

## **Brand New 1551**

Chapter 1551 Elayne's Resolve

-----

"YOU BASTARDS! YOU WANT TO GET HIT BY THAT ATTACK AS WELL?!"

Lord Nakuna grew furious, with only a second or two left, he attacked Elayne with a giant Nightmarish Aura Guardian, manifesting as a massive, muscular six-armed demon.

"GRUOOOHHHH!"

The Aura Guardian rushed towards her, about to destroy her completely!

However...

Using her two shovels and her scythe with additional wooden arms, Elayne attacked the aura guardian with everything she had.

CLAAASH! CLAAASH! CLAAASH!

And within that split second, the effects of her [Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts] Skill activated, unleashing [Time Stop] upon the foes she hit, which had a 50% chance of occurring every time she attacked someone or something.

"Huh?!"

"Ungh?!"

"Agh!"

Unable to move or speak, the beam reached them before they could even do a single thing at all, the [Time Stop] at least would last 3 seconds.

"Now, run!" Elayne said.

"Yeah!" Mark nodded.

"S-So I didn't do anything?!" Lily cried.

The [Time Stop] gave enough time for Elayne, Mark, and Lily, to quickly rush down and barely escape the deadly beam from reaching them.

BOOOMMM!!!

A massive explosion engulfed Lord Nakuna, his barriers began to rapidly disintegrate one after another, while his two bodyguards agonized.

The beam as so powerful it pierced through the Nightmare Clouds behind them, leaving a massive hole.

RUMBLE!

After having taken so much damage, the entire Nightmare Cloud started to crumble down, dissipating rapidly, and revealing the clear pink sky, surrounded by faraway islands and clouds.

And of course, their destination, all the way down there, where the Dreams of Fae and Fairies gathered.

"Did that do it?" Elayne wondered. "Rita's attack was massive!"

"I don't know, we shouldn't get too confident..." Mark said.

"There sure is a lot of smoke, bleh..." Lily groaned. "Eh?"

However, amidst the smoke, Lily noticed something, and the rest of her friends did as well.

Once the smoke was fully dissipated, they saw it.

All three of their bodies were revealed, still alive.

Of course, they looked incredibly wounded and bruised, Lord Nakuna's body was burning, his skin could be seen beneath his black bandages.

"Y-YOU BASTARDS...! PREPARE YOURSELVES TO HAVE THE MOST AGONIZING DEATHS!!!"

Then there was the other two assassins, they were able to finally see their appearances. The youngest one was a young woman with clear brown skin, with short white hair and a blue and a red eye.

She wore skin-tight black latex clothes, carrying with her several belts with many daggers on them, each dagger with a different curse, poison, or enchantment.

"Haaahh... Haaah... We must take them down...!"

And lastly, the largest of the two, the old assassin, had dark brown skin, emerald eyes, and a short black beard, with long black hair, he looked rather handsome for his age, which was probably his fifties.

Unlike the other two, he had a massive, muscular body, covered in armor and with many belts with daggers, while also unsheathing a pair of black and red scimitars.

"Now that... Ugh! Now that they're right before us, we cannot waste this opportunity."

Their Auras grew stronger, but their wounds were not regenerating any time soon, they noticed that but didn't really make a fuss about it.

"So you're still insisting on killing us?" Elayne asked, her weapons overflowing with mana. "Why though? If you're really coming at me, risking your own lives, why can't you tell me what's the reason behind this?"

"Our Master wills it." The young woman said.

"And we obey our Master." The old man said with a cold tone of voice.

"So if your Master tells you to slit your throats right now you'll happily do it?" Asked Mark.

"Our master would never say such a thing..." The young woman sighed. "Foolish ones like you who don't know about his greatness cannot even begin to comprehend our goals."

"HAHAHAHA! MAYBE MASTER WILLS IT, YES. BUT THERE'S OTHER REASONS TOO. FOR EXAMPLE, YOUR POWERS. WE WANT THEM. YOUR DOMAIN, WE WANT IT. EVERYTHING YOU HAVE, WE WANT IT. AND ABOVE ALL, YOU'VE STOPPED SEVERAL OF OUR BRANCHES FROM DOING THEIR OWN THINGS HERE. FROM THE FALLEN DRUIDS TO THE DEMONS. THEY'RE PRETTY ANNOYED, YOU KNOW? YOU'VE KILLED SEVERAL DEMONS AS WELL! I AM QUITE AWARE YOU EVEN SLAYED A DEMON PRINCE! BUT... NOT IN THIS WORLD, HM?"

"So he knows...?" Rita wondered.

"Don't say anything about it, Rita," Elayne said. "There's no point... but I'm quite glad to hear that. So everything is connected, huh? The Blighters are a branch of your association then? And the Demons and their Avatars and Cultists... It's honestly relieving."

"WE MIGHT BE CONNECTED BUT THEY STILL HAVE THEIR OWN LEADERS... HOWEVER, IN THIS WORLD, WHEN WE HAVE COMMON GOALS SUCH AS KILLING YOU, ITS BEST TO WORK TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE IT, DON'T YOU THINK?"

"Oh yes, come at me, all of you at once if possible. It wouldn't be fun otherwise."

Elayne suddenly acted incredibly confident, her skin and her armor merged, growing silver and golden dragon scales, she spread out four angelic and draconic wings, and her halo and crystalized crown merged, shining with rainbow light.

"I'll kill all of you."

She had changed. Her friends could tell Elayne had evolved, transformed over this time. She was no longer a human even, but at the same time, her kind heart remained strong.

She only learned that to defend those she loved; she had to be ruthless and slay as many foes as those that got in her way.

As painful as it might be for her... She had learned it was necessary the hard way.

"KILL ALL OF US?! HAAAAHA! YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING INTO, GIRL!"

"What I'm getting into? I never intended to get into anything... You just began to get into MY life. And you're the ones that don't know what you're getting into."

"ARROGANT PIECE OF SHIT, HAAAAHAHA! YOU HURT US AND SO WHAT?! WE CAN TEAR SOMEONE LIKE YOU TO SHREDS ANYTIME! KILL HER!"

As Lord Nakuna grew annoyed over Elayne's arrogant words, the two assassins and his army of Nightmareborns charged toward Elayne, Mark, and Lily.

Chapter 1552 The Oldest Trick In The Book

-----

Lord Nakuna and his two assassins attacked, while he mostly remained still while controlling Nightmare and Nightmareborns, the two assassins stopped holding back, immediately rushing to eliminate their targets.

Elayne had already learned everything she needed to know from them at the moment, how everything has been mostly connected, and how there was an apparent alliance between the Blighters, the Black Hand, the Demons, and possibly through the Demons, with Merlinus, his cult, and even the Demon King of Death.

However, with Merlinus and his cult completely gone, the Demons were left without many ways to reach them for the moment and were left mostly scratched from the list. Also the Demon King of Death wasn't actively cooperating with anybody other than Kalma, the Finnish Goddess of Decay and the current God leading the Blighters.

Their alliance with the Demons and their Cultists was most likely prompted by the Demon King of Death, which as a result also ended allying together with the Black Hand, who seemed to be dealing with Demons for a long time as well.

Elayne was sure that those that attacked her Domain and killed two Druids were most likely members of the Black Hand, although they were successfully slain, the people that they lost that day are still being mourned.

Although they weren't exactly the ones that took their lives, Elayne felt like she had to avenge them, to avenge the young Druid Emilio and the old Druid Jose.

"Then let's do this, everyone-"

FLASH! FLASH!

Before Elayne could speak any other word, the two assassins rushing towards her disappeared, moving at lightning speed and resembling nothing but black blurs.

In a second, Elayne saw a knife overflowing with miasma and poison reaching her neck, her barrier activating in that moment to stop it.

"Die."

However, the dagger and the hand wielding it instantly ignored the barrier altogether, making Elayne widen her eyes in surprise.

Before she could do anything, the dagger pierced her throat, slicing it open as her blood splattered out of her wound, while she groaned in pain.

SLAAASH!

"Uuugggh?! Aaggh!"

The young woman assassin appeared behind her, smiling confidently as she looked at Elayne's wound fester with miasma, clogging her throat and lungs and beginning to eat her from the inside out.

"Did you think that your barrier could stop me? Fool. Trespassing Barriers is what I do. Now die agonizingly, for daring to go against the Black Hand."

"Elayne!"

Mark panicked, rushing towards her, only to be slammed hard by a powerful technique, two black and red scimitars slashed through his entire body, cutting through his incredibly hard armor.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

"Uuugggh?!"

He felt the cutting wounds going deeper into his flesh and internal organs, as he saw his two arms and legs suddenly flying away.

"Aaaggh!"

"Mark!"

Lily managed to catch him with a hand made of stone, as she glanced at the assassin that had done such immense amount of damage, the old man.

"Hmph, what a lack of technique. Did you truly believed you could go against a Black Hand assassin head-on? What a bunch of clowns... Lord Sakuna, it seems you won't even need to do a single thing."

"I SAW THAT~ HEHEHE...! ARE YOU SURPRISED?! YEAH, WE ARE PRETTY STRONG, YOU KNOW? WHOLE COUNTRIES FEAR THE BLACK HAND FOR A GOOD REASON! ONLY THE DUMBEST OF IDIOTS WOULD EVER MESS WITH US! YOU THINK CANADA WILL PROTECT YOU FOR LONG?! SWORD IS NOTHING COMPARED TO OUR GUILD! WE'LL DESTROY YOUR ENTIRE COUNTRY ONCE WE TAKE CARE OF YOU! FOR DARING TO GO AGAINST US!"

"Gugh... Uugh...!"

Elayne's eyes suddenly rolled out, turning white, as she stopped moving, Mark's eyes widened as he felt completely terrified, while the female assassin smiled, cutting Elayne's head off and grabbing her by the hair.

"Lord Sakuna! I bring you an offering, the head of-"

FLASH!

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH!

"Ungh?!"

Out of nowhere, Elayne's head exploded into thousands of vines and roots, piercing and entangling around the female assassin's arms, tearing her flesh to shreds!

"AAAAGGGHHH!"

"HUH?!"

Lord Sakuna and the other assassin gasped in disbelief, as the young woman screamed in horror, wood and vines piercing her flesh and digging deeper, aiming for her torso.

"N-No! W-What is...?! Ugh!"

She quickly took the quick decision of cutting her arm off, swinging her dagger and cleanly cutting it before the ferocious carnivorous plants could destroy her.

"SHYAAAGGH!"

As they devoured her arm, a giant mass of vines, roots, wood, and with a massive flower and gigantic jaws manifested, resembling an amalgamation of vegetation.

It wasn't Elayne.

"T-That's...! Plant Monsters?! Did she had them inside her body?!"

The plant monsters floated in midair confused about their surroundings but quickly gained a lot of Mana from devouring the girl's arm, overflowing with power, they rushed towards her.

"Tch! Are they angry their master is dead? Whatever, I'll burn you to ashes!"

The young woman roared angrily, throwing several daggers that exploded on contact with the plant monsters, blazing flames engulfing them constantly.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

As this happened, she looked back at Elayne's corpse, which was floating in midair, motionless and cold.

"Good, it seems I still won, an arm is nothing, I can always get a golem arm or perhaps regrow it with an Elixir-"

"{Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts}"

FLASH!

"Eh?"

The young woman suddenly found herself in the middle of a beautiful scenario, beneath her was rich soil in a farming field, surrounded by grasslands, forests, and a village in the distance.

The sun was shining brightly, with the sky as blue as the ocean, and with a few fluffy clouds here and there, decorating the scenery into a wonderful work of art.

She didn't understand when or how she even got in here.

"{Third Form}"

And then she glanced behind her, her eyes widening in horror and disbelief.

The headless body of Elayne was holding her two shovels, pointing them at her.

"Huh? What? That's... you're...?!"

"{Watermill}"

RUMBLE!

Elayne's moved towards the assassin girl at lightning speed, resembling a spinning watermill with splashes of water covering the entire surroundings.

And then...

CRAAAASH!

"Gaahhhh?!"

Both shovels slammed the woman so hard she vomited blood, and felt half her ribs breaking, while she hit the "ground" within the pseudo-domain, shattering apart.

All before a downpour of water drowned her completely.

SPLAAASH!

## Chapter 1553 Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts

-----

"{Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts}: {Third Form}: {Watermill}"

RUMBLE!

Before her opponent could make sense of what she was seeing, Elayne's headless corpse moved towards the assassin girl at lightning speed, resembling a spinning watermill with splashes of water covering the entire surroundings.

The water, resembling a swirling downpour of fresh water, shone bright blue beneath the sunlight, splashing everywhere as her weapons slammed the assassin girl's stomach, digging as deep as she could.

CRAAAASH!

"Gaahhhh?!"

Both shovels slammed the woman so hard she vomited blood, and felt half her ribs breaking, while she hit the "ground" within the pseudo-domain, shattering apart the stone-hard soil and creating countless sharp cracks resembling a spiderweb beneath her body.

"W-What was that...?! H-Her beheaded... her beheaded body attacked me with a weird technique?! Is she also a Necromancer?! Is her body using some sort of Curse to remain alive as an Undead?! Ugh, I need to recover and...!"

However, as her thoughts rushed through her mind as quickly as possible, she was unable to move accordingly to them, as a massive downpour of water drowned her completely, encompassing her into a never-ending and rapidly flowing river.

SPLAAASH!

"Graaagghh?!"

She ended swallowing so much water her lungs were filled in an instant! She quickly panicked, her magic abilities activating one after another, as a barrier of Dark Cursed Mana manifested around her.

She tried to create a bubble and escape out of the water, but...

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

Elayne's headless body appeared before her, in the middle of the spiraling water! Her shovels slammed her so hard she hit the ground beneath once more.

BAAAAM!

"Aaaaggh!"

Her barriers instantly shattered, as she quickly tried grabbing her daggers, and managed to do so, throwing dozens of them at Elayne's body, which was right above her own.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Daggers full of miasma, demonic energy, deadly venom and poison, curses that devoured soul, flesh, and even drained blood, she went all-out!

Explosions engulfed Elayne's body as she suddenly appeared amidst it all, covered by countless daggers...

However, a holy, celestial light encompassed her completely, purifying any benign force that could have even attempted to consume her.

"Compared to fighting an actual Demon King, a Demon Duke, or even Merlinus... your little daggers are nothing."

Amidst the water itself, the assassin woman could hear Elayne's voice resonating and reverberating everywhere, creating ripples of water.

The daggers quickly began glowing bright gold, as they gained cracks and exploded into pieces beneath the water.

"W-Wha...?!"

The assassin gasped, grasping her two remaining daggers as she swam towards Elayne, while trying to get the water out of her lungs.

People of her caliber could definitely survive even when drowned with water filling her lungs, they were people that had refined their bodies through magic rituals and endless training since they were children.

However, even then, the oxygen her head required to survive could only be replaced with Mana for a bit before she started to feel the repercussions.

She had to end this quickly!

"Underwater or not, I'll end you right now!"

She roared furiously amidst the waters, creating shockwaves as her daggers blazed with black flames, Elayne swam in the middle of that water in silence, waiting for her to get closer.

And then, her two shovels shone brightly, confronting her opponent head-on.

"{Abyssal Assassination Arts}: {Soul-Tearing Black Flames}!"

The assassin's daggers slashed through the water and split it open, reaching Elayne with a fierce barrage of powerful slicing attacks, made entirely out of black flames.

"..."

Elayne greeted them with her shovels, as she moved forward.

Suddenly, the water disappeared in an instant.

FLASH!

As if it was never there.

"Huh?!"

The assassin girl, feeling the gravity within the domain, fell to the ground, and Elayne was right above her.

"{Second Form}: {Plowing}"

Her shovels dug deep under the empty air, as suddenly Elayne twisted space itself and ended helping herself appear beneath the assassin as she fell.

Yes, she dug space itself.

TRUUUM!

And as she did, the ground around her shattered open, giant boulders and spears made of stone hit the assassin woman as she fell.

"Ugh...! What is this now?!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"Aaaaarrgghhh!"

She screamed in agony as her arms quickly broke and then her legs were shattered and torn apart by the stone and boulders.

"I-I am strong enough to carry boulders on my own, how come I am being damaged by mere rocks?!"

As she screamed in agony, Elayne smiled confidently, with her new head, which she had just regenerated.

"Those stones aren't magic or real stones, but a manifestation of my Weapon Techniques. They're all of my power manifested into solid matter. Hence why they're stronger than any normal stone you could ever lift."

"T-That's...! What kind of bullshit...! Weapon Techniques cannot... manifest stone!"

The assassin screamed in horror and disbelief, as more and more attacks continued stacking over her entire body.

Her Aura grew stronger the more damage she took, manifesting a black specter out of her body resembling a ghostly figure.

"UUUGGH!"

With all her strength, her Spectral Aura stopped the sharp stones with its massive claws, grabbing the assassin woman and quickly beginning to retreat.

However...

"Where do you think you're going? My technique has yet to finish."

"What?!"

RUMBLE!

The entire domain shattered apart, as endless plants, vines, roots, branches, carnivorous flowers, and more started emerging, engulfing her and her specter completely.

"UUUAAAAGGGHHHH!"

Her entire body was immediately torn to shreds before she could even do a single thing. Elayne didn't even know her name, who she was, where she came from, or even what her life was...

But right now, none of that mattered to her.

"A-Aaaah! Aaahh! Spare me! Don't...! Don't!"

The assassin screamed in horror as she saw what had happened, not only did she die, but her soul had been grasped by Elayne's draconic aura.

Giant draconic claws made of rainbow-colored spiritual energy were tightly grasping her soul...

"You would have never spared him, wouldn't you?"

"H-Huh? Who are you talking about?!"

"Emilio was only... like fifteen years old, you know?"

"Eh?"

"He had a long life ahead of himself... that young Druid is now dead, because of your people."

"W-Wait...! It wasn't my fault!"

"I don't care."

## Chapter 1554 Merciless

-----

"W-Wait...! That young Druid was killed by someone else! It wasn't my fault!"

"I don't care."

Elayne's eyes suddenly turned deep red, as her aura started to warp, growing monstrous, demonic. Resembling an abhorrent dragon with countless tentacles, jaws, and eyes.

"W-What...?! Just what are you?! You even survived having your head cut off and your throat stabbed!"

"Your attack was strong and caught me off guard, but that level of miasma and poison would never truly harm me. And my head? As you can see, I can regrow a new one."

"T-That's...! I-It doesn't make... any sense! Y-YOUUUUU! AAAGGH!"

As the assassin screamed in horror, her soul was torn to pieces, bitten apart as she experienced the most painful and agonizing death, paying for the thousands of people she had killed through her life.

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRASH!

"AAAAIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIHHHHH!"

Once her screams stopped, Elayne's monstrous Aura swallowed everything through her [Soul Devour] Innate Ability, which she gained from her bond with Blackie after she helped him evolve to a Divine Beast.

To an extent, it didn't even feel like she ate that soul, but her Aura did, as if it had become the inner demon, the inner dragon within her.

"Haah... Haah..."

Elayne felt slightly agitated, her hands trembling slightly, but then she remained in silence for a moment.

And then, as her Draconic Aura finished digesting that soul, she felt her own soul growing stronger much faster.

She crossed the line she never thought she would cross, eating another soul...

And the worst part was that it felt really great.

"..."

Elayne has been afraid this entire time to turn into a monster, but right now, those that came after her...

Simply left her no other option.

She wasn't sorry though; after seeing the fragmented memories of that woman, she learned a bit about her.

She was a forty-two-year-old woman, despite looking like she was in her late teens.

That woman's name was "Lamina", and she was one of the many assassins trained by the Black Hand from a young age, picked up as an orphan.

She pitied her younger self a little bit, but Lamina had already fallen too far into a darkness she couldn't return from.

Having killed over a thousand people through her career, most of them innocents, some even children, it filled Elayne with disgust.

However, Elayne also thought about what would have happened if Lamina was raised correctly? If she was adopted by a good person instead?

What would have happened to her?

"...I guess I'll never know."

Perhaps it was her motherly instincts talking to her at that moment, and despite how stupid it felt, it made her slightly happy, relieved.

If she still had the kindness in her heart to have some sympathy for this monster... then perhaps she wasn't so far gone as she imagined.

"That was freaking brutal..."

She heard Gardenia's voice behind her.

"Hey Gardenia, don't be like that..."

Ignis sighed, trying to just shut her down.

"I-I mean, she has already killed other people, in the other world too, and they're all monsters anyway, right?"

"But this time she wasn't quite a monster, more like a human forced to become one, without any other option in her entire life."

Elayne walked away the entire domain rapidly shattered into pieces.

"I guess ugly monsters aren't the only thing we'll fight... Sometimes we'll even have to go against other humans, people, that have simply walked a different path but didn't just sell their souls and turned into a demon exactly." Elayne said.

"Hmm... I suppose you're not wrong, master. But this is life, and this is how this harsh world is. Slaying evildoers, criminals, and barbarians is something as common as eating, even in ancient times," Ignis said. "Perhaps in this world, modern times are much tamer, people isn't used to fight and kill to protect their lives or their families, but this is a fact of nature that you cannot deny."

"You may be right, in a way, this is also part of Nature..." Elayne sighed, as her Nature Soul, The World, continued growing stronger, feeding off her experiences. "Let's go finish this, we have to get to Avalon after all."

She caressed her stomach gently, her child had been protected in this intense battle, Elayne could easily lose her head without problems, all her limbs even, but she protected the area around her hips and her stomach the most.

"We cannot prolong this any longer..."

For the sake of her family and of her baby, she couldn't hesitate. If it's truly necessary, she will walk a path tainted red by the blood of her enemies.

.

.

.

A minute ago.

FLUOOOSH!

Suddenly, as Elayne's head turned into a bunch of plant monsters that attacked and tore apart one of the arms of Lamina, a beam of light impacted Lamina, as space distorted, creating a pocket pseudo-domain in an instant, floating in midair like a bubble.

"HMM? LAMINA?!"

Lord Nakuna glared at the scene with disbelief, the many crimson eyes across his ghostly, spectral and nightmarish aura widening as he noticed Lamina was dragged away into a pseudo domain.

"THAT WOMAN'S NOT DEAD; SHE MOVED EVEN WITHOUT A HEAD?! IS SHE A DAMNED UNDEAD? A VAMPIRE?!"

"Hmph, don't worry, Lord Nakuna! Despite being young, Lamina is powerful and has killed thousands of men before. Although her opponent is strange, she has even killed people born with Draconic Bloodlines. I doubt she'll struggle. The plant monsters caught her off guard but that-"

As the older assassin spoke, the arms and legs that he sliced from Mark began moving on their own, floating in midair and changing shape, transforming into giant totems of black wood and crimson flames.

TRUUUM!

From a safe distance, they floated around him, forming a formation out of nowhere!

"Huh?!"

The man's eyes widened as he was shocked to see a blazing formation powered by four strong totems packed full of spiritual energy.

"What in the world? When did this...?"

He looked back at Mark, his eyes glowing bright red instead of their emerald color.

"Hah, did you fall for our act?"

He noticed Mark regrowing all four of his limbs out of wood and flames, and his wounds regenerated easily, covered by wood and fire.

"You're not even a human anymore, huh?"

Chapter 1555: Ruthless Power

-----

The old assassin noticed Mark regrowing all four of his limbs out of wood and flames, and his wounds regenerated easily, covered by wood and fire.

"You're not even a human anymore, huh?"

The old assassin was shocked, perplexed even. The information they could get about them was rather small at this moment, because every foe they sent against them died.

The only one that had made it out alive was the leader of the Blighters and the Avatar of Kalma, the Finnish Goddess of Decay, Aria.

However, the information that Aria provided was subpar at best, and it didn't reflect their current strength after so many months have passed since their battle.

Unlike most people in the world, this group of people led by Elayne were strange to the masses, as they could continuously grow stronger.

Even just a month would be enough for them to suddenly grow twice as strong as before!

The Five Abyssal Fingers within the Black Hand feared that, if they were given a few more years, they could become an indestructible force.

Even more if the fact that they were drawing power from the mysterious Other World across the Gates...

They simply couldn't be left to live anymore, and had to be exterminated quickly, as their very existence could challenge their position in the world!

"My Elayne isn't certainly a human either. Are you worried about your little friend? She'll be dead in a minute."

"Tch, Lamina wouldn't die so easily to the likes of her!"

The old assassin grew furious, charging towards Mark and Lily with his two scimitars.

"Hoh? Is that so? You sure hold a lot of faith on someone like her."

FLUOSH!

As Mark talked confidently, he crossed his arms with a smile, his Aura suddenly growing ten times as powerful as before, as he activated his Soul-Bound Skill at full.

His entire body became bulkier, even his face was encompassed by a giant black helmet, all made of metallic blazing wood.

Totems were instantly carved into his wooden metallic body, each totem spirit overflowing with different elemental auras and powers, making Mark a total juggernaut!

"Now, shall we get serious?!"

As Mark charged towards him, he looked back at Lily, and Lily quickly nodded, beginning to move around them while charging towards Lord Nakuna, using her giant pickaxe to pierce through the incoming Nightmareborns.

"You've only become larger and bulkier, but so what? My scimitars have the power to pierce through all armor!"

The old assassin roared, clashing against Mark, and moving rapidly, avoiding his slow sword attacks and striking his body constantly with his scimitars.

"{Abyssal Assassination Arts}: {Thousand-Bladed Torment}!"

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

"Nnggh...?!"

Mark groaned as he was covered on sharp and deep cutting wounds, piercing through his hard metallic armor and tearing it apart piece by piece.

"Your movements are simply too slow, giant. You cannot even catch me at all! Hah! And you were so damn confident?!"

The old assassin grew more and more arrogant as he dug deeper into Mark's armor, trying to reach his true human body and assassinate him once and for all.

A foe that was so fast he couldn't catch, and someone capable of piercing through all his defenses!

Certainly, this would be the deadliest foe for someone like Mark.

If it wasn't because he was so strong.

"{Totem Spirit Summoning Magic}: {Yggdragon Totem Spirit Domain}!"

With a roar, Mark unleashed one of his trump cards, using the materials that Elayne had given to him, such as her White Wood and her Scales, Mark manifested an Yggdragon Spirit of Time, encompassing him and his foe within their Domain.

FLAAASH!

"Huh?!"

The old assassin suddenly felt a strange force encompass his entire body, as the entire surroundings turned white!

He rapidly attempted to escape, running away with his incredible speed as an assassin.

And yet...

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

Mark caught up to him in no time, swinging both of his blazing blades with his massive, burly, metallic arms.

"{Infernal Sextuple Slash}!"

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

Suddenly, a barrage of slashing attacks engulfed him, cutting through his barrier, aura, and then his body!

"UUUGGH?!"

He vomited blood as flames encompassed him. His powerful magic gear, magically enhanced and made with top tier ingredients, burned rapidly despite being so expensive.

CLAAASH!

His scimitars barely managed to parry out the incoming series of blows before he became grilled minced meat, as he pushed back and tried to jump as far away from Mark as possible!

"Haah... Haah... Haaah... W-What was that?! You...! I'm... slower?"

The man quickly realized what was happening, the Yggdragon Spirit didn't attack or anything of the sort, Mark didn't have enough materials for such a powerful manifestation.

And he didn't need it either.

He used the power of Time of this Totem Spirit instead, to create a powerful effect within his Domain [Slow Time].

It slowed anyone that stepped into the domain, decreasing their Speed and Agility by 50%!

This, as his own Domain, didn't affect Mark, naturally.

"What's wrong? Now that you aren't so quick, things became quite even, hm?"

Mark quickly leaped towards him, his swords rushing down at lightning speed.

"Don't talk as if we are equals, you fucking fraud! I am a Black Hand Assassin Ranked twentieth! The Soul-Tearing Scimitar, Hasanth!"

The proud old assassin roared, his scimitars overflowing with cursed, soul-destroying darkness, as he attacked and confronted Mark head-on.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

The explosion of attacks and blows was tremendous, as darkness and flames erupted everywhere, their battle could have lasted very long if...

Mark wasn't such a beast!

"That so? Good to know!"

Mark's blades moved even faster, multiplying the level of slashes by six each, so much that Hasanth was completely overwhelmed.

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

And that wasn't even the worse part, as flames engulfed him with each slash, burning him constantly, draining his lifeforce, ki, and mana.

"UUUAAAARRGGH...! I-IMPOSSIBLE! I...! I...!"

As his spectral aura was about to emerge as his last resort...

"{Blazing Totem Hammer}!"

Mark's swords merged together into a massive blazing hammer, which he swung down without mercy.

CRAAAASH!

And crushed the assassin until he was flattened completely.

"A pitiful death for a pitiful assassin, you weren't even worth the warmup."

Mark walked away, burning his crushed corpse into ashes.

Chapter 1556: Against Nakuna

-----

Lily walked towards Nakuna, as she carried along a giant pickaxe, her entire body overflowing with Spiritual Power, making the dark sorcerer quickly move its body towards her. Floating while being crucified within that x-shaped black wood artifact sure made him look gruesome, even more when he had no lips and was covered by nails and black colored bandages all over, which, as Lily analyzed him, turned out to be powerful talismans of some kind.

"AAH, WHILE YOUR TWO LITTLE FRIENDS FIGHT MY ASSASSINS, I'M THE ONE YOU COME AFTER? HAH! YOU'RE BOLD!"

"I don't even know who you are, and we have never met before... But you're someone that has threatened our lives, the lives of my friends, and of the children... I have the strength to stop you, so I've come to do just that!"

"HOH? WHAT A SIMPLEMINDED WOMAN! IT MAKES ME WONDER HOW SUCH A SIMPLETON LIKE YOU EVEN ENDED IN THIS SITUATION? I BET DEEP DOWN, YOU HATE IT, DON'T YOU? IT DOESN'T EVEN FEEL LIKE YOU BELONG HERE, THE MORE I LOOK AT YOU, THE MORE IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE JUST AFRAID AND CONFUSED."

"...Maybe."

Lily's eyes shone bright gold, as her entire body seemed to change slightly, her clear white skin turned into a darker brown, as her height increased a little, while her hair, silky and white, waved down while looking long and shiny.

Her skin suddenly gained scales made of colorful jewels, red, blue, green, yellow, and more shone brightly across her arms and legs, while a long tail materialized behind her back, and horns made of crystals over her forehead.

"THE AURA OF AN EARTH DRAGON? I SEE... SO ALL OF YOU HAVE GAINED POWERS LIKE THESE FROM THE OTHER WORLD, HUH? HEHEHE... I'LL ENJOY SEEING WHAT'S INSIDE YOUR BODY!"

Nakuna laughed, as his Nightmare Aura absorbed dozens of Nightmareborns, fusing them into a monstrous, black specter manifesting behind him, with countless of tentacles and enormous arms with sharp claws.

RUMBLE!

The dark skies surrounding them trembled, as the claws reached Lily, her eyes shone bright gold...

And then rainbow.

"Yeah, I'm quite strange, aren't I? I truly don't fit in here... It usually what most people feel when they see me, probably."

CLAAASH!

The claws reached the "ground" beneath them, something Nakuna had not seen before.

The many eyes within his aura widened, realizing something.

"A DOMAIN...?"

Before he had even realized, Lily had already manifested a domain, surrounding her and Nakuna within a world of stone walls, floor, and ceilings, and countless colorful crystals.

A beautiful, gigantic cave!

"Yes, it's a domain."

Lily appeared above Nakuna in an instant, his eyes widened once more! He couldn't believe it, since when a bulky fighter like her could move this quickly?!

Well, Lily wasn't wrong at the beginning, he truly didn't know her at all and was only judging her based in her appearance and her mannerisms.

"Terra!"

"Let's go, Lily!"

Her Aura merged with her pickaxe Terra, as she swung her pickaxe with all her strength towards Nakuna's head!

The dark sorcerer panicked, quickly using Nightmares to drag himself away from danger, and using his Nightmare Specter to defend.

"{World-Shattering Strike}!"

RUMBLE!

An explosive strike hit the entire Nightmare Specter, its entire body gaining countless cracks and exploding into pieces, every single inch of it destroyed in a single swing of her pickaxe!

BOOOMMM!!!

"W-WHAAT...?! AAACK!"

Nakuna groaned in pain as the debris and the shockwave of Lily's attack reached him blowing him away and sending him falling into a large cave section.

CRASH!

"Ugh...?!"

He slowly floated around, noticing his surroundings having changed entirely, he was now deep within completely dark caves, only illuminated by bright crystals

"S-She destroyed my Nightmare Specter with a single fucking blow?!"

As he was shocked beyond belief, he quickly spread and expanded his Nightmare Aura, summoning dozens of Nightmareborns everywhere, which began crawling his surroundings to help him map this.

"Is this really a damned domain?! It's way too huge and... solid?! Is this the power of that they have obtained from the Other World?!"

RUMBLE!

"HMM?!"

Nakuna glared down, realizing the entire ground started trembling.

CRACK, CRACK...!

Giant cracks spread through the floor, as massive, sharp crystals of all colors started surging one after another, piercing the bodies of his hand-shaped Nightmareborns one after another!

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRASH!

"DESTROYED SO EASILY?!"

As he saw the crystals coming towards him, dozens of giant arms made of Nightmare Power manifested, hitting the ground around him with powerful, smashing blows.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The entire ground stopped moving on its own, Nakuna found himself floating in the middle of a giant crater of his own creation.

"JUST HOW DEEP IS THIS DOMAIN?! I MADE A WHOLE CRATER HERE!"

The worst part was that he had been trying to use Nightmare Teleportation this entire time but was completely unable to do so!

The moment Lily spread her Domain without even making him realize, he was already trapped within another space, distorting everything that allowed him to move through it.

"THIS IS RIDICULOUS, AN AMATEUR LIKE HER... SOMEONE SO STUPID-LOOKING AND SIMPLETON LIKE HER... HAS TRAPPED ME INSIDE A DOMAIN?!"

FLAAASH!

His powers continued growing stronger, condensing all the Nightmares he could from his own body, soul, and mind, as countless chimeric Nightmareborns started emerging everywhere!

RUMBLE!

The entire cave began trembling, he started pushing, manifesting thousands of hands, attempting to destroy everything.

"It seems you're trying to destroy these caves? By all means, go ahead!"

Lily smiled, licking her lips as she smashed the ceiling above with her pickaxe with everything she had!

"{Primordial Earth Dragon Mother's Tectonic Destruction}!"

TRUUUMMM!!!

RUMBLE!

The entire ground around Nakuna trembled, the ceiling, walls, everything collapsed upon himself, as a gigantic shockwave, made out of sheer draconic and spiritual power smashed his entire Nightmare Aura, and his body!

"NNGAAAARRGGHH?! W-WHAT...?! WHAT IS THIS GOD-LIKE POWER?! DO YOU ALL HAVE... DO YOU ALL HAVE THISSSSSSS?!"

BOOOMMM!!!

As Nakuna saw his entire Nightmare Specter collapsing and being destroyed by thousands of titanic boulders and piercing crystals falling over it, he saw that the earth and stones around him began to change shape, resembling a furious, gigantic dragon.

"ROOOAAARRR!"

The dragon opened its jaws, devouring his entire, puny body.

"Feel the wrath of Mother Earth!"

CRAAAASH!

Chapter 1557: An Intense Battle!

-----

Just when Nakuna saw his entire Nightmare Specter collapsing and being destroyed by thousands of titanic boulders and piercing crystals falling over it, he suddenly noticed something else approaching rapidly, the earth and stones around him began to change shape, merging and transforming into something gigantic, resembling a furious, gigantic turtle-like dragon head.

"{Divine Spiritual Earth Dragon Golem Summon}!"

"ROOOAAARRR!"

"W-WHAT THE FUCK IS THAT?! ANOTHER TECHNIQUE?! MANA DRAIN... DOESN'T WORK PROPERLY?! NNGAAAGGH...!"

The dragon opened its jaws, rushing towards him at lightning speed while literally growing larger with each meter it traveled towards him. Nakuna's jaws opened wide in horror, as the monstrous stone jaws engulfed his small, puny body completely.

"Feel the wrath of Mother Earth!"

CRAAAASH!

"GRYYYYAAAAEEERGGGHHHH!"

Nakuna screamed in horror and agony, his entire body being devoured completely, followed by a gigantic, destructive explosion that shattered Lily's entire Domain completely.

BOOOMMM!!!

"Haaah..."

Lily looked at the scene, as a giant cloud of dust spread everywhere, slowly fading away to reveal Nakuna's body, still alive, floating in the middle of the Dream Realm's sky.

"U-Uughh...! Y-You damn... bitch! Who... who do you think I am?! To lose to some nobody like you...! T-This is so humiliating! YOU THINK I WOULD EVER ALLOW IT?!"

His body didn't look that fine, his black bandages looked roughed up and torn, revealing his pale white skin beneath. He had also lost an arm in that attack, and his body was covered on large wounds.

"I really hate people like you, that get in the way of other people's peaceful lives, that are so selfish and full of themselves! You think the world revolves around you, don't you?! Hypocrite!"

"H-HAH?! AS IF I WERE TO CARE WHAT A STUPID OLD HAG HAS TO SAY! ARE YOU MY MOTHER OR SOMETHING?! FUCKING DIE ALREADYYYYYYYY!!!"

Nakuna snapped completely, his Nightmare Aura surging endlessly, dividing and multiplying into hundreds of Nightmareborns merged together.

"{ENDLESS NIGHTMARE GOD SUMMON: NAKUNAGA}!"

The monstrous abomination suddenly grew dozens of massive serpentine heads made of black fog, opening their jaws to reach Lily with monstrous force and speed.

The entity was already over hundreds of meters of height, far surpassing everything Lily had ever faced before!

But with her new weapon, her new strength, and everything that has led her to this moment...

Was she going to continue being a "nobody" like this man kept saying?

"I'll take you down!"

She rushed towards the monstrosity's aura, as she swung Terra with all her force, swinging her up and down, and then to the left and right, smashing the "Nightmare God" to pieces.

"{World Shattering Strike}!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

Each of her blows completely destroyed a large piece of the Nightmare God, although more and more Nightmare Darkness gathered around her, aiming to attack her from every angle.

And yet, Lily was feeling different today, her senses were fully alert, her Magic flowed as she wished, her mind was no longer clouded.

Perhaps the resolve she had gained after seeing everyone fight, maybe because she wanted to prove something, perhaps because she hated this bastard, or maybe all of them combined...

Whatever was the case, Lily was stepping forward, beyond what she believed to be merely a "support character".

She wanted a piece of the spotlight, even if for once.

"Let's do it, Terra, give me your magic power! I need your mind for this!"

"We got this, Lily!"

"{Divine Intelligent Weapon: Mind Connection}!"

FLAAASH!

Lily activated one of these weapons' unique abilities and secret effects, something she had found out on her own some time ago while training and experimenting with Terra.

By fusing her mind with Terra, she was able to do many things at once, essentially multi-tasking.

This was, of course, not just in her daily life as she used Stone Hands or even Stone Golems to help her in the chores...

But also with magic, as she was able to conjure various, different spells at once continuously.

"{Divine Earth Spirit Magic}: {Terra's Eternal Coffin}!"

TRUUUM!

Suddenly, hundreds of giant boulders were summoned out of thin air, gathering around two of the heads of this abomination, and crushing them within an eternal coffin of stone.

"{Gaia's Judgement}!"

With a furious roar, Lily conjured another spell, as a massive stone hand punched the massive stone coffin and pushed it into the rest of the monster.

BOOOOMM!!!

"{Divine Earth Spirit Walls}!"

As she saw more snake-like heads approaching, dozens of giant walls appeared around her, defending her from the incoming damage one after another.

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH!

"{Titan's Hammer}!"

As she saw them close by, stones and metal merged into Terra, transforming her into a gigantic stone hammer, which Lily lifted easily, spinning in midair while moving towards Nakuna.

CRAAAASH!

And destroying all the monstrous Nightmareborns attacking her from all around her, the sheer force of her attack was so strong they simply exploded into black soot and disappeared!

"{Earthen Titan Transformation}! {Spirit Mithril Skin}! {Earthen Dragon's Scale Armor}!"

As she damaged over half of Nakuna's Nightmare God Specter, she reached him, conjuring three more powerful spells over her entire body.

RUMBLE!

Her small body rapidly grew several times bigger, merging with stone, ores, and crystals, while hard as mithril skin grew over her body, and then powerful scale armor on top of it.

"W-WHA...?!"

Nakuna's eyes widened as he saw a giantess of over a hundred meters appear, her massive stone hammer, formerly a pickaxe, started smashing into pieces his "Nightmare God" with no problem at all!

"{Divine Titan Earth Hammer Arts}: {Endless Mountain-Shattering Blows}!"

BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM!

While using her powerful techniques, Lily began advancing forward, rapidly destroying the monstrous beast before her, which attacked her with deadly curses, laser beams from its eyes, and powerful physical blows, jaws, tentacles, spear-like attacks, slicing blows, blunt attacks, anything.

And yet...

CLANK! CLANK! CLANK! CLANK!

Barely any damage at all!

Lily's gigantic body was both mighty and powerful, and above all, incredibly tough and resilient, allowing her to step forward without being bothered at all from all blows.

Of course, she wasn't invisible, providing with enough Mana and Spiritual Energy to maintain her form wouldn't be easy...

If it wasn't because of her gear, packed full of Mana and Spirit Energy, made by Elayne herself.

That, coupled with her Soul Connection to her Avatar through her Soul-Bound Skills, further adding her avatar's stats into her own...

This made her someone that went beyond just the supernatural, and it was mostly the same for Elayne, Mark, and Rita, who had progressed beyond levels never seen before in terms of assimilation of an otherworldly avatar to a human vessel.

"{Crystal Spirit Magic}: {Spiritual Crystal Blades}! {Divine Crystal Shield}! {Purifying Light Crystal's Radiance}! {Gaia's Diamond Hands}!"

In that moment, Lily went all-out, conjuring several spells at once, while swinging her massive hammer against the monstrous aberration, constantly attempting to wrap its tentacles around her body, only to miserably fail every time.

Giant crystal blades cut through the monster's tentacles and body, stabbing deep with blades tens of meters long. Massive shields made of said magic crystals easily tanked hits from left and right, rotating around Lily to protect her. Giant white colored crystals shone brightly, releasing purifying light that consumed the darkness of Nightmareborns, and lastly...

**RUMBLE!**

Absolutely massive hands made of diamonds themselves manifested above Lily, rushing down towards Nakuna's specter and pushing down, beginning to flatten the thing like a pancake.

TRUUUM!

"GRYYAAEEERRGGHH!"

Chapter 1558: Overwhelmed!

-----

The monstrosity, a "Nightmare God" as Nakuna called this thing, screamed in utter and painful agony, as its entire body was rapidly being compressed, crushed to death with the weight of a mountain- no, perhaps even more than that.

"H-HOW IS THIS...! HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?!"

Nakuna was going completely insane trying to figure out the "secret" behind Lily's powers, and constantly being reminded that, despite how hard he tried, his Mana Absorbing Spells and Abilities weren't as effective against her!

"GRAAAH! I'VE HAD ENOUGH! {NIGHTMARE FORMATION: SOUL AND MANA DEVOURING BLACK GARDEN}!!!"

Nakuna decided to just waste all of his Dark Nightmare Essence accumulated through the death of his Nightmareborns, manifesting a gigantic formation and trapping Lily within it!

FLAAAASH!

"Hmm?"

Lily looked around, noticing she was surrounded by a giant garden of monstrous, nightmarish flowers with eyes and vine-like tentacles.

The endless garden was accompanied by a night sky and a massive, white moon hanging above the skies, with a creepy smile.

"I'LL DRAIN YOU DRY OF ALL YOUR ENERGY, UNTIL YOU'RE NOTHING BUT THE LITTLE ANT YOU TRULY ARE!!!"

Nakuna roared furiously, his Nightmareborn God roared by his side, as he maintained himself inside the monstrous being, endlessly regenerating, as it tried to take on Lily.

"..."

Lily felt her Mana being drained rapidly, and even her Soul began to feel disturbed by this Domain, staying for too long here would be a terrible choice.

"I see, this is really troublesome... But!"

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

She raised her pickaxe, Terra, as a gigantic axe suddenly manifested from it, merging Terra with countless ores, crystals, and stone, so titanic that it was over a mountain of size.

Enormous, to the point it felt like there was a whole ecosystem on top of this massive axe made of stone, ores, and crystals...

RUMBLE!

"Hmph! This is the power of a nobody!"

While the Diamond Hands were still crushing and flattening the monstrous Nightmareborn God, Lily smashed the hands with her axe, further pushing with all her strength, as the entire thing began trembling, and the domain Nakuna made with so much effort...

TRUUUMMM!!!

...Started to rapidly collapse, gaining countless cracks across its entire spatial construct, collapsing, falling apart piece by piece! Nakuna couldn't understand what was happening, before he realized the titanic axe had split all of his Domain.

"{Spiritual Draconic Mother Earth's Divine Wrath}!"

And Lily wasn't even done yet, activating one of Terra's strongest abilities on top of it, as the ground around her trembled, forming dozens of mountains one after another.

TRUUUM! TRUUUM! TRUUUM! TRUUUM!

The mountains began to erupt from the ground, destroying the entire formation and crushing the Nightmareborn God until it exploded into a massive explosion of black soot and mana.

BOOOMMM!!!

And then, Nakuna saw as all his efforts were completely in vain, his formation shattered into pieces, and the immense force of his Nightmareborn God dying further damaged him as well.

"U-Uugggaaagghh...?!"

He vomited a large quantity of blood, feeling his entire body constantly pulsating with agony, his Nightmare Essence was also no longer coming from his body, he had used everything he had!

With this level of power, he could level entire cities, destroy whole organizations that protected entire countries, and more.

And yet... he was crushed like an ant!

"This is beyond... everything we expected... to think they have reached such a ridiculous level of power! They must be eliminated... they could completely tilt the balance of the underworld if they are left to thrive... for longer...! The Black Hand must thrive, King Hassan's legacy...! Must continue...!"

He started mumbling to himself as Lily looked at him from above, exhausted. Mostly all her Mana and Spiritual Energy was used, but she had managed to do the same for Nakuna!

Cornering to his limits, he was also left almost powerless...

"Lily!"

"Lily, are you alright?!"

She heard Elayne and Mark's voices coming from behind her, as she saw them quickly reach her, standing over her gigantic shoulders.

"A-Ah...! Elayne, Mark...! I did it...! I did a good job, right? I'm not a nobody... right?" Lily muttered, looking a bit too tired.

"Y-You did an amazing job!" Elayne gasped. "And a nobody?! What the hell are you talking about? You're amazing, Lily! You've always been... Here, let me help."

"Yeah, honestly, I'm impressed. Your strength... to think you can bring it to this extent! It's just amazing," Mark said.

"Elayne... Mark..." Lily felt slightly moved by their words, shedding a big tear from her giant eyes.

FLAAASH!

As this happened, Elayne spread vegetation through her body, growing trees, grass, flowers, and spiritual plants everywhere.

Lily quickly felt revitalized, with an entire Terrain and its many tiles spreading through her entire body, she was rapidly regaining her Mana and Spiritual Energy!

"That should take care of it...!" Elayne nodded, glancing at the Dream Cloud.

Her family was fighting the Nightmareborns attacking it and managing to mostly take care of eighty percent of them all.

No more were being produced as well, and there were less than fifty alive, they would quickly take care of that on their own.

And then, she looked at Nakuna.

"What is he doing? He's mumbling something to himself?" Mark wondered. "Why isn't he doing anything? Should I go take him down?"

"I thought he would find a way to escape but... it seems he's completely drained of energy," Elayne said. "But that's why we must be careful, if we get too close he might try to siphon everything we have and regain his powers once more. He's a dangerous opponent... it just happened that Lily was a terrible match for him."

"Why's that the case?" Lily was curious. "I've been wondering, my body... is it because of my physical attacks and magic?"

"Yeah, it seems Mana Draining Abilities are difficult to use when dealing with physical attacks," Elayne explained. "And also, magic spells that summon full physical object items are incredibly hard to dispel due to their solid structure. Mana Draining is better against non-solid magic."

"Interesting..." Mark nodded. "Then we just have to use our physical techniques... We can't let him escape. What if he tells the rest of the Black Hand about our current strength and abilities and then they come back more prepared?"

"Yeah... I suppose we must take care of them," Lily sighed. "Killing people... well, can you really call him a "person" at all?"

"He's more like a monster, his aura... it's pure malice," Elayne gritted her teeth. "I can see it, thousands... tens of thousands of souls, from innocent people, screaming, wailing within him. He is a monster, like Merlinus, he has fallen into utter malice and demonic depravity. He lusts after souls themselves, devours them, and uses their agony to fuel his Nightmare Magic..."

Chapter 1559 Trump Card

-----

"So that's the secret behind how he can create endless Nightmareborns?" Mark wondered.

"Most likely..." Elayne nodded.

"If he's a monster at the level of Merlinus, is there even a point in arguing anymore? Let's go!" Lily said, as her friends nodded.

"Morpheus, now that you've evolved, can you help me resist any trick he has, or his Mana Drain for a bit?" Elayne asked.

"It shouldn't be a problem; I could probably deviate his attacks back to him for a few seconds!" Morpheus said. "I've prepared something with Katherine and Gabriel ahead of time just for something like this!"

"Okay, good! Well done, thank you... Alright, let's do this!" Elayne nodded confidently.

The trio rushed towards Nakuna, as the dark sorcerer's entire body started twitching, cracking, as if his own bones were breaking apart.

Crack, crack...!

"Y-YOU DAMNED... MAGGOTS..."

He began groaning and screaming loudly, his entire body continued cracking, shattering within his interior.

POP! POP! POP! POP!

Suddenly, several of the nails piercing his body started shooting off his skin, as black miasma-like fog emerged from the holes, throwing away every nail.

Crack, crack...!

His body continued breaking, as his bandages began flying away, revealing his bare body, and as the bandages continued disappearing until reaching his head in specific...

"YOU WORTHLESS... SCUM... THAT DON'T DESERVE...!"

Crack, crack...!

Once the bandages of his face disappeared, a single crimson eye was revealed where his nose or other eyes should be, glowing bright red, looking around demonically.

"YOU... DON'T DESERVE ANY OF THE POWER YOU POSSESS! IT SHOULD BE OURS... WE... WHO GOVERN THE UNDERWORLD! KING HASSAN... WILLS IT!"

Crack, crack...!

CRACK!

Until suddenly, as his entire body stopped shattering, it rearranged instantly, the cross-shaped thing behind him suddenly transformed, becoming a massive black cross with a cannon on it.

"YOU'RE FUCKING FINISHED NOW... HEHEH... HAHAHAHAAAA!"

As he laughed, he revealed his true body, a giant, muscular man with a single crimson eye, a bald head, no lips with an endless creepy smile, despite being fully naked, his white skinned body was covered on black fog everywhere, and black tattoos.

It seemed he had no reproductive organs either way, completely stripped from his body, as if he never had them or he took them away, deeming them worthless. Maybe his body was bioengineered, or worse, made out of someone else.

He was perhaps as tall as ten meters now, overflowing with power, even though he no longer had any Mana within him, the darkness within him, this Miasmic power fueling his muscles to become this massive...

It was an internal power, and a crystalized core deep within his body!

Elayne could tell, this was true self, his true power!

"PREPARE YOURSELVES TO FUCKING DIE! I AM GOING TO ENJOY EATING YOUR FUCKING SOULS, YOU SHIT-EATING MAGGOTS!"

RUMBLE!

With a single kick in the empty Dream Realm's sky, Nakuna reached Lily, swinging his fists against her with all he had!

BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM!

Lily, so big and slow, was unable to respond in time, her massive body was completely battered by his fists, which left giant craters covered on black miasma and nightmare flames!

"HEHEHEH! HAHAHAHAHA! HEHAHAHAHAHA!"

Nakuna continued laughing like an utter maniac, attacking Lily without stopping! Until Mark and Elayne caught to him, after that second he attacked her with all he had!

"YOU BASTARD!"

"YOU'RE NOT JUST FACING HER!"

Mark and Elayne roared furiously, attacking Nakuna at the same time with their powerful weapons, going all out as their bodies grew larger!

Mark's body became even more metallic, bulkier, and fast as he imbued himself with the lightweight and speedy Thunder Cheetah Totem Spirits.

"{Infernal Sextuple Slash} + {Infernal Demonic Dragon Spirit Flames}!"

Mark attacked with Ignias and his Berserk Sword, both transformed into massive black, blazing swords as he unleashed a double blade attack! Hundreds of blazing cuts converged into an endlessly spiraling tornado about to engulf Nakuna's left side.

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

Meanwhile, Elayne trusted the power of her two Shovels and her amazingly strong Aeternitas Divine Time Spirit Farming Tool Arts, especially its powerful Forms, each one growing exponentially stronger. Her shovels dug deep into the empty space itself, manifesting a pseudo domain that engulfed half of Nakuna's body, giant cracks in the ground manifested, followed by massive, spear-like piercing boulders.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

With attacks coming from every angle, Nakuna smiled as he imbued the power fueling his entire internal body into the palms of his hands and released it with all his force!

"{True Nightmare God Physique Unsealed}: {Thousand Abyssal Vajra Palms}!!!"

RUMBLE!

The entire world around them shook!

Thousands of gigantic, black palms destroyed Elayne and Mark's attacks with sheer physical force, as explosions of darkness engulfed everything.

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM!

"Uugggh?!"

"Aaaggh!"

Elayne's pseudo domain shattered into pieces, and Mark's attack was interrupted, his slashing flames were stopped before slashing or burning anything!

"HAHAHAHAH! SEE?! THIS IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US! YOU THOUGHT I WAS MESSING AROUND WHEN I SAID I WAS FUCKING STRONG?! I AM ONE OF THE FIVE FINGERS OF THE BLACK HAND! FIFTH IN COMMAND OF KING HASSAN'S TROOPS! NAKUNA, THE SLEEPING MADNESS! GRYAYAHAAAAAAAAH!"

Seeing how much damage they took, with their armor shattering into pieces and their bodies bleeding, Nakuna smiled, rushing towards his foe of priority...

Elayne!

"I'LL KILL YOU FIRST, BITCH!"

He swung his palms towards her, using the same technique as thousands of black palms manifested, about to crush her into pieces.

"DIEEEE! I'LL MAKE SURE TO CRUSH EVEN YOUR SOUL SO YOU CAN'T REVIVE!"

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM!

"Guuuaarrgh?!"

Elayne's eyes twitched and twisted in agony, her entire body began shattering apart, blood, sap, wood, and flesh exploding everywhere.

"RUUUUAAAAHHH!"

However, she roared back, Nakuna's eye widened, noticing something odd, despite being torn apart, she continuously regrew.

More.

And more.

And more, and more.

And more and more and more and more!

As she did, thousands of Draconic Spirits flew into her body, making her grow larger than ever before!

"RAAAAAHHH!"

With a monstrous draconic roar, no longer befitting of a lady, a gigantic dragon suddenly appeared, leaving Nakuna...

Speechless!

"H-HAH... WHAT?"

BOOOMMM!!!

And a gigantic draconic breath reached his massive, muscular body, burning through his skin as he screamed in horror and pain.

"W-WHAT THE FUCK IS THISSSSSS?! UUUAAAAGGGHHH?!"

Chapter 1560: Not One But Two Divinities!

-----

As he was sent flying away by her burning breath, Nakuna was able to see Elayne's form with a bit more detail. She was gigantic, covered on golden and silver scales, with six wings behind her back, all of them feathered.

She had three heads, each one with a different crown above their heads and a different color, one was azure, another green, the other gold.

Beautifully decorated with golden horns, and with almost metallic appearance, making it resemble a sculpture of silver and gold rather than a living being, Elayne had unleashed her Yggdragon form.

And not any, but her Aeternitas transformation, combined with her Draconification Skill, and her Holy Yggdragon Transformation and Holy Draconic Nephalem Transformation Physique Abilities.

She was...

[You have activated several Spells, Physique Abilities, and Soul-Bound Skills and combined them together alongside Hundreds of Dragon Spirits, Elemental Spirits, and your tamed Dragon Spirits!]

[You have temporarily transformed into the {Three-Headed Holy Yggdragon Goddess: Aeternitas} form!]

[All your Stats have further increased by +800%, all of your Spirit and Dragon-type Skills and Spells Power has increased by +500%, your HP and MP Regeneration Speed has increased by +1400%, and you have gained the ability to activate the Divine Skills: {Holy Yggdragon Domain Of Fragmented Time}, {Heavenly Divine Dragon Spirit Army}, and {Celestial Draconic Weapon Creation}!]

[Estimated Duration: ???]

Elayne could hear the World's Voice; her voice was the same as if the System were telling her these messages.

This phenomenon was only possible when she used Soul-Bound Skills.

The transformation duration was unknown.

Most likely because there weren't any system restraints in real life...

Meaning that Elayne could go beyond what's possible in the game-like world of Arcadia.

And break even established rules!

"{Holy Yggdragon Domain Of Fragmented Time}!"

Elayne roared, spreading a gigantic domain in front of her that rapidly expanded for over a kilometer in front of her, blinding light that trapped Nakuna inside!

FLAAASH!

[An Aura of {Holy Yggdragon's Domain Of Fragmented Time} has spread everywhere, your Domain and Terrain has gained the {Immunity} status, becoming incapable of being destroyed as long as your transformation remains.]

[Any foe that is inside of your Domain will receive constant damage by the {Holy Aeternitas Time-Burning Flare}, while being subjected to all the debuffs from [Shattered Time Tiles.]

[Estimated Duration: ???]

"Unnggh?!"

Nakuna groaned in pain, feeling the searing pain of this holy dragon fire covering his entire body out of nowhere.

"W-WHAT?! THIS IS...! SHE HAD ANOTHER TRUMP CARD?! NO, IT DOESN'T MATTER! I'M STRONGER! SHE MUST BE BLUFFING! NOBODY CAN GET THIS FAR WITHOUT FEELING EXHAUSTED!"

He convinced himself he could win! He quickly unleashed his power, beginning to attempt to shatter the domain, unaware that Elayne was just starting.

As he began attacking the domain, the entire thing trembled, giant cracks spread everywhere!

CRACK, CRACK...!

"HAHAHA! IT'LL BREAK-"

BOOOMMM!!!

However, to his surprise, the cracks erupted with more and more white flames, burning his entire body as he agonized, his incredibly tough body somehow unable to withstand the pain.

"UUUAAAARRGGGHH!"

Nakuna gritted his teeth, furious, he quickly leaped out of the Domain, reaching Elayne while burning with her white flames, his body having become much weaker as his own "Time" was being drained.

"I'LL CRUSH YOU! NO MATTER HOW BIG YOU MAKE YOURSELF!!!"

As he roared mightily, imagining himself as some kind of heroic figure fighting a massive, monstrous dragon...

"{Blazing Totem Spirit God Of Fire And War Transformation}!"

RUMBLE!

BOOOM!

An explosion of flames, thunder, and destruction spread out everywhere, Nakuna glared into the skies, Mark, who was actually not going all-out yet, transformed.

Activating his primary Core Divine Fusion Skill, Bonded to his very Soul, he became... a true God.

A giant of steel, encompassed by countless totems, embodying Fire and War itself, blazing with wrath and power.

"DIVINITY...?! TWO... TWO OF YOU HAVE DIVINITY?!"

Nakuna, shocked beyond belief, saw as Mark's gigantic swords rushed down towards him, while three massive cannon-like totems opened on his shoulders and chest, firing three beams of blazing, spiritual phoenix and draconic flames.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

"AAARRGGGHH!"

He tried to resist them with his incredibly tough body, but with Elayne having weakened him a bit before, this wasn't going to help nor happen at all as he planned or wished.

"{True Nightmare God Physique Unsealed}: {Myriad Infernal Abyss Spears Of Naraka}!!!"

With a furious, agonizing scream, Nakuna summoned thousands of blazing black spears from his very attacks, as if his own Aura and attacks became as sharp and piercing as spears themselves.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

He attacked Mark's incoming flames with everything he had, ultimately destroying the flame cannons and reaching him, but Mark greeted him with both swords.

"{Spiritual Phoenix Sword Arts}: {Infernal Sextuple Slash} + {Infernal Demonic Dragon Spirit Flames} + {Phoenix Fall}!"

Combining two of Ignias' abilities with his sword arts, Mark attacked with everything he had, swinging both blades at the same time and then...

"{Twin Infernal Demonic Phoenix Fall}!"

Not one, but two giant phoenix spirits manifested as both of his swords rushed down, attacking Nakuna with immense power, pummeling him down towards Elayne's Domain again, while falling into the sea of white flames, combined by both demonic phoenixes still biting and slashing his body, before exploding.

"UUNNAAAGGGHHH!"

BOOOMMM!!! BOOOMMM!!!

Both phoenixes engulfed Nakuna into a massive double explosion, the white flames further fusing with these spiritual, demonic, and phoenix flames, dealing even more damage to his immensely tough body.

RUMBLE!

As Elayne's Domain trembled, but never shattered or broke apart, Nakuna slowly stood up again, gasping for air, his entire body was covered on terrible burns that wouldn't regenerate no matter how hard he tried, steam and smoke coming out of his body and even his mouth.

"Haaah... Haaah... T-This can't... be...! You bastards...! I'll kill you...! I'LL KILL ALL OF YOU RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW!"

Nakuna pointed his hands into the Domain as his long tongue emerged from his mouth, with various eyes and divisions resembling tentacles.

"{MANA DRAIN}!!!"

TRUUUM!

The entire Domain trembled, as large quantities of Mana began to be absorbed directly from it!

Nakuna rapidly began to regenerate his Mana reserves! Elayne's Domain had an immensely large quantity of it everywhere.

"BASTARD!"

"ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!"

Mark and Elayne rushed down to confront him, two giant blazing swords began unleashing a storm of slicing blades made of fire, giant phoenixes manifesting one after another, bombarding Nakuna's body.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!