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Cursed Immortality

Chapter 381: Vile Witch Valley

Over fifty miles in the south from the eastern shores of the Epic Alive Plains, there was located a mountain range known as the Vile Witch Valley.

The Vile Witch Valley fell under the rule of the Alliance Region because this place was filled with powerful magic beasts and was also one of the biggest hunting grounds for battle-hungry alliance members.

There were five Medium Size Alive Cities in the Vile Witch Valley, No. 543 in the outskirts, No. 500 in the inner, and No. 492 in the core.

The Alliance member normally adventure in this place and took going from the Alive Alliance City NO. 543 to the No. 492 as a sort of challenge and practice.

The Zodiac Warrior Alliance Ranks were divided between Zodiac Combatant and Zodiac Sorcerer, and both have epic tiers to differentiate their ranks.

Normally around the medium size city, only those around the Epic-Tier-3 Zodiac Combatant or Zodiac Sorcerer venture on an adventure or complete their alliance-related missions.

In the Alliance Region, these Alive cities were built exactly for those who were capable of reaching them, and there were no shortcuts or any protection on the roads.

The Alliance followed a strict rule of strength above all, and that's why their members were far stronger and more daring than the other two regions.

Anyhow, the Vile Witch Valley was also flooded by these alliance members because not only was it rich with resources, but there was a legend that in the past, there lived a Vile Witch in this place, and her inheritance was buried somewhere.

People only took it as a legend before until a daring fellow found a strange key with a parchment, and after translating it, it turned out to be the key to the Vile Witch's layer.

The arrogant fellow instantly posted this news on the start network, and afterward, he vanished with the key and has been missing ever since with the key.

Nevertheless, it sparked a massive public interest in the Vile Witch Valley, and many came here to search for the Witch's layer, but to this day, no one has ever found any clues about it, and some even believed that the guy who found the key has already taken the treasures and fled the epic plains.

Still, this place was quite popular among the treasure hunters, and the alliance reeled in massive profits from these golden lands.

Today, a lone wanderer, wearing a cloak was making its way towards the No. 543 city by simply following the sign boards left behind by the Alliance members. Those signboards were more like simple clues to where the city was located, as there were no paved ways. Instead, tropical forests surrounded the entire Vile Witch Valley.

At this moment, a cloaked figure suddenly stopped before it looked above the tree, and the very next moment, a few wood spikes suddenly shot toward him with a terrible speed.

But the cloaked figure was able to detect them just in the nick of time and able to quickly lunge to the side before those wooden spikes could blast holes in its body.

However, the hidden attacker seemed quite unhappy about its prey successfully evading its sneak attack.

The very next moment, just after the cloaked person blocked the killing blow, the surrounding trees suddenly seemed to have come alive, and the next moment, their branches shot toward it, weaving a deadly web around it.

This time, two short swords appeared in the cloaked person's hands with strange rings on their hilts, and all of a sudden, his speed suddenly increased by many folds, and like a meat grinder, it instantly sliced

through those terrifying tree branches and jumped over the trees and headed in a certain direction swiftly while dodging those trees like an agile monkey.

At this moment, a strange movement suddenly occurred where that person was heading as small tree bark suddenly seemed to have come alive and started to flash past between trees agilely, and its speed was nowhere inferior to the person who was chasing it.

"Hmph!" A raspy grunt was heard from the cloaked figure before the swords in his hands vanished, and a black rifle appeared in his hand.

The next moment, a torrent of powerful bullets shot toward the fleeing tree bark, and anything that came in those bullets' way was blasted apart.

'Shee...'

An ear-piercing shrill suddenly rang before all those trees obstructing the cloaked person's way turned back to normal, and it then landed on the ground again while holding the black rifle over his shoulder.

A few meters away from him was a trail of dark green liquid, and following it closely, it found its bleeding assailant, who was on the verge of death. It was a 3'4 feet monkey which appeared like it was carved with tree barks, but the dark green blood seeping out of the bullet hole was evidence of it being alive.

It was an Epic-Tier-2 Impish Wood Monkey, belonged to the sorcerer species, and its wood magic was terrifying while its body was not so much.

"I guess I'm eating a monkey tonight..." A raspy voice rang from the cloaked person, which belonged to non-other than Jacob.

Jacob was traveling without using his Star Watch for over a week now, and he was finally able to make his way into the Vile Witch Valley. He didn't dare to use his star watch because he was still not sure if those bitches were tracking him somehow.

Furthermore, he wanted them to think he was dead and gone in that blast while slowly accumulating his strength, and when they forget about him, it would be the time when he would be truly free.

But freedom was something he had no luxury to have, not until he was still affiliated with the slave rune. He was still a puppet of Free Sword, and he needed to proceed accordingly as he ordered, or he would be in a world of pain.

Three more days passed after his encounter with the Impish Wood Monkey, and Jacob found himself staring at a massive iron wall that was over two-hundred meters in size.

He finally reached the Alive Alliance City NO. 543!

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Chapter 382: Bad News

The thick and tall iron walls of the Alive Alliance City No. 543 were normal for any medium size city. These walls were made with special ores to stop the dark beings from invading the city or from some random wild beast stampede.

There was only one city gate to go inside or outside, and it was heavenly guarded and monitored all the time.

However, Jacob didn't move toward the city gates because he was still mulling over his options to enter it like everyone else or try to jump the wall sneakily.

If he goes with the former, then he has to show his identity proof to enter the city, which would again expose him to the possibility of getting exposed to the Alliance Chairman, and then Ellie or Lucy would be on him in no time.

He still clearly remembered how Gunnar sold him out to Ellie and then even exposed this to Lucy. He was still not too keen on using his star watch either after what happened in the Star Ocean.

But the second option was also quite risky in other ways. Because these alive cities were protected by powerful figures, especially medium and large size cities, there were countless other measures placed to expose someone who wanted to enter them sneakily.

The biggest obstacle was SAAI itself because even Captain Free Sword had told him that SAAI has full authority to monitor everyone, and he had witnessed it himself when he got the title Ray of Hope.

These cities were at least as advanced as the Dark Cities, and everyone knows the Dark Cities were nothing but terrifying when it came to upholding rules and protecting themselves from intruders.

Speaking of the Dark Cities, like the other plains, its location was still unknown, and one had to either find it on their own or need someone to guide them to the hidden location.

Jacob has neither the time for obvious reason nor the person who could lead him there, so he was on his own.

So, he was pretty stumped about what to do as both options led to many dangerous possibilities.

'Well, if I use my Ray of Hope Badge, I might be able to enter the city without needing to expose my identity. Isn't that Ogre wanted me to do the same thing to attract fame and then earn the trust of the three hegemonies so I could be at the center of everyone once the trial started?' Jacob thought gravely.

His initial plan was to simply do his own thing while keeping a low profile until the trial arrives since his body now only reacts against him when he either tries to sabotage Captain Free Sword's plan or when it would be time for him to enter the Plain Trial.

Now his Ray of Hope Badge was the only thing that could help him move around the epic plains. His biggest advantage was no one had ever seen him, and this was what he was going to use.

So, without further ado, he started to change his appearance, which was cutting his hair short and dyed them in black, and then changing his facial features and ears. He was naturally going to impersonate an elf since he looked like them the most.

Furthermore, in the epic plains, there were tons of species living together. Even the elves have more than 15 kinds. But the most famous ones were the ones capable of reaching the Epic Plains.

In this place, the potential was measured by how much a race could grow by just relying on their bloodline, and only those who showed promise would be selected by the three hegemonies to nurture further.

The city gates of the City No.543 were colossal, just like the city walls, and they were guarded by two guard posts, and many people seemed to be going in and out. Almost all of them were alliance members.

Jacob walked within the crowd, wearing blue armor and mental, but his head was exposed, and he wore a half-white mask that covered half of his face and eye while the other half was exposed, and a deep scar was over his eye.

This mask was specially made by him just in case he needed to appear different from his known self. Besides, he was going to play a completely different character and wanted to hide his true identity as long as he could, at least until he was strong enough not to care about their schemes.

No one paid him much attention as he walked toward the gates. Once in a while, someone would throw him a curious glance before minding their own business.

"Do you hear the announcement made by the Bank and the Guild?"

At this moment, Jacob's ear perked up when he heard a troll talking with his fellow teammate in full of ecstasy.

"Are you talking about the bounty they just placed on the person who was responsible for the terrorist attack over two weeks ago? It's all over the star news!" The other troll sneered.

"Yes, that one. It appeared that guy was one of the top members of the Killer Skull Society, and whoever gave his whereabouts would be rewarded with tons of riches. I guess those guys were not kidding around when they said they would not sit still until they found the culprit."

"Heh, I'm more interested in those rewards. Even the big wigs were drooling when they saw them. Whoever this Faceless Ancient is, he better pray that he will not get found out by any of those bounty hunters, or he will regret even being born in this world. They have even given his portrait, and he seemed to belong to the Golden Elf Clan, and now they are going to suffer big time!"

While the trolls and some more people were energetically talking about this same topic, no one seemed to notice that the person wearing a half-mask and blue armor had vanished before he could reach the city gate.

Jacob appeared again in the wildness, and his expression was extremely dark and filled with killing intent.

This time, he didn't care and took out his star watch, and the moment he did, his expression went even darker!

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Chapter 383: Infamous in Epic Plains

When Jacob's star watch appeared on his wrist, a torrent of messages appeared, most of them were from Ellie, and a few of them were from Lucy. Not only that, but there were the mysterious Apocalyptic-S, Gunnar, and even another unfamiliar Star ID.

This was the first time he had used his star watch after entering the Epic Plains, and this result was quite unexpected as well as grave!

However, when another notification popped up, and he read it, his eyes went widened with disbelief before thick killing intent and fury surfaced in them.

"Alchemist Guild Notification: We hereby inform you with a heavy heart that You [Faceless Ancient] have been kicked out from the Alchemy Guild by your Bronze Inviter [Amiable Monk Fish (Vise Guild President)] and thereby banned from the Alchemy Guild unless you have a Golden Invitation!

"Ha... ha... haha haha!" Jacob suddenly burst into eerier laughter filled with murderous fury, "Excellent!"

The next moment, he stopped, and his eyes were extremely tranquil and icy.

Closing the notification, he checked the epic star news. He now wanted to confirm if what those trolls and many others were talking about was really true, and if it was, then why did those guys think he was a golden elf?

The moment he opened the Epic Star News, his expression went even chilly when he saw the very first news post.

"1. Star News by Rich Winter Lady (Epic Bank Manager)

"Star News: We are finally able to identify the culprit behind the terrorist attack on all living beings. He is one of the upper echelons of the notorious organization Killer Skull Society. His Star ID is [Faceless Ancient]!

"Tri-Wanted Order: The three hegemonies have officially launched a Tri-Wanted Order against this terrorist [Faceless Ancient], and all the Alive Cities are hereby on high alert, and the authorities there has full permission to detain and investigate any suspicious individual. So, we humbly ask for your corporation, and we can assure as long as you do nothing wrong, no harm will befall you. This Tri-Wanted Order will have remained until the terrorist [Faceless Ancient] is dealt with according to the law of the Life Faction!

"Epic Plains Bounty Order: [Picture of Faceless Ancient] (Attached Picture)

"1. 100,000 ZC for terrorist [Faceless Ancient] whereabouts!

"2. 1,000,000 ZC for terrorist [Faceless Ancient] dead body!

"3. 10,000,000 ZC for terrorist [Faceless Ancient] alive.

"[Bounty can be claim after the information or death of the target, or his detention is confirmed by the three hegemonies!]"

"2. Star News by Might-of-Destruction (Epic Alliance Chairman)

"Star News: ... (Same as Rich Winter Lady)

"3. Star News by Amiable Wized Monk (Epic Guild President)

"Star News: ... (Same as Rich Winter Lady)

"4. Star News by Servant-Of-Epic-S

"Star News: The three hegemonies are slandering us by calling us 'Terrorists,' and Lord Faceless Ancient has never done something like this, and we will fully support him until his grand name is clear of these false accusations. Anyone who dares to go after Lord Faceless Ancient is the enemy of our Killer Skull Society!"

Jacob looked at the top three news, which was the same, about him and how they were planning to hunt him from all fronts, not to mention the bounty placed on him was simply too lavish for anyone to ignore it.

However, he couldn't help but sneer at the fourth trending star news, which was posted by some minion of the Killer Skull Society. Since they couldn't find him the hard way, they were probably trying to lure him using a soft approach.

Anyone would be swayed if the three hegemonies were hunting them like mad hounds. But Jacob was no longer concerned with any of this because he had suffered so much that he now felt numb to all this.

In the end, he just sighed and then closed the star news since he had already seen enough and also confirmed something else.

The picture attached to the bounty was him in his golden elf disguise, and it was taken when his eye was maimed. Furthermore, it was extremely simple to guess where and who had taken this picture because he had only shone his face like when his eye was maimed when he was at Dark Earl Castle!

Realization dawn upon him at this moment, 'So, that conniving dwarf had sold me to either Lucy or Ellie after he received some sort of bone from them. No wonder he put up that trap and even gave this picture of mine of them. Now it all made sense...'

Jacob didn't find it news that Hallberg had sold him out since he had already made him his enemy the moment he pulled the ship trap on him. If anything, it only confirmed that the connections of the Epic Plains run too deep, and no one was trustworthy in this place except for himself.

Afterward, Jacob saw the messages from the mighty figures of the epic plains.

Most of them were about the warnings and even threats that he should surrender and resolve it peacefully, and as long as he handed over his knowledge and became their loyal dog, there was a chance his life would be spared.

Even Gunner was guaranteeing his safety as long as he silently surrendered to him. At the same time, the threats were from Lucy and even Ellie before she kicked him out in a fit.

The most interesting one was from the Apocalyptic-S, though, just as he suspected it to be after he saw their star news post.

"Apocalyptic-S (Reply): If you are willing to hand over those rings, I can shelter you and even let you join the Killer Skull Society for the price of that technology you used to put those three pretentious hegemonies in their place! Remember, only I can help you now, and all your paths have been blocked!"

Then there was the new ID that Jacob had just found out its origin.

"Amiable Wizeden Monk (New Message): I never thought I would have to message you in this sort of circumstances, and I personally prefer to meet you face to face before. But alas, fate is sometimes cruel, and our mistakes made us fall from grace even quicker than it took us to rise. I think Vice President has failed to appreciate your talent and even has a fault in your current situation. She even kicked you out without consulting me first, and this pains me deeply. So, to make amends for her mistakes, this old man is offering you a helping hand, and anytime you want and anywhere. I really hope this all could've been avoided, but I can't watch a talent like you destroy yourself. Although I'm going with the flow since I'm pressured by the Bank Manager and Alliance Chairman, I'm still willing to help in any way! You know how to reach me!"

Jacob looked at Nelsen's guilt-ridden and couldn't help but scoff with killing intent, "I'll be a fool ever to believe you guys!"

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Chapter 384: Reawakening of the Emperor!

Jacob finally closed the star watch interface before a rueful sigh escaped his mouth.

'Just how in the world did things escalate to this point?' He wondered with a hint of confusion. He never intended to make three hegemonies into his enemy, and neither did he want to be haunted down by the entire epic plains when he was still not strong enough.

Right now, he was probably the hottest commodity and topic of discussion in every household in the epic plains.

Nevertheless, the ship of regret was long sailed and now was the time to counter. Looking at the star watch and the remaining time he had to prepare for the plain trial, a cruel yet very practical idea surfaced in his mind.

'I never thought I would take this path in this world again. But since they're calling me a terrorist, I'll give them a goddamn terrorist and make sure they will regret making an enemy out of me!' Jacob's eyes glistened with a dark, ruthless glint.

From all the messages he received and the massive bounty placed on his life, he knew those guys didn't have the nuclear technology, or it was so precious and rare that the alchemy guild didn't share it with the epic plains yet. Or it was simply dangerous to fall in the hands of epic plains.

Whichever the case was, Jacob was pretty sure that those guys were after his nuclear knowledge, and they were probably doing all this for that knowledge.

This gave him the idea of walking again on the path he never thought he would take in this life since it was no longer his primary goal. Yet here he was, back to a corner, and the only thing that came to his mind was the same path that made him known as the Emperor of Weapon Industry!

With this dark look in his eyes, he opened the Private Star Servers Section, and right now, it was completely empty since he was being kicked out of the Alchemy Guild as well.

However, today he was not here to surf any server. Instead, he was going to use another option.

'Make Star Server'

Jacob clicked on this option without hesitation, and a new interface appeared with multiple options, and without hesitation, he started to fill them.

After a few moments, an entirely different interface was in front of Jacob.

"Star Server Name: Ancient Artifact Industry

"Star Server Category: Business

"Star Server Visibly: Private Server [Star Link needed to Join this Server]

"Star Server Owner: Faceless Ancient

"Star Privilege / Star Server Level: 2-Star (Equivalent to 2-Star Privilege of Faceless Ancient)

"NOTE: 2-Star Server has 3 Unique Privileges.

"1. 2-Star Server Privilege (Entry Fee): You have set the Entry Fee to Maximum (10 ZC) for your Star Server.

"2. 2-Star Server Privilege (Post Type): You have Selected Auction Post Type for Your Star Server.

"3. "2-Star Server Privilege (Trading (Generated by Business Category): You have selected an Auction Trading System for your Star Server, and you will get 2% of any trading activities in your Star Server.

"Star Server Description: Ancient Artifact Industry offered all the weapons crafted by Faceless Ancient, which includes the large varieties of Guns, Bombs, Missiles, Atomic Bombs, Atomic Bullets, Atomic...

"Star Server Post Privilege: Win-Win [Only by purchasing an item from the Ancient Artifact Industry will you gain the right to make Auction Posts!]

"Rules and Regulations: ...

"...

"Do you want to continue with these settings and create the Star Server and generate your unique Invitation Star Link?

"2-Star Star Server Creation Fee (After Discount): 92,000 ZC

"Continue/ NO"

Looking at the server creation cost, Jacob peers into his current balance.

"Current Balance: 2,274,923 ZC"

This was the final amount he made after selling all those star watches and the weapons in the rare plains through the dark city and alchemy guild trading channels, and the 1 million he got with the plain achievement towards the end.

However, now he had to pay 92,000 ZC for making this 2-star Star Server, whose actual price was 100,000 ZC, and only after deducting his discounts from his title and the bank account he had to pay this much.

Jacob can also lower this cost by simply deactivating the star privilege and creating a 0-Star Star Server. However, he needed this exact server to serve his need. In those few years in the star ocean, he was very familiar with all these options.

The Star Server was probably the biggest surprise when he saw just how much beneficial it was for someone like him who holds the Star Privilege of 2 Star. But he wasn't interested since it would take too much time and effort to manage it, not to mention he had no interest in selling his trump cards to others while making him vulnerable in the process.

However, now that he was already getting so much hate under the pretext of a terrorist and people now also quite aware of what sort of weapons he had and was capable of creating.

So, this Star Server was going to be his moneymaker as well as making those three hegemonies regret ever daring to go after him!

He knew better than another just how hypocrites those powers could be when it came to gaining an advantage over each other, especially when weapons were involved. That's why this business was so popular in any era or place.

The only difference this time was he was going black with his trading and selling his weapon to anyone who paid him the most.

Knowing the gravity of his weapons and what kind of damage they could cause, those three hegemonies wanted to make sure they won't fall into the wrong hands while some extremely ambitious fellows would also do everything to get their hands on those weapons.

The Killer Skull Society was one such example that wanted to rival the three hegemonies.

Lastly, with the trial plains on the horizon and all the free publicity Jacob was getting right now, he knew he was going to make a lot of ZC while he was also going to tip the power scale in the Epic Plains while causing so much chaos that no one had any chance to pay him any attention.

Furthermore, once those common or suppressed folks under the three hegemonies fully gasped and had a taste of what Jacob's weapons could do, they would do anything to make sure he would remain alive so he could provide them with even more such weapons. Yet this was just the tip of the iceberg.

With an extremely dark smile, Jacob clicked on 'Continue' and then opened the Star Network News and clicked on 'Create Star News,' which he never thought he would do before!

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Chapter 385: Star News by Faceless Ancient

Within an inferno-like environment, a giant naked figure was sitting cross-legged as a faint red sheen was emitting from his burly, masculine body. It was none other than the Chairman of the Zodiac Warrior Alliance, Gunnar!

At this moment, a static voice rang within the inferno environment, "Chairman, Sir Vice Chairman, Andrew has an urgent message to rely on."

Gunnar's eyelids suddenly trembled before they sprang open, revealing his fiery eyes lit in fire, and he grunted with a hint of dissatisfaction, "It better be worth interrupting my training. Connect him."

The next moment, a raspy yet hurried voice rang, "Sorry to intrude, Chairman, but you really gonna wanna see the Star News right now!"

Gunnar's eyes narrowed as he knew his second in command, and this guy never sounded so uneasy unless something big had happened. So, he knew the matter was serious.

"What, did someone find the whereabouts of our guy?" He snorted coldly before he moved his wrist, and then a faint ripple appeared before a projection appeared.

"I'm afraid it's worse than that." Andrew's bitter yet uneasy voice sounded in reply.

Gunnar merely grunted before the Star News was opened, and the moment he saw the trending news at the No.9 spot, his eyes contracted in disbelief and bewilderment!

"9. Star News by Faceless Ancient

"Star News: Greeting everyone. I think I don't need an introduction after all. The three leaders of the hegemonies were kind enough to introduce me to you all. But still, it would be unethical for me not to give a personal introduction.

"My name is Faceless Ancient, duly known as a 'Terrorist' who was behind the bombing over two weeks ago in the boundary of Star Ocean. Today, my reason for posting this Star News is to make some things clear for everyone as well as give my thanks for all the support you are giving me. I'm really flattered!

"Foremost, as all of you should know by now that I'm a very vile person who has technology far beyond your wildest imagination, and that powerful show was a mere fragment of what I can do.

"In fact, that was, as I mentioned earlier, a greeting to draw the attention of you all and the three kind leaders, and now that I managed that, I think it was a success.

"But I'm not a bad terrorist, instead a very practical one. Because if I wanted, I could've easily put that little power show on the lands. Instead, I chose the faraway place in the boundless Star Ocean. This should be enough to prove my previous point.

"Second, my true purpose, most of you people should know talent like mine are usually suppressed by the three leaders and have to bow their heads if they want to continue with their research or keep their lives.

"But as a terrorist, I beg to differ since rebelling is in my nature, and I don't want to be suppressed by anyone, true freedom, if you say so. That's why I went into hiding, and now I'm back because I'm finally capable of keeping my freedom.

"Third, now that I have achieved my freedom, I have an even more, grander ambition. I want everyone to be like me and have control over their own lives, not just live like puppets or in fear of three unreasonable leaders. These guys are no longer fit to lead us, if you believe me.

"But who am I to decide, right? However, I'm here to give you all a chance to see and decide for yourself if I'm wrong or not because I have created this Star Server where I would be selling my advanced weaponry to anyone who has a vision like me.

"This includes the same bomb I'd used in the little power show the other day, and many more such goods will be available from time to time.

"So, my people, you all are invited to my humble Star server, and I promise you anonymity as my Star Server is a 2-Star Star Server, and you all can choose a random name, and your actual profiles will stay hidden from our mighty three leaders and their minion.

"Star Link of My Humble Star Server: XXXXXX

"I welcome you all!"

"What utter nonsense is this?!!!!!" Gunner finally snapped out of his dazed and roared furiously, and the flames in the inferno trembled violently.

Andrew's uneasy voice rang, "This Faceless Ancient has shown strong animosity toward you and the other two leaders but not toward the three hegemonies. He's playing a very dangerous game by taking full advantage of his current notoriety.

"I'm afraid, even Sir Nelsen hadn't seen this coming. This guy has completely turned the tables by using the same move. He had only posted this star news post less than an hour ago, and now it is already trending in the top ten.

"Furthermore, he's receiving more and more members in his server by every minute. I never thought the allure of those dreadful weapons would be this compelling."

Thick veins popped up on Gunner's temple as the giant was seething in a fury, "I can guess all this on my own. But what I want to know is how in the zodiac's name did he get a 2-Star Privilege in the Rare Plains!? He's already equal to us in Star Privilege!"

Andrew's voice grew grimmer, "This is the main reason for my worry as well, Chairman. I'm afraid we might have been dragged into mucky waters by the President and Miss Manger. Now if this guy really managed to sell those weapons in mass numbers, there is no telling how it will affect the power quo, not to mention the trial will be even more unpredictable!"

Gunner's expression grew even nastier as he also knew the gravity of the situation. If he had known this would've happened, he would've never agreed to issue the bounty or the wanted order.

Furthermore, his biggest regret was the day when he sold out Jacob for a measly one million ZC. If he had known Jacob was so capable, he would rather have become an enemy with Nelsen and Lucy instead of handing this wild trump card to them.

But now, there was no point in regretting it, and it was time to suffer from the 'terrorist' they all created!

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Chapter 386: The Entrance!

After posting the Star News, even Jacob was astounded by just how quickly it became viral and started to climb within the sea of star news, and before he knew it was already trending within the top hundred!

Furthermore, many people were joining his star server despite the ridiculous entry fee of 10ZC, and he thought that this fee was simply too small for these rich bastards.

Nevertheless, Jacob didn't lose his composure since money wasn't his main attraction, and what he wanted was to cause chaos which seemed to be going quite smoothly.

Furthermore, as the member stream was steadily increasing, and his star news was still climbing toward the top ten, he knew the three leaders of the three hegemonies won't sit still.

But the thing was, they were as helpless as him when it came to the star network, and this place was free for anything. Those guys would soon realize that they had shot themselves in the foot when they decided to reveal his identity.

Now, he was even more famous than the three hegemonies leaders, and the damage he could cause by selling his radioactive weapons was something everything known by now.

So, to prevent those weapons from falling into others' hands, they would pay any price to possess them, and Jacob wanted exactly that. He never thought that one day he would make money out of his infamy, and somehow, he felt a strange elation about it.

Still, Jacob knew it wasn't the time to start the next phase of his plan since it was just the start, and he stored away his Star Watch because he knew many people would be going to try reaching him, and he couldn't be bothered by them.

'Now I need to enter that city. I guess it will play in my favor that those fools released my picture when I was impersonated as a Golden Elf, and my eye was maimed. But I can't pose an elf any longer, even some other element elf. Then I should go with the next race, which looks closer to the humans...' Jacob thought, and it wasn't hard selecting another race that has human-like features.

Night descended on the eastern wall of City No. 543. Jacob appeared wearing a cloak and looked at the towering steel wall.

Although he knew his plan was quite crazy, he now had no choice but to go through with it since he was too infamous now, and just one mistake and he will be surrounded by enemies in all directions.

The gray disc appeared under his feet, and this time he used it with the water mana of his epic water core as the hex mana was too precious as it needed the dark beings' magic cores to be refilled.

Meanwhile, the water magic core could be refilled with simple magic gems, or as long as Jacob was using breathing-exercise from the water meditating, it didn't matter if he was outside the water or inside. The only difference is; in water, his mana recovers fifty times faster!

Jacob had done all sorts of experiments with the water magic core before he headed in this direction. Now all left was to find a water element epic magic scripture and water-related epic rank spells to walk in the path of Combat or Sorcery.

That's why he first needed to figure out which path suited him the most. However, his initial plans went down the drain after he reached this place, and now he was no longer a member of the Guild, nor could he join the Alliance anymore.

The hegemony which he wasn't blocked from was the Bank, and it was also a no-go for him. Now he had no backer, but this didn't mean he was helpless. Not every door has been closed for him yet.

Since the orthodox path no longer helped him, he chose the unorthodox path to pave his way further.

At this moment, the gray disk shimmering in faint blue light started to rise upward, and Jacob's figure slowly blended into the darkness.

Jacob's eyes went sharper and sharper as fluid acceleration started to climb with his heart rate, and when he was in 20X acceleration, he 'saw' the wall covered by strange magnetic waves.

When he reached the top, he saw the same electromagnetic waves covering the entire city like a massive doom, and his eyes went cold.

'No flying over it from the start was the right choice. I'll probably be detected the moment I touch those electromagnetic waves, and their color is nothing like I've ever seen before. Welcome to epic plains, I guess...' Jacob thought bitterly before he canceled the fluid acceleration.

The dark golden waves vanished from his vision as the illuminating metropolises, and it was even more massive than the dark city of the rare plains.

'Well, here goes nothing...' A cruel glint flashed past his eyes as the disk under his feet started to rise higher and higher.

Now he could see a few patrolling guards on the massive wall, and there were many weapons installed in it as well.

When Jacob reached the highest point where the dark golden waves dome ended, he started to head deeper toward the city, carefully flying a meter above the waves.

Soon, he was a few miles inside the city and had long left the city wall behind.

After carefully observing the situation down below, it was a busy street filled with all sorts of people walking like ants.

The next moment, the gray disc under his feet shifted, and like a shooting bullet, he started to descend.

The very next moment, Jacob crossed invisible the dark golden waves, and alarms started to ring in all sorts of places in the Alive Alliance City No.543.

Every combatant and sorcerer present in the city was alarmed, and they quickly sprang into action to discover the reason for that alarm. It has been a long time since this sort of alarm has been rung in the Alive Alliance City!

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 387: Jacob's Dark Plan

As the entire city suddenly started to buzz in alarms, Jacob dived, knowing that something like this would happen, and he knew he had little time to act before the most powerful people present in the city would be on his tale.

However, while he was heading down, he took out something from his pendant space and then let it go.

With his fast speed, Jacob quickly touched the ground while the public was still in a stupor about the whole alarm situation. The next moment, the disc under his feet quickly vanished, and he merged into the massive crown.

However, the very next moment, alarming cries started to appear from the sky, and they were becoming clearer and clearer as if something or someone was falling down.

The people in the vicinity quickly noticed, and they happened to see a three-meter black-winged eagle falling from the sky with one of its wings badly injured. However, no one dared to take it lightly as that eagle was a Tier-1 Epic Rank Magic Beast, and in that state, it was even more dangerous.

However, the city was filled with combatants of much higher ranks than the eagle, so it wasn't that big of a deal either.

But one thing became clear in everyone's mind the alarms were probably ringing because of this eagle who tipped off the city's alarm system when he suddenly fell down.

No one paid attention to a blue-armored barbarian who walked slowly in the opposite direction where the eagle just fell.

It was Jacob who chose to fill his face with barbarian-like tattoos since those guys were the closest thing to humans after elves.

Furthermore, the barbarian race was one of the strongest races present in the epic plains, unlike the Rare Plains, where their kind only had the potential of rare rank species.

Lastly, now that everyone thinks he is an elf, it is even more convenient for him to turn into a barbarian, and this identity will be perfect for hiding in plain sight, and he can do what he wants in City NO.543.

Jacob landed in some sort of market area as there were many shops in the street, and at this moment, the alarm around the city finally stopped ringing, and nothing out of his expectation happened.

This was the sign that using the Black Winged Eagle as a scapegoat was a very wise choice, and now he was a fish in the ocean.

Jacob then looked at those shops which were affiliated with one of the three hegemonies because only the member of the hegemony can open a shop in medium size city, not unaffiliated folks.

Then Jacob's attention was suddenly drawn by a very high-tech shop which has a Star Watch hoarding lit in lights. With his sharp eyes, he spotted a phrase line and was surprised.

'Epic Star Watches, control them with your thoughts and magic. Maximum Protection from the Star Hackers is Guaranteed!'

Jacob was intrigued by those words as he didn't expect the epic rank star watches would run on magic and could be controlled with just thoughts. But he wasn't going to buy it, even if he wanted to, because he had to pay with his bank account, and that would undo all the things he had done to protect his identity.

Furthermore, he was still not sure if those three leaders could track him down using his star watch, so he would not be using it at all until he was sure that it was absolutely safe.

Not to mention, he was going to have more star watches for what he was about to do.

"Cursed Immortality!" He summed up the cursed book with a grim expression.

"Oh, you're still alive? I thought I would be lonely in the ocean bed for a long time, but you really know how to race someone's heart, huh? It's not like I'm complaining though since I don't have a heart... haahahah..."

Looking at the usual impish words, Jacob wasn't impressed or even felt annoyed anymore since he was used to Immortika's eccentric behavior.

"I'm glad you enjoyed it. I summoned you because I want you to tell me which spices I should go after and who could give me a large percentage in Cursed Blood Condensing Stage." Jacob coldly questioned.

"Oh? Are you planning on hunting within the city? I must say you have developed some backbone, and day by day, you are doing things that are far more dangerous than they're worth. Are you sure you are following immortality, not death? Hehehe..."

"I've just recently learned the hard way that in pursed of immortality, I have to learn how to evade death, and the easiest way to do it is to keep it at a distance where I can see it coming. It's far better than dying unknowingly. So, cut the crap because I know you're having a blast, and just give me the damn names!" Jacob stated coldly.

He knows fully understands that Cursed Immortality was there to guild him on the way to immortality but not help him along the way. On the contrary, he was even vigilant of its help now, and that's why he

was not planning on asking it since every time it helped him, he always found himself in some grave situation soon after!

Even though he was alone and wasn't as powerful as the other people present in the city, he wasn't helpless by all means. Instead, as long as he was targeting a single person, he was deadlier than anyone in the entire Epic Plains!

"Tsk, tsk, when was I become this obvious? Nevertheless, since you are planning to give me a show, I'll happily provide the stage for you. From what I've observed, this city is filled with Elves, Barbarians, Orcs, and Giants Races and their subspecies.

"The good news is those races have legendary ancestors, but the bad news is they are too far apart in generations from them. They can't even become Unique without external help.

"So, I'll give a roundabout estimate of how much you could increase your cursed blood in case you kill three people from each of their subspecies present in this city. Let's just say it should be around 30% which will make you equivalent to a Tier-3 Epic, physically!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 388: Eavesdropper...

Jacob looked at the estimate presented by Immortika and Mull, 'Three people from each subspecies present in this entire city, huh? No bad, I guess. At least I need to massacre their entire tribes, or that would be too cumbersome! I also needed a pawn who could help me buy knowledge of the Water Magic, materials, and a place to open up a lab so I could practice with my Rune Craft.

'Since the Alchemy Guild had closed its door on me, I just have to barge in uninvited. I need to be a full fledged Elder Grandmaster Rune Artificer before I enter that damn trial...'

Even though Jacob has the knowledge of an Elder Grandmaster Rune Artificer, he never really practiced with it since the Rare Plains didn't have tools or sufficient materials for it.

Even in the epic plains, the Rune Artificers were highly sought after because of their attainment in the magic runes and language. Furthermore, Jacob didn't need to have Elder Grandmaster-level knowledge of Gunsmithing because he was already at that level or even higher.

As for the magic smiting, he also has Elder Grandmaster level knowledge, and with some practice, he'll be at the top of that level in no time, so what was left was the Rune Artificer. Jacob's ambition was quite high when it came to these three professions, and he wanted to combine them into one.

But he knew it was far more difficult, or someone had already achieved it in the higher plains. Nevertheless, as a researcher, he knew better than anyone that this path was limitless; one just needed life to walk on it.

"I guess we are done for today." Jacob coolly told Immortika as he didn't have anything else to ask and unsummoned it. He wasn't in the mood to endure endless sarcasm and impish laughter today.

Jacob then started looking around as all the people walking around were now alive meat slabs for him. But he wasn't going to hunt like this as he didn't even have a place to dress them.

Furthermore, he was now somewhat tired of eating everything raw and thinking about changing it.

"Hello, can you tell me where the alchemy guild is?" Jacob asked the dog's face orc politely.

"What, you don't even know this? Are you new? Wait, don't tell me since I don't have time to waste. The Alchemy Guild is..." The orc hurriedly gave directions before leaving without giving Jacob a chance to thank him.

Jacob found this scene a little nostalgic as he remembered his own old world, the streets were just this crowded, and everyone seemed in a hurry.

Afterward, he followed the orc's directions and headed in the alchemy guild's direction. He suddenly stopped in front of the alleyway because he heard something interesting.

"What do we do now, Big Brother? That damn Faceless Ancient is charging a whopping 10 ZC just to join his server. Did he think he is the fourth hegemony!?" An angry voice of a female sounded filled with indignation.

"We'll join, of course, don't forget that despite the massive entrance fee, tens of thousands of people have already entered there, and I'm afraid we have to pour all our wealth to win one of his weapons!" A stern voice of a male rang, filled with helplessness.

"But can that weapon really open up that door? What if we waste our money? It's our life-saving, you know!" The female retorted, clearly reluctant to spend her money.

"Don't worry, that weapon is at least made by an Advanced Elder Grandmaster Explosive Expert, just like the legendary Alchemy Guild President, or why do you think so many people are joining his server? The President had never sold his weapons, and no one had ever attained his level in explosive as well.

"But now, all of a sudden, someone probably even more superior has appeared, and he's willing to sell those destructive weapons to anyone who paid him. That's what makes it even more alluring! So, we are joining!

"If we were able to open that damn door, we'll recover our losses and profit big time!" The man resolutely stated.

Jacob, who was hearing their conversation, was quite intrigued by it, especially when he heard about Nelsen's specialty.

But he was far more intrigued by that door; those two wanted to open by using his atomic grenades.

However, he didn't make a move on them and walked away because he could sense those two were probably tier-7 epics, and he was nowhere near strong enough to handle even one of them without causing a massive scene.

Nevertheless, he got to hear that his server was literally booming now, and he never expected it to be such a massive hit.

'I should thank those fools for giving me such an opportunity to make easy money...' Jacob's lips curled up as he walked towards the alchemy guild.

Within the same dark alleyway, two giants in dark cloaks were standing. They were the same male and female whose conversation Jacob had heard.

"Ho? That eavesdropper left." The male voice rang in a sneer.

"Heh, what do you expect? He only has an epic-tier-1 magic core, and it was a common one at that. Just some curious fellow if he had dared to enter this alley. Hehe!" The female also disdainfully scoffed as lighting suddenly flashed past under her hood.

"Oh well, I was hoping to release some pent-up frustration, but that ant knows when to retreat. Anyway, back to the topic, even if we aren't able to get any weapon from that server, we can always seek Mom's help. She will not reject us if we ask nicely, little sis." The male said with a hint of longing and love when he said, 'Mom.'

However, the female giant coldly rejected, "No, she will just lock us up again like some jewels. I wanted to prove to her that we are not children anymore, and what could be a better way to do it than raiding the true layer of the Vile Witch!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 389: Commission an Elder Grandmaster?!

The Alchemy Guild only has a large piece of golden land in the central area of the Alliance City, and except for that, if an alchemist wanted to open a private shop, they had to pay massive rent, and no one can buy properties here except for Epic-Tier-4 and higher rank Alliance Members.

The Alchemy Guild was also constructed in a towering building with at least three hundred floors and one of the most massive skyscrapers in the city and quite hard to miss.

Jacob looked at the familiar symbol of the alchemy guild with icy eyes and headed inside the building.

The first ten floors of this building were merchant floors where the alchemy guild sold their goods, while the above floors were exclusive for members only, and there were all kinds of high-tech workshops available in this place.

But Jacob was not here for any of it; he entered the luxurious interior, which was filled with showcases, and all sorts of people were browsing through the available goods.

As a former Guild Leader himself, he knew how this would all work, and he was least interested in those inferior goods the alchemy guild sold to the public. He knew better than anyone that only a member of the hegemony could truly buy high-quality goods.

He headed directly towards the crystal counter where a blue-haired elf was standing with a smile as she also wore a Grandmaster Alchemist Badge. She seemed to be working as a receptionist while in the rare plains, she would be a member of the guild's upper echelon.

Seeing the 'barbarian' coming her way, she put on her best professional smile and greeted him, "How may I help you today? Do you want to buy here or browse in private?"

The meaning of the question was quite straightforward if Jacob chose the second option, he would have to show his hegemony badge, and then according to his rank in the hegemony, he would be exposed to hidden goods exclusive to the high-ranking member of a hegemony.

While a high-ranking member of the Alchemy Guild could buy for more, even raw materials which were seldomly sold to other hegemonies members for an absurd price!

However, Jacob can't show his badge in any case, as his star ID would instantly expose him.

"I'm looking to commission a Basic Elder Grandmaster." Jacob coldly stated.

But his words caused the elf to widen her eyes in shock because there was only one Basic Elder Grandmaster present in the entire Vile Witch Valley region, and she was in the Alive Alliance City No. 492 and was the Regional Guild Leader!

Even the Alliance City Lords can't afford to commission her and have to treat her respectfully, much less this random barbarian.

As for an Intermediate or Advanced Grandmaster, this level of alchemists were assigned in large cities under the guild, not outside. Furthermore, none of these basic elder grandmasters assigned out of the guild cities were rune artificers, as those guys were treated as geniuses and weren't allowed to be sent out of the guild region.

Nevertheless, an Elder Grandmaster, whether it was basic or advanced, they do not accept petty commissions from just anyone.

"I-I think I heard wrong." The elf smiled unnaturally as she replied.

Jacob, however, knew what he was doing and replied with a straight face again and repeated the same words, "You didn't hear wrong. I'm looking to commission a Basic Elder Grandmaster. Just tell them that I have a rune artificer legacy, and if they helped me, I'd give it to them. They can confirm it in person."

The elf's eyes widened even more when she heard his last words, and she felt her mouth run dry as she didn't know how to react.

At this moment, Jacob suddenly comes closer to her as he says in a whispering tone filled with temptation, "Think about it, if you can help the Elder Grandmaster get this legacy, you'll no longer be just an attendant and might become her disciple.

"Or you can tell this to this city's Guild Leader, and all that credit will be claimed by him. But for your trouble, I can give you a master rune artificer rank legacy in private if the Elder Grandmaster accepts my offer. This will be a win-win for both of us, and this will also be our little secret."

The more the elf heard Jacob's tempting words, the more she felt her heart beat wildly. She didn't know if this barbarian was telling the truth or not, but if he were, then her entire life would be changed!

Just as Jacob said, even if she doesn't become the Elder Grandmaster's disciple, as long as she can become a Rune Artificer, she will soar!

That's why she couldn't risk it by kicking Jacob out; it would be akin to kicking her own bright future.

"I-I'll rely on your message to the Guild Leader; please wait!" She quickly replied and hurried toward the secret stairway behind the wall. She knew something like her could never reach the Elder Grandmaster, and only the Guild Leader had the means to contact her.

So, she wasn't greedy enough to play tricks, and she was content with just the master rank legacy promised by Jacob. She knew if he played any tricks, the Guild Leader won't let him off, so there was no reason to test his claims further as the Guild Leader would do that for her!

Looking at the hurried elf vanishing behind the wall, his lips curled in a cruel smile, 'Well, that was easy...'

Jacob wanted to meet this Elder Grandmaster for three reasons. The first was because of his slave rune, he needed to come in contact with a high-ranking member of any three hegemonies within three months after his arrival at the epic plains, or he will regret it dearly.

The second reason needed the first reason to be completed. As for the third reason, it was to turn the first and second reasons into his own advantage and solve his current predicament!

Thereupon, the elf appeared again with an ecstatic expression and told Jacob, "The Branch Leader wants to see you!"

Cursed Immortality

Chapter 390: Mr. Nobody (1)

Inside a luxurious room, Jacob sat in front of a four-meter-tall giant who had a Senior Grandmaster Alchemist Badge on his chest. He was not burly and had a lean-built look like a scholar. He was the Guild Leader of this branch, Curtis!

It was his first time seeing a giant as an alchemist since these guys mostly liked to fight, but it didn't mean they were muscle brains. On the contrary, the giants were very intelligent, and if they put their minds to something, they would never give up until they achieved what they wanted.

Furthermore, having an aptitude to be an alchemist means this giant's element fall under sorcery, which was quite rare for a giant.

Nevertheless, Jacob wasn't here to mull over how a giant was an alchemist, but he was here to convince this guy to summon the Basic Elder Grandmaster here for him. The Elf alchemist was also standing on a side with an anxious yet anticipation expression on her beautiful face.

"How may I address you, Mr.?" Curtis politely spoke while looking at the 'barbarian' with a scrutinized gaze. He was shocked when he heard this barbarian had a Rune Artificer Legacy and wanted to exchange it for the help of Elder Grandmaster.

It would be a lie to say he was thinking Jacob was a scam, but he knew it was also highly unlikely because this wasn't a place where a scammer could come and go as he pleased. So, he decided to see for himself if this guy was the real deal, and if it turned out to be a bluff, this barbarian would regret his very existence!

"I'm Nobody. You can call me such if you like." Jacob coolly replied without any hint of apprehension on his face despite sitting in front of an Epic-tier-5 giant.

Curtis didn't dwell on the topic since it didn't matter and got right to the main point with a stern look, "Very well, Mr. Nobody. It came to my attention that you have a legacy of Rune Artificer. May I inquire where you get it? You do know that only a member of Alchemy Guild could have this knowledge, and any none personal will be dealt with by the law of Alchemy Guild for having this knowledge and not handing it back to the Guild even if they found it in wildness!"

Jacob didn't even flinch and coolly replied, "I'm going to say it one time, don't try these tricks or trust me, you will regret it your entire life. If you still want to talk law, how about we call White Sage and let it read clause number 509 and 820? But at that time, I will leave, and you will never be able to find me again. So, think carefully about what you say next. Your entire future depends on it, after all."

Curtis's expression instantly warped when he heard Jacob's words, and a hint of shock flashed past his eyes, 'Is he a Guild Leader as well? Then why did he need my help to contact the Elder Grandmaster, and he's even sharing that he has the legacy of rune artificer?'

Curtis clearly knew what Jacob just implicates by clause number 509 and 820, but this also made him even more confused since these clauses could only be available to a Guild Leader of a branch or a Senior Grandmaster.

But if this barbarian was really a Senior Grandmaster, then why was he hiding his identity to meet him? He could just directly go to the Elder Grandmaster, and he was sure she wouldn't reject a meeting with me after hearing what he was offering.

Yet, he was finding an intermediary instead and even offering the same legacy as compensation. He found it extremely absurd and thought this guy was a lunatic!

But when he looked at those cold amber eyes, he felt a strange fear creeping into his spine. As a giant, his sensitivity toward danger was top-notch, and this barbarian gave him the highest dangerous feeling that only top combatants could give.

So, he knew messing with him would not be a wise choice, and like the dumbfounded elf, he decided not to become greedy and take what he could get.

He then smiled stiffly and said, "Very well, I will rely on your message to Regional Guild Leader, but I need some kind of proof, or the Guild Leader might punish me for talking nonsense. You can understand this, right, Mr. Nobody?"

Jacob was expecting this, "Call her on projection, and I'll handle the rest. My time is precious; make it quick."

'This arrogant!' Curtis cursed inwardly, but he wasn't going to do just what Jacob asked like a lackey, "About my compensation?"

This was the main thing he wanted, as he knew once Jacob came in contact with the Elder Grandmaster, he might no longer need him, or worse, the Elder Grandmaster might not even let him have a part of that legacy.

He was doing all this so he could get a piece of that legacy as he already knew what Jacob had offered that elf to contact him, so he was sure Jacob would do the same because this looked nothing but an act of desperation.

"Oh, compensation? You also want the knowledge of Rune Artificer, right?" Jacob coolly asked.

Curtis's eyes shimmered with longing, and he nodded, "Yes! And I can even pay you for acquiring the knowledge up to the Elder Grandmaster Rank!"

Jacob's lips curled up in disdain, "Heh, what can you offer me to buy Elder Grandmaster Rank knowledge of a profession like Rune Artificer? Let's not get ahead of ourselves."

Curtis was really lost for words as he knew Jacob was stating the fact, and he never expected he would feel jealous and inferior to a barbarian in his life.

"I'll give you Grandmaster-level knowledge and her Master-level knowledge. This should be enough for your trouble. Now don't waste my time and contact the Elder Grandmaster!" Jacob coldly stated.

Curtis felt somewhat regretful, but he knew if he pushed his luck anymore, he might really not get anything, and he was getting that knowledge virtually for free.

If anything, he seemed to be the one scamming the barbarian, so he quickly contacted the Elder Grandmaster and didn't notice the hidden ridicule in Jacob's eyes!