

## **Brand New 1231**

### Chapter 1231: The Magus Association Plans

The bustling city of London was as busy as ever, with cars and people moving everywhere, the beautiful Big Ben, the clock tower adorned the city with its old brilliance, the large arrows moving slowly as time went by.

In the British Museum, tourist came inside and out, it seemed as if it was just another day. Little did they know of the secrets that laid right beneath their noses.

"Hahh... Another beautiful day... It's rare to see two cloudless days in a row."

An old man with a burly frame, a tall height, with a short gray beard and black colored hair glanced into the city of London from the highest levels of the clock tower.

His sharp eyes were bright blue, resembling stars amidst the cosmos. He wore simple yet elegant clothes, black pants with a white blouse and a black jacket, combined with black leather shoes. His hands were decorated with many expensive-looking rings imbued with colorful jewels.

By waving his hand, a circle was formed in midair, where runes spun around each other, quickly creating a beautiful phenomenon, magic.

"Olivia, did you just call me?"

He quickly talked to the floating magic circle, and then, the voice of a young woman echoed from inside the magic circle.

"Yes, father, but you didn't answer, were you busy?"

"I was doing some paperwork, as a Lord of the Tower I simply can't just sit idly all day, my daughter."

"Oh well, whatever the case, I think you would like to see this."

"Hm?"

The man raised an eyebrow as his spoiled daughter showed him visions of what she was seeing through the runic magic circle, it showed a canyon full of ants, and many people fighting them.

At first he didn't seem that amused, perhaps another of his daughter's side jobs, that girl would take any job, however low the pay was, just to travel around the world.

However, his face quickly changed expressions as he realized that the people fighting had incredible magic abilities, powers, and equipment.

"Are these Hunters, Olivia? Who are they? I have... not seen people this strong in a long while," he said. "No, perhaps I have, but not so many together- Is that an angel?!"

"Yes father, it is," Olivia giggled. "Among them there's a woman, someone that is somehow a druid, a dryad, a dragon, a magician, a spirit, and... many things combined. Several Druids had recently moved here just for her, did you know?"

"Yes I am well aware," the man squinted his eyes. "That woman... She's the one you told me about before? That Awakened with incredible abilities. And indeed, she does have amazing abilities. I can immediately tell she has Divine Powers too. This is beyond baffling, where has been such a powerful person been hiding this entire time?"

It can't be that it's just an awakened!"

"I have little idea myself," said Olivia. "She seemed completely oblivious about the Magician's Association, even more of the Clock Tower. And she was being honest as well... She has incredible talents and is blossoming to become even stronger. And her innate abilities... She could become an incredible asset for the family, or perhaps the clock tower too."

"Hmm..." the man caressed his beard in silence. "And it's not like the rest of the people around here are any weaker either... They're all exceptionally strong. I am in awe, are these the people protecting Canada right now? Perhaps we might reconsider our relationships with that country moving on."

"I agree! It is for the best if we could create a friendly relationship where they owe us some as well, we have to give them lots of favors, father," smiled Olivia. "Elayne and her family... They're a promising bunch. They are also honest to heart, strong, and good people, a rare thing with their strength."

"Easy to manipulate..." nodded her father. "However, perhaps it won't be this case. Be careful around them and act friendly, my daughter. It would be for the best if we develop a strong bond between our families."

"Yes father," nodded Olivia. "Oh, on another case, I was wondering, are preparations ready for the Yamato's Ritual?"

"Not yet, there's a lot that needs to be done... Oh?" Olivia's father smiled. "I see, sneaky girl. You want to employ their help in that event? Are you sure you could pull this out, Olivia? Don't you think you're overstepping your own boundaries? My daughter, I didn't teach you to be reckless..."

"I know," nodded Olivia. "It'll be a gradual process. But I'll get it done... I want Elayne to become my best friend. An event of that magnitude only happens incredibly rarely. To think they had managed to create such a perfect replica. It is of course our right to claim it as our own."

"They probably received the help of the Blood Countess, or so I've heard," said her father. "That old man of Vladlargo told me that she had attained a Blood Soul, so she possessed the power to imbue Life Force into a Vessel. That, then combined with... hmm, yeah."

"Hmm! That'll be for now, father. I hope you can keep this a secret," said Olivia. "I had originally come here for her anyways. I finally got lucky enough to meet her without me forcing myself into her residence. That would have only brought suspicion."

"Very well, be careful then, Olivia. Make the Coyett family proud," said her father.

"Of course! I will not disappoint you, father," Olivia smiled. "Ah! One last thing."

"Yes?"

"It seems the Cursed Order had gotten here first."

"Hmm, those damn bastards."

"They had already tried attacking her, but they managed to push them away, Tyrone even died."

"Really?! Then they're much stronger than I imagined... Nonetheless, I'll send some backup, it would be for the best of our family if we protect her from them."

"Thank you father, you're always so attentive to the little details." Olivia sighed in relief. "However, this could be just the beginning of a domino effect... Elayne, she's unaware, but her very existence is provoking several factions to clash and gather around her. Eventually, even a Holy War might trigger."

"We must seize the advantage while we can then," smiled Olivia's father. "The Magician's Association will gladly support Elayne!"

Without even realizing, Elayne's presence was making even the most influential people in the world desire to become her ally.

## Chapter 1232: The Plan To Eliminate The Entire Ant Colony

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(Elayne's POV)

As we had a meal to recover, we talked about the next plans and what we were going to do to take care of the sneaky ants.

"Oh, about that, we got everything decided," said Lily. "I'll take over the entire area with my divine fusion skill and then I'll use the ground itself to push all the ants outside, as they're pushed outside through their holes, everyone here will slay them as they come."

Apparently Lily had the idea of fusing with the earth and quickly make them all come out. There's still hundreds of them left, so it'll take a little while to take care of them all even with this method.

"Ooh, that sounds pretty smart," I nodded. "I had thought about drowning or freezing them all, but maybe that won't work?" I wondered.

"It might work too, but Lily's guaranteed to work and be quick," said my daughter. "I think if you do that mom, the ants will just dig away and escape to the surface, then scurry away with their queen. But with Lily's plan, they won't have time to respond or adapt, and get slayed quickly!"

Oh yeah, I suppose it is indeed a better plan, these ants are a bit annoying to deal with after all. Though with Olivia's spell, they shouldn't be able to escape, or at least it should be really hard.

"Hmm, you're right," I nodded. "Very well then, let's go with that one. We promised Rose and Olivia we would clean this Big Nest, so let's not leave a single ant left alive, alright? It's our responsibility now!"

"Yeah!"

As everyone cheered, I nodded with a smile, feeling the presences of the Ants underground. The Queen had a particularly strong Aura of Mana, it has been growing big and fat in here. We have to take care of these quickly, before they become a problem for Quebec.

"Let's begin then!"

Once we were done eating, the only thing left was to start, in this time we rested and ate, I spread my Domain even further, covering the once desertyc artificially made canyon into a huge and lush forest and grass-covered hill.

Everyone got in their positions to fight, while Lily grabbed a lot of Mana Potions I gave to her that I borrowed from my Avatar's inventory. In-game Mana Potions were cheap most of the time, very cheap to buy using just Gold, so I had a huge stack.

This way, even if her Mana runs out, she'll be able to quickly recover it and keep the Skill activated. Once everyone was ready, with weapon and magic conjured, she quickly melded with the ground, rapidly fusing with it.

"I'll start now...! {Spiritual Divine Mother of the Earth}!"

RUMBLE!

The entire canyon trembled as I saw Lily completely turning into stone and merging with the ground, her soul spread out everywhere, rapidly controlling the ground and the earth, the stones, everything within our vicinity.

She quickly spread out all her influence down into the deepest parts of the ant nest, which led down to a very labyrinthine underground. However, only a minute later, she quickly started pushing everything out.

"I got them all! Here they are! Kill them quickly please!"

BOOOM!

Suddenly, from the ground, a huge tube-shaped growth made of stone emerged, and a powerful force started ejecting the ants down below by the dozens per second.

They started falling towards us, anybody else would have probably panicked and screamed in horror after seeing giant insects falling from the sky.

But not us!

"SHYAAAGH!"

As they screamed, a bombardment of magic quickly engulfed them all.

Mark's Blazing Spells unleashed a rain of fiery phoenix feathers, Rita's magic bullets blasted through their bodies with great precision, Jenny's acid bullets melted their heavy metallic armor, my daughter summoned dozens of swords made of shadows, Gabriel conjured endless spears of light, and I quickly conjured Frost Dragon of Time Breath, Fire Dragon of Dreams Claws, Wind Dragon of Celestial Light Tail in quick succession.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

A barrage of loud explosions reverberated across the skies, as Ants died by the hundreds over time. Lily constantly brought more and more, they were literally endless, maintaining her transformation in her real body seemed exhausting too but she was rapidly recovering her Mana with the potions I gave to her, so she could last for much longer.

I had asked her if she could crush them with the ground itself, but she said that her power using the skill with her real body wouldn't be enough, these ants are specially made to dig underground and survive when caves collapse, so using stone and dirt to bury them wouldn't work.

Because the ants were literally being fed to us, it was easy to practice all kinds of spells against them, and so I did, after getting the hang of Frost Dragon of Time Breath, Fire Dragon of Dreams Claws, and Wind Dragon of Celestial Light Tail, I moved to using other spells or physique abilities.

First, I wanted to try this one!

"{Time Spirit Summon}!"

FLUOSH!

The moment I conjured the spell, a gray-colored magic circle resembling a clock materialized in front of me, quickly absorbing my Mana and Spirit Energy.

Then, a figure rapidly materialized, the figure seemed humanoid, then it grew wings, and hair, and clothes?

Wait a second...

"Uwaah! Where am I?! Auntie Planta? Is that you? You look different- Ants?!"

I ended summoning a fairy girl with beautiful rainbow-colored wings, a dress made of plants, and long, pink-colored hair with golden eyes.

Without a doubt, the "Time Spirit" I summoned was...

"Little Titania?!"

"It's me, yeah! W-What happened?! Are you really auntie Planta?"

"I-I am! I didn't know the spell would end up summoning you though! I thought Time Spirits would be different!"

"I'm still kind of conscious back home, but this sure is strange!" she said, looking around. "Are you fighting monsters? Let me help! I feel like I can connect to you, let's use spells!"

"Spells? O-Okay then... let's use some!"

With a nod, and while trying not to overthink this, we combined our Magic together.

"{Time-Eating Spirit Flames}!"

A giant wave of silver flames was conjured from our hands, quickly covering dozens after dozens of giant ants at once.

FLUOSH!

## Chapter 1233 The Power Of A Time Spirit!

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At the end, I was able to satiate my curiosity and discover that the [Time Spirit Summon] Spell I created allowed me to summon the people from the Ancient Past Realm I created from the Cloudia Divine Dungeon. After all, all the people there ended having to become Time Spirits to remain within the existing world.

The Realm became pretty much a replica of the past, a fragment of time itself that had been left behind when Arcadia was destroyed, and then revived, these fragments of ancient pasts are the "Cloudia Fragments" which represent an area of the ancient continent of Cloudia.

Although they were technically Spirits, their bodies and everything else was very much like any living being, at least within their domain, so I never thought about it too much.

Until now, when I ended accidentally (?) summoning little Titania here!

"Are you really auntie Planta?" she wondered.

"I-I am! I didn't know the spell would end up summoning you though! I thought Time Spirits would be different!"

"I'm still kind of conscious back home, but this sure is strange!" she said, looking around. "Are you fighting monsters? Let me help! I feel like I can connect to you, let's use spells!"

However, I was surprised she was so eager to fight and show off her strength to defeat these ants, all eager to help, she happily decided to fight at my side.

I don't know how long her summoning will last, possibly not longer than ten minutes, but while she's in here, it's time to use some of my Time Spells.

Although I could use them alone, when I use them through the power of a Time Spirit, they finally show their true power.

"Spells? O-Okay then... let's use some!"

With a nod, and while trying not to overthink this, we combined our Magic together.

"{Time-Eating Spirit Flames}!"

A giant wave of silver flames was conjured from our hands, quickly covering dozens after dozens of giant ants at once.

FLUOSH!

These Silver Flames not only burned through their bodies, but also through their very Time, this caused the ants to become incredibly, yes, incredibly slow.

"G-GYEEGH...!"

The fire wasn't powerful enough to one-shot them, but it was enough to easily slow them down to an extremely ridiculous level.

And once they burned enough, they turned gray colored and simply froze in time completely.

"Woah, what with that Spell?!" Mark wondered, asking from my side as he swung his sword, cutting through the ants as they came.

"It's a Time Spell!" I said. "Pretty strong, right? Let me make it easier for everyone! Titania, help me out!"

"Alright!" she nodded happily, unleashing her Aura of Spiritual Time Essence.

It wrapped around me, empowering my Time Spells even more.

Before, I believe they wouldn't be as powerful, this body still can't produce Time Essence as I lack the Time Dragon Heart.

But with Time Spirits, that's completely different!

"GRUOOOHHHH!"

Just as I was about to attack, the ground shook as a dozen titanic ants emerged, they were at least ten times as big as the others, massive and with thick exoskeleton armor. They charged forward, shaking the entire surroundings.

These things alone could easily destroy entire buildings! To think that Ant Queen had them as her trump cards.

But they're perfect moving sandbags for my Spells.

"Alright Titania! Let's use this one!"

"Okay!"

Her essence gathered around my body as I quickly shaped it, fusing it into a massive spear as I conjured the spell I had chosen.

Everyone glanced in awe, many recognizing Little Titania immediately, wondering what the hell was going on.

Apologies, explanations will be given later!

Now...

"{Spear of Fragmented Time}!"

A crystal spear made of silver and colorless crystalized time essence materialized, a fragment of time itself turned into a weapon.

It was enormous, of over five meters of height.

FLAAASH!

I launched it directly at the charging Gargantuan Ants.

And then...!

CRASH!

The spear pierced through all the ants at once, not only the one I aimed, but the others to the left and right, even the ones behind them as well.

Somehow, it is as if it had divided itself through time, striking many times at once, incredible!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

And right after, the gigantic ant bodies exploded, as giant time crystal growths grew all over their bodies, destroying them from the inside out, and making them fall apart.

Crack, crack...!

CRASH!

"Woah..."

"Damn."

Titania and I were left perplexed over the destruction we caused, without a doubt, if it wasn't for her help, that spell would have certainly not have been as powerful.

In fact, all Time Spells are just broken when a Time Spirit is aiding me!

"That was AMAZING!" Titania raised her arms. "Who else are we beating, auntie?"

"All of these! Let's keep going!" I said.

We continued conjuring Time Spells, getting more used to their destructive power and elemental abilities. The flames burned through them and slowed them down, the spear could target any foe within a certain range at the same time, and then...

"{Frost Dragon of Time Breath}!"

With Titania's powerup as a Time Spirit, this Spell I had been using quite regularly completely changed. Titania's entire body temporarily turned into a huge silver colored spiritual dragon, fusing with my aura.

"Gaaaoooo!"

As she roared like an adorable little dragon, a gigantic wave of freezing winds were unleashed, freezing all foes in time for a few seconds, and then making them easy to destroy, all my friends and family easily shattered them all into pieces.

"Amazing, you guys are doing way too great!"

Lily seemed happy; she was already on her last Mana Potion.

"Ugh, I think this is the last batch, the Queen's included! Please deal with it!"

As she said that, the ground shook as the giant mountain she built exploded and around ten more Gargantuan Ants emerged, alongside twenty Warriors, and thirty normal Ants.

And right behind them, there was a huge ant with a gigantic abdomen, and an exoskeleton of bright gold color, imbued with many jewels on her body.

That's the Queen!

Her Aura was tremendous, and so were her magic powers.

"SHYEEEEEGGHHH!"

With a furious hiss, the Ant Queen suddenly conjured magic of her own, creating massive blades made of stone and firing them at everyone.

Each blade was over fifty meters of height!

Chapter 1234 Against The Ant Queen!

Olivia glanced through the glass-like barrier of her formation towards the canyon down below, the last battle had already begun, and her sharp azure eyes squinted as she noticed the powerful presence of the Ant Queen, a smile surged in her lips.

"Impressive! To think the Myrmek Queen would of this level..." she muttered. "And all that gold and other ores growing over her body... Are those Spirit Stones?! So it has assimilated such magical ores to amplify her magical power. This creature wouldn't be something any Apprentice Ranked Magician could ever defeat, even less a Pupil Rank.

I could probably handle it but... it would me a long while to set up everything. And it might end up escaping by then."

The Sorceress felt fascinated by Elayne and her family, their power and magical abilities were not only superb, but extraordinary in every sense of the world.

"Has there been an Awakened with such talents? This country... it has been blessed by an incredible family of powerful magicians and warriors!" she said. "Now, Elayne and family, show me if you're truly worthy of receiving the protection and patronizing of the Clock Tower."

As the Sorceress watched in silence, the ground shook as the giant mountain that Lily had built exploded and around ten more Gargantuan Ants emerged, alongside twenty Warriors, and thirty normal Ants.

And right behind them, there was a huge ant with a gigantic abdomen, and an exoskeleton of bright gold color, imbued with many colorful jewels on her body that according to Olivia, were all Spirit Stones.

The battle down below started with the loud scream of the Queen, accompanied by her loyal subjects.

"SHYEEEEEGGHHH!"

With a furious hiss, the Ant Queen suddenly conjured magic of her own, creating massive blades made of stone and firing them at everyone. Each blade was over fifty meters of height!

RUMBLE!

The ground around her shook, as the blades rushed rapidly against Elayne and her family, they were so gigantic, and covered on boiling magma that most supernatural people wouldn't even be able to evade them.

Yet, Elayne was not intimidated.

While holding Irene's sword form, and a secondary blade created through her Heaven's Sword Physique Ability, she unleashed her new Physique Ability.

The convergence of her own Soul Aura combined with the Celestial Energies of her Angelic Halo, then further enhanced through the {Divine Heroic Dual Sword Goddess Aura} and its {Sword Goddess After-Images} effect.

"{Heaven-Splitting Soul Blade}"

FLAAASH!

Her two swords overflowed with white light, growing up to ten meters more, and her after-images manifested, all charging forward, while little Titania boosted Elayne's "time"!

"I-I think I got a spell I could use! {Time Acceleration}!"

Elayne jumped, moving at lightning speed and flying across the skies with her four wings, her after-images following her movements and then...

"[Holy Dual Blade Goddess Dance]"

She spun in midair, spinning upwards, then downwards, then moving upwards and then falling from the skies at quick succession, as if she was dancing in the skies.

And while doing so, her blades slashed through everything.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

Olivia's eyes widened in utter bewilderment, as she saw Elayne's powers to their truest extent, the titanic magma blades of the mighty Ant Queen were immediately split apart into hundreds of pieces.

"T-This is...! Unbelievable...! She's already comparable to a Savant Rank Swordsman?!"

As Elayne attacked, the ants right behind the magma blades were attacked, the gigantic Gargantuan Ants were quickly covered with countless slashing attacks, generating a storm of attacks that broke through their defenses. Among them all, two ended near death, their legs sliced apart and so they were unable to move.

The others, however, were quickly greeted by another attack from Elayne, as her Mana overflowed from her body, gathering from her Domain she had been expanding this entire time.

"Let's try one of my new Abilities, shall we?" she smiled. "[Ruler of the Sky]!"

The skies suddenly darkened, as Olivia and the rest of the people watching saw as dark clouds gathered above the canyon, many of them started spinning, generating rain, snow, thunder, and spiraling winds.

RUMBLE!

"T-The skies... she's controlling the weather now?!" Olivia couldn't believe it. "Is that an Awakened Power? Ruler of the Sky!"

She had never heard of such a power before, but she had heard about certain Magicians capable of controlling the weather before.

Then, the winds, rain, snow, and thunder descended towards the Ants, bombarding them with a deadly torrential storm.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

The Ants screamed in agony as they were pushed back, several of them were torn to shreds or burned, roasted alive by the thunder.

As this happened, the Queen furiously held off, conjuring multiple barriers around her and then releasing destructive elemental attacks.

"SHYAAAH!"

Giant fireballs, thunderbolts, spinning wind spears, icicles, and more. This elemental barrage reached Elayne within seconds, only for another barrage of spells to hit it back.

Not only Elayne conjured her powerful Spells, releasing giant swords of light, spheres of flames, windstorms, thunder and ice, but also her family and friends released their spells.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

A battle of pure and destructive magic was unleashed, as Olivia and the rest of the SWORD members watched in awe, completely taken aback by the sheer prowess of both Elayne's group and the Ant Queen!

"We might have underestimated that ant; it is much stronger than we thought..." Olivia sighed. "Was it hiding its Mana this entire time while growing slowly by eating the magic ores growing underground from the over accumulation and crystallization of the magic from the Gates?"

As she thought about the reasons of the Ant Queen's immense magical power, Elayne and her party charged forward. Mark grew to a tremendous size as he absorbed the plants and trees around him, making his transformation much easier.

He brought the Berserk Blade from Elayne's Inventory ability, and by using his knife which transformed into a blazing sword, he dual-wielded and unleashed his own swordsmanship techniques, aiming to break through the Ant Queen's barriers.

"{Spiritual Phoenix Sword Arts}: [Mountain-Splitting Eruption]!"

SLAAASH!

A single slash transformed his surroundings as an eruption of spiritual flames engulfed the Ant Queen, followed by blazing explosions.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Crack, crack...!

The Ant Queen's barriers ended being broken quite quickly!

CRASH!

Chapter 1235 Elena's Power

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After deciding to break through the Ant Queen's barrier and destroy her defenses, Mark rushed forward.

He brought the Berserk Blade from Elayne's Inventory ability, and by using his knife which transformed into a blazing sword, he dual-wielded and unleashed his own swordsmanship techniques, aiming to break through the Ant Queen's barriers.

"{Spiritual Phoenix Sword Arts}"

A swordsmanship that relied not on swift movements like Elayne, but in brute force, combined with the might of a Phoenix Spirit.

To feel the fiery flames of the phoenix and to release them with a strong slashing attack carrying a person's entire weight.

"[Mountain-Splitting Eruption]!"

SLAAASH!

A single slash transformed his surroundings as an eruption of spiritual flames engulfed the Ant Queen, followed by blazing explosions.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Crack, crack...!

The Ant Queen's barriers ended being broken quite quickly!

CRASH!

"SHYAAAGH!"

The Ant Queen screamed in pain as spiritual flames engulfed her, her surviving subjects quickly gathered around her and started attacking anybody that got closer.

However.

"Get out of the way!"

Rita flew from the skies, rushing down with her gun, now transformed into a huge black dragon rifle, her entire body had transformed as well, resembling her Avatar.

Through her Soul-Bound Divine Fusion Skill {Abyssal Void Dark Dragonborn Elf Queen Embodiment}, she unleashed her truest power.

Her magic empowered her gun to the extreme, as she released deadly long-ranged attacks with it!

"[Super Bullet Time]!"

Time itself slowed down for Rita, as her gun quickly started shooting several times within that second, and they weren't normal bullets.

"[Blue Dragon King's Bullet Cannon]!"

But cannons, beams of pure darkness and blue energy that struck down the ants one after another, blasting their bodies into smithereens. The Ant Queen was also affected, as her body was covered on a few holes.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

The Ant Queen suddenly started to panic, stepping back and beginning to dig the ground with her limbs, using magic to rapidly attempt to escape underground.

"She's trying to escape!"

Elena rushed forward with Anna, Elisa, and Monica, as the girls quickly clashed against the Ant Queen, stopping her by aiming at her legs.

"You're not going anywhere!"

Elena swung her Knife-turned-Katana, and her Magical Blade, unleashing a myriad of attacks by activating her techniques IRL!

She knew the Ant Queen was beyond her league, so she decided to go all-out, activating her Soul-Bound Divine Fusion Skill.

"{Phantom Blue Oni Shikigami Princess Transformation}!"

RUMBLE!

Her entire body absorbed a tremendous quantity of phantasmal, shadow, and cursed energy at once, transforming her body completely, as she grew much larger, taller, and muscular.

She looked completely different, as if she had become a true Blue Oni Princess from ancient Japanese myths, using her ogre-like strength, Elena unleashed her Shikigami Aura.

"OOOOHHHH!"

A monstrous being howled, a phantasmal spiritual being that wasn't a Spirit nor a Ghost, it was something in between them, with some slight, minor divinity added into its existence.

If anything, it was more like a Lesser Form of a Kami, taking the form of a Ghostly Apparition.

And Elena's personal Shikigami, born from her Shadows and her Phantasmal Energies, emerged through her Aura.

It wasn't the same as her in-game one, the Susanoo Shikigami, which was in the form of a War God, no, this one was much more monstrous and terrific in form.

Resembling a huge skeleton with flesh made of shadows, wearing an ugly Red Oni Mask, and holding two enormous Katanas, it manifested.

Olivia felt the tremendous power of the Shikigami, the entities that the Onmyōji from Japan were well known to be able to create and summon for their aid.

"This girl isn't even Japanese; how come she has a Shikigami?!" she thought. "Wait, no... now that I look at her, she does look slightly Asian... was her father a Japanese man?"

"{Shikigami Manifestation Aura}" Elena spoke. "Let's do it!"

She rushed forward, her eyes focused on her target.

The Ant Queen panicked, conjuring an endless storm of elements everywhere. Anna, Elisa, and Monica barely held it back with their magic and techniques.

**BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!**

However, Elena kept moving forward, her two spears gathering more and more energy, as her Shikigami swung its blades, moving them upwards.

"Slice through everything..."

Her eyes suddenly turned gray and black at the same time.

"Guide my blade, oh, darkest void..."

Olivia's eyes widened, as she suddenly dropped the phone she was carrying.

"T-That's...!"

"{Abyssal Void Blade Forms}: [First Form: Space-Slicing Sword]"

SLAAASH!

A single, powerful slash was unleashed from her two blades and further empowered by her Shikigami, releasing two gigantic waves of pure void, shadows, and phantom.

CLAAASH!

"SHYAAAAEEGH!"

The Ant Queen roared, holding back with her tremendous magical energy, as her Aura grew larger, and larger, and larger!

"I'm not done yet." Elena said with her eyes fully focused. "I have reached a new height. This is it..."

Her blades suddenly converged into one, and her Shikigami fused with them.

FLUOSH!

A pure black katana, as if it had been made out of charcoal, was quickly summoned.

"{Space-Slicing Sword Echo}: [Secret Technique...]"

SLAAASH!

And then, a single slash that split through all was unleashed, the echo of a previous attack. For that very moment, it felt as if the night had fallen ahead of time.

And the Ant Queen could only see the slash reach her and then split her apart, alongside a small part of space itself.

"[Yozakura]!"

"G-GRAAH...?!"

The last thing the Ant Queen saw were hundreds of pink Sakura Petals flutter amidst the night's sky, as the entire world was split apart through her divided vision.

The Ant Queen fell into pieces into the ground, splattering over the floor, and dying on the spot.

Silence.

The entire Ant Colony had been cleansed, and the finishing blow was stolen by Elena, who used this opportunity to practice her in-game abilities through her real body.

The result?

"I did it!"

She celebrated happily, jumping and raising her arms like any girl would do.

"T-That's..." Olivia muttered, then smiled. "Elena was her name, right? Elayne, just what kind of little monster have you raised?"

Chapter 1236 A Power Out Of Control

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(Elayne's POV)

Everyone was left speechless after what my daughter did, and honestly, me too. One thing was seeing her use such powerful abilities through her Avatar, and also seeing her using the Spells and Physique Abilities she acquired IRL.

But using those ridiculous powers DarkReaper refined through her years playing the game, and with her incredibly powerful build which specialized completely on one-on-one battle...

It was insane!

My daughter is just... incredible!

"Amazing, Elena!"

I ran to her side, but then, she looked at me, without sheathing her katanas yet.

"Mom... can we spar?"

"Eh?"

Her eyes were full of resolve.

Spar?

With my own daughter?

Outside of... our avatars?!

"W-What are you talking about, Elena?"

"I... I almost achieved something I never thought possible."

Her hand was trembling, her eyes were full of obsession.

"Mother... please let me spar with you! I want to surpass my limits- No, I want to surpass you!"

"Elena? You're not being yourself..."

"Please just this once!"

"No, enough is enough... I might be good at the sword but... well, it's because of abilities. It's not the same as-"

FLASH!

Out of nowhere, Elena charged against me.

"Elena?!"

I had to quickly defend, swinging my blades upwards, and tanking her katana slash.

That pitch-black katana she created, it was still there.

CLAAASH!

Its power was enormous, pushing me back several meters.

"Ugh! Elena, what's gotten into you?!"

"Hahh... Hahh... I must surpass... my limits..."

Her eyes were growing redder, as her Oni features were growing larger.

This is...

I quickly realized what was happening.

It's her transformation, and...

That pitch-black sword!

"Bring me the greatest foes! Only the strongest are allowed, Elena!"

The blade, it was whispering to her.

"The strongest... mother...! Please, spar with me!"

That damned blade, it somehow became a demonic blade or something!

"No!"

I quickly evaded her slash, as I spun in midair and used my wings to fly high.

However.

SLASH! SLASH!

"Ugh?!"

Suddenly, all four of my wings were severed, and I fell from the skies.

When did she do that?!

She's so fast!

"Spar with me, mother! Why... why are you looking down on me?!"

Her Oni-like appearance continued becoming less and less like my daughter.

"You're no longer yourself, Elena! Calm down! Deactivate your ability!"

"Not until you spar with me!"

"I said... NO!"

Instead of using my dangerous swords, I used a powerful spell to blind her and stun her in place.

"{Fusion Spell}: {Exorcizing Heavenly Purifying Light}!"

FLAAASH!

A flash of purifying holy light of gold and white color engulfed her completely, the blinding light began to exorcize her dark blade, as I saw the screaming phantasmal being within it.

"UUAAGGGHH!"

However, it was resisting a lot! Was this Elena's Shikigami? This thing was trying to take over my daughter!

"How dare you take over my daughter! You are a Shikigami, her familiar! Don't you ever dare do that again! Or else... I'll kill you!"

As I said that, I quickly sealed the phantasmal Shikigami.

"{Fusion Spell}: {Demon-Sealing Chains of Heavenly Celestial Light}!"

Countless chains emerged, covering its entire phantasmal body! It was being rapidly weakened, dragged down.

However...

"GRAAAHAHAHA!"

He laughed, showing its red Oni-like mask.

"Don't you think that's too weak?!"

"What?"

Crack, crack...!

CRASH!

A storm of slashing attacks was unleashed, as Elena cut through all my chains at the same time as she released several slashing attacks against me.

"Show me what you got! GRAHAHAHA!"

As the Shikigami laughed and Elena obeyed his will, I quickly decided to use another Spell.

A new Spell I had created.

"Fine, you called for it," I sighed. "{Divine Demon Sealing Ward Cube}"

Divine Wards combined with conventional spells instantly engulfed the Shikigami and the sword, at the same time, I also conjured another {Exorcizing Heavenly Purifying Light}, separating it from Elena fully.

"UUAAAGH! W-WHAT'S THIS?!"

The Shikigami screamed in agony as he was rapidly compressed into a small golden cube, his shadows endlessly swirling around furiously.

"Ahh!"

Elena quickly came back to her senses, gasping for air.

"M-Mom? What happened? W-What was I saying?!"

"Elena! You're finally back, dear. Are you ok?"

"Yeah but... W-What did I do?! Are you hurt?"

"No, I'm fine... It wasn't you, it was this thing! Calm down."

I hugged her and caressed her black hair, kissing her forehead.

I calmed down as well, before glaring at that thing.

"Can you deactivate the Skill?"

"Yes..."

She quickly turned back to normal, and so the Shikigami disappeared as well, leaving behind her knife, which after I imbued with a Holy Ward, I gave back to her.

"I can't believe that damn thing got inside my head..." she sighed. "I guess I got too into it... Ugh, I'm so sorry mom... I was reckless, and I almost... I almost..."

"Calm down," I said. "You weren't almost about to do anything. It was the Shikigami. We'll have to train together so I can help you fully dominate him. I've left some Holy Chains within his phantasmal structure. So maybe he'll act a bit more obediently.

It should at least make you aware when he's trying to take over you, so you can repel him or deactivate the Skill."

"O-Okay... You aren't mad?" she wondered.

"I can't really be mad at you, what you did was amazing... even when you fought me possessed, you showed incredible strength," I giggled a bit. "Ah, maybe there's something wrong with me if I'm ever saying such a thing but... it worried me a bit, but it also made me a bit happy."

"H-Happy?" she wondered.

"Yeah, that you've grown so strong," I nodded. "It means that you'll be able to fight back against this world's threats better. As long as we train so you can control it better, I think I'll be able to relax a bit more."

"Ah, yeah..." Elena nodded. "Ugh, my head hurts a bit though."

"Here, let me heal your exhaustion," I said, giving her some of my sap.

"Ugh, I would rather have a potion... your sap is like... if I was drinking your blood, right?" she wondered.

"I-It's not the same!"

Although things ended with an anticlimactic battle, this also revealed me my daughter's true strength, and made me feel relieved she was strong.

But that Shikigami, and her powers... I have to help her control them.

Chapter 1237 Worried And Happy?

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After the battle against my daughter, things calmed down once I helped her and sealed the Shikigami trying to overtake her senses.

That Shikigami was mostly born from her swordsmanship abilities, and perhaps her alter-ego as DarkReaper, who craves violence and fights.

That's all nice and dandy against other Players in BNLO because they revive, but if she uses such a persona IRL, things will get very dicey.

That "persona" perhaps influenced her Shikigami when it was made in this world, although I haven't seen her using it in BNLO.

I was fairly sure her Shikigami was that Susanoo giant samurai-like being she summons sometimes, so maybe this Shikigami could be a completely different being.

"Maybe there's something wrong with me if I'm ever saying such a thing but... it worried me a bit, but it also made me a bit happy."

I had to admit that I panicked a bit, but I managed to hold back enough not to hurt my daughter.

A mother always has to keep her cool after all! I could never dare hurt my own daughter.

"H-Happy?"

Elena was confused, she was just recovering from sobbing a bit and I go and say such a weird thing.

My bad...

"Yeah, that you've grown so strong," I nodded. "It means that you'll be able to fight back against this world's threats better. As long as we train so you can control it better, I think I'll be able to relax a bit more."

I tried to explain it to her a bit more, that what I meant is that I was happy she was strong because the threats in the world wouldn't be as... well, threatening.

If she's this strong, the only thing we have to do is help her control that amazing power.

"Ah, yeah..." Elena nodded. "Ugh, my head hurts a bit though."

She touched her forehead and groaned, I guess that transformation drains a lot of mental and physical stamina.

"Here, let me heal your exhaustion."

I tried giving her some of my sap by pointing my finger at her. Even in this body, my blood can be turned into sap and is very good at healing.

"Ugh, I would rather have a potion... your sap is like... if I was drinking your blood, right?"

Wait, what?! My blood?! It's not like that!

"I-It's not the same!"

I feel it's more like when I breastfeed her but that doesn't mean it's the same- I mean, ah.

Yeah it's a bit weird, she will naturally get upset if I treat her like a baby.

Although things ended with an anticlimactic battle, this also revealed me my daughter's true strength, and made me feel relieved she was strong.

But that Shikigami, and her powers... I have to help her control them.

"Elayne! Elena!"

"Elena?! What happened!"

"Are you okay?"

I heard Mark's voice approaching, followed by Anna, Elisa, Monica, Rita, Lily, and well, everyone else. Even Gabriel came rushing her, covering us both with his light and healing Elena's headache.

"I'm fine, don't worry..." I received Mark's hug happily and patted his head. "Something happened with Elena, but it was her Shikigami, it has been sealed for now."

"S-So that's what happened..." Mark said. "Damn it, I never thought the Soul-Bound Skill would control her like that..."

"You were possessed by the Shikigami?!" asked Anna. "Are you ok?! Is your head fine?!"

Anna hugged Elena and inspected her head and the rest of... of her body.

Hmm, I don't know if I approve of her doing that though!

"I-I'm fine Anna, stop touching my thighs!" Elena blushed a bit. "Mom sealed that thing."

"O-Oh, ok!" Anna nodded. "Is the Shikigami not going to possess you anymore?"

"I hope not, that would be horrible!" Elisa said. "That blasted spirit, thinking they can take over Elena..."

"It reminded me of what happened to me with Dorothea..." said Monica. "Maybe it's necessary to kill the Shikigami first?"

"I don't know if it can be killed, it's tied to the Skill," said Elena. "So no matter how much he's destroyed, he'll come back most likely..."

"T-Then what do we do?!" Elisa gasped. "You're going to get possessed every time?!"

"My mom already said she sealed that thing, Elisa, I doubt it'll be the same, calm down..." Elena facepalmed.

"Is that true?" wondered Rita. "A Shikigami is not exactly a demon, right? But if you sealed a demon before I'm sure it could work on a much lesser being."

"Shikigami are beings I'm still trying to understand, but they seemed susceptible to my spells," I nodded. "However, it might take a while for Elena to control it and even more its powers. We need to train with her and help her out."

"I hope that's the case..." Jenny sighed. "Thankfully I have no weird thing within me, I'm lucky, hehe."

"I can't feel it anymore within Elena, so the Shimikagi or whatever its name was is gone now!" Gabriel said. "Its definitely tied to the Skill she uses... activating it or deactivating it summons and unsummons it..."

"So that's how it is," I nodded. "Also it's called Shikigami, Gabriel, you don't know about them?"

"Nope..." he said. "I have never seen such beings, but they were weird, like... between a spirit, a ghost, and a hollow, a bit. But they were also entirely different living beings. From where are they? I have never seen them around..."

"Japan..." I said. "Its... uh, well, Elena got that power from BNLO, her avatar, we've explained to you before, right?"

"Oh yeah!" he nodded. "Wow! So maybe that's unstable? I also felt something within that Shimikaki, like something weird... Like it had a personality that was tied to Elena!"

"To me?" Elena tilted her head. "But that's... Hmm..."

As we discussed, Lily turned back to normal and walked to my side, clapping her hands.

"Alright then! I guess everything ended nicely despite the little surprises!" Lily smiled with her calm smile as usual. "Everyone, I know you want to talk a lot, but we should get going! Elayne, can you store all the ants?"

"Sure!" I nodded. "Thanks a lot for helping Lily!"

I hugged Lily tightly and kissed her cheek.

"It's nothing, Elayne! I would do it again for everyone," she smiled cutely.

I'm really lucky to have such an amazing friend as her!

Chapter 1238 So Much Money?!

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FLUOSH!

Suddenly, as I talked with Lily and collected the ant corpses into my inventory, the formation around us dissipated, as its runes dissipated into Mana and disappeared.

At the same time, we saw the outside world finally emerging, before it felt like the canyon and the stone everywhere was endless and never-ending, but things finally felt more refreshing, even the wind arrived, washing away our stress a little bit.

"Well done everyone! That was an incredible spectacle," Olivia stepped into the scene, carrying with her a small red colored book in her hands, which seemed to be a Grimoire she used. "I got a bit scared when Elena attacked her own mother... but I'm glad it was resolved. You have a lot of incredible powers... I wish I could ask all about them!"

"Ah, Olivia!" I said. "Thank you for watching over and helping us so far... And sorry, the origin of our powers... We would prefer to keep that personal."

"Of course, I was only saying I wish to know more, but I will respect your decision," she nodded. "After all the Agency contracts and recruits all kinds of people of all walks in the world. Sometimes they have dark pasts, or even criminal records, so its natural they'd rather keep that a secret. Some even have powers that originated through illegal ways... but of course, it's a secret, right?"

At the end of the day, SWORD's contract includes complete privacy regarding its agents' abilities and pasts."

"I-I see... yeah," I nodded. "Thanks for helping so far anyways! What happened with my daughter... it'll be resolved, don't worry. Anyway, I was wondering, do you guys want to go hunt some more?"

"Hmm, maybe." Mark nodded.

"I do feel a bit tired though..." Rita yawned.

"I could go for another round, I need to train my ability, so it doesn't go out of control again," said Elena.

"I'm mostly fine," said Anna. "So sure, as long as I can restore Mana."

"I'm... I would rather go rest and have a meal, honestly!" Elisa said.

"I can help more, I'm ready to fight!" Monica nodded.

"I can help!" Gabriel said.

"Eh, sure... I mean, as long as I earn money," Jenny shrugged. "Who wouldn't want to be richer?"

"I guess a few wants to help, alright, let's go hunt some more Monster Nests! Those that are too tired can rest and just watch. I'll also divide the work and leave it to my Spirits as well, so we won't work too much this time, if that's okay with you guys," I said. "Also... Olivia, we cleared the Ant Hill, so how much would the pay be, do you know?"

"Hmm! So eager to get the money, fufu," she giggled. "Yes, the pay is quite generous. There were over one thousand and five hundred ants, plus the very strong ant queen... It would definitely be at least five hundred million USD, then you can divide it between all of your members.

Of course, if you sell the bodies of the ants to the association, you can make even more money, it would easily go up to a billion USD."

"T-That much?!" I wondered. "Really?"

"Yes, those monster bodies are very expensive, they can be used to make powerful armor, even more now with the ever-growing Hunter group," said Olivia. "Materials are needed and being purchased in bulk by several nations to arm up their Hunters. The threat of the Gates has revolutionized the world's economy. Back then, Magic and Fantasy were kept hidden from normal people.

But because of this incident, everything has been turned upside down. The governments cannot contain millions of people suddenly gaining superpowers, so they had decided to adapt instead of trying to... well, kill every person with superpowers that isn't regulated."

"Interesting..." I nodded. "I guess we could sell a few, right guys? We could keep some for us for our own things, but I doubt we'll need thousands of monster bodies."

"But what about your Domain?" wondered Mark.

"Yeah!" Rita nodded. "You'll need the monsters to feed it."

"Maybe but the Domain can't endlessly eat, it needs a time of resting after absorbing so much energy or growing a lot," I explained. "So I doubt I'll get to use everything I have right now, might as well sell it instead."

"Hmm, not wrong," nodded Mark. "Then let's go with that."

"Alright then!" nodded Olivia. "We can do that later today, there's a few more Monster Nests, much smaller and less threatening, but that we cannot easily get to, if you want, I can bring you to them so you can take care of them!"

"Sure! Please lead the way, Olivia," I said. "We would love to hunt some more. I want to keep the city as safe as possible..."

"Well! Aren't you eager? Very well, let me lead the way, Elayne," smiled Olivia.

Like that, we traveled around the outskirts of the city, aside from the roads where cars passed, there was a lot of wild areas full of forests and also some faraway farms. The farms were safe for the moment, but there was still a lot of wild areas where people don't really go to.

These areas get infested with Wild Monsters who multiply very quickly, and they often gather around cities where the Gates open and where such Gates release a lot of Mana. Some of these Monsters are creatures that emerged from Gates and escaped into the wild, and others are natural monsters of this world.

Those that are natural of this world tend to undergo mutations much faster, and thanks to the otherworldly Mana, they become really huge, like it happened with those ants. Those that already come from the Gates, however, don't undergo major changes even when exposed to Mana, showing how they are already used to this level of energy.

The next three Monster Nests we were going to visit were fairly small and with much weaker monsters, according to Olivia. A small cave with around twelve Fire Bears, a Lake full of Thunder Piranhas and Giant Eels, and then a small forest area full of Plant Monsters.

Chapter 1239 Hunting Some More

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We ended spending roughly half an hour fighting the entire Ant Colony, so before lunch we decided to quickly take down the three other Nests, a speedrun, if I say so myself. The first area we reached through our super-fast flying car, which Olivia praised as an incredible combination of modern technology and magic, was some caves to the northwest right below a hill.

"The area in here sure is hot!" Gabriel said.

As we reached the area, we immediately realized there were fire type monsters, the ground was covered on flames and magma, and there were huge spires of red crystals, naturally occurring fire spirit stones.

"Look how much these monsters have changed the surrounding area, mom!" Elena said, watching around. "Just how can they do it?"

"Well there are certain monsters who possess a certain element," said Olivia. "That power is so strong that they release it as a natural aura of elemental energies, their surroundings, where they live, will naturally change over time. This is a cave of Fire Bears, they're monsters of the Fire Attribute that like to live on very hot places, so they changed their environment to fit their needs."

"If we left them as they are, would they end up expanding their domain everywhere?" wondered Anna.

"Oh, not really, the Fire Bears like to live reclusively," said Olivia. "However, if they end up breeding a lot, then yes they might expand and make more nests around. Although they lack the level of multiplication and expansion of the Myrmekes."

"Well, that's interesting..." I said with a nod. "Anyways, let's go! The cave is quite thin, so it's better if those willing to fight come inside. Everyone else that feels too tired can stay behind! We'll come back quickly."

"Sure~ I'll rest inside the car," yawned Rita.

"Me too..." Lily said. "I'm so tired, sorry."

"I'll stay as well," Elisa said.

"Alright then, everyone else that wants to fight, come with us!" I nodded.

At the end, Mark, Jenny, Gabriel, Elena, Anna, and Monica accompanied me, Olivia decided to guard the car from behind, although she sent a familiar to look over us.

"{Runic Geomancy}: {Fire Stone Golem}"

She touched the ground and scribbled three runes with her hands, then activated her magic, the Runes merged with the stone and the nearby fire, creating a huge three-meter-tall golem.

"GRUOOHHH!"

It was honestly amazing what she could do! She wasn't an Awakened or was relying on the power of a BNLO Avatar, all of this was her authentic magic power trained through years.

"Making too many is a bit tiring, so I'll send only one, I hope it can be of help," she said while giving us a wink.

"Sure, thank you!" I said.

With her Golem, we advanced into the caves, the temperature increased a lot as we advanced, but our presences didn't go unnoticed, as we immediately encountered some creatures, approaching silhouette emerged from the dark caves faintly illuminated by flames and red crystals.

"GROOHHH!"

The roar of a bear echoed from the caves, rushing here to greet us, accompanied by two more enormous beasts. They resembled grisly bears, the worse type of bear, but covered on red and orange flames, and a bit of red crystals as flames.

"Okay, three! Olivia said a dozen or so, right? Alright, let's take them down quickly!"

{Spiritual Explosion}!

Without turning Irene into a sword, I swung her and unleashed a beam of spiritual energy, as a magical explosion reached one of the bears, blowing it away!

BOOOM!

As the explosion engulfed the bear and the one at the side, Elena quickly transformed her knife into a katana again.

"Mom, I'm using the Skill again!"

"Alright, keep focused! I'll watch over you don't get possessed."

"Sure!"

FLUOSH!

Elena activated the Skill once more, turning into her much taller and stronger Blue Oni form, covered by an armor of phantom and shadows.

Her Shikigami emerged, wrapped on holy chains, groaning angrily as it tried to free itself from them.

"GRAAAH!"

"If you don't want mom to seal you even worse than before, cooperate and don't try to take over me!"

Elena glared at the Shikigami, its empty eyes only showed two will-o-wisps, it remained in silence, but stopped struggling, letting the chains wrap it.

It held its two shadow and phantasmal katanas, accompanying and empowering Elena as she rushed forward.

We let her take care of the bears this time.

"Now..." Elena said. "To stay focused, let's try doing Stances..."

The Stances were special abilities that the Samurai Class could do, each Class represented a style of fighting and temporarily imbued their katana with an element.

However, the elemental power they granted wasn't as strong as Magic Swordsmen, and a Samurai's magic power was much lesser.

Instead, they used these Elements to empower their bodies and gain special effects.

And this time, Elena channeled...

"{Earth Stance}: {Stone Body}!"

She moved her foot forward and then putting her katana a cross shape in front of her chest, she managed to create a defensive stance.

The bears rushed towards her; one was dead from my attack but the other two remained alive.

The Shikigami groaned, swinging its swords, it didn't want to act calmly and composed, it wanted Elena to attack them already.

"No! We'll do this my way, or I won't summon you ever again!"

As if understanding that threat, the Shikigami stayed on a defensive stance as well, as two enormous bears attacked my daughter.

I grew a bit nervous, but she was able to protect herself against the two of them, her Mana and Vitality gathered into her entire body, making her as hard as stone.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

The Bears attacked her with deadly blows, yet she remained unmoved, and each time she defended against their blows using her katana...

"{Earth Stance}: {Counter}"

SLASH!

A single horizontal slash was unleashed, as a wave of brown and gold earthly energy slashed through the two bears, blowing them away as if they were hit by a huge stone hammer.

CRASH!

Both bears weren't completely sliced, but were hit so hard their internal organs exploded, and they started vomiting blood, before collapsing and dying.

Chapter 1240 Clashing Against Fire Bears

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While holding back the Shikigami from going berserk, Elena was able to protect herself against the two Fire Bears using her {Earth Stance}: {Stone Body} Technique, her Mana and Vitality gathered into her entire body, making her as hard as stone.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

The Bears attacked her with deadly blows, yet she remained unmoved, and once her Stone Body was about to wear off, she quickly unleashed a single blow, gathering the force she accumulated from their attacks.

"{Earth Stance}: {Counter}"

SLASH!

She released single horizontal slash, as a wave of brown and gold earthly energy slashed through the two bears, blowing them away as if they were hit by a huge stone hammer. The blade didn't completely pierce through their flesh, but the blow alone was strong.

CRASH!

Both bears weren't completely sliced, but were hit so hard their internal organs exploded, and they started vomiting blood, before collapsing and dying. Elena sighed, looking at her blade covered on blood.

"Ahh... Hahh... Hmm," she closed her eyes. "Okay, let's continue like this."

As she nodded, I looked at her and gave her a thumbs up.

"Well done! Now- Ah!"

"GROOOHHH!"

Suddenly, ten more bears came running here, hearing all the commotion from outside, all the entire family of Fire Bears appeared. There was a much larger bear behind them too, at least twice their size, covered completely on fire spirit crystal armor.

"Looks like the whole family arrived after hearing the commotion," said Olivia. "Elayne, be careful. That Fire Bear in the back must be the Mother of all these. She's much stronger than her young adult children, she's a Blazing Armored Bear."

"RAAAHHH!"

With a furious roar, the Mother Bear unleashed a powerful Domain of Flames, spreading an inferno of fire everywhere, quickly rushing towards us.

"Elena!"

I ran towards my daughter, grabbing her by extending my arms into long vines and dragging her to my side as I conjured a Divine Ward barrier to resist the immense wave of flames.

FLUOSH!

As the flames washed over everyone, I quickly glanced Mark moving forward, pointing his hands at the flames which he was completely unscathed from.

Olivia's golem also stepped forward, protecting us from the fire.

"Let me handle this," Mark said, his body quickly transforming, as black metallic wood grew over his body, and so did fiery flames.

He quickly opened his mouth and inhaled all the flames, quickly devouring them and stopping the fire from expanding. The Mother Fire Bear glared at him with disbelief.

"Didn't expect that, did you?!" Mark smiled. "Now, Elayne, everyone, attack!"

Led by Mark absorbing the flames for us, we moved forward. Titania had already disappeared, so I quickly brought over Water Spirits I had gathered earlier and summoned them.

At the same time, I channeled my Nature Soul of Water, feeling more connected with the seas and the water itself, the Water Spirits surrounding me feel stronger.

I have not engraved a single Water Spell or a Water Spirit Summoning Spell on my Magic Circle, but I was simply conjuring the spells from Arcadia!

"{Water Spirit Magic}: [Disastrous Rivers]!"

Several rivers of water were released from my Spiritual Aura at once, each one was a Water Spirit that transformed into the Spells, splashing over the Fire Bears one after another, turning off their fire and weakening them severely.

SPLASH! SPLASH! SPLASH!

As they groaned in annoyance and pain, the rest of my party charged forward, Anna brought her summons, who started ganging on a bear, quickly eliminating it and moving to the next. Monica cursed and weakened the bears, making the more doable for Anna.

At the same time, my daughter charged forward, spinning in midair after jumping high, her Stance quickly changing, as her Aura resembled flowing waters.

"{Water Stance}: {Torrential Wave}!"

As she spun in midair, she unleashed a slashing wave of water that slashed through the bears, sending them away as the water made their flames weaker and weaker.

Olivia's golem also attacked, punching and kicking the bears away. Gabriel in the other case, fired spears of light and occasionally healed us, after his little evolution, he had become much more competent at battle than before.

After seeing how Elena was handling things well, I quickly looked at the Mother Bear in the back, she was furious, but wasn't moving, she seemed to want her children to protect her.

I rushed towards her to defeat her quickly and end this. I felt slightly bad deep down, it was a mother trying to protect her home.

But monsters are dangerous creatures, much more dangerous than normal animals, which I wouldn't even doubt to leave alone or even help and protect.

Monsters are strong and threatening, and they are often aggressive by nature, seeking to kill and eat humans... If I left her alone, she would make more children in no time, and in a couple of weeks or months, eventually, there would be cases of death people burned and clawed to death.

I can't let that happen!

"I'm sorry, but I need to take you down."

I walked towards her, the Mother Bear glared at me into the eyes, before charging at me while covering her body with more flames.

"ROOOAARR!"

I swung Irene against her claws, explosions of spiritual energy and fire echoed as I intercepted her blows, but she was fast despite her weight, quickly releasing rapid attacks one after another.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

I was pushed back slightly, the Mother Bear was strong, and her ferocious, fiery charge was mighty. To make things worse, the armor over her body made her a tough nut to crack.

"Hmm... Okay, Nieve, let me borrow your technique!"

I quickly thought of an idea, as I Fused and Infused the Water Spirits into Irene.

"Irene, transform!"

"Uwaaah! A-Again? Isn't my normal form enough?!"

"Nope."

FLAAASH!

Her entire body transformed, becoming a long, azure-colored metallic trident, overflowing with an Aura of Water swirling around her body.

[You have Fused and Infused Water Spirits into your Weapon [Irene], temporarily creating the High Spirit Weapon: {Azure Trident of Raging Seas: Poseidon}!]