

## Brand New 1191

Chapter 1191 So Many Rewards...

-----

Ding!

[Congratulations! You've placed third place on the {Luminous Kingdom's International Craftsmanship Competition}!]

[You have received the following rewards for your place]: [+2.000.000.000 Gold] [High Quality Common Crafting Materials Bag (S Grade)] x10 [Luminous Kingdom's International Craftsmanship Competition Third Place Trophy (B Grade)] [VIP Craftsman Pass (A Grade)] x1 [Luminous Kingdom's House 50% OFF coupon (S Grade)] x1 [Honorary Citizenship and Noble Certificate (A Grade)] x1 [One Favor from the King and the Queen] x1]

The rewards were more interesting than I thought, a VIP Craftsman Pass that... I don't know what it does, maybe privileges of some sort?

Then there was the 50% off Coupon to buy a house in the city! I don't know how expensive they are though, but certainly not more than a few billion, r-right?

"Oh, a decent house near the castle?"

I asked the queen about prices.

"They're quite expensive, are you sure? Usually they go for 500 billion to one trillion," she said. "Even with the coupon..."

"Never mind..." I sighed.

Yeah, if you can buy billions of gold for a couple hundred dollars, the market will surely skyrocket. Even the cheapest with the coupon would be... 250 billion!

Eeh?!

Are you serious?! This shouldn't be legal!

I want to complain but the Queen and the King might get upset if I do that...

Anyways, after that there was the Honorary Citizenship and Noble Certificate, they explained me about it too.

"This certificate works for you and your entire party," said the King. "It'll help you be seen as proper citizens and also nobles of high status, people that offend might have to pay remuneration in money or go to jail. Also you'll receive privileges, such as discounts, access to various other noble-only shops and areas, and more."

"As citizens you can buy real estate too," said the Queen. "Use the coupon to get yourselves a nice house!"

"Ah yeah..." I nodded, sighing a bit.

And then there was the Favor.

Wait!

C-Can I use it to ask them to gift me a house here?

No wait that would be too much, wouldn't it?!

I should save this favor for something very important.

I shouldn't be wasting such precious resources.

Well, I suppose that's that-

Ding! Ding! Ding!

Eh?! Another thing?

[For having slain three Demon Dukes, you gained the Title: [True Demon Duke Slayer]!]

-----

[True Demon Duke Slayer]

Acquisition Conditions: Slay one two or more Demon Dukes from Hell in their Physical Forms.

Equip Bonus: +500 To All Stats. +200% Damage Against Demons and their Subspecies. Any Attack ignores 20% of a Demon-type foe's Defenses. +1.000.000 Favorability from all Non-Evil NPC.

Description: A Title bestowed to Legendary figures in history that have slain more than one Demon Duke, fearsome entities born from sins and darkness that dwell within the depths of the darkest realm, where all the sinful beings live, Hell.

Demon Dukes are extremely rare and powerful beings, that appear once in a millennium and can only appear when summoned by a powerful Demonic Sorcerer. They cannot die and are mostly immune to

most damage other than Holy Light and Divine type damage and have destroyed entire Kingdoms in the past once summoned.

To slay not one, but more than two, already make you an enemy to their kin, a True Demon Duke Slayer.

This Title Effects are always active even if not equipped.

-----

[Amazing! You've gained +500 to All Stats permanently.]

Oh, this is pretty good-

Ding!

[For having killed a powerful Demon Prince, you gained the Title: [True Demon Prince Killer]!]

-----

[True Demon Prince Killer]

Acquisition Conditions: Slay a Demon Prince in their physical form.

Equip Bonus: +1.000 To All Stats. +300% Damage Against Demons and their Subspecies. Any Attack ignores 30% of a Demon-type foe's Defenses. Demons that take Damage from you receive a Debuff to All Stats of -30% for 10 Minutes, cannot stack. +200% to all Stats when fighting Demons. +5.000.000 Favorability from all Non-Evil NPC.

Description: A Title given only to the one that has killed a Demon Prince, living calamities and direct descendants of the Demon King of the End that dwells within the deepest of Hells. To kill a Demon Prince is to become not only a Legend but a Myth, these beings can easily level entire cities within seconds, yet you've slain one, you're a true Legend, a Myth, even.

After slaying a Demon Prince, you've crowned a Killer of Demon Princes, and many more might one day come for you, or your mortal soul. Prepare yourself, because now even the Demon King desires your death and the destruction of your Soul.

This Title Effects are always active even if not equipped.

-----

[Congratulations! You've gained +1.000 to All Stats permanently.]

Woah, this is... well, pretty amazing!

The description is eerie, but it's not like I didn't know already they're targeting me, so it changes very little to me, to be honest.

And about the rest, favorability, stats bonuses, stat debuffs, and more, all very welcomed!

And well, with this-

Ding!

[For having permanently killed Demons by destroying their Souls and not allowing them to reincarnate in Hell ever again, you gained the Title: [Divine Exorcist]!]

-----

[Divine Exorcist]

Acquisition Conditions: Destroy a Demon's Soul and Permanently Kill Them.

Equip Bonus: +500 To All Stats. Exorcism Spells, Techniques, and Abilities Power and Effects +500%.  
When fighting Demons, you can create an {Divine Exorcism Domain} to Decrease their Stats by 30% and

drain their Lifeforce. You can learn more Exorcism techniques easily. +1.000.000 Favorability with Religious and Divine NPCs.

Description: A Title never seen before for someone never seen before. You've broken the soul of a demon and freed this world from their eternal torment forever and ever. Demons usually can revive in Hell upon the death of their mortal bodies, but that is not the case for the unfortunate ones that fought you.

You're the real menace here, not them.

This Title Effects are always active even if not equipped.

-----

[Spectacular! You've gained +500 to All Stats permanently.]

"And a third Title..."

I mean, the effects are amazing!

But please just let me log out already...

Chapter 1192 Logging Out

-----

After everything that happened in Arcadia, I would have never guessed that a completely different battle happened right at the same time in our world. While we were immersed in our Avatars, saving the Kingdom of Luminous from four demons, a battle against invading and mysterious forces happened.

And I was informed of that just as I logged out, tired and exhausted, wanting to take a bath, eat and sleep... The news came to me from Rose and Albert, who had invited inside the house by Monica and Elisa.

"They appeared out of nowhere, most likely using some sort of teleportation spell..." said Rose. "Our technology is not as advanced, and unfortunately the government won't spend all their resources on a single city... So we were unable to intercept them in time."

"It was roughly a group of three... I believe, however, although two of them were rather strong, but not too powerful, they were able to control Hollows to an incredible extent," Albert said.

"We never thought that there could be magic that had been developed to control those beings, which seem impossible to control to begin with... Maybe the magic that can control them emerged in another country, or perhaps it's something new altogether, but we weren't prepared for such a huge quantity of Hollows gathering around your Domain..." Rose sighed.

"I'm very sorry for not being able to support you and your family when things just started, Elayne."

"We are deeply sorry, and very ashamed that, although we promised to protect you, we failed to do so," sighed Albert. "I... I'm sorry..."

Apparently, three sorcerers had raided my domain, coming with over a thousand Hollows they had apparently "tamed". This was something I never thought possible, Hollows are beings completely made out of pure negative energy and corrupted mana, they're technically not even alive.

To tame such a being is beyond even my imagination, as they're sentient clumps of negative energy, any attempt would surely just end in a failure.

Yet I was proven wrong in my conjecture, and perhaps in the guesses of many.

"They were really strong..." Elisa sighed, she looked exhausted but was healthy. "Sorry... We were still too weak."

"We couldn't protect them..." Monica looked like she had already cried a lot.

"My goodness, no, you did well on your own, my children," I sighed, quickly hugging them both, I was sitting between the two. I kissed their foreheads and hugged them, caressing their silky hair. "You did good, you did well... Thank you, thank you for protecting me... You're strong. I'll make up for everything you've done for me, I promise."

"Y-You don't really need to repay us..." Monica said. "I've done this because... well, because you already helped me so much. I owe you my life, auntie."

"M-Me too..." Elisa nodded. "But... ugh, I'm so tired..."

"Perhaps you two should go to sleep after we have dinner then," I nodded. "Rose, Albert... Can you tell me more about what happened?"

"Yeah..." Rose nodded.

"According to our investigations," said Albert. "There were three sorcerers with distinct abilities, but all of them could control Hollows by default. The first one was someone Rita, Lily, and Jenny killed."

"Yeah, we can talk about that," Rita nodded. She was with us sitting around the table. "That bastard was the one that broke through the Domain Barrier, he also was the one that killed the two little Fae. He looked all lanky and looked like someone on his early twenties... he was able to control some strange Hollows that looked clearly either evolved or modified.

Also he could merge with them and ended turning into a giant monster. We had to take him down or he would have killed people too... I hope that's not a crime, right?"

"It was in self-defense, so no," said Rose. "Also, these types of fights where supernatural powers are involved are usually handled by us directly, not the police. So don't worry. We know you did what was necessary."

"Phew..." Rita sighed in relief. "Anyways, so we took him down fairly easy, even when fused with his Hollows he was strong but not THAT strong. But he sure took us by surprise."

"I see... you don't know his name?" I wondered, caressing the blue and red jewels in my hands.

These two little pearls were the only thing left behind from the Blue and the Red Faes that fought and died protecting my Domain.

I can sense some faint energy, a bit of life within them, but they'll take a long time to fully regenerate, and perhaps they might be completely different ones.

"And the second sorcerer was a girl with pink hair, you said you couldn't find her body?" wondered Elisa. "She must have escaped... I remember her name though, Martina! She wielded some sort of demonic bow with magic arrows, and she could also use magic to enchant and charm hollows so they would get stronger."

"She was very troublesome... and strong," said Monica. "But she was eventually taken down but was never finished off... I guess amidst the fight against Tyrone, she must have escaped..."

"And the third was Tyrone," said Rose. "I'm glad he's dead, but what it took to defeat that monster was too big, the sacrifices done today... They will not be forgotten."

"He was a terrifying sorcerer that has been reported to be alive since the 20's," said Albert. "An S Class Sorcerer with the power to wield Cursed Energy, and a master of Cursed and Demonic Formations."

"That man was the one that killed them?" I wondered.

"Yes..." nodded Rose, looking very sad.

If I had logged out earlier, this wouldn't have happened.

But I wasn't able to, the city was under attack, and those demons would have killed thousands.

I... I really couldn't do anything in this case. Once I'm in Arcadia, I unfortunately can't be on Earth at the same time.

The Domain was supposed to protect me from this defenseless state, but it seems that it wasn't enough, it needs more power.

I need to find other ways; I need to get stronger... and also expand my powers.

I can't let this happen again.

Even less when these two little Fae weren't even all those that were lost.

An even greater lost happened today, after all.

Chapter 1193 Mourning The Lost Ones

-----

Tyrone, the one that caused the most damage while I wasn't there to help, a mighty Cursed Energy Sorcerer that has lived for over a hundred years, according to Rose, he had been seen in many places all across America, from the north to the south.

Whenever a big event happened, that man was involved. He was terrifyingly powerful, and many other supernatural government organizations had tried taking him down many times, failing miserably in every attempt, and always with many loses.

According to Elisa, he had seemed inconspicuous at first, but ended becoming the greatest threat, he had first attempted to steal and "devour" my Domain to gain more power, which would have instantly defeated everyone if he did, and might have even killed me in the process.

However, he was stopped by them, my secret guardians, the Druids. They put their life on the line, to fight such a monster...

And two...

Two died, protecting me...

...

I-I don't even know what to do.

I feel so devastated I...

I am just completely speechless.

I wish I could have known them better.

If only... I could have helped them.

Even though I always try to save others, two precious lives were lost because of me.

"Even with these loses, the man that your group had just slain was considered a threat to the whole country," said Rose. "We will be forever thankful to you and your family and friends, your heroic deeds had already been reported to the government, and you will all receive great rewards too."

"He had a bounty on his head as well," Albert crossed his arms.

"H-How much?" wondered Rita, swallowing saliva.

"Probably over a hundred billion USD," said Albert. "Although there's nothing left of him aside from a few ashes, we can use them as proof of his death."

"Woah... Can I get a part of that?" Rita asked.

"Money will never bring back the dead..." I sighed, standing up. "Talking about money now... It would be too disrespectful for them, Rita. If it wasn't for their sacrifice, that monster wouldn't had been slain. Do you understand? So please..."

"Ah! I-I understand, sorry..." Rita nodded, lowering her head. "I'm really sorry, I didn't intend to offend their efforts. Please forgive me, Elayne..."

"It's fine..." I walked out of the house. "Rose, Albert, you can tell me more about that man and whatever clues you have about that organization tomorrow. Tonight I need to perform a proper funeral. It is the least I can do for them."

"I... okay," Rose nodded. "Can we stay? We would like to be there. Those people, those druids from Europe... they were incredible and brave people. They're our heroes."

"It would be an honor if we could watch their funeral in silence, we swear we will only watch," said Albert. "We want to pay our respects."

"...It's fine," I nodded.

I just couldn't sit down here and talk about money or rewards...

There was no meaning to that when two people died.

The worth of people's lives...

They can't be quantified to money.

I'm glad that sorcerer is dead but, I can't really celebrate when what it took to defeat him were two lives-  
no four.

I reached my backyard; the garden was full of many spirits that had gathered for the occasion. Katherine was there, and also Gabriel, looking very sad.

And also, I noticed three other people I had never seen before, but that I could recognize even when they weren't in their beast forms.

A beautiful young woman with long, black hair and blue eyes, she had a slender figure and pale white skin, with many tattoos over her body, resembling stars.

A young man with a tall, muscular complexion, a stoic face and short green hair, his eyes were golden, glancing in silence at the ground.

And then, between the two, a very old lady, small and with her back curved, her face, filled with many wrinkles, showed a long life.

Her silver-colored eyes showed great wisdom, and her long white hair, made into several braids was beautifully decorated with flowers and plants.

They were not wearing normal clothes, but the pelt and skin of beasts, alongside fabric made from plants and cotton they made themselves, while being barefoot.

Despite their appearances, they weren't nasty, or something, far from that, they looked very clean, and attuned with nature itself.

By not wearing anything modern, they were perfectly in synch with nature, I had never thought that even clothes could interfere with the connection with nature to such an extent.

It was as if their clothes themselves helped them become more attuned with nature.

Aside from them, there was my daughter Elena, her girlfriend Anna, and Mark, waiting for me.

And in front of them, there were two bodies, covered with flowers until nothing gore could be seen, except a few parts of their bodies.

Their fur, their scales, the tip of a tail, and maybe a claw.

They died in their beast forms, and even after death, remained in such forms.

This means... that they were so attuned with nature that their human forms weren't taken even after death.

"Welcome back, goddess..." the old lady said, smiling faintly. "I'm glad you're here... And thank you, for calling all these spirits. I never in all my life would have expected to see thousands of spirits, all gathered together for my old man's funeral..."

"It's nothing..." I sighed. "It's the least... I could ever do."

"Thank you for accepting our selfish request, goddess," said the young man, as I noticed he was shedding a few tears. "I'm sure Emilio would be happy that his funeral was done in the Goddess' Domain."

"Thank you..." the black-haired girl nodded, as she remained in silence afterwards.

Goddess they call me...

I'm no goddess.

I'm just a human, and I fail, and keep failing.

And I commit so many mistakes too.

If I was a goddess, your friends wouldn't have died.

I'm a failure, that's what I am...

But these people, they hold tremendous faith on me.

If I were to tell them that, wouldn't they think that the sacrifice of their family was in vain?

I can't let them down like that...

I'll take responsibility.

And if that's what they want me to be...

Then I'll become the goddess that protects them.

Chapter 1194 They Never Left

-----

It was a pity I was finally learning the names after what happened, but these druids that came from afar looking a new home, which had been destroyed by the Blighters before, they finally revealed themselves to me, and also their identities and names.

"I was never given a name because my mother died at birth and my father wasn't there," the old lady said. "The Forest raised me, but the kids known me as Grandma Jannis. It is nice to meet you again, and talk to you directly, dear goddess. It is an honor."

"I am Rudras," said the young man. "And... uh, well, I was adopted by them too."

"And... I'm Judith," sighed the black-haired girl.

"T-Thank you for telling me your names," I nodded. "And I'm... Elayne. Perhaps you knew already, but that is my name. This is my daughter Elena, and that is Mark."

"Thanks for protecting our home..." Elena thanked, with an empathetic expression.

"Yeah, thank you... And I'm very sorry for your loss," Mark seemed very depressed.

"What were their names?" I wondered.

The Earth Spirits gathered around the ground, slowly opening the ground, one centimeter at a time, as the corpses of these two druids that died in battle were slowly and gently embraced by the ground.

"The youngest... Emilio," said Grandmother Jannis. "A beautiful child of an even more beautiful heart. Talented and playful, his sense of humor always lifted our mood. It is... a great tragedy that such a young child, with a future ahead of him, had to die before this old woman..."

"And the oldest of us all, Grandpa Jose, he was the wisest of us all," said Rudras. "He tried to stop that sorcerer on his own, but... that monster ended tricking him."

"He was the strongest of us all..." said Judith. "And also our father. Or well, even without being related to blood... To me, he was like our father. I still can't believe he's not alive anymore, even less... little Emilio."

"..."

I didn't know what else to say, honestly. If I say anything else, I think I would be being too intrusive into their personal lives, and that wasn't really my intention.

But although I didn't say any other word, I let the spirits do the talking, they gathered in droves around the bodies, as the flowers kept growing over them, slowly, they were being embraced by my Domain.

They had asked me that if they could bury them in my Domain before, I had been slightly shocked they wanted that, because based in the amount of spiritual energy left behind in their corpses, it meant my Domain would most likely absorb them.

It would technically not leave anything behind...

Yet they insisted, saying that such a thing would be the best, to become one with my Domain, and one with Nature...

I couldn't reject their request, after everything they did.

These people, even if I finally got to learn their names, were now my family too.

And I would love them, and welcome them in my home, for all my life, after what they've done for me.

And after what they have sacrificed...

FLASH!

Then, I felt something.

The two orbs in my pocket, the little pearls left behind by the Black and the Red Capped Faes, they were glowing faintly.

"Hm?"

I felt something, a sudden presence, as if they were asking me something, to do something...

This little, remaining will.

They wanted to be buried with these two druids.

But why?

"..."

As I glanced at the pearls, I sighed.

I can't do this without asking them.

"These two pearls... they're the little thing that my Protective Fae left behind," I explained to the three druids. "Within them, I can feel a small presence, a little will. It wants... they want to be buried with your family. I thought I should ask you first, if that's okay with you or not."

The druids glanced at one another in silence for a few seconds.

"Those are the Spiritual Soul Cores of Faes," Grandma Jannis immediately knew what they were. "There's... no soul in them at the moment, but... could it be? Perhaps... Hah, but even then... it would all be left to fate. Yes, you may bury them with my family. They will bring no harm."

"Really?" I asked, looking at Rudras and Judith. "Is it ok with you?"

"They are also what was left of those that died protecting your Domain, right, goddess? Then I believe it's fine," nodded Rudras.

"Yes... Fae are precious, innocent and pure..." said Judith. "I'm sure they want to protect them in the afterlife."

"Thank you..."

I kneeled in front of the burying bodies, now completely covered with flowers, and placed the two pearls on top of each other.

They glowed brightly, slowly merging with the bodies, at the same time as the ground completely covered their bodies, and more flowers popped up on top, alongside grass.

In front of them, the druids placed two wooden statues. One of a squirrel, and another of a turtle. There were no names inscribed on them, but ancient runes, that might mean their names.

"May you rest in peace..." I sighed, shedding a few tears, which quickly turned into many. I couldn't stop crying, grabbing the grass tightly as the druids glanced me break down.

"G-Goddess..." Rudras gasped, walking to my side.

"Y-You don't need to cry..." Judith muttered.

"I'm sorry... It's my fault, it's all my fault..." I kept crying, I couldn't stop. "I'm so sorry for letting you down..."

"My goodness, there's nothing to be sorry about..."

Grandma Jannis sat down by my side, hugging me with her frail arms, her hands, filled with wrinkles, were warm.

"This was not your fault, goddess," she smiled gently. "Don't blame yourself for what has already happened. Emilio and Jose, they died doing what they wanted. They knew the risks... We knew the risks, yet we jumped into battle and into danger. Fully knowing that one of us might die in the process. Such is life when you fight to protect your home."

"Jannis..."

"If anything, please feel a bit happy," Jannis smiled, showing that she was missing several teeth. "Emilio and Jose are not truly dead! I can feel it! Can't you? their Nature Souls... they have now merged with your Domain."

"Eh?"

FLAAASH!

And then I realized.

Their presences...

They never left.

Chapter 1195 Reminiscing The Lost Ones

-----

FLAAASH!

I noticed that my Domain began glowing brightly everywhere, the bodies of the two druids were absorbed fully, and so were the pearls of the two little Fae I placed with them.

The enormous quantity of spiritual energy permeated the entire place, as the core of my Domain, which was underground and crystalized right below my house, quickly began growing stronger.

At the same time, I felt several presences emerge for a faint moment, I couldn't quite tell what they were for a brief moment.

But I quickly realized once Jannis touched my shoulder and somehow shared part of her powers with me.

Everything became clearer to me, I saw them, they were there.

Even after death, to Druids, who cultivate Nature Souls...

Death is nothing but just another step in their journey.

Even for the youngest, Emilio.

And the oldest, Jose.

I could see them.

And I couldn't stop crying.

Made of the spiritual energies that they gifted to my Domain, they appeared.

In their human forms.

A boy, not older than eighteen was standing there, smiling, he had long brown hair and brown skin, with beautiful emerald eyes.

His smile was so bright and cute.

And a very old man, with black skin and short white hair, his face, covered with wrinkles, showed a gentle, wise smile, his small body exuding an aura of knowledge and paternity.

And even them...

"Foo..."

"Foo!"

The two little Faes, they were there too, for a brief moment.

The little guys...

"How is this possible?" I wondered. "This is... Is this because of the Nature Soul?"

"Yes," nodded Jannis. "We Druids cultivate within our bodies, since we begin our journey, a Nature Soul. It encompasses nature itself, the elements of nature and the connection with it. Our very souls become part of nature."

"I-I honestly had no idea this was how it worked..." Rudras muttered.

"M-Me neither..." Judith said.

The two young druids had no idea either, it seems that Jannis had kept this a secret, or had simply not revealed this to them.

"G-Grandpa? Emilio!"

They couldn't help but run towards their family members, who stayed there, glancing at them with a smile.

However, when they tried to hug them, they ended passing through them.

It was impossible to touch them.

"You make me all proud, my children..." Jose said with a gentle voice. "Especially you, Judith... Well done, thank you for avenging me, and slaying that man. Once he was slain, the Nature Soul he stole from me was freed."

"I-Is that so..." Judith was crying. "B-But why did you had to die... Why!"

"...He was stronger than me, a terrifying man that sold all of his humanity to become a monster," sighed Jose. "In fact, it felt like I wasn't even fighting a human, or a person... He was but the embodiment of his powers, and nothing else."

"Hah..." Rudras sighed. "I'm sorry for not being able to help... I'm sorry grandma, Emilio!" he continued crying.

"It's fine! Don't sweat the details bro!" Emilio smiled brightly. "This just means I'll stay with grandpa, so he doesn't feel so lonely!"

"Hohoho, thank you my child," Jose patted Emilio's head.

"A-Are you sure this is all you want to say?! A-After all... all of you..." muttered Rudras, breaking down.

"I mean, what else should we say?" Emilio wondered, tilting his head. "Remember what we promised when we become druids, big bro? To keep grudges, to foster hatred, to develop frustration... That's not the Druid's way! We're one with Nature! Right?"

Rudras gasped, nodding a bit.

"Yeah... I guess you're not wrong..." Rudras nodded. "Thank you... For being the little brother I never had... I love you little brother. I'm sorry for... for never telling you before."

"I love you too bro!" Emilio smiled. "Judith too! And grandma! Thank you for being my family..."

"Where will you go now?" Judith wondered.

"Is there an afterlife?" I wondered.

"Of course," nodded Jannis. "But not even us know in detail how it works... Their souls are one with nature. That, by itself, is the afterlife. The Nature Souls we cultivate, and then upon death, we merge with nature... This is how Druidic magic remains for generations. We feed forests, landscapes with life, when it dies off due to monsters or contamination.

But there are few of us now... we once covered the world with beautiful and lush greenery. Every plant in your garden, every flower, every tree... it'll have some of them within. So please, make sure to take care of it, lady goddess."

"Yes... I promise," I nodded. "I'm sorry... I wish I could have done something..."

Emilio and Jose noticed my voice, quickly smiling, the boy was happy, and the old man seemed very calm.

"Don't worry, goddess! We will be here for you and everyone!"

"Yes, there's nothing to be sorry about. Our fight, it was ours to take. The risks were there, and we took them."

"It's a bit frustrating but... I think I'm fine with it."

Emilio glanced at everyone else.

"Please, take care of my family..."

As everyone heard him, Jose glanced at Jannis.

"I'm leaving the rest to you, my old lady."

"Yes, you dummy... parting before me! who do you think you are... Sheesh!"

Although she was the strongest in mentality, she still shed a few tears as she saw her beloved in front of her.

"Please, wait until I come, alright? I still got to take care of these kids after all..."

"Of course... I'll always wait for you, my love."

For a moment, I saw a small vision, a momentary illusion, perhaps a memory.

The two of them looked younger than now, much younger.

Jannis was a beautiful and slender girl, with long black hair and pale skin.

And Jose was a tall young man, with black skin and white hair.

The two held hands, hugging as they glanced the sunset while in the middle of a beautiful forest.

They had shared so much together...

I wish I could have done the same with my husband.

Even after everything, after seeing this...

I started to miss him again.

I'm sorry for being so selfish and loving another man after you've been gone for so long...

But please, remember that I still love you.

And I'll always do.

Chapter 1196 Farewell

-----

"We will be watching over you," Jose said.

"So please, don't be so sad!" Emilio smiled.

The two figures slowly faded away, becoming particles of light, and disappearing completely. As we stood there, only watching in silence.

"Foo..."

"Faa!"

The two little Fae walked to my side, as I kneeled to say goodbyes.

"Thank you for dedicating your lives to protecting me... and I'm sorry for what happened..." I sighed, caressing them.

I noticed I could touch them despite them being ethereal.

"Fofofo!"

"Faaf!"

I couldn't really understand their words, but then, Katherine flew to my side.

"They're saying that they'll go to the Spirit Realm, Avalon. They came from there after all!" said Katherine. "Please don't be sad, they're not truly dead. We Spirits cannot easily die. Our souls remain connected to our home, Avalon. Their souls weren't completely destroyed, so they can go back there.

King Oberon awaits them in a meeting to celebrate their triumphant return. They will be praised as heroes that gave their lives for you!"

"I-Is that so?" I sighed. "Really? It's... that simple"?

I felt a bit surprised, but also happy and relieved.

"Fofoo, fafaa!"

"Feeeh!"

The two then patted my hand.

"They say that two little guys will come here one day," Katherine smiled. "So once they come, please be nice to them and show them the ropes!"

"O-Of course... thank you, for everything," I sighed. "Please, be safe."

"Foo!"

"Faa!"

The two walked away, disappearing into light.

Avalon, the Realm of Fairies and Spirits.

It is perhaps the third largest Realm after Heaven and Hell, the "in between" Realm that exists between Heaven and Earth.

If you want to go to Heaven, according to Katherine, you must first pass through Avalon...

I guess they'll be fine.

"I wonder..." I said, looking at Katherine and Gabriel. "Are Angels the same too? If Spirits can revive in Avalon, and Demons in hell... what about angels?"

"Oh..." Gabriel gasped. "Yes, usually... we revive. I think something similar happened to me, maybe this is why I can't remember my former self. I was... I think... I think I've realized I was once slain."

"E-Eh? Ah... I guess it does make some sense," I nodded. "But if you were slain and then revived, you would have appeared in heaven, right?"

"It must be thanks to his powers as a former Archangel, or maybe the intervention of his attackers, they didn't let him revive in Heaven..." Katherine said. "And maybe he ended reviving in Earth, growing much weaker as a result!"

"Ough..." Gabriel sighed, feeling a bit sad about that. "Maybe that's right... Usually, I regain some memories sometimes. I miss my brothers and sisters..."

He still wants to go back home, doesn't he?

"One step at a time," I said, patting his head and then hugging him, before kissing his forehead and looking at his cute face. "Thank you for protecting my home, Gabriel. I'll do everything I can so you can heal your wings, and go back home... I promise you."

"R-Really?" he wondered, blushing a bit, he cutely covered his face with his golden locks, his blue eyes shining brightly.

"Yes, my child, don't worry!" I nodded with a smile. "We just need to do more good deeds, right? After what you've done, I'm sure Heaven will reward you. it won't be an instant, it might take months... or even years, but I'll be there for you."

"Thank you, big sis!" he said, smiling cutely as he hugged me back. "Sniff... I'm very luck to have found you..."

"Heheh, it's alright," I caressed his beautiful golden hair, it was so soft and silky. "Now, I suppose it is time for dinner, right? I know a lot happened... but I'm sure you can eat a bit before bed?"

"Sure! I'm hungry..." he nodded. "Let's eat and make a feast for those that were lost, and also to celebrate our victory today..."

"Alright," I nodded. "You three as well, please come in. Share a meal with us. I would be forever grateful."

I looked at the Druids, who gave a step back, feeling rather shy.

"T-To enter the goddess' palace..." Rudras muttered.

"Are we worthy?" Judith asked, timidly.

"A-Ah... Oh well! If the goddess invites us, it would be an insult to reject her invitation. Come on then, my children. Let's share a meal with our goddess," Grandma Jannis quickly made them relax with her cheerful personality. "Let's eat double in place of Jose and Emilio too! Hohoho!"

"Heheh, of course! Come in, I'll cook the most delicious dishes I can for everyone..." I said. "Let's eat."

Even after the loses, and even after everything that happened, I still felt slightly happy, that we were all together right now, my loved ones, and even new family members.

They were shy at first, but over time they warmed up to the house, the food I prepared for them was delicious, prepared with my finest ingredients.

I poured my soul and my love into every plate, and they felt it, everyone did.

The best way to unify people of different origins and with many differences, is through a meal, to share a meal together, it is to share an intimate moment.

To enjoy something delicious, which we all agree upon, we find companionship. For once, we can all agree on something.

"This is... noodles? So delicious," Jannis smiled. "And I can eat it easily, without needing to really chew on it too hard. Thank you, goddess."

"T-This is... so sweet! And creamy..." Judith was happily eating a cheesecake. "And it has a small hint of... cheesiness to it. Hmm! I had no idea there were such pastries..."

"Ah, I love meat..." Rudras said. "But this preparation, so much better than raw or hurriedly roasted. The spices, the herbs and vegetables added to it... and this rice as well, the combination of flavors. I never thought I could feel so many flavors at once inside my mouth."

Indeed, they had been eating very poorly.

That was going to change from now on!

"I'm glad you like it! Please eat as much as you want."

I reached their hearts through my meals, and in exchange, they opened to me much better.

Chapter 1197 Big Family

-----

The next morning finally arrived, with the calm chirping of birds and the sunlight gently emerging from the window. I felt Mark's body close to me, he was hugging me as I slept, he was a big hugger, especially when sleeping.

And... there was a third person there, which I was actually hugging while I slept. I had dreamed I was hugging my daughter, but it ended being greeted by golden locks and the smell of fruits once I realized there was the little head of an angel boy with me.

It was Gabriel! Did he sneak into bed again?

Well, its not like we did anything with Mark last night, we didn't have the intention or the energy to do anything... but I'm fairly sure Gabriel went to sleep on his bed.

Sheesh, this kid likes sleeping with his parents, it seems!

"Hmm..."

He cutely nuzzled, then rubbed his face on my chest... and then continued sleeping as if nothing.

Hey!

That's too cute...

But it's not right! He's technically not my son.

And when thinking that he used to be a full-fledged adult archangel that lived thousands of years and everything, well, it makes it a bit weird.

"Okay... That's enough Gabriel."

I slowly woke him up, as he opened his eyes, he smiled cutely.

This boy was like a doll, he was too adorable, it was hard to get angry at him.

"Oh, big sis...! Hi! Good morning!"

He quickly kissed my cheek before giggling adorably.

...

Maybe I'll forgive him for today, only today.

"Gabriel, please don't come to our bed to sleep with us, okay? You got your own bed, right?" I asked.  
"We're not really your parents to be sleeping in the same bed... You can't just come here and do whatever you want, okay?"

"Muh... B-But I felt lonely, and I was sad..." he sighed. "I didn't want to sleep alone..."

He looked rather sad indeed, so sad he looked like a cute little puppy.

Is he doing this intentionally or he doesn't know how cute he is?!

"Um... well, I can't decide that alone either! Mark wouldn't want it, right honey?"

"Hmm... Gabriel's there? Ah... Hey! Why is he here?"

I explained to him I found him here, and Mark then heard Gabriel's excuse.

"Ah, I see... well, it makes sense, poor kid," he nodded. "Let's forgive him for now. It's not like he's wrong."

Wait a second, he's even softer than I am!

I thought he would get jealous or something...

But I guess Mark is much more mature than other men.

After all Gabriel has the body and mind of a child, there's nothing really to be jealous about.

He's just a kid that kind of needs parental figures in his life...

"Fine..." I sighed. "You may come to sleep with us, sometimes! Okay? But most of the time, you can't! E- Even less when the door is locked and there's a soundproof barrier, when that happens, please respect our privacy, okay Gabriel?"

"Sure!" he nodded happily. "Thanks!"

He hugged me, and then he hugged Mark, rubbing his face on his chest too.

"Can I call you big bro?" he wondered cutely.

"A-Ah... Hahah... Well, if you want to?" Mark laughed as he completely fell for his cuteness too.

He's definitely weaker to children than I am, I can't believe it, he's truly quite the softie.

Just like me I guess, we're quite similar in that regard, hehe.

"Well, a lot happened yesterday, but today's a new day," I said, stretching my arms and standing up.  
"Let's go take a bath for now."

"Sure... We should have breakfast later? I kind of want to eat something light for now, I think we ate too much last night, I feel bloated..." Mark sighed.

"Alright, no problem with that," I nodded. "Let's go- Gabriel?!"

The little angel boy started taking out his shorts and shirt, readying himself to take a bath too.

"Huh? I can't take a bath with you?"

"O-Of course not, boy, you take a bath on your own!"

"But... I want to rub big sis and big bro's back!"

"No is no... You're big enough to do it on your own, boy."

"Um, okay... Sorry."

"Well, let's go Mark."

"Alright."

I patted his head, as he quickly dressed back and then we entered the bathroom with Mark.

We took a bath together and, in the heat of the moment, after having rested and all, we had a little fun together.

A little quickie I would say, which end escalating into a lot of intercourse in the shower, in several positions...

After almost forty minutes, we were finally done and walked out, we felt even more refreshed than before.

Yet...

"Welcome back! You were quite loud, did something happen?"

Gabriel was waiting for us right in the other side of the door.

This boy, seriously...

"G-Gabriel?!" I covered my chest quickly. "Alright, go outside! Or you're grounded!"

"Eehh?! I'm sorry!" he ran away without understanding why I got angry, crying while doing so.

"Hah, he really needs to learn some more common sense," I sighed, sitting over the bed while drying my body with the towel. "Don't you think so?"

"Yeah, we should probably spend a few hours teaching him these things, or we'll keep seeing him making these mistakes," Mark agreed. "Let's talk to him while having breakfast then."

"Alright," I nodded.

Once done and dressed we went to make breakfast. I noticed Gabriel was sitting on the couch watching cartoons on TV.

"Big sis... are you still mad with me?" he wondered.

"Not anymore," I said. "But we'll need to talk, alright? You need to learn some common sense and manners while living in my house, ok?"

"O-Ok!" he nodded, he seemed to be willing to learn.

I never thought I would be taking care of an angel child in my entire life, but it sure is a bit tiring.

Nonetheless, as we prepared breakfast, my daughter and her friends woke up.

Elisa was going back to her house today I believe, Anna too, so they'll be saying goodbyes for a bit.

As we started eating breakfast, I taught Gabriel about common sense and manners... and also to Judith, Jannis, and Rudras who had joined us after I called for them.

Indeed, the family has gotten very big

Chapter 1198 Morning Visit

-----

The morning arrived at full swing with a lot to do, bath, breakfast, and then teaching a literal angel and three polymorphing druids from Europe about common sense and manners. The latter had yet to do any offense, but I wasn't going to risk.

This house had one last room I had personally cleansed for them using my inventory last night, I had left three beds, and it even had a big window leading outside, which I left open at their request. However, when they came after I called them, they were in their animal forms.

And ended confessing to me that...

"I'm sorry, we couldn't get used to sleeping in those beds..." sighed Rudras. "It was much more comfortable to sleep in the soil and the soft grasslands, or inside a hollow tree!"

"Although our human forms are our original appearances, most of the time we take upon animal forms, so its hard to get used to sleep outside of the nest I made," said Judith.

"Me neither, hohoh," laughed Jannis. "We apologize, goddess. We know you invited us to live in your palace with the kindness of your heart, but... we simply can't. However, we will gladly continue living in the garden if you allow us."

"I... well, it's fine I suppose," I nodded. "But you can come in any time you want, to eat too, at least. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner! You're okay with that?"

"Y-Yes, we're fine with that," nodded Rudras. "Honestly, we've never eaten so well before. After what I ate last night, I felt so full of energy, I went to hunt down Hollows and also scanned most of the surrounding neighborhoods, there seems to be no foes at sight!"

"I accompanied him..." Judith confessed while feeling a bit embarrassed.

"The energy of youth..." sighed grandma Jannis. "We'll gladly take that offer, goddess. This breakfast is very delicious already. The tea is nice, and these sweets are very yummy."

"I'm glad you liked it, Grandma Jannis," I smiled. "Please feel free to eat as much as you want! You're now part of the family."

And after that little conversation, my commonsense classes continued, it lasted for only a couple dozen of minutes, but it taught them everything they needed to know, Gabriel also promised to do as I told him.

The Druids also told me that they might not be present for every single meal, but they would try to be present for most of them, and I guess that was fine, I can't force them here, but at the very least we're connecting more now.

Now that all of the bothersome stuff was done, we were finally able to relax for a bit, we ate, and then, once Rose and Albert arrived, we talked about what happened yesterday.

They talked with us about the prize money of having slain Tyrone, which actually belonged to everyone that participated... Judith forfeited it though, and so did the other druids, saying it belonged to me.

So at the end, the money was going to be split between me, Rita, Lily, Jenny, Elisa, and Monica. It was a lot of money so even if it was split, it was a gigantic amount... Though, it was going to be split based on contribution, those that fought the most, the druids (which gave up their money to me) and Elisa and Monica would get a lot of it.

Then Rita, Lily, and Jenny would get three other parts of it... And well, I couldn't care less honestly, but money was... good, most of the time I suppose.

Anyways, once that talk was done, the real talk started.

"From everything we've researched... There are a few clues about why this attack was programed and how," said Rose.

"The first one is that someone is aiming to kill you, Elayne," said Albert. "Probably someone from the secret societies of the world, the supernatural world, the underworld, whatever name you can give to them."

"Tyrone is a hitman, so he was definitely paid by someone else to come and kill you and your family," said Rose. "And about investigation, our specialized investigators are continuing their work, using special artifacts that can track magic signals to find where Martine went to. But until then, there's little we can do otherwise."

"Hmm, I guess that's that," I sighed.

Well, I can already guess why they attacked us, whoever sent them here probably knows about Arcadia, and knew what was happening there. Hence, they used the opportunity when we were fighting there to protect the Luminous Kingdom to attack us, finding us on our most defenseless state.

The thing is, these people weren't Demons summoned out of nowhere either, these were all humans, although they were Cursed Energy Sorcerers, and seemed to have made pacts with Demons, they weren't demons nor demon vessels, but just humans.

Demons usually don't manage whole organizations, according to what Hellberos said, so whoever managed them is also a human, maybe they're connected with demons and the demon king of the end though, or maybe all of them at once.

And whoever is this person... They're dangerous, perhaps even more dangerous than the actual demons, a person that lives in our world, possess money and influence, and can send people as strong as Tyrone to kill us...

"It surprising, you're being protected by the government so, whoever sent a hitman to you must also belong to a powerful organization," said Albert.

"However, this isn't just your fight, Elayne, so don't worry," Rose smiled. "If they came here they also attacked SWORD, and now the whole government is going to get going and, once we find clues, a whole war might happen, something that hasn't happened in years."

"A-A war?!" I gasped.

"Yes, underworld wars are... of course, hidden from plain sight," said Albert. "But when two organizations clash against one another, wars happen, usually we either invade one another's territories, or an empty territory is chosen for everything to unfold."

"Until then, rest and recover," said Rose. "We'll be working to ensure your safety and that of your family."

"Thanks..." I nodded, sighing.

Although I appreciated their help, I wasn't going to act like someone that needed protection.

I'll show them I'm not someone they can mess around with.

Chapter 1199 A Fantastic Idea

-----

After the talk about money and the mysterious group behind the sorcerer attacks, Rose and Albert were about to leave, having left several SWORD Agents around the neighborhood and also the surrounding neighborhood, they ensured me things would be safe from now on.

Though, I couldn't just sit down and accept someone else's protection like that, I decided to move into upgrading my Domain as much as possible, and also to probably upgrade myself, and everyone else I can too.

But before that, I asked something to the two, which were leaving already.

"It has been a while now, where's your friend? Josuke was his name?"

From what I can recall of that young man, he had the power to unleash a powerful mythical being that he seemed to be able to summon, some sort of Phoenix-like Spirit.

"Oh, Josuke... It has been a while since we've heard of him," sighed Rose.

"We still know nothing other than he went to Japan to deal with family stuff," Albert said. "But yeah, it's strange he's taking so long, I'll try asking our boss if he knows something."

"Thanks for worrying about him, Elayne, you might have not known him for long, but he's a good friend of us... It's still hard to work without him at our side, we were quite the trio after all," Rose said.

"Yeah... Anyways, we'll get going, thanks for the help, and please make sure to rest and recover, this goes to everyone involved too," said Albert.

"Alright then, take care!"

The two walked away after that, I felt slightly curious about what might be happening in Japan. Even now, I am a novice when it comes to the "Underworld" of Earth, and all of their branches and intricacies.

However, with the appearance of the Blighters and Kalmas, it was quite clear to us that gods exist, although they might not be as powerful nowadays...

Isn't Japan kind of full of shrines, and has a lot of "Kamis"?

And unlike in most parts of the world, all of these religious and spiritual traditions remain since their ancient times, so I imagine their deities might be rather strong.

And then there's the Yokai... and everything else.

Yeah, I might be thinking a bit too much about Japan for no reason, right?

But well, it is not without reason, my late husband's father family is Japanese after all, so my daughter has descendency from a Japanese family.

I've been wondering, maybe I should go visit them, back then when he was alive, we would go visit them every winter break, she loved her grandparents there, and they were pretty nice people.

But since my late husband's passing, they have stopped contacting me for some reason, and I've grown a bit worried over the years.

Though, they kept sending me money until like a year ago...

It's a bit weird, isn't it? Like they're worried, but also don't want to interact for some reason...

Hmm.

Well, once everything that's happening in Arcadia is done, maybe I'll get some free time to go whenever I want.

And I MIGHT go to Japan to visit my late husband's family, which is Elena's family too.

Of course, may because my late husband passed away, they might think I have no relation with them anymore.

And honestly I wouldn't blame them for that, but Elena is different, she has their blood, so at least, if they only care about Japanese blood, they should at least care about her!

Yeah, I think I got a bit angry by thinking about that...

Oh well, let's just forget it for now, no point in getting angry or anxious about things that have not happened yet.

"There's sure a big pile of these crystals..."

"Yeah, it's a lot."

Right now, after breakfast we found ourselves in front of a pile of over a thousand Hollow cores, which had grown a bit after Rudras and Judith went hunting last night.

Elena and Elisa had absorbed quite a few, and grew pretty strong, but after that they felt "mana bloated" and couldn't absorb any more for a while.

This happens to most people that absorb mana crystals to grow stronger, you can't do it infinitely, after absorbing a few you feel bloated, and you might hurt yourself if you continue.

"We grew pretty strong from that too, so you can keep the rest, I don't think we'll be able to absorb any for a few days," Elisa said, crossing her arms.

"Y-Yeah, please use it to strengthen yourselves or the domain!" said Monica.

"Meow!" Blackie was also here; he had eaten his fill already.

"Well, if you insist..." I petted his head, giving him a kiss on his fluffy forehead. "I heard you were the start of yesterday's fight! Well done Blackie, thank you so much for protecting me and everyone else... Even if you had to put your life on the line."

"Mereow... Pprrr..." he started purring loudly as I caressed him, and then he licked my chin cutely.

He was certainly a very brave cat... Usually cats are skittish and fearful, but he faced someone as frightening as Tyrone head-on, it's incredible. The Divine Beast evolution really made him several times stronger, but I think he always had that potential within him.

"Blackie did a lot, but this guy over here didn't even join the battle, why?" wondered Mark, glancing at his hawk that had just arrived, Falco.

"C-Craah..." Falco looked elsewhere, swallowing a worm it had just caught.

"T-They did help a bit! I saw them attack from afar, but they were quite afraid..." said Monica. "They used their wings to release wind slices... But that's about it."

"Well, they helped a bit..." I said. "It might also be that he's not as strong as Blackie after all so please don't blame poor Falco for it."

"Hm, well, what can I do about it..." sighed Mark. "I wonder though, can you...?"

"Turn him into a Divine Beast?" I wondered. "I think I could, there's few more slots. If we can have a second Divine Beast available, then it would be really nice! Maybe I could even ask Rita if I could turn her white rat into a Divine Beast too."

"Sounds good! There aren't any other creatures more qualified than them after all," Mark nodded. "So, buddy? Want to get even stronger?"

"Craaahh! Cracaah!"

It seemed rather eager.

Chapter 1200 New Divine Beast

-----

By using the BNLO app, which let you do item trades off-line, check Skill information, Status, and change Skill Slots and also look at items in more detail, I checked my Divine Beast Goddess Skill again, especially the section with the Slots and all of that.

-----

[Sacred Spirit Queen Of Divine Beasts: Lv24/50 (Fused Skill)]

A Divine Fusion Skill created by combining the [Plant Companion: Lv10 (Max Level)], [Tame: Lv10 (Max Level)], and [Farm Animal Companion: Lv10 (Max Level)] Skills together.

You're the Sacred Spirit Queen of Divine Beasts, your beauty, grace, aura, motherliness, and gentleness captivate not only people, but the beasts and spirits of the world. Through your Divine Powers, you're able to Summon and Tame Creatures, which are all branded as Divine Beasts capable of evolving and further transforming into the strongest beings of their respective Beast Bloodlines.

{Summoned Divine Beasts: 5/9}

[Slot 1]: [Greater Heaven Goat: Thunder Tanngnjóstr: Belle]

[Slot 2]: [Greater Shadow Gallus Raven: Dark Hrafnaguð: Huginn]

[Slot 3]: [Greater Abyssal Venomous Serpentes: Giant Miðgarðsormr: Saphee]

[Slot 4]: [Greater Voracious Trickster Lotus Vine Hydra: Abyss Ivy: Loki]

[Slot 5]: [Greater Mystic Giant Cave Mushroom: High Meshgaia: Terra]

[Slot 6]: Available for Summoning.

[Slot 7]: Available for Summoning.

[Slot 8]: Available for Summoning.

[Slot 9]: Available for Summoning.

{Tamed Divine Beasts: 4/8}

[Slot 1]: [Young Adult Lake Snake Dragon: Silver]

[Slot 2]: [Abyssal Great Knight Shapeshifting Mimic: Mimy]

[Slot 3]: [Giant Mythical Golden Koi: Goldie]

[Slot 4]: [Divine Moonlight Shadow Panther: Blackie]

[Slot 5]: Available for Taming.

[Slot 6]: Available for Taming.

[Slot 7]: Available for Taming.

[Slot 8]: Available for Taming.

It is also possible to conjure special Divine Beast Magic Spells by channeling both Mana, Spiritual Essence, and Divine Beast Energy, a special energy that you can draw from your Divine Beasts through your connection with them.

For every Divine Beast within 100 meters of you, with an additional 10 meters with each Skill Level, your Divine Beast Magic Spells gain +50% boost to their Power and Effects. You can learn new Divine Beast Magic Spells every 5 Skill Levels.

Available Divine Beast Magic Spells:

Level 5: [Divine Beast's Healing and Strengthening Blessing] [Divine Beast's Elemental Blast]

Level 10: [Divine Beast's Spirit Soul Fusion] [Divine Beast's Sacred Shield]

Level 15: [Divine Beast's Spirit Soul Weaponization] [Divine Beast's Shared Senses]

Level 20: [Divine Beast's Spirit Soul Transformation] [Divine Beast's Element Bestowal]

Level 25: ???

This Skill cannot level up through Skill Points and only through the usage of its abilities, such as Summoning, Taming, Raising, and Evolving Divine Familiars.

-----

There are four slots left for taming beasts, and- Woah, Blackie appears there even in-game?! That's pretty cool, actually.

Well, anyways, with four slots left, I think I can afford another for Falco, I need to save up more slots though, once the Dragons are born, I'll need four slots!

But I think that if I can level up the Skill to level 25, I'll gain a new slot and barely have enough for all four of the dragon pups that are being kept in the Forest of Beginnings.

I was going to first use the mana crystals on the domain, but I guess I can upgrade Falco first, this child looks quite too eager, and I can't disappoint him or make him wait.

"Alright Falco, ready? For this I need to gain ownership of you as your owner and you as my... well, tamed pet," I said to Mark. "Can you like... lend him to me for a bit?"

"Sure," Mark nodded. "I give you Falco, please take care of him."

"Alright, I'll do my best as his new owner!" I nodded. "Falco, are you okay with this?"

"Craahh...?" he looked at Mark for a bit.

"If you accept me as your master, then you'll be able to become even stronger," I said. "Don't worry, I'll return you to Mark afterwards. Just please, accept me with all your heart without feeling forced."

"Craah..." he looked down and then at me. "Craaah!"

FLASH!

Suddenly, divine gold-colored threads emerged from my soul, connecting with Falco out of nowhere.

The large bird spread out its wings and flapped them, as if celebrating.

"Craacaaahh!"

And then, a voice.

[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}??]

"There it is, I heard the voice!" I said. "Then..."

I placed Falco on the ground and gave him a lot of space.

"Yes."

I accepted the request, as the powers surging from my soul emerged, encompassing Falco like a cocoon of bright golden light.

FLUOSH!

Rapidly, these energies constantly began to grow smaller, compacting around his body at the same time as his body began larger. Falco had the ability to become larger than usual, but this was tied to a power he awakened after having been possessed by ghosts in that dungeon back then.

But it was different now, it wasn't an ability or something, it was his real, true size, kind of similar to how Blackie became so huge!

As the light dissipated, a powerful aura of emerald winds gathered around the large hawk, pushing us back a little bit.

The majestic bird spread out his wings, looking at us with defiant eyes.

His body had changed color, Falco's feathers were now of a clear green color, with gold, blue, red, and yellow decorating his wings.

He had a beautiful, feathered crest of these same colors, and his eyes were clear green, just like real emeralds themselves...

His beak looked metallic, made of gold, and as he spread out his wings, a powerful aura of divine power emerged.

Blackie showed him his teeth, hissing at the enormous divine beast that had appeared out of nowhere.

"I-it's as if Falco completely changed out of nowhere!" said Mark, gasping.

"Blackie feels intimidated by its mere presence..." I said. "Calm down Blackie, he's our friend... Right Falco?"

"CRAAAHHH!"

However, Falco cried loudly and furiously, spreading out his wings and then imbuing his body with winds...

And electricity!

FLASH!

Within a split second, the giant bird rushed towards me, pointing its sharp beak.

"Huh?!"

CLASH!