why most mages eventually choose to stay in their lane—focusing on learning more spells and chants while relying on their spellbooks. When they need a magic scroll, they usually just purchase one from a master inscriber. And that's how the system has worked—so far.

But those complexities weren't Kisha's concern right now. Her goal was simple: to create the most basic combat-type Magic Scroll—a fireball. After successfully inscribing the spell, she would need to seal it so that the user could activate the spell simply by unsealing the scroll.

Taking a steady breath, Kisha closed her eyes and centered herself, redirecting her mana into the feather pen. With deliberate precision, she drew a large circle, followed by three smaller concentric circles within it.

Around these, she began inscribing ancient scriptures, forming the foundation of the magic. Then, she added four smaller circles—positioned to represent the cardinal directions- each one designating a key element of the spell's properties.

This part required the most focus; the elemental orientation would determine the nature of the magic inside. Kisha took her time with each stroke, ensuring accuracy. When another batch of Stamina

Boosters finished brewing on the nearby table, she quickly adjusted her workload, reducing the number of potion batches so she could devote more attention to her inscription.

For now, one batch of potion brewing and a single low-tier magic scroll were enough. It was all about balance, and she was determined to achieve the best result possible.

She needed to stay patient and laser-focused—this final step would determine whether the 'Magic Scroll' succeeded or failed. More than anything, Kisha wanted it to succeed. Her brows furrowed in concentration as she carefully inscribed the last few runes, her forehead glistening with sweat. Then...

The parchment gave off a faint glow as she completed the final stroke.

'Hoo! It's a success!' Kisha breathed out, relief washing over her. She stared at the completed magic circle etched onto the scroll—it was a basic fireball spell, but to her, it was a symbol of progress. She couldn't help the excitement bubbling in her chest. If this worked, maybe she could really use it in an actual battle here in this world, too.

With a practiced motion, she rolled up the parchment and sealed it with wax and string. Then she walked to the edge of the flowerfield, holding the scroll steady. She carefully untied the string, peeled back the wax seal, and positioned the scroll facing upward. Her heart pounded as she prepared to activate it, eager to see just how powerful-or weak—her first fireball would be.

Swoosh!

Kisha nearly stumbled backward as a massive fireball shot out from the magic scroll—easily ten times larger than any fireball she'd ever seen, even from fire-type awakened ability users. It was a fireball,

alright... just a gigantic one. It rocketed into the sky, and when it reached its peak, it exploded in a brilliant flare, momentarily illuminating the entire island like the sun had just descended.

'Dang! What was that?! Why is it so big?!' Kisha stared, dumbfounded. If she hadn't angled the scroll skyward, that blast could've leveled a good portion of the area!

"Host! Congratulations!" 008 squealed with excitement. "Even though it was a low-tier combat-type fireball magic scroll, the inscription was perfected—it reached the level of a third-circle spell!"

"Wait, what? Why? I thought Fireball was just a beginner-level spell?" Kisha asked, still dazed. Her eyes darted around nervously. That explosion definitely didn't go unnoticed—by now, everyone in the territory had probably seen it. Someone was bound to come asking what had just happened in there, and she had no idea what to tell them.

"Host, the explanation is actually very simple," 008 began, sounding smug. "Normally, a beginner-level inscriber would use a basic magic circle—just one simple ring with runes to support it. But you? You used an ancient arcane circle—massive overkill for a fireball."

It gave a little self-satisfied chuckle, clearly waiting for praise. "So what was the result? A low-tier scroll... containing an advanced magic spell. What else did you expect? That Emperor's Inscribing Manual I got you? Total bargain. The seller didn't even realize its true value—but I did."

008's voice swelled with pride. "That manual is a compilation of the Emperor's lifetime of research—ancient runes, arcane circles, magical patterns, forgotten theories... The guy was obsessed with lost knowledge. It's stuff that should've been sent straight to the Mage Tower, not passed off to just anyone."

Then, with a playful giggle, it added, "Honestly, host, I think your high success rate isn't just about talent. You're working with top-tier knowledge. That's gotta count for something. Teehee~!"

008 even made a sound like it was tapping its head and sticking out its tongue—clearly proud of itself and fishing for compliments.

008 had nearly forgotten to mention the true value of the Emperor's Inscribing Manual, and it had never fully explained to Kisha what was actually inside it. Kisha, who had no firsthand knowledge of inscribing or the intricacies of the fantasy world, simply assumed the information injected into her brain was standard—common knowledge for all inscribers. So she used it without a second thought.

Only now did she realize just how advanced that knowledge really was.

No wonder the manual included so many intricate magic circles and ancient inscription patterns—it was far beyond the beginner level. And now that 008 brought it up, it finally made sense why her success rate had been so high. She wasn't just talented; she had unknowingly been using advanced inscription techniques on low-difficulty tasks.

It was like a high-level player strolling through a newbie dungeon—of course she'd breeze through it.

"You did great, 008," Kisha finally said, offering the compliment sincerely.

008 practically glowed with pride, basking in the rare praise. "Well then, Host," it purred smugly, "if you really mean that, how about upgrading my system, hmm? Just a teeny-tiny upgrade—really cheap,

barely a dent in your system points." It let out a cheeky giggle. "Hihihi... you know you won't be losing in this deal."