

## Brand New 1711

### Chapter 1711: Complicated Explanations

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"What I did was manipulate the Elemental Essence of my Magic Circle and my Physique and combine them with other energies, using Spirits as anchors to synthesize constructs with great power," Elayne explained. "Through this, I also instinctively infused copies of spells from all of you and from mine, giving these spells to the things I held. Those dragon claws and the golems were also imbued with my spells and techniques, making them significantly stronger."

"Uuuh, that sounds complicated..." Elena said, barely grasping what her mother was trying to convey.

"Wait, how do you even infuse a copy of a spell into an already magically created temporary physical object?" Rita asked, also completely lost.

"To do that, you would need an incredible amount of Mana and Spirit Energy, nyeh. Not everyone can do such an insane thing," Kajithe said. "Perhaps it might be unique to you due to your vast reserves of energy!"

"Ah..." Elayne was a little embarrassed that she thought everyone could just do what she could.

"Yeah, Miss Elayne, we aren't all super-powered gods like you, haha," Anna giggled.

"...I am not a super-powered god," Elayne sighed. "Just... a human. I've always been a human."

"I mean, sure, but that power you show is definitely akin to gods or something, Elayne. Don't kid yourself," Jenny giggled.

"Yeah, how you summoned those clouds that were a barrier and then fused them with your hands, and you did all that stuff... pretty crazy," Rita nodded.

"Uh..." Elayne seemed slightly sad, for some reason.

"They can't keep up with me anymore?"

That realization hit her harder than she had imagined.

While she could keep growing endlessly and developing further, others were growing more stagnant, unable to keep up with her talent.

It was the complete opposite of how she had lived most of her life.

All her siblings had always been much more talented than her, and although she had a great relationship with everyone, she always felt slightly left out.

Her parents loved her as much as everyone else, but seeing how her siblings did amazing things, and she just couldn't do the same, it made her feel left out.

At school, she had made quite a few friends at the beginning, but they slowly stopped talking to her as their academic abilities surpassed hers.

Gradually, these friends went away to other schools or academies thanks to their great talent, and she was left alone in the run-of-the-mill high school where she was bullied for being a dork.

If it hadn't been for Rita suddenly appearing in her life and the man who would become her husband becoming her dear friend, Elayne might have gone down a much darker path in her life.

But this feeling always remained within her, that she wasn't really talented, that she was below average, or even stupid and really dumb.

She always called herself stupid and tried to be as humble and gentle as possible with others. This led to people bullying her a lot because she didn't respect herself.

Even at work, coworkers would take advantage of her personality to leave her with more work while they left earlier. Jenny and Mark were the only exceptions.

"Talent, huh? Is this how it feels? To move forward while others can't?"

Despite finally having talent for something, Elayne felt annoyed by it. She liked progressing together with others instead of gaining so much power.

Even though this power was a necessity and somewhat made her happy, filling her heart with the confidence to finally stand up for herself more, it also felt somewhat hollow, almost unearned.

She couldn't easily process all this praise. Elayne was quite a humble woman.

Perhaps too humble.

But now she was forced to accept her talents and begin to understand that she couldn't act humble anymore or think she wasn't all that special.

After all, it would be like saying that others who weren't at her level were even below what she claimed.

"Sorry, I guess I was a little wrong... even then, I'll try to help you understand some of the basics," Elayne explained. "If you can grasp rune inscription, perhaps we can find some workarounds."

"I mean, sure, why not?" Rita nodded.

"Sounds like fun!" Lily said. "We could learn a thing or two. Maybe not everything, but anything helps."

"Yeah, and maybe you could imbue these runes into our bodies or maybe weapons or armor anyway," Mark said. "Ah, sorry, does that sound a little shameless?"

"Nah, I planned on doing that much," Elayne said. "But the vessel for these runes, or I'll call them enchantments, has to be tough enough. This is why I use temporary magical constructions for this, but we can try."

The family walked back to the castle after Khione invited them inside, and they had a comfortable dinner with lots of delicious food and warm drinks before being given rooms inside the castle.

Despite being made of ice, the castle was more like glass and remained quite warm inside, contrary to what some thought.

The beds were comfortable and cozy too, and Elayne and her family were able to sleep without any issues.

The next morning, Elayne lazily woke up beside Mark, also realizing little Gabriel was between them again.

Even though he was guarding her Domain right now, the little angel boy seemed adamant about sleeping with them.

He called her big sister, but she was more like his adoptive mother at this point.

The door opened as she woke up, and Chloe stepped inside, trying to wake them up, noticing Elayne was already awake.

"Ah, Lady Elayne, it's good to see you're an early bird," Chloe said. "Her Majesty told me to wake you up early today, as there were many things we had to manage, including the many corpses of the barbarian tribe and the cyclops corpse in your possession, alongside discussing your rewards."

"Of course, I wasn't planning on keeping all of it. Sorry if it looked that way," Elayne apologized.

"Not at all. Her Majesty is simply a little panicked that half the city is destroyed. She was planning to ask you for some of the resources, and in exchange, she would give you various benefits," Chloe explained.

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## Chapter 1712: Gathering Resources

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"Her majesty is simply somewhat panicked that half the city is destroyed. She had planned to ask you for some resources, and in exchange, she would offer you several benefits," Chloe said.

"Huh? Ah, she doesn't need to ask. Half of it is definitely hers, as her army defeated many invaders," Elayne said. "Actually, we only slew about thirty percent of the remaining barbarian army, the cyclops, and the demon. We'll distribute things fairly, so please don't worry. I am an honest and fair person."

"We never doubted that," Chloe said with a warm smile. "The bathroom with warm water is available at any time. I've brought snacks for you to start the day, but please come downstairs to dine afterward. Her majesty is awaiting you... Despite feeling quite lonely, she has, for the first time recently, begun to enjoy the company of others."

"I see... I'll do that! Thank you, Chloe," Elayne said, as Chloe left the room after setting down fruit juice and cookies. "Hm, I feel very hungry... There's scant sunlight up here with all the clouds. I can't easily photosynthesize."

Elayne swiftly walked to the table and started munching on the cookies, eating them nearly compulsively and drinking half the juice that was left.

Only then did she feel slightly relieved, but there was still ample room.

"Ah, is it because of the baby? Maybe Photosynthesis was keeping the baby well fed without me needing to eat so much food..."

After that, Elayne woke up Mark and little Gabriel, and after sharing some snacks with them, they went to take a warm bath together.

Well... Gabriel wasn't supposed to join them, but the boy forced his way into the bathroom by passing through it in spiritual form and ended up bathing with them.

...Even though he didn't need to bathe, as his true body was elsewhere.

After their bath, they joined the rest of their family and friends' downstairs, where they were already dining with Khione.

"Good morning, everyone," Khione said with an expressionless face. "Please come and enjoy breakfast. It's all quite delicious today."

"Thank you," Elayne said, taking a seat and quickly starting to discuss matters after greeting all others.

"I see, so you plan to distribute it based on how many my army and I killed. That's fine, though I had planned to let you have everything because you saved us ultimately," Khione said. "However, if you insist, I'll gladly accept the resources. We need them to restore the city properly. You see, there are self-repair functions within the entire city that operate through a special Spiritual Formation I placed above underground Spirit Veins, but I require several hundred cores to start it properly and to strengthen the barrier a bit more."

"Alright, that sounds fair," Elayne said. "Shall we distribute resources right now? Your backyard is very vast."

"Yes, Chloe has already summoned the entire Hunter Guild for this occasion, and they're all ready to help us butcher and sort everything properly," Khione affirmed.

"Good! Let's get started then!" Elayne said.

While preparing to start, Elayne also explained to them her ability to "divide" all resources using the Inventory Exploit of extracting nearly an entire Spirit Core from a corpse and then allowing it to regenerate through the inventory power of "itemizing" things within it.

However, doing it more than once would stop this regeneration process and leave the items with a "Damaged" Status, so she could only duplicate the Spirit Cores, as duplicating whole bodies was too complex.

As for the cyclops, its gigantic Spirit Core was also successfully duplicated, and she was asked to duplicate its giant eye, an incredible Magical Spirit Treasure containing large quantities of Mana and Spirit Energy.

Once completed, Elayne and the Hunter Guild divided everything, and after nearly a full day, they finished sorting everything properly.

The total number of barbarian corpses reached 1,056. Elayne kept approximately 300 of them, which also meant 600 Spirit Cores as well.

She also kept both of the Cyclops Spirit Cores and gifted the duplicated eye to Khione as a gesture of goodwill, which Khione accepted with great joy.

"We can use this incredible treasure to enhance our formation and the barrier and further evolve it into a much sturdier form!" Khione said, appearing excited and finally displaying some facial expressions. "Thank you for all you've done, Elayne!"

"It's nothing, really. You've done so much for me already," Elayne said, expressing deep gratitude. "Well, now that we're done here, shall we have dinner?"

"R-Right! Of course, let's do that," Khione agreed. "Chloe, is dinner ready?"

"It's almost ready, Your Majesty," the ice golem said with a gentle smile.

"Good, let's go then," Khione said.

Elayne, her family, and her friends enjoyed another wonderful dinner with Khione and Chloe. This time, they had invited many of the great knights and magicians of her territory, so there were numerous conversations and a lot of noise everywhere.

After this great festivity, Elayne and her family went to sleep until the next morning, when they decided to absorb some Spirit Cores to power up as much as they could.

Throughout the day, Elayne also taught them what she had discussed previously and helped them upgrade and strengthen their equipment through her new Spiritual Runic Engravement Method.

She was able to copy some of the abilities and spells infused into her own living weapons, granting everyone equipment that could resist Demonic Power, Miasma, and even Nether to some extent, reducing their damage by at least 30%.

Although some of them grasped the principles behind the Spiritual Runic Engravement Method, no one was able to replicate it like Elayne could, only managing to make one rune at a time... and that was only the ones with the most dedication, such as Mark, Elena, and Katherine. Nobody else fully understood the process of replicating it at all.

"Hm, every time I do this, it always feels so relieving."

Elayne sighed as she closed her eyes and meditated, letting the Spiritual Essence of the Spirit Cores flow into her body and her Spiritual Heart, enhancing its power.

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Chapter 1713: Reaching Avalon's Capital

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"Almost there...!"

After using almost two hundred Spirit Cores, Elayne was able to break through the big bottleneck she had been stuck on, managing to reach the next realm.

Her Spiritual Heart blossomed beautifully, gaining a small, pink-colored lotus flower made of pink crystals, which Elayne could feel within her.

After that, she felt as if she had finally gained more power.

[Your Spiritual Heart has absorbed 203 Spirit Cores.]

[You have successfully absorbed the Spiritual Energy and converted it into raw Spirit Power, strengthening your Spiritual Heart and breaking through your Spirit Gate Limits, reaching a higher Rank.]

[You gained +180,000 Spirit Power!]

[Your [Spiritual Heart]: [Tier 1: Rank 10: Heavenly Yggdragon of Time Spirit Heart] has Ranked Up to Tier 2: Rank 1!]

[You gained +20,000 Spirit Power!]

[Your Spiritual Heart has gained a large quantity of Spirit Power and Spirit Energy and cannot absorb any more for some time, unless you risk an overload of energy, which might cripple your Spiritual Heart.]

[Your [Spiritual Arts]: {Spiritual Armor Embodiment Art: Tier 1: Rank 6} has absorbed the energy and increased its Rank automatically, rising to Tier 1: Rank 8!]

[Your [Spiritual Arts]: {Spiritual Soul Weapon Art: Tier 1: Rank 4} has absorbed the energy and increased its Rank automatically, rising to Tier 1: Rank 6!]

[Your [Spiritual Arts]: {Spirit Weapon Forging Art: Tier 1: Rank 1} has absorbed the energy and increased its Rank automatically, rising to Tier 1: Rank 3!]

[Your [Spiritual Soul Weapon]: [Ancient Soil-Shaping Hoe: Tier 1] has Ranked Up to Tier 2, and its form and materialization have become stronger and more solid.]

[The [Spiritual Soul Weapon Ability]: [Soil Shaping (F++)] has Ranked Up to E+ Rank.]

[Your Spiritual Soul Weapon is developing a new Ability: [???]. More practice and cultivation of spiritual energy are required to learn it properly.]

[Your Spiritual Heart Beasts have also benefited from all the energy, absorbing it and increasing their Growth Rate exponentially!]

[Your {Spiritual Heart Beast: Golden Thunderbolt Lion (Spirit Larva Rank: 40%)} has increased its Growth to 60%!]

[Your {Spiritual Heart Beast: Volcanic Slime (Spirit Larva Rank: 40%)} has increased its Growth to 60%!]

[Your {Spiritual Heart Beast: White Sky Serpent (Spirit Larva Rank: 40%)} has increased its Growth to 60%!]

"It's done. I've grown considerably... but my Magic Circle and Physique are still not there yet. As for the Cyclops' Cores, I'll save them for an emergency."

Elayne couldn't grow any more until her Spiritual Heart "cooled down" for a bit, so she decided to save those two giant Spirit Cores or use them for something if she needed to.

As for the Cyclops' materials, she had already used her Spirit Weapon Forging Art to create some leather clothes containing the Cyclops' powerful ability to resist magic and spirit energy to an extent.

The bones were also used to make new shields and additional weapons just in case, while reinforcing the existing weapons without trying to elevate them too much, so she wouldn't risk destroying them due to an overload of power.

"I think we're ready to go," Elayne said with a nod. After lunch, everyone was prepared to depart, sporting new blue-colored robes and bone armor on top of their usual clothes for extra protection. "Thank you for everything so far, Khione."

"I wish I could go, but the city is still under repair... However, I worry about my father," Khione sighed. "So please, would you let me lend your hand for a bit?"

"Hm?" Elayne extended her hand, as Khione infused her Spiritual Power into the Rune of the Ice Fairy Guild, transforming it into a more royal, divine rune. "This is...?"

"It's a Divine Spirit Blessing Rune," Khione said. "With this, you can summon my Consciousness into a Spirit of Ice, so I can accompany you. I may not have as much power as my true self here, but I am sure I can be of some help."

"That's perfect, thank you!" Elayne said with a nod. "Alright, let's go. We'll summon you once we're halfway through."

"I'll be waiting patiently," Khione said. "Good luck!"

As everyone departed on a giant Yggdragon Golem, the mountain of frost and ice slowly became smaller and smaller in the distance.

They crossed through the wild savannahs, as they were in a hurry and couldn't really tour around as they wished, and began to slowly approach the Capital of Avalon, the great city that Oberon governed.

"There it is. That's Avalon, right?" Rita asked, her eyes showing concern. "Just what the hell is happening over there?!"

"I can feel it. A great amount of Demonic Energy, like nothing else, is oozing from the city..." Katherine said.

"Demons..." Gabriel said angrily.

"I'm here," Khione said, having been summoned, looking down. "Ah! F-Father?!"

Among them all, she was the only one who could feel her own father due to their connection as father and daughter.

And there, she could feel her father was...

"He's happy? What? No... this is an illusion, Father! W-Why would you let someone manipulate you?!"

As Khione lost her composure for a moment, Elayne calmed her down.

"Calm down, Khione. We'll find out once we get there," Elayne said. "Yggdragon Golem, slowly descend!"

Her Celestial Aura covered the golem, protecting it from the demonic miasma oozing everywhere like black, toxic clouds.

Slowly, the Yggdragon reached the front of the city. The gates were tightly closed.

"Here we are... Whatever this is, we'll defeat it and save King Oberon."

Elayne bravely stepped forward with her family and friends. The thick demonic miasma clouds everywhere created an oppressive atmosphere.

And in the distance, in front of the gate...

"Everyone?! What's happening inside? Can you hear me?"

Khione tried to speak with the guards there, but the guards remained silent.

"E-Everyone?"

Until they looked back, their eyes glowing with bright red light.

As they flew toward her, the fairies pointed their weapons at her, overflowing with demonic energy.

With just a glance, Elayne quickly understood what was happening.

"They've been possessed by demons! Khione, step back!"

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Chapter 1714: Entering Avalon's Capital

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The two Fairy Knights were obviously possessed by Demon Souls. The moment they rushed forward silently, Elayne quickly sensed their potent auras growing with greater intensity. She stepped forward, manifesting a large pair of sharp, golden dragon claws from her fists and punching both at the same time, protecting Khione from them.

BAAAM!

Both Fairies fell to the ground instantly, their weapons dropping to the floor as cracks appeared. Both knights groaned in pain, their Demonic Souls forcing them to remain awake as they started gnashing and biting at Elayne's scale-covered hands.

"E-Elayne! Wait, please don't kill them!" Katherine begged her.

"I wasn't going to kill them," Elayne said, infusing holy light energy into their bodies.

FLAAASH!

A small pillar of light pierced their bodies but didn't harm them, instead reaching deep within their consciousness and forcing the demonic souls inside them to disappear.

The fairies gasped for air. In pain, they looked around with confusion before both fell unconscious right away, too exhausted to speak another word.

"They're alive," Elayne said. "But they won't be able to help us out for a while. They need rest..."

"Yes, I understand," Khione nodded. "Here, I will keep them inside this."

Khione took out a storage item shaped like a painting, which was able to store living beings in a vegetative state.

With just a tap, the two fairies entered the painting, resembling two small blue butterflies.

"This is a Spirit Canvas, a storage for people," explained Khione. "Or rather, Spirits. People like you wouldn't be able to go inside. But this item can store spirits inside as paintings, leaving them in a resting state. This one should be able to store up to three hundred spirits inside."

"Sounds good," Rita said. "With that, we won't have to worry about where to put all these people... Because I knew you guys were going to ask me to put them inside my shadows, and that place is way too creepy for these little guys..."

"Yeah, it's better with the painting," Mark nodded. "It's honestly a really amazing item. I wonder if it could be replicated or if there are more? With that, we could bring along as many spirits as we wanted. Maybe even from Arcadia."

"It's a rare and expensive item to make," Khione said. "I only have this one... but I could share the blueprint and the list of materials required to make them. Although very rare, I am sure you could find a way to recreate it. Actually, here."

Khione quickly created a blueprint using her spiritual energy, encapsulating it inside a small spirit crystal she formed by compressing the spiritual blueprint and sharing it with Elayne.

"Oh, thank you!" Elayne said happily. "Alright, we should get going... Ah, there's more coming."

All the chatting ended, drawing the attention of more fairy knights and soldiers. All of them were silent, without speaking, with eyes as red as blood.

Their auras surged with demonic power as some rushed down to confront them head-on while others stayed in the skies, raining arrows and javelins at them, all infused with demonic miasma.

"Just how many are there?!"

Elayne swiftly dodged the attacks and fired lasers from her dragon claws; beams of light that struck the flying fairies and made them fall like flies one by one. Khione caught them and, after confirming they were exorcized, quickly sealed them inside her canvas.

Mark rushed forward, infusing holy light into his sword through the Holy Light Lion Totem Spirit's powers and swinging it at the fairies, cutting through their souls and exorcising the demons from them.

Elena did the same but used her own swordsmanship to cut the connection from the root, using her phantasmal magic for that.

Others, such as Monica, were able to directly extract the demon souls from the fairies once she cursed them and paralyzed them in place.

When the demon souls were extracted this way, they would scream angrily, like furious ghosts, and attack anybody, aiming to possess them.

However, Gabriel used his powerful magic to quickly destroy the souls without issue. The more demons he defeated, the stronger he grew.

This was how Angels progressed, unlike any other living being in the world. They had to both do good deeds and slay demons, and their Halos would resonate and produce more Celestial Power, slowly elevating them.

Gabriel was rapidly regaining his original flight, and his baby-like appearance was slowly changing as he gained a few years of age, although he was still far from looking like a teenager.

"We've finally reached the gate...!" Khione sighed in relief. "Is this all the soldiers? Almost a hundred...! I hope there aren't too many inside."

"I can feel..." Elayne said, looking forward. "Ugh, the density of demonic miasma is too thick, and because it's mixed with Oberon's powers, it's even stronger and more dangerous... It's hard to even try to look through. It feels like something is constantly trying to take over my mind."

"It would be better if you don't try doing that again," Khione said. "We must press on with our strength and find the truth of what happened to my father...!"

"Yeah, it's not like we're charging blindly. We have a plan after all," Rita said with a nod.

"Although infected with Demonic Miasma, the Dragon Veins below the capital are available," Lily said. "I believe we can use them if we purify them ahead of time."

"Yeah," Elayne nodded, as she expanded her Domain and Territory everywhere she walked, as much as possible. "It's a pity that we cannot form a large formation due to the lack of pure spiritual energy... If we tried making something bigger, we would be detected fairly quickly and then we would be where we are right now anyway."

They had originally planned to "exorcise" the entire palace with a giant formation made of celestial wards and spirit energy, but because the spirit energy was contaminated everywhere, it would have never worked out.

Elayne's powers were advanced, but for her terrain and domain to expand without being eroded over time, she would need to transform into her full Yggdragon form, which exhausted her body and soul a lot compared to her in-game Avatar, which granted her terrain the [Immunity] status.

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## Chapter 1715: Demonic Door

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"I can maintain the Immunity status on the terrain for at most ten minutes, but that will never be enough," Elayne sighed. "The magnitude of this energy is tremendous. We must conserve our strength, and when we confront Oberon, we need to fight him with everything we have and execute the plan we've devised."

Elayne examined her demonic weapons, which had grown significantly stronger by absorbing demonic energy from the environment. They constantly aided in purifying the area they traversed, supporting Elayne's Terrain to thrive without eroding too quickly.

She also wielded the powerful hammer she had obtained from one of the Mutated Trolls, a Cursed Hammer imbued with Holy Power through her Spirit Weapon Forging Arts.

The unique blend of Blessings and Curses within this hammer made it more than just another of Elayne's many weapons. With it and Morpheus, she could cut through the thick, toxic miasmic fog everywhere, clearing a path for them to advance.

As she looked at the gate, she quickly noticed it was covered in curses and chains of demonic energy. A powerful demon had possessed it, and as they stepped forward, the demon awakened, revealing a monstrous bull-like head from the gate.

"No one is allowed inside the Fairy King and his wife's chambers!" the demon roared in a thunderous voice. "Gyehehehe! Oooh, it's you! Hehehehe! This is perfect! We've all been waiting for you!"

"Open the way, or I'll open it myself!" Elayne bellowed.

"How about you relax for a moment? We haven't finished the preparations for your grand welcome, Yggdrasil!" the demon laughed. "Now, how about we play some games together?"

RUMBLE!

The Demon Door cackled as dozens of demonic fairy knights emerged from the fog, followed by ferocious demonic spirit beasts.

"Hmph, fine!" Elayne roared. "Everyone, let's take care of this quickly!"

"YEAH!"

They roared in unison, their Auras surging as they unleashed their skills and spells. The fairy knights and demonic spirit beasts stood little chance against the combined might of the allies Elayne had brought. The advantage of having a large, tightly knit group of friends and family, whom she had ensured grew strong, was remarkable.

"I'll crush you!"

Elayne roared, swinging her hammer and striking the door demon with all her strength infused into the Hammer of Curses and Blessings.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"Nngh! Don't get too cocky! You'll see what awaits you! You will despair, Yggdrasil!"

The demon laughed as it fought Elayne, sprouting giant tentacles from the stone walls and floor, relentlessly targeting her while firing beams from its eyes.

"I've told you and your master many times, I am not the Yggdrasil he knows!" Elayne declared, kicking the tentacles or shattering them with her hammer and Morpheus.

Each hammer blow absorbed the curses and transformed their energy into blessings, rapidly weakening the demonic entity while simultaneously freeing the spirit door from its influence.

"{Holy Dragon Horn}!"

She swung her hammer downward, resembling the piercing horn of a dragon, crushing through the door and blasting it into pieces!

BOOOM!

The demon inside perished with an agonizing scream mixed with mocking laughter. Even in death, it brimmed with confidence.

"Gyehehehe! It's done...! My purpose...! Has been fulfilled—GAHAHAHAHA!"

After Khione rescued every fairy knight she could, Elayne glared at the fragments of the door she had destroyed. Beyond it lay a great hall leading to the throne room, just one door away.

FLUOSH!

The moment the door was destroyed, an immense wave of thick demonic miasmic fog surged forward. Elayne felt pain coursing through her body as she shielded everyone with her Celestial Wards.

"Begone!"

Swinging both her hammer and scythe, she absorbed the curses and converted them into blessings, a feat neither her shovel nor her spirit hoe could achieve, clearing the fog ahead completely!

TRUUUM!

Everyone sighed in relief, gasping for air as the thick fog dissipated. Inhaling it for too long risked possession, curses, or even madness, potentially transforming them into mutated monsters.

"This is so strange..." Khione muttered, gazing into the distance. "They said my father had a wife? But it's been so long since the last woman he loved passed away... What are they even talking about? If he

had fallen in love with someone to the point of naming her his new wife, he would have notified all of us."

"That's likely part of the demon's plot," Mark said. "If your father is as strong as you say, perhaps they targeted his weak point by stealing his heart."

"So you're implying a demon lady charmed him?" Rita asked. "Oh my god, just how desperate was your father, girl?"

"I-I don't know... my father has faced so many heartbreaks and has always felt so lonely," Khione sighed. "He always told us he had a destined queen of fairies who was never born in this world, someone meant to share eternity by his side. Unable to find this special person, my father tried to compensate by falling in love with other women... that's how my siblings and I were born."

"I see..." Elayne nodded, eyeing the door to the throne room. "Oberon, the King of Fairies... I think I know who he's referring to. Unfortunately, this person, his queen, was born in another world, forever separated from him."

"...?" Khione looked confused. "W-What are you talking about?"

"We know her," Mark said. "It's the Queen of Fairies, also born from Yggdrasil, Titania."

"T-Titania? How do you know the name of my father's destined partner?" Khione gasped. "Wait, you've met her?"

"She's not from Earth but from Arcadia," Elayne said. "Like your father, she leads and protects the fairies and all other forest spirits. She's my dear friend..."

"S-So that's how it is!" Khione cried, smiling through her tears. "My father's destined partner isn't just a dream, she exists...! In another world...! But she exists...! There's hope. My father could regain hope if we could somehow let him speak with her!"

"Yes, that's what I want to do," Elayne said. "But I can't communicate with Titania right now. So we'll have to defeat and incapacitate your father first, then let him speak with her... It feels like our connection to Arcadia weakens the deeper we delve into this fog, which is frustrating."

"Hm..." Khione nodded. "Elayne, thank you so much for sharing all this information with me! I wish we could visit Arcadia somehow..."

"Maybe if we use those VR headsets and place potential cubes on them, right?" Rita asked. "Would that work, Elayne?"

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#### Chapter 1716: Last Line Of Defense

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"Seeing how our phones and cars evolve to work just as they did before but based on magic... it's completely possible," Elayne nodded. "And it's worth giving it a shot. We just need to return to Earth, buy VR headsets, bring them here, and then share them with Khione and her father... so they can visit Arcadia and meet Titania. She's a very lonely woman as well, and she, like your dad, has fallen in love before with a human man who passed away heroically while fighting a terrifying demon king. Since then, like your father, she has been forever heartbroken."

"So that's how it is... my father would be so happy," Khione smiled. "Alright, let's save him! I will summon the spiritual power of my Beasties here. I don't plan to slack off!"

"That's neat, but where are your siblings at?" asked Jenny. "Didn't you say they were super strong too. Why is none of them here helping?"

"They don't live in this realm all the time. They tend to travel the mortal plane," explained Khione. "Unlike me, my siblings have few responsibilities because they never decided to take care of a territory... their absence is what also makes my father feel so lonely! If only they would visit at least once every ten years. They are away for hundreds of years sometimes."

"Hm, that's not good," Mark nodded. "It's... it's nice that at least you try to be there for your father, Khione. You're a good daughter."

"I try..." Khione sighed. "Alright."

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

Khione concentrated, her eyes glowing with bright blue light as she summoned her three Spiritual Heart Beasts, or rather, their spiritual forms.

A giant polar bear with icy crystal horns, a giant moth of snow and ice, and an elemental of frost quickly manifested. They were more ethereal and not as solid as before, but combined, they were quite a great addition to the party.

"I'll try to hold back my father using my ice magic!" Khione said. "I will also try to make a formation or something that can help in the long run to restrain him."

"Sounds good," Elayne nodded. "We've prepared a lot and done everything we can... the only thing left is to step forward. Let's go."

As they moved forward, the hall leading to the gate to the throne seemed empty at first.

But!

"SHYEEEEHHH!"

The scream of a monstrous creature echoed amidst the fog, as giant fleshy tendrils sprouted from the abyss, dozens of them appearing everywhere.

"W-What is this?!" Khione asked.

"Another Demonic Beast!" Katherine said.

"Probably the last guardian before we get to the end of this place," Elayne said. "It's hiding under the fog. Avoid contact with it!"

Everyone started avoiding the creature's tentacles as much as they could, while targeting them and striking them with their weapons.

The tentacles, however, were as tough as the Cyclops' skin, taking considerable effort to damage through the combined attacks of everyone.

"Reveal your form!"

Elayne roared, as she combined her Spirit Power with Khione's, unleashing a shockwave of freezing winds everywhere by swinging her hammer down.

FLUOSH!

The demonic fog dissipated, revealing the figure of a monstrous creature attached to the ceiling, resembling a horrific octopus-like fleshy creature constantly moving its tentacles into the floor.

Letting out another otherworldly roar, the monster opened its mouth and released demonic toxic fog everywhere, alarming everyone.

"Jenny! Rita!"

"On it!"

Jenny and Rita had absorbed material from the Venomous Viper Drake into their bodies when they forged their Physiques, allowing them to create and manipulate poisons.

As they grew stronger with their real-life bodies, these powers intensified, and Elayne had managed to combine her power with theirs, creating a spell capable of absorbing demonic poison and then purifying it.

"{Abyssal Poison Devour}!"

Jenny and Rita worked together, merging their Auras and Magic Powers with Elayne's Spiritual Aura, creating the shape of a giant Viper Drake's head opening its jaws and absorbing all the poison.

Then, as they absorbed the poison, Elayne swung her hammer towards the dragon's head, purifying all the poison inside in a single strike, and redirecting the purified energy directly into the ceiling as a beam of bright light.

BOOOM!

The potent beam of light produced by Elayne's thrusting attack blew up the ceiling, as the creature fell to the ground with a large hole in its head.

"GRYAAARRR!"

With a monstrous, agonizing cry, it released its aura, shaped like dozens of demonic souls tied together, attacking everyone at the same time.

"Don't falter! Stay together!"

Elayne cheered for everyone, using her Domain and Terrain to boost their strength. Attacking with their help, she caused the tentacles to begin to be chopped off rapidly by the boosted auras they received, while Khione used her spirits to freeze the demonic souls with her Spirit Magic.

"A monster as wretched as you doesn't have the right to live in my father's castle! Begone from here!"

Khione roared angrily, combining her Spirit Energy with Elayne's and letting her channel it all into her hammer, which had absorbed plenty of cursed energy and demonic miasma.

"{Divine Freezing Hammer}!"

The hammer temporarily became four times as big, turning into a gigantic hammer of blue frost emanating bright golden light.

Elayne swung the hammer down with all her strength, crushing the monster's head and freezing it while also purifying it at the same time.

CRAAASH!

The ground beneath shattered as the monster screamed in agony, freezing and then exploding into countless shards scattered everywhere. The demonic souls were set free, but were quickly taken care of by Gabriel, who destroyed them with beams from his little hands.

"It's done..." Elayne sighed in relief, resting for a second. "Ahh... Ugh, I feel dizzy now of all times."

She felt slightly dizzy, because of a combination of factors, such as stress, adrenaline, and being a pregnant woman.

"I'm never doing something like this again until the baby is born..." she complained.

"Yeah, let's just focus on BNLO for the time being," Mark nodded.

"So what now?" Rita asked.

"Let's absorb some Spirit Cores, drink elixirs, and so on," Elayne quickly shared some with everyone.

"Let's... rest, for a minute or two."

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## Chapter 1717: The Mad Fairy King

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"Let's... rest for a minute or two," Elayne said.

Everyone nodded, standing there while clearing the fog with their attacks. Gabriel generated an Aura of light to protect them.

"I can feel something terrifying beyond this gate!" Gabriel said. "Is it really okay to fight it on our own, big sis?"

"It's not like we can run away now and leave this world to its doom..." Elayne said. "We have to do something now that we are here... It's the least we could do for Oberon and the rest. We also came here so Katherine can receive an upgraded contract with me. If we leave, her contract will expire, and then what? She'll return to this calamity either way."

"Hmm..." Gabriel nodded, still worried. "Um, but be extra careful..."

"I will," Elayne nodded, quickly summoning four Yggdragon Golems just in case, and infusing them with as many Holy Runes as she could.

Once everyone had recovered their strength a little bit more, Elayne quickly nodded, advancing forward and destroying the gate to the throne room with a powerful swipe of her hammer.

BOOOM!

An explosion of brightly blessed light erupted, cleansing the cursed miasma coming from within, which seemed like a dark wave trying to devour everything.

"Nngh...! Gabriel! Khione!"

"Yes!"

"Okay!"

Khione and Gabriel touched Elayne's shoulders, combining their power with hers, as she used her shield to protect everyone from the smog and then, with her hammer and her scythe, cut through the toxic fog!

"HAAAH!"

SLAAASH!

BOOOM!

An explosion of bright light and dream essence shook the interior of the throne room immediately, aimed at the throne itself!

"...!"

Khione, amidst the smoke, quickly noticed something, the tall, slender figure of a man with large butterfly wings sitting on the throne.

"Father!"

As Elayne and everyone else slowly made their way into the throne room, they saw his silhouette sitting there, constantly exuding a dark pink and purple demonic miasma, combined with his potent divine spirit energy.

It was overwhelming! It was immensely powerful, more than anyone here had ever predicted... his red eyes emerged from the mist, as he waved his hand, revealing himself.

"Ahhh! But if it isn't my dear, distinguished guests! I was waiting for you... Hmm? Oh, my dear Khione. Have you come to offer your goodwill to your father and your new adoptive mother?"

"Adoptive mother? Dad... Are you seeing yourself right now?!"

Khione and everyone else looked at what Oberon had become with horror on their faces.

Although he looked as they expected, a handsome, slender, and charming fairy king, that was where it all changed.

His long blond hair had now become dark purple, and his once bright green eyes had turned red.

He had a pair of long antlers made of black miasmic crystals growing from his forehead, and a third demonic eye with red, purple, and blue colors on his forehead.

Black and red veins were visible across his pale white skin, alongside a large, red-colored crystal encrusted in his chest, shaped like a heart, constantly infusing him with more and more demonic power.

Half of his body was different, covered in a hardened, demonic, miasma-like, fleshy substance, covered in blinking red eyes and sharp jaws. One of his hands had mutated into an aberrant, giant claw.

And by his side, a woman was there, hugging him with a pleased smile. Her body seemed foggy and dark, made of abyssal shadows, with long, tentacle-like hair and bright red eyes.

Her appearance was so mesmerizing that all the men watching felt a sudden, charming sensation throughout their beings.

Mark, Gabriel, and even Ignis groaned, resisting a sudden "urge" to love and worship the floating demonic woman by Oberon's side, who never let go of him.

"Who are you?!" Elayne roared, emanating celestial energy from her body. "What... What have you done to Lord Oberon?!"

"Hmm?" The woman looked back at them and then whispered to her "husband". "Honey, I think these guests have forgotten their manners... I told you already, you're too nice sometimes. You have to show them their place."

"Ahhh... My apologies, my dearest," Oberon smiled at the woman with fascination. "I guess... I have to discipline them a bit... My apologies, truly... truly, I am sorry for this."

With a gentle swing of his claws, a giant wave of cutting, dark power surged, splitting the entire temple in half!

RUMBLE!

"Ah! Evade!"

Elayne quickly jumped out of the way, and so did everyone, barely saving themselves by a hair's breadth, glancing at the utter disaster left behind.

"That's not just any servant of the Demon King of Death...!" Elayne glared at the woman embracing Oberon. "She's a demon, a very strong one! I've never... Never felt this chill before! What is that woman?!"

"Hmm~" the demon looked back at Elayne, a hint of jealousy in her eyes. "I can't let my husband look at other women with the same eyes he looks at me... I am his one and only, after all, fufu... So please, would you die for me?"

"Death...? Hah, that sounds fine," Oberon smiled at Elayne. "I'm sorry... would you die for her?"

"Father, no!" Khione screamed, as Oberon appeared above Elayne, his claws rushing toward her head.

"Nngh...!"

Elayne gathered all her power. Her Yggdragon Golems struck Oberon together, as she managed to fly away using her angelic wings, and then struck the floor with her hammer after it had absorbed as many curses as possible.

TRUUUM!

An explosion of light encompassed everything, as Oberon hissed in pain when exposed to it. The woman embracing him was clearly annoyed.

"Tch! You dare hurt my beloved husband?! You must really wish to die!" the woman said. "My beloved, kill everyone here!"

"Yes...! Of course! Everyone...! Hahahaha!" Oberon laughed. His Aura surged, turning into thousands of butterflies flying in all directions.

And whenever they touched someone, or something...

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The butterflies exploded, generating a huge chain reaction that shook the entire, already-ruined palace. The monstrous Oberon laughed while charging, aiming at the closest foe.

"Oj, bastard!"

Mark roared, clashing against him with his blazing swords, rapidly powering up into his strongest form, becoming a giant sentinel of metallic, burning wood.

"Take this!"

His flames, emanating the sacred power of the Phoenix, unleashed a barrage of explosive, cutting attacks, rapidly pushing Oberon back!

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Chapter 1718: The Overwhelming Difference In Power

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"Nngh! S-Stop it!"

The demon embracing Oberon cried in agony while Oberon noticed her pain. The fairy king quickly became serious, glaring hatefully at Mark.

"H-How dare you harm my beloved...! I'LL KILL YOU!"

RUMBLE!

With a single step forward, the fairy king shattered the ground and grabbed Mark's neck, crushing it with full force as his metallic wooden body started gaining cracks, flames surging everywhere.

"U-Unngh...! AHHHH!"

Mark screamed in agony, manifesting dozens of swords made of flames to cut through Oberon's body, but they barely did anything. A thick aura of corrupted divine spirit energy protected him.

"STOP!"

Elayne cried, charging with Khione and attacking Oberon together. Elayne swung her hammer and threw it at Oberon, controlling it with a floating hand made of spiritual energy while she used her shovel, Irene, and her Spiritual Soul Weapon, the Hoe, to unleash a series of consecutive techniques. Explosions of elemental spiritual energy and divine power made Oberon's hand stagger, dropping Mark just a second before crushing his head into pieces.

"Tsk!"

Oberon clicked his tongue. His butterfly wings glowed, opening dozens of demonic eyes and firing demonic energy beams at Elayne, bombarding her and destroying her defensive barriers, pushing her away.

Meanwhile, he quickly punched the hammer away, sending the powerful weapon through a wall and into the distant forests.

"MEEEEHEE!"

Belle unleashed all her divine thunder power at once, temporarily becoming a beast of pure thunderous energy and crashing against Oberon with all her force, while Khione froze her father's legs, stopping him from moving as easily.

"Khione, you little rascal...! Hahaha, you really are making your father go mad now!"

Oberon laughed bizarrely, extending his mutated arm into thousands of black tentacles and attacking everyone around him within a second.

The tentacles, sharp like blades, pierced their bodies and then released explosions of demonic spirit energy, sending them flying away with heavy injuries.

"Father, please stop it!"

Khione screamed. Her spirit beasts attacked Oberon together, trying to slow him down as much as possible as frost grew all over his skin.

Her three spirit beasts converged their power while also spreading a part of it through the floor, freezing it and spreading runes under the ice.

"Ah, you little brat! Why must you keep acting like this toward your father? I suppose it's time I discipline you, Khione!"

Oberon laughed, smacking Khione's face with his monstrous hand and sending her spiritual projection flying into the ceiling, exploding into ice dust.

BOOOM!

"A Spirit Projection, I guessed as much,"

he shrugged. "Khione loves her people too much. She wouldn't come here on her own. She also hates stepping out of her own room... that girl."

As Oberon shook his head, Elayne greeted his face, her stance changing as she dug into his chest with her shovel and her hoe.

At the same time, spiritual time essence surged, and nature energy erupted, transforming that wound and expanding it as plants grew everywhere.

"HAAAAH!"

Then, Elayne attempted to rip out Oberon's heart. Khione had told her that Oberon had incredible vitality and could survive even without a head or a heart, so she went all-out.

BOOOM!

As a huge draconic spirit tree erupted from Oberon's chest, the fairy king smiled at her, seizing the tree she created with a thought and manipulating it into a giant monster, hugging her and then forcing her into the floor.

"You're using nature and spirit magic against me, a great god who governs over those domains and has done so for the last... thousands of years?" he asked with shock. "You must be really stupid."

"Yggdragon Golems! Self-Destruct!"

Although one of them had been destroyed, three more rushed toward Oberon and hugged him, encompassing him in endless wood and then detonating all their runes.

BOOOOMMM!

At the same time, Mark appeared behind Elayne, cutting apart the wooden monster restraining her. The rest of the party desperately fought the black tentacles from Oberon's arm, but as the explosion happened, they all retreated back to his body.

They quickly got together while many started spreading runes and small spirit cores they dug under holes made during the battle.

"Gabriel! Give me all your power, like before!" Elayne said.

"Are you sure?!" Gabriel asked.

"Spirit Magic and Nature Magic don't seem to work. Demonic energy from the demonic weapons is useless too!" Elayne said. "He is incredibly hardy and has immense vitality. He's not even going serious. He's playing with us like toys!"

"O-Okay!" Gabriel swiftly merged his spiritual power into Elayne, who then distributed it across her entire party.

"Now, we must go all-out. There's no other way, everyone!" Elayne said.

"{Celestial Spirit Artifact Connection}!"

By activating a custom-made spirit rune artifact imprinted on her right hand, Elayne activated the same type of rune across everyone's weapons and armor, which she had placed beforehand.

As they activated, a part of her Celestial Power was shared with everyone, encompassing them in majestic divine golden armor.

"Hmm, that didn't even tickle," Oberon spoke amidst the smoke, clearing the dust off his outfit. "Oh, the power of angels. So you're employing that as your masterful trump card?"

"Ugh! It certainly is an annoying light! Don't let that hit me, my love!" the demon woman roared angrily, hiding inside Oberon.

"I won't," Oberon said, caressing his heart with a pleased smile. "Very well, everyone, shall we wrap this up?!"

BOOOM!

Oberon released an explosion as he stepped forward, half of his castle collapsing as he reached everyone, swinging his mutated claw and releasing dozens of cutting waves of dark miasma energy, bombarding them from every angle.

Although shocked by his immense power, Elayne and everyone else quickly clashed back. Using their celestial power, they resisted his attacks and coordinated, attacking Oberon with their combined efforts.

Elena cut through his defenses and opened the way for the rest to attack. Monica used her curses to absorb his cursed power and then strengthen herself, bombarding him with ghostly flames. Elisa powered up to her dragon form and unleashed a dragon breath of thunder and several explosive thunder punches.

"Tsk!"

Oberon swung his claw again as a giant cutting wave swept right through them!

RUMBLE!

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## Chapter 1719: Desperate Battle For Survival

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"Hmph!"

Oberon swung his claw, unleashing a giant cutting wave that swept through them. Elena tried to resist, but her sword shattered into pieces. The being within it screamed as a giant Shinigami appeared, attempting to possess her in fear of death.

"Unngh...!"

Elena collapsed to the floor while Anna gasped. Employing the power of her Familiars, she rushed to protect Elena, but half of them were cleaved, dying instantly and reducing her magic power by half.

"Damn it!"

"Elena!"

Monica and Elisa grew desperate, merging into a larger black dragon that resisted Oberon's blow but suffered a massive bleeding wound, vomiting blood and entrails.

"G-Guuggh...!"

"Girls!"

Elayne split her mind, creating a clone that ran toward them and healed them with her magic. Oberon spotted her clone, shattering it with a kick before swinging his claw at her, Mark, and the others.

"Resist the attack and fight back!"

"HAAAHH!"

Their Auras converged around Elayne as she thrust her shield forward, but it faltered as Oberon fought with increasing ferocity.

"I've seen enough. You are not worthy of my attention. You're too weak."

Oberon stomped the ground, conjuring a forest of cursed trees that impaled everyone. Their armor protected vital areas, but their limbs were grievously wounded.

"Aaaaggh, damn it!"

Rita screamed in agony, gathering all her power and firing a beam of void energy directly at Oberon's head, blasting it apart in a sudden explosion.

BOOOM!

"D-Did that do it?!"

Rita's eyes widened, but Elayne, panicking, rushed forward.

"Of course not! Keep fighting!"

She generated more Yggdrasil Avatars from her body, puppet-like golems imbued with replicas of her spells and physical abilities to heal and support everyone.

At the same time, Oberon regrew a new head. The wound remained open, pierced by Mark's sword, which had flown down as swiftly as possible.

"Nngh?!"

Oberon groaned. Flames engulfed his body's interior, mythical phoenix flames burning the demon within his heart, its agonizing scream echoing.

"GAAAHHHH!"

"No! My beloved!"

Oberon screamed, tears of black blood streaming as he summoned ice spirit magic to freeze his body, extinguishing the flames and shattering the sword inside him. He then punched through Mark's chest, tearing out his heart.

"AAAHHH!"

Mark screamed in horror and agony, blood spraying from his massive wound.

"MARK!"

Elayne caught him swiftly, crafting a new heart from wood on the spot and implanting it into his body with Gardenia's aid.

Simultaneously, her Specialization's powers manifested, summoning a giant red demon that attacked Oberon with all her anguish and pain.

The Red Demon was a manifestation of her [Secondary Specialization]: {Path of the Divine Asura Yggdragon Spirit of the Battlefield}.

Using the accumulated War Essence she had reserved as a trump card; Elayne unleashed a series of consecutive techniques.

Specializations, though soul-bound, were greatly weakened in her main body, operating at only thirty percent of their original power.

Nonetheless, they served as an effective distraction, keeping Oberon at bay for a few seconds.

[Divine Asura's Infernal Weapon Onslaught]!

[Ferocious Infernal Demon's Magic Explosion Rain]!

[Warmongering Queen of the Battlefield's Destructive Barrage]!

[World-Shattering Demonic Soul Weapon Manifestation]!

The demon-like entity surging from Elayne's soul continued attacking, channeling all her energy through War Essence, depleting her reserves instantly.

"What sort of thing is this...!" Oberon roared angrily. "A Demon that serves you?!"

Oberon sustained minimal wounds, but the attacks were substantial enough to push him back.

Until he snapped.

"Enough."

With a single claw swing, the demonic entity exploded and vanished. Elayne felt a sharp pain in her chest, as if something had been torn away.

"AACK!?"

She vomited blood but quickly regained her composure. Seeing Mark stabilize, he stood, engulfed in flames, resembling a giant spirit of fire.

"Mark!"

"Don't worry about me! This is the second form of my transformation! Even if I die, I can return as a spiritual being for a minute or two!"

"R-Right!"

Mark enveloped Elayne, merging his spiritual form into her Spiritual Heart.

Elayne felt his embrace as her body transformed into a blazing angel of judgmental flames, charging Oberon with all her might.

Her shovel and hoe turned golden, blazing with holy mystical flames.

Simultaneously, she checked on her daughter and friends. They were safe.

Rita, Lily, Katherine, Jenny, and her pets attacked Oberon to keep him distracted.

"Fuck, fuck, fuck! Die, you fucker! You broke my legs!"

Rita went berserk, firing endless void beams from her gun while her rat pet unleashed beams of bright light.

"Don't let him move a single inch!"

Lily cried out, raising the earth and manipulating her surroundings. Giant stone pillars surged, grasping Oberon, only for the fairy king to crush them with his claws.

"I-I wasn't made for this!"

Jenny's hands trembled as she attacked with her powerful weapon, which shattered as Oberon sprouted a demonic tail and destroyed it, then pierced her head with it.

"Gwaack?!"

Jenny cried, collapsing, but everyone saw in horror that her upper body had turned into purple slime, saving her from a fatal blow.

Fully transforming into sticky goo, she aided Rita with her energies while Elayne's three divine beasts attacked Oberon, only to be repeatedly knocked down and kicked, covered in bleeding wounds.

"Come back, Hammer of Curses and Blessings!"

Elayne roared as the hammer, which had absorbed a tremendous quantity of curses when sent flying into the cursed forest, rushed back to her hands, purifying all curses and converting them into blessings.

"HAAAAA!"

With all her power, Elayne transformed into an Yggdragon, boosting her strength to its upper limits.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

In that moment, Oberon's eyes widened, recognizing Elayne's strength as no longer trivial. Summoning a radiant golden spear, he intercepted her attacks composed of magic, farming techniques, and swordsmanship arts.

His spear arts were utterly majestic, effortlessly predicting her moves and piercing her draconic body hundreds of times, shattering her legs, arms, and wings.

"D-Damn it! He's too good!"

As Elayne clenched her fists, she transformed her body, sprouting dozens of dragon heads that fired dragon breaths. She then manifested a massive Yggdrasil Cannon in her chest, unleashing it.

TRUUUM!

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Chapter 1720: Despair

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Oberon's eyes widened as he recognized Elayne's strength was no longer simple to handle. Summoning a radiant golden spear, he swiftly intercepted her attacks, a combination of magic, farming techniques, and swordsmanship arts. His spear techniques were utterly majestic, effortlessly predicting her every move and piercing her draconic body hundreds of times, shattering her legs, arms, and wings.

Clenching her fists, Elayne transformed her body, sprouting dozens of dragon heads that unleashed a barrage of dragon breaths. A massive Yggdrasil Cannon manifested in her chest, firing with tremendous force. The Yggdrasil Cannon harnessed the power of everyone present through the Celestial Rune Bond she had created, striking Oberon with full intensity.

TRUUUM!

"Nnnggh...!"

Oberon burned as he roared in fury and pain. The attack pushed him back, his mutated arm ablaze, slowly turning to ashes.

Yet he resisted!

With his mysterious golden spear, Oberon absorbed the energy, charging his weapon with immense power.

Seven colored jewels glowed brightly, as if activating, as Oberon's strength surged to its peak.

"{Celestial Hammer of Judgement}!"

"{Divine Lance of the World Tree}!"

Elayne's hammer clashed with Oberon's spear, unleashing a collision of powerful forces that erupted across the landscape. The palace crumbled, half the city collapsed, and nearby mountains were cleaved and reduced to rubble.

RUMBLE!

The world seemed to teeter on the brink of destruction as the earth split open and molten lava incinerated nearby forests. Elayne's aura shielded everyone from the devastation, but she could not sustain it indefinitely.

She channeled the power of Pathway to call upon the Gods of Arcadia for aid, but they offered little power, as if slumbering... or dead.

And then.

"Heh... Hehehe..."

Amidst everything, Elayne's glimmer of hope...

Shattered.

Oberon stood unscathed, laughing.

"It seems this is my victory."

"...?!"

His attack suddenly unleashed the seven colors, releasing a colossal, radiant beam that shattered Elayne's hammer into fragments, pierced her chest, and obliterated her draconic body instantly.

BOOOMMM!

Elayne felt her power plummet to nothing.

Her armor and weapons shattered, white light enveloping her completely.

Lying on the floor, she saw everyone around her.

"E-Everyone...?"

Mark lay unconscious. Her daughter, barely awake, stared in horror at her burning shoulders, her arms gone. Her friends were also unconscious, bearing similar horrific wounds.

Gabriel's spirit had vanished. Gardenia and Ignis, having exhausted their power to save her, now slumbered deeply...

Her Spiritual Heart was shattered, causing agonizing pain in her chest...

Her Spiritual Heart Beasts were somehow alive, but barely.

Her familiars...

"N-No... What...! No...!"

Belle was completely burned, showing no signs of life.

Silver, vomiting blood, was missing half his body.

Goldie... was nowhere to be found.

"Guugh...!"

Elayne vomited blood, feeling dizzy and unstable.

Her soul was writhing in agony, pierced by sharp demonic spikes.

As she touched the cold, icy floor, she noticed something.

A thread of hope...

Runes danced, already prepared, ready...

Then she heard Oberon's footsteps approaching.

A demon woman embraced him, kissing his lips.

"Well done, my beloved! Look how well you did! I knew you could do this! You're so strong!"

"Thank you... thank you..."

Oberon smiled, his eyes brimming with madness.

Elayne's lips trembled as she faced him.

"She doesn't truly love you..."

"Hm? Oh, you're still alive."

"There's someone... like you in Arcadia... another world..."

"...?"

"A Fairy Queen named Titania."

"...?!"

Oberon froze for a moment. The demon at his side looked confused.

"She... like you... is heartbroken..."

"...Is she now?"

"She... she would love to meet you, I assure... you...! So please..."

"..."

"Please, your majesty...! Don't let...! Don't let her influence you...! You're a good... person..."

"Am I?"

Hearing his response, Elayne did not hesitate.

It was now or never!

FLAAASH!

A grand formation activated, causing the surroundings to tremble suddenly.

Oberon looked around in surprise as a massive prison of myriad lights engulfed him, beginning to seal his power within.

"What is this?"

"It's a seal forged by everyone's efforts! Our last...! Our final power! All of it!"

"...Is that so."

"...?"

Elayne sensed something was wrong.

The formation was strong, but...

Oberon appeared unfazed.

Crack...

And then...

Crack!

CRASH!

The entire formation shattered into pieces with a mere tap.

"Ah, well, that was a colorful display of magic, but what else can you do?"

"..."

Elayne's eyes widened.

It felt as though her soul had left her body...

Behind Oberon, a vast mass of miasma gathered, and a colossal being emerged.

Space and time warped and distorted.

A massive gate began engulfing Avalon.

The figure behind Oberon stepped forward as he smiled at "him."

"Ah, master! It is good you're finally here. This is Avalon, your new kingdom," said Oberon.

"You've done well, Oberon. You have proven your worth and become my greatest Death Apostle."

"No... Why..."

"Now, where were we the last time we met, Yggdrasil?"

The entity advanced toward her.

Enormous, towering.

Immense in size and power!

A demonic crown glowed brightly above his head.

Merlinus' Demon King Crown!

"Ah yes, last time you defeated me and said I could never win... Well, how the tables have turned, don't you think?" the Demon King of Death laughed, his giant skull crackling.

"W-Why..." Elayne muttered, madness clouding her judgment. "Why do you hate me so much?! I haven't done anything to you! Your grudge against me is nonsensical! Why do you blame me for what someone else did?! I am trying too...! I am trying to just... live...!"

"Well, living is not enough," he said. "This is why I have come here, to invite you and your dear family to the Netherworld."

The surroundings warped and shifted as nether filled the air. Elayne's body convulsed in agony.

"Wait...! Please...! I'm pregnant...! How...! How can someone be so heartless...!"

"Don't worry, that child will grow strong in the Netherworld. You and everyone here shall embrace death and become one with my Legion. We will conquer countless realms and worlds. Everything shall be ours... And then, my dear wife and daughter will return, as I sacrifice one billion souls... yes, yes...! COME NOW, YGGDRASIL!"

"AAAAAGGGHHH!"

Elayne stood, screaming in agony, mustering all her strength. She absorbed the nether and demonic energy, combining and compressing it.

"A portal...! At least...! T-The children must live...!"

"What do you think you're doing?! Stop!"