

Card Apprentice Daily Log #Chapter 240: Soul Contract

- Read Card Apprentice Daily Log Chapter 240: Soul Contract

Chapter 240: Soul Contract

Date- 14 Jan 1877

Time- 00:32

Location- Earth, South Korea, North Gyeongsang Province, Taegu Village

"How dare you a mere mortal treat me like this! I am Belphegor the 3rd ruler of the 7th Nether Flame realm. It is your honour that I am willing to help you get vengeance in exchange for your soul." In anger, Belphegor finally revealed his true intention.

"No wonder you are being so adamant you are after my soul. Well, today is your lucky day Mr Demon as long as you bring back my father to life my soul is yours." Corey was not surprised that Belphegor was after her soul but rather delighted as she saw a way to bring her father back to life.

"No, ask anything but that." Even though Belphegor could bring Corey's father back to life he only wants to enter a deal beneficial to him. And bring Corey's father to life was not beneficial to him even if he gets to corrupt Corey's soul in exchange.

"I have nothing else to wish for other than bring back my father to life." Corey was pretty adamant about what she wanted and did not budge the slightest.

"Okay fine, but in exchange for your father's life, your soul alone is not enough." Feeling the push of earth's will getting stronger Belphegor finally decided to compromise.

"What else do you need? Except for my flesh and soul, I have nothing else to offer to you?" Corey was confused and did not know what else she had worth coveting of a demon.

"I want your loyalty along with your soul. Become my adopted daughter and lead my army to conquer my enemies." Belphegor was not kidding he did find Corey worthy to join his faction as one of his adoptive children.

"I lead your army. I am just a novice hunter. I did not even lead a hunting expedition. How do you expect me to lead a demon army?" Corey was puzzled by the demon's sudden demand in exchange for her father's life.

"Do not sell yourself short. Your strength is weak but your Will is very strong, with my help you will become strong in no time. And remember even if you are my adopted

daughter you will be starting from the bottom rank as in my realm only the strong are respected and rewarded. Hurry up and decided my time on earth is reaching its limit." The rejection of the earth's will has gotten stronger and Belphegor was barely maintaining his presence on earth.

"Wait! How will you resurrect my father? He is already buried. Won't he died of suffocation if you resurrect him as he is now?" Though Corey believed Belphegor could bring her father back to life she never trusted the demon.

"Who said I will bring your father back to life now. Your father's soul has already departed. Do you know how much power and time I will have to waste to find and gather his soul? And what if you are not worthy of the power and time I have wasted bring your father back to life.

I will bring back your father to life after you have proven that you are worthy of my help by satisfying my conditions,

1. You will become a demon and move to the 7th Nether Flame Realm. Do not worry I will help you with this.
2. You will become a Titled Demon in under 100 years. As for this, it will depend solely on you and your strength.

Do you still want to continue with this deal?" This was the nature of the demons, seeing that Corey was hooked Belphegor changed the terms of his deal with her in a matter of seconds. Either way, Belphegor would only do deals in which he was going to gain the most and satisfy his sadistic fetishes. Not to mention that Belphegor had already taken Corey's father's soul as an offering by the villagers and the shaman who summoned him by chanting the weird words under the moonlight.

"How do I know that if I complete those conditions you will hold up your end of the bargain?" Despite Belphegor changing his conditions, Corey continued to negotiate with him because she did not have anything worth living for on earth. The only person she cared about died. If she died trying to bring that person back to life she would consider that death worthy.

"Do not worry, If you agree to these conditions then we both will enter a soul contract with your world will as a witness. Which even a god cannot violate. So if you are ready then just say the magic words. Hurry I have very little time left on this world." Seeing Corey become docile and par to his tune Belphegor was satisfied but it did not stop him from hurrying Corey into deciding by asking, "Corey Park, do you agree to enter the soul contract with me Belphegor the 3rd under the mentioned conditions."

"Yes, I agree" Corey did not understand what soul contract is but if there is the slightest possibility that she could bring her father back to life Corey was willing to risk it.

“Hahaha good!” Belphegor laughed out loud gaining a new plaything and also because as soon as Corey agreed to the soul contract the rejection of the earth on Belphegor became weaker but it was still there.

“That’s it! Now what?” Besides Belphegor’s maniacal laughter hurting her ears Corey felt no change in her after entering a soul contract with Belphegor. She thought that after signing the soul contract with Belphegor she would be forsaken by the heavens and become a demon but to her surprise, nothing happened.

“Patience, the best part is yet to start. Here swallow this demon core and become one of my descendants.” Belphegor having achieved his goal reverted to his enigmatic self and handed a pitch-black core to Corey for her to swallow and turn into a demon to satisfy the first condition.

Just as Corey was about to swallow the core Belphegor reminded her,” And one more thing daughter, try not to faint as long as possible. This will decide your future.” Corey did not understand what Belphegor meant by his reminder but still swallowed the pitch-black core as she had to. And soon a heart churning scream sound throughout the forest.

....

Author’s Note: Guys, I know Corey’s past is taking too long but the dark realms are going to be one of the important parts of future arcs.

Right now we are in Tournament volume (ending soon)

Next is University vol (coming soon)

Later the Dark Realms vol (under development)

Chapter 241: Inheritance

Date- 25 Mar 2321

Time- 18:33

Location- Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall staff housing, Building No. 29, 4th floor, Room no.401

Watching the memories of Corey Park, Corey Bright cried her eyes out. ‘Belphegor the 3rd’ ‘Seven Princes of Nether Flame Realm’ ‘7th Nether Flame Realm’ ‘Dark Realms’ Corey engraved these names in her mind. The betrayal she suffered she promised to pay back a thousandfold.

The memories of the 8th reincarnation were only 3 decades worth of time yet they had a huge impact on Corey to the point where she changed her entire lifestyle. The memories of the 7th reincarnation are about a Century worth of time, going through these memories even as a third party left a huge influence on Corey. So much so that it took her about half an hour to differentiate memories and reality.

Despite being only 17 years old Corey had one and half Century worth of memories, adding both her 8th and 7th reincarnation along with is worlds memories. Though they were only memories, Corey had watched a century of memories in an hour that was bound to leave mental scars on her mind. Leading to an identity crisis in Corey's mind, she could not help but ask herself who was she? Corey Park or Corey Bright?

"I am Corey Bright!" Corey shouted in her mind, reminding her of her real identity. It seems living through a century worth of memories had sharpened her willpower.

[Inheritance of 7th reincarnation found, will you accept?]

[Yes/No]

Once Corey finally made peace with her identity her origin card reminded her of the inheritance from her 7th reincarnation using the notification of the grimoire,

[Yes] having watched how powerful and feared Corey Park was fighting the seven princes of the Nether flame realm Corey Bright did not hesitate to accept the inheritance from her 7th reincarnation.

[You have decided to accept the Inheritance of 7th reincarnation]

[You have obtained Titled Demon Core – Eternal Flame of Agony.]

[Do you want to fuse with the Titled Demon Core?]

[Yes/No]

[Yes] 'Eternal Flames of Agony' Corey Park had obtained this title before the 7 princes of Nether Flame realms ambushed and killed her.

[Beginning fusion process, please endure]

Soon as the demon core fusion process began an excruciating pain ran through Corey's body, having lived through Corey Park's memories Corey knew this pain was from each cell of her body being refined by Eternal flames to fuse with the titled demon core. She remembers how Corey Park screamed in pain as she fused with Demon Core for the first time. But this time Corey did not scream or make a beep, she endured the whole pain with sheer willpower. Living through a century worth of memories was more beneficial than Corey expected.

...

Date- 25 Mar 2321

Time- 21:12

Location- Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall staff housing, Building No. 29, 4th floor, Room no.401.

[Card Name: Relife

Card Type: Origin Card

Card Rank: Unique grade

Card Rating: nil

Card Durability: nil

Card Effect: Host gains the memories and inheritance of past lives if any.

8th reincarnation Inheritance

V

(None)

7th reincarnation Inheritance

V

Titled Demon Core – Eternal Flames of Agony

Effect-?????????]

After 2 hours of arduous pain, Corey had finally fused with titled demon core and checked her grimoire for the update in her origin card info.

Enduring hellish pain for 2 hours while waiting for fusion with the demon core to reach completion Corey was famished so she got up and walked out of her room in nothing but a tight tank top and extra short shorts to fill her tummy, “Hey gramps what’s for dinner? I am starving.”

...

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 9:37

Location- Sky Blossom City, The Sky Blossom Card Stadium, Set 5 Arena 7

“Tammy Lou, please let me have the honour of duelling you?” Corey charismatically implored.

“Tsk, rich people you all are the same. Do you think I did not want to move to another city and start over in a new high school? I did not have money to file for residency in another city. Not to mention why should I choose to start over somewhere else like a criminal when I am the victim. Why the hell should I run when the culprit, you, are free to roam and enjoy your life.

Do not quibble Corey. You know what you did, yet you cowardly chose to hide behind your flowery words. Do not think that you can deceive me with your sweet words and righteous act. You did not mind acting like a spoiled princess back in school. Why don't you continue now? Why, too many audiences, bad for your family PR? You want a duel, right? Not only will I duel you, but I will also defeat you and regain what I lost that day.” Tammy did not believe a single word that came out of Corey's mouth. She was not here to forgive Corey but to regain her pride and sense of self-esteem.

“Good, then we both have a reason to win. I will win and prove to you that I am innocent.” Corey summoned her gold grimoire directly and did not choose to camouflage its grade like a certain someone she knows.

“Whatever” Tammy did not take Corey's words seriously as she was too focused on the golden grimoire that Corey just summoned. In response, she summoned her Bronze Grimoire and mouthed, “E-rank Item Card – Feather Petal Sword”

“Nine Blossom Sword Arts”

[Card Name: Feather Petal Sword

Card Type: Item Card

Card Rank: E-rank, Common grade

Card Rating: 16-Stars

Card Durability: [80/100]

Card Effect: Upon activating the card the host can summon a light sword made of refined black steel alloy.

Addition Effect- Sharp]

Sharp- The host can add soul energy to the sword to increase its sharpness.

Caution- the sharpness of the sould can only be raised to a limit and adding too much soul energy can decrease the sword's durability.

[Card Name: 9 Blossom Sword Arts

Card Type: Origin Card

Card Rank: Unique grade

Card Rating: nil

Card Durability: nil

Card Effect: 9 Blossom Sword Arts is a sword art inspired by the fantasy Nine Blossom flower which is said to be the most beautiful flower when it blossoms for the 9th time.

Additional effect: Elite Swordswoman, 9 Blossom slash, Nine blossom Scent]

Elite Swordswoman: the host can gain elite level proficiency in all kinds of sword arts and swords.

9 Blossom slash:- the host can release 9 swords slash each with 5% critical chance.

If the host can land all 9 sword slashes then the enemy unit will take an invisible 10th slash with damage totalling all 9 previous slashes and a 45% critical chance.

Nine Blossom Scent – the Nine blossom sword arts emits a scent very similar to the Nine blossom flower which has a confusion abnormal status effect on monsters.

Chapter 242: Pity

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 9:38

Location- Sky Blossom City, The Sky Blossom Card Stadium, Set 5 Arena 7

“Swordsmanship, I know one or two about swordsmanship too.” Saying that Corey summoned, “Tainted One”

Soon a two-handed pitch-black Claymore with white fuller appeared in Corey's hands and she whispered, “Sword Mudra”

[Card Name: Tainted On

Card Type: Item Card

Card Rank: E-rank, Common grade

Card Rating: 4-stars

Card Durability: [97/100]

Card Effect: Tainted One is a two-handed Claymore forged in Eternal flames of agony using the black steel alloy re-refined in Eternal flames of agony. The design of this particular Claymore is very popular among the demons.

Additional Effect: Agony of the tainted one, Sharpness+3, Strength+2, Swiftiness+4]

Agony of the tainted one – whenever the tainted one clashes with a sword or any other surface it will let out an agony filled cry filling fear and dread in the enemy's heart. All enemy units hearing these cries will be affected with Fear abnormal status.

Note: The agony filled cries emitted by the tainted one have a stack effect. Weak hearted enemies can die of a heart attack.

[Card Name: Sword Mudra

Card Type: Skill Card

Card Rank: A-rank, Rare Grade

Card Rating: 9-stars

Card Durability: [98/100]

Card Effect: Sword Mudra is a sword dance used by a demon tribe of the 7th Nether Flame realm. Sword Mudra has 7 steps and with each step the damage behind the sword attack doubles. Upon activation, the card gives the user grandmaster level proficiency in Sword Mudra.

Additional Effect – Sword Song, Critical Chance 15%]

Sword Song- As the sword rips through the air the friction between them is converted to a song that matches the sword dance/ sword mudra. Sword Song will give an additional 7 – 15 % critical chance depending upon the user's proficiency.

Having summoned their weapons both the lasses charged at each other swinging their swords with their respective sword arts. Tammy met Corey in the middle of the arena as both of their swords clashed and an agony filled cry filled the arena.

cryyyyy!!!

click

The cry was followed by the sound of a sword breaking into two.

Thud

Having her sword broken in two Tammy lifelessly fell to her knees in despair. Her eyes were blank, unaware of what was happening around her she gathered the broken half of her sword and stood up. Caressing the sword Tammy remembered all the times this sword has saved her and withstood numerous life and death encounters but today it gave up. Glancing at Corey with helplessness Tammy opened her mouth, "I S..."

"No, don't." Before Tammy could surrender, Corey interrupted her and asked her not to surrender. Which Surprised Tammy and the Audience watching.

In the audience watching Corey summon Claymore and display flawless sword art, William, who was seated in the Bright Family VIP lobby, asked his second son, "When did my granddaughter get so good with swords? Why is my granddaughter using a common grade item sword and when did you buy her a rare grade skill sword art?"

"Except for the card creation lesson, she was taught basic physical fitness exercises. She never learned swordsmanship or other combat arts. Mother thought melee combat or any form of combat was not suitable for Corey's personality. So we only focused on teaching her Card creation.

As for the sword Corey is using I have never seen such a sword and I did not buy her a rare grade sword, nobody could have. As far as I know, the last rare grade sword art appeared 3 years ago in the guild mall." Oliver was confused as the sword art used by Corey was a high-level sword art with a very high mastery level, which would require the user to have a strong sword foundation but to his knowledge, Corey had not touched a word her entire life.

Hearing Oliver, William went into deep thought because the flawless execution of the sword art show by Corey can not just be achieved by equipping cards. One has to train in the way of swords to get that good. Not to mention his granddaughter has zero foundation in sword arts.

...

William's suspicions were right. Corey Bright had zero foundation in sword arts. And Oliver was also right he had never seen a 'tainted one' sword or the 'Sword mudra' sword arts in the market as they never existed in this world until yesterday when Corey created these cards.

Though Corey Bright had zero foundation in sword arts Corey Park had a century worth of history and experience with sword making and sword arts. Using the memories of Corey park and her card creation expertise Corey Bright created the two cards 'E-rank Item Card Tainted One' and 'A-rank Skill Card Sword Mudra'

Unlike the commoners who need to be a part of an organisation or join a college or a university to learn high level and various card creation techniques. Corey did not have to do so as her grandmother hired a prestigious college graduate Top silver graded card creationist to tutor her. Using her Card creation knowledge and Park's blacksmith, swordswoman memories Corey Bright created these two and other cards with near perfection card ratings.

Corey Park's memories and her experience as a blacksmith and martial artist were the reason behind Corey's bold decision to establish a card studio next to Susan's workplace.

...

"Don't give up. Here take this card" Corey handed Tammy an E-rank card and added, "let's continue."

"..." Tammy did not take the card and hesitated. She felt a little humiliated.

"You wanted to show me and the world how far you have come, right. Do not let your anger stop you from doing that. Show me what you got." Corey tried to persuade Tammy the best way she could interrupt Tammy's hesitation. Corey knew Tammy was strong despite her low-grade grimoire, the only reason Tammy's sword broke was because of its lacking durability rating. If Tammy had a good sword she would have given a better performance.

"Are you pitying me?" Tammy glared at Corey.

"No, I am just promoting my work. This sword is made by me in my Card studio. Just think that you are helping me promote my goods by taking my card. And later if possible please leave a good review. After all, the whole city is watching this tournament." Corey knew one wrong word and her relationship with Tammy would lose all hope of salvation.

Chapter 243: Advertising

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 9:40

Location- Sky Blossom City, The Sky Blossom Card Stadium, Set 5 Arena 7

“You are a Card Creationist and also opened a card studio, Woah. Are you for real?” Tammy was utterly shocked knowing Corey was a card creationist and had created a Sword card better than the one she bought at association guild mall. No matter how rich Corey is, one only achieves such success in card creation with hard work and dedication. This new information put Corey in a new light on her bias.

“Yes, but I founded the card studio just yesterday. So you will be my first customer. Tell you what, help me promote my business and I will let you keep the card. Before you say no, just check out the card info once.” Corey once again tried to hand the extra E-rank tainted one card to Tammy

Hearing Corey, the referee was in a difficult position as fraternization between contestants in the arena was against the rule but the Contestant in question's family was one of the rulers of the city, therefore he chose to take a bathroom break but to his astonishment, the replacement referee was quicker than him and had already taken a bathroom break. Finding no way out the referee just looked the other way.

Corey's proposal of keeping the item card attracted Tammy's interest. With some hesitation, she took the card to check the card info. She thought this wouldn't hurt anybody. Reading the card info Tammy finally knew the source of the agonising cry and the fear she felt earlier clashing swords with Corey. Knowing the strength of the card given to her by Corey Tammy's mind and heart started a duel of their own.

Her heart said, ‘What about our self-esteem? Have we fallen to the point of accepting pity from the one who destroyed our life? Faq that bitch, let's get out of here before it gets more embarrassing.’

Her mind said, ‘Yes, what about our self-esteem? Faq that it is overrated. With our savings, we cannot even afford another subpar Feather Petal Sword card. Let's take that rich girl's offer, with a card like Tainted One we can contribute more during the dungeon raid and get more money.’

If Tammy followed her heart she would have to cut back on her food and daily essentials to pay for a new sword and the house rent. But if she follows her mind not only will she get a new sword but she will get stronger which basically in her line of work meant more money.

Having lived and experienced the jungle society Tammy knew following her heart would get her killed faster so she did not hesitate any longer and equipped the card in her grimoire and summoned, “Tainted One”

“This does not mean that I have forgiven you. As you said, this is just good business.” Tammy made intentions clear to Corey.

“Yes, come at me when you are ready.” Said Corey as she took a defensive stance.

“1st Blossom Slash” Tammy no longer hesitated, she leapt towards Corey and brandished her sword.

“Sword song – 1st Mudra” Corey did not underestimate her enemy and activated her card’s additional effect.

*Cryyyy!!!*Cryyyy!!!* The cry of two tainted ones clashing with each other sounded trout out the arena cancelling out the Fear abnormal status of each other.

During this clash Tammy, thanks to her 5% critical chance, held the upper hand by pushing Corey a few steps despite her blocking Tammy’s sword. The duel had just begun and it was hard to tell who was stronger and who would win.

“2nd Blossom Slash”

“Sword song – 2nd Mudra”

“3rd Blossom Slash”

“Sword song – 3rd Mudra”

“4th Blossom Slash”

“Sword song – 4th Mudra”

.

.

.

“7th Blossom Slash”

“Sword song – 7th Mudra”

By the 7th clash, Corey’s slash had accumulated 7 times the damage and triggered the 15% critical chance of Sword Song. Allowing her to dominate Tammy with absolute strength. Unable to bear the strength behind Corey’s slash, Tammy’s sword bounced out of her hand as she fell on her butt.

“I surrender.” Feeling the coldness of the sword placed on her neck by Corey, Tammy did not struggle and chose to surrender. If she was not so focused on triggering her Origin card effect Tammy could have dodged Corey’s last sword and dragged the duel to a draw, maybe or maybe not. Cause who knows what kind of other cards Corey is hiding because Tammy can feel that Corey had not displayed her full strength to fight against her.

Picking up the Tainted One and turning to the audience Tammy said, "This is the Best Sword I have seen in the E-rank and Common grade category in the market, I will rate it a 5-star experience." And then turning to Tammy she added, "I am keeping it."

"Sure, happy cooperation." Replied Corey.

Hearing Corey the referee who was going to announce set 5 Arena 37's result cursed at his ill fate inwardly and announced,

"Set 5, Arena 37 Winner Corey Bright"

Before leaving the arena Corey yelled at the audience, " Everyone My card studio opens on the 30th of this month. Please search Corey's Card Studio in your grimoire network to visit my online shop for information and to avail limited period offers."

Advertising her Card studio Corey went down the arena but instead of heading to the VIP section, she headed to the seats of the New Song guild.

Corey's self advertisements astonished many advance and contestants alike. Especially me, I even blamed myself for not coming up with such a good idea. Free advertisement to the whole Sky Blossom city, count me in.

...

New Song guild leader was having a good day receiving praises and envy filled gazes from fellow guild leaders for having 4 under 18 card soldier guild members representing their guild in the tournament. Until the 5th set where Tammy, one of his star members stirred up trouble which he could never have imagined.

Thankfully the Bright family heiress did not seem to mind rudeness rather appreciated it, calming his nerves. But he decided to get stricter with Tammy and reprimand her for the stunt she pulled in the arena. Does she not know she is no longer an average student, She is the New Song adventure guild member. Her every action and deed will be associated with the guild.

When Tammy retired to her seat. The Guild leader just decided to teach her some manners but saw the Bright family Heiress walk towards Tammy so he decided to stay put. And eavesdrop on their conversation.

Chapter 244: Corey's Army

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 9:45

Location- Sky Blossom City, The Sky Blossom Card Stadium, New Song Guild seating area.

“Corey, What are you doing here?” Tammy asked in alert, after the duel with Corey her impression of Corey had improved but she still did not completely trust her.

“Relax, I am here to talk.” Seeing alerted Tammy Corey shook her head and assured Tammy that she just wanted to talk.

“Your sword arts is it a passive or active skill. I could feel an extra force behind your slashes. It must be the effect of your sword arts because Tainted one has no such effects even if you add the extra attributes it gives.” Corey asked Tammy about her sword arts as she was genuinely interested in it.

Martial skill origin cards are very rare. They grow slowly compared to other types of origin cards using baptism. Because the first few baptisms fix the flaws and get rid of unnecessary parts of the Martial skill contained in the origin card. Therefore not much boost is seen in the card info of the Martial skill origin card after undergoing the first few baptisms. But once all the flaws of the martial skill are fixed the next baptisms are going to upgrade the martial skills by a huge margin allowing the hosts to destroy mountains and rivers effortlessly.

Corey after her duel with Tammy saw that Tammy’s martial skill had undergone two baptisms and reached perfection. And instead of being stuck in a 3rd rate guild if Tammy is given proper help and guidance, she could become a legendary figure. Corey, who had the memories of Corey Park, had insight into my truths that would be considered top-secret information by the government and leaders of this world and some even the government did not know about.

“It’s passive. My sword art is more like a supporting technique for other sword arts. Meaning it automatically integrates with other sword arts and enhances them with additional skills and effects.” Tammy hesitated but still answered Corey. Her origin card details were not a secret; both the Lion Cubs High school and the New Song guild had the card info.

And she was truthful about her origin card as it passively provided 5% critical chance no matter what sword arts she used and every nine successful attacks on enemy units triggered an invisible 10 attack with total damage from periods 9 attacks and 45% critical chance. Meaning that she could kill or defeat any enemy of the same realm if she were to continuously land 9 attacks on them despite the type of sword art she uses. This is the reason why Tammy chose to face Corey head-on without dodging but she underestimated Corey’s sword arts which stacked double damage for every successful hit up to 7 times.

“Awesome. Are you happy working here?” Without caring for the eavesdropping New Song guild leader Corey asked Tammy if she is happy working at the New Song guild.

“What do you mean? I thought you just wanted to talk.” Tammy was puzzled and cautious about why Corey would ask something like that when her boss is within 10 meters distance of her.

“I mean do you see yourself working for New Song 5 years from now. Do not worry about them, just tell me what you feel.” Corey disregarded the New Song guild members and leader who were awkwardly eavesdropping on their conversation but the same could not be said for Tammy.

” Our line of work is dangerous. I am not sure if I can come out alive from the next dungeon raid or mission. But currently, I am satisfied. It helps me pay my bills which is better than sleeping on the streets.” Tammy chose her words carefully as she cannot offend both her boss and the heiress of the right family.

“I see. I have just opened my card studio and am yet to hire staff. How about you come work at my card studio? It’s a lot safer and will pay triple the amount of what your current job pays.” Hearing Corey, the New Song Guild leader almost flipped seeing a brat pouch one of his previous members but calmed down quickly knowing he could do nothing but sit and watch as everything unfolds.

“Sorry, I would like to but I have a 10 years contract with the New Song guild. My hands are tied” Tammy’s hands were literally tied by the New Song guild contract for 10 years.

“Do not worry about that, I will take care of that as your signing bonus. Just say yes and I will handle the rest.” Money did not matter to current Corey but talent did. After living through Corey Park’s memory she understood that her family was just a small fish in the pound. And this pound was one of the many pounds formed by the long river of space and time. If she wanted to leave the pound and enter the river then her power alone was not enough and would require allies, strong allies with a raw potential enough for them to leap out of the point and into the river. Tammy was one of them, agreed that she required a lot of guidance and work to be done on her but she had it in her.

To Corey’s astonishment, in the three days since she had gained the memories of Corey Park excluding Tammy she was able to find 6 people with greater potential and most of them she had met today, Wyatt, Jaya, Pax, Sarah and Elliott.

Other than these 5, there was Anna; she was the strongest and oldest. With her current realm, Corey could not figure out her exact strength and age therefore she did not add her to the list but she was sure that Anna was about peak Card Overlord in strength.

And also Elliot had missed the golden and ideal age of practice and would require all of the guidance and resources to make up for it.

Jaya, Pax and Sarah, all of them seemed to be descendants of some higher being because within their body ran strong bloodlines.

Lastly, Dalton Wyatt, the person she has mixed feelings about as Corey before the second baptism was close to him but the current one who hates him believing that her ex-mama was interested in him. As for potential, he is the one who has suppressed her even with her Titled Demon Core. Her core would always send distress signals to her whenever she is next to him. It's as if the Demon Core has found its natural enemy or someone stronger.

Either way, she planned to recruit all of them but all of them were kings in their own right and nobody would choose to follow her as she is now. so she started with the weakest one Tammy.

Despite her Careful assessment and planning, what Corey failed to notice is that all the 5 people she planned on requiring had one thing in common, Dalton Wyatt.

Chapter 245: Cortney Ress

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 9:47

Location- Sky Blossom City, The Sky Blossom Card Stadium, VIP box no1

Corey entered VIP box no1 and brought a guest with her, Tammy Lou. And introduced her to Susan as her new staff for her Card Studio.

"Tammy, this big sis Susan my best friend and also the guest advisor of our Card Studio. If you have any questions regarding your role in my card studio do not hesitate to contact her." Corey was loud as she mentioned Susan as guest advisor of her Card Studio. If I were any dumber I would fail to notice she said those words loudly so that I could hear them and pick a fight with her. I do not know why Corey was lately trying to pick a fight with me one way or the other. I decided not to entertain her by responding to her actions. Not the best solution but requires the least amount of work.

"Corey, I already told you I am Wyatt's exclusive manager please do not make things difficult for me." Susan did not want to pick between her benefactor and friend. There was no reason for me to take action every time Corey used Susan to provoke me as Susan was very faithful and would not betray my trust in her.

"Big Sis you are misunderstanding me, Guest advisor is just a fancy title for a namesake. Did you not promise to help me understand how to run a card studio? That's what a guest advisor does." Corey knew Susan's predicament so did not want to push Susan too much, afraid that in the end, Susan will choose the conniving bastard instead of her.

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 9:49

Location- Sky Blossom City, The Sky Blossom Card Stadium, Set 6 arena 2

Amy Whiteburn Vs Cortney Ress

[External Participant: Amy Whiteburn

Age- 17 years old

Realm- Card Soldier

Grimoire- Silver Grade

Faction – White Family

Caution- Green

Origin Card- -/-

Combat type- Mage]

[External Participant: Cortney Ress

Age- 17 years old

Realm- Card Soldier

Grimoire- Golden Grade

Faction – -/-

Caution- Black

Origin Card- -/-

Combat type- -/-]

Both Amy and Cortney had arrived at the arena stage 2 and were waiting for the duel to commence. Despite the blank info on Cortney Amy knew her opponent was a net recruit of a secret organisation controlling half of the City. People selected by this organisation were not like the average contestants; they were trained killers to work as hunting dogs for the organisation, Amy knew that very well. Therefore she was on maximum alert as Cortney was going to be the strongest enemy she faced to date.

"You are Wyatt's friend right? Since you're my friend's friend I will let you live if you choose to surrender." Courtney had seen this girl enter VIP box no1 with Wyatt along with his other friends. Amy's status as the heiress of the Whiteburn family seemed negligible in Courtney's as she made death threats to Amy.

"Wyatt would never be friends with the circle's hunting dog in training after all your predecessor killed Wyatt's parents." Amy was not afraid of Courtney's threats, a Whiteburn wildness was as easy as breathing air and drinking water to her, she just chose to be more ladylike similar to her berserker of father imitating to be a scholar.

"Oh about that Wyatt doesn't mind as he will kill my mother so it's all fine. You won't understand our friendship." Courtney nonchalantly defended her friendship with me.

"What?" Amy was wild as every other Whiteburn but even wolf cubs would flinch if someone told them that they would kill their mother. She could not understand the reasoning behind Courtney's statement.

"3..2..1, Fight!"

"C-rank Summon card White Sun Lord Incarnation, C-rank field card White Dwarf Sun Terra" Amy activated her cards, it seems she has decided to go on offence from the start.

[Card Name: White Dwarf Sun Knight Incarnation

Card Type: Summon Card (active)

Card Rank: C-rank, uncommon

Card Rating: 6-stars

Card Durability: [89/100]

Card Effect: when activated an 11feet tall White Sun Lord incarnation will be summoned for 1 hour.

Additional Effect: high immunity to flames and heat, Rising Sun, Setting Sun, Solar annihilation.

Note: suitable terrain can double the White Dwarf Sun Knight Incarnation's stats and summon time.]

Rising Sun: White Dwarf Sun Knight can raise a miniature white dwarf sun from underneath the enemy unit which will engulf the enemy unit and explode.

Setting Sun: White Dwarf Sun Knight can summon a miniature white dwarf sun above the enemy unit which will set and engulf the enemy unit into an explosion.

Solar Annihilation: White Dwarf Sun Knight's sword can concentrate solar energy and emit highly concentrated solar lasers at the enemy unit.

[Card Name: White Dwarf Sun Terra

Card Type: Field Card (active)

Card Rank: C-rank, uncommon

Card Rating: 5-stars

Card Durability: [97/100]

Card Effect: when activated 300 meters of land surrounding the host will exhibit 2/3rd surface temperature of a White Dwarf Sun, that is approx 5400k.

Additional Effect: the host is immune to the card effect.]

With the activation of the field card, White Dwarf Sun terra arena no.2 turned from the stone stage into an inside of a flaming furnace. The temperature inside the arena was enough to melt most of the black steel and minerals. Despite such high temperatures, Cortney who was in the centre of the stage remained unmoved and barely seemed to be sweating.

"Are you done with your preparations?" Cortney yawned as looked at the flaming arena and a fire elemental that looked like an 11 feet tall flaming knight.

"White Dwarf Sun Knight, Rising Sun." Amy ordered White Dwarf Sun Knight to use one of its moves, Rising sun.

Soon a white flame orb with a 3-meter diameter rose beneath Cortney's feet and engulfed her. But Cortney did not try to dodge or resist the white flame orb as it swallowed her whole.

Boom The white sun orb containing Cortney exploded with a bright flash. When the flash cleared and the eyes of the audience adjusted they saw Cortney standing at the same place she stood before without a single burn or seat on her.

"Is that it? Now it's my turn." Saying that Cortney leapt at the White Dwarf Sun Knight incarnation and slammed hard on its head with her open palm. It was comical to see a 1.7-meter tall girl jump high in the air in a blink of an eye and slap on the head of a Knight shaped Fire elemental. What was more comical to see was that the Knight shaped Fire elemental exploded with a slap on its head. The force contained in

Cortney's palm was so strong that it not only exploded the fire elemental but also the fire field card covering the arena. And the Shock wave from the collision of Cortney's palm and the arena floor threw unprepared Amy out of the arena bounds.

"6th Set, Winner Cortney Ress"

Chapter 246: Dignitaries

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 10:05

Location- Sky Blossom City, The Sky Blossom Card Stadium, VIP box no1

Amy and Cortney's fight ended a lot sooner than the time limit set by the tournament with Cortney's overwhelming victory over Amy. It seems if Cortney wanted to, she could have killed Amy even before she surrendered.

Amy's match was an eye-opener for me. It seems I can not underestimate Cortney any longer because the monstrous strength which she displayed to destroy Amy's flame elemental exceeds the strength of a peak Card Lord realm. From what I can see the strength displayed by Cortney is also not her complete strength as she did not even summon her grimoire while killing the flame elemental and pushing Amy out of arena bounds. If Cortney's normal physical strength can rival the peak Card Lord then real strength is a bit alarming for me. No wonder she was so confident about killing me.

Soon the results of the first rounds were announced,

Win: 2points – 60 Contestants

Draw: 1points – 300 contestants

Lost: 0points – 60 Contestants

When results of the first round were very poor, out of 210 duels held only 60 duels ended with clear victory but the other 150 matches just ended in a draw. Most of the participants had high realms and good cards compared to their peers but they lacked combat experience to make spot and precise judgement for victory in their duel. No wonder the audiences were enraged, they paid 300\$ for total BS.

The second round will be conducted among the contestants with 2 points. As for the rest, they will fight for their ranking on the young heroes list another day. The second round had the same rules as the first round but since this time the contestant was less in number the duels will no longer be held in sets. The stadium also shortened 40 arena stages to 30 stages.

The second round of the tournament will commence at 10:15. Van and Fred had already contacted me informing their successful venture in capturing the A-rank Boss Monster Stone Troll and will be soon arriving at the back entrance of the card stadium with the subdued boss monster. According to them, it took 9 mins to complete the A-rank gate dungeon raid with their second calamity transformation.

Excusing myself I headed to the back gate of the card stadium as my next opponent for the second round was already determined and was also received a message containing the info for my next duel in my grimoire,

[Round 2, Arena 15 Dalton Wyatt Vs Kimble Wang]

Kimble Wang, the contestant who vanished his opponent with a finger gun, his duel was more like a scary magic show with the disappearing act gone wrong than a card fight. Josh Bent, Kimble's last opponent, his whereabouts are still unknown even though Kimble claims that Josh is dead.

"Master" I did not have to wait long at the stadium back gate as Van and Fred soon arrived with the stone troll turned stone viltronian. Collecting the stone viltronian in my monster orb, I head to the VIP section with them.

...

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 10:05

Location- Southern Region, Southern Academic city, Teleportation Port.

"Welcome your highness, I came as soon as I heard you were arriving." A stout old man bowed to two luxuriously dressed figures that just appeared on the Teleportation array.

"Why are you here? I already informed the Port keeper that we would like to attack less attention and work incognito." The older man of the two men that appeared on the teleportation array yelled.

"Your highness with your popularity, how can you possibly attract less attention?" Hearing the man, the stout old man trembled in fear, he knew his colleague had trapped him, giving him half the information. He was only told that two important figures were coming from the central region but the message did not have any information that the dignitaries did not want to be disturbed. Old man's years of experience told him that pointing the blame would only anger the dignitaries so did what he was best at, ass licking. Instead of trying to point the blame, the stout old man decided to flatter the dignitaries.

“Fine, since you are here anyway, teleport us to the Sky blossom city.” The Old man’s flattery worked like a charm and helped him less the annoyance of the dignitaries towards him. As for his colleague, he will pay him back a hundred times soon.

“Sire, that is not possible.” The stout old man answered with great caution as he knew that all these nobles from the central region were pompous and did not like to hear no.

“Why?” Instead of the older man, the younger one of the two dignitaries asked arrogantly.

“Your highness, the South region is a backwater region where a teleportation array between important locations is a luxury not to mention teleportation array to low-level cities.” The stout old man explained with great caution and chose his words carefully. Unlike the Central region where the teleportation array is used as public transportation in the southern region, the teleportation array was a luxury.

“What? Then how are we supposed to reach the city on time? Won’t that brat be dead by the time we reach there?” The young dignitary yelled at the stout old man who did not understand what the young man was speaking about.

“Brandon watch your tone, speak respectfully to your elders. Port keepers’ realm may be lower than you, he is older than you. apologies.” The old dignitary was very displeased by his companion’s behaviour.

“But great uncle...” Brandon did not seem to approve of his great uncle’s teaching.

“You still dare to quibble. It is because of you younger generation our family name has a bad reputation outside. I have repeatedly asked my sister not to pamper you guys but she does not listen. Apologise now or head back home.” Seeing his nephew argue the older man thundered.

Chapter 247: Rescue and Retrieval

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 10:05

Location- Southern Region, Southern Academic city, Teleportation Port.

“Port Keeper, I apologize for my behaviour earlier. Could you tell us the connecting teleportation array to reach Sky Blossom city in the least amount of time?” Barnard apologised to the Port Keeper under his uncle’s threat.

“There are no connecting teleportation arrays to reach Sky Blossom city, your highness. In the southern region, we still depend on the floater for all transportation purposes. I can arrange a floater for Sky Blossom city if your highness desires.” The old Port

Keeper replied to the best of his abilities. In the central region teleportation arrays are used as means of public transportation so it makes sense that they have a connecting teleportation array there but in the southern region teleportation array is a luxury that only the top leaders of the city or provinces can afford. Therefore, floater vehicles are more common in practice here.

“How far is the Sky Blossom city and how long will it take for us to reach it with the best floater vehicle you have?” Barnard asked patiently. He blamed himself for coming to such a dump.

“The journey from here to Sky Blossom city will require about 26 and a half hours but our best and fastest floater can shorten the time to 4 hours.” The Old Port Keeper answered to the best of his knowledge.

“What? 4 hrs by then they would have killed that brat. Instead of a rescue and retrieval mission, this will become a corpse retrieval mission. If the enemy is kind enough to leave a complete course.” Hearing the old Port Keeper Barnard frustratedly speculated.

“Send me the detailed map, we will travel on our floater.” The older dignitary ordered the old Port keeper.

“Yes, your highness.” The old port Keeper did not delay and summoned his grimoire to scan the older dignitary’s grimoire QR code and share the map but to his surprise, the dignitary summoned a diamond grimoire. The old Port keeper thought that the dignitaries were if card overlord or card king realm at best but it turns out one of them is a Card Emperor with Diamond grade grimoire. Coming to this speculation the old dignitaries’ faces became more serious and respectful.

Receiving the Map from the port keeper the Older dignitary summoned a luxurious hovercar. Getting in both uncle and nephew headed towards the Sky Blossom city at the fastest speed possible.

“Uncle, can we make it in time” Barnard knew how important this rescue and retrieval mission was, if only they had received the news earlier they would not have to race against the time. But there was still hope as his great uncle’s car was custom made with an engine that runs on a card emperor’s soul energy. Not to mention the other acceleration and speed enhancement cards maybe that could make it. Now it all depended on that brat the longer he holds on the better are his chances of survival.

“It’s no longer about whether we can make it or not but we have to make it. If we lose this boy then our family will be the biggest joke of the central region. You better be prepared, recusing the boy is not my concern but his retrieval. I do not think people will keep watching and just let us transport the golden goose to our family.” The uncle seemed to have other concerns than Barnard.

"I do not understand, didn't the old man say that the whole city and the southern emperor is out to kill him." Barnard did not understand what his uncle meant by recusing the boy as not his concern but the boy's retrieval was.

"The Heatsend family will not kill him until they have fully mastered the art of mass-production of the silver milk powder. As the creator of the silver milk powder, his insight is very important in the mass production process. The creation of a single product and mass-producing of the same product are two different things. And the only person who is well versed about the product is that boy so the Heat send family will not kill him until they are sure they do not require that brat anymore.

That boy knows that too, that is why he dares to participate in a tournament whose existence's sole purpose is to kill him. The Heatsend family wanted to use this tournament as a means to scare the boy and control him but that kid saw right through their intentions. Haha! As expected of someone with our bloodline." Barnard's Uncle dumbed it down for him. Understanding the Uncle's reasoning, Barnard was happy that he would not fail this mission. But he was also surprised because he had never seen his uncle praise a younger generation so much, not to mention he has yet to meet that boy and he is already singing his praises.

...

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 10:15

Location- Sky Blossom City, Sky Blossom Card Stadium, Second Round Arena 2

Dalton Wyatt vs Kimble Wang

"I saw your last match and yesterday's video, you're nothing special. I do not know what this fuss is all about, that your life is worth 2 false relics. I just think the Circle has gotten too fat, stealing from the city for decades now. Anyway, more for me. I will kill you and take the false relic bounty on your head afterwards, win the first place and get the other false relic as a reward." Kimble Wang who appeared mysterious at his duel during the first round now was very talkative and it appears his ego was heart knowing that I was worth 2 false relics and he was worth none.

"All the best. I hope you do know that if you want to kill someone you better be prepared to die." I just reminded Kimble that he was not the only one who could kill the same goes for me too.

Chapter 248: Mystery Solved

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 10:16

Location- Sky Blossom City, Sky Blossom Card Stadium, Second Round Arena 2

“Hahaha! This is the funniest joke I have ever heard. You think you can kill me. You dumbass the moment you stepped 500 meters within my range you were dead. I can make your whereabouts unknown with a mere thought you dumbfuq.” Kimble laughed his lungs out. He was confident about his origin card and its mysterious ability. To him he was not being overconfident rather he is overpowered thanks to his origin card.

Second Round, Arena 2, Dalton Wyatt Vs Kimble Wang

“3.. 2.. 1, Fight!”

“I chose You, Stone Viltronian. Use Summon Minions.” As soon as the Match started I did not hesitate and directly summoned the boss monster stone viltronian. And ordered it to summon 50 of the A-rank stone viltronian as a shield against Kimble’s weird attack. The arena was too small for me to summon the other 300 minions. Meanwhile, I activated my soul pupils and observed Kimble Wang’s every action, especially his finger gun.

Thankfully my reaction was faster and was able to summon 50 Stone Viltronians just in time to use their body to shield me from his strange and mysterious attacks.

*Bait**Bait**Bait**Bait*....*Bait*Similar to me Kimble, despite him looking down on me earlier, chose to attack me as soon as the duel started. As he knew once I was able to summon my army it would be difficult for them to defeat me. But he was one step too late, I summoned my minions before he could activate his mysterious attack.

As I summoned my Stone Viltronians, with my soul pupils I saw Kimble form a finger gun and chant ‘Bait’ twenty times in a row under a second. As Kimble chanted Bait continuously I saw a small green glue-like substance shoot from his finger gun and fall on 20 of my Stone Viltronians. Kimble did not even aim but the small green glue-like substance shot forward and automatically seemed a target and attacked them. It seems Kimble was using a high grade passive homing card. Saving him the trouble of aiming. No wonder he said that I was as good as dead 500 meters within his field of range.

What’s interesting was that this green lifelike substance does not appear to be visible to the naked eye. If not for my soul pupils I would have not been able to see them. No wonder the recording equipment of the stadium did not record the green glue-like bullet-shaped substance when they investigated Josh’s disappearance.

But that was not the most notable part about Kimble’s attack. What I saw next was more shocking and unbelievable. It was the reason how this green glue-like bullet-shaped substance made a person disappear without a single disturbance or struggle.

After the green glue stuck about twenty of my stone Viltronians to a naked eye, it appeared as if they disappeared into thin air but I who saw the truth using my soul pupils knew the shocking and appalling reason behind their disappearance. The twenty Stone Viltronians did not just disappear, they were swallowed. All this happened so fast and silently that it appeared as if the stone Viltronians disappeared into the thin air.

Twenty Stone Viltronian vanished allowing me to solve the mystery behind Kimble Wang's ability. The truth was that the Stone Viltronian did not just vanish but they were swallowed. They were followed by a bizarre creature. As soon as the green glue-like bullet stuck to the stone elementals a huge mouth appeared from the floor of the arena and swallowed only the stone elementals marked by the green glue. The creature was shaped like a whale but its physical state was like a hologram or a ghost. No, it did not have a physical state that is why it was not visible to the naked eye. The creature had a spiritual body instead of the physical body which allowed it to pass through the arena and swallow the stone elementals.

The creature's mouth was so huge that it could swallow most of the arena but it was only able to swallow the stone elementals marked by the green glue leaving Kimble, Me and the rest of the 30 stone elementals untouched. Another noticeable aspect was that after swallowing the stone viltronians the whale-like spiritual creature vanished into the arena floor. Even with my soul pupils, I could not find its traces. It was as if it never existed in the first place.

Then I realised maybe it is hiding in another dimension or space or realm and would only appear when it senses the green glue-like substance. From what I have seen till now I can tell that it is near impossible for me to damage it or even touch it. This also meant that the Whale-like creature could not touch me or hurt me until I am marked by the green glue-like substance. This card ability was op but it also had obvious shortcomings. Which Kimble took care of by equipping a high-grade homing card.

But still, there were some holes in Kimble's tactics that are after shooting 20 bullet-shaped green glue he was open and sitting ducks. Sacrificing another 20 stone elementals I could knock him out with a simple landslide attack from the remaining Stone Viltronians. I did not necessarily have to sacrifice 20 of my stone elementals to get to Kimble. As long as I skillfully escaped the bullet-shaped green glue I could easily take care of Kimble.

If it were anyone else they could not pull what I am thinking of going to do because the green glue bullet is invisible to make eyes and is guided by a high-grade homing card making it impossible for any card apprentice to dodge the green glue bullet. But for someone like me who could see the green glue bullets with enough skill, I could escape the grip of the homing card and dodge the glue bullet.

Solving the mystery behind Kimble's attack I no longer considered him or his ability a threat and decided to follow Corey's footsteps and advertise my business. Kimble

Wang's mysterious ability had attracted a lot of audience attraction. They all wanted to see if Kimble Wang could continue his mystery in the second round of the tournament.

"Stone Viltronian, unsummon minions." Seeing that the arena was too crowded for any kind of advertisement I ordered Stone Viltronian to cancel its summon minion skills.

Seeing me cancel my summon monsters Kimble was puzzled and soon got cocky thinking that I was trying to save me summon monsters from his mysterious ability and yelled, "What happened, are you worried that you will lose all your summon monsters to me? I thought you wanted to kill me. Two false relics my ass you're not even worth a soul jade."

"Summon armament: Stone Viltronian – Gauntlet form" after cancelling the summon minion ability of the boss monster Stone Viltronian I made use of the one time use Summon armament card that the referee had given to me before the start of the match as it was not a secret that I had a giant summons and if the situation called for it I would not hesitate to use it.

*Bait*Kimble once again chanted and shot a green glue bullet at me seeing that I made use of the Summon armament card which helps gain access to the stats and skill of my summons for my use. For others, Kimble's ability may be a mystery but for him, it was just a trick with many invisible holes. Knowing the holes in his tactics he knew if I was fast enough I could defeat him even before his green glue bullets reached me so he did not waste any more time on trash talk and directly chose to finish the match while it holds the upper hand.

Though the green glue bullet was fast it was slower than an actual bullet. Therefore I could easily predict its trajectory with help of the updated Hive AI which made use of the bestowal Insight forecast. Since I could predict the trajectory of the green glue bullet I could have easily dodged it if it were not under the homing card effect. But I had another trick to overcome this homing effect of the green glue bullet that is to catch it with my Summon armament gauntlets.

After catching the green glue bullet I would throw the stone part marked by the glue bullet away using stone Viltronian stone manipulation ability before the whale-like creature makes its appearance. All this was possible thanks to the stats provided to me by my viltronian physique, 4 times refined mutated soul energy, summon armament turned stone Viltronian and finally the Southern watch combat arts card. With all these stats combined, I was fast enough to catch the green glue bullet and throw it before the whale-shaped creature made its appearance.

I was confident that my strategy to counter Kimble's ability would work because I had already deduced that the creature was able to swallow the whole arena with its wide mouth but could only swallow the Stone Viltronians marked by the green glue bullet. Which meant as long as I was not marked by the green glue bullet I was safe and the creature could not even touch me.

Chapter 249: Stone Wrap

Date- 27 Mar 2321

Time- 10:17

Location- Sky Blossom City, Sky Blossom Card Stadium, Second Round Arena 2

Catching the green glue bullet with my gauntlet covered hand I made use of the stone multiplication ability of the summon armament and shaped the marked part of the stone into a ball and threw it high up in the air. Just then a huge creature invisible to the naked eye leapt out of the arena floor and swallowed the ball up high in the sky.

Finally, I was able to see the full body of the Whale like creature, it was a whale except it lacked a physical body and was able to swim in space and vanish into another dimension using physical objects as its medium. This is the reason why I threw the stone ball marked by the green glue bullet up high in the sky so that I could see the creature's complete bizarre body. Turns out the creature was just a whale lacking a physical body and with some amazing abilities.

After swallowing the stone ball the whale did not vanish into thin air instead it fell on the arena floor and swam underground vanishing into whatever dimension it came from. This led to me concluding that the creature used physical objects as a medium to come and go as from its dimension to this world as it pleases. Thankfully the rules that made it overpowered also constrained it otherwise it would also be registered as Calamity along with Dungeon Calamity seed. Seeing that my strategy was a success I became more confident in dealing with Kimble.

"What faq did you just do?" Kimble yelled at me it seems he was also able to see the creature. His face had turned pale, seeing the complete body of the creature up close. Panicked, Kimble chanted Bait another 20 times in a row locking me as the target
"*Bait* *Bait* *Bait* *Bait*"

I saw 20 green glue bullets heading towards me simultaneously but I did not panic. Instead, I made use of stone manipulation and summoned a huge stone dome to cover me. I made sure that the stone dome had a large space inside it such that I would not be swallowed by the creature as collateral damage.

Unable to find me, the 20 green glue bullets landed on the stone dome. And soon a huge mouth surfaced from the arena floor and swallowed the stone dome. I deactivated the soul pupils to save my eyes from seeing the disgusting interior of the creature's mouth.

Using a shield type card against Kimble's green glue bullet was not an option because the green glue would stick to the shield and the shield would be a connection to the card apprentice physically or through soul energy giving the creature access to swallow the

card apprentice. There I cut my soul energy connections with stone manipulation after throwing the stone ball and summoning the stone dome. This is the reason why Kimble was confident of his ability and also because the homing ability will avoid the shield and some for the card apprentice as much as possible making partial and small shields useless.

“How is it possible? It must be a coincidence, again *Bait* *Bait* *Bait*... *Bait*” Seeing the Stone dome be swallowed while I remain untouched Kimble was dumbfounded. He never stopped to think that I could have cracked the mystery behind his ability. Instead, he repeated the same pattern of attack again and again only to get the same results.

Even a dumbass would know that if you are getting the same results for the same process again and again it is no longer a coincidence or luck but fact. But Kimble did not seem to understand that simple logic. Therefore I decided to help him understand the reality.

“Stone Warp” finding an opening I used stone manipulation to bind Kimble in a thick sheet of stone from his mouth to toe. Below his nose, Kimble was completely bound and wrapped in a stone sheet like the flatbread wrapping the Shawarma.

Being bound with stone, Kimble could no longer use his finger gun or chant the word ‘Bait’. Kimble tried hard to free himself from the stone warp. But his struggle was vain as except for moving his facial skin, eyelids and some cartilage tissue of his nose and ears Kimble could not move a single muscle being tightly bound by a stone warp created using an A-rank summon armament.

“Settle down, you can free yourself from that. Just wait patiently after I am done, maybe I will let you live.” Hearing my words Kimble struggled harder but to me, his struggle seemed like he was trying too hard to make funny faces at me. As he could only move his fanatical tissues and muscles. Ignoring Kimble, I got down to business, that is to advertise my Card Boutique.

Seeing Kimble be immobilised being bound by stone warp the referee was in a bind if the rules were the same as in the old tournament immobilising an opponent meant that he had to declare the other contestant as the winner but the new rules suggested that unless or until one of the contestants surrenders or is out of arena bounds he could not declare a winner. This rule favoured the cruel contestants and hurt the weak contestants. This is one of the rules which made my students who were planning to participate in the tournament back down.

Now that pest was taken care of and the whole arena belonged to me, I began executing my plan, turning to the audience I shouted enhancing my voice with the soul power, “ Ladies and Gentlemen my name is Dalton Wyatt, a golden grade card creationist. I address you to showcase my new creation Nanomorpher” many people may have already guessed that I am a golden grimoire holder so I no longer hide the

grade of my grimoire. And also a golden grimoire holder sounded more attractive and dependable than a silver grade grimoire holder.

Then I summoned my golden hoverbike, the hoverbike was black before feeding it Liquid spirit gold. Pointing at the golden hoverbike I shouted again, "Ladies and Gentlemen this is my latest invention nanomorpher. It looks like your average hoverbike but once you transform it to its second form it turns into a hovering golem."

"Ladies and gentlemen, I introduce to you the one and only of its kind Nanomorpher." With my command, the nanomorpher transformed into a golem. I could hear the ambience gasp as he saw the golden hoverbike turn into a golem with only its upper body while its lower body is made of a floater module. The golden golem then hovered in the arena area following my instructions. I asked it to transform between hoverbike and golem during flight to show the audience how dependable my card was.

"Dear customers, please visit my online Card boutique in the grimoire network for further information. Over Card boutique has served many VIP clients and also has a successful apprentice who has opened a card studio of her own.

Yes, people you heard me right, our boutique's employee has opened her card studio and that fortunate employee is none other than Ms Corey Bright." To add some credibility to my Card Boutique, I made use of Corey's name. It was okay since I did not lie. And getting on the Hoverbike from nanomorpher I roamed the arena and further added that " Ladies and gentlemen Nanomorpher is my creation and you cannot find others of its kind in another market. If you are interested in becoming a proud owner of a custom Nanomorpher please visit association guild mall warehouse number 234.

Dear customers, not just a Nanomorpher my services are available for the creation of any form of custom active, passive, Item and origin card. Please check out my works at my online shop. And please take note prices of service are negotiable"

Done with advertising my card boutique I turned my attention to the stone wrapped Kimble who seemed to have given up on struggling and accepted his loss. Seeing that I still had 4 more minutes till the time limit of the duel, I decided to play with him a bit, "Now what do I do with you? Should I kill you or just let you go."

Kimble glared at me with fierce hatred filled eyes it seems he still has not learnt his place. I used stone manipulation to strengthen the constraint of the stone wrap. Just a little and Kimble's face turned red, his eyes looked like they were about to pop. Then suddenly I remembered Vivian saying that the Circle had arranged an auction to sell the quota for who gets to fight me first. Since they can organize an auction for my life then so could I, turning to the audience I shouted with my soul energy strengthened voice, " Wang family and its competitors listen up, during this last 4 minutes of the duel I would like to conduct an auction for the life of the Wang family genius, Kimble Wang. Let the highest bidder decide this genius's fate."

