

## Brand New 1061

### Chapter 1061: The Demonic Wizards' Last Stand

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Elayne's form had changed, her form as Elizabeth twisted itself, her pink colored hair quickly becoming blonde, as her eyes shone with rainbow colors. Her body was covered on silver scales, which quickly gained gold, green, blue, and red colors, constantly shining together to create an aura made of their reflection.

Her draconic wings, tail, claws, and horns appeared, and with that, a beautiful crystal crown floated above her head.

It switched colors as she conjured its powers, with blue, she froze her foes rapidly, attacking them with projectiles of ice that spread deadly and paralyze frost around their surroundings, and with her yellow crown, she unleashed a thunderous attack, a mighty thunderbolt surging from the crown itself zapped the two dying wizards before they could stand again!

BOOOM!

Aside from all her stats increasing by over 600% in this form, she also gained tremendous new abilities and an enhanced Draconification form, which now carried the power of this color-changing crown with it!

However, the transformation itself drained her Mana and Spirit Energy at a rapid pace, without her domain or terrain, it wouldn't be possible to use it properly.

But right now, she had already expanded her domain everywhere. Plants, trees, mushrooms, flowers, and all kinds of vegetation spread out everywhere.

Spirits of various element started being summoned too, which she used them to fuel her transformation's elemental abilities!

"Thanks for taking care of that, I thought those two would only become more trouble..." Mark sighed in relief, despite the situation they were in right now.

"Don't worry about it, more importantly, we have to take care of these!" Planta said.

"RAAAAH!"

Tomas roared furiously and in pain, rushing towards the two at the same time, his demonic flames flaring furiously around his body. The two noticed that the more his flames grew darker, the stronger he was becoming.

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM!

His powerful strikes pushed the two back more and more, they didn't think that the Pupil of Ashhand would end up having much more potential than the Master himself! They defended using their weapons, barriers, and shields, but had little time to give attention to Tomas when another five wizards attacked them constantly.

These were much smarter, this time choosing not to go head-on against them and bombarding them with their strongest magic attacks. Explosions of all kinds of elements bombarded over the two, all while curses and restraining spells were being cast to slow them down and weaken them.

Crack, crack...!

"It's too much magic, my Spiritual Barriers are beginning to break!" said Planta. "I don't have the time to conjure the Celestial Barriers, unfortunately!"

"We'll have to do with just this then!" Mark said. "I'll take care of Tomas; you go distract the wizards and then I'll catch up with you!"

"Wait, but what will happen to him?!" Elayne asked, she was genuinely worried about him.

Although he was a bit of a dork and had gotten a very quick crush on Elayne's young magician persona, Elizabeth, Tomas was still an innocent young man. They quickly realized he was a victim, turned into an aberration against his own will, blackmailed, or perhaps even kidnaped, trapped inside of this tower below the eyes of these wicked wizards.

Elayne wouldn't have hesitated to slay him if it was otherwise, but the truth was as clear as water. If his soul was still there, somewhere, she simply couldn't give up on him yet!

And Mark agreed with that sentiment.

"I know, don't worry," Mark nodded, his magic quickly activating as he summoned a dozen giant obsidian wood totems around him, each one with the shape of a ferocious Beast Spirit, blazing with spiritual flames. "I'll keep him well busy until you can come help!"

Mark knew he was the most durable of the two at the end of the day. Even if the magicians fired spells at hi while Elayne took them down, he knew he could resist for the moment.

"Go!" he roared.

"Okay!" Elayne didn't hesitate, rushing into the skies without saying another word.

"She's coming here!"

"Quickly, conjure more barriers, don't let her get closer!"

"Use your worst curses, weaken her until she's weaker than a child!"

"DIE! {Apocalypses Infernos}!"

Two of the demonic wizards conjured a powerful barrier to resist Planta's charge, as elemental spiritual spells bombarded the dark shadow barrier with explosions of sunlight, flames, holy light, ice, water, winds, and earth. Her draconic claws also attacked rapidly, as she manipulated six different arms at the same time!

Four of them attacked with [Heavenly Yggdragon Queen's Three Colored Divine Claws], while the other two wielded Gram and her Gaia's All-Purpose-Tool, both weapons fused with hundreds of Spirits to become powerful Holy Spirit Weapons.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

Crack, crack...! CRACK!

The barriers could barely resist her enormous onslaught of attacks! Elayne was making 100% use of all her abilities and capabilities as a dragon, a swordswoman, a spirit magician, a summoner, and even a dryad, a being made of wood that could shapeshift and regrow her wooden body at will.

The two other wizards responded with several black, red, and dark purple waves of cursed demonic energies, clashing against Elayne and piercing through her barriers and scales, beginning to fester through her body with deadly demonic miasma, attempting to weaken her!

Elayne wasn't particularly immune to any status effect, in fact, her body made her particularly weak against poisonous elements, miasma, and curses. She quickly felt her stats slowly decreasing the more she took upon those waves of cursed energies. Her movements slowed down, and her attacks weren't as deadly.

However, it wasn't as if she didn't have a trump card against that either!

"There's no moonlight here, but it doesn't matter!" she said, she quickly activated one of the abilities she added into her Gaia's All-Purpose-Tool. "{Selene's Moonlight Ward}!"

Her shovel turned Sword quickly glowed with a pink and dark purple light, resembling the color of the moonlight. A ward quickly encompassed her entire body, protecting her from the curse's effects!

However, without moonlight, the curse effects were only reduced by 50%!

"Silver!"

"ROAAAR!"

And this is where Silver's newest powers came into play, as a bright, shining moonlight surged from the dragon's serpentine body.

FLAAASH!

Elayne's body quickly regained its strength, the curses, now below the moonlight, had their power reduced by 90%.

Chapter 1062: The Power Of Time

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Using Silver's aid, Elayne managed to partially overcome the weakness the curses caused, reducing their effects to 90%! After regaining most of her strength, durability, magic power, and speed, she tore through the remaining barriers and reached the five magicians!

However, what greeted her was an inferno of demonic flames, the last surviving wizards weren't weak at all, and were also the smartest, at least at the level of Ashhand, if not slightly higher.

"DIE! {Apocalypses Infernos}!"

A portal to hell opened in front of her face, as an endless wave of infernal flames washed over Elayne's entire body at once, burning through her scales and wooden body.

BOOOM!

The flames were so potent and strong that Elayne could barely remain conscious due to the pain she felt! She gritted her teeth, as her claws melted through the flames, yet she kept regenerating constantly.

"Don't stop! Kill her!"

The other four wizards added their magic power to the conjuration, the flames becoming four times stronger than before. Elayne started screaming in agony and fury as she kept trying to get out of the flames, yet anywhere she went, they were there to burn her!

Her skin, her flesh, her wood, everything turned to ashes constantly, she was trying to regenerate endlessly, yet even her regeneration was failing her!

"RAAAHHH!"

Her rainbow eyes glowed with silver light, space and time suddenly began to blur together, distorting, a gray-colored domain expanded out of Elayne's body.

"What?!"

The wizards were unable to escape or fight back, as they were trapped inside. Suddenly, as if it were a movie going in reverse, time started turning back.

The flames disappeared, going back to the Demon Gate, which closed and disappeared, the wizards were pushed back, their conjuration being undone.

Time itself was rewinding!

"Huh?!"

"T-Time magic?!"

"No... She's an Ancient Elf?!"

"Impossible!"

The wizards couldn't even speak, their thoughts going in disarray as they saw time itself obey Elayne within the range of fifty meters around her!

Once the spell was completely negated, they noticed Elayne hadn't been moved. No, using her powers she remained in place and let her rewinding powers heal her back to normal, before she even took damage.

[The [Divine Draconic Heart of Time] Skill has been activated.]

[You have used a large quantity of the accumulated Time Essence to reverse time by 10 seconds.]

Elayne didn't had time to look at the system message, her body kicked the empty air, appearing right in front of the dumbfounded wizards.

She had used that power almost out of instincts, it surged out of her own body, even though she hadn't even practiced how to use Time Magic before.

It was a power that came directly from her Dragon Heart!

[The [Divine Draconic Heart of Time] Skill has been activated.]

[You have used a small quantity of the accumulated Time Essence to increase the time of your body by three times for 10 seconds.]

Elayne overflowed with a silver and gray colored Aura of time, moving so fast the wizards could not respond any longer.

She rushed down, swinging her arms, her claws grabbed their bodies and tore them apart, her blades cut through their bodies, her movements used both Ki, Spirit Energy, and Mana to blow through barriers and hard bodies, leaving countless holes through them.

"T-This is...!"

"W-Wait...!"

"S-She's too...!"

"Fast?!"

Elayne activated a myriad of swordsmanship techniques, overwhelming all her foes before their magic could even be conjured in time.

To her silver-colored eyes, it was as if they were moving at an incredibly slow speed.

"[Divine Sword Slash]!"

SLASH!

"[Exorcizing Holy Blade]!"

SLASH!

Gram and her second sword unleashed two slashing waves of holy light, cutting through the bodies of the cultists not once, but twice, thrice, four times, five times, ten times!

"[Heroic Swordsmanship's Footwork]!"

Her movements became more precise and dexterous even as she was flying in the skies, the proper stance and the proper footwork would always work!

"[Holy Ascent]!"

An ascending attack unleashed an explosion of blinding light, engulfing their regenerating bodies and dealing even more damage, rainbow-colored flames spreading through their cut-apart flesh.

BOOOM!

"[Demon Killing Blade]! [Celestial Slash]!"

Attacks specialized on dealing great damage against demons were like a hot knife through butter against them! As time finally seemed to become faster for the wizards, it was a bit too late.

Their hands and mouths were destroyed, as they were unable to conjure their magic so easily anymore.

SLASH! SLASH!

Two powerful slashes divided all five of their bodies into four parts again!

Tendrils surged from their flesh, trying to rearrange together.

Elayne's eyes widened as the five of them desperately started to fuse.

"GRAAAH!"

Their fused form resembled a giant, hulking mass of tentacles aligned together into a muscular monstrosity.

"[Holy Blade Dance]! [Consecutive Dashing Strikes]!"

However, as the monstrosity attacked her, Elayne was still much faster, with several consecutive strikes of her swords and by spinning and jumping through the air, she evaded the lethal blows, while unleashing countless attacks.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

Each strike pierced the monstrosity's body and soul, making it grow weaker rapidly. And with that also came thunderbolts, giant spheres of sunlight, and holy light beams from all her spell conjuring abilities, now combined with her Dual Cast Skill.

"[Strong Holy Blow]! [Divine Execution]!"

As the fusion attempted to recover, Elayne didn't let them.

Rapidly, she cut through their bodies with a massive attack, her swords suddenly resembling two massive axes made of light.

She cut through them with a single vertical swing, hacking through flesh and bones as an explosion of light consumed them!

CLAAASH!

"UUGGH?! GRAAARRGH!"

The monstrosity attacked back, three small Demon Gates opened, as the same infernal flames attempted to burn through Elayne again!

However, this time she was able to see through it, her crown turning blue, as a storm of ice and winds rushed towards the flames, turning them off.

And then...!

"[Star Fall]! [Light Arrows]!"

Her Aura transformed, resembling dozens of falling stars and piercing arrows of light.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

The barrage of attacks pierced the monstrosity's entire body, becoming completely covered by over a dozen bloody holes.

"Y-YOUUU!"

The combined voice of the five wizards reverberated, the flames they conjured fusing into their body as they attempted to regenerate back.

However!

"[Holy Pinnacle]! [Divine Spear]!"

Elayne raised both swords upwards, as a giant spear of pure divine light pierced through their entire body, consuming them into an explosion of blinding brightness.

BOOOM!

The five wizards, whose consciousness had melded together into this monstrosity, could only scream in utter agony as both their body and soul were purified, and turned into ashes.

Chapter 1063: Saving Tomas

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BOOOM!

As Elayne vanquished the five wizards within time, she quickly tried to go to Mark's aid. She had already thought of a way that could save Tomas from his terrible fate, but she had to do it quickly. The more Tomas grew stronger through his transformation, the more the demonic soul within him would consume him. This was the reason why he continuously became stronger.

"Tomas- Ah!"

However, before she could get to them, she noticed something dreadful, a giant Demon Gate had opened above the ceiling, and the same scene she had seen back then had appeared now. Dozens of enormous demonic arms started pouring out!

"Wait, what?! Were they conjuring this? When?!"

She noticed that the remaining wizards, three of them, were being swarmed by her Divine Beasts, and they were at the verge of dying now, she didn't have to worry about them at all.

However, who conjured this Demon Gate?

"Don't tell me...!"

She looked down, seeing Tomas powers surging endlessly as demonic flames spread into a Domain, rivers of demonic energy connecting to the Demon Gate.

Tomas was not only forced to become a cultist, but he ended being an entity similar to the other beings she had fought before, a chimera made to create a Demon Gate.

"Dammit, Tomas! Stop this! STOP!"

Mark roared, clashing against Tomas, his sword cut through the demon's body, but it would rapidly begin to regenerate, making trying to stop him by cutting his limbs useless.

And as Elayne tried to go help, hundreds of long, demonic arms surged! Their colors and appearances varied, but they were the representation of the hundreds of demons that lived in Hell, whose only their arms could extend into this world for now.

It was an incomplete Demon Gate after all, one that could only summon a part of a true demon.

But that didn't mean these arms weren't deadly, the complete opposite, in fact.

"GRUOOHH!"

Their palms opened jaws and eyes, attacking Elayne the moment they saw her. Their fingers had sharp, long and powerful nails, claws that could tear through anything.

"Dammit!"

Planta quickly clashed against all of them at once, her swordsmanship techniques combined with her crown abilities and her spirit magic spells bombarded her surroundings endlessly.

Sharp slashing attacks cut through their bodies, and her magic froze, burned, and destroyed them as they came. She tried to get closer to Mark and Tomas, but the Demon Hands would simply not stop.

To make things worse, if she didn't completely destroy them, their remains would quickly regrow into aberrant flesh creatures made of torn apart fingers and eyes, Demonic Hand Spawns, which had threatened the city before.

"If I spend my time slaying these, I won't make it in time!"

As Elayne struggled and was about to use her Time Abilities once more, even though she was already running low on Time Essence, two figures rushed from her left and right.

"{Malice Abyssal Darkness Magic}: {Shadow Void Dragon Breath}!"

Several draconic heads made of shadows appeared, firing deadly beams of void and completely deleting the Demonic Hands from existence.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"{Divine Titan Earth Hammer Arts}: {Divine Titan's Ore Axe: Terran}!"

Meanwhile, a gigantic golden axe cut through all of them at once, not once, but hundreds of times with each slash, reducing them to minced flesh that was quickly set aflame by rainbow flames conjured by floating rainbow-colored crystals.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

"Rita! Lily!"

It was Rita and Lily, of course. They had arrived barely in time, taking care of all the incoming Demonic Hands with their combined efforts. Elayne noticed that Lily's attacks had changed too, her new evolution giving her the ability to summon magic crystals of many colors, capable of firing deadly beams of light.

"We'll take care of this! Go save that damn brat!"

"Leave this to us, we can handle it, barely!"

As Rita and Lily kept fighting, Elayne nodded.

"Got it!"

She spread out her silver-colored wings, rushing down towards Mark as fast as possible. He was resisting the blows from Tomas while trying to restrain him. The totems he had summoned conjured a powerful blazing domain that kept the demonic pupil trapped within a ring of fire.

"I'm not letting you out, you damn kid!"

"GRAAAHHH!"

Tomas kept crying, tears flowing from his eyes as he fought monstrosly. At the very least, this meant he was still there, struggling.

"Mark! Hold him down!"

"Ah! Alright!"

Mark heard Elayne's voice and immediately obeyed, growing over ten giant, wooden arms from his body and quickly pushing the giant demonic pupil into the ground, holding on all his arms at once.

As his metallic arms burned and slowly melted against Tomas powerful demonic fire, he kept regrowing new ones without stopping.

FLASH!

Elayne descended from the skies like a flash of bright, golden light, clashing against Tomas head and almost knocking him down unconscious.

CLASH!

"UAAGH...!"

With pain, the boy groaned, vomiting blood.

"Sorry about that! It'll be over sooner than you think!"

As Elayne spoke, her Magic Circle glowed brightly, and her Halo appeared above her head.

Celestial Energies surged from her fingertips, as Runic Arrangements were created within seconds.

A large magic circle was being formed as she imbued it with all her angelic and magical powers.

And from within the magic circle, what appeared where nothing more than...

Chains!

"{Life and Light Chains of Restraint} + {Celestial Heavenly Sun} + {Exorcizing Heavenly Purifying Light} = {Demon-Sealing Chains of Heavenly Celestial Light}!"

FLAAASH!

The chains shone with the brightest of celestial lights, wrapping around Tomas entire body and burning through his flesh.

His demonic forms started to rapidly grow smaller and weaker, his body quickly reverting to his original, human form!

But it didn't end there, as Elayne then moved the chains towards his demon heart, a large red crystal incrustated in the middle of his chest.

And tightly wrapped the chains around them, while connecting them to his soul too, which was also being infected by the demon soul inside of Tomas demon heart.

"{Exorcizing Celestial Seal}!"

FLASH!

And right after that, to finish it off, she used the last remaining Celestial Energy to permanently place those chains there, finally purifying Tomas for the time being.

Chapter 1064: Escape!

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RUMBLE!

The Demon Gate started to tremble, Rita and Lily saw as it quickly closed, the spatial distortion it created repairing itself, the smell of sulfur still remained in the air, but the Demonic Hands were finally gone.

The remaining wizards were also slain, my Divine Beast Familiars finally taking them down with their combined efforts. The laboratory finally fell into silence, and the entire space was still blocked from the outside world.

Nobody knew what had happened here... yet.

"Hahhh... It's finally fucking over..."

Rita sighed in relief, resting over the floor.

"T-This was too much..."

Lily did the same, looking into the ceiling.

"I'm sorry everyone, I just couldn't stop once I started," I apologized. "I kind of panicked..."

"Well, it couldn't be helped, Ashhand ended being a monster," Mark said, patting my shoulders. "It's over, but I think we should hurry, everyone outside will grow suspicious after a while..."

"Yeah, you're not wrong," I nodded, looking at Tomas unconscious face.

He was also stark naked! All his clothes were torn apart when he transformed.

I quickly wrapped him on a dress of leaves of my own creation, and feed him a bit of my blood sap, to heal his exhaustion and injuries.

"Are we really taking him with us?" Rita wondered.

"Yeah, Tomas might be a useful ally," I nodded. "He was pretty much forced into this and became a monster too. If we could make him reveal what happened here and more information, it would all be really valuable. He was a victim after all, I think it's my responsibility to at least help him a bit."

"But what about his demonic powers?" Rita asked. "Isn't that too dangerous? What if he gets possessed again?!"

"Don't worry, it shouldn't happen again," I said. "I did the same I did with John to Tomas, I sealed the demon soul inside his Demon Heart, and also his corrupting soul. Over time, he should recover and feel even better. I can't extract the Demon Heart though, it is replacing his own heart, and he would surely die..."

"Got it... Well! He better be worth the damn effort then," Rita sighed. "Let's get going... How are we going out? Through the door?"

"I fear we might get ambushed by wizards waiting outside, so no..." I said. "I'll use my tree teleportation to get inside the Druid Guild and then just dispel it from here. It should be the quickest and safest method."

"When you dispel it... does it leave some evidence?" wondered Mark.

"I believe it might," I nodded. "But don't worry, we'll just burn this entire laboratory into ashes with your fire, that should do it, right?"

"I see... Very smart," Mark nodded.

"For now, though, quickly! Everyone, place as many things inside your inventory, everything here is big evidence! Also take more pictures to everything! We got at least five minutes before they come!"

"Alright!"

Everyone quickly started storing everything. I went to take all the souls stored inside those giant flasks, to free them once we get out and let them pass away peacefully.

There were also a lot of valuable items, such as more Skill Books, most of them seemed experimental, and were made to help someone learn Demonic Skills, wow.

There were also a lot of Demonic Grimoires containing all sorts of Demonic Spells, most of them made out of materials from people, their skin, bones, and written using blood.

They were honestly too creepy to even look at, so I just threw it all inside my inventory without wanting to think too hard.

Once we were done, Mark set everything ablaze.

FLUOOOSH!

Things quickly started melting and turning into ashes, his flames were very strong and burned through things even faster than normal ones.

"Alright, let's get out of here."

I conjured the tree, as a portal opened from it, and I saw all my friends walk through it.

Except...

Crack, crack...!

"Huh?!"

CRASH!

The space that was being held back by the familiars was beginning to be forcefully shattered!

I felt a powerful magical presence surging from above, something enormous, a tremendous pressure like nothing I had ever faced before.

No, perhaps I have...

It was compared to when I was inside of Yggdrasil's soul.

How... is this possible?

Who is that? A god? A literal god?

No...

"Who dares...! Who dares meddle with the space I control?!"

Crack, crack...!

Space kept cracking, as the voice of an old and furious man echoed through everything.

No way, it's him?!

"You cockroaches! I won't allow you another second of doing as you please! Open NOW!"

Crack, crack...!

CRASH!

Stay connected through mvl

More cracks continued to spread, the enormous pressure almost made me fall to my knees, but with all my strength, I grabbed all my friends and jumped inside, summoning my familiars once I found myself inside the druid guild.

"WHERE ARE YOU?!"

The furious voice of nobody else than Merlinus echoed as I heard the sound of broken glass, the spatial bubble fully shattered, his magical presence surging like an endless wave.

"Close!"

I quickly closed and dispelled the portal, only a few seconds before his presence were to find us.

The flames quickly burned the tree into ashes, hopefully leaving no evidence.

We found ourselves still paralyzed, sitting over the swamp inside the Druid Guild's building.

The smell of water and plants was quite... relaxing.

Our hearts were beating too fast, honestly.

"T-That was... Merlinus, isn't it?"

Granny Austucia was right there, looking at us in disbelief.

"A-Ah... Maybe?" I muttered nervously.

"W-What... What the hell were you doing?!" she screamed angrily. "Did you really...? By Verdant! Did you had to escape to my own guild?! If he were to find you came here... Ugh, forget it."

She sighed, walking to the kitchen.

"I'll bring some tea, you look too mortified to even speak, I can tell..."

As she walked away, I rested over the wet floor, as a little froggy jumped over my belly.

"Ribbit..."

"Hahh... Hahh... I'm never doing infiltration missions ever again..."

Chapter 1065: The Evil Arch Wizard's Frustrations

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The magical presence that the Arch Wizard exuded slowly recessed as the Planta and her friends escaped from the Magician Tower, even the tree left behind by her portal burning by Mark's flames. The

only thing left as the wizards finally stepped inside the spatial bubble was... Nothing but ashes and burnt furniture!

Everything else was gone, the countless of corpses were burnt to charred dust, all the souls were stolen, the precious materials, the half-made Grimoires and Skill books, and every single magic item they could have expected to be left.

And above all, all of the wizards here were killed, without exception! Their bodies could barely be seen now, mostly bones left behind, if not even that. Not even their souls were left behind, however, making it impossible to raise them as Undead.

"Everything is gone, those bastards stole everything!"

"T-They killed everyone too?!"

"How... How did they escape?"

"This is too much, it's unbelievable."

The wizards watching the scene were left completely and utterly devastated emotionally, to think there was a foe so powerful they could infiltrate their tower, kill dozens of their strongest members and steal them all within just a couple of hours was terrifying.

The wizards, who thought they were the strongest organization without enemies, quickly realized there were still a lot of big fishes out there. They quickly started gathering information about what had happened by onlookers or passersby.

After gathering this info, they moved towards the Master of the Tower, the darkness of the castle quickly became apparent, only using their Mana Senses to guide themselves cross it.

Eventually, they reached him, his tall, intimidating figure sitting over a comfortable throne, right in the middle of this darkness. Surrounding him there was a large group of wizards, his strongest men, and also his loyal servants.

The old man's silhouette could be barely seen through the shadows, but it was very clear that he had a long, gray colored beard and wore dark blue robes, with a big wizard hat. His eyes shone with red light, his powerful magic aura distorting space itself around him.

"Tell me everything you know... Who did this!"

As he spoke, a powerful shockwave of Mana erupted from his body, making the wizards quickly kneel before his overwhelming presence.

"From what we can assume, there are some suspects, four of them, my lord."

"They were recent recruits, young students that passed the test and everything!"

"Ashhand had taken them as his disciples and was giving them a tour, until he led them to that room... We assume he wanted to make them join us right away due to their talents."

"Students, you say?! How come students were able to kill all those wizards! All of them had a Demon Soul inside their Demon Heart too, it would be utterly impossible for anybody to beat all of them at once!" the Lord of the Tower roared in fury.

"But that's the only suspects we can think of... Ashhand's body was found charred, even his bones are barely there..."

"What about his soul?" the Master asked.

"Nowhere to be seen, no souls are left, all of them were exorcized..."

"Exorcized you say?! So this is then the act of some sort of Priest, right? But one so strong... No, if anybody else infiltrated our facility, we would have known. I suppose... those four students are the only suspects. What are their names?!"

"Elizabeth, Hendrick, Erika, and Maria, all four of them belong to the four biggest noble families of the country... We still don't know if it was truly them, it's hard to gather evidence when everything is burned. But they're nowhere to be seen, and we have yet to find their corpses, so they couldn't have possibly been victims either."

The old man rubbed his chin as his sharp eyes glowed.

"This is bad, if they somehow managed to get away and even gathered information, then the royal family will eventually learn all of this, which I've been hiding for so long perfectly! I thought our security was top notch!" roared the old wizard.

"W-We apologize, this is our fault..."

"But Ashhand, that bastard, he was the one that led them there to begin with too!"

"He died now, so he can't be punished but-"

"Exactly! If he's dead, then who else is going to be punished here?!" roared the wizard. "I am getting more and more frustrated lately. All our facilities are being destroyed by that plant monster and her band of misfits, and although we've tried to retaliate, we can't ever win a single match. All of you were utterly useless! And now, there's a third party here also targeting us?!"

You bastards, you're all useless! USELESS! USELESS! USELESS!"

The old, maniac arch wizard kept pointing his finger at the wizards, as his space manipulation powers were unleashed, his magic quickly lifting all three wizards at once.

"P-Please have mercy, my lord...!"

"W-We will find those children and bring them to you!"

"Give us another chance!"

Their magic was utterly useless against him, who could, with his mere presence, seal all magic weaker than his own Magic Circle, and severely weaken any wizard with less Mana than him.

"Another chance? Even when I could simply reuse your souls, bodies, and mana to make more competent beings?" laughed the old man. "You joined this sect willing to give your flesh and soul to me! So why do you fear what's coming? Did you thought you would live the good life, while sitting on your asses as this happened?!"

Who do you think you're upsetting here but the one that shall become the next Demon King?! You fool!"

"GRYYYYAAAGH!"

The wizards that had been onlookers about what happened were quickly twisted, their bodies, souls, flesh, blood, bones, everything started twisting, the sound of their bodies breaking apart reverberated across the entire hall, the cultists surrounding the man looked at the scene in fascination.

"{Daemon Creatio}"

Conjuring high level Demon Magic, the Arch Wizard quickly gave birth to new entities out of the wizard's flesh and souls, twisting their forms into aberrant entities overflowing with demonic and magical powers, their Demon Souls fully taking over.

"You who has freed us from our vessels, and given us new bodies..."

"Please, tell us..."

"What do you wish for us to do in exchange?"

The Demon Souls asked his request.

"Find those four and bring them to me. And... get me that child, I need a new, younger, more talented, and stronger vessel."

Chapter 1066: Resting In The Druid Guild

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(Elayne's POV)

It was a very long day, but it was finally coming to an end.

After our rapid escapade from the Wizard Tower after slaying a dozen Demonic Wizards, uncovering the truth, and bringing as much evidence as we possibly could, we teleported into the Druid Guild and rested for half an hour, just trying to calm down and process everything that happened while drinking herbal tea and eating cookies I already had pre-made.

Granny Austucia was there for us, helping us get better from all the... Well, the shock we felt. Even after everything we've lived, we always need a bit of time to process when stuff this crazy just happens. Maybe in the moment, the adrenaline or whatnot triggers and we can act quickly.

But once we cool down, it just a rush of emotions, most of them are guilt for the things I did, killing so many people, even if monsters, it felt bad... I needed some time to process that, to calm down.

"So that's how it was, huh? You were sent by that damned King and the Queen to do such a dangerous thing! Why did you even agree to this?" sighed Granny Austucia. "Well, I am both relieved and terrified that everything we suspected was true and that the cultists and the wizard guild were indeed one and the same, but..."

"I know how you might feel, granny, don't worry," I smiled. "We did this because we wanted to find out too. This is not for the Kingdom's safety; we did this because the cultists are an enemy of the world. If we can't stop them before it's too late, not only would the Kingdom be threatened, but the entire world too.

This also would include the continent and Lady Verdant, so I believe this also concerns you Druids."

"Hah..." Austucia sighed. "You're not wrong there, young lady. I suppose... I suppose this is also a responsibility, to take down those foes, that threaten everything we've grown to love and appreciate... So now that you've finally found who was behind the mask, what's next?"

"We'll go report this to the King and the Queen. It's already night right now, but we called David and he's already coming here with a carriage to pick us up," I said. "Thank you for helping us get a bit better, granny Austucia, it's really appreciated."

"Oh my, it's alright, dear," she sighed, as I hugged her tightly again, I liked that she smelled like wet dirt and plants. "Have safe travels. Also, you know where to come if you need to talk, alright? The other druids also would like to know you better. Have you considered visiting the Realm again?"

"I have! I think I might go once I got more free time, I'm sorry..." I said. "But right now, we're pretty busy."

"Oh it's alright, don't you worry about it," Granny Austucia said. "More importantly, drink the rest of your tea and be on your merry way, I am sure the King and the Queen are worried about you two, right?"

"I suppose they might be a bit worried, yeah," I nodded. "But I am more worried about what those wizards might do now... Is everyone doing alright?"

"Yeah, we're fine," Mark nodded. "Just still a bit tired, but alright."

"The kid's still sleeping," Rita pointed at Tomas, who was sleeping like nothing had ever happened to him before.

"What will happen to him now, Elayne?" wondered Lily.

"I think the safest option until he wakes up is to leave him inside a ceiling, they will probably seal his Mana using special restraining items," I explained. "His demon powers are already well sealed by now."

"That's good I suppose, he was still a member, even if blackmailed," Rita nodded. "Anyways, is David here yet or what?"

"Yes, he should be here by now... Ah, there he is," I was looking at the world map, the icon of a golden carriage slowly appeared close to us. "Let's go then!"

After saying our last goodbyes to Granny, we walked inside the carriage and made our way to the castle. In the way, David explained us that my daughter and Angelina's combined party had already come back with interesting news.

The two groups had combined together to go investigate the walls, and they came back with good results, finding three cultists that had infiltrated the guards there, however, they failed to capture any of them alive, but this confirmed they had infiltrated in the guards themselves.

"So that's what happened..." I nodded. "Well, our little adventure on the wizard tower wasn't easy either, we'll explain it once we get there..."

"I'm just glad you were able to come back safely, everyone," said David. "I was honestly quite worried about your safety. But it seems the wizards weren't the cultists at the end, as you've come back alright."

"Err, well, you'll learn once we tell the King and the Queen..." I sighed.

The quest had yet to be completed, which means I had to report this to the ruling authorities to complete the quest. However, there were still a few system notifications, mostly from all the levels I gained. We did slay a lot of bad guys.

Ding!

[You and your Party have slain dozens of [Demon King Worshiping Chimeric Wizards: Lv300+!]

[You earned 1.750.000.000 EXP!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Your Level has increased from Level 237 to Level 244/300!]

[All your Stats have increased. You gained Bonus Stat Points and Skill Points.]

[The Skills: [Myriad Minds (Divine Beast Skill) (Evolved I)] [Snake Queen (Divine Beast Skill)] [Silver Moon Dragon's Divine Scale Armor (Divine Beast Skill)] [Space-Warping Eldritch Spirit Body (Divine Beast Skill) (Evolved I)] [Abyssal Shadow Feather Projectile (Divine Beast Skill)] have Leveled Up dozens of Times!]

[The Skills: [Divine Draconic Spirit Harvest Field (Fused Skill)] [Heavenly Yggdragon Queen Of The Three Colored Crown Transformation (Fused Skill)] [Double Cast] [Mana Overload] Have Leveled Up after combining both Skill EXP and Skill Points.]

I got seven levels and a lot of Skills leveled up, I do feel a bit stronger, so that's a plus, I suppose.

Now, time to reveal the truth to the rulers once and for all.

Chapter 1067: Reporting To The King And The Queen

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Once we returned to the castle, we made our merry way inside the throne room. It seems the Queen had already told this to her husband, as Rose, or well, Camilla, was waiting for us with her husband in

the throne room. I am still trying to understand how she ended getting romantically involved with a NPC, and a King no less.

I am not saying this as if it were a bad thing, but the constant need to log off as a Player would make it harder for the two, right? She also can't possibly just sleep with him in-game, it would be detrimental for her health, I think...

So how does she do it? I don't even remember her ever logging out. Is she really a Player or something else? Maybe, maybe I am overthinking it and I shouldn't meddle with other people's lives, I guess.

"Welcome back, everyone. My wife told me everything that happened, and about your secret mission," the King greeted us first, as I noticed my daughter, her friends, and Angelina's party right in front of us.

"Ah, yes, your majesty, we've come back with a large... amount of news, if I dare say myself," I sighed. "Like, too many things happened, but... yes, we got evidence, we saw everything. We even bought someone here that might be a living member of the cultists."

"What?! Really?!" the King wondered, his bright eyes shining even brightly.

"Is that true?" the Queen wondered. "It seems things went even better than I imagined! Please, show us the evidence! Also, feel free to send me the pictures and videos you got."

"Very well your majesty," I nodded, doing that while Rita expanded her shadows, Tomas suddenly appeared resting over the ground.

He was wearing some pants and a white shirt and nothing else, we had to dress him ourselves. Well, Mark did it, but yeah. Everyone could clearly see the red jewel in his chest, the characteristic of most cultist, a Demon Heart.

"This is Tomas, one of the magicians that helped us infiltrate, well, he mostly just did what he was told," I said. "You see, everything started with..."

We spent the following twenty minutes explaining to everyone present what just happened. From Tomas, the tests, the grimoires, the skill books, Ashhand, the interior of the tower, and then everything else we saw.

From the battles, to leaving no evidence, and from the voice of who we believe was Merlinus, his presence, and his powers in more detail. The King and the Queen were surprised, as they didn't know almost everything we told them.

The magicians kept the tower's secrets for themselves and didn't even allow people of the kingdom to enter, at least not those that had sworn their loyalty to the royal family.

Apparently, they abused their authority as a international organization that even transcends two continents, to make themselves feel so important not even the King of the country their tower is located can have a saying about them, or even try to investigate what's happening inside.

Now that I think about, it was obvious they would be the cultists, they are literally the perfect target for the Demon Kings to use, with enough power to protect their secrets and power-starving old men that would do anything to become stronger, jealous of the King for what his family had accomplished over many generations.

"I see... It must have been hard for you that everything happened so out of nowhere," sighed the King. "I have to apologize, my wife decided to do this all on her own. I can't possibly fathom what might have happened to you if that evil wizard would have ended parasitizing your souls... Camilla, perhaps we needed to prepare them a bit better beforehand."

"I... I suppose I owe an apology as well," nodded Camilla. "Although you handled things fine, there were many variables and things I never considered at all..."

"It is fine, your majesty, we handled things at the end and brought all the evidence we could find, burned all the evidence we could have left behind, and left," I sighed in relief. "Now that things are finally clear, what is your next plan? What should we do?"

"It is a complicated question," the King said. "However, I cannot let those monsters roam freely in my country. Although Tomas here is a victim forced to become a cultist, I could confidently say all wizards are cultists, right?"

"I don't know, but at least those within that big group are," I nodded. "We could wait for Tomas to wake up first, I believe we could ask him these questions and he could help us make things clearer."

"We must prepare first, amass as many troops as possible before things become worse," Camilla said. "Based in what you said, Merlinus is most likely their leader, and incredibly powerful Magician of Level 400 and higher, his Magic Circle Tier is rumored to be eight or even worse, nine. And he apparently has an incredible affinity and talent over space magic, something we had no idea about!

He's immensely dangerous, and we must tread carefully."

"I agree, first let's get as many troops as possible. A potential invasion to the tower can't be done immediately right now. Merlinus might or might have suspicions of his own, but it's better to remain neutral and act like fools until our troops, tools, and plans are finally completely made," the King nodded.

"Merlinus is not a fool though," I said. "You really have to hurry; I don't think you could keep this up for more than a couple of days... I'm sorry that things came to be this way, but if you want a chance to defeat him, we must hurry. And don't just rely on your troops, your majesty. Our entire group is willing to help as much as we can. We could also recruit even more Players for the cause.

Right, Queen Camilla? I am sure you could bring a lot of them."

She smiled, giggling.

"Yes, indeed."

Chapter 1068: Quest Complete!

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The true identity of Queen Camilla was the Guild Master of the strongest Guild in the Game at this moment, Dark Haze, I think was the name? Or was it Black Haze...

Whatever the case, she could technically call her entire guild of high-level players here to help them. So aside from the Knights and Soldiers they could recruit, and perhaps NPC mercenaries and adventurers, there's this option as well.

And naturally, our entire group, but even then, we can't take care of absolutely everything, and bringing in the army of my forest would leave it pretty unguarded, so I don't really want to do that either.

"Recruiting Players themselves... I had not considered that," the King sighed. "Can you actually do this easily, Camilla?"

"I can, yes," nodded Camilla. "I could manage to bring a large group of powerful Players. But they're always lead by rewards, so we will have to offer a very good payment, dear."

"I understand, and well, if we can actually take down the magicians, then we could take away all their riches and their prized tower, and then make the money back," the young King said cunningly, his handsome face smiling.

"Don't worry about anything for now, Planta, we will call for your help when its needed. I think from now on, it's all on us," said Camilla.

"I see... Well, I was wondering if we can free the souls we received. I wouldn't really like if you used them for experiments or something, they were people, perhaps most of the innocents," I said.

"Yes, I suppose that would be the right thing to do," the King nodded. "Go ahead, release them whenever you want."

"Thank you, your majesty."

After that, I decided to free them and purify them at the same time, this way, the souls passed away to the afterlife, whatever that is, safely, and didn't stay in the material world to become Undead or Ghosts.

Asking them information would be rather useless, as they were very traumatized and unable to speak. Our two Necromancers, Camilla and Edrich, had already checked the souls and were unable to communicate with them.

I felt slightly relieved once I was done doing that, perhaps I just was desperate to let these people finally rest in peace. There were the souls of children there too, these wizards- I mean, the cultists, are just insane people.

They need to be taken down, and forced to stop this insanity before it becomes even worse.

"Take him to the underground jail, activate the anti-magic fields there," Camilla ordered.

"Very well."

The knights grabbed Tomas and carried him downstairs, putting him inside a jail. They had put several cuffs around his body to completely seal his magic powers, and then placed him in the highest security jail they had available.

After all, it was better be safe than sorry.

"Now, I suppose it has become quite late already, we shouldn't hold you back anymore. You want to go rest, right?" asked Camilla. "You've done more than you can imagine for this Kingdom, and for that, you have our eternal gratitude. We've prepared a series of rewards for you Planta, and your three friends that helped us.

Naturally, the other groups that managed to take down the cultists infiltrated in the walls will also receive their rewards! ...Of course, Planta's party did something even more dangerous, so they shall be rewarded even more."

As Camilla spoke, a dozen knights came walking inside the throne room, carrying large bags with lots of money and also items. I thought we would just get the quest rewards, but we were also getting rewards outside of quests!

Ding!

[You have completed the {World Quest}: [Infiltrate the Magician Tower and find out Clues that could lead to the Cult of the Demon King's whereabouts!]

[Congratulations! Not only were you able to find enough evidence that the magician tower were all damned demonic cultists, but you were able to bring a lot of evidence confirming that, and even managed to keep your true identities a secret, killing the wizards that tried to attack you.]

[The King and Queen of the Luminous Kingdom are proud and pleased by your tremendously hard work and recognize how much effort and risk you took to bring this news to them. They shall now begin preparing for the worst outcome and will rely on your help for the incoming future.]

[Naturally, they have prepared great rewards, but the Quest itself shall provide even more, good work.]

[Completion Rewards]: [1.000.000.000 EXP] [1.000.000.000 Gold] [Ki Reinforcing Elixir (A Grade)] x50 [Soul Reinforcing Elixir (A Grade)] x50 [Magic Circle Reinforcing Elixir (A Grade)] x50 [Random Skill Book (A Grade)] x3 [Divine Skill Evolution Ticket (S Grade)] x1]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Your Level has increased from Level 244 to Level 248/300!]

[All your Stats have increased. You gained Stat Points and Skill Points.]

Woah these are some pretty good rewards. And that's not even all of it.

"There you have, Lady Planta, thank you for serving and helping our Kingdom."

David gave me a big bag of Gold and items!

[The Luminous Kingdom has rewarded you for your efforts.]

[You received the following rewards: [5.000.000.000 Gold] [Ki Reinforcing Elixir (A Grade)] x30 [Mana Circle Reinforcing Elixir (A Grade)] x30 [Random Stat Raising Elixir (A Grade)] x30 [Random Magician Skill Book (A Grade)] x3 [Wizard Grimoire of Gold Magic (S Grade)] x1 [Mystic Spiritual Scholar Necklace (S Grade)] x1]

Woah, that's a lot, alright, I'll gently save it all inside my Inventory for now.

"Thank you so much, isn't this way too much though?" I wondered.

"Yeah? It's a bit excessive..." Mark nodded.

"Don't worry about that, perhaps you can't imagine it at the moment, but you might have saved our entire kingdom already by bringing us this evidence, there's nothing else left from us than gratitude," the King nodded. "Right, Camilla?"

"That's right, so please enjoy your rewards," she nodded.

"O-Oh well then, let's get going everyone," I nodded.

There was little else left for us to do here, and I was getting tired and wanted to log out and have dinner already.

So, after everything was said and done, we moved back to Ambil, had a feast there with friends, and then we logged out.

Tomorrow, I'll check all the items, I'm just really hungry IRL, and a bit sleepy already...

Chapter 1069: The Next Morning

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The next morning arrived in the blink of an eye, and my room felt colder than I remember, the winter was getting closer and closer, and I started to regret having slept with the windows open. There was barely any sunlight coming out, but the greenery around seemed unfazed.

I wonder if they'll suffer through the winter, or they will be fine. Now that they're magical plants, I would assume they would be better than usual, right? And seeing how there are ice elemental plants, perhaps I could begin harvesting different things, or well, growing different things too.

But that also depends if I need to use them, like, that use would there be on making ice and winter-based magic plants... Unless I can grow stronger out of them. perhaps use them to craft ice-resistance concoctions, that would be interesting.

Or maybe just boost my growth too, I had been considering delving a lot into IRL alchemy and hastening the growth of my magic circle and physique through them, aside from rune engravement and physical exercise, there should be other options as well.

But for now, time to wake up.

"Mark? Wake up honey..."

I hugged him as I kissed his cheeks, slowly, he opened his sleepy eyes.

"Ah... D-did I overslept? My bad..."

"No, no, it's fine, are you feeling better?"

"Yeah, I'm fine. Was just tired. Can't believe the exhaustion of BNLO just passed into our bodies somehow."

"A bit, yeah. Maybe because of the synchronization between the body and the Avatar becoming stronger... Anyways, want some breakfast?"

"Sure, let me help too, can't let you do everything."

"Okay, then can you make waffles? You know how to prepare the batter?"

"I sure do, leave it to me."

We woke up at roughly nine in the morning, it was a nice and comfy morning as usual. My daughter Monica was fast asleep, Anna and Elisa were staying for the weekend here, so they were also in their rooms.

They usually wake up at like twelve in the morning, or eleven at the earliest. Can't blame them, I used to love waking up ultra late when I was younger. Just sleeping and not caring about anything, I miss that feeling a little bit.

Once we're finally done with the Luminous Kingdom and the Demon King of Death, I'm definitely taking some big vacations and just chilling for several months, I hope I don't get assaulted by random monsters IRL though.

Ah, I better not say that out loud to not jynx it.

Though I think I was wrong.

Why?

Because the smell of waffles actually woke all the girls at nine and thirty in the morning!

"I smell waffles..." said my daughter. "Oh, good morning..." she yawned.

"I am so hungry... I want waffles..." Elisa demanded.

"It smells nice..." Miranda said.

"Come on Elena, come back to bed... I want to cuddle..." Anna was following my daughter while hugging her from behind.

"Hmm, no more cuddling, I'm hungry," my daughter looked at her, and then kissed her lips. "Make me some tea."

"Eeehh...?" Anna made an annoyed sound, but then quickly walked into the kitchen to serve my daughter.

Haha, I suppose she's very serviceable at the end of the day.

"I'm only making you tea because I was going to make tea for myself so I might as well..." Anna said.

"Good morning girls, Mark is making a million waffles for everyone, so sit down and enjoy," I smiled.

Continue your adventure at [mvl](#)

"Yep, here comes the first batch, five waffles!" Mark said, giving me the plate, as I placed it over the table.

Like piranhas that found a bird falling into the water, the girls swarmed around the waffles and took one each, devouring it after pouring some maple syrup and whipped cream on top.

"C-Calm down a bit! You girls are sure voracious..." I laughed. "Hmm, though I think someone is missing- Right! Where's Gabriel at? Katherine, are you there?"

POOF!

"Yes?" Katherine, the fairy I'll have for a month, and which has already been here for a week, appeared by my side, snacking on a chocolate bar with cookies and cream filling. "The angel you ask? Oh, he's on the garden! He has been watching over the Eden Apple Tree for hours, he was worried it would get attacked. I told him it would be safe here, but he wouldn't listen.

Then, he went out hunting Hollows, there's a big pile of their cores outside... He said you should feed them to the tree? It feels like he can communicate with it even better than me!"

She was sure a chatty fairy, but she told me everything I needed to know.

"Huh, so he's outside, alright..." I nodded, taking a sip of my coffee, a piece of waffle, and then walking outside to bring him inside the house. "Gabriel? Are you there? What are you doing?"

I found him napping right besides the sapling, which had grown considerably by a few more centimeters. His Aura of Angelic Light was surging from his body slowly and gently, imbuing it into the tree.

Was he helping the tree grow? But why?

I also noticed that the soil beneath the tree had several cores of Hollows, but they had been improperly placed and they weren't being absorbed correctly.

"Gabriel, dear, are you there?" I patted his head, and the little angel slowly opened his blue eyes, his long, blonde hair waved by the wind.

"Ah... Big sis! Huh? Why am I here?" he wondered. "Oh right, the tree! I was taking care of the tree! There were Hollows far away so I took them down!

I don't want them to get closer to the tree."

"Yeah, it is safe in my Domain though, you can calm down," I sighed. "Nothing bad will happen to it."

"I know but I was worried anyways... This tree, it somehow reminds me of home. It's... its like it brings back some memories," he sighed, caressing the tree's branches. "Memories I have of home, fond memories."

"What were they like?" I wondered, as I helped him stand up.

"Like... I was with my siblings..." he smiled. "There were six big brothers I had; they always took care of me... We had a big garden, and we always took good care of it."

Suddenly, as he recalled, his eyes became dizzy-looking, and he started crying.

"I miss them..."

Chapter 1070: Blackie's New Possibilities

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I hugged Gabriel after he started crying. He was just a child missing his family, so I couldn't deny him some warmth even now. I suppose that the more he remembered his memories, the sadder he would feel about these things. Continue your saga on mvl

"I want to go back home, I think..." Gabriel sighed.

"It's alright, I'll help you get back home, Gabriel, don't worry," I smiled.

"Really big sis?" he wondered.

"Yeah!" I nodded. "It's a promise!"

"T-Thank you..." I cleansed his tears with a handkerchief and gave him a kiss on his forehead. "You're not alone here, you know? Everyone here cares about you, so feel free to get more comfortable if you want to."

"Okay..." he nodded. "This tree, it could help me get back home, I think..."

"Is that so?" I wondered. "The apples?"

"Yes, if I eat enough, I could regrow my wing faster!" he said. "But the tree is taking a while to make fruits... I wanted to hasten its growth, but its difficult, and I'm tired..."

"Well, you did overdo it a bit," I sighed. "You didn't have to go so hard on the poor little sapling, let it rest for now. Though, it seems you already have a much greater connection to it than Katherine and the other Faes. I wonder why? Is it because it's from Heaven?"

"Maybe... the tree likes my celestial energy," he said. "I also remember how to take care of them... If you want, I could help you help the tree grow bigger!"

"Oh, for sure! I would love to learn some more. So, got any tips right now?" I wondered.

"Yeah, they like absorbing nutrients from magic cores, but it's not working with those... Why?" wondered Gabriel.

"You see, Hollows are more impure beings than monsters," I explained. "We first have to purify the cores they drop and then use them, like this."

I quickly lifted the earth, took the cores, and purified them quickly, turning them into bright blue crystals. Then, I crushed them into dust and placed them back near the tree's roots.

I did the same with half of the cores, and with Gabriel imbuing his celestial energy into the tree, the results were very noticeable!

FLASH!

The Eden Apple Tree started glowing brightly, generating a strong holy aura of its own! Then slowly, the aura disappeared, but it was as clear as water that the tree had an aura of its own, and a strong one at that.

"Amazing, it worked! It worked! I can't believe it..." Gabriel gasped. "Thanks a lot for helping, big sis! Maybe if we keep doing this every day, it will make lots of fruits!"

"I really hope so too!" I nodded. "Anyways, aren't you hungry? Let's go eat together."

"Oh, right! Yeah!" he quickly walked by my side, as we made our way inside the house.

Like that, together as a big family, we had breakfast while enjoying some casual chat. Though, eventually, the chat shifted to some serious topics, such as what's going to happen in BNLO from now on.

"I really hope they can prepare quickly..." sighed Mark. "Though, it makes me wonder how they're going to handle all of that? What would be the best plan? Should we bait Merlinus into coming out of his tower? And how and in which moment? He's holed up there, and it would be a suicide to try to invade it, seeing how he controls the space inside."

"It's complicated yeah," I nodded. "It probably has a lot of security too; the tower most likely has a powerful barrier already set. The magicians, even if we know their secret, are in too good of a position. Though, the shadow spirits already located the demonic idols, they're all hidden underground, and usually nobody could ever find them. But I can shatter them with the spirit's help."

Nonetheless, that would only delay the spreading of the demonic domain, nothing more."

"Could it be possible to break through the barrier of a magician with space manipulation magic?" my daughter wondered. "Hmm, maybe with my swordsmanship. It can slash through space after all. I would need to give it a shot though."

"T-That actually sounds interesting, your swordsmanship and your abilities are top notch, dear," I nodded. "Maybe... we would indeed need to give it a shot, but we can't do that right now until the entire conflict begins. I hope that when Tomas wakes up, he'll cooperate and talk."

"I hope so too," Mark nodded.

"Meow... meow..."

Suddenly, I heard a meowing from outside, running to open the door to find Blackie.

He had come back from his usual outings into the neighborhood.

Although he preferred my house, the little rascal is a street cat at the end of the day.

Well, he's my familiar now so he probably sees this as his default home now, which is a relief.

"How are you doing, Blackie? Are you hungry baby?"

"Meoow!" he started rubbing his face on my legs.

"Heh, okay, do you want some meat?" I wondered.

"Meereow!"

He was very into that idea.

I took some meat I had previously grilled and placed it on a plate, alongside some crushed Hollow core crystals.

He started eating it like his life depended on it, he was either very hungry, or the food was really good, or both.

As he ate, I quickly remembered something.

"Right, if I can use my Divine Fusion Skill here... Could it be possible to evolve Blackie into a Divine Beast? He's my familiar after all, though I don't know if he could be registered in the skill?" I wondered. "I don't remember seeing him registered on it, but he made a contract with my real body at least."

"I don't know, but you could give it a try, yeah," Mark nodded.

"That's what I'm going to do then!" I nodded. "Alright..."

I calmed down and concentrated, slowly sensing my Soul's power and imbuing it with Mana, slowly, I visualized the effects of the Divine Fusion Skill, a golden aura surging from my hands as I touched Blackie, petting him.

And then the golden divine aura spread into his body, while he ate without noticing...

[A Familiar is available for Divine Beast Evolution. Upon Evolving, there's a chance they can share their Strength, Magic Power, Abilities, and Spells with you.]

[Do you wish to Evolve your Available Familiar into a {Divine Beast}??]

And I heard the Voice of the World once more.