

Brand New 1541

Chapter 1541: Entering The Nightmare Cloud

"That was amazing, Elisa!"

After learning Lily's real age, Rita was slightly surprised, even more because she looked so much younger now.

"Yeah, the Magic Circle, and the Physique development have greatly de-aged my body, I feel like I'm on my last twenties or early thirties..." Lily nodded. "It's really nice, right? To have such abilities. You won't get older either, Rita."

"Oh yeah, I know, it's pretty amazing," Rita nodded. "I wish I could share some with my hubby, but I don't want to get him involved into all these dangerous things..."

"Hmm..." Lily nodded. "Oh well, we're almost there... Look around."

"Yep, lots of darkness everywhere," Rita nodded.

At the same time, Gabriel and Katherine looked into the skies, which darkened rapidly as they got inside the Nightmare Cloud.

"Is this entire thing just black clouds? I can't even see where I'm going..." Gabriel said, feeling confused to the point his little eyes were spinning around. "Uwah, my head is spinning..."

"Yeah, it's all black clouds," nodded Katherine. "We're finally inside one of them, a Nightmare Cloud. One of the most dangerous, unstable places in this Realm, and where we should never enter... But here we are."

"Yes, here we are everyone, we're inside the Nightmare Cloud... It's surprisingly quiet in here, mostly Nightmare Thunder, which we can easily tank with the vessel..." Morpheus said. "The Dream Fae and Nightmare Undead are also on standby to detect anything weird and unusual..."

"Good, then let's navigate to the closest route out of here and into the Forest of Fairy dreams or whatever it called," Elayne nodded.

"Alright!" Morpheus said.

The giant vessel began maneuvering, evading the incoming thunderbolts within the dark, turbulent clouds, slowly moving and then evading more attacks, giant masses of black cumulus, and more.

"This place seems rather peaceful..." Rita said.

"Yeah, but where did the Nightmareborns come from?" Lily asked.

"Ah, from what I've researched and learned, Nightmareborns are usually created on the spot, meaning that they were made as many as they needed... or something," Elayne said. "I am not so sure myself what's up..."

"M-Maybe the cloud is mostly harmless once the Nightmareborns inside are defeated?" Gabriel suggested. "T-That could be it, big sis!"

"I wouldn't be so sure myself, better stay alert as we move through," Morpheus said. "Moving through here is already quite troublesome, so let's be careful."

"Y-Yeah..." Elayne nodded.

The group slowly moved through the clouds, evading thunderous shockwaves and explosive thunderbolts as best as they could, but there didn't seem to be any living beings for quite a while.

The Nightmare Cloud was gigantic and labyrinthian in a way, and they had to take several turns everywhere because of several "Nightmare Holes" they found, which were literal holes carved into space where Nightmare Miasma constantly poured from, which was very dangerous, capable of eating away a person's mind and soul with just a few seconds of direct touch.

Aside from the Nightmare Holes, there were also Nightmare Thunder Tornadoes, which were quite literally, giant tornadoes made of black clouds and thunder, all made of Nightmare Essence, which upon contact would end up dealing a lot of damage to the vessel, so the moment they saw one, they quickly avoided it from a safe distance.

And lastly, there were strange Nightmare Soot, resembling little black dots floating everywhere, seemingly harmless, upon touching they could infect living beings and normal Dream Inhabitants into Nightmareborns, even though Nightmare Soot weren't living beings.

All of these were dangerous natural phenomena of this Realm, three of many more that they had yet to see. Elayne knew that Realms could be as vast as an entire planet, or sometimes even bigger due to not being restricted to things such as needing to have land, an atmosphere, and so on.

Unlike the Physical Plane that worked through the Laws of Physics, Realms didn't, and they could expand beyond proper measurements and comprehension, easily ignoring most laws of physics entirely.

"We've been here for like an hour! When are we getting through this?" Rita complained. "I am getting hungry already..."

"Come on Rita don't complain, you didn't have to come, you know?" Elayne sighed, crossing her arms. "You insisted, so please just behave."

"Eeeh? Ugh, fine..." Rita groaned, looking elsewhere into the vast black clouds. "Hm?"

Morpheus sighed, he had been putting a lot of time and effort into this, and if it wasn't for Elayne's Mana, he would have already fallen asleep due to exhaustion.

"We must be already getting there... Almost," said Morpheus. "This has sure been a perilous journey... But I couldn't have expected anything less anyway, it is indeed a very dangerous place."

"Well, if we're getting there then I believe we already went through the hardest part, right?" Mark wondered. "I hope things are smoother from now on, we still have the whole Realm of Avalon to navigate next."

"Yes, I hope the same," Elayne nodded. "Morpheus, are you tired? Here, have this."

Elayne took out something from her inventory, a crystallization of spiritual dream energy, which she called Dream Spirit Stones.

These couldn't be found naturally outside, and although they might be found in this vast Realm, they weren't here to gather resources.

"Ah, a Spirit Stone?"

He quickly touched the pink colored crystal, which turned into pure energy he absorbed, making him feel less tired and with a bit more energy, but perhaps not enough.

"I can make these on my own, but it takes some time..." Elayne said. "Hmm, oh! How about these instead?"

Elayne quickly grabbed one of the giant black orbs lying around, a core of the Nightmareborns.

"Can you consume these?"

"Ah, yes, it shouldn't be a problem."

Morpheus touched the sphere, as he began to absorb it, gaining a great deal of energy.

"Oooh! Much better! T-This is really quite refreshing! Could I consume more? I need a lot to Rank Up as well...!"

"Oh right, sure, eat away then!"

He began to quickly absorb black spheres constantly, his Aura growing larger and stronger over time.

"Ooh, this power, I can feel it growing!" Morpheus said. "With a few more I could perhaps even evol-"

RUMBLE!

However, a tremor interrupted everyone, as giant black clouds began to swirl and gather around the entire vessel, as if alive.

And then, something emerged from within, a giant, black hand with a crimson eye within its palm.

BAAAM!

Crack, crack...!

With a single blow, the barrier began to shatter.

Chapter 1542: Surviving The Nightmare Cloud!

Morpheus grew stronger the more Nightmareborn Cores he absorbed. Elayne thanked Katherine for gathering them for her, as she saw Morpheus Aura growing stronger.

It seemed that these were exceptionally good at boosting his power, helping him move the vessel much faster as well!

But above all, his entire being began to evolve, it was gaining more and more dream and nightmare power, about to transform into an even stronger being.

Unlike other normal magic weapons, Morpheus was also a spirit! And spirits could, naturally, grow stronger and evolve through the large accumulation of compatible energies.

As beings made of purely ethereal energies, absorbing energy alone seemed to be enough to help them grow and also satiate their hunger and heal their exhaustion, and of course, the possibility of evolving was there.

FLUOSH!

"I can feel it! My power is rising... I can almost... I might even evol-"

RUMBLE!

However, a tremor interrupted Morpheus and everyone else, as they glanced at the origin of that tremor, noticing that the clouds around them began to transform.

"Huh? What the hell was that?!" Rita wondered. "Wait, don't fucking tell me...!"

"That was a tremor...!" Lily said. "But where did it even come from?!"

"Huh? Over there!" Anna pointed into the distance. "T-The clouds...!"

As Anna and everyone else noticed, the giant Nightmare Clouds started to swirl and gather around the entire ship-shaped dream cloud, resembling an ocean vessel with a golden, heavenly appearance.

"They're moving alone on their own?" Mark wondered.

"T-This is weird!" Gabriel said.

"Aren't they just natural phenomena?!" Katherine wondered.

"I..." Elayne muttered, seeing the clouds rushed towards them.

The small golden ark was suddenly being wrapped by the endless darkness, as if the Nightmare Clouds themselves had suddenly become alive out of nowhere!

"They're beginning to cover the entire vessel!" Elena said. "Mom, we have to destroy them!"

"Y-Yeah!" Elayne nodded. "We have to-"

TRUUUM!

However, interrupting Elayne's words, something emerged from within the Nightmare Clouds, rapidly swirling and manifesting, gigantic in size, perhaps over fifty meters of height alone.

It was a giant, black hand with a crimson eye over its palm, glowing brightly and letting out a demonic, nightmarish aura.

"A-A hand?!" Lily asked.

BAAAM!

However, before everyone could respond, the hand slammed the barrier with immense force, letting out a powerful shockwave.

Crack, crack...!

And with a single blow, the barrier began to shatter, gaining several cracks across its entire surface, scaring Elayne and the rest even more.

"Wait a second, this giant thing is another Nightmareborn?!" Anna asked.

"Was it waiting to ambush us once we got through the Nightmare Cloud?" Monica wondered.

"That doesn't matter right now!" Gardenia said. "Elayne! The barrier's durability is decreasing way too damn fast! Kill that thing, hurry!"

"Y-Yes!" Elayne nodded, as she unleashed her Draconification Ability, rapidly encompassing herself with draconic scales, while holding Irene in her axe form.

At the same time, a spinning, colorful crown made of crystals appeared above her head, granting her powerful Elemental Magic Attacks.

"STOP!"

With a furious and god-like roar, Elayne let out some of her true strength, as a giant storm of golden lightning, freezing ice spikes, and blazing fireballs bombarded the giant hand.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

"GRYYAAAHH!"

The monstrous hand roared in agony, its fingers walking over the barrier as they tried to run away from Elayne's magic, which was covering it with large holes, burning wounds, freezing wounds, and more.

"Where do you think you're going?!"

She quickly gave chase, infusing her own Mana into the Barrier and manipulating its shape, just like Brisingra would have done, giant spikes emerged from the barrier, piercing the monster's body.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

The monster was quickly impaled, bleeding Nightmare Miasma everywhere, as it groaned in agony. Elayne was merciless, emerging out of the barrier and slicing its entire body with her axe at full power.

"Irene, let's go all out!"

"Gotcha, Elayne!"

Their Souls and Auras condensed and combined temporarily, as Elayne activated Irene's [Divine Spiritual Elemental Fusion] Ability, transforming her once more into her holy axe form.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

The giant monster roared, screaming as its entire body was covered by giant slashing wounds, several of its fingers were sliced apart, exploding into black soot.

"GRYSHAAAGGHH...!"

Still resisting death, the giant Nightmareborn's crimson eye shone brightly, firing a massive crimson beam at point blank towards Elayne.

TRUUUMMM!!!

"Elayne!"

Mark was about to go out and help her, but suddenly...

FLAAASH!

A blinding rainbow light emerged from her body, as Elayne held her shield tightly, intercepting the beam with it and then, manifesting its powers even further.

"{Divine Yggdragon's Eyes Of Magic Repulsion}!"

The shield transformed, letting out a rainbow aura that shapeshifted into the giant maws of a massive Yggdragon, releasing a giant beam against the monster.

BOOOOMMM!!!

The beam pierced through it, rapidly disintegrating it and then piercing a hole through the Nightmare Clouds, everyone was able to see through it, the floating island made of beautiful forests, where the Dreams of the majority of the Fae, Fairies, and Spirits of Avalon condensed was right there.

"Morpheus! We're almost there! Let's keep moving!"

As Elayne said, Morpheus, with a lot of new strength, agreed, quickly beginning to move the vessel-shaped dream cloud towards the hole that Elayne had opened.

RUMBLE!

However, to their surprise, whatever was in here wouldn't let them escape so easily, the Nightmare Clouds rapidly gathered, fusing into several more hands, the same Elayne had destroyed.

"Wait, there's more?!"

Elayne was suddenly surrounded by these gigantic black hands made of Nightmare Clouds, with red eyes over their palms, sometimes over their entire bodies.

Instead of one, there were now over eight of them, and she noticed the clouds rapidly shapeshifting, two or three more were on the way already.

"This is ridiculous, how are these things being made? It doesn't feel right to me!"

Rita complained to Morpheus, but it wasn't as if the scythe knew anything else.

"I-I really don't have any idea why this is happening... Unless.. unless we're being ambushed by intelligent beings, not just Nightmareborns, who are no smarter than beasts...!"

"By people then? Wait... that can't be true! Nobody lives in here right?"

As Rita looked into the clouds approaching, she noticed something by just a glimpse.

It was a split second before it hid behind the clouds.

"W-Wha...?!"

It was the silhouette of a human, wearing a black robe.

Chapter 1543: Who's Behind This?

Rita might have only seen that silhouette for a split second as she looked around, but she couldn't forget its shape and form, it was indeed the body of a human, the shadow of one perhaps, or something.

But the silhouette and shape, they were indeed humanoid! And above all, they were also wearing a black robe that covered most of their body. She was unable to see more details either though, but she panicked.

After all, this meant that they weren't fighting against just nature, but against someone that was actively controlling this Nightmare Cloud to become a deadly trap for everyone in here.

If she didn't talk and told everyone what she saw, they might end up fighting against endless hordes of Nightmareborns artificially created by someone else, ultimately ending in their demise.

"E-Everyone! I saw something, a guy was in there, hiding in the clouds! A dude! A person!" She exclaimed.

"What?!" Mark asked. "Really?"

"But how did they follow us all the way here?!" Lily wondered.

"I am sure they couldn't, I close the gate behind us! Also SWORD is protecting the Domain...!" Elayne said. "I am even connected to it and can now see through it with Nature and the Totems, and everything is fine!"

"So they were already in here?!" Wondered Elena. "Ah, the things are coming! Mom! We have to fight them together!"

"Rita! Where did you see that guy?!" Mark asked.

"Don't try anything stupid Mark!" Rita knew why he was asking. "Are you going to go chase after them? Maybe that's what they want! We can't get lost in here, remember?"

"I-I know that!" Mark sighed. "But where did you see him?"

"Aah, over there! I'm sure, over that formation that looks like a face...!" Rita pointed into the distance.

There was a large quantity of black clouds swirling together, three small tornadoes were also in that area, two shaped like eyes next to one another, and a third beneath the two, making it look like a wailing face.

Whether that was intentional or just coincidence, Rita didn't know.

"I see, so that's where they're hiding... But the Dream Realm is too dangerous to go on alone...!"

Mark quickly leaped out of the barrier and then started fighting after learning from Rita, joining Elayne right away without even hesitating.

"Ignias!"

"Understood!"

His knife rapidly transformed into a giant, blazing sword, as Mark's entire body was covered on blazing flames turning into a wooden giant of over ten meters, made of black wood as hard as mithril, with a helmet shaped like the skull of a dragon.

"{Sextuple Slash}!"

He swung the blazing sword against the incoming black hand Nightmareborns, as he unleashed a storm of slashing, blazing attacks that intercepted all attackers, covering them on deadly slicing flames.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

Each of his attacks were suddenly multiplied by six, dealing serious damage with a few swings of his sword, the many hand-shaped monsters groaned in agony, as several pieces of their bodies, mostly their fingers, were sliced apart one after another.

"Mark!"

Elayne smiled, feeling relieved he had arrived, she had already taken down one of these resilient monsters using her shield's power, but with so many more, she knew it wouldn't be easy at all to stand her own ground, even less in a Realm so hostile to living beings.

"Elayne! Rita saw a man! A hooded person was hiding behind a black cloud!"

"Eh?!"

Elayne was surprised as she heard him talk, but as they were fighting, they couldn't speak as much as they wanted, the giant Nightmareborns attacked them, firing their laser beams incessantly.

"Use your shield, Mark!"

"I know!"

The two quickly used their shields, which suddenly grew thrice as big as before by absorbing their Mana and Spiritual Energy.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

An endless rain of laser beams reached them, generating countless explosions they defended against using their magic shields, Fortress-shaped Auras surged from the shields, covering their entire bodies as they moved.

Meanwhile, Morpheus' summons, the Dream Fae and the Nightmare Undead distracted the monsters as much as possible, firing beams of pink light or throwing explosive cursed nightmare weapons at them.

However, they were still rather weak even with the Bellflower Tree Wooden Armor on top of their bodies, the Hands slammed their palms at them, crushing them with ease one after another.

"The Familiars are dying too quickly!" Elayne seemed annoyed. "At this rate they'll surround the entire barrier and destroy it!"

"We can't let that happen!" Mark roared. "Ignias, all out!"

"Fine!"

FLAAASH!

Ignias transformed into an even larger blazing, volcanic sword as she assimilated Mark's metallic wood and his Phoenix Spirit Flames and Red Dragon Spirit Flames.

With the combination of Sextuple Slash and other Abilities, Mark rushed forward like a blazing titan, fitting of his BNLO Avatar name.

"{Apocalyptic Infernal Onslaught}! + {Sextuple Slash}!"

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

An endless rain of blazing slashes reached the group of hand-shaped Nightmareborns, who kept firing their laser beams, unable to damage him due to his shield.

Their entire bodies were rapidly cut down constantly, even as they resisted the initial slashing attacks by the dozens, after receiving over a hundred attacks, they were bound to receive immense damage!

"GRYAAAAGGGH!"

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

The overaccumulation of slashing wounds and flames over their bodies quickly made their entire beings combust and explode, dying on the spot one after another.

"RAAAHHH!"

Mark roared mightily, killing one, then two, three, four, and five in a single row!

As the hands agonizing died, more kept emerging from the clouds, chasing after Elayne, who received them with a confident smile.

"You're much tougher and stronger than the other Nightmareborns... but so what?!"

As she roared, she swung Irene with all her strength, and took out her Gaia's All Purpose Tool, infusing her with spirits and transforming the weapon into an enormous golden shovel.

Irene also went back to her blazing red colored shovel form.

And with both of them...

"Now...!"

Elayne activated her Farmer Skills, which were finally Soul-Bound to her too.

"{Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts}: {First Form: Sowing the Field}!"

RUMBLE!

Chapter 1544: New Fighting Style

As Mark joined the battle above the Dream Cloud, Elayne was given some time to concentrate better into her fighting style and not fight so desperately.

However, the amount of Nightmareborns coming after them only increased even more. Especially the hand-shaped ones, which came in droves of dozens.

These beings were much tougher than any the mosquito-like Nightmareborns, and according to what Rita said, could be summoned beings from someone lurking behind the black clouds.

Therefore, it would make sense that they waited until they got this far, trying to wait for them to either be taken down by the Nightmare Storms and Nightmare Thunder, and if that didn't happen, to take them down once weakened.

But Elayne wasn't going to let that happen, with them so close to their destination, there was nothing that would ever stop her.

"You're much tougher and stronger than the other Nightmareborns... but so what?! I'll simply have to use more of my strength."

As she roared, Elayne swung Irene with all her strength, unleashing a powerful Spirit Explosion, pushing the Nightmareborns away with immense force.

BOOOM!

However, none of them had yet to die, and the damage they sustained was very little. They were indeed tough and couldn't be easily taken down with casual attacks.

"GRUOOOHHH!"

As they rushed towards her again, Mark reached them, beginning to attack them with his blazing sword, constantly stacking slashing attacks and blazing explosions, pushing them back again, a couple died, but the rest still endured even further!

In that moment, Elayne knew, she knew very well that with her current spells, her current skills, and even her current techniques...

It wouldn't be enough.

She had to go beyond, to step further into a new realm, relying on these powers alone wasn't going to work, she had to refine them, to use them in a way that it would give her the most strength.

She had to squeeze all their power and potential!

"Let's try something new, shall we?"

She smiled confidently, as she took out her Gaia's All Purpose Creation Tool from her Inventory, a weapon that despite how strong it could be and how many abilities and potential it had, was still A Rank, and infusing the weapon with spirits.

"{Divine Spiritual Fusion Synthesis}: {Divine Farmer's Golden Shovel}!"

FLUOSH!

And using her Skill to transform the Gaia's All Purpose Creation Tool into a beautiful, giant golden shovel overflowing with an aura of most elements, such as fire, water, ice, wind, light, and nature.

And then, Irene also went back to her blazing red colored shovel form!

"Huh?"

Mark glanced at Elayne with surprise, unlike before, she didn't turn both of them into swords to use her amazing Swordsmanship Skill.

No, she kept them as shovels!

And with both of them...

"Now...!"

Elayne activated her Farmer Skills, which were finally Soul-Bound to her too.

And then she decided to go further beyond her former strength.

She decided to embrace her original identity, that Class she picked at the beginning of her journey in that other world.

That very class that eventually helped her reach the point where she was, that decisive moment that not only revealed to her that amazing world, but even the truth about this one.

And more...

From the beginning of her path towards the future, despite having taken the sword as one of her prevalent weapons, and even axes...

Elayne decided to choose the shovel again, this time, to try something new.

To weaponize the origin of her supernatural powers tied to the System Classes in BNLO.

In Arcadia, the magical world linked to her that gave her the power to fight and survive in this one.

"It's now or never... I must concentrate."

Elayne's eyes shone brightly with the color of green and gold.

Her entire aura also changed form, resembling countless ghostly or spectral plants, trees, grass, flowers, all made of green and gold light.

As the Nightmareborns rushed towards her, Elayne gave a step forward, as she imagined the area in front of her...

As a beautiful farming field.

She could still recall that one time she talked about weapon techniques and swordsmanship with Camilla and even David.

The two of them, who had created their own unique techniques always told her there were three steps to walking a path of their own creation.

The first step, projection.

Elayne projected the world as she saw it around her, even her Nature Soul resonated, The World twisted and warped, even the Nightmareborns were shocked, as they saw a beautiful farming field.

Then the second step, idealization.

She had to idealize her perfect ability, her perfect form or technique, she gathered her memories of being a farmer since she was a child at her house in the countryside, and now in the game.

How plowing the fields, growing plants and animals, and living in harmony with nature help her feel more connected with the World as a whole.

Yes, she could see it.

And lastly, the third step...

Realization!

She has to combine it all and make it come to fruition, to turn it into reality.

To realize it and create a path to walk through.

By using Mana, Spirit Energy, and even her Divine and Draconic Auras...

Elayne decided to walk the path of a Farmer that broke all limits established before.

To turn their art, into a deadly weapon, as deadly as swordsmanship and more.

"{Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts}: {First Form}!"

RUMBLE!

The World around Elayne trembled, the Nightmareborns saw the field expand, until they were within it.

This was not only a technique, but it instantly created a Terrain around her with Terrain Blocks and with their own effects.

"GRAAAGH?!"

The Nightmareborns, confused, quickly rushed towards Elayne, ignoring the field.

However, that was their biggest mistake.

"{Sowing the Field}!"

And then, as a farmer would do, Elayne decided to sow the field in front of her, slamming the soil with her giant shovels down with the force of a giant dragon.

TRUUUM!!!

A giant shockwave spread, the soil shattered and opened apart, the tremor caught all the Nightmareborns, as giant spears and boulders surged from the shattered field, piercing the bodies of the Nightmareborns one after another!

CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH!

Chapter 1545: A Strange Fellow

"{Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts}: {First Form: Sowing the Field}!"

RUMBLE!

Elayne's technique consisted of two stages, the first stage spread an imaginary farming field which then became a real Terrain using her powers, and lastly, a powerful attack into the ground, shattering it apart and spreading her strength through it.

TRUUUM!!!

A giant shockwave spread out, the ground shattered and opened apart causing a loud earthquake even though they weren't even stepping on actual solid matter right now.

BAAAM!

The tremor caught all the Nightmareborns, as giant spears and boulders surged from the shattered field, piercing the bodies of the Nightmareborns one after another! Their bodies began to rapidly be torn to shreds by a strength they couldn't understand.

CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH!

The attack didn't end there, the act of sowing wasn't just that, it spread seeds, Spiritual Seeds, countless of them across all cracks.

She wasn't done yet, she couldn't lose her momentum, even less her inspiration.

Once one is done sowing the field, what's next?

"{Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts}: {Second Form: Plowing}!"

Elayne stepped forward, moving at lightning speed, resembling a blur of green and golden light, her entire body shining brightly, dazzling as the spirits resonated with her.

BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM!

She slammed the field with immense force, each time she did, the ground was lifted, hitting the incoming Nightmareborns with brutal strength beyond any of her techniques.

"GRYYAAEEGGH!"

But that wasn't even the complete technique yet, as the Nightmareborns took great damage but didn't die yet...

"HAAAHH!"

RUMBLE!

Elayne roared, the field trembled, as giant roots and vines made of powerful spiritual plants emerged, spreading through the field and, with sharp spikes, long vines, and giant carnivorous flowers, they began catching the Nightmareborns in an endless sea of sharp vines, roots, and spines.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

The Spiritual Plants, part of Elayne's Weapon Technique, were utterly merciless, tearing to shreds the Nightmareborns, who were already weakened, and stretching their bodies until they were torn apart one by one.

"DAMMIT!"

Suddenly, as the Nightmareborns died one after another, Mark and Elayne, and everyone inside the Dream Cloud fending off the other hand-shaped Nightmareborns sneaking down there heard a scream.

The scream of a furious, and also crying and desperate man, who cried so loudly the entire Nightmare Cloud trembled.

"W-What was that?!" Mark asked. "Could it be an enemy?"

"I heard it from afar...!" Elayne said. "Is it the one behind this?!"

As the two glanced towards the origin of that voice, they saw something beginning to approach, amidst dozens of giant hand-shaped Nightmareborns.

"WHY WON'T YOU ALL DIE ALREADY?!"

It was not one, but three people. Two of them were completely covered by a black cloak, and their appearance couldn't be seen properly.

The third, however, was the strangest, it was a tall, slender man, wrapped tightly by black bandages and with several black and red colored nails piercing his limbs, while hanging from an x-shaped wooden structure.

He looked the most eerie, as his entire body was covered by these black bandages and even the nails, which pierced his eyes, nose, ears, and head several times.

The only uncovered part was his mouth, which had no lips, showing his bright white teeth, while he screamed angrily.

"GRAAAAAHHH! I JUST DON'T HAVE THE FREAKING PATIENCE FOR THIS SHIT! DIE ALREADYYYYY!"

As he screamed furiously, a giant shockwave of darkness surged from his entire, abhorrent body, as the Nightmare Clouds around him trembled, rapidly dividing into giant and powerful Nightmareborns shaped not as just hands with eyes this time, but also as foot, eyes, mouths, tongues, teeth, and organs like hearts, intestines, stomach, ears, and more.

When this happened, a foul black colored nightmarish smoke was produced from his body and the x-shaped thing he was attached to, spreading nightmare power everywhere for more and more Nightmareborns to be born.

"W-Who are you?! Why are you trying to stop us?!"

Elayne quickly confronted them as the army of Nightmareborns grew closer. The three mysterious people floating far away only glanced at them from afar.

"HAH?! WHY ARE WE HERE YOU SAY...?!"

As the man covered by nails was about to speak, one of the cloaked persons by his side quickly interrupted him.

"Lord Nakuna, I would suggest you to not speak anymore, you would risk revealing our true identities and worse, our purpose here."

They had the voice of an old man, while the one screaming had a slightly more youthful voice than the others.

He was also referred as "Lord Nakuna" despite being someone that was covered by nails and hanging on an x-shaped thing, he looked more like a prisoner or a tortured person than a lord they obeyed.

And yet...

"DOES IT REALLY MATTER?! THEY'RE ALL DYING RIGHT NOW ANYWAY! I CAN PRODUCE AS MANY NIGHTMAREBORNS AS NECESSARY, HEHEHEHE!"

"It's pretty damn obvious you're from the Black Hand! We already know everything!"

Mark confronted them, swinging his blazing sword, as he quickly took swung a second one, which Elayne threw at him, his Berserk Blade, which rapidly was enchanted with his metallic wood into a blazing sword.

"The Black Hand?! Wait, they already...!"

"Calm down, don't speak another word, we are not supposed to interact with them!"

The other cloaked person finally talked, they had a younger voice than the other two, and sounded like a female, but the man quickly stopped her from speaking another word.

"HAAAAH~ YOU GUYS ARE JUST WAY TOO BORING! STOP WORRYING SO MUCH! THOSE FUCKERS ARE JUST HARD TO KILL, BUT NOBODY HAS EVER SURVIVED AN ENCOUNTER WITH ME IN THE DREAM REALM, HEHEHAHAHAHA! THEY'RE DONE FOR NO MATTER HOW HARD THEY TRY!"

As Lord Nakuna laughed with his disgusting face while spitting saliva everywhere, the nails in his body began digging deeper into his flesh, creating strange, horrible sounds.

"OOOUUUGGGHH! TIME TO GO... FULL POWEEEEER~!"

As he screamed in both agony and pleasure, his long, purple tongue was revealed, coming out of his mouth while constantly dripping saliva, revealing a crimson eye at the tip.

The crimson eye opened, releasing a shockwave of crimson energy!

"{Nightmareborn Evolution}~!"

TRUUUM!

Chapter 1546: The Warlocks From The Black Hand

"W-Who the hell are those guys?!"

Anna panicked as she saw the black clouds surrounding the vessel-shaped Dream Cloud, out of nowhere a trio of weird people appeared.

Although two of them were cloaked and they were unable to see them properly, based in their voices, one of them was a young woman and the other an old man.

But they were the most normal of the trio, the weirdest one was behind them, hanging from what looked like an x-shaped cursed monument thing made of black wood and covered by talismans.

His entire body was tightly wrapped on black bandages and also was being pierced by black and red colored nails, it looked like an agonizing existence.

However, he talked very loudly and... fine, and he seemed to be the one in charge, to make things weirder!

And above all else, he was the one behind the Nightmareborns themselves, with a power that seemed about manipulating Nightmare Clouds and using them as ingredients to create endless Nightmareborns.

"They're definitely the warlocks from the Black Hand!" Elisa said. "Mom and Mark are fighting them alone; we have to go help them out!"

"Yeah, this is getting too out of control, what if something goes wrong?! I don't think the two of them can go against everyone...!" Elisa said.

"B-But Auntie Elayne said that we shouldn't step out of the barrier and that it would be of no purpose if we didn't stay inside!" Monica said. "I'm not a coward or something but..."

"She's not wrong, you all should remain in here," Morpheus spoke. "Only Mark and Elayne are powerful enough and have enough strength to hold their own out there without being dragged around. Perhaps in this other world that you visit things would be different, but you have to take into consideration that your bodies in here aren't so strong, and if you die here, you'll die forever. There are no revivals, and this isn't a game either."

"D-Dammit, he's not wrong though..." Jenny complained angrily. "If I go out there I'll get clapped in no time, we can't stay in here though!"

"I am very aware of that," said Morpheus.

"Eh? Then what are you going to do?" Rita asked. "I guess I can shoot using my gun, but I don't think the rest specializes that much on long-ranged attacks."

"That's why I'll expand my shield and create a secondary, much weaker layer around it, where you can stay. It'll protect you better and keep your foot stuck to the ground, with its own gravity field. This should help you, so you don't drift away into the Nightmare Cloud."

"Oh that sounds ideal!" Said Rita. "Nicely done, Morpheus!"

"Yeah!" Lily nodded. "Let's hurry!"

"Wait! There's a catch! It is a much weaker barrier, it'll protect you from the environment and from getting dragged away, but not from Nightmareborns. They will be able to pass through the barrier," Morpheus said. "They'll be weakened inside of it, however."

"Oh..." Elena muttered. "No, wait, that's perfect. It'll be even easier to deal with them then!"

"Yeah, I don't mind!" Anna nodded. "We have to just work together and not separate... I've got all my familiars here to give us further support and defenses."

"I'll fight by Elena's side!" Elisa said with a prideful smile, her big draconic wings flapping.

"I'll curse as many foes to weaken them as well!" Monica said. "And I've got my friend here to give us some further help as well..." She glanced at the giant Teddy Bear.

"I don't think I'll step into that barrier then, I am not too confident I could help at close combat," said Katherine. "I'll stay behind with Gabriel."

"Eeeh? Me too?! But I want to go fight!" Gabriel complained.

"No, you're still too young and... do you even know how to fight physically?" Asked Katherine.

"I... Uh," Gabriel tried to give a quick answer, but he couldn't. "I'm better at magic anyway! It's fine!"

"It's not, stay by my side Gabriel, please... I don't want to be lonely, and we're friends, right?" The Fairy asked with a gentle smile.

"I-I guess so... Fine!" Gabriel nodded. "I'll use magic from afar then!"

"We're going then!" Rita said.

"Let's hurry, girls!" Lily cried, running towards the same area where Mark and Elayne were.

"Very well then..." Morpheus nodded. "Gabriel, Katherine, I knew you would stay behind, I'll be needing some of your help."

"Of course, anything," Katherine nodded.

"Sure!" Gabriel said.

"Then Katherine, expand your Spirit Aura and take control of master's Terrain and her Domain spread everywhere," Morpheus said. "Then link it to my Aura."

"S-Sure! But why?" Katherine asked.

"It'll be needed," Morpheus said. "Gabriel, infuse the Aura with your Celestial Power."

"Al of it?" Gabriel wondered.

"Only a little," Morpheus said. "I've managed to think of a new technique."

As the trio started working, the large Nightmare Cores behind Morpheus disappeared one after another, as he gained more and more Dream and Nightmare power, fueling his new plan.

Meanwhile, the barrier created a second layer around Elayne and Mark, who saw Elena, Anna, Elisa, Monica, Rita, Lily, and Jenny stepping out of it!

"Huh?! You girls shouldn't be here!" Elayne said.

"We don't have any other option either way!" Elena said. "We're fighting together, mom! And... Watch out!"

"Ah!" Elayne, who had distracted herself for a second, didn't notice a giant pair of floating eyes hovering above her, charging energy to fire two powerful lasers.

However, Elena leaped into the air, unsheathing her Katana and unleashing not an ability or a skill, but a technique straight from BNLO.

Her entire body blazed as her stance, in midair, changed, all while her breathing became more intense, her heart beating rapidly, her blood boiling, until her skin turned red, and flames came from her mouth and eyes.

"{Fire Stance}!"

Her sword blazed with draconic flames, as she swung her sword, spinning in midair and cutting both giant eyeballs with a blazing explosion, shaped like a roaring dragon!

"{Flame Dragon's Dance}!"

SLAAAASH!

BOOOM!

Chapter 1547 Never Ending Battle

Seeing that her mother got distracted with everyone appearing by her side to fight and risk their lives in this battle, Elena leaped into the air, unsheathing her Katana and unleashing not an ability or a skill, but a technique straight from BNLO.

A technique she had learned through skills, but that now became a way of how she fought, ingrained within her very soul!

As two giant Nightmareborn eyes began charging energy to shot at her mother, Elena's entire body blazed as her stance changed, all while her breathing became more intense, her heart started beating rapidly, her blood began boiling, and then her skin turned red as flames came from her mouth and eyes.

"{Fire Stance}!"

Her body erupted with flames, made mostly out of her own Aura.

FLUOSH!

"{Flame Dragon's Dance}!"

And then, her sword blazed with draconic flames, as she swung her sword, spinning in midair and cutting both giant eyeballs with a blazing explosion, shaped as a roaring dragon!

SLAAAASH!

The slashing attack cut both eyes cleanly, followed by a massive explosion that made them dissipate into black soot instantly.

BOOOM!

The attack was simply too deadly! Elena had stolen the show right in that moment, only to be suddenly surrounded by several more Nightmareborns.

One shaped as a beating heart, another that was a giant jaw rushing to eat her, and a long tongue with many tentacles.

"Elena!"

Elayne was about to go help her, but Elena reacted faster than she anticipated.

"Don't worry about me, mom."

Elena's aura wrapped around her body, resembling an armor made of hard stone, which rapidly began to increase her defenses.

"{Earth Stance}: {Stone Body}"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

As all the foes reached her and attacked her in conjunction, her body remained indestructible despite her small size and frail-looking appearance.

And then, as the Nightmareborns were confused...

The energy that they spent attacking her flowed through Elena's body, releasing itself through her katana.

"{Counter}"

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

She moved her sword at lightning speed, the power accumulated from the damage she took was released as deadly slicing attacks with tremendous power.

The tongue and the mouth were the first two to die, instantly being sliced apart with slashing attacks that carried the force of falling boulders.

The third, the giant black colored heart with red eyes survived, hitting Elena with its entire body while firing beams from its tiny eyes.

CLAAASH!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Elena shielded herself using the shield her mother crafted for her, while her Aura transformed, dividing into dozens of swords made of her own shadows.

The swords flew through the skies, surrounding the heart-shaped Nightmareborn and stabbing its entire body as blood splattered everywhere.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

As this happened, Elena stepped forward, her stance changing and turning blue.

"{Water Stance}!"

As her eyes turned as blue as her stance, Elena smiled confidently, swinging her sword down as she suddenly manifested a giant sea serpent, roaring mightily while splitting the entire monstrous heart apart!

"{Sea Serpent's Dance}!"

SLAAAASH!

The attack split the Nightmareborn apart, which then exploded into black smoke and water, killing it on the spot.

As this happened, more Nightmareborns surrounded her, the more she killed, the more came after her after all.

"Hmph!"

However, Elena didn't stop fighting, as she fell back to the vessel, she saw various Nightmareborns trying to catch her, two of them resembling giant jaws.

Her stance quickly changed in that moment, becoming fiery and blazing with flames.

"{Fire Stance}!"

She changed stances again, becoming fierce, her blazing katana cut through the two jaws, which survived that, but then...

"{Fiery Salamander's Cleave}"

Using explosive blazing strength, Elena's flames erupted out of her own sword, giving it enough power and speed to cut through the two floating jaws again.

SLAAASH! SLAAASH! SLAAASH!

Not once, but thrice this time!

The two Nightmareborns exploded into black soot, quickly dissipating, leaving behind two black cores as the only thing after their deaths.

As Elena landed on the floor, she glanced at her mother.

"Don't worry about me, mom, I'll be fine. As long as we stay close together like this. Also Morpheus made this pseudo-barrier, it lets the Nightmareborns inside, but it weakens them too," Elena explained.

"Oh, that's amazing!" Elayne was happy to hear that. "With that we should be able to gain some advantage against the Nightmareborns but...!"

"More and more keep coming!" Mark said, as he attacked the incoming Nightmareborns shaped as hands, which were still the vast majority.

"{Infernal Sextuple Slash}!"

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

He unleashed an infernal barrage of slashing attacks, the power of this ability alone, which had been growing stronger with more slashes added to it was utterly ridiculous.

The Nightmareborns were slashed one after another, and then glowed brightly with red flames, before erupting into flames.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Mark, at that moment, showed why he was on par with Elayne, while everyone else was still not considered as powerful.

It might be harsh to admit such a fact, but he and Elayne were the ones that started the earliest to grow stronger IRL using Magic Circles, Physiques, and Enhanced Weapons.

Even Rita did so a little bit later than the two, making them have a natural advantage!

But whatever was the case, the rest wasn't weak either, especially when they combined their strengths together.

"{Accursed Abyss Chains}: {Paralyzing Curse}!"

Using the many ghostly teddy bears conjured using her Magic Catalyst's Cursed Ghostly Spirit Companions Summon Ability, Monica conjured two spells together, merging their powers as hundreds of black chains materialized out of them.

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

The chains connected with each ghostly figure, beginning to wrap and entrap dozens of Nightmareborns at the same time! Unable to escape easily, they started trying to break through the chains or slip pass them, the curse affected them upon contact, paralyzing their bodies and weakening them.

"Now, Elisa! Anna!" And at that moment, Monica called for her friends.

The two girls nodded, rushing forward, as Elisa's gauntlets released sparks of powerful electricity, and Anna's Familiars rushed forward, their Auras combining together into a powerful charge attack.

"{Divine Thunder Dragon's Fists}!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"{Spiritual Beast Aura Charge}!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

Countless attacks befell the Nightmareborns, hitting them really hard one after another, a couple started dying already, while the rest, very weakened, were reaped by Monica herself, as Shadow Claws emerged from her Aura, tearing their souls apart.

"{Cursed Phantom Claws}! {Shadow Ghost Cursed Claws}!"

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRASH!

Chapter 1548: Nightmare's Endless Dance

Lord Nakuna glanced from afar with a smile on his lipless mouth. He had found their struggle quite amusing, but at the end, even as hard as they battled and amazing as they were, the endless army of Nightmareborns was...

Well, never-ending.

And because they were within that Dream Cloud that couldn't move an inch forward, they were destined to die in his mind. Even if they tried coming at him, he had these two additional bodyguards with him, powerful assassins of the Black Hand with him.

"AAAAHH~ NOTHING BEATS A NICE STRUGGLE TO DEATH~! DON'T YOU TWO THINK THE SAME?"

He giggled, as his long purple tongue kept dangling around, he talked even if he bit his own tongue, he didn't mind.

"I believe things might be stretching for way too long, Lord Nakuna, why play with them? Why not take them down immediately and as swift as possible?"

"HAH~ YOU DON'T REALLY GET IT, DO YOU, YOUNG LASSIE? THESE PEOPLE ARE NOT GOING TO GO DOWN THAT QUICKLY! AND THEY'RE PRETTY STRONG AS YOU CAN SEE."

"But if we combined our strength and went directly-"

"That's probably what they want, Lamina, don't let them deceive you. As long as we attack them, they are at the advantage. Their Dream Cloud and the powerful Barrier around it are actively weakening the Nightmareborns."

The young assassin woman fell speechless as her two elders seemed to know much more of her. That reckless attitude would only lead to her quick death.

"But how long will this take then?"

"AREN'T YOU QUITE IMPATIENT? IT SHOULD BE DONE IN A COUPLE OF MINUTES! THE MORE OF MY CHILDREN DIE, THE STRONGER THE AFTER-NIGHTMARE BECOMES. ONCE IT'S DONE, IT IS GAME OVER FOR THEM, HEHEHEH! AND NO RETRIES~!"

"Is your technique that strong, Lord Nakuna?"

"Hey Lamina! Do you have to talk with the Lord in such a casual and disrespectful manner?!"

"BAH! FOOLISH GIRL! YOU REALLY ARE A NEWBIE! IT SEEMS YOU'LL FINALLY START REALIZING THAT WE DON'T LIKE MESSING AROUND IN THE BLACK HAND. HAHHAHA... JUST WAIT AND SEE!"

"Yes... I will wait, Lord Nakuna."

Lamina remained in silence after that, her crimson eyes glancing within her cloak at the battle happening within the Dream Cloud.

"NOW, THE EVOLVED ONES SHOULD ALREADY BE GETTING THERE~ THESE MIGHT BE A BIT DIFFERENT FOR THEM. I WONDER IF THEY CAN HANDLE THEM~? OHHH, PERHAPS THEY'LL DIE BEFORE OUR LITTLE PLAN IS DONE, GYEHEHEHEHAHAHAH!"

As he laughed, the crimson eye within his long purple tongue shone brightly, the power of the Nightmareborns continued growing stronger, as they started mutating, merging together, and evolving.

The eyes, mouths, ears, hands, hearts, and more continuously merged into aberrant mutated-looking monstrosities of tentacles, limbs, and many eyes and jaws.

"GRYYYYAAAEERRGH!"

They roared monstrosously, moving through space and suddenly hitting the surface of the Dream Cloud with a loud thud, their bodies were gigantic, over thirty meters each.

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM!

The monsters began hitting the barrier angrily, as Elayne and Elena noticed them, mother and daughter quickly rushed towards them with the intention to take them down as soon as possible.

"Elena, take the one at the left, I'll take this one!"

"Sure!"

Elayne leaped in midair, her two shovels shining brightly.

She began to recall the feeling she felt before, the essence within her very being as she unleashed such techniques.

"Let's do it again then!"

Countless of tentacles, hands, and laser beams greeted her as she descended towards the eldritch monstrosity, which she could hardly believe as a Nightmareborn.

"You sure love growing big, don't you?"

She smiled, quickly pushing her shovels down with all her strength.

And then...

"{Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts}: {First Form: Sowing the Field}!"

CRAAAASH!

RUMBLE!

The two shovels pierced through the tentacles of the monstrosity, as a field expanded in front of Elayne, the very monster's body became one.

An illusion, or perhaps a pseudo-domain was formed, rich soil expanded, a terrain was manifested over a monster's body itself.

"Good."

As she smiled, she continued the technique, her shovels dug through the entire soil, and the monster's very flesh, as giant boulders and spikes made of hard stone pierced and crushed the monster's limbs one after another.

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRASH!

"GRYYYYAAAAHHH!"

As the creature agonized, its gigantic eyes shone brightly, releasing countless beams against Elayne. She quickly brought over her shield, making it grow gigantic, and putting it in front of her.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The beams constantly impacted her shield, which easily reflected the attacks, helping her rush down without taking damage, while constantly absorbing energy and accumulating power into the shield itself.

And then, once she arrived at the monster's main body, her shovels dug deep into the Nightmareborn's black flesh, all while she unleashed another technique.

The Spiritual Seeds she had spread through every wound were rapidly germinating, glowing brightly...

"{Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts}: {Second Form: Plowing}!"

Her shovels dug deeper into the monster's flesh and blood, as giant cracks spread through her pseudo-domain manifesting on top of its own body.

RUMBLE!

CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH!

She plowed the field, taking out giant boulders of stone that rapidly fell over the monster, crushing several of its body part instantly.

But that wasn't even the worse part, as something even more horrible happened to the monster, as its flesh began trembling, palpitating, and bursting.

"Go!"

With a roar, Elayne unleashed the second form's true power, as dozens of giant spiritual plants, roots, vines, branches, and flowers popped out of the monster's wounds, tearing it apart from the inside out.

The sound of flesh being torn apart echoed all over the creature, until it died before even being able to defend any further, quickly exploding into black smoke.

BOOOOMMM!!

"How's Elena handling it?"

She quickly glanced behind her, noticing Elena's stances constantly changing as she clashed against the monster, until all of them converged.

"{Heaven Stance}!"

FLAAASH!

And her body glowed with bright white light, channeling the combination of all her stances into one...

"{Empty Blade Arts}: {Heaven's Sword}"

Her katana swung forward, as a slash made of pure white light engulfed the Nightmareborn in an instant.

SLAAAAASH!

Chapter 1549: Rita Shows Off!

"GRUOOOHHHH!"

More and more Nightmareborns swarmed the entire Dream Cloud, although Elayne and Elena slayed the biggest ones yet, three more of the same gigantic ones appeared, reaching the cloud and attacking the barrier once more.

"Dammit! These fucking things really won't stop, don't they?!"

Rita grew mad as she glanced the scene, quickly manifesting her magic powers and transforming, her appearance suddenly becoming half-draconic, as black and dark blue scales grew around her body, she gained a tail and even a pair of draconic wings.

This was part of her own Physique and also of her Soul-Bound Skills working together. In-game she was already pretty damn powerful, and by channeling these powers and combining them, she could achieve something slightly close to it, or similar.

With the power of her first and strongest Soul-Bound Fusion Skill, [Abyssal Void Dark Dragonborn Elf Queen Embodiment] and her {Venomous Shadow Viper Sorceress Physique}, she combined the powers of her Dragonborn Elf form and then the Venomous Viper Drake bloodlines, gaining the power of two dragons at once within her body.

Although she wasn't a full-fledged dragon like Elayne could become, she still had various draconic powers, magic, and above all, weapons that channeled such power much better than her body could.

There were some Spells that gave her transformations for a couple minutes, but Rita had never been quite fond of them, the last one she used, the {Abyssal Embodiment Of The Night} spell was amazing and strong, turning her into a giant bat-like draconic monster.

However, she loses control with it way too fast, and it also drains all her Malice Energy, Mana, and Dark Spirit Energy in just about a minute.

It was good sometimes, but not all the times, Rita preferred fighting with a combination of powerful magic, quick maneuver and of course, her amazing fucking gun.

Using her wings, she hovered over the floor and quickly avoided several attacks, while spinning around as she pointed her gun at the incoming Nightmareborns.

"Fuck off!"

Rita channeled the Holy Light of her White Rat Pet, Whitey, which she had brought along. Unlike the other pets that stayed protecting the Domain, Whitey was still too small and weak to stay there, so Rita carried him inside her clothes or her hair, where the tiny rat liked to be.

"Shyyyyuuuh!"

The little rat raised her small hands, as their Holy Light was channeled into the bullets of Rita's gun, Onyx, and suddenly turned them completely white.

Whitey had several unique abilities such as {Holy White Light}, {Healing Light}, {Cheerful Squeak}, and {Mini Barrier of Light} which had helped her master plenty of times, despite how much weaker a tiny awakened rat could be compared to other bigger and larger creatures, such as Blackie.

"Thank you!"

Rita smiled confidently, as she quickly fired a barrage of bullets against her foes, the Nightmareborns coming after her from every damn angle.

"{Divine Elemental Spiritual Bullet: Holy Light}!"

By using the upgraded, evolved version of Elemental Bullet Creation, Rita manifested bullets with Divine Power and Spiritual Power within them, and then further enchanted with Holy Light...

The results of what was going to happen were as obvious as they could get!

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

The Nightmareborns were riddled with countless holes infused with holy light, dissipating their darkness constantly!

"SHYAAAAGH!"

The monsters agonized, several of the smaller ones, such as Fingers, Eyes, and Tongues began dying on droves, but the larger and more robust ones such as the Hands and Mouths continued moving forward even as they were being covered with tiny holes.

"You sure are damn persistent, aren't you?"

Annoyed over their toughness, Rita glanced at the floating orbs around her, overflowing with darkness within them, every foe she killed- no, all of her surroundings in general, fueled her with Malice Energy, the main special source of power for Dark Elf Sorceress like her.

These Orbs of Malice recharge from doing bad deeds or collecting negative or dark energies and emotions from the surroundings. A reason why Dark Elves are looked down on as criminals or psychopaths was because of this.

However, like Rita, the majority never used such powers for evil or to torture others, simply being overly curious about things and then using the same methods she uses to recharge them.

One method that worked really fine was being near Miasma or Nightmares themselves...

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

The four rotating Orbs of Malice shone with black light, overflowing with so much darkness the darkness resembled blazing black flames...

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

She pointed her gun to the front, but didn't shot anything from it, as a giant magic circle manifested behind her, shadows and darkness merging into the giant head of a dragon, opening and releasing a deadly breath attack!

TRUUUMMM!!!

The giant dragon resembled the Blue Dragon they had once fought, and whose materials and essence still remained within her.

The beam impacted the Nightmareborns, who tried to resist but...

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

All of them started exploding into ashes and black smoke one after another, unable to resist the deadly radiation of this magic's void powers, which consumed all matter.

BOOOMMM!!!

And the beam ended hitting one of the evolved Nightmareborns as well, as Rita stepped back in surprise, the giant thing's tentacles started approaching her!

The ground started rumbling as the monstrosity approached her... her Dragon Breath Spell consumed a whole orb, but she still had three more to go.

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

She started shooting as much as possible, pushing back the monstrosity's limbs as far as possible from her, all while she dedicated to reach its main body.

"GRUOOOHHHH!"

The monster's roar alone would've made most people die on the spot, but with her special armor, that wasn't going to be the case anymore.

Then, it fired dozens of massive red eye laser beams, which Rita quickly defended using her shield, infused with her dark powers and becoming enormous.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

As this happened, Rita began to conjure yet another, even deadlier spell.

She smiled viciously, her BNLO Avatar truly looked like her now that some watched her make such decisions.

Until...

"{Malice Abyssal Darkness Magic}: {Eternal Void}"

Chapter 1550: Lord Nakuna's Power

All of Rita's Malice Orbs were spent in that moment, as she conjured an even deadlier spell using all her power into it, pointing her gun at the monstrosity before her.

"{Malice Abyssal Darkness Magic}: {Eternal Void}"

Space began to rapidly warp and grow distorted, beginning to be torn apart constantly, the Eternal Void began to manifest, resembling a tiny black sphere, which rapidly expanded into pure darkness that engulfed it all.

TRUUUM!

The spell consumed the entire monster and disintegrated it before it could do a single thing, while it continued spreading further, Rita smiled confidently as dozens of Nightmareborns died one after another.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The attacks continued spreading into the Nightmare Clouds around them, beginning to disintegrate them as well, consuming them all into eternal void.

Rita glanced into the distance at the culprits, loading her gun with as many divine spiritual bullets as she could with the help of Whitey's magic.

"That spell is...!"

"She has channeled the power of the Void into her own spell? And her form suddenly changed, huh?"

"INDEED~ THESE GUYS ARE PRETTY UNIQUE, DON'T YOU THINK? THEY TRULY ARE CHANNELING THE POWER OF THE OTHER WORLD LIKE THEY SAID! THAT WORLD PAST THE GATES...!"

Lord Nakuna smiled viciously as he saw the void approaching his army and destroying dozens of Nightmareborns one after another.

He knew that such a spell couldn't be easily conjured continuously by Rita, and assumed she could probably not even use it again for the rest of the day, seeing how lethal it was...

However.

"Lord Nakuna, the void is coming here!" The young assassin panicked.

"Calm down! Do you think something like this would be able to stop us?" Sighed the older assassin.

"HEHEHEH~ IT IS STRONG BUT... IN THIS REALM, I CAN DO ANYTHING I DESIRE!"

Lord Nakuna laughed, his tongue's eye suddenly glowed bright red, as he unleashed a shockwave of mana-devouring energy, clashing against the powerful void and suddenly beginning to cancel the spell altogether.

"{Spell Eater}!"

His tongue merged with nightmare darkness, suddenly growing to a tremendous size, wrapping around the entire void itself and devouring its mana, making its entire magical structure fall apart and disappear!

BOOOOMMM!!!

Although with a massive explosion, destroying his tongue's manifestation and pushing his barrier back quite a lot.

However...

"SEE? IT'S DONE! AS POWERFUL AS VOID CAN BE, SHE CONJURED IT USING MAGIC CIRCLES, SPELLS AND RUNES. MAGICIANS CAN ONLY SUMMON ELEMENTS; THEY DON'T POSSESS THEM WITHIN THEIR BODIES. THEREFORE, AS LONG AS YOU KNOW HOW TO DESTROY THE STRUCTURE OF A SPELL, THINGS BECOME... MUCH EASIER! HAHAAH- Ah?!"

As Lord Nakuna laughed out loud, his laughter suddenly stopped midway through, noticing that Rita charged an immense quantity of power within her gun, firing it a second after he destroyed the spell.

"Dispel this, bitch."

"{World-Destroying Divine Holy Death Dragon Breath Cannon}!"

Using her gun's ultimate ability and the strongest, Rita drained all her Mana and Malice accumulated up to this point, releasing it all into a gigantic cannon attack.

The gun transformed in an instant, becoming a huge draconic cannon that was so huge Rita could barely lift it. Encompassed of black and dark blue metal shaped as scales, with the giant head of a demonic dragon at the top of the cannon, legs and even arms, and a tail, Rita smiled.

TRUUUMMM!!!

RUMBLE!

Space distorted around her, as everyone suddenly glanced at her with awe. Lord Nakuna and his two bodyguards gasped in disbelief, as a massive pure black and white cannon beam reached them within a split second.

"L-Lord Nakuna! We have to escape!"

"Uwaaaaggh?!"

The two bodyguards panicked in horror, and even Nakuna's face looked in awe and shock, his powers manifesting fully as he quickly drew out all the Nightmare Power he could.

"TO THINK THAT A DAMN AMATEUR WOULD BE ABLE TO POSSESS SUCH A POWERFUL WEAPON! JUST WHAT ARE THESE BASTARDS EVEN?!"

Lord Nakuna, who thought that he knew everything, was once more shocked to see that he, in fact, did not know everything.

"{SPELL EATER ECHO}!"

His tongue suddenly divided into dozens of purple tongues made of black and purple ethereal dark energies, trying to encompass the entire thing like a grotesque blossoming, fleshy flower.

"{MANA-DEVOURING BLOSSOMING FLESH ROSE}!"

TRUUUM!

RUMBLE!

The beam was contained for a few seconds, however...

"AAAH?!"

Nakuna's face gasped in disbelief, the beam began to break through his defensive technique, tearing apart the flesh rose and then rushing towards him and his bodyguards.

"D-Dammit! {Nightmare Teleportation}!"

He grabbed the two bodyguards with claws made of darkness, attempting to escape from there as quickly as possible.

However, to his surprise, that wasn't possible.

The Nightmares he used to teleport away weren't responding to him anymore, what's worse, space itself wasn't responding either.

"HMMM?!"

His aura shaped into dozens of crimson eyes, as he glanced around himself, realizing that...

There were three people behind him.

"WHEN...?!"

"HUH?!"

"AH!"

Even his bodyguards, assassins with acute senses, were unable to see them coming, and the reason was actually very obvious.

Elayne was there, alongside Mark and Lily.

And of course, Elayne was holding Morpheus, her Dream Nightmare Scythe, which was looking much different than before.

Having grown twice as big, with more black, purple, and red colors, three large crimson skulls decorating its double-bladed tip, and a sharp, undulated form.

"Did you think you were going to escape after what you've done to us?!" Elayne roared furiously, her scythe overflowing with nightmare and dream powers.

By using {Dream World Travel} to move quickly through the Dream World and then keeping the space within the Dream World stable by using Morpheus' Domain, the {Soul-Eating Nightmare Domain}, Elayne achieved the impossible.

There wasn't any big plan, however, but as she fought and saw her daughter and her friends handling things so well, she risked it for this moment.

TRUUUM!

Rita's attack was about to hit them all, as Lord Nakuna and his bodyguards could not move or teleport from it.