

## **Brand New 1371**

Chapter 1371 The Terrifying Power Of The Arch Wizard

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Everything happened in just less than one minute. The soldiers that were arranged on large teams across the city of the Luminous Kingdom could barely keep up with what had happened.

From one second to another, every civilian was whisked away, leaving behind only Players and the soldiers here, who were wondering what in the world was happening.

And then, an explosion!

**BOOOM!**

The entire Magician Tower was split apart as a massive hole made its upper half fall from the skies, collapsing on the surrounding, empty noble district, burning and destroying dozens of manors.

The catastrophe was so huge and the amount of stone that fell from the sky so big that a giant hole was made on the city.

Nonetheless, the destruction, even now, was still within the King and the Queen's calculations.

As the Tower collapsed, from within the destroyed upper half, a furious magician emerged.

A man with long white hair and beard, an old, wrinkly face, and ferocious red eyes.

Wearing a royal and majestic blue, gold, and red robe and a massive magician hat of the same colors, while wearing dozens of gold accessories with magical jewels infused into them, and holding onto a strange, bizarre-looking staff.

Merlinus had appeared!

The Legendary Magician that helped the Luminous Kingdom raise, who raised several generations of Kings, who taught this Kingdom about magic, and who produced the largest magician guild in the continent.

With rage, he confronted Planta and the rest of the people watching, the soldiers, before his presence, trembled, some even felt their bodies becoming completely paralyzed.

"Merlinus Arcanus Defiagra, you are hereby sentenced to death after betraying the royal family and for multiple assassination and kidnaping attempts towards the King, the Queen, the Prince, and all their allies and associated soldiers, knights, paladins, and also for the constant murder and experimentation of civilians!"

Once the Queen sentenced him to death for his acts of terrorism and destruction, and for having attempted the murder of the Prince, then the Kidnapping, and even having taken several lives from soldiers to civilians through his terroristic attacks, everything was set on stone.

The sky trembled, as the furious ancient arch wizard, whose Level was 450, a being that had already surpassed what mortals could achieve in the world of Arcadia, roared furiously.

His Magic twisted the very fabric of space... and time, as he attacked his foes in front of him, Planta and her allies and family.

They saw it, an all-powerful magic that could instantly splatter anything in front of him into pieces, a power that could kill anything he wanted.

And yet...

RUMBLE!

With her own powers, Planta, the inheritor of Yggdrasil's Legacy and the current Yggdragon, twisted space as well, and counterattacked.

BOOOM!

Space rippled apart between the two groups, as Merlinus eyes widened to realize that he might have finally met his match.

Planta glanced at him with eyes full of determination, after all the atrocities he had committed, she knew he was no longer a human.

She was looking at a monster wearing the skin of an old man.

"You stopped it...?!"

"Don't think we have not prepared for this moment, Merlinus!"

As Planta confronted him, the soldiers gasped in disbelief, a wave of pure golden, green, and white light washed the entire city, as plants and greenery grew where there was once a beautiful urban city.

It seemed as if the entire city had gone through a hundred years without humans, and nature had overtaken it completely.

However, despite how it looked, this caused a tremendous amount of power to surge everywhere. Planta expanded her Terrain and Domain instantly.

Her power was already stepping into the Realm of Gods- No, she was perhaps already something like that to these people.

To the soldiers who were only common men, albeit trained and strong on their own.

The surprises didn't stop there as they saw this power activate; Planta's many Skills activated one after another.

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

Every person identified as her ally gained special magical crowns made of light. Some had of Summer, others of Spring, and with it, it came a great boost to their stats.

Alongside that, their own Auras were enhanced, even these common men and women fighting in the army became powerful magical and spiritual knights!

And by their side, Spiritual Guardians materialized, surprising them.

"If you think that just because you stopped my spell you're strong, you're sorely mistaken."

In that moment, Merlinus smiled, waving his staff as hundreds of black and red portals opened around him. From there, hundreds of magicians emerged, with demonic appearances, alongside many aberrations and mutated, patchwork creatures they had created in their laboratories.

"Destroy this city! Kill everyone! Devour everyone! Splatter their blood across the streets and bathe in their guts! Spare nobody!" he roared. "Today, the Luminous Royal Family will pay for their treason!"

"So that's what he has been doing this entire time!" the Queen said. "That bastard, these are all the monstrosities he produced?!"

"Aren't those the magicians and wizards we've even given titles?!" the King asked. "T-There are even many faces I recognize...! T-This can't be, it's all true at the end... Bastards, traitors!"

The Queen and the King roared in unison from the different positions where they were.

The King, wearing the magical armor the contestants of the crafting competition made for him, which was gold and red, infused with great power, swung his holy sword forwards.

The holy sword with Goldanaba had made.

"Charge!" he roared. "Use your new abilities to fly as you've practiced...! The enemies you're going to fight aren't like anything you've ever fought! The only priority is to kill the enemy and survive! Don't worry about the city. Even if it destroyed, it does not matter! We will rebuild it, together!"

"OOOOHHHHH!"

The soldiers, paladins, knights, and allied sorcerers, priests, and magicians that didn't belong to the Magician Guild roared in unison, raising their weapons and using spiritual energies to fly into the skies, clashing against the Demonic Magicians and their Aberrations.

Planta glanced from above the skies as a gigantic war started across the skies and down below, explosions of magic and techniques spreading everywhere.

"It's impressive how you can turn this trash into competent fighters," Merlinus smiled viciously. "But it does not matter. Your tricks cannot compare to the true demonic power we've cultivated, you sorry excuse of an Yggdrasil imitation!"

As Merlinus roared, he swung his staff forward.

"{High Spacetime Magic}: {Spatial Fragmentation}!"

In that moment, everyone was already flying towards him to attack him, yet his spell was activated even faster.

He didn't even need casting time or anything of the sort!

With a simple word, the Spell instantly manifested within 100 meters around him.

Crack, crack...!

CRAAASH!

Planta's eyes widened as she saw her entire body beginning to be torn to pieces.

Her barriers, defenses, stats...

Did not matter.

"T-This is...?!"

Space itself fragmented, and the space where she was broken apart.

Therefore, no matter how tough she was, she was also destroyed.

"Fall back!"

Planta released a shockwave of spirit energy with her aura, sending her allies away from the spell's range, before she exploded.

BOOOM!

"Hahahaha!"

Merlinus laughed as he closed his fists, making it so all the fragmented space concentrated within Planta, utterly destroying her.

"And this is what you get for approaching me recklessly, fool."

Chapter 1372 The Power Of A Master Of Spacetime Magic

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"Hahahaha!"

Merlinus laughed, as he instantly stopped Planta before she could even hurt him one bit, utterly fragmented and then destroying her body through a fragmentation and destruction of space within a designated area.

This made it very clear to those that survived that his power was beyond logic, maybe. It was something close to total and complete power over all space around him.

This meant that attacks could probably never land, and that as long as they were within space, they could also be killed instantly.

This was...

The power of a master of Spacetime Magic.

"Why did you think I just sat down and waited for things to happen?" Merlinus asked. "Why do you think that with this power, I've been waiting patiently and planning slowly? I have mercy, you see. I pity you lowly beings. I pity you all pathetic ants so much... Perhaps for old time's sake, I decided to, instead of utterly destroying everything, to use you slowly. To give you one last era of fake peace, before I use all of this city and its people as my ingredients for my ultimate ascension. You want to stop me? Better bring an actual god here. Anything else will simply not work! See what happened? That was your savior. Reduced to nothing. Not even a speck of dust is left. And you're next."

Yet everyone else didn't react angrily, or shocked, they glanced at Merlinus with caution, their Auras moving and warping around their bodies, waiting for something...

"You have no reactions..." Merlinus grasped his beard. "I wonder, you-"

CRAAASH!

Before he could speak another word, space behind him shattered. Merlinus senses flared, his Mana Aura instantly moving towards the direction of the movement.

His senses instantly activated, his Arcane Eyes, which were Eyes that were imbued into every speck of Mana within his body, Aura, or Magic, saw what had appeared.

"Impossible!"

It was her.

Planta.

"How did you...?!"

Merlinus was utterly shocked!

Planta, however.

She didn't even bother talking or explaining anything.

Because to her, the response to such a magic was obvious.

Mimy was attached to her back in a shell-shaped form, using her Spatial Manipulation Domain, she shaped space and resisted, creating a tiny pocket crack.

And then, through her own Spatial Compression, Planta reversed its usage, seemingly making it seem as if she was destroyed.

However, as space was destroyed and then regenerated back, she found herself within an invisible spatial domain.

She moved within the domain, undetected by even Merlinus.

This place of complete darkness, Planta called it "the void between realms".

And it seemed not even Merlinus could detect her moving through it.

Unfortunately, it wasn't a place she could get as she pleased.

But that didn't matter.

She created an opportunity!

Her hands were placed together as if she were praying.

And then her Soul Trait was activated.

"[Amaterasu-no-Kami's Heavenly Sun Prison Pagoda]"

"In your dreams!"

Merlinus instantly rejected Planta's attack by unleashing a gigantically powerful wave of pure distorted space towards her.

She was sent flying, as her ability seemed to have been completely shut down before it was conjured.

"You surprised me," he said. "Haa... This is the first time someone survives my attacks... That is a human. No wait, you're not even human I suppose. Yes. I guess I've been thinking the wrong way, none of you are humans. Humans are limited, you see... This is one of the reasons why I despise my own race so much."

The old man sighed, glaring at Planta with hatred, furrowing her eyebrows.

"You beings born from nature, monsters, demi-humans, spirits! All of you are blessed with endless growth! But what do we humans get?!" he screamed furiously. "Frail bodies that age! Countless diseases! Weak talents for magic and martial arts! Thin, weak bodies that can easily be torn to shreds by

any foe that isn't another human! This is why I despise all of you, born with everything from the beginning! Even that power you used must have been a gifted strength, isn't it?! HUMANS STRUGGLE UNTIL THE END, WHILE YOU'RE ALL ALWAYS GIFTED WITH EVERYTHING! I DESPISE ALL OF YOU THE MOST!"

The furious old man screamed his lungs out, his staff moving downwards as gigantic spikes shaped out of space were sent flying towards everyone.

As this happened within a second, a massive pagoda above his head suddenly appeared.

BAAAM!

And hit his head with immense force out of nowhere!

"NNGGH?! W-WHAT THE...?!"

Merlinus glared into the skies, noticing that Planta's Soul Trait was indeed activated.

"It worked!"

Planta swung her sword down, Spatial Compression merging with her own Sword Aura as she slashed through the Spatial Spikes, each one a hundred meters of height.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

As she slashed them and protected her allies, her allies attacked as she roared.

"NOW!"

In that split second Merlinus was shocked by taking damage and feeling confused, everyone attacked from a distance.

"{Abyssal Void Blade Arts}: {Fourth Form: Thousand-Fold Void Blade}!"

SLAAASH!

Elena swung her Katana, as she unleashed a single slash in the empty air that split apart into dozens of attacks at once, as if her own sword had a thousand-fold, twisting space.

"{Spiritual Phoenix Sword Arts}: {Phoenix Fall}!"

FLUOSH!

Mark unleashed his own Aura as an attack as he swung his massive sword downwards, generating a gigantic slashing attack that resembled a blazing, fiery red phoenix that burned even Mana itself.

"{Abyssal Void Darkness Magic}: {Void Nebula}!"

TRUUUM!

Rita went all-out, spending all her Malice Energy saved in that moment and releasing it into an explosion of pure Darkness and Void resembling a nebula, a cloud of black starlight that consumed everything.

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

And Lily unleashed all her power, manifesting a gigantic one-hundred-meter-tall axe made of metal, crystals, and ores, and swinging it down at full power!

CRAAASH!

All attacks reached Merlinus within a split second, as he was unable to react in time as that second he had been just hit by the mysterious divine pagoda that manifested out of absolutely nowhere.

The result?!

BOOOMMM!!!

Utter destruction.

Chapter 1373 Overwhelming Difference In Power

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"Fine, I will give you my strength. I sense a massive amount of evil in front of you, child of Yggdrasil. Bear in mind, however, that my help does not come for free. Later, you will have to repay the favor."

Planta heard that voice as Merlinus was overwhelmed from attacks from all her allies at once, the voice belonging to nobody else but the goddess whose her Soul Trait was named after.

Amaterasu, the Japanese Shinto Goddess of the Sun! A supreme Goddess of the Shinto Pantheon composed of many Kamis.

Unlike other Gods across the Planet, Shinto as a religion is still greatly practiced in Japan. Therefore, the faith gathers within her even now, although not as strong as it once was.

She remains Supreme within her Country, and her Divinity, powerful enough to even make Merlinus eyes widen and be completely caught off guard!

"Ungh?! T-This weight!"

Merlinus gritted his teeth as he felt an immense spatial weight encompass his entire being, his space magic was being slightly suppressed by an otherworldly divinity!

"Is this the power of the divinity from their world?! I had no idea they had such a close connection!"

As he thought that, he realized his thought process had slowed down due to the pagoda's immense pressure.

Before he realized, four- no, five powerful attacks hit him at point blank!

The fifth was Planta's attack, as she unleashed a series of consecutive swordsmanship techniques infused with the power of Mimy behind her and Spatial Compression.

The Mana Consumption was immense, but Planta could afford it with her Domain and Terrain p and stacked all around the city!

Elena's void swordsmanship pierced through several of his protective spatial layers, even more easily now that the Pagoda above him was pressuring his spatial manipulation and weakening it.

Rita did something similar, consuming his own space and destroying it in the process, while Mark's phoenix consumed his surrounding Mana, making the range of his spell smaller.

And lastly, Lily came with brute, immense force, enough to shatter a mountain, which, once weakened enough, hit Merlinus directly!

BOOOOMMM!!!

The attack alone could have flattened the city below, Planta's eyes squinted as her Aura danced around her, spreading like countless of butterflies of all colors.

At the same time, wings made of swords materialized from her back, and her body was quickly encompassed on an even stronger layer of armor and scales, as she activated her Draconification, including her Elemental Dragon Spirit Crown, at the Rainbow Level, which contained all elements.

"Haaahh... You caught me off-guard."

Planta was the only one that didn't react surprised after seeing Merlinus appear amidst the smoke, alive and kicking.

Deep down some of her friends and family members hoped for him to have died right there, and for this to end prematurely.

But that would never happen, not at all.

"So you've revealed your true form...!"

The Queen, who wasn't fast enough to attack with everyone else, but that had already accumulated her energies for an attack, glared at Merlinus amorphous arm.

Yes, a gigantic, muscular arm. It seemed to be covered on patches, as if it was made out of many pieces of different beings.

Mostly all demons.

With this gigantic demonic hand, of various shades of red and black, covered with crimson and black eyes, spikes, and scales, and with massive black claws, he stopped Lily's axe.

The rest of the attacks were simply endured without any protection.

Despite having the body of an old man... Planta knew.

She knew that he was a monster beneath his skin!

"That won't happen again."

Merlinus glared at Planta and the rest of her group, and at the Queen.

"I'll start with the Queen."

Crack, crack...!

CRAAASH!

Lily's powerful technique was shattered in an instant into countless of boulders that fell from the sky.

TRUUM!

The arch wizard disappeared, appearing above Camilla in that split second.

He teleported!

He swung his massive demonic arm towards her, opening his palm to reveal a gigantic demonic jaw full of sharp teeth.

"Don't think I'm that weak as to be defeated by you so easily!"

Camilla roared mightily, intercepting his attack with her crimson rapier, as a spiraling storm of blood and darkness stopped Merlinus gigantic arm!

CRAAASH!

RUMBLE!

In that moment, Elena appeared by his left side, swinging her blade downward and then upwards, unleashing a cross-shaped void attack!

SLAAASH!

"Tsk."

Merlinus quickly materialized a gigantic sphere of pure transparent space and fired it at the technique, provoking a massive explosion that shattered space.

BOOOM!

At the same time, Camilla pushed with all her might, creating a massive spear of darkness and blood infused with the power of death.

"RAAAAH!"

With a furious roar, Merlinus was pushed back, as he gritted his teeth, only to smile again.

"Before a fighter, I'm a magician."

"Ah!"

The queen gasped, realizing there were thousands of runes floating around her.

They were made of space itself, near invisible to the naked eye, and also undetectable!

"It was nice knowing you, Camilla."

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"Uuuuaaggh!"

The Queen was engulfed on dozens of explosions, Planta was already rushing there with Mark, Lily, and Rita, only to gasp in disbelief to see Camilla's body!

Her left arm was completely gone, her two legs were torn to shreds, and her body was covered on holes, her head barely intact.

"CAMILLA!"

She spread her hands, as she made gigantic draconic hands appear, through Mimy's powers and her own Aura, Planta destroyed the explosions by unleashing a wave of spatial distortion, grabbing Camilla before she was to be destroyed.

"Where do you think you're going?"

Merlinus appeared above Planta, swinging his hand and unleashing a massive sword made of space, invisible and near undetectable!

SLAAASH!

He slashed Planta's arm and then swung her massive fist towards Camilla, aiming to destroy her with a single, demonic energy-infused punch.

"DIE!"

CRAAASH!

"Ngh?!"

However, Merlinus was shocked as he saw Planta's arm move on its own even after being sliced and covered in demonic flames, wrapping around Camilla and healing her instantly, before it used its own mass to take the hit for her.

"HAAAAH!"

Camilla didn't hesitate, conjuring dozens of spells at once with mere waves of her hands, engulfing Merlinus into storms of blood-sapping darkness.

Yet...

"Pathetic, is this the how far the Queen's power goes?"

Merlinus was completely unscathed.

Chapter 1374 The King's Might!

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"CAMILLAAAAA!"

The King glanced into the skies with his eyes shocked as he saw Camilla being brutally attacked by Merlinus, he couldn't help but scream her name, losing focus as he battled two giant patchwork aberration zombies at once.

Their massive fists rushed down, punching him several times, his defenses were strengthened and enhanced thanks to Planta's Domain and her Terrain and various other buffs, but the power of these patchwork monsters was immense, easily pushing him away.

"Ugh...!"

As he rolled over the floor, David panicked.

"Protect his majesty!"

David roared, as the rest of the paladins surrounding the King, who ended being slightly overwhelmed by the Demonic Wizards attacking them, rushed towards the King.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

The Paladins unleashed their strongest techniques, slashing waves of light sliced through the monstrosities one after another, as their unholy bodies were purified and exorcised, dozens of souls trapped inside of them escaping as they were destroyed.

"Your majesty, get ahold of yourself, please!"

David helped the King stand up, as the King kept glancing into the skies, sighing in relief the moment he saw Planta coming to the rescue and saving her.

"I know this might sound rude, but even if the Queen died it wouldn't be the end, she could revive later. She's a Player after all! Please don't worry about her safety and worry about yourself instead!"

"D-David, but...! Dammit!"

The King clicked his tongue and grit his teeth, he wanted to refute David's words, but he couldn't find anything to argue against, he was completely right.

"You're right...!" He decided to no longer look at the Queen for the moment, setting his gaze at the several Demonic Wizards in the distance. "You traitors! Prepare yourselves for your retribution!"

"Hahaha! He said retribution?"

"What a fool you are, King of Luminous!"

"You were nothing but a puppet to our Master."

"And now that we've been finally given the opportunity, we will happily slaughter you and your paladins!"

The old wizards, mostly old men with long beards and colorful robes rushed down, their bodies half-transformed into demonic forms, with larger, muscular arms and legs, sometimes tentacles with sharp bony blades coming from their backs, or their heads turning into beastly creatures such as wolves or reptilian heads.

"I'll take his head! Gyahahaha!"

One of them descended as he unleashed a shockwave of pure Demonic Energy and Earth and Fire Magic, resembling a living magma shaped as a monster that forcefully pushed away the Paladins and broke their barriers within seconds.

TRUUUM!

"Your head is mine, your majesty! I shall feast on your blood!"

As he confronted the King, the furious King of Luminous roared back, swinging a massive golden sword he had been carrying around.

This wasn't a normal sword though, made by Goldanaba who possessed the power of Golden Spirit Forging Magic, and further enhanced by Planta, synthesized with the Excalibur Replica she had taken from ArthurPendragon, a Player that was no more.

It began a Weapon close to a Heroic Sword!

FLAAASH!

"The Bloodline of Hero Luminous rushes through my veins! Don't you dare look down on me, you demonic spawn!"

He leaped into the skies to the surprise of his knights and paladins, swinging the blade down, the demonic wizard laughed, generating the same magic attack!

BOOOM!

As the explosion echoed, David rushed to help his majesty, only to stop midway through as he saw something he couldn't believe.

"Uungh?! Aaargh! I-Impossible! Aren't you just a damn... weakling?!"

The Demonic Wizard gasped as he realized the King's blade had sliced through his left shoulder, reaching his chest and then going down all the way towards his hips.

"Weakling?! Hardly! I am the King of Luminous Kingdom!" The King roared, his Aura of light growing larger as something within him seemed to be unlocked the moment he wielded a near heroic weapon.

"{Holy Ascent}!"

SLAAASH!

He rushed the sword upwards as he endured the physical blows from the demonic wizard with his armor, slicing through the bastard's head and splitting it into two, while holy light completely consumed it.

"GRYYYYAAAGGHH!"

The demonic wizard screamed in agony as its wolf-like head was sliced open and completely destroyed, and so did the rest of its body, exploding into light and dissipating as mere ashes.

BOOOM!

"He used Holy Ascent?!" David gasped. "The King is indeed the descendant of Hero Luminous, but that hero lived hundreds of years ago! Many had thought the bloodline's powers had already banished... To think he managed to somehow reawaken them! Just what did he do to achieve it?!"

David was shocked, but at the same time he smiled, proud that his King was someone that could not just give orders but fight head-on to defend his Kingdom.

"I owe this to Planta and Camilla...!" The King thought, grasping his sword tightly. "It was Camilla's idea to ask Planta about a weapon that could fit me, and Planta went out of her way to offer such a valuable weapon as that Replica of Excalibur to merge with my golden blade made by Goldanaba... the result exceeds all of my expectations!"

This was not just thanks to the King's constant training every night with Camilla, where he always practiced swordsmanship and magic with her.

But also thanks to this majestic blade, infused with a very special Ability.

[Heroic Bloodline Awakening]!

To most people, it would never work at all, it was a useless ability.

However, for the few people that were descendants of Heroes, it allowed them to temporarily awaken their old Heroic Bloodlines, activating Skills and Abilities tied to them.

This was only possible to create because Planta herself was technically a Hero, and she infused her Heroic Powers into the sword.

Alongside that, because it was composed of Holy and Divine Spiritual Materials from the two swords that created this new blade.

And the sword's name was...

Luminous, the Heroic Blade of Dawn!

FLAAASH!

The Demonic Wizards gasped in disbelief, moving back as they saw the blinding holy light coming from the massive two-handed blade, which many thought the King wouldn't be able to lift due to its huge size.

"Who's next?!" The King roared, his body growing larger and more muscular, as his Heroic Bloodline flared with holy power. "I said... WHO'S NEXT?!"

While not even waiting for a response, he leaped towards the Wizards, slashing them apart one after another!

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

"My love...! I'll kill them all for you, and for our people! SO please, don't die on me!"

The King glanced one last time at the skies, noticing Camilla back in action, as Merlinus was being attacked from every angle.

"You bastard!"

"How is he so strong?!"

"That Aura...! He's a Hero?!"

"Impossible! The bloodline was already too weak!"

The Demonic Wizards that couldn't be killed instantly began to regenerate and mutate into larger, demonic monstrosities, attacking the King from every angle.

"RAAAHHH!"

He roared mightily his roar resembling that of a Lion, as the Wizards were paralyzed for a split second and pushed back, their stats decreasing.

This was one of Luminous' famous Abilities: {Lion's Roar}!

"Now, David, everyone!"

As he paralyzed them in that very moment, his soldiers rushed to battle, stabbing, slicing, and burning through the wizards one after another, as the King backed them up as much as he could.

"Huh?! That's...!"

And then the King realized something, a black-winged fairy was slowly creeping closer to Merlinus.

Chapter 1375 Demonic Domain

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"HAAAAH!"

Camilla didn't hesitate, conjuring dozens of spells at once with mere waves of her hands, engulfing Merlinus into storms of blood-sapping darkness.

Yet...

Despite having been bombarded with Camilla's strongest barrage of Spells she could possibly conjure, Merlinus was completely unscathed, if anything, he had taken no damage, and her spells were nothing but a small little distraction to someone like him.

"Pathetic, is this the how far the Queen's power goes?"

As Merlinus laughed, three long fleshy tentacles emerged from his back, with bony spear-like tips, overflowing with demonic energy.

Plants squinted her eyes, realizing he was beginning to fuse his demonic powers with his magic, becoming even more lethal than before.

"Camilla, get back!"

She rushed in front of her before Merlinus were to punch her as he teleported towards her. She summoned her shield, the one she had created IRL, which was blessed by Gaia herself, and placed it in front of her after further merging with thousands of spirits.

CRAAASH!

Merlinus powerful space-shattering punch was tanked, as Planta was pushed back, as she held her ground, generating two massive wooden cannons on each one of her shoulders.

"Can you handle a World Boss though, Merlinus?!"

"Ngh?!"

The two cannons were fired at once, manifestations of Planta's [Divine Yggdrasil Cannon Of Destruction] Skill!

BOOOM! BOOOM!

The two explosions reached him, as Merlinus instinctively folded space several dozens of times to generate Spatial Barriers of immense power.

Yet...

Crack, crack...!

CRAAASH!

They shattered instantly, as the two cannons blew through his demonic arm which he used to defend, making him realize just how powerful it was.

"My arm...?!"

His arm wasn't just left with two holes, it instantly exploded into pieces, and each piece then burned to ashes, realizing how strong it was, Merlinus managed to move aside before the attack were to hit his chest or head.

"How?!"

He couldn't believe it.

"My Defenses, my Magic, and my Stats are far higher than hers and her offensive abilities, plus everything else... this damned spell is slowing me down, but it shouldn't be enough!" he raged internally.  
"HOW?!"

What he didn't know was that World Bosses had special Skills, some of them capable of always dealing damage to a foe no matter the situation.

They simply negated all variables and overwrote them...

Planta's Yggdrasil Cannon was capable of such a feat, dealing a guaranteed 70% of its damage no matter the defenses or effects a foe has defending them.

However, Planta felt frustrated, that was her attack, and she was unable to deal big significant damage anyways.

Now she'll have to wait a bit more before the cooldown of the skill is over and she can use it again.

"{Abyssal Void Blade Forms}: [First Form: Space-Splitting Blade]!"

In that second where Merlinus was shocked as he glanced at the bleeding wound left behind from his missing arm, Elena attacked, swinging her katanas down as her Aura surged, resembling a giant Oni wearing Samurai Armor.

SLAAASH!

The Aura swung an even more massive sword alongside her own, as Merlinus generated shockwaves of space in front of him to defend, although they were quickly sliced!

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

"Hmph!"

Merlinus wasted no time, releasing a giant blast of demonic energy and spatial power at Elena, blowing her away instantly.

BOOOM!

"Nnggh...!"

However, as she was taking great damage, Elena didn't falter, rapidly continuing her series of attacks.

"[Second Form: Void-Slicing Blade]!"

SLAAASH!

Another slashing attack reached Merlinus, splitting his massive beam as it reached his body, his eyes widened slightly, only for him to inhale Mana and then release it with his mouth, unleashing a Spatial Typhoon that twisted and warped space, nullifying Elena's attack.

FLUOOOSH!

"[Third Form: Hundred-Fold Void Blade]!"

However, Elena continued, now even closer, her swords coming down at the same time, two slashes became a hundred more, slicing through all of Merlinus defenses.

"Dammit! Insolent little runt!"

Merlinus furiously released an explosion of demonic flames from his other arm, which had already transformed into a gigantic demonic arm like before.

The other one though, it wasn't regenerating.

He noticed a lot of strange vegetation growing over his wound, it was Planta's Domain and Terrain, the power of her cannon could spread domain and terrain upon the shockwaves and explosions.

This Domain had been manipulated by Planta to "infect" the wounds of demonic beings, although for normal people it could do mostly good than worse, for beings like Merlinus, it inhibited their

regeneration in certain areas, and as the plants spread their roots inside of his body, they sapped his lifeforce and mana away.

BOOOM!

"Ungh...!"

Elena was blown away again, Planta waved her hand, instantly healing her daughter as she clashed against Merlinus next, everything happening within just mere seconds, too fast for the eyes below to properly understand.

"Haaah!"

Planta swung her wings made of swords, as they separated, becoming a storm of swords rushing towards Merlinus.

"You and your tricks!"

Merlinus gritted his teeth, releasing demonic flames so hot the swords Planta summoned and fired at him instantly melted and exploded.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"Pathetic!"

He rushed through the molten metal without taking any damage, clashing against Planta directly. His punch instantly blew through half her body in a second<sup>1</sup>

CRAAASH!

"DIE! DIE! DIE!"

With a furious, maniac scream, Merlinus continued punching her as invisible fists made of spatial energy appeared around him and continued adding to the damage.

He wanted to reduce Planta to smithereens.

And he also knew about her multiple bodies, therefore, he wasn't just trying to destroy her avatar, but was constantly targeting her soul, each punch spread tiny cracks through it.

"Ugh...! He's directly targeting my souls! If this goes on my soul is going to shatter into pieces!" Planta thought. "HAAA!"

She rapidly regenerated within the barrage of attacks, stacking dozens after dozens of armor layers and resisting with her own Spatial Powers and Mimy's support, before a storm of elements conjured from her crown engulfed Merlinus.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

"Not enough!"

Merlinus ignored the magic entirely as he continued attacking, his tentacles rapidly piercing through Planta's soul and leaving holes through it.

"I'll demolish you entirely, you pathetic- ACK?!"

However, in that moment, a blazing sword slashed through his back, slicing half of his arm while doing so, as an explosion of flames engulfed him whole.

BOOOMMM!!!

"Unnggh?!"

He glared behind him; it was Mark's blade!

"How did he...?!"

Merlinus had no time to question what happened, punching Mark down with all his force, as spatial runes gathered around him and then quickly exploded.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"Uuaarrgh!"

Mark's entire body was blown up to bits, as Planta and Rita attacked Merlinus from behind.

"{Void Nebula Echo: Void Star Shower}!"

Rita spread her Void Nebula around her, summoning dozens of Void Stars at the same time, engulfing Merlinus on powerful attacks that could pierce through his spatial defenses.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"{Divine Heroic Dual Sword Goddess Aura: Sword Goddess After-Images}: [Heavenly Pinnacle]!"

At the same time, Planta active her Sword Dance Aura, attacking Merlinus and generating several mirages of her own attacks, covering Merlinus with countless slashing blows.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

"{Divine Earth Spirit Magic}: {Gaia's Diamond Spear}!"

As this happened, Lily rushed from below, manifesting a gigantic spear made of Diamonds, piercing through his spatial barrier and then his own legs.

CRAAASH!

"Uuaaargh!"

Merlinus couldn't keep pretending, he screamed in agony!

"Y-You bastards...! You dare...! YOU DARE?!"

As he was being slaughtered by all three women at once, his power surged endlessly, and then...

"{Demonic Domain Expansion}: {Shattered Dimensional Hell}!"

TRUUUM!

The entire Kingdom of Luminous was swallowed by darkness.

Chapter 1376 Merlinus' Plan!

-----

Space and time were bend to his will; the Arch Wizard grew desperate the moment he realized that if he didn't use his powers fully he would get swallowed by the endless, relentless wave of powerful attacks.

Planta was too strong of a variable in this fight, her healing, buffing, and attacking skills made her an all-rounder of extreme power, her allies would simply not die as long as she was with them.

Even worse, the Domain and Terrain she was expanding was simply terrifying! With it alone, his troops were rapidly growing on a disadvantage.

If all his troops were killed, then even the King and his troops would go against him, and then it would become a giant army against him alone.

He couldn't let that happen!

Merlinus had restrained the immense power he had gained this entire time, mostly because he was saving it for his "ascension".

But after realizing that if he didn't use it completely, he would probably... lose, he had to.

And so, he opened the first seal, releasing his Domain across all of the Luminous Kingdom.

"{Demonic Domain Expansion}: {Shattered Dimensional Hell}!"

TRUUUM!

The entire Kingdom of Luminous was swallowed by demonic flames and darkness, the night sky disappeared as it turned deep red.

There was now a massive crimson moon hanging above the skies, and the ground below began to shake, giant cracks through the entire city appeared.

Crack, crack...!

CRACK!

RUMBLE!

The entire city trembled as massive explosions of demonic flames engulfed everything, and from each crack, demonic monsters started pouring out.

Unlike actual Demons, Demonic Monsters were the monsters that existed within Hell, thanks to his intrinsic connection with this Realm, Merlinus was capable of summoning such a powerful Domain.

After all, he had swallowed several Demon Souls and had used their vessels body parts to augment and transform his own physical body.

His entire body started glowing with crimson runes as his attackers were all sent away by an immense pressure coming from his body.

His entire body changed now, instead of looking uneven, his body became burlier, four times as big as before, with muscular arms, legs, and torso.

His skin turned from white to red, as even black horns grew above his head... He still remained looking mostly humanoid, although as muscular as the burliest orc anybody could have ever seen.

Yet, the arm that he lost against Planta...

Wouldn't regenerate!

"Her Domain Infection is already deep within my body...! I'll have to cut the entire area before I can regenerate," he thought, gritting his teeth. "But I can't do it while I'm fighting them! I must eliminate them or paralyze them for a couple of seconds at least."

He knew that if he dealt such amount of damage to his own body, he would suffer a lot of pain and feel weakened for a couple of seconds.

If he did that, then they would find a great opportunity to attack!

Ding!

[The [Arch Wizard of Spacetime: Merlinus: Lv450+] has opened his {First Demonic Seal: Red Demon Form}, turning his body into a {Half-Demon} and further boosting his physical strength by 100%.]

[Additionally, his Magic Power is further Strengthened by the power of Demonic Energy, becoming 100% Stronger, while his Stats rise by an additional 50% as long as he's surrounded by Demonic Energy.]

"DEVOUR THESE FILTHY COCKROACHES, DEMONIC MONSTERS!" He ordered the thousands of beings he summoned. "AID MY FOLLOWERS! BURN AND DESTROY!"

"He used his Domain?!" Rita complained.

"Bastard..." Elena muttered.

"Ugh, that shockwave was really quite something!" Lily muttered, feeling weak, before a wave of healing light recovered her wounds. "Phew."

Meanwhile, Mark was back on action, although he was torn to pieces, much like Planta, he simply regrew his parts and then merged them back together, his Healing Phoenix Flames were also of great utility.

"He expanded a domain as you thought, Planta," he said. "I guess he's indeed working based on what we expected.

"Yeah..." Planta nodded. "And his Domain so far is incredibly strong."

As the Arch Wizard commanded his troops, more and more Demonic Monsters surged from the cracks, Planta's entire Domain and Terrain were overwritten.

"Now that the tables have turned, what can you do, Planta?!"

He rushed down without hesitation, his massive arm smashing down space itself, as he shattered it and generated beams of pure white void.

With them, he pushed down Planta and the rest, they quickly started to defend while attacking with myriads of long-ranged spells, Phoenix Feather Projectiles, Phantom Blades, Void Stars, Diamond Spears, and Planta's Thunder, Ice, Fire, Nature, and Holy Light Spells converged into massive explosions of many colors.

Their magics intercepted each other, as they generated countless of titanic explosions that shook the sky and made the ground rumble.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

"HAHAHAH!" Merlinus laughed, smiling with his sharp teeth. "WEAK!"

He waved his tentacles, each one conjuring hundred of Spatial Runes at the same time which spread around his entire body and then rushed down.

Cracks across space emerged one after another, as they attempted to delete the body parts of his foes, reaching Planta and everyone else.

"Careful!"

Planta panicked, grabbing everyone with her giant wings and rushing down as countless explosions deleted large parts of her body.

"Mom, if we keep escaping we are not going to get anywhere!" Elena was impatient. "We have to face him head-on even if it kills us! We're Players, we can revive later!"

"He's targeting our souls! We can't face him head on or we'll die!" said Planta.

"W-What? But this is a game, it's not like it matters that-"

"It's not a game, Camilla!"

"E-Eh?!"

The Queen was confused, but Planta was way too serious right now.

"Camilla, this world is real, it's not a game, and I can prove it later," said Planta. "Trust me and be careful! Although taking damage from him won't instantly destroy your soul, there's certain attacks that damage souls and others that don't! I'll help you evade the ones that do, and the others... you'll have to tank them, alright?"

"A-Alright, fine!" nodded Camilla. "Come to think of, where's Erebus and the other guild members?!"

"They're down there, preparing something," said Planta. "But they're already on their way here, let's just hold on for a while longer and-"

"{Demonic Spacetime Magic}: {Infernal Dimensional Fragmentation}!"

As Merlinus screamed while spreading his arm and tentacles, a massive spell was conjured and Planta's group was immediately surrounded by an inferno that melted the fabric of space itself, compressing around them and rapidly consuming all mana within their area.

"DIE!"

He closed his giant fist as all the eyes across his body glowed with bright red light, strengthening the spell to its limits.

BOOOMMM!!!

Chapter 1377 Time Magic Against Space Magic

-----

Merlinus went all-out, destroying space, melting it, and completely incinerating his foes within a single second, his magic power growing stronger the more he transformed, it wasn't just a physical power boost!

The more he unleashed his Demonic Aspect, the more his magic would grow, gaining Demonic Power that goes beyond his Level and the Skill level of his Magic, and even his own Internal Magic Circle at Tier 9.

In that moment when he destroyed and melted the fabric of space itself with flames so imitating the inferno from Hell, Planta and everyone else saw the darkness of death approaching.

If they were to die there their souls would surely be completely destroyed!

BOOOMMM!!!

"Hahahahaha!"

Merlinus laughed, seeing their utter demise as he saw their bodies exploding into pieces and their souls shattered apart.

"Now it's finished! I no longer have any enemies that can- Huh?!"

TRUUUM!

Out of nowhere, space and time twisted within the area, as time began to go on reverse, the explosion absorbed itself as it disappeared, and the bodies and souls of his foes instantly regenerated back to normal.

"[Time Reversal Barrier]!"

A barrier around them all had been activated the moment it was hit with a tremendously strong attack, shattering and activating its effect as time went ten seconds on reverse, saving everyone's lives.

"They reversed time!" he muttered. "So this is their power?! Time!"

As Merlinus was furious and frustrated, about to conjure the same spell, an explosion of time reached him out of nowhere.

"Wha...?!"

Crack... crack...!

CRASH!

"Wha...?!"

Crack... crack...!

CRASH!

"Wha...?!"

Crack... crack...!

CRASH!

"Wha...?!"

Crack... crack...!

CRASH!

"Wha...?!"

The old arch wizard's mind was burning itself thinking what the hell was happening right now!

His surroundings were constantly warping, reflections of his own time were shattering apart and exploding everywhere.

It showed the same reaction several times, through every fragment.

These fragments weren't just mirrors, but they were also him, parts of him scattered through Time.

Hence, why it felt like his same reaction was being repeated endlessly!

"I-I'm trapped!"

"I-I'm trapped!"

"I-I'm trapped!"

"I-I'm trapped!"

"I-I'm trapped!"

"I-I'm trapped!"

The moment he said that his words were repeated through all the fragmented time pieces. And this wasn't just a spell from Planta.

No, this was an effect created by the combination of both Spells, the Barrier she just used, and several other Skills at once.

"Ah!"

"Ah!"

"Ah!"

"Ah!"

"Ah!"

"Ah!"

He glared to his left, realizing that Planta was glaring at him "outside of time".

"YOUUU!"

"YOUUU!"

"YOUUU!"

"YOUUU!"

"YOUUU!"

He felt confused and in agony, the more time around him fragmented with each of his footsteps, the more his power was being divided and destroyed.

"It worked like I imagined."

And Planta only smiled pleased with the results.

To truly understand what Planta had done, one had to first see what Skills she used.

The moment her [Time Reversal Barrier] broke in that very important second, the power of three Skills triggered automatically.

The [Divine Spiritual Sacred Dragon Sanctuary of Time] Skill, which had merged with the barrier activated, the moment the three layers of barriers shattered, something activated.

Ding!

[Each time each layer is destroyed, it will release a {Divine Spiritual Explosion of Fragmented Time} which will deal all the taken damage back to the nearby foes in a 60-meter range of the user and spread {Spirit Flames of Time} that will drain the Time Essence out of foes and feed it to you, decreasing their movement speed for 5 to 8 seconds.]

Flames Merlinus couldn't see exploded everywhere around him, this was the light that he saw before he was engulfed on the fragmented time.

These flames drained his own time, making him incredibly slow!

And then, to make things worse, Planta had infused the flames with the [Slowed Time Curse] Skill, cursing Merlinus with Slowed Time.

This was a Curse he couldn't resist, as she had infused it with the power of Aeternitas' Divine Spirit Energy.

But that wasn't all, the reason why it stuck along for longer than Merlinus thought was because of [Divine Aeternitas Yggdragon Heavenly Spiritual Presence]!

This was Planta's very presence, which unleashed powerful [Primordial Garden of Life Tiles] and [Fragmented Time Tiles] and allowed her to unleash the power of her {Divine Aura}.

As long as she was within a compatible Tile, Plant could unleash her {Divine Aura} through this Skill, allowing her for two enchantments that she imbued into her attack using the Flames of Time.

"{Aeternitas' Divine Authority}!"

Ding!

[You have activated the {Divine Aura} Ability: {Aeternitas' Divine Authority}: Increases the power of Magic and Skills by 700%, Ignores 70% of foe's Defenses. Can ignore Invulnerability Status. Whenever it touches a foe, it will release {Time Explosions} that slow down foes based on 30% of their Magic Power and spreads [Fragmented Time] Tiles around them.]

FLAAASH!

This spread deadly Fragmented Time Tiles that twisted the perception of reality for Merlinus, and dealt constant damage as Planta mixed it with the other ability.

"{Yggdragon's Draconic Wrath}!"

Ding!

[You have activated the {Divine Aura} Ability: {Yggdragon's Draconic Wrath}: Increases the Power of All Physical Attacks by 700%, Ignores 70% of Physical Defenses. Can ignore all sorts of Defensive countermeasures. Wrathful Draconic Roars will impact foes and surrounding foes for additional damage and a chance to Stun them temporarily while spreading [Primordial Garden of Life] Tiles around them.]

She transformed her weapon, Gaia's All Purpose Tool into a massive golden shovel, which absorbed the Draconic Elemental Spirits of her surroundings, and by using it as if it were a hammer, she swung it against Merlinus burly body.

"[Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts]: {Divine Time Spirit Blessing Accumulation}"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"Uuuuaarrgghh!"

Merlinus couldn't defend! He could only see as he was being mercilessly smacked from every angle, Time Spirits of various combined elements surging through the massive shovel, increasing its power tremendously.

"W-What are you doing?!" Merlinus cried as his reflections said the same. "Stop with this... stupidity!"

As he screamed angrily, his muscular arm transformed into a massive demonic dragon head, rushing towards Planta and biting through her entire body!

CRAAASH!

Yet Planta smiled, as her weapon had stacked all Blessings.

"[Divine Elemental Time Fragmentation Explosion]!"

Her shovel cleaved through the draconic arm, tearing it to shreds as a massive explosion engulfed Merlinus entirely.

BOOOMMM!!!

Chapter 1378 Ever-Growing Power

-----

Planta unleashed her true power in the perfect moment.

Through their frantic battle, she had learned a thing or two about Merlinus so far.

He was old and also very confident.

He saw himself as supreme and stronger than anybody else.

Therefore, once he unleashed a strong attack and thought his enemy was defeated, he would subconsciously relax.

This was the opportunity created from faking her and her friend's deaths.

It was risky, but it paid well for it!

Her Shovel accumulated the Blessings of the Elemental Time Spirits one by one as she hit his body from every angle.

The surface damage that her shovel was doing, even enchanted, was still minimal compared to her swordsmanship.

However, it didn't matter.

Each hit of her shovel infused her weapon with the power of one of such Spirits.

Earth, Fire, Wind, Water, Ice, Light, Darkness, Void, and Space!

As each Time Spirit Blessing manifested and fused into the shovel, its attack power became more terrifying, dealing damage at long last.

But even then, it was very little.

The amount of time her Flames of Time and Fragmented Time Tile Combination would last was only a couple of seconds more.

She couldn't just stand there and deal little damage over time.

Therefore...

She went all-out, unleashing all of the accumulated blessings at once through the Evolved Farming Tool Skill.

She concentrated it all within a single, powerful attack.

"[Divine Elemental Time Fragmentation Explosion]"

"NNNGGHH?!"

Merlinus wanted to teleport instantly, but he couldn't.

He wanted to evade, but he couldn't.

The attack reached him, as an explosion of colors engulfed his entire body.

He used his arm to defend, constantly transforming it into shapes, but his flesh disintegrated.

The light consumed him, the colors twisted and warped around his entire body and being.

"T-This is...! I can't believe it! What kind of ridiculous power was she given by the system?!"

He was completely furious of the power her foe possessed, even as he was fading away.



"That took me by surprise but... I didn't die! I CANNOT DIE."

Nether began coming from his wound out of nowhere, fusing with his flesh and blood, his bones and all.

He became half-Undead.

"Destroying my body will not work..."

He glared at Planta who descended from the skies, followed by her allies.

"I am invincible..."

He kept telling himself these words, his magic rapidly beginning to become even more corrupted and strange.

"YOU CANNOT DEFEAT ME!"

He roared furiously, regrowing two massive bony arms, completely made out of bones and nether, and unleashing hundreds of magic runes made of demonic energy and space.

As he did, his body continued growing bony growths, which aligned together to create a bony armor, merging with him.

Not only did he leak out Demonic Power, but also Nether Power from the Undead of the Underworld!

"{Demonic Spacetime Magic}: {Spatial Corrosion}"

TRUUUM!

Devoid of any energy, the old man spoke as if he had truly died and became an undead with no energy at all.

His runes exploded around everywhere, as a large part of the entire city began to melt alongside the space around Merlinus!

FLUOOOSH!

And all of it was swallowed by pitch black darkness, a space that had been corroded into nothing but black void.

"What with that magic?!" Rita cried. "Is it the Void Magic I wield?"

"Not at all, it seems like something much more terrifying!" Camilla said. "That bastard is destroying my city however he pleases! Planta! What can we do?"

"We'll attack him together!" Planta said. "Camilla remains by my side. DarkReaper, Titan, you go to my left and right. Achlys and Lily behind me. Use the power of my Domain and Terrain around me to fight! Don't mind anything else. We've already pushed him this far, he's growing desperate. It means we're getting somewhere. He's not invincible, no matter how much he says so! Understood?"

"Yeah!"

Everyone nodded, as they rushed towards Merlinus alongside Planta at the center, her Aura encompassing everyone like armor.

"{Divine Sword Fairy Queen Transformation}"

At the same time, Planta's body began to transform, becoming completely metallic as her wings made of swords merged with her own body. Her skin became silver in color, as if she had become a robot, even though she was just pure metal now.

Ding!

[You have activated the Ability: {Divine Sword Fairy Queen Transformation}, fusing with the Arcane Blades and becoming a metallic fairy, increasing your Defenses, Health Points, and Health Regeneration Speed by 555%, and giving you the ability to use your body as a Sword, which will deal the same damage as the wings with an additional 200%.]

With that, even as she wielded the farming tool with focus, she could use her own body as a sword to unleash as many swordsmanship attacks as she wanted.

Even more easily now as her entire body shapeshifted, growing six metallic arms covered with white and golden scales, and her entire body overflowing with powerful combined energies.

Her Domain and Terrain also continued to expand around her surroundings, the Primordial Garden of Life and the Fragmented Time Tiles beginning to rapidly overwrite the Infernal Domain of Merlinus, helping those fighting in the sides.

"Merlinus!"

Planta rushed down, as she swung her shovel down, unleashing a massive beam of pure Spiritual Energy through the powers of the Great Spirit of Farming and Nature and Queen Titania using her body as their vessels.

"Die!"

The Arch Wizard only responded with a furious roar, as the Corroded Space twisted into a black mass and fired a massive black beam against Planta's attack.

BOOOMMM!!!

Chapter 1379 He's Here

-----

Ding!

[The [Arch Wizard of Spacetime: Merlinus: Lv450+] has opened his {Second Demonic Seal: Nether Embodiment}, turning his body into a {Half-Undead} capable of sustaining any wound and regenerating {Nether Bones} as new limbs to replace lost body parts.]

[Additionally, his Magic Power is further Corrupted by the power of Nether, becoming 100% Stronger, while his Stats rise by an additional 50% as long as he's surrounded by Nether.]

The message appeared right above Merlinus, showing the progress of Planta's party. It has been slow, but they had already driven him into a corner twice. Every time he transformed, it meant Merlinus was struggling.

And now, he unleashed his Second Demonic Seal, Nether Embodiment, gaining the power of a Half-Undead, perhaps one of his goals through this entire time was to attain eternal life through such wicked methods.

Hence why he experimented so much with so many test subjects, playing with souls, creating patchwork abominations and aberrations.

All for this!

"{Divine Sword Fairy Queen Transformation}"

At the same time, Planta also used her transformation, using the power of her Arcana Blade Wings, a new and overpowered Fusion Skill which she had yet to unleash its true power yet.

Ding!

[You have activated the Ability: {Divine Sword Fairy Queen Transformation}, fusing with the Arcane Blades and becoming a metallic fairy, increasing your Defenses, Health Points, and Health Regeneration Speed by 555%, and giving you the ability to use your body as a Sword, which will deal the same damage as the wings with an additional 200%.]

She thought that with that, even as she wielded the farming tool with focus, she could use her own body as a sword to unleash as many swordsmanship attacks as she wanted.

She grew more arms to wield her swords, and also she summoned more Spirits to her aid, at the same time as her Domain and Terrain expanded through the power of the Primordial Garden of Life and the Fragmented Time Tiles, boosting her primary elements and helping the soldiers around the city.

"Merlinus!"

Planta called for the mage, who seemed to have become overwhelmed by the power of Nether, becoming emotionless and silent for a moment, glaring at the endless darkness he was spreading everywhere in a strange trance.

Yet the moment she called for him, his eyes widened, as he quickly moved his two bony claws upwards, the endless Corroded Space around him twisted into a massive black beam, fired against Planta at the same time as she swung her shovel down.

"Die!"

BOOOMMM!!!

The power of Planta's attack rapidly decreased, as the Corroded Space consumed everything endlessly, like a black hole that couldn't be stopped.

Yet...

"{Great Divine Spiritual Magic}: [Fairy Queen of Nature's Wrath]!"

The silhouette of Titania appeared within her own Aura, merging with the silhouette of the Great Spirit of Harvest and Nature.

The two combined, their power infused into the massive shovel as she swung it down like a gigantic golden axe.

TRUUUM!

The beam of darkness began to rapidly dissipate as the wave of green and pink light consumed its surroundings, the Corroded Space began to rapidly disintegrate, completely purified!

FLAAASH!

"{Demonic Spacetime Magic}: {Corroded Time}"

However, Merlinus didn't stop, conjuring yet another spell as Planta and her allies' eyes widened, time around them began to literally rot, corroding and melting.

They saw their own movements slowing down and then accelerating on unpredictable intervals! Although Merlinus Time Magic wasn't as powerful as Planta, he still had it.

He wasn't just a master of Space but also Time, hence his magic had Spacetime within its name!

"T-Time is being corroded?!" Rita cried. "The hell!"

"Calm down!" Mark said. "We can break from this!"

Time continued rotting and melting around them, about to consume them within a quantum singularity as Merlinus continued pouring Corroded Space as well.

However...

"{Demonic Spatial Compression} + {Time Reversal Barrier} = {Time-Compressing Spatial Reversal Barrier}!"

Planta improved, combining two Skill effects in an instant and generating a barrier that regenerated space and time around her and then fixed it in place!

FLAAASH!

"GAAH! You can do anything, huh?!" Merlinus felt frustrated. "{Demonic Spacetime Magic}: {Horrors Beyond Space and Time}!"

RUMBLE!

Merlinus closed his bony claws together, a hole in space spread open which then reached a length of a hundred meters in a mere second.

TRUUUM!

As it did, gigantic tentacles began coming out of it, as a monstrous being beyond space and time emerged- no, several of them.

"GRYYYYAAAEERRGH!"

They roared with horrendous screams that shook a person's soul and body together, walking into the city, their massive tentacles flattened any buildings on their way.

Ding!

[The [Arch Wizard of Spacetime: Merlinus: Lv450+] has activated the Spell {Horrors Beyond Space and Time} summoning a handful of {Void Horrors} that live within the Void Between Realms!]

[The Summoned {Void Horrors} contain 10% of his Total Stats after all buffs have been calculated, and can spread Corroded Space and Corroded Time everywhere, be careful!]

The moment they stepped in, as the window stated, they corroded space everywhere, and even time!

"HAHAHAHAA! CAN YOU TAKE ON MY BOYS?!"

As Merlinus laughed, the monsters began running toward every place they could!

"T-The city is being destroyed!" Said Camilla.

"That's not what matters, but what they can do to the people fighting here!" Said Planta. "Achlys! Mimy! You two go close the gate with me! The rest, take the monsters down!"

"Understood!"

Planta trusted they could do it, as she rushed with Mimy and Rita towards the gate to close it as quickly as possible so no more aberrations could come.

"Do you think I'll let you?!"

Merlinus appeared in front of Planta, swinging his bony arms against her and pushing her down into the Corroded Space pool!

BAAAM!

"Do you think you can truly stop me?!"

He appeared in front of Mimy and Achlys, punching them down the same way he did with Planta.

BAAAM! BAAAM!

As all three fell into the Corroded Space and disappeared he laughed again.

"Because you can't! YOU CAN'T DO IT! HAHHAHAHA! I AM INVINCIBLE! YEARS AFTER YEARS OF GROWING STRONGER... YOU SIMPLY CANNOT SURPASS MY EFFORTS AND MY TIME SPENT INTO THIS!"

And in a way, he wasn't wrong.

Yet...

YET!

FLAAASH!

Planta's Holy Light pierced through the Corroded Space, destroying it and restoring space to normalcy.

"I know I cannot stop you, that's why he's here too."

"Huh?"

TRUUUM!

Merlinus eyes widened as he felt a massive pressure above him.

A beautiful black fairy was flying above him, tilting his head as he analyzed him with cold, red eyes.

"So you're Merlinus... The human that wants to become a God, hm? I know you."

"You're... a fairy? No! This presence...!"

Merlinus instantly attempted to teleport away!

However, he was unable to, the pressure of the fairy...

Simply stopped him from moving through space with magic.

"Yeah, I assumed you would try that. I could have showed earlier, but Planta asked me to do this. Do you like it?"

"A-Ah! A Formation?!"

Merlinus couldn't believe it.

All across the city, a massive Formation made by pure Demonic Nether Runes had been created, invisible to the naked eye, not even Merlinus realized its existence until now.

"The core is me, so unless you kill me, you can't break it. Amazing, right? There's so much that can be done when you wield more than just plain Miasma..."

"Y-You're supposed to be dead!"

"Dead? Hardly. I'm alive. Right now. Right here."

The fairy boy extended his pale white hands towards Merlinus.

"How long has it been, my little pawn?"

Chapter 1380 The Demon King Of Miasma Against His Cultist

It was a great contrast.

Despite the immense pressure that made Merlinus freeze.

This being had the form of an adorable fairy boy.

Short, fluffy black hair.

Beautiful red eyes, with long eyelashes.

A delicate, young body, slender and almost frail-looking.

His wings were beautiful, big and almost majestic, black and purple in color.

His nails were black and long, like claws.

And he had a pair of black horns growing from each side of his head, alongside a third crimson eye on his forehead.

He wore a dress made of black leaves, and red roses.

And above his head, a crown made of crystalized miasma sat over his little head.

Anybody would've thought he was a strange-looking fairy and nothing else, but Merlinus instantly identified that aura.

That pressure!

"Y-You're...! That Aura is...! I can recognize it anywhere!" he screamed. "Why are you here?! I thought you were dead! This makes no sense! You were killed by Yggdrasil!"

"Dead? Hardly. I'm alive. Right now. Right here."

"No! I'm sure you died!"

The fairy boy extended his pale white hands towards Merlinus.

"How long has it been, my little pawn?"

Merlinus gave a step back, the Formation that the Demon King had created was unsurpassable at his current level of power.

It simply wouldn't budge!

With the Pagoda above his head stacking on floors over time, weakening him even more through an otherworldly Divine Power, and now this...

He was truly being cornered!

"How much did they all plan for this?! Have they been planning to fight me for a whole month or something?! The amount of countermeasures and plans they have... I couldn't have imagined it was like this!"

"Answer me."

Erebus spoke, as Merlinus stepped back.

"I am no longer your pawn!"

As he furiously roared, his Aura grew more and more powerful, distorting space and beginning to corrode it, waves of corroded space began to spread around him.

"I never held true royalty towards you! I merely used your powers and your curses for my own growth! You were the only stupid monster that gave away so much power!"

"I knew that already."

"H-Huh? You knew?!"

"Of course. Who would ever seek power from a monster such as myself without having ulterior motives? Not everyone becomes a fanatic. Some people simply want power, without true compromise."

"...!"

Merlinus felt strange.

It was as if he was standing on the palm of the hands of a massive monster in front of him.

"T-Then why?!"

"Why what?"

"Why did you... gave me power? Helped me achieve my goals?! What was the purpose behind it?!"

"The purpose was to spread Fear. And you did. That was all. Fear around a certain being increases their power, did you know? Especially us, Demon Kings."

"Fear...?!"

"Yes... Well, I suppose we shouldn't be talking now, right? We are enemies now. My new master is Planta, she fought me, defeated me, and gave me a second chance. I wonder though, are you strong enough to defeat her?"

"SHUT UP!"

Merlinus had no more patience, his Domain shook completely, as the red skies began to warp and twist, showing the walls of the Domain which looked fleshy, with red eyes and tentacles, and even jaws with sharp teeth.

"This is the perfect opportunity for me! I don't care what you say or what everyone else does, trying to stop me is impossible! I have the advantage no matter what!" he screamed. "I will use all the souls in here to ascend and become a Demon King myself!"

"Is that so..." Erebus looked down at him. "Foolish. Being a Demon King is the thing anyone would like to be the least. Even us Demon Kings know our existence is nothing but a curse. You want to become a flawed being eternally tormented by their past, twisted and warped into a monstrosity without recognition and identity? Is that what you want, Merlinus?"

"Heheh... Hahahahah!" Merlinus laughed, the Corroded Space lifting him up into the skies. "You truly talk like that's something bad?! It's better than being a human, it's better than being someone with limitations, with weaknesses, with vulnerabilities... With bonds. All of that breaks apart, falls down, and disappears. Nothing is eternal! NOTHING! IT ALL DISSAPEARS! NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU TRY TO GRASP INTO ANYTHING! EVENTUALLY... AS A HUMAN, IF YOU LIVE LONG ENOUGH... EVEN YOUR HUMANITY DISSAPEARS!"

"He's fucking crazy." Rita said.

"Gyuuuhhh!" Mimy pointed at the gate.

"Rita, eyes on here! Let Erebus distract him!" Planta said.

The trio rushed down, as Planta summoned the rest of her Familiars one after another, noticing how the Aberrations coming from the Gate continued to emerge.

"Belle! Huginn! Saphie! Loki! Terra! Silver! Goldie! Kill those monsters! Stay away from the Corroded Space! Assist Titan, Achlys, and Camilla!"

"ROOOAARR!"

The beasts roared, charging against the massive aberrations. Belle hyper charged herself with thunder, clashing against the body of one with her massive divine beast body and pushing it down.

BAAAM!

The monster collapsed into the ground, spreading more Corroded Space around, only for Silver to roar, opening his jaws and unleashing a devastating breath of silver moonlight flames.

BOOOM!

"Gryyaaarrgh!"

The aberration screamed in agony with a massive hole on its body, the skies above rumbled as a black cloud surged from within the skies, releasing thunder and lightning towards the monster, Belle's Spell!

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

The monster began to be fried alive, rapidly beginning to turn into ashes upon death... However, more of them came, attacking the Familiars and throwing them away.

Yet the other familiars also attacked!

"CRYAAAAH!"

The furious Huginn unleashed a rain of black feather projectiles, bombarding the monster's bodies one after another.

"SHAAAH!"

And Saphee followed him, summoning thousands of snakes out of her poison aura and spreading them everywhere, the thousands of little snakes overwhelmed a couple of the aberrations, biting their bodies constantly.

"GEOGEOGEO..."

And then Terra stepped forward, even though she had a more slender and humanoid body, she still made the weird sounds, which amplified her psychic powers.

FLAAASH!

Using her telekinesis, she lifted the monsters into the air and encompassed them into bubbles, which crushed them!

**BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!**

As the aberrations were dying one after another, showcasing the Familiars' incredible strength as Divine Beasts, Planta, Mimy, and Rita began to close the gate before it grew larger.

They had to move quickly, the gate would only grow until it was to swallow everything, Merlinus' plan all along for his ascension!