

Brand New 1661

Chapter 1661: Against Ice Trolls

We sat silently watching the Ice Trolls. I constantly counted their numbers. It seemed there were far more than a few dozen. Over fifty of them were in this camp alone, and who knows if more were around.

"So there's around fifty, maybe almost sixty," I said. "I think we can handle that pretty decently."

"Yeah, probably," Mark nodded. "Especially with my flames and our weapons, we can do it."

"Hmm! I guess I'm joining then, let's get this over with..." Lily said. "Huh?"

"Help!"

"Someone...!"

"Ugh..."

However, as we were about to move, we heard screams from people. In the distance, small figures were inside cages, which one of the Ice Trolls was carrying.

Fairies with their wings cut off, Gnomes, and Brownies were crying and screaming as the Ice Trolls placed them close to their large bonfire. The trolls took out long sticks and grabbed one of them, a fairy girl whose wings had been torn off.

"Aaaahhh! No! No please...! I don't want to dieeee!"

"Are you kidding me?! Are they going to skewer them?!" Rita panicked.

"Shit, Rita, shoot him!" I yelled. "Let's go!"

As we left Rita behind, we ran forward. Rita instantly pointed her gun at the Ice Troll a second before he could impale the fairy with the stick. The loud sound of a bang echoed through the air.

B A A A N G!

"Gaaaaggh?!"

The Ice Troll screamed in agony, a huge hole now through his palm. The fairy fell to the snow below, confused and in tears while looking around.

"Well done, Rita! Keep supporting us like that, please!"

As I spoke, we leaped into the village with weapons in hand. The Ice Trolls that noticed us immediately dropped whatever they were doing and attacked, swinging their weapons at us.

"G R A A A H!"

They groaned like savages, not even speaking. Giant clubs rushed down at us, their strength enhanced by their dark auras.

I quickly raised my shield, manifesting a barrier that took the blow head-on, and then...

Shield: [Divine Spiritual Multi-Colored Yggdragonium Shield (A+ Rank Magic Shield)]

Potential Abilities: [Magic Damage Taken -75% (A)] [Divine Spiritual Yggdragon Fortress (A)] [VIT & RES +70% (A)] [Elemental Damage Taken -75% (A)] [Hidden: Divine Yggdragon's Shield (S++)] [Hidden: Gaia's Heavenly Yggdragon Domain (S++)] [Divine Yggdragon's Eyes of Magic Repulsion (A)] [Earth-Shattering Divine Spirit Shield Slam (A)] [Yggdragon's Spirit Breath Counter (A)]

As the energy of the blows was absorbed by the shield, I activated one of its abilities.

"{Yggdragon's Spirit Breath Counter}!"

"R O O O A A R R!"

The shield roared, its form shaping into a giant draconic head. It bellowed mightily and released a gigantic beam of golden and green flames, engulfing the Ice Troll that attacked me, along with two others nearby, burning their upper bodies to a crisp.

B O O O M!

As they dropped dead, I realized their regeneration probably couldn't save them if they died suddenly from such a powerful attack. Perhaps it was because their brains were literally boiled. Ugh.

"GRYAAAGH!"

"GAUUUHH!"

"GROOOHH!"

The trolls roared, screaming like gorillas as they made the ground shake with their approach. Yet several shots came from far away. I heard Rita firing her gun as much as she could, beams of darkness bombarding them, hitting their heads and blowing them up.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Rita had most likely used her gun's special abilities to transform it into a large cannon.

Weapon: [Abyssal Divine Death Dragon Handgun: Onyx (A+ Rank Magic Weapon)]

Potential Abilities: [AGI & DEX +70% (A)] [Divine Elemental Spiritual Bullet (A)] [Defense Ignore: 70% (A)] [Hyper Bullet Time (A)] [Divine Intelligent Weapon (A)] [Abyssal Dragon Queen's Death Cannon (A)] [Abyssal Shadow Dragon Artillery Manifestation (A)] [World-Destroying Divine Death Dragon Breath Cannon (A)] [Divinely Blessed Weapon: Yggdragon (A)]

She had likely used the [Abyssal Dragon Queen's Death Cannon] ability, giving her the power to shoot not only bullets but also larger beam attacks. She was an amazing support, and because she had hidden well enough, the Ice Trolls couldn't find her, especially from so far away.

Meanwhile, I saw Mark swinging his sword, his Berserk Blade, which he had enchanted with his blazing metallic wood, and his knife, Ignias, which had become a large blazing sword. With both, he unleashed Ignias' special abilities. The Berserk Blade was already somewhat outdated. I might have to upgrade it for him later once we return to BNLO.

Weapon: [Demonic Spiritual Infernal Dragon Queen's Fang Knife: Ignias (A+++ Rank Magic Weapon)]

Potential Abilities: [STR & AGI +33% (A)] [Infernal Sextuple Slash (A)] [Infernal Demonic Dragon Spirit Flames (A)] [Slashing Power & Fire Elemental Power +150% (A)] [Divine Intelligent Weapon (A)] [Infernal Demonic Dragon Queen's Calamity Breath (A)] [Demonic Dragon Spirit Flame Sword Form (A)] [Apocalyptic Infernal Onslaught (A)] [Divinely Blessed Weapon: Yggdragon (A)]

"HAAAAH!"

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

He swung both swords, each slash suddenly dividing into six more attacks, engulfing the Ice Trolls in several slicing, burning blows that quickly cut through their bodies and regeneration while setting them ablaze, even as dozens surrounded him.

He had likely used the power of Ignias' infamous [Infernal Sextuple Slash] ability, giving him an incredible advantage over any ordinary swordsman. This was simply an insane ability unique to Ignias and no one else.

He followed with [Apocalyptic Infernal Onslaught], piercing through the Ice Trolls' defenses and their savage blows. These monsters relied mostly on physical power to fight and lacked proper technique or mastery over any weapon.

Once they faced their equals or stronger fighters with actual mastery, their crude fighting style was clearly exposed.

"GRUGAAHHH!"

Despite their sloppiness at fighting, they were true brutes, roaring monastically as they attacked us. Lily stepped back as she faced a group of five, tightly gripping her pickaxe, Tierra, with both hands. She unleashed her full power, covering her body with Earth Dragon Scales, gaining small crystal horns and even a dragon tail, while her white skin suddenly darkened like her Brownie Avatar.

Chapter 1662: The Power Of Weapons

When we powered up and unleashed our Auras, a combination of our Magic Power, and then channeled the Soul-Bound Skills, sometimes the appearance of our Avatars would transform our own normal appearances, giving us a small change... for Lily, she became more muscular, stockier, and her hair would turn whiter while her skin would turn darker.

"Come on Tierra, let's do this!"

"On it, Lily!"

Weapon: [World-Shattering Divine Spirit Earth Drake King's Pickaxe: Tierra (A+ Rank Magic Weapon)]

Potential Abilities: [STR & INT +68% (A)] [World-Shattering Strike (A)] [Defense Ignore: 70% (A)] [Spiritual Draconic Mother Earth's Divine Wrath (A)] [Divine Intelligent Weapon (A)] [Primordial Earth Dragon Mother's Tectonic Destruction (A)] [Divine Spiritual Earth Dragon Golem Summon (A)] [Divine Material Digging (A)] [Divinely Blessed Weapon: Yggdragon (A)]

Tierra was an unlikely weapon, a pickaxe, usually used to mine through stone and crystals, not to harm foes, but Lily had already learned a proper fighting style with it, and this accompanied with the weapon's many abilities, it became quite clear that she was unleashing the full power of a pickaxe as she battled.

"HMPH!"

As clubs rushed her way and giant fists tried to crush her, Lily swung her pickaxe upwards and then to the left side and right side, clashing against the incoming blows, destroying clubs and piercing through giant fists, splattering them into pieces, she leaped into midair, unleashing the power of her weapon's abilities, as a wrathful draconic roar reverberated from the pickaxe, her aura transforming into a mighty Earth Drake, clashing against her foes at the same time as she swung her pickaxe again.

CLAAAASH!

A shockwave of immense power sent the Ice Trolls around her flying away, half of them died on the spot, their bones and internal organs shattered by the sheer blunt force of her blows, the rest were left barely alive, with their arms and legs destroyed and their ribs piercing their organs.

"SMALL...!"

"KILL AND EAT SMALL!"

"Hyeee?! Wait, wait a second!"

Monica panicked a little once she was surrounded by the savage Ice Trolls, their claws rushing her way, only to pass through her body as if she wasn't really there. The Ice Trolls were confused, the more they tried to catch her or hit her, the less they could even touch her.

This was just her natural abilities as a "ghost", although she was still a human, her abilities had evolved even further as she grew stronger, the power she inherited from the time she was possessed by that Ghost had made her stronger, and had helped her turn this curse into her power.

Through her Phantasmal Body abilities, she could turn ethereal and spectral, physical blows could simply not harm her, unless they were imbued with very strong Magic Auras of the Elements she was Weak against, such as Fire or Holy Light... or well, this wasn't really her weakness, and rather the weakness of Undead in general.

"Ummm, Mister Teddy please help me out!"

As she cried, her teddy bear she held with her hands transformed...

Weapon: [Cursed Ghostly Teddy Bear Of Abyssal Grudges Magic Catalyst (A Rank)]

Potential Abilities: [AGI & MP +50% (B)] [Abyssal Mind Devouring Curse (B)] [Cursed Spectral Ghostly Resonance (B)] [INT & WIS +50% (B)] [Mana Devour (A)] [Spectral Ghostly Barrier Formation (A)] [Great Abyssal Phantasmal Spirit Guardian Familiar (A)] [Cursed Ghostly Spirit Companions Summon (B)] [Abyssal Body And Soul Paralyzing Curse (B)] [Divinely Blessed Weapon: Yggdragon (B)]

Monica's "weapon" was perhaps the most unique among everyone, I knew that normal weapons wouldn't do with her, and even things such as a staff wouldn't work either, for someone like her, Monica required something called Magic Catalysts, and she used this Teddy Bear, the last gift her parents gifted to her before they passed away in that accident years ago, a little thing she treasured tremendously.

Because of the amount of emotions this Teddy Bear contained within it, this became the perfect Magic Catalyzer to amplify her powers. Grudges, Sorrow, Resentment, Loneliness, although these sounded sad, they all gave her Teddy Bear immense power, and without knowing it, Monica had cursed her own little stuffed animal.

This, after being enhanced through Alchemy and many other materials, turned it into an amazing Magic Item capable of channeling and strengthening her Magic Abilities, while also carrying its own set of power abilities itself.

Indeed, because this little Teddy bear wasn't just an Item, it had contained so many Curses and absorbed so much Phantasmal Power that it became a possessed item, a "living" entity, perhaps close to a golem or an undead.

"{Great Abyssal Phantasmal Spirit Guardian Familiar}!"

Using that ability, Monica turned her teddy bear into a giant teddy bear, overflowing with phantasmal flames, he clashed against the Ice Trolls, punching them in the face and releasing shockwaves of dark energies, one after another, the Ice Trolls dropped to the ground, while Monica unleashed her curses, paralyzing them and draining their life away until they died on the spot, no regeneration capable of stopping them.

"Looks like everyone's doing great!" Katherine said. "Half of the Ice Trolls have been slain by now!"

"But there's the other half around... big sister, what do we do?!" Gabriel asked in panic.

"How about we use your powers?" I asked with a smile, using my Aura to "grab" onto Katherine and Gabriels' Spiritual Powers, and fusing them together.

"Wooooaaah?!"

"Oooohhh!"

They were shocked, as they were rapidly "shaped" into a Spell itself, the power that I could do with any Spirit.

A custom spell, a combination of various ones.

"{Shining Holy Sunlight Brilliance: Arrival Of Summer}!"

By combining the power of Katherine's Nature and Gabriel's Celestial and Holy Light, a miraculous power was born, as a giant bright sun was manifested, shining the brightest and exploding into endless light, consuming the surrounding Ice Trolls that tried to fight me, burning them to a crisp while I protected their victims with my Aura.

FLAAASH!

The light divided into thousands of rays, piercing their bodies and those that were even farther away, sparing none of them... After seeing what they were aiming for, I couldn't forgive them. One thing was pillaging villages for resources, and another was doing it so they could actually eat its people.

It was simply unforgivable; I won't tolerate barbarians like these!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Chapter 1663: Back To The City Gate

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The rays of spiritual sunlight and nature light generated countless explosions, bombarding the entire camp and blowing up the tents as well, their stock of food and other things flying everywhere, creating a huge mess.

Dozens of Ice Trolls were eliminated as I controlled the sphere as it moved, constantly "exploding" with light everywhere, rays constantly bathing them, their day of judgement had arrived, and nobody was more fitting to take them down than an actual angel.

"It's over."

Once the spell finished, both Katherine and Gabriel were reformed using my own abilities, looking a bit dizzy and confused, but also realizing the immense destructive force of that spell, all of the Ice Trolls in the camp were taken down in a matter of seconds, our group was amazing.

"We're done!" I said with a smile. "Thanks for helping, hehe."

"That wasn't fair! Don't do that again master, it was so confusing..." Katherine complained. "But... wow, it sure felt strangely nice? Like... to have so much power..."

"It did right?" I laughed. "I am glad you've tasted the true power of your spiritual abilities. Gabriel did the same right?"

"Wow yeah, it was awesome!" Gabriel liked it. "I didn't know I could do that..."

"Only through your Spirit Avatars," I explained. "But yes, it was a strong spell, only one I could use with your help though. I'll still register it within my Magic Circle, or well, something like an echo of it. The Runes won't arrange without you."

[You have imprinted the Echo of the Group Spell: [Shining Holy Sunlight Brilliance: Arrival Of Summer] into your Magic Circle.]

[A New Section within your Magic Circle has been created, [Group Spells], you can conjure them using the Spiritual Power of Companions whom you've forged powerful Bonds.]

[As you fight and mix your abilities, new Group Spells will be created over time, try to aim to create the strongest Group Spell to overcome the strongest of foes, they might be the key for your victory against formidable entities.]

I didn't expect the World's Voice to intervene and even talk about that... I guess these Group Spells are really quite important, huh? Alright then.

I noticed another thing, as I unleashed the spell, the surroundings changed, the sky turned blue and most clouds disappeared, while the snow melted instantly, leaving a grassy area within the destroyed camp, and even flowers popped up everywhere.

"Elayne! That was amazing!" I heard Rita's voice coming from behind me, as she ran down the snowy hill to greet me. "What the hell was that?!"

"Oh that? A Group Spell using the Spiritual Forms of Katherine and Gabriel combined together," I explained. "We might have to try out combining our Spirit Power later, that way we can unlock new Group Spells, they might be the key to fight stronger foes we can't easily defeat."

"Huh, that sounds especially useful for when we fight the big skelly," Rita nodded. "Alright then, we're done? Turns out there wasn't any Shaman or Druid around, huh?"

"Yeah that's weird," I nodded. "I guess this was indeed just one of many camps... we might end up fighting or seeing more of them. We better bring proof of our hunt to the Fairies and then be allowed to enter... I'm worried there might be more attacks anyway, this is definitely not the only camp after all..."

We regrouped with Mark, Lily, and Monica, and while we discussed what we saw, I stored all the corpses inside my Inventory, while we healed the prisoners that the Ice Trolls had as "fresh food", they were traumatized, and seemed to have been members of a small mountain village that got attacked, which the city seems unaware of.

I sent the [Divine Angelic Yggdragon Spirit Princess of Dreams], my Spirit Clone that I had Tamed and evolved into a Divine Spirit Beast, towards the cave, using it as my second body and exploring the cave's interior, but found no crystal inside at all, and although the presence seemed "murky" and imbued with corruption, there didn't seem to have been any crystal, only the residual power of the Ice Trolls.

"There wasn't a crystal, but I purified the area anyway," I explained to my friends. "The crystal and who's behind this might be out somewhere else... we have to be careful."

We moved forward, reaching the gates while I deliberately carried a large Ice Troll head, which I had made sure wouldn't bleed out an easy trail they could follow later.

Snowflake and Frosty were naturally shocked to see us so soon, as I showed them the whole head, while walking to their side.

"We're done," I said. "There's your head. Are we now worthy, Frosty?"

"W-What?! You killed an Ice Troll?" she asked in disbelief. "T-There's no way!"

"Well, better believe it!" I said with a smirk. "Actually, we took down the whole camp at the Icy Caves."

"Wait... what?! You're lying!" Frosty said.

"No way~" Snowflake said. "Do you have any proof?"

"Yeah..." I nodded, opening my Inventory through a black portal, as dozens of Ice Troll corpses dropped one after another.

Both girls gasped, and so did the rest of the soldiers nearby, they couldn't believe what they were seeing, apparently.

"W-Wha... What?! WHAT?! WHAAAAT?!"

Frosty asked what four times before running to the city, while Snowflake looked at the pile of corpses with eyes filled with awe.

"Waow... That's amazing..." she muttered. "You're... truly Gold Tier! This is going to make a big fuss! Expect the Queen to call you for a meeting and everything... No wait, before you do that, better register in our Hunter Guild while you are at it."

"Hunter Guild?" I asked.

"Yes, it is specifically made for those that hunt down monsters nearby!" she nodded. "Miner and Fairy Guilds don't specialize on hunting monsters as much you see."

"I see... Alright then, let's go do that first...!" I nodded. "Should we go back to the cabin and bring everyone else?"

Chapter 1664: Called By The Ice Fairy Queen

Once we returned with all the Ice Troll heads, we were finally allowed to enter the city, but we didn't go back right away, as we walked back to the cabin I had created where everyone else was and told them that we were finally allowed to enter.

Some of them had gotten too comfortable though, and kind of just wanted to chill and do nothing else, which was wrong, but after I insisted that they wouldn't get the chance to visit a place like this if they slept through the whole thing, they ended coming along, although slightly grumpily... especially my daughter and Elisa.

It was cold outside, but thanks to Mark's Aura, we were able to stay warm enough to fear with the cold winds and the snow, and once we reached the door to the city, we were greeted by Frosty and Snowflake, this time accompanied by other Ice Fairies, who were all wearing regal ice blue armor.

"Uh, what's going on?" I asked, confused about this sudden development.

"We came to escort you, those that managed to take down the nearby Ice Troll Camp to the Castle," said one of the royal guards.

"We were requested directly by the Queen to do so," said another.

"Worry not, it's nothing bad, she wanted to congratulate you and meet those that have saved the city," said a third.

"Oh! Alright then, why not? Might as well go and meet her, I was kind of looking forward to it anyway!" I nodded. "Shall we go then?"

With the guards nodding, we moved forward, as they guided us through the city, everyone was awestruck by the place's beauty, large houses and towers stretching across the paved streets, this place looked much more regal and fancier than the other villages.

The houses looked as if they were made of glass, resembling cup of teas and other furniture pieces, it was kind of funny and beautiful, the towers were always surrounded by fairies flying around them, and it seemed that they were areas where they learned and trained magic or weapon techniques.

There was also a large building where people entered and walked out, by looking at the glass door, it seemed to be filled with a variety of shops and lights, and it seemed busy.

"Don't tell me, is that a shopping mall?!" Rita asked in disbelief, breaking the awkward silence. "You got shopping malls in this godforsaken whimsical realm?!"

"Huh? Shopping mall?" Frosty asked. "That's the Market Center, we built it like that because of the cold conditions here. Over half of the people selling inside are merchants that come from far and wide. You see, our city is seen as a capital of commerce only second to the capital of the Fairy Country itself."

"We had to build a place like that for everyone that wasn't an ice fairy," Snowflake smiled. "After all, not everyone is just immune to the cold... like that every merchant would be comfortable inside, selling their products or making deals."

"Sounds interesting, it looks like they're selling a bunch of things..." my daughter said. "Can we visit it later, mom?"

"Sure thing dear," I nodded, patting her head. "Anything you want."

I wanted to spoil her a little more, she had been working very hard and being a really good girl, so I just wanted to do whatever she wanted.

"Really? Thanks," Elena smiled cutely, as I couldn't help but hug her while we made our way there, kissing her forehead.

"My cute baby, you're the cutest girl ever," I said, as I patted her and kissed her forehead, making her embarrassed.

"M-Mom stop it... I'm not a kid anymore..." she muttered, slightly angry.

"Heheh, right! Sorry, sorry!" I giggled. "Mama just sometimes forgets that her baby is now a big girl."

"Hmph..." Elena looked embarrassed, red like a tomato.

Hehe, I kind of did that to embarrass her too, although nobody would admit it, a lot of parents' love doing this to embarrass our kids because they look very cute once they get all flustered.

But it's never good to overdo it, once they tell you to stop, you should simply stop.

"Well, here we are."

It didn't take long for us to reach the castle by walking directly to it, the city seemed big from afar, but it wasn't too large, it used a lot of towers and large buildings to keep the population, so they didn't need to expand it as much, nor make it larger as a result of needing more houses, for example.

We were in front of the castle of this city, resembling a giant castle made of blue glass, beautifully decorated and with yet another tower to the side... the gates to the garden opened, as many ice fairies flew here and there.

"Now you've finally entered royal territory, so please be respectful when walking around here!" Frosty said angrily. "And don't you dare disrespect her majesty Queen Frostheim!"

"Oh please don't worry, I would never do such a thing," I said with a gentle smile. "If anything, we should get going, shall we?"

I was hurrying things up because I didn't want to waste any more time, we had lots of things to do here, and I wanted to get this done.

I was interested in the queen though, so I wouldn't mind having a tea with her and talking for a little while, but not for too long, hopefully.

"Wow, so you can grow plants even here, huh? What a beautiful garden!" Katherine said, as she watched the scene. "Look, Elayne, these are Frost and Ice Plants, special Spirit Plants that live and thrive in these temperatures."

"Oh," I nodded. "Interesting... but what do they even consume to grow if they're in such a hostile place?"

"They're magical, so they simply absorb the essence of coldness, the very elemental spiritual form of it," explained Snowflake. "Isn't it fascinating? Hehe."

"Yeah... I wish we could have some, but then again, there wouldn't be any place to keep them around either way..." I sighed. "Oh..."

Once we reached the castle and its gates opened, we finally entered it, and god was it beautiful and yet confusing.

The interior of the Ice Fairy Queen Castle was nothing to scoff at, enormously wide and large, with a vast interior filled with countless, labyrinthian corridors.

Chapter 1665: Chloe

Maid fairies and butler fairies flew around everywhere across this palace... And well. there were also butler and maids from other Spirit Races, such as Brownies and Gnomes, although there were no goblins around.

No wait, there was a cute goblin girl maid, a bit clumsy, she tripped over when she saw us and was quickly scolded to get back to work.

We walked upstairs, stairs after stairs, it was a bit tiring, and it was quite cold here too, like being in front of an open refrigerator.

That wasn't even the worst part, as we made our way upstairs, we found something, or someone... uh, let's say it wasn't what we imagined.

"Welcome, heroes, I have heard about what you've done and so has her majesty, she is waiting for you upstairs."

It wasn't a fairy, a gnome, a goblin, or a brownie, nor a human either for that matter...

It was something... or someone, made entirely out of blue glass-like ice, glowing with runes across her body.

She had the faint appearance of a woman, with a beautiful face sculpted out of hard ice, short hair made of ice, and glowing blue eyes.

At the center of her chest there was a small red jewel, infusing her body with power and energy.

This was... a golem, an automaton, or something of the sort.

"Wait, you're not...?" I wondered.

"What is she?" Gabriel asked.

"Haha, I suppose you must be confused about what exactly I am," she said, giggling. "Despite my appearance, I am an Ice Spirit Golem, an unique Familiar that the Queen created. I am her closest friend and also her guardian. My name is Chloe, it's nice to meet you."

"Chloe, huh?" I wondered. "Well, it's nice to meet you as well!"

"So you're her friend? That's..." Rita was going to say that it was weird, but she stopped before she were to ruin the entire thing.

"Rare? Yes it might be when seen from another perspective," Chloe said. "But I was made by the Queen to accompany her when she was younger, you see, she used to be quite the lonely girl."

We moved upstairs, the guards stayed behind, giving Chloe the chance to explain things more to us about the Ice Fairy Queen.

"Despite being the daughter of King Oberon, she always said he was busy doing something else or trying to find himself a new human woman to love," sighed Chloe. "Her siblings at the time had all grown up,

so she was alone, being raised by servants who didn't want to become close to her out of fear from the King himself. Hence, she became lonely."

"Huh..." I nodded. "I am honored you're sharing this information, but is it okay to tell this to outsiders?"

"This were her wishes," Chloe said. "It's rare, but sometimes Khione wishes to talk with someone... You brought down that camp of dangerous Ice Trolls, which had previously invaded us and brought down the walls, so she feels very grateful and wanted to reward you and speak further with you all. Her Foresight has helped her foreseen something that might happen, which involves all of you."

"Foresight?!" Rita asked. "Wait, can she see the future then?"

"Glimpses of possible scenarios," she said. "The more tied to people they are, the more "real" she can see them as... They become more believable as well, it is how it works for her majesty. It is one of the Divine Abilities she was born with, as the daughter of King Oberon."

"Do all of his children have Divine Abilities like this?" I asked.

"Yes, they're born with Divine Power as the sons of our King, who could be said to be a God of this Realm," explained Chloe. "How many kids does he have? I know there's Merlin who is half human and half fairy, right?"

"Yes, Lord Merlin is well known and loved everywhere, even her majesty the queen likes him, despite him begin younger than her, he seems older because as a human, he has aged faster," Chloe explained. "And because, unlike her, he traveled the outside world, he has gathered a great deal of experience and wisdom, making him seem older to his older siblings."

"That's cute..." Jenny smiled.

"The other children... well, there's Harlequin, another son of a human woman he loved, although he was born more fairy than human," explained Chloe. "He is a complete prankster, and likes playing pranks and making celebrations, he is said to wander the Realm and the Outside World as he pleases, using his powerful Real Illusion, a Divine Ability he was born with, to change his appearance."

"Harlequin... I'll keep that in mind," I nodded.

"You've probably already meet him, I can feel his presence within you... a small little thing," said Chloe.

"Eh? Have we?" I wondered.

"Someone you meet was probably not the person you think, it was Lord Harlequin impersonating them! this is how he usually gets close to others," Chloe said with a smile.

"Wait, what?! That's creepy!" Rita complained.

"Uh yeah that's not nice..." Mark said.

"Haha, don't worry, he never means any harm, he's a good person, and he often does things for a reason, sometimes, he wants to help," Chloe said.

"Sometimes?" Jenny asked, raising an eyebrow.

"He seems like quite the interesting fellow," Lily said. "Is he handsome?"

"I don't know, I have only seen him a couple of times, Lord Harlequin is always wearing a Jester Mask with two faces..." Chloe said. "He's quite mysterious."

"Huh..." I nodded. "What about the other children? Are there more?"

"Yes, many more, but we can talk about that at a later occasion, we've arrived," Chloe said, pushing the door in front of us. "Young lady, the heroes that destroyed the Ice Troll Camp have arrived, they seem eager to meet you."

We entered the room, as we walked towards a huge... wait this wasn't a palace or a throne room, it was a gigantic bedroom.

There was a huge bed in the middle, surrounded by star-like decorations, glowing magical contraptions floating everywhere, illuminating the place with mysterious lights.

Chapter 1666: Meeting Queen Khione

There were all kind of other Spirit Golems and Magical things moving here and there, and a lot of furniture and clothes... and pillows.

As we entered and stopped walking, looking around in awe, I noticed something, a little person moving from within her bed.

"Hmm... Um..."

She slowly sat down in the bed and Chloe helped her wake up, using cold water to wash her face and then clean it.

"I'm sorry for taking a while, her Majesty the Queen of Frostheim is here."

She walked towards us while the queen was carried in her arms, cradled like a sleepy baby.

This isn't what I expected...

When I heard she was a Fairy Queen, I really imagined a tall, beautiful, and slender ice fairy queen!

But this is...

She's too cute.

"Hello heroes... thank you for coming... um... are you tired? Please sit down... Chloe, I can fly on my own, let me go..."

"My apologies."

Chloe quickly let go of her, as she floated in midair, her beautiful wings were huge, larger than her own body, glowing with blue and white colors, generating some sort of aurora borealis around her.

She carried a white and blue pillow and was still wearing her pajamas, which was clear blue with white stars, she had long blue hair, clear white skin, and silver eyes.

"I apologize... for not introducing myself. Um, I am the Queen of Frostheim, you can simply call me Lady Khione... I've heard quite a lot of you... thank you for helping us..."

She was a bit shy while talking, she definitely was an introvert that wasn't quite experienced with talking with a lot of people.

She waved her little hand, as several chairs made of ice walked towards us, assembling around a huge table she also brought along.

"Sit down, let's... um, have some tea? What... would you like to eat?" she asked.

"Anything is fine!" I said.

"I would like something warm..." Mark muttered.

"Cookies?" Jenny asked.

"Do you have cupcakes?" Elena asked.

I guess everyone had similar thoughts as I did, as they also made weird faces when they saw her, but they were trying to make her relax by just playing along.

"A-Ah... I'll try... Chloe?"

"Of course, young lady."

Chloe nodded, walking away and then returning with lots of hot chocolate, cookies, biscuits, butter, jam, cupcakes, and donuts.

"Please... eat."

She was also a little awkward, she didn't know how to properly invite people to eat by her side...

"T-Thanks!"

We quickly nodded at one another as we tried to just be friendly, drinking the hot chocolate, it was deliciously chocolatey, warm, and sweet.

The cookies came in various shapes, some decorated with colorful little fruits, they were also really good and buttery.

The biscuits were nice, especially with the butter and jam

Cupcakes and donuts were also excellent, just recently baked.

"I see that the people of this city enjoy delicious food like this, I'm relieved," I said.

"Why?" the queen asked while tilting her head, drinking some hot chocolate.

"A-Ah... I mean, it makes me happy so I can find it and also... eat it," I muttered.

"I see..." the queen nodded, as we noticed there was a little crown of blue steel above her head decorated by three sapphires. "I'm... I'm glad you enjoyed the meal."

We looked at one another again.

Yep, she's really having difficulties talking.

Why did she even invite us if she was going to suffer like this?

"I apologize on behalf of the queen, she might be a little shy before strangers, especially a large amount.

"E-Eh?"

Khione blushed, her white skin becoming as red as a tomato as she looked at Chloe.

"C-Chloe... don't say that! You're embarrassing me in front of my guests..."

"But young lady, you're making them a little uncomfortable."

"W-What? But I'm trying to show them hospitality..."

"Yes perhaps but it's coming out a little awkward."

"No way... I'm trying my best... I-I wanted to practice..."

Aw she's so cute, poor girl, she's so ancient and yet so shy.

Maybe fairies do also age slower mentally, alongside their bodies.

If she's the oldest sibling and yet she remains almost child-like...

It does prove further that theory of mine.

"Ahem!"

As I interrupted their little talk, the two looked back at me.

"Don't worry, your majesty, we loved your hospitality, right guys?" I asked.

They nodded at my words.

"Yeah, it was nice, thank you," Mark said.

"The food is good," Elena said.

"Thanks for the hot chocolate, I really needed, its cold in here," Jenny said, giving her a thumbs up.

"You're cute!" Gabriel said.

"Oh... I'm glad... Cute?" the queen tilted her head. "Ah, so it's true... that presence I felt, an Angel... no, Archangel? But why... small?"

"I'm not small, I'm growing up!" Gabriel said, furrowing his eyebrows.

"Anyway, young lady... I believe we should go back to the topic on why they're here," Chloe said.

"Right..." the queen nodded. "I wanted to thank you on behalf of all the people of Frostheim for your help, the Ice Trolls were really a challenging bunch, especially because they appeared out of nowhere attacking us, and they seemed stronger than previous iterations."

"Yeah, they had some dark corruption within them, we tried to look for any suspicious crystals, but we couldn't find anything," I said. "So that camp was only one of many, perhaps..."

"Corruption Crystal? Oh, the new information..." the queen nodded, eating a little cookie. "I see... So it is just as I feared. I had foreseen a glimpse of a future where this city... was destroyed by them."

"By the Ice Trolls?!" Jenny asked. "Wait, you could see that and didn't tell your people?"

"...I couldn't, they would panic," Khione said. "I cannot afford to easily reveal everything I see. sometimes, the things I see never really become reality... these glimpses that my Divine Foresight show me are possibilities, no future is set in stone, it never is... This is why it is our greatest weapon against this secret invasion into our realm."

Chapter 1667: The Adorable Queen Of The Ice Fairies

"This is amazing then!" I said. "I wonder if you could see if there was any other destruction anywhere. Perhaps through that, we can quickly pinpoint where those crystals might be hiding and also those in charge of protecting them!"

"Yes, I have seen them. The Atlas Garden Village, the Giant Forest, the Spirit Spring, and the Underground Spirit Crystal Mines were all going to be invaded by corrupted monsters, but you were able to stop that from happening," Khione said. "I am really grateful for your help..."

"Oh, so we've already been doing it? That's sweet!" Rita said, eating more donuts. "Just as sweet as these delicious donuts. Do you have more flavors?"

"Yes... Chloe, can you bring more? Also, bring the special ones," Khione said.

"Immediately, young lady." Chloe walked away.

"We've destroyed one camp then," I said. "Can you tell us how many are there?"

"From what I've identified..." Khione said, drinking some hot chocolate. "There are... two more. One at the bottom of the mountain behind us. The other is deep inside. I believe the camp you destroyed and the one at the bottom of the mountain are just to lure you. They've learned from their past mistakes and have hidden the crystal even further away from our hands."

"So you're saying they used those two camps to lure us while they empower the Ice Trolls inside the mountain even more?" Mark asked.

"Yes, after all... the worst nightmarish future I saw had the Ice Trolls emerging from underground, breaking through the floors of our homes and destroying everything," Khione said. "The camps outside are just to keep us busy. The real threat is inside the mountain..."

"Inside the mountain... but we cannot ignore the camp at the bottom either," I said. "How many are there?"

"I cannot give you a perfect estimate, but close to a hundred," Khione said. "It's not looking good... the Ice Trolls coming from inside the mountain were... much more, hundreds..."

"Okay, that's really bad, but aren't you Oberon's daughter? Can't you ask for his help?" Rita asked, crossing her arms.

"I have tried to contact my father, but..." Khione remained silent. "I could only see darkness."

"Darkness?" Mark asked. "W-What do you mean?"

"Whenever I try to speak with him through our bond, there's only darkness. It tries to get inside my head... I don't know what's going on," Khione said, worried. "I... I'm worried about father... but I shouldn't. He's the strongest... and yet, whatever happened to him... whenever I see further than the destruction of my city, there's... darkness... the entire realm is encompassed by pure obscurity... and then, the only things that roam are the dead... as an endless skeletal maw devours billions of souls..."

"What?!" I gasped, realizing that the terrible future Khione had seen was most likely the Realm completely conquered by the Demon King of Death.

So these are his damned plans! He's trying to conquer the entire Realm by filling it with Miasma and Nether. He's trying to let the Domain of Death grow strong enough so he can manifest himself more here through a larger Gate.

And then, once he's inside, he's going to eat all the souls he wants and grow immensely powerful, freeing himself from the Underworld and turning Arcadia, Earth, and the other Realms into endless graveyards where the only things walking are undead.

A true apocalypse.

"Wow, well, I suppose you called us to tell us all that and not just to congratulate us or reward us..." Rita muttered.

"Haha, well, learning all of that is like a reward by itself," Lily giggled.

"Yeah... I guess so..." Rita sighed.

"Um, excuse me," Elena said. "Lady Khione, right?"

"Yes?" Khione looked at my daughter.

"I was wondering something regarding the futures you see," Elena said. "Do you know when they exactly happen?"

"...I'm sorry, it's vague," Khione said. "It could be days... or hours."

"Damn, maybe we should hurry with the Ice Troll hunting then..." Jenny said. "What if they attack in the night or tomorrow morning?"

"I agree. We should get this done as quickly as possible," Mark said.

"It's a pain in the ass, but who else is going to do it?" Rita shrugged.

"Please, don't say such things..." Khione sighed. "I plan to help you... I can fight myself as well... And I will send my army with you. It should give you enough forces to face even hundreds of foes."

"I would prefer if you stayed behind," I said. "But we appreciate the soldiers! However... hmm, what if this is their plan? To lure us into attacking, and then they come for you once we're gone? It would be troublesome."

"Then what do you suggest we do?" Rita asked. "We're running out of options here, Elayne..."

"I know, Rita, calm down," I said. "I think we can try this. A small group goes down to the bottom of the mountain while the others remain here. Once the group is done, we return. Then we divide again, some stay here, and others go to the mountain. This way, the city will always be protected."

"Good idea," Mark nodded. "I suppose that's what we should do anyway..."

"I-I feel really bad for asking you so much..." Khione sighed. "I will... reward you handsomely...! A-And you can also register in the Hunting Guild so you can receive the third Rune, the Rune of Hunting. That, together with the Mining and Fairy Guild Runes, would improve your power even more."

"Thank you, we'll do that!" I said, as Chloe finally returned with more donuts.

"I'm sorry, young lady. There weren't any special donuts. I think you ate them before," Chloe said.

"O-Oh..." Khione blushed a little. "Sorry, Rita, is this okay?"

"It's fine, girl, don't worry," Rita giggled, eating along with us.

We stayed a bit longer to enjoy these delicious pastries Khione offered us while we continued discussing our plans and what to do. Khione informed us about her army, her soldiers, and how capable they were, which made us happy we wouldn't have to go completely alone this time.

Chapter 1668: Spirit Cores

Chloe had gone out after Khione whispered something to her, and before long, she returned, just before we were to depart to the city to check the Hunter Guild and then the Market Center.

She brought many boxes, making them float around her using her Spiritual Aura, and placed them on a long ice table Khione made on the spot.

"Here... I've brought you one of such rewards... I am sure you will like these," Khione said timidly as she waved her hand, and the boxes opened, revealing what seemed to be Spirit Cores, but of strange shapes.

"Crystals? No, wait, Spirit Cores?" Rita asked.

"No, these are Spirit Cores," Khione explained. "They belong to incredibly strong Spirit Beasts that I have personally hunted down throughout my long life. They're national treasures, but I think I've been hoarding too many. They belong to the highest levels of Spirit Beasts, S Rank."

"Wait, what?!" I asked. "Wow, so this is the reward, Lady Khione?"

"Only a part of it. You will get the other part once we can be sure the city is safe," Khione said. "Of course, these won't disappoint you... I think."

"They sure look weirder than the others we've been hoarding," Rita said. "Wait, now that I think about it, don't we have, like, thousands of those?"

"Yeah, I've been thinking of ways to absorb them, but they aren't as easy as absorbing monster cores or the cores of Hollows," I explained. "We need a different method or technique..."

"So that's why we haven't even tried it yet... makes sense," Mark nodded. "These rewards are great, but maybe we'll have to use them for equipment then, as we don't know how to absorb Spirit Cores currently..."

"But how don't you know...? I-I thought you had several Spirits with you?" Khione wondered, surprised.

"We do, but... what does that have to do with it?" I wondered as Ignis and Gardenia appeared by my left and right shoulders.

"We don't really know ourselves," Gardenia said.

"I'm sorry... I'm only good at forging materials," Ignis apologized.

"It's fine, it's not your fault, guys," I smiled.

"I suppose your Spirits, despite being of Divine Origin, don't know the method..." Khione said, rubbing her small chin and nodding. "Then let me help you with that... Um, Chloe, can you bring the Spirit Heart Device?"

"Immediately, young lady," Chloe nodded, flying away.

"While she brings it, let me ask you a few questions... Um," Khione muttered. She was talking more comfortably and confidently over time. "Why do you think you cannot... absorb the Spirit Cores?"

"Well, that's... I don't know. I've tried before, but it simply didn't work. It would let me absorb spirit energy by itself, but that would only fill the reserves..." I said. "Not make me stronger than I already am."

"Indeed, that's because, despite how spiritually attuned you are, you lack a special organ that all Spirits and Spirit Races have. That's the Spirit Heart," Khione explained. "It is a very rare thing to obtain, and even Druids dream of ever having one, but it's good that you're already Druids yourselves. Having a Nature Soul has already attuned you perfectly to having a Spirit Heart. You simply have never formed it."

I looked at Gardenia, who looked at me with confusion.

"What?! I had no idea about that stuff!" she said.

She taught me how to get a Magic Circle and even a Physique, but not this?!

I guess there are things that Arcadia doesn't have.

While Arcadia cultivated Magic Circles and Physiques before the System arrived, and well, they still do, mostly the NPCs, Earth and its Realms are an entirely different matter.

Apparently, the Magic Circles and Physiques we have are not techniques found within Earth. Those that work in the underworld, the supernatural world, have other ways to use their powers.

Magicians seem to inscribe runes or magic circles into their equipment, grimoires they bind their souls to, and even their bodies, I believe.

There are also those who reinforce their bodies over time using raw mana and other supernatural abilities, but they are not the same as Physique cultivation.

And there's... well, Spirit Hearts?

"But first, as you were not born as Spirits or Spiritual Races, you must go through a special process known as Spirit Gate Opening," Khione explained. "You'll let Spiritual Energy enter the depths of your Origin, which is the deepest... the deepest part of your soul and what you believe is your own consciousness."

"I see..." I said. "Seems interesting!"

"I honestly had no idea about any of this. We come from another world, you see...!" Gardenia said. "But this is pretty fascinating."

"Yeah, do we even have Spirit Hearts ourselves?" Ignis asked.

"I don't know. There's a clear difference between the Spirits from Arcadia and those from Earth and its Realms," Gardenia explained.

"So it's true that your power is a combination of both this world and the other..." Khione said. "Is this why you feel it is your duty to save us from the invaders?"

"Yeah, those Undead serve the Demon King of Death, a powerful being from Arcadia that was sealed long ago but is now threatening that world and this one," I explained. "He's still within Arcadia's Underworld, sealed within its depths, but he has been constantly trying to pry into Arcadia's world of the living and this one through Gates. The First Contact outside of this Realm, on Earth, was also provoked by another of these entities, the Demon King of Miasma, but we were able to slay him, and I reincarnated his soul into a pure-hearted fairy that is currently helping us in Arcadia."

"W-Woah, that's... a lot to take in..." Khione muttered, feeling slightly overwhelmed. "But I think I understand... Um, if you let me be honest, it's... really incredible. I wish we could talk more about that other world. I am fascinated by it... if Spirits are different from ours, I wonder what else could be different?"

Chapter 1669: The Science (Or Magic?) Behind Potential Cubes

"Oh girl, you're up for a bunch of surprises then," laughed Rita. "I wonder if we could give her a modified VR Headset and let her create an account and log-in into BNLO?"

"Hahah, maybe? But I don't know if it would work though..." I said, rubbing my chin.

"BNLO? What's that...?" Khione tilted her head. "I've always been... quite interested in the things humans make outside of our Realm... Brother Merlin is the only one that usually brings something but... well, he hasn't brought anything in a long time..."

She flew around her room and brought a few things, such as books, and other old devices... the newest thing she had was a calculator.

"I have this that my brother gifted to me... I-I was wondering if you could fix this calculator? It... stopped working a few years ago," she sighed, showing it to me.

"Hmm, I don't really know if I can fix this..." I said. "But well, we could try with this?"

I took a Low-Rank Potential Cube, I had plenty stored from all the rewards from the quests in BNLO, so I quickly used it on the calculator.

FLAAASH!

Khione's eyes widened as she saw the technological device absorb the power and then begin to work as normal, although it now exuded magical power, and a connection to another world.

"W-Wow! What's this?!" she gasped in disbelief. "That cube... was that some sort of magical artifact?!"

"Yes, it was from Arcadia," I nodded. "They're called Potential Cubes, and they can grant Potential Bonuses to any item, we've tested them a lot, and it can turn even ordinary items into magical ones, giving them Bonus Abilities and Effects, the higher the rank the more they gain, this time I just used a little one... but look at our equipment and weapons, we've used those Potential Cubes to gain so much power."

"Incredible..." Khione muttered. "Thank you... my calculator finally works... but I feel there's something more...! That item you had... I... no, forget it..."

"What is it? Do you want one?" I asked her.

"W-Would you be willing to give me one? I'll pay you, of course... do you wish more spirit cores or..." Khione became surprised, as she offered me stuff.

"Coins would be nice," I said. "I have a Domain back home that has a special shop ability, it needs these coins to give me unique items it creates."

"W-Wait, what? That's something that can happen? A Domain with a shopping ability..." Khione was even more flabbergasted, looking at us with glowing eyes. "A-Amazing, you're all so incredible..."

She really liked anything regarding the other world or things she didn't know about, despite her age, she was as curious as a child, always trying to find out the truth behind everything, or things she didn't know about beforehand, fascinated by them.

"Anyway, about the Cubes..." I said.

"Yes, how much would you like?" she wondered. "My treasury is quite vast... Seeing how valuable they are and how they can turn any ordinary object into an otherworldly magical device... How about a thousand Spirit Crystal Coins per Cube? Of course, if you give me higher quality ones, I can give you even more."

"A thousand... how many of that is in big coins?" Mark asked. "Ten?"

"Yeah," I nodded. "I wish we could get a hundred per cube."

"A hundred..." Khione made a slightly worried expression.

"Okay, okay, ten is fine," I sighed, feeling slightly bad.

I could use my vast amounts of Gold to buy the low-quality potential cubes in the Player Market anyway, as they were the ones that Players usually resold all the time because they often wanted the higher quality ones to make equipment.

"Ten, could I purchase ten cubes?" she asked, offering me the coins through the Runic Spirit Coin Bank.

"Sure thing!" I nodded, giving her ten potential cubes as she gave me the coins.

"Are you sure this is fine?" Mark wondered.

"Yes, Khione is someone smart and also trustworthy, she's kindhearted and knowledgeable," I said. "I am sure she's better than most people..."

"I will try to put these into use so I can strengthen my army," said Khione. "Perhaps if my plans work, my army could become stronger and help better... then, I might end up buying in bulks of even a hundred cubes. If I can at least contact my father, if he offered his funds then..."

"Woah, woah! A hundred?! Calm down, we aren't a potential cube production factory," Rita said. "Those things are not too rare but still not that many, right?"

"Yeah, even if I purchased every single cube in the Player Market that still wouldn't make a hundred," I nodded. "So be careful how you use them, they aren't too common of a resource, Khione."

"O-Oh! I-I understand..." she nodded. "I might be able to build an elite with these ten though... hmm, I may keep a few."

"I'm sorry for being late! I'm back young lady, I've cleansed the Spirit Heart Device, it was covered by a lot of dust..." Chloe stepped into the room, carrying with her a heart-shaped device.

The device which was indeed heart-shaped, seemed to be composed mostly or primarily out of spirit crystals of glowing colors, but had several wires of steel attached to it.

Chloe placed it over the floor, as Khione prompted it to activate it by infusing it with her Divine Spiritual Energy.

FLASH!

The thing glowed brightly, shooting glowing lasers everywhere, but then slowly went back to normal, although it never stopped glowing now.

"Ouch, my eyes..." Gabriel complained, who had been mostly snacking.

"Hahah, that was very big your majesty..." Katherine said. "W-What was that?"

"It's a device..." Khione said. "I invented it to help people that is not a spirit to open their Spirit Gates... I was only able to test it on a human wife my father once had, and it worked... Not completely, she was not attuned with spirit energy, so it was only halfway done... and then she was unable to fully awaken spirit magic. And... my daddy got angry at me."

Chapter 1670: Opening The Spirit Gates

"Oh dear, don't worry, I'm sure that it wasn't that bad at the end of the day..." I said.

"I... yeah, she died not too soon after, humans have such short lives..." sighed Khione. "Father wanted her to have a Spiritual Heart, that's why I made that device but... at the end, a pure human cannot really get one so easily... I ended thinking the device was a failure, but... after thinking it for years, it's quite obvious a normal human won't be able to get that far so easily, right?"

"Yeah, I believe there is the need for some previous foundation," I nodded. "Like it's obvious a simple human won't get it, but perhaps a Druid? Of course it would work! And well, here we are."

"If it means we could absorb those powerful Spirit Cores, then I'm all yours, young lady," Rita winked at her. "I'll happily be your guinea pig!"

"Really?!" Khione said happily. "Thank you Rita, please step forward..."

"W-Wait a second I didn't mean I would do it right now..." Rita groaned, as we glared at her.

Do you want to disappoint the girl Rita?!

Go to the crystal heart thingy!

"Ugh okay don't glare at me like that! Somehow I can already tell what you're even saying without saying a word..." Rita rolled her eyes, stepping forward. "Okay then, how do we do it? Do I need to do anything in specific, young lady?"

"Please sit cross-legged," Khione said. "Then close your eyes, release your Nature Soul Aura, and your Spiritual Aura."

"Okay, easy," Rita nodded, as she did just that.

Her Nature Soul Aura exuded a black color, with sparkles of light, resembling the night, surprising Khione and Chloe.

"Wow, this is my first time seeing a Nature Soul... and it is of such a pitch-black color? But not entirely... there's stars? So it's like the night? Amazing..." Khione said. "Rita, and your Spirit Energy is... blue and black? Purple? Ohhh..."

"Could you stop touching it all the time?" Rita sighed.

"Sorry..." Khione muttered. "Um, now touch the device."

"Okay."

Rita nodded, doing just as she was told, stretching her hands forward and touching the heart-shaped device, as a blast of spirit energy reached her, and combined with her auras and into the device.

FLAAASH!

The blast pierced her chest and then seemed to reach deep within her very soul, I could feel it even when I wasn't the one receiving that beam, Rita's soul was awakening something.

"Woow...! Woaah!"

Rita screamed, as a bright gate opened within her chest, flashing with bright light and reaching the ceiling with it, before she suddenly closed her eyes and fell to the ground...

"...Huh?"

We fell into an awkward silence.

"RITA?!"

I ran towards her, panicking as I saw her just get knocked out on the spot!

"Khione is she alright?!" I asked.

"S-She should be fine! She just fell unconscious... for a little?" Khione wondered. "Um..."

I quickly used healing magic on Rita, until she slowly opened her eyes again.

"What? What's going on? Huh? What with the crowd around me?" she asked angrily.

"Rita!" I hugged her, feeling relieved she was fine.

At the end, she did awaken something within her, as she quickly expressed how there was now something within her that was "opened", although I have absolutely no idea what could it be.

Is it the Spirit Gate? But it might also be something else? She was so vague!

"Did she do it or is it something else, Khione?" I asked. "I sure hope it's not some sort of Soul Damage!"

"It is not, please relax," Khione sighed. "Rita has now opened her Spiritual Gate, the creation of a Spirit Heart is now as easy as compressing the Spiritual Energy within that Gate."

"How do I- Ooohh?!" Rita gasped, as she just did it.

She was a natural genius!

FLUOSH!

Golden light emerged from her chest, as something within her must have crystalized, because she seemed to have just felt it.

"Yep, I did it! I was able to crystalize it... it works! Oh wow that's weird!" Rita laughed. "Ya'll should try it! It freaking works!"

"Alright..." I nodded. "Let's start one by one, there's a lot of us here after all."

"Yes..." Khione nodded.

Like that, we spent the next twenty minutes awakening our Spiritual Gates, I was the last one because I wanted to keep everyone well healed after the process.

After Mark's turn, mine came, as I sat cross-legged, doing as Khione instructed...

My Nature Soul Aura and my Spiritual Aura surged from my body, fusing into the device.

FLAAASH!

And then, as I closed my eyes, I felt my very consciousness being dragged somewhere else, traveling across stars and the cosmos... of my own soul.

"Huh? What's this?"

It wasn't what I expected, it ended being... bigger, boundless. There were also rivers of golden, pink, azure, green, and red energies flowing everywhere.

Small stars glowed brightly through this strange place; each one made of a composition similar to the power of my own Skills?

Wait...

The bigger the stars, the stronger the power they exuded, were these Soul-Bound Skills?

How weird, why are they stars?

And that wasn't even all of it, as I found a spiraling little galaxy there, composed of golden energies, and the starlight symbols of forks, knives, spoons, plates, and food.

The other galaxy was of fiery red color, accompanied by the laughter of demonic creatures...

These were my Specializations!

And...

I saw countless constellation above the sky, each one shaped like a beast, which I recognized.

"Blackie, Falco, Whitey, Silver, Goldie... Belle! Wow, everyone's there...!"

And lastly, a gigantic planet, something resembling Earth in the distance, overflowing with four different elements.

My Nature Soul: The World...

"This is like the Universe of my own Soul... Amazing."

I looked around, as I saw something, a small gate glowing with rainbow colors.

I pushed my hand towards it, opening it completely.

FLASH!

And the rainbow light consumed everything.