

Brand New 1461

Chapter 1461 The Strength Of The New Generation Of Knights

Heshmerie held on his own against the Demonic Wizard's aberrant form, although he was taking damage, he managed to slice two of its arms off, which turned into flames and then into ashes.

However, in that moment, he was caught off guard, as the monster's draconic jaws opened, releasing a point-blank fire breath against him.

Purple flames of poison cursed black flames, demonic red flames, and blue phantom flames converged into an ultimate explosion of fire.

BOOOMMM!!!

"H-Hesh!"

His friends screamed in horror as they saw Hesh's torso and head being engulfed in the massive explosion, his gigantic body quickly was sent flying away, falling over the ground.

CRASH!

His blazing body quickly went back to normal; he was there over a huge crater surrounded by flames fading away, his body was unconscious, but his lifeforce was incredibly dim.

"No! Already down?!" Patricia cried in horror.

"HESH!" Joustin panicked, Heshmerie was his best friend.

"Oh no!" Emerette cried.

"W-What do we do?!" Juliette said.

"HAHAHAH!"

"GAHAHAHA!"

"GUAHAHAH!"

The three wizard heads laughed viciously within the monster as they saw the young knight on the floor, his body slowly gaining black tattoos with weird, twisted patterns.

"THAT YOUNG MAN HAS BEEN INFLICTED WITH A DEADLY CURSE!"

"IT WILL EAT HIS SOUL SLOWLY!"

"AND THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO SAVE HIM NOW!"

As they spoke, the draconic head smiled viciously, drooling as its entire monstrous body started walking forward.

The two legs it lost had yet to regenerate, however, only leaving four.

Heshmerie still dealt some last standing damage!

"{Aqua Healing Bubble}!"

Emerette and Juliette conjured strong water magic, encompassing Heshmerie's entire body except his face and ears, the rest of his head was nicely cushioned on the healing waters.

FLAAASH!

The water slowly began to recover his wounds, keeping him alive by not letting him lose any more Liferforce.

"That'll keep him alive for a bit longer...!" Emerette said.

"Patricia, Joustin, we must hurry and defeat the monster...!" Juliette said.

"DEFEAT ME?!"

"HAHAHAHAHA!"

"YOU SURE DON'T KNOW YOUR PLACE!"

The three-headed monstrosity laughed, as the draconic head smiled again, opening its jaws and gathering energies.

For yet another breath attack!

"WE'LL BLAST THAT KID TO OBLIVION!"

"ONCE HE DIES, HIS SOUL SHALL FEED US WITH NEW POWER!"

"CAN YOU EVEN STOP THIS?!"

As they mocked the young knights, a gigantic cannon of purple, black, red, and blue flames was fired from the draconic head again.

The four other knights rushed towards it, their Magic Auras overflowing with power.

"WE WON'T LET YOU!"

They screamed in unison, tears coming from their eyes.

TRUUUMMM!!!

The massive blazing cannon was intercepted by Patricia and Joustin, who constantly were pushed back.

Heshmerie was right behind them!

The bubble slowly started floating behind them.

The twins were moving him away...

Just a bit... longer!

"NNNGGHH..!"

"AAAAGGH!"

The two were suffering, the flames' heat was so strong, even their combined winds were being rapidly overcome by them.

"Patricia!"

"Joustin!"

Their Auras converged even deeper, as their Magic power truly became one.

"We cannot let him...!"

"Kill Heshmerie, right?!"

"Yeah!"

They glanced at each other's eyes, memories of their lives flashed through their minds for a second.

Of the shared moments. Of how they didn't even get along at the beginning, of how they had to work together a lot.

And how that over time, they became great friends...

By surviving and overcoming adversities.

Their weapons synchronized, as Joustin's grimoire opened its pages, flickering rapidly.

And then it landed on the last page, a Spell he had never used before due to its great power and mana cost.

But right now...

What else could they do?!

"It's now or never!"

"Yeah!"

"As they were being pushed and their hands burned..."

"{Great Wind Magic}: {Sylphid's Emerald Spear}!"

FLUOOOSH!

A huge emerald tornado materialized out of nowhere, rapidly taking the form of a long spear, and then.

"GOOO!"

With their roars unifying into one, Patricia and Joustin pushed forward more.

And more.

And more...

AND MORE!

RUMBLE!

The tornado pierced the beam of flames, rapidly reaching the draconic head and then...

CRAAAASH!

Blowing it up into pieces!

"W-WHA...?!"

"IMPOSSIBLE!"

"T-THAT'S...!"

The three magician heads were shocked as the draconic head exploded into pieces, the tornado then engulfed the rest of the body, slicing through it!

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

"UUUAAAGGH!"

"DAMMIT!"

"FUCK!"

As the tornado slowly dissipated while keeping them trapped within an endless slicing hell, the wizards quickly conjured demonic fireballs, blood ice, and cursed winds to attack the knights from afar.

"DIE!"

"KILL THEM!"

"FUCKING DIE ALREADY!"

Their magic was tremendously strong, reaching Joustin and Patricia who were still keeping the tornado up with their Magic Power.

"Ah dammit!"

"No, we can't!"

As they panicked, suddenly...

SPLAAASH!

A wave of water splashed in front of the demonic elements, forming a wall of water and blocking them completely.

At the same time, the twins appeared, their long blue hair fluttering by the winds.

Their auras unified as one.

"It's now or never, sister!"

"I know, let's do it."

"Girls!"

"You're...?!"

Patricia and Joustin gasped as they saw the Twins true power.

Their Magic Circles and Physiques became one.

Their bodies overlapped, as they suddenly...

Became one!

"{Spiritual Physique Unification}"

What emerged was a tall, mature-looking version of the twins, who were only around sixteen.

With even longer blue hair resembling sea waves, one silver eye and another golden eye.

And a dress made of blue spiritual energy.

Their spears merged, becoming a majestic blue trident.

"Turns out... Heshmerie wasn't the only one with a trick!"

"Amazing!"

Joustin and Patricia smiled, although the twins fusion only lasted a bit.

"W-We can't keep this up for too long!"

"F-Five seconds at most!"

The two, now one, rushed forward, as the monstrous magician fired magic after magic spells, trying to stop them.

Patricia and Joustin behind them used their combined techniques and magic, moving right behind her and blocking the magic for them.

"KILL IT!"

The twins, as one, nodded, leaping towards the three-headed wizard, pouring every last bit of Mana they had left.

They either killed it now...

Or everyone would die!

"{Oceanus' Trident}!"

The trident became thrice as big as it absorbed their Aura completely and descended at full power.

CRAAASH!

Chapter 1462: A Big Small Victory

Using a technique they had not even mastered before that lasted at most for five seconds, the twins, Emerette and Juliette merged into a single form.

This was only a magic possible for twins that not only shared the same element, but also had to be exactly the same age, the same magic circle and physique rank, and even the same number of spells learned.

A forgotten spell created long ago by a pair of magician twins to overcome any challenge, which they discovered on a trip to another country, inside an ancient grimoire within a treasure chest in a dungeon.

Through becoming one, they overcame the obstacles and charged forward, Joustin and Patricia helped them blow away the incoming projectiles, until finally.

With all their strength and power and by leaping over the three-headed monstrosity.

"{Oceanus' Trident}!"

The trident became thrice as big as it absorbed their Aura completely, overflowing with spiraling water-like energy, and even some hint of spiritual energy of the water spirits, which gathered around them to help.

With it at full power, the trident descended!

CRAAASH!

The massive weapon pierced through the monster's flesh rapidly, the fused wizards resisted, or tried, but failed miserably, unable to stop the trident completely, the weapon destroyed their internal weapon, filling it with explosive, highly pressurized water.

"T-THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!"

"N-NO...! I DON'T WANT TO DIE!"

"W-WAIT... WAIT A SECOND!"

The three screamed in agony, until their eyes exploded, and water came out of them, and then, the rest of their body blew up into pieces, water splashing everywhere with their eyeballs, organs, and blood.

BOOOMMM!!!

The twins unfused in that moment, falling over the gentle winds conjured Joustin and Patricia's last remaining Mana, the four were left on the floor, gasping for air.

"I-I can't believe it... W-We did it..." Patricia muttered.

"Aaaahh... I'm so tired..." Joustin sighed.

"We protected the Kingdom..." Emerette smiled.

"But Heshmerie... We have to bring him to safety first... Ugh..." Juliette muttered.

Although they wanted to bring him to safety, they quickly realized something.

It was quite a predicament.

They couldn't lift a single finger!

"I-I can't move my body...?!" Patricia cried.

"It must be because we... we went a bit overboard..." Joustin sighed.

"We emptied our Mana reserves, and our Ki is very low, that causes... Paralysis," Emerette said.

"If we weren't strong, we would pass out..." Juliette sighed.

"EH?! Then what do we even do?!"

Patricia started screaming while panicking constantly, she didn't plan things to end like this!

They defeated the threat to the Kingdom, but right now they were left completely helpless.

"C-Calm down a bit Patricia..."

"I can't calm down like this, Joustin!"

"We won't get anywhere by screaming... Let us rest for a bit, Heshmerie could wait a bit..."

"Can he?!"

Hearing the bickering of the young magic knights, there was a group of strangers glancing from afar, on top of a grass-covered building.

Their bodies were humanoid, tall and slender, with pale white skin. They had sharp red eyes, and long white, red, or blue hair.

Pointy ears, and sharp fangs, wearing completely black clothes that merged with their shadows.

"It seems we didn't need to intervene... I thought that would've been the time to reveal ourselves to the public."

"Our existences cannot be kept hidden any longer, master said so anyways."

"We should go help those little knights; their effort was commendable. I am quite moved, strangely enough."

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

They moved towards the magic knights, resembling scary demons that emerged out of shadows, Patricia, Joustin, and the twins panicked.

"M-More demons?!"

"W-Wait a second, don't eat us!"

"We yield..."

"Please don't kill us..."

The trio of shadows with red eyes glanced at one another with slight annoyance, they were considering leaving them to their own mercy.

But then they knew that wouldn't please their master either.

"We are not demons, foolish humans."

"We are servants of your queen."

"We've come to treat your wounds."

They opened Elixirs that they took out of their shadows, forcefully feeding them while the young knights struggled.

"Huh? We're healed?" Patricia asked. "W-Wait a second, please heal Heshmerie!"

"He's the one in real danger!" Joustin said. "Please!"

"He'll die..." Emerette said.

"Please!" Juliette cried.

"We know, someone else went to treat him."

"Just stand still, and stop screaming, you're so noisy."

The two revealed their true appearances, pale white skin, slender bodies, beautiful faces. One was a male with long white hair, and the other a female with short red hair.

They had sharp crimson eyes and had this unnatural, strange aura around them. They were both mysterious and beautiful at the same time.

"W-What are you guys?" Patricia asked. "I've never seen your kind around..."

"Your queen herself is our kind," sighed the man.

"We are Vampires," said the woman.

"V-Vampires?!" Joustin gasped, suddenly taking out a tiny book from his bag and reading it. "V-Vampires, vampires... Ah! There! You are... Blood-sucking night dwellers! Descendants of a Demon?"

"S-So they're demons!" Patricia cried. "And saying our queen is one... what blasphemy is this?!"

"We aren't demons! Vampires are descendants of ancient... Ah, why even bother?"

"It doesn't matter either way. You owe us, we saved your lives, be more considerate, humans."

"Right..." Joustin nodded. "Thank you..."

"Eeh? But they are demo-" Patricia gained the bad look of Joustin and the twins. "Okay thanks! Thanks!"

"Your queen is a Player that chose the Vampire race to be her Avatar," explained the male vampire. "We are her servants; we swore loyalty to her after she freed us from the Bloodstained Catacombs where we were sealed in ancient times."

"You're weak to sunlight!" Joustin said. "But our queen isn't?"

"She has immunity to sunlight," explained the female vampire. "She is a higher form of Vampire, a Primordial Bloodline Vampire, and also a Vampire Progenitor."

"So that's why you wear those black clothes and cover your entire bodies..." Joustin nodded, analyzing how they wore hoodies to cover from the sunlight.

"Yes, she said it was about time we introduced ourselves to the public... Also the truth about her race seems to not bother her either..." said the female vampire. "But we are worried she might get discriminated or hated."

"There's no way that would happen!" Said Patricia. "Anyway, is Heshmerie- Ah!"

"I'm fine..." Heshmerie had already woken up, yawning. "What happened? Huh? Did you guys win?"

"Something like that..." Joustin nodded.

Chapter 1463: The Queen's "Shadow Guard"

The Vampires had finally and formally introduced themselves; they were members of Queen Camilla's "Shadow Guard" or whatever their name was, the knights couldn't quite recall it well and had been protecting the Kingdom in the shadows.

Thanks to them, things hadn't escalated as badly before as they constantly defeated dangerous cultists and other criminals for her, although the sheer quantity of them was so big that even then, it was becoming a huge problem.

"Where were you guys yesterday though? I don't even remember seeing any of you at all..." Patricia asked while crossing her arms and looking at them suspiciously.

"We were fighting the hordes of demonic beasts in the distance keeping them away from you."

"If we hadn't done anything you would have died."

"You should be grateful."

"Eeh?! How can I know you're even saying the truth if we couldn't see you!" Patricia just wanted to pick up a fight with them for no reason.

"Patricia, would you cut it out? They're our saviors and they saved us from dying and even are serving the queen directly, be more respectful, they're technically our seniors..." Joustin facepalmed.

"Aaah..." She groaned, looking elsewhere.

"Hahah... Well, that's how she is," Heshmerie laughed a bit.

The group was walking through the overrun-by-nature city, going through streets covered by grass and trees, and walking past the plaza, which had become a beautiful flower-covered plain.

"The place is sure beautiful when you stop to think about the ruins... Right sister?" Emerette wondered.

"Yes... I want to sit down somewhere and enjoy nature..." Juliette sighed. "But we can't right?"

"Hmm, we must rebuild as quickly as possible," Emerette nodded.

"Let's go meet our master, it seems she wanted to greet you and congratulate you in person for your efforts and feats."

"Yes, she wants to see you personally."

"Her son will be there, and also David."

"General David?!" Patricia's eyes pupils suddenly became heart-shaped in an instant, as Joustin and the rest glared at Patricia with weird faces. "Is he awake now? Is he fine?! Wait, was he looking for me in specific?!"

"No, not at all."

"He brought over the prince from the forest though."

"He had gone there using a portal from Planta, only those she chose can use it though."

"So that's how the prince returned..." Patricia nodded. "I suppose the rest of the people are too many to bring along, even less in a ruined city, right?"

"Yeah, the queen's planning to keep them in the forest of beginnings for a bit longer until we can at least rebuild a third of the city."

"It is quite unrealistic though... the amount of compassion she has over her subjects is too much sometimes."

"She should simply ask them to reconstruct it instead, right?"

The vampires were talking among themselves too, thinking their master was too compassionate. And they weren't wrong, if Camilla asked the whole working population to get together and work, things would go smoothly and quicker.

However, she couldn't bring herself to do that right now, her entire people had lost most of their houses and belongings, she has nothing to pay them to aside from the treasury she is protecting, and food might also be scarce.

Although nature had become very abundant everywhere and there were now many fruit trees and so on, these things weren't near enough to feed their entire population.

The farms in the outskirts seemed most intact though, and so houses and small villages where the people lived there too, but due to the lack of soldiers and knights, it would be very unguarded for people to live there, and they would be risking getting attacked by wild beasts if they aren't inside the walls.

Before, soldiers patrolled the villages every time, and there were also many guards, but right now, with a third of the army gone after the war, they couldn't afford such a luxury...

Of course, if Planta and her friends were here, many things could be solved so very easily...

But the Queen couldn't simply try to rely on others for everything, that would simply create too much dependence on other outside factors, and she had to do things on her own.

Planta and everyone else already did so much, asking them more would be simply selfish, and that they hadn't showed up or logged in yet probably meant they were too exhausted and wanted to rest for a while, and it was completely fair.

"Ah, the castle is mostly intact, huh?" Patricia smiled, looking around.

They had slept inside an inn whose a part of the roof had been blown away, but it was nicely covered by plants and vines, so they were able to sleep just fine.

Though the beds and other things were all covered by dirt, Joustin and the twins magic were able to wash and clean things quickly, helping them sleep well.

That's why Patricia was surprised, as she hadn't been in the castle last night, unlike most of the other soldiers, who were using the castle as a refuge.

"It's nice!" Joustin sighed in relief. "As long as the castle remains, a Kingdom cannot fall!"

"Indeed..." Heshmerie nodded with a relieved smile. "I'm glad..."

"The halls are clean as well," Emerette pointed out.

"It seems that the castle servants have returned too? I saw a few Butlers and Maids..." Juliette said.

"Yeah, we are slowly bringing back people from the Forest of Beginnings."

"Mostly workers that are needed."

"But things are still too intense, and David could only bring a few dozen people..."

"What's the situation in the forest?" Joustin asked. "I-is everything alright? We have an alliance with the Forest of Beginnings, right? I'm fairly sure the Fairy Queen Titania is in good terms with our Queen..."

"Yes, she is, and she's trying very hard to convince the humans to not run back here."

"It is quite complicated; most people are panicking after waking up."

"You see, Planta brought them there through special sleeping methods, and now that the people woke up, they panicked a lot. They didn't know where they were, where were their homes, and so on."

"Once things were explained to them by some soldiers they panicked even more... And well, it is difficult to control such a large mob of people."

The vampires explained how things were, and they weren't easy at all...

But at least it wasn't the worst-case scenario.

"Welcome, my little heroes. Thank you for helping us out by taking care of that threat."

And once they entered the castle's hall, they greeted the Queen, who was sitting there next to a pile of documents.

She had eyebags below her eyes, and she clearly looked exhausted, she had probably not even slept the entire time.

Chapter 1464: The Young Knights Meet The Queen

Patricia's team got to meet the Queen's special Shadow Guards or whatever their name was, a group of Vampires that were serving her directly in the shadows, fighting foes and helping the entire Kingdom.

They were also revealed the truth behind the Queen, that she was actually a Vampire of the highest rank and nobility, whose powers were immense.

And perhaps that was one of the reasons she could go toe to toe against powerful Revived Demons.

More than anything, what shocked them were the existence of Vampires helping the Kingdom and not being evil, as rumors and tales about them said.

Although their Queen being a Vampire wasn't as shocking as the Vampires themselves, perhaps because most people of Arcadia knew that Players could choose their Avatars to be any race.

This was one of the reasons why when it came to Players, discrimination towards a certain race was usually kept at a minimum, as they weren't exactly born in this world to begin with and shouldn't be involved into such things.

They also presented incredible powers and abilities that other normal members of the race they chose usually didn't have either... They were also rather clueless about societal customs, history, and the like.

However, their Queen was much more different, rather than a Player she had always felt like another member of this world, she never "logs out" either, for some reason, and she married their King and even had a child, the current prince.

"Does that mean the prince is a Vampire?" Patricia wondered to herself, rubbing her chin. "Ah, well, it doesn't matter either way! It's not like this somehow turns them into evil people... The Queen and the Prince are the Queen and the Prince and that's it!"

The girl didn't want to turn these things into even more complicated thoughts, even less doubt her ruler that had been devoting herself to protecting their Kingdom this entire time. Even less now with the King gone.

"Well, here you are, let's go inside."

"Behave in front of the Queen."

"Don't talk back to her unless she allows you to speak."

"Don't look at her into the eyes either!"

The Vampires reprimanded the young knights, as the entire group made their way inside the castle's hall, where they were greeted by the Queen, who was sitting over her throne next to a pile of documents and with a small wooden desk in front of the throne.

She had eyebags below her eyes, and she clearly looked exhausted, she had probably not even slept the entire time. Once she noticed them, she quickly placed the papers by her left side and drank some tea.

"Welcome, my little heroes. Thank you for helping us out by taking care of that threat." She smiled radiantly, completely changing her exhausted expression and attitude with the Queen everyone knew. "My apologies for my current appearance and this... mountain of papers. I've been doing a lot of paperwork. Mostly contracts and other trading deals with nearby Nations and the Forest of Beginnings. I'll be spending around half of the treasury's savings on buying a lot of resources from other countries for our reconstruction... Also food."

"I-It's nothing, please don't worry about it, your majesty," Joustin said timidly. "It is an honor to be called before your presence."

"Yes, that's right Joustin," nodded the Queen, the young magic knight was shocked and happy to learn she knew his name. "I received the news that you've been protecting the border and even defeated a powerful surviving Demonic Wizard, congratulations. That is an incredible merit by itself."

"Ah! It is an honor to be praised, your majesty! Thank you so much!" Patricia said, kneeling in front of her as well and lowering her head.

"Yes, thank you for your praise, your majesty!" Heshmerie nodded as well, kneeling in front of the Queen.

"Thank you, your majesty," Both Emerette and Juliette said at the same time.

"Calm down, please, please no need for so many formalities right now," the Queen said, looking rather tired of them. "Right now I just wanted to congratulate you and offer you some rewards for your hard work. I know the Vampires were going to take care of it, but their numbers are rather limited, and I would rather have them working on something else than this, so I am truly grateful."

"Rewards?!" The Magic Knights' eyes shone brightly, every single one of them seemed happy by hearing the words. They seriously didn't expect anything else than praise, which would've been enough for them.

"Yes! If you were non-nobles, I would've already given you honorary nobility titles," said the Queen. "But all of you come from noble families so that's not possible. So I thought about another gift. I will give each one of you 250.000 Gold, and also a weapon, armor, or accessory of your choice from our treasury. Come with me."

"Oooh!"

The young knights were amazed, as the Vampires handed them over bags full of gold coins, it was so much they had never expected this quantity! Although among Players this sum wasn't that big, inhabitants of this world didn't make as much money as Players, most of them couldn't earn money hunting monsters for example.

Therefore, earning money took more effort, and it was more valued among inhabitants... Also this was the reason why prices were higher in shops for Players, something the System called "Player Tax" due to them getting more Gold than the original inhabitants of the world.

Patricia and her group timidly followed the Queen, who walked across the castle, the knights glanced at many servants walking everywhere, with other soldiers moving all kind of things, rubble, wood, metal, weapons, everything, they were constantly cleaning and fixing the castle as quickly as possible.

Before reaching the treasury, however, they stopped at the large central hall of the castle, where a huge sanctuary of greenery had been formed, surrounding a huge green colored crystal that pierced the wooden and stone ceiling.

"This is...?" Patricia wondered. "Ah!"

Patricia and her friends were shocked, realizing the presence of someone inside of this green colored crystal, overflowing with spiritual energy and mana.

"T-The King?!"

Chapter 1465: A Weird Door

As everyone glanced at the crystal, they were completely flabbergasted by it. It was huge and overflowing with mana and spirit energy of the finest, highest quality, bordering into the divine boundary already.

It was surrounded by many plants, making the hall look like the ruins of an ancient temple instead, where nature had overtaken it over many years. There were colorful crystals growing around the large green one as well, and everyone could see small sparkles of light with tiny faces moving here and there, decorating the area.

"I wanted to show you this place first, this is where my-"

"Y-Your majesty! The King! He's inside the crystal?! Can't we get him out of there?!"

Patricia, however, interrupted the Queen's words midway through as she was so shocked, and then she covered her mouth due to her insolence.

The Vampires glared at her with such anger and disgust in their faces they were about to rip her head out of her body!

"You have a death wish?!"

They didn't say anything, but it felt like they had screamed at her just by glaring at her while releasing the pressure of their auras.

However, the Queen calmed them down.

"Yes, I know he's inside, Patricia," she nodded with a gentle smile, showing how benevolent she was. A trait the Vampires both like and dislike at the same time. "Yesterday, the Goddess Verdant left his body

crystalized in here, a place we call the King's Spirit Sanctuary. It is a special place where this crystallization of the Goddess' Spiritual Divinity has kept my husband's body alive."

"S-So he's alive?" Patricia asked.

"I thought he was dead..." Heshmerie said.

"No, there must be something going on though..." Joustin said.

"Is that so?" Emerette wondered.

"What could it be?" Juliette asked.

"Yes, his soul is not here," the Queen sighed, caressing the crystal as she glanced at her husband.

"Technically, a body without a soul cannot live. Even if his biological functions continue living, if he lacks a soul, he'll die eventually... This is why his body is being preserved here. With Planta, we'll go to the Underworld to both defeat the Demon King of Death and retrieve my husband's soul. But that's for later, we must first take care of this Kingdom."

"Your majesty... To go as far as the underworld to retrieve the King's soul..." Heshmerie was moved to manly tears, despite being the biggest, burliest, and manliest of the group, he was crying first. "This is so moving... Your love for him... is so pure! Your majesty!"

"But such a thing... I-Is it even possible? To go to the underworld..." Joustin muttered, afraid to even think about such a perilous journey.

"Yes, it is possible," the Queen nodded. "Planta has already secured the Key for the Underworld's Gates. But we must first prepare for such a thing to even happen... It'll take time, but Verdant said my husband will remain "alive" inside here, as long as the crystal remains intact."

"I see..." Patricia sighed. "Your majesty, where is the prince? I'm worried..."

"He's sleeping inside of his room," the Queen said. "He was very exhausted and had to sleep. He came back first due to his title as my son, although I was quite surprised. But worry not, he is alright. And also being taken care of by my Vampires."

"The Prince will be our Future Vampire King."

"Therefore, his safety is our largest priority."

"His talent and abilities are also incredible; he has a bright future."

The Vampires kept praising the prince constantly, which Patricia and the rest didn't really dislike, but they found it a bit bizarre now knowing he was a vampire and all.

"Anyway, let's go." The Queen said. "I know you would like to stay here for long, but it's better to let my husband rest. I am sure he will return... I will do anything in my power so that becomes a reality."

"Your majesty..."

The young knights felt moved by her love and determination. Any small doubts they would have developed regarding her being a Vampire were completely gone.

She was indeed their Queen, no matter her race.

"Come on, let's go. Let's quickly close the door."

As they walked away while closing the door, they moved through the castle corridors here and there, finding areas that were virtually untouched and others with large cracks or missing wall pieces, which were being fixed by various workers.

Until they reached a long stair, walking downstairs and then reaching the castle's underground, which was so firm it remained intact even after the war that happened before.

There was a huge labyrinth under the castle, with giant pillars everywhere, and which even connected to the sewer system.

"This is the castle's underground, I suppose you've never been here, it is highly guarded," explained the Queen. "I suppose you didn't notice, but we walked through twenty layers of magical defenses already. All neatly placed in a massive formation. This formation keeps both the Castle's underground firm, so the castle doesn't collapse, and this area protected from ruffians. Without the permission of the current rulers, nobody can pass through, or they get zapped to death."

"EEEH?!"

The Magic Knights were shocked, looking around trying to find any runes or something, but there was nothing they could see, the whole formation was invisible.

"Calm down, as long as I am here allowing you to come, it's fine," the Queen giggled. "Let's go over there..."

They walked through various corridors, it was confusing and a bit exhausting, but eventually they got to the end of it, where they saw a huge golden door with the head of a lion in front of it.

"A lion-headed door?" Heshmerie wondered. "Wow... Such sublime design!"

"Thank you, I keep myself shiny."

Out of nowhere, the lion spoke, winking at the young knights.

"HUH?!"

And they were perhaps even more shocked at that moment.

"T-The door talked!"

"I-I heard Merlinus had a Demonic Door that could talk! Is it that?!"

"No way, a demon! Your majesty please be careful!"

"DEMON?! WHO ARE YOU CALLING A DEMON?! I AM THE LUMINOUS KINGDOM'S TREASURY GUARDIAN! LEONIDAS!"

The lion grew even more furious, screaming incredibly loudly and making everyone's ears ring painfully.

Chapter 1466: The Luminous Kingdom's Treasury Guardian, Leonidas

As the young knights thought the lion was a demon, the lion himself grew angered, roaring and showing them his sharp, golden teeth.

"DEMON?! WHO ARE YOU CALLING A DEMON?! I AM THE LUMINOUS KINGDOM'S TREASURY GUARDIAN! LEONIDAS!"

With his wrath reaching his limits, he ended up screaming incredibly loudly and making everyone's ears ring painfully. The Queen glared at him with hatred.

"Leonidas! Do you have to scream so loudly? Calm down or I'll make you calm down!"

"E-Eek! I'm sorry your majesty! I-I didn't meant to- But they called me a demon!"

"I know, they were just confused. There happened to be another talking door in the magician tower, Merlinus' wicked creation. It was vanquished, whatsoever."

"I-I see... Well, that's a relief... I am not that sure what happened yesterday but there was sure a lot of tremors and explosions... I really thought everything was coming down!"

"Me too, I'm glad things were mostly stable... We managed to divert most of the damage to the western side of the city, although the rest, due to shockwaves and explosions, was still greatly ruined."

"That's a pity... But why have you come here, your majesty?"

"Well..." The Queen glanced at the magic knights for a moment and smiled. "I suppose that I should explain who this is first right? He's Leonidas. He's an Ancient Magic Door Golem created by the King's

ancestors to protect this Kingdom's treasury, which is said to be the biggest in the entire continent. The ancestors of my husband spared no resources, time, or money, using the strongest magicians in the world to create him and this entire formation."

"Woow..." Patricia was amazed. "You're cool, Leonidas!"

"Hmph! But of course," Leonidas said with pride. "I am this Kingdom's Treasury Eternal Guardian! Nobody has ever robbed the Treasury since my creation... And yet, I cannot help but wonder, why has her majesty bought you all here?"

"They've done a great deal of help, so I wanted to reward them, letting them choose a weapon, piece of armor, or accessory from the treasury."

"W-What? But your majesty, such items are of great value! To be given to these children is... such a waste!"

"I don't like you anymore!" Patricia said angrily. "We aren't children! I am seventeen!"

"That's a child you stupid girl!" Leonidas roared angrily.

"No! we're considered young adults!" Patricia said.

"T-That's not right you're a kid to me!" Leonidas responded angrily.

"Y-You...!"

"Listen here...!"

The two started glaring at each other angrily and more angrily over time, making the Queen and Patricia's friends facepalm, while the Vampires glared at Patricia with the intent to kill her at this point due to all her lack of manners.

"Enough!" Said the Queen. "Patricia don't fight with Leonidas, and Leonidas don't fight with my guests. You will do as I say because I am the Queen, right?"

"Hmph... Yes but where's the King at? He's the one that usually requests stuff from the treasury, not you, your majesty- Not like I'm saying I'll refuse or something! Just curious..." Leonidas said.

"He's... dead." The Queen muttered.

"W-Wha...?! The King died? D-Did it happen in... the battle yesterday?!" Leonidas asked.

"Yes..."

"N-No..."

Leonidas suddenly changed his attitude and expression, from the cheeky and loud lion, he suddenly became depressed, his face looking to be in despair.

"That child... I've known him since he was but a toddler... Isn't he way too young still?!"

"Yes, well, there's still hope... Let me explain a bit."

The Queen told Leonidas what had happened, enlightening his mind with all of this information, and allowing him to understand everything to an extent.

"The underworld...!" Leonidas muttered. "Such matters... I'm afraid are beyond my power... I am but a humble guardian, and it frustrates me that I cannot help more."

"By doing your job you're already helping, Leonidas," the Queen said. "So please, let me reward these young promising knights. They defeated a powerful Demonic Wizard on their own. One that had even taken a giant draconic form."

"Oho... I suppose they're not so bad then!" Leonidas smiled. "Fine, very well. You may come in, your majesty will come as well, right?"

"Yes, I must take some funds for future negotiations with other countries, we're trying to regain resources, food, clothes, and building materials to rebuild the entire Kingdom," said the Queen. "The Treasury might take a big hit, but we'll make sure to replenish once we recover fully, Leonidas."

"Hmmm, I accept your terms, you may take as much as you need," Leonidas nodded. "But in one condition."

"Yes?" the Queen asked, confused.

"Please, make sure to revive his majesty..." Leonidas sighed.

"...Of course, you didn't even need to ask me that. I will do everything I can do see that through," the Queen nodded. "Now, please open the door, Leonidas, we are ready."

"Very well!" Leonidas opened his gates. "Welcome to the Luminous Kingdom's Treasury! The largest Treasury of the Continent!"

Creeaaak...!

The golden doors opened, revealing a giant hall of its own, so enormous and wide it extended across the entirety of the underground within the Kingdom itself!

Endless gold coins, treasures, and much everywhere! It never ended, there seemed to be no walls at all due to how big it was.

Even more, the gold was so much and so was the Mana, that it created its own bizarre ecosystem of pure gold and treasures.

Coins with butterfly-like wings flew around, large golden frogs leaped catching them and eating them, giant gold dragons walked around and then rested over piles of gold, treasure jewel bats rested on the ceilings, and golden golems and jewel golems wrestled.

There was more giant jewel trees with golden apple fruits, golden grass and flowers with incusted jewels on them, rivers of liquid gold, clouds made of floating treasures and gold dust.

It was a never-ending wonderland of treasures!

"T-There are monsters down here?!" Asked Heshmerie.

"W-what in the world?!" Joustin gasped.

"Welcome to the Treasury, I was just as shocked as you when I entered," laughed the Queen. "Leonidas will explain you more as we go."

"Yes, yes," Leonidas closed the doors, keeping the Vampires behind. "You guys aren't allowed though, so stay behind!"

"Tch..."

The Vampires clicked their tongues, obeying unwillingly.

Chapter 1467: Classes And Banter

The group walked through the Golden Treasure Wonder Land, a beautiful yet ridiculous, shocking, and mysterious ecosystem born from the Treasury within the Luminous Kingdom.

"H-How is this even formed? What's happening? I thought it was just a treasury but its so much more!" Joustin said.

"Indeed, it is so much more... Wait, the monsters won't attack us right?" Heshmerie wondered, glaring at a giant dragon made of gold with jewel eyes in the distance.

"Fear not, they are harmless to those I allow to enter," Leonidas said. "You see, when I was created, the Ancient King wanted something larger that could even defend itself from the inside. Therefore, the Magicians that created this place, all Ancient and of incredible power, designed this place so it would become "alive" everything would slowly turn into golems and live in a single ecosystem. This would not only keep the treasures from being stolen easily, but it would also help them multiply over time."

"M-Multiply?!" Patricia gasped. "R-Really?"

"Hahah! Yes, although it takes hundreds of years, but the gold and precious jewels of this place had been growing over a long time," Leonidas said. "Through this endless process as living beings, they produce more over a long time. This is how this Treasury has remained so strong and big for so long! Even adjusting itself over time when inflation happens."

"Wow..." Emerette said. "Wait, what's inflation?"

"When you inflate something, duh," Juliette said.

"Well yeah kind of," Leonidas nodded. "Anyway. This place is a sanctuary at this point, and it keeps me pretty busy, honestly. If I didn't had these guys here I would definitely have slept for much longer and would feel bored all the time."

"I suppose it was also made a recreational thing for him," the Queen laughed a bit. "Anyway, let's pass through the Gold River, there's a huge Golden Treasury Chamber where a lot of equipment is stored."

They walked across the Golden Grass, saw the Golden Treasure Trees, and jumped over the Liquid Gold River, noticed the Golden Dragons and Jewel Golems, but then left alone anyway.

Until they reached the Golden Treasury Chamber, a box-shaped gold building with an open interior, they walked inside slowly, as the knights looked around in awe and shock of everything.

Then, once inside, the Queen nodded.

"Now pick whatever you want, only once." She said, showing them the treasures.

"Oh wow! So many things!" Joustin said. "W-What can I even choose?!"

"Oohoo! I want a rapier or a sword!" Patricia said.

"I guess a new sword wouldn't be so bad..." Heshmerie said. "But I would rather prefer something else I guess... I don't know what. Maybe some accessory that enhances an element I am not so good with, or perhaps that further boosts fire elemental power and damage..."

"You sure are thinking this a lot, huh?" Emerette wondered.

"We've already chosen what we want," Juliette smiled.

"Eh?" Patricia, Joustin, and Heshmerie noticed the twins wearing little gold and blue diadems on top of their heads, interlinked with a faint magic aura.

"Oh, what are those?" Patricia asked.

"They were called Twin Princesses Diadem," said Juliette. "Or so it said in the description we saw that appeared out of nowhere."

"It said something about making twins super strong if both wear it at the same time," said Emerette. "It even comes with sharing abilities and stats, and a transformation of sorts."

"Oooh, that's interesting!" Patricia said. "Now's my turn... Hmm, this!"

She quickly chose her new weapon, a beautiful red and black colored rapier she found, which had a large handle and also a blade that wasn't as fine as a needle, but that resembled more like a huge spear, wrapped by red and black roses made of metal.

"Ohhh! Not bad!" She said happily. "I like this one... Crimson Abyss Rose Rapier! It looks strong! Has a lot of piercing power."

"Isn't it too huge? Its more like a spear you hold like a rapier, right?" Heshmerie wondered. "I ended choosing this, a magic shield!"

Heshmerie showed the group what he picked, it was a huge shield of red, yellow, and orange color resembling flames, with a dragon head in the middle, decorated with red jewels.

"It's a Fire Dragon Shield! It seems it can absorb hits and turn them into Fire Elemental Dragon Aura, which will go well with what I wanted! A shield will help me tank better, and I can already hold my two-handed sword with one hand anyway, hahaha!" Heshmerie laughed as if it were something normal.

"Y-You can do that, huh?" Joustin wondered. "I... don't know what to pick yet. Maybe a magic sword would be nice, or a grimoire? I am not so sure..."

"You wield a grimoire and a sword, boy?" Leonidas voice echoed.

"Y-Yes sir Leonidas," said Joustin. "I am a Grimoire Knight, my Class is quite rare, but it is what I got when I was able to Level Up... Can't say I dislike it though, I've always liked reading books, especially magic books. I can enchant Grimoire Spells directly into my sword, armor, or the sword and armor of my friends. I am kind of a hybrid class of support and offense... Most call me a jack of all trades though."

"I see, there wasn't any Class like these back then... It must be new!" Leonidas nodded. "What are the classes of your friends? Before I tell you what you might need, I need to know more."

"Ah, I am a Blazing Warrior," Said Heshmerie. "Fire Attribute and physical combat with any weapon is my strong point, I like big great swords, however."

"Uh-huh, fairly standard, but a classic is always good." Leonidas said.

"I am a Gardenia Knight!" Patricia said proudly. "I belong to a family of graceful and beautiful knights, we specialize on the rapier with graceful and quick attacks, dodging abilities, and wind elemental magic, with some illusions! Also, our Class converts our Charisma Stat into additional Strength and Speed!"

"Interesting! That's a new one as well... Kind of weird though," Leonidas said. "Huh..."

"What do you mean weird?!" Patricia was about to start fighting again.

Chapter 1468 Rewards

Patricia's Class, Gardenia Knight, was certainly unique, and they seemed to be all like that in her family. Flashy, charismatic knights that wielded rapiers and wore a lot of bright colors, specially ribbons and fashion with their armor. Every knight family had their own classes they usually specialized, magic or techniques they perfected through generations that manifest as new classes.

Or other times, like with Joustin, new Classes can be born spontaneously based on their actions through childhood, their devotions and also what they seek. While Players can choose between a huge list of classes, the inhabitants of Arcadia can only work on what they get naturally.

Although there's nothing saying they can't change a Class, through a lot of effort and while trying to change ways, while learning and understanding something for a long time, and once they reach their level cap, the inhabitants of Arcadia, unlike Players, automatically Rank Up to their next Class based in such actions.

Usually the Class could either be an improved version of the previous one, or something else entirely based on what path they were walking now.

It was rare, but there have been accounts of magicians becoming elemental magic warriors through their physical training, or even a Shield Knight becoming a Druid Knight after years of embracing nature and contracting spirits.

"Our Classes are the same," said Emerette.

"Yeah," Juliette nodded.

"Is it because you're twins?" Leonidas wondered. "That's very interesting, so that means you're connected through your class as twins too?"

"Hm, could be said so," nodded Emerette.

"Perhaps...?" Juliette said.

"So what's the class then?" Leonidas asked.

"Piscis Knight."

"Piscis! I see, the duality and the two fish... Now I see it, hahaha!" Leonidas laughed. "Indeed, it is a class that can only exist with twins, when they're deeply connected at that. Impressive. I only remember hearing about a pair of twins, they were males though, that had such class. Perhaps your ancestors."

"Oooh..."

"That's interesting."

As the twins nodded while listening, Joustin glanced at the treasures and equipment, trying to think of something.

"Now that I got a better understanding of your abilities, I would recommend you get this," Leonidas suddenly used his powers to lift something with sparkles of gold.

It was a Grimoire, a very unique one which showed three blades of green, yellow, and red color, and a blue shield in the middle.

"W-What's this Grimoire? I forgot to mention but my primary element is wind so..." Joustin muttered.

"It's alright, this'll do," Leonidas said. "This is the Elemental Weapon Creation Grimoire. It allows for the conjuration of Elemental Weapon Spells. Imagine you use them to enchant an already existing weapon! Or an armor! Don't you think that not only you'll imbue them with an element, but also reinforce them even further?"

"I-I hadn't thought about it!" Joustin said, taking the grimoire. "Oh wow, these spells... I have never seen them before! And each Spell has four elemental versions?! Fire, Wind, Water, and Thunder! But... I don't know if I'll be able to use them properly, my ability over wind is great but not the rest."

"It'll work," said Leonidas. "Your affinities don't just decide what you can use or not, but your hard work. Also they're still considered simple spells."

"Interesting..." Joustin nodded. "Alright, I'll be taking this one then!"

"Good choice," the Queen nodded. "Very well then, let's get going, young knights. Thank you for your help, Leonidas. I've retrieved the funds I needed, thanks."

"Very well, I shall teleport you back to the entrance then!" Leonidas said.

FLASH!

A bright golden light engulfed everyone, as they appeared outside of the treasury in a second, shocked by what the talking lion-headed door could actually do.

"That was amazing! Spatial Magic, right?" Joustin said.

"Yes, indeed!" Leonidas nodded. "I can use it within the interior of my treasury."

"Wow... You sure got some great talents!" Patricia said. "I wish you could've fight for the Kingdom though."

"Hahah... I also wish sometimes, but this is my eternal duty, and I'll work hard for it!" Leonidas said. "Alright then, see you another day, someday, children! Grow stronger and don't disappoint me!"

The doors closed, as Leonidas went into his slumber once more, becoming an inert lion head-shaped golden ornament in the door.

Outside, the vampires were waiting for the Queen as well, they were still there, glancing around confusedly.

"Alright, we're done! Let's go. There's another thing we need to talk about. I have thought about something special with all of you, my young knights. Not only you're the next generation, but the future of our Kingdom might be in your hands. As you're the future, the young, new generation after all." The Queen said as they walked back into the castle.

The knights felt so flattered by her words they were growing red!

"W-We are the future?" Joustin was shocked. "I never thought... that..."

"We've always been behind the Knight Captain and the other Holy Knights..." Said Heshmerie. "I never could have told her majesty would utter such words for our humble group..."

"W-We're still learning, your majesty! But thank you for your kind words..." Patricia also felt flattered.

"Hm, thank you..." Emerette blushed cutely.

"It was moving..." Juliette nodded cutely.

"Heh, you're still young and learning, but your teamwork... I have not seen such incredible synergy and bonds in a single team in a long while! Your friendship, bonds, and your abilities all merge into a wonderful waltz of elements and attacks. Even foes vastly stronger than all of you combined are defeated before your attacks, you're excellent knights." Said the Queen. "Once you reach the age of David and the rest of the Holy Knights, your power will vastly surpass even them."

"R-Really..." Joustin muttered, without believing such a thing.

"Hence why I thought of the need to give your group a new name, and also... New members," the Queen smiled. "Are they here?"

"Yes, your majesty," the Vampires appeared and disappeared through shadows, as the knights walked into the throne room, finding three more members waiting there.

"These will be your new companions. I want you to welcome them into your group and teach them the ropes. I value their talent as big as yours," said the Queen. "However, because of one circumstance or another, they cannot unleash all of it yet, and are quite young, still learning."

Chapter 1469 New Members

Patricia, Heshmerie, Joustin, Emerette, and Juliette glanced at the three new members that the Queen had chosen for them once they entered the throne room.

They were still processing this whole "new team members business" altogether, but they were shocked by what they saw.

"These will be your new companions. I want you to welcome them into your group and teach them the ropes. I value their talent as big as yours," said the Queen. "However, because of one circumstance or another, they cannot unleash all of it yet, and are quite young, still learning. They might be reckless at times, or not go along as well, but they got the spirit and have been recommended by me by their tutors."

The three of them glanced at the Magic Knights with slight surprise, although one of them remained looking rather grumpy.

"Ah, so it was them, thank you for having me along. I used to be a Magician in the Tower, nice to meet you. I suppose we never truly had a proper greeting; I am Tomas." Said the first of them, a young man bordering his nineteens, certainly the oldest of this group by looks alone, he had short brown hair and emerald eyes wearing glasses like Joustin, he looked like a scholar, but with armor on top of his scholarly clothes. "The Queen has rewarded me with the opportunity to become part of a new Squadron that will be protecting the Kingdom from now on, I look forward to work with you guys."

"Oh, it's Tomas! I know that guy..." Said Joustin. "I remember Lady Planta talking about him. I think he helped a lot yesterday, right?"

"Yeah..." Heshmerie nodded. "Isn't he a bit older though?"

"Only around a year and a half older," Said Patricia. "It doesn't matter! Wasn't a demon worshipper though?!"

"D-Demon Worshipper? That's a bit of a stretch... I-I was... I was forced to become a member of their group against my will..." muttered Tomas. "I've been proving that I am not an evil sorcerer so far so I hope... you could help me prove myself even more worthy."

"Hmph, if you think that-"

"Of course! Let's work together!" Heshmerie interrupted the mean words of Patricia rather bluntly, leaving her a bit red in anger.

"Now, the other two..." Joustin muttered. "Hm? A dwarf girl...? Wait, you're Brisingra, right? Princess of the Dwarven City of Svartalfheim in the Ash Mountains! I remember you were always with Lady Planta."

"A-Ah, yes... It is me," Brisingra nodded. She was a half elf and half dwarf girl with a small stature and body, but big and bright eyes. Her hair was red color with fiery blue eyes. "I was absent yesterday and I came back today to help however I can. I felt so bad I couldn't help... I'm so sorry. I had the strength, I might've been able to prevent deaths but... I-I was a coward..."

"Brisingra..." The Queen sighed. "Please don't blame you for such things, you're still growing up, and you're also a princess! I wouldn't have wanted you to risk your life so much for another Kingdom either, so please calm down. Your Father has already agreed to a meeting with me later, and you'll get to see him again, it has been a little while, right?"

"Ah, father! Yes!" Brisingra was very happy. "I'll tell him about Mother as well, and the Past Realm."

"I suppose that's also something that could be talked..." Nodded the Queen. "Is Ambil's house in good state?"

"It is one of the few houses that wasn't ruined, yes," Brisingra nodded. "The entrance to Hephaestus Inheritance Forge and also the Portal to the Past Realm remain intact and in good state! My mother and the people there are already preparing a lot of provisions and other things to help out. They can't quite come out yet on their own, however, but food and other things can be transferred."

"That would be so appreciated! Thank you Brisingra!" The Queen was very happy. "Ambil is in the Castle's Forges with other blacksmiths at the moment, working hard with the rest of the competition participants as they work to create new equipment and metal pieces to reconstruct the city. I told them they didn't really need to, but something possessed them and they won't stop..."

"I suppose it might've been the King's sacrifice..." Brisingra sighed. "I am very sorry about that, your majesty."

"It's... alright, there's a way to bring him back, there's hope Brisingra," the Queen smiled. "Now! Please treat her well, she's not just a dwarf but also half ancient elf, Brisingra has many special abilities, but she specializes in barrier magic. Something you need quite a lot."

"Oooh! Yeah! Definitely!" Joustin nodded.

"Indeed," Heshmerie agreed. "Even with a shield, I doubt I can just take on the attacks of everyone."

"A princess! It is an honor!" Patricia said. "Let's get along~!"

"Welcome to the party, Princess Brisingra," Emerette said.

"Welcome," Juliette nodded.

"Thank you for the hospitality..." Brisingra felt moved. "Mother helped me out come out of the Realm and guided me into taking this decision. But this is what I wanted, something that drove me with a stronger purpose. I have great power, so I need to use it to help others. This Kingdom has given me so much, welcomed me as one of your own and all... The least I could do is return the favor."

"So honorable and moving... Bleh!"

Suddenly, a childish voice echoed behind Brisingra, as the group glanced at the third new member, someone that they couldn't tell was either a boy or a girl.

They were short in height, perhaps almost around the same height as Brisingra, if not slightly smaller, with short silvery-white hair, and sharp red eyes, looking rather fierce, but with an adorable face.

They had a slender body with even more slender legs and twig-like arms, delicate pale white skin, pointy ears, and as they talked, they noticed two tiny fangs in their mouth.

Aside from that, they wore black shorts, black and red shoes with tiny bat wings on them, white socks, white blouse, and a black jacket with a hoodie covering their face.

"Hey, Melascula! Have some manners while in the presence of her majesty!"

The other Vampires appeared by their side and started reprimanding the little vampire.

Chapter 1470 Melascula

The cheeky Little Vampire that laughed at Brisingra was being reprimanded by their Vampire seniors, hitting their head with their fists as the little vampire kept complaining with their very high-pitched voice.

"Hey that hurts you damn...! Agh!"

"Please spare me! I'm sorryyyyyy!"

"Dammit, stop hitting me already- ACK!"

Melascula kept getting cheeky and then going back to ask for forgiveness, they had quite the terrible personality. Some of the knights thought it was a she, while some thought it was a boy.

"So who is he?" Wondered Patricia. "Is he our new member as well?! Wait, a vampire?"

"Yes, Melascula is your new member," nodded the Queen, walking to Melascula's side and patting the vampire's little shoulders, keeping the vampire from doing anything funny. "Melascula is the youngest Vampire of this Clan, at only 82 years of age, they're considered barely a teenager. However, they got quite a lot of potential, due to their special Class."

"Class?" Wondered Joustin. "I-I don't know if that would be enough to turn her into a new knight... Um, is she a girl or a boy though? Patricia you called him a boy?"

"I did, isn't he a boy?" Patricia wondered.

"..." Melascula glared at them talking about their gender as if they knew more than them. "I have yet to decide my gender, so shut up already!"

"D-Decide?" Heshmerie wondered, confused.

"Some Pure-blooded Vampires can be born without gender," explained the Queen. "Or well, any sexual... reproductive organs. That's what I mean. Melascula here is technically not a boy or a girl, though they're very boyish, right?"

"Hmph! Your majesty, you shouldn't be bothering to explain things to these fools!" Melascula said. "They clearly look down on us Vampires! I bet they believe we're demons."

"Well aren't you descended from Demons?" Tomas wondered. "I've investigated this before- Actually! Perhaps the ability to be able to decide a gender later in your age is part of your demon bloodline. Demons technically have no genders but can choose any that fits their demonic desires and embody them the best. Sometimes they are none too."

"T-That's...!" Melascula was about to refute him but couldn't find fault in his words. "D-Dammit, I guess so? Look I didn't ask to be born this way! Uugh, it's so embarrassing to talk about it!"

"Anyway, Melascula might be a bit unruly and badmouthed, but they have great potential and... I think they got good intentions," Camilla said. "They clearly don't want to be knights, but they will obey my words. Becoming part of your party will enrich Melascula's life and give them valuable experiences they lack!"

"Oh, I see... So that's why he's with us, huh?" Patricia groaned. "But can he have better manners though?!"

"Bleeeehh!" Melascula was pulling their eyes wide while showing Patricia their long tongue to mock her.

"Look how childish they are!" Patricia complained. "I simply can't believe this!"

"That's enough Melascula," said Camilla. "Also at what age will you choose a gender?"

"I-I don't know!" Melascula complained. "And I don't care!"

"Well, whatever..." Camilla shrugged. "Anyway, now that everyone is together, I hereby declare you the Magic Knight Squadron! Your task is to cooperate with every other soldier and knight and take down the remaining lingering threats within our kingdom, while protecting it in these harsh times! You will be given rooms to sleep in the castle, three or four meals a day, a monthly pay, and necessary equipment, with one free day every week."

"W-We've been promoted!" Patricia celebrated.

"Yeaaaah!" Joustin jumped around.

"No way! We're the Magic Knights Squadron?! So cool!" Heshmerie said.

"We did it sis!" Emerette said.

"Yes, we did!" Juliette agreed.

"Well, I'm glad for you!" Brisingra smiled. "I guess I'm also a Magic Knight too, huh? That sounds rather strange..."

"You don't say... From Tower Magician to Kingdom's Magic Knight.. It sure one hell of a jump..." Tomas muttered.

"Meh, what does it matter anyway? Bunch of losers, they're all dying once we fight a decently strong foe anyway!" Melascula kept being a bother, as usual.

"Melascula! Cooperate with them, learn from them, and improve," Camilla said. "These will be my orders for you, alright?"

"Y-Yes, your majesty..." Sighed Melascula, nodding.

"Now," said Camilla. "You have the rest of the day to rest and recover from your battle, use it to get used to the castle interior. Melascula, you're ordered to hang out with them and have a good time too."

"E-Eh?!" Melascula complained. "But your majesty..."

"Obey her words already, Melascula!"

"You're too antisocial, you need friends your age!"

"Also you're getting on my nerves already..."

"Uugh! Okay, okay, okay! Stop yelling at meeee!" Melascula kept complaining and getting angrier, they had quite the rich personality. "Whatever! Let's hang out and have a "good time" or whatever, bleh!"

"We weren't planning on doing anything extraordinary anyway, we'll go eat probably, I'm starving," Heshmerie said.

"Yeah I am starving as well, I just hope we can get along, little vampire," Patricia giggled.

"Hmph!" Melascula ignored them for most of the time.

However, Tomas and Brisingra were much more open, telling them their abilities and everything, and even talking more about their past, letting them connect a bit better with everyone else.

"So Melascula, I'm really curious right now, what's your past? How did you get here?" Joustin wondered.

"Hmm..." Melascula didn't want to say anything, but recalling the Queen made them hesitate. "I... Uh, well, I am the youngest of my Clan. Long ago we were freed by Queen Camilla from some ancient catacombs where we were sealed. We swore our loyalty to her after that, obviously."

"Interesting... So that's how there's so many Vampires out of nowhere..." Heshmerie nodded. "So the Queen didn't convert you?"

"Of course not! I was born and raised as Vampire!" Melascula said while angrily spouting cutely. "Hmph, honestly... If it wasn't for our promise to the Queen and the contract, I would never ever talk to you at all."

"Y-You're such a prick..." Patricia glared at the Vampire angrily.

"Hah?!" Melascula responded with an even angrier expression.

The two confronted one another, glaring angrily at each other.