

Card Apprentice Daily Log #Chapter 60: Trap - Read

Card Apprentice Daily Log Chapter 60: Trap

Chapter 60: Trap

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 8:05

Location Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse no.234

"You? You created Susan's Origin card." Asked a mature lady in confusion wearing a sweater with a deep V-neck exposing her bountiful bosom more than appropriate.

This was the 5th time she asked me the same question but I forgive her as the saying goes bigger the breasts smaller the brains.

She was repeatedly asking me the same thing like a stuck record player, maybe some spanking would help her move forward.

"Yes, yes I did" I answered looking at two huge white meat mountains, don't get me wrong it's just that her ample bosom had blocked my entire field of vision, after all, she stood right in front of me.

This was the first time in this life I was not annoyed with my small height, front row tickets to the best show ever who will complain.

It has been a while for me and not to mention my new teenage body which gets excited for no apparent reason, therefore my mind is overall the place lately.

Peeling my eyes from the meat mountains wobbling in front of me with her every breath, I peeked at Susan to my shock, she gave me a knowing smile. It seems she will be of no help.

Corey who walked in with refreshment looked at the mature lady and said, "Auntie Melinda, what are you doing here?"

"What a surprise, Corey my dear niece. Is this how you greet your elder, where are your Bright family manners?"

"Auntie, I don't have time to play your games. Does Uncle Oliver know you are here?" Corey threatened Melinda using her uncle's name.

"Why should he know, am I supposed to report to him before leaving the house.

Don't worry I am not here for you, you know I am starting a designer label so I want to recruit the genius card creationist that appeared in the last week's auction." Melinda explained.

"..." Corey did not believe her aunt, she has seen enough to know what her aunt is capable of if not for her grandparent's fondness for her, she would be one of Melinda's victims.

Melinda knew Corey did not believe her but she did not care as she was done here, now that all the pieces are in place she turned to Susan and said, "I will be expecting the armours by tomorrow, any delay and you will be hearing from my lawyer."

Hearing Melinda, Susan was confused and asked, "what armours?"

"The ones for which I loaned you the money, did you forget so soon" Melinda replied lethargically.

"What? You seem to have forgotten there was no such deal between us. You loaned me the money for zero interest to get introduced to the card creationist of my origin card." Susan was a veteran in this field and quickly understood what was happening.

Susan trusts others but she was not dumb, alas in Melinda's case she seems to have fallen into a trap. She chose to accept the loan from Melinda on a verbal agreement trusting the reputation of the Bright family name, how could she know that a member of the city's prominent family will play rogue with her.

"No sweetie, I loaned you the money because you promised me the armours otherwise why would I give you a zero-interest loan. I have grimoire records of the money transfer, it's too late for you want to back out."

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Melinda attended Susan's auction at the request of her husband with some of her friends, while the crowd was mesmerised by Susan and the perfect rating cards, she had her eyes on the card creationist behind these perfect rating cards.

Seeing how the card creationist chose Susan to auction his card rather than any other popular auction managers it can be seen that their relationship between Susan and the card creationist is not simple.

Melinda was not worried that she would offend the card creationist because if the card creationist was powerful or equal to the Bright family behind her he would have directly used his/her name to get Susan out of trouble, rather than helping Susan while hiding his/her identity.

Therefore she got close to Susan by showing interest in her origin card but no matter how much she seduced Susan, she could not crack her. Until Susan called her asking for a loan from the Bright family.

Seeing an opportunity Melinda laid the trap, by loaning Susan money under the Bright family name with just a verbal agreement.

Now all Melinda had to do was wait till Susan had spent all the money and then reveal her cards, leaving Susan with three options

The first way is to return every penny of the loan, the second way is negotiating with Melinda and the third way is to meet in court.

Melinda knew having spend the money Susan could not afford the first way if Susan could she would not have asked for the loan in the first place and as for the third way,

Verbal agreements are legally enforceable in the court of law but in case of a dispute or a suit, it is a difficult task for the court to ascertain the true nature of facts and terms of the agreement, without the invasion of bias. For a big and prominent family like the Bright family, this was nothing and would easily turn the odds in their favour. Resulting in Susan getting fined, owe a huge debt and charged with other charges.

Since they could not afford the first and the third way, Susan will have no choice but to negotiate with Melinda to unfavourable terms or go to jail.

Holding Susan in her palms Melinda would indirectly get an excellent card creationist salve.

Even if all this doesn't work it was worth the try, all Melinda lost was a little money, she would spend twice that amount in an evening.

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Chapter 61: Unfilial Niece

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 8:12

Location Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse no.234

"Auntie, how could you use the Bright family name like that? If you do this people will lose trust in the Bright family name! Grandpa will be mad if he knows about this."

"Corey you have lost the right to speak for the Bright family, you chose to opt-out of the family remember."

And you Susan don't think that the Bright family will let you go if you pull this kind of stunt, we are not afraid of hurting our public image as long as justice is served." Shutting up Corey, Melinda threatened Susan.

As far as the family public image is concerned no one will believe that the city's wealthiest and prominent family would try to dupe a few million from a small-time auction manager, as long court rules in the Bright family's favour.

Corey fiercely glared at Melinda and was about to rebut her but was interrupted by Susan, "Corey this doesn't concern you, stay out of it. And as for you Mrs Melinda Bright just because you have a bigger mouth does not mean whatever nonsense you spout is the truth.

I have been in this business for 7 years now and I have few tricks up my sleeve too."

Soon the gem on Susan's right wrist bracelet lit up and the voice of Melinda sounded from within the gem,

"Don't worry about the loan Susan, we can be considered friends now..."

"Since you promised to introduce me to your card creationist I will loan you the money for zero interest..."

"return the loan at your convenience..."

Melinda's expression turned hideous as she said, "That was recorded without my consent or knowledge."

"So what it's valid as I am one of the parties involved in the conversation. Now that I have satisfied my end of the deal now it's your turn, I will return the money at my convenience. Please show yourselves out now."

I was impressed by Susan but it was better to cut ties with the snake when given the chance otherwise it will come back to bite us. So, transferring 40 million \$ to Susan's account I said, "Susan pay her back we don't need her money anymore."

Susan had already received the notification of the money transfer from her grimoire and seemed to have the same idea as me. She transferred the 20 million \$ she owed to Melinda and with a humble smile she said, "Mrs Melinda, thank you for the help and pleasure doing business with you."

"No, the pleasure is mine" Melinda responded with a professional smile and turned to me while sending a friend invite to my grimoire adding, "Mr Wyatt when you are done playing small, give me a call."

I replied, "If I change my mind I will let you know."

Before leaving she looked at Corey who was still holding a tray full of refreshments and said, "you are not the Corey I know, who are you?"

Hearing this Corey's face went pale and her hands trembled slightly before regaining calmness, her reaction caused Melinda to raise an eyebrow. But Melinda did not think much of it and left.

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Walking out of the warehouse Melinda made a call,

"Old man, Corey is surrounded with good company. But for the princess of the Bright family to work as a maid isn't a bit..." Melinda dragged her voice not knowing how to express her negation without angering the old man.

"I don't care, my granddaughter wants to experience life, then let her." Said William Bright arrogantly

"I don't care either, I am tired of acting the villain. You should have seen her glare at me as if I am the enemy, that unfilial niece. I fed her my breast milk for 7 months when her mother was out on a mission."

"Ahem!"

"Don't clear your throat at me. You men all are the same, didn't you have a mother... anyway I just lost an excellent slave because of your overindulgence, how are you planning to compensate me."

"How about you get to inform Kitty that I am retiring and that I am giving her the family."

"What? Old man have you gone senile, family is not yours to give it to mother-in-law. You both run the family together. If you retire then she will be the head of the family automatically."

"Whatever I am retiring, let me grow old peacefully watching my granddaughter grow."

"Sure fine with me, but I can't say the same about the elders and the rest of the family, especially the men in the family."

"Just warn them not to disturb my retirement."

'Tut tut tut...'

Bright family hierarchy is unlike any other family, ever since the rule of War golem twins the family has always had two leaders, this era the leaders were William and his wife

Kitty. William's unexpected retirement now was earth-shattering news for the family and the Sky blossom city.

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Chapter 62: Elliot

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 8:12

Location Sky Blossom City, Fine Gold Private Airfield, runway no.11

"Mr Jk, welcome to Sky blossom city." Said Jaya extending her hand.

"Mr Jk is my father, call me Elliott, Ms Keith." Reminded Elliott as he shook Jaya's hand.

Jaya's mouth twitched as her elder sister was addressed as Ms Keith not her, but she had to be the bigger person until the contract had been signed.

"Mr Elliott, how about I invite you to breakfast before we begin with the official business." Said Jaya hanging a professional smile on her face.

"I am sorry to say this Ms Keith, that won't be necessary as this contract won't be happening." Said Elliott.

Elliott knew Fine Gold Group would be the best partners to help open a branch of Jk Grain and Oil Ltd. in Sky Blossom city. But he also knew given enough time Fine Gold would not hesitate to copy their business and become their biggest competitor in the sky blossom city.

Their previous track with other companies was proof of this. Guild association mall was Fine Golds biggest client a decade ago but now Fine Gold mall has been established in 12 different cities.

Even though Fine Gold was the best option as a partner to open a branch in sky blossom city but it was not worth it. So, Elliott did not consider twice before abolishing the contract spoken by his predecessor.

"What?" This was sudden for Jaya, here she was considering how to deal with Elliott after the contract was signed but who knew she was thinking too much. The contract never went through.

"I came in-person to inform you about this out of consideration of Ms Keith. Let's hope we may get to work together in future." With an enigmatic smile, Elliott extended his hand as a courtesy.

Jaya's mouth twitched, Ms Keith that Elliott mentioned here was not her but her elder sister. How embarrassing?

With a malignant smile, Jaya took Elliott's hand as she applied her inhumane Viltronian strength in the handshake, as a show of strength and to embarrass Elliot.

Elliott was 24 years old yet he was still in the Card Scholar realm while she was 17 this year and already broke into the Card Soldier realm last night.

'Crush!'

But who could have thought that she would crush Elliott's palm with the little strength she applied. With the squeeze, Elliot's palm was messed up beyond recognition, blood spilt on both Elliott's and Jaya's attire.

Seeing this both Jaya's and Elliott's bodyguards rushed to the front to guard their patrons. Securing their targets both the sides moved to a safe distance.

The Fine Gold side was on alert because they did not know what was happening as Jaya was unharmed and the blood on her seemed to belong to Elliott. 'Did our young miss decide to kill Elliot because he did not want to work with Fine Gold' they thought.

As for Jk Grain and Oil side, they seemed to be prepared for this situation as they had a healer in their group who healed Elliott's hand back to normal in no time.

Having his hand nursed back to health Elliott walked towards Fine Gold to explain the situation but his attention was attracted by heroic bone armour covering Debra among Jaya's bodyguards.

Shaking his head Elliott looked at Jaya and said, "Sorry for the scare, my bones are very brittle due to my health conditions and can break with just a touch. Then I will be taking my leave, Ms Keith." Saying that Elliott with his entourage headed back to Jk group Airship.

One of Jaya's bodyguards contacted Fine Gold headquarters and confirmed Elliott's claims.

Turns out Jk Elliott the second child and first son of the Chairman of Jk Grain and Oil Ltd. was suffering an inherited disorder known as 'Osteogenesis imperfect'.

Osteogenesis imperfecta is caused by defective genes. These genes affect how the body makes collagen, a protein that helps strengthen bones.

Since the cause was defective genes, the cure for this disorder could not be found in grimoire and cards. But he could reduce the effect of the disorder using cards like enhanced bones, steel bones etc

With Elliott's advancement to the higher realm, the defective gene would also advance. Rendering low-rank cards useless, knowing this Elliott chose to limit his realm to the Card Scholar realm.

Knowing that normal cards cannot help him Elliott had kept all his hopes on his fate ingredient and origin card but his fate ingredients turned out to be Clear Scaled Earthworm core, a core of a beast that does not have a single bone in its body breaking all his hopes.

In despair, Elliott let go of what he cannot have and started to work on what he can have, which led to him joining his father's company at the bottom but due to his continuous contribution, he was now offered to be Managing Director of the new Jk Grain and Oil Ltd Sky Blossom branch.

Seeing that the situation was normal now Jaya's guards relaxed. Even Debra withdrew her bone exoskeleton armour.

Elliott who was heading to the airship turned back to take a last glance at the valiant bone armour only to be shocked to his core, sparking hope in his life again.

Chapter 63: Online Shop

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 8:20

Location Sky Blossom City, Fine Gold Private Airfield, runway no.11

Debra's life in Fine Gold couldn't be more comfortable, thanks to her origin card the company valued her so much that they let her directly advance her grimoire to Silver grade and promised to let her upgrade to Golden grimoire if she showed positive exemplary results.

Her current role at Fine Gold is to be the exclusive bodyguard of Jaya Keith, she no longer had to risk her life dungeon diving and exploring the unknown just to make pennies while the guild ripped all the benefits like in her last job.

As the Silver employee of Fine Gold Debra was offered the best cards which suited her battle style and origin card perfectly.

She was also given various gadget Item cards, like the earpiece and glasses which connect with her grimoire allowing her to use the call and camera function of the grimoire without summoning the grimoire.

Not only that the earpiece and glasses give her access to the Fine Gold network which she can use for assistance in getting information, to call for emergency backup and report her and Jaya's status.

Not to forget the black suit armour card inclusive of a black tux, black leather boots, black leather belt and a wristwatch. All these gadgets had their uses which she would require as the bodyguard of Jaya Keith.

Debra thought being a bodyguard would be a lot easier but she was wrong, she had to be alert constantly and observe every detail while monitoring the patron. This was a lot similar to exploring the dungeons.

Just now there was a crisis, without thinking Debra covered herself in her bone exoskeleton armour and jumped in front of Jaya to shield her from any frontal attacks but it turns out it was a false alarm.

But this was not the first false alarm today, she already had three such false cases before this situation. Back at the coffee shop, the girl was only reaching for sugar packets next to Jaya, for which the girl almost got her arm broken by Debra.

Resulting in Debra feeling that maybe dungeon diving would be better than being a bodyguard at least there she did not have to hold back.

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Elliott who was heading to the Jk group airship suddenly turned and walked back to the Fine Gold group again, his entourage had no choice but to follow him quietly. Elliott could not walk fast because putting too much stress on the leg could lead to fractures in his leg bone.

His body was able to stand thanks to bone hardening passive cards he was using, his bones were soft as foam no matter how much you harden foam they would still crumble under pressure.

Jaya, who was considering how to inform her sister about the Jk Grain and Oil Ltd. backing out of the deal at the last minute saw Elliott slowly walk towards herself. Puzzled Jaya asked, "Mr Elliott having second thoughts about the contract."

But Elliott did not answer her and just passed by her stopping in front of Debra as he eagerly asked, "Was that Ram bull ability that you used?"

Debra did not answer him but looked at Jaya for permission, it was not hard for Jaya to put one and two together, a guy with soft bones asking about Ram bull ability he could not be more clearer so Jaya nodded in approval.

Getting Jaya's approval Debra answered, " yes, it is."

“Sorry to be rude but could you sell me the card. I beg you” Elliott looked directly into Debra’s eyes and pleaded.

Debra blushed and looked away, as Elliott was what you call ‘man pretty’. If she could she would have just gifted the card to him but unfortunately, “I am sorry, it is the ability of my Origin card.”

Hearing this Elliott left out a sorrowful laugh and thought, ‘why do I keep doing this to myself? Haven’t I learnt anything these past few years?’

As Elliott was pitying himself, Jaya walked next to him and said, “Debra’s fate ingredient was just a bone from undead remains nothing worth noting but our Card Creationist turned that worthless bone into an undead summon card using the bone production ability of Ram bull.”

Elliott heard Debra loud and clear and knew what she was hinting at, so after a few minutes of consideration he said, “what is it going to cost me?”

“Nothing much, how about you sign the contract, once The Jk group and Fine Gold group are partners then I will be obliged to help my friends.”

“No, that’s not possible.”

“Why? This is a win for both of us. You get to open a branch in Sky blossom city and we get a high-value client.”

“At first it seems that way but looking at how the ex-partners of Fine Gold ended up I know better than that.

You provide us with goods transportation and merchant services but along the way, you will slowly get to know our contacts, providers and start to acquire them one by one behind our backs until it’s enough for you to overthrow us.

Guild Association mall is a giant with the government supporting them, they will not feel any effect if they make less in 12 cities but our Jk group is different.

we are already pouring all our resources into expansion and if we fail then we will have no option but to shut down leaving you vultures to feed on our remains. And with us gone the market will be yours for the taking.”

Elliott explained, he was not explaining to Jaya or others but telling himself what he will be losing if he took Jaya up on her offer.

Jaya did not care, seeing how frantic Elliott acted she knew she had this guy in her palm.

One of the ladies from Elliott's entourage dressed black in office attire walked next to him and said, "Sir we have found the Card creationist, he does not belong to any guild or group, he is a freelancer. I have the address, should I make transportation arrangements."

Hearing the lady, Elliott came back to his sense and glared at Jaya for trying to take advantage of him.

Feeling Elliott's glare Jaya just shrugged her shoulders and said, "you can't blame a lady for trying, and we will arrange the required transportation after all you are Fine Gold guests"

Right now Jaya felt like the lord was playing a joke on her, she was so damned frustrated but had to act professionally.

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Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 8:20

Location Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse no. 234

"Wyatt, I have created an online shop for you on the public network and listed all your achievements and clients. I know this is not much but even if it brings a single client it's worth it."

"Thank you, Susan. Can you add Jaya Keith, I also helped her create an Origin card. She paid me 100 million \$ as fees, rich people right!"

"Oh! So that's where you got the money from. Okay then, I will add her too."

"Whose address and contact info did you give?"

"I gave the warehouse address and my contact info. After all, I am your exclusive manager."

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Chapter 64: Delusional

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 8:23

Location Sky Blossom City, Fine Gold Private Airfield, runway no.11

“You are Fine Gild guests, we will arrange the required transportation.” Saying that Jaya turned to Carla and whispered, “make arrangements for their transportation, you ask the driver to turn on the network jammer while taking the lengthiest route to the destination and remind him to drive as slowly as possible.”

Carla did not know what Jaya was up to but as a good secretary, she made transportation arrangements for Elliott and his entourage according to Jaya’s wishes.

Bidding Elliott and his crew goodbye, Jaya ran fast to her car shouting at the driver, “I don’t care how but take me to Guild association mall Warehouse no.234 within 10mins. Your life depends on this!.”

The driver was a professional, he did not waste his breath on words but slammed the gas pedal and left the airfield hastily.

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Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 8:45

Location Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse no. 234

After finishing the second set of 100 G-rank storage trunk cards yesterday I reluctantly had to go home for sleep. I did not like the feeling of going back to an empty home, It felt lonely there.

Since I did not spend any time at my flat and the Warehouse was registered as my office in the online shop, I decided to put a bed and shower in one of the warehouse corners so that I don’t have to go home if I don’t want to.

I talked to Susan about this except for the part of me feeling lonely. She agreed with my proposal and said since we will be accepting clients and be conducting all our other work here might as well make the warehouse a bit presentable with a waiting room, an office, a staff kitchen and a restroom.

Unexpectedly Corey was very supportive of the idea of adding a staff kitchen, being cut off from family and with her current wages, she could not afford to eat out daily. So, she wanted to hand prepare her food, Lord only knows how it will work out for her.

Susan said that she will contact the warehouse’s management and make the changes by tonight, thanks to the occupational cards construction had become as easy as constructing a lego house.

“Susan here, 200 G-rank storage cards see what you can fetch for them.”

“Wyatt, I can only sell a few at a time, it will take me a while to sell them all.”

“No worries, we are no longer short on cash. take your time.”

“I know someone who will buy all the cards and pay the full price upfront.” Corey who was mopping the floor pitched in. Spending two days with us, Corey comfortably spoke with us and no longer cautiously considered every word that was spoken by her.

Seeing Corey actively take part in conversations Susan’s eyes glinted with brilliance as she passed 200 G-rank storage trunk cards to Corey and said, “okay then you are responsible for selling these cards.”

“No, I didn’t mean it that way. I am sorry.” Corey misunderstood Susan’s intention.

If Susan sells these cards then she will get 60% out of 5% of mall service charges of the total cost, but now Susan gave it to Corey just like that. Corey only wanted to help Susan sell the cards not steal her sales.

“No sweetie, It will take me weeks at best to sell all these cards but if you can sell it now, it’s better right, don’t worry about me losing money. If you sell those cards I will still be getting 20% in the 5% mall service charge as you are my staff while you will get 40%. It’s better this way.”

Understanding Susan’s intention Corey nodded and said, “I won’t let you down.” While taking the 200 G-rank storage card from Susan’s hand.

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I was deciding on what to do next, I saw Jaya and her cronies walk into the warehouse. She noticed my gaze and smiled, seeing that smile I knew Jaya was up to no good.

“Hi, Wyatt!” Jaya greeted me with a bright smile.

‘Fu<k, don’t act like we are buddies you b!tch’ I thought greeting her back, “Hey, Jaya what brings you here?”

“I was nearby and so I came, hope I am not being an inconvenience to you.” Jaya’s mouth said one thing but her eyes conveyed another thing.

“I am busy if nothing else you know where the door is.” This place was not Fine Gold, here I did not have to watch how I spoke to her or worry about getting on her bad side. ‘This is not your turf b!tch.’ So I did not have to worry about ending up in a gutter without anyone noticing.

“Wyatt, don’t be like that I have a big deal for you, Just like last time I will pay you 100 million \$ to help my friend create a card.” For some reason, Jaya did not seem to mind my rudeness. Instead, she tried to seduce me with money. ‘What is happening?’

‘Just like last time’ ‘100 million \$’ both vibrated in my mind. Finally, my dignity trumped my greed as I said, “Sorry, Jaya it’s not you or your money, it’s me. From today I won’t be providing my services to anyone related or close with Fine Gold.”

Hearing me Jaya sneered, standing next to me she whispered, “Really Wyatt are you sure, how about I add a few strands of my hair to your fee. What now you freak?”

“Why the Fu<k would you think adding a few strands of your hair will change anything?” I shouted dumbfoundedly. ‘Wait did she find out about me returning to the bathhouse to steal her hair strands?’

Of course, I would not admit to doing this even if Jaya had solid proof.

“Don’t you like me, aren’t I your goddess? Didn’t you promise me to admire me from far away?” Jaya hastily said.

‘I said those things to walk out alive from that hell hole in one place.’ Of course, I would not admit to saying this too even if Jaya claimed otherwise.

I looked at Jaya as if looking at a crazy girl. Both Susan and Corey who were listening from the side looked at Jaya with pity. They thought Jaya was delusional.

I had to do something before Jaya added Susan and Corey to her petty little list, thankfully another group of people entered the warehouse politely unlike Jaya and her cronies who rushed in arrogantly as if they owned this place.

Seeing them I said to Susan, “Susan, why don’t you and Corey attend to the guests, while I will handle this mess.”

Susan nodded and headed towards the new group of people, I did not know who they were but termed them as a guest to send Susan and Corey away anywhere but here.

Sending Susan and Corey, I looked at Jaya but she was anxiously looking at the new group coming in contact with Susan. I could see that the person leading the new group was also glaring at Jaya as if she had stolen his family fortune.

Now I knew why Jaya was so desperate, it had something to do with the new group of people.

Chapter 65: Tricky?

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 9:17

Location Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse no. 234

"I will remember this!" Having said that, Jaya left the warehouse as arrogantly as she came in, thinking, 'Just you wait! asshole, so what if the circle is interested in you, as long as you are dead who will cry over spoiled milk.'

I took Jaya's threat very seriously, so serious that I even considered helping the guy who just walked in for free. But who am I kidding, being poor I did not have the luxury to do things for free.

Shaking my head I walked next to Susan and greeted the guests.

"Wyatt this is Mr Elliot, he is here for your services as a card creationist."

"Hey, Elliott. Before we start, tell me more about your relationship with Jaya and Fine Gold." I said, trying to sound as polite as possible.

Elliott was surprised to hear Wyatt be so straightforward, but he could not tell how good the relationship between Wyatt and Jaya was but looking how sullenly Jaya left, 'They should be acquaintance at best' he thought.

"For that, it is better if I introduce myself properly first."

"Don't make it complicated, are you friends with Fine Gold or not? yes or no? Simply right." I can tell Elliott should be a capable person since he could make Jaya desperate, but who cares! Right now I am in one of the city's busiest and heavily guarded spot. Nobody dared to act arrogantly with city enforcers watching over this location.

"No, I am not friends or in business with Fine Gold," Elliott answered.

"Good, because since today I had decided not to provide my services as card creationist to Fine Gold and anyone acquainted with it.

Now, how did you know about me?" I did not care who Elliott was or what opinion he had on Jaya and Fine Gold, all I cared is if he could afford my services, as they were not cheap.

Hearing me Elliott sighed and said, "I met one of your clients, Debra khan today and was impressed with the origin card you created for her. And my secretary found your online shop, if not for that I would have sold my soul to the devil to meet you, Mr Wyatt."

"Big sis Susan, your idea is already paying off." Corey chimed in before I could speak. Lately, I have noticed for some reason, Corey seems to worship Susan.

Susan just smiled politely and remained quiet, this is one of Susan's qualities I feel guilty of loving.

When it comes to work-life, Susan never gets comfortable with me just because we are friends and always remains professional.

7 years at the bottom of Guild association mall's food chain she seems to have experienced and learnt a lot.

"So Mr Elliott, How may I be of your service?"

"I want you to create a card for me to cure my Osteogenesis imperfecta a.k.a brittle bone disease using the ability of Ram bull Beast."

Hearing Osteogenesis imperfecta I searched about it in the grimoire network. It was the same as I knew from my last life on earth a bone-related defective gene.

If it's a gene defect then no regular card will be enough to cure or suppress it as with every ascension in the realm card apprentice entire body undergoes baptism meaning the gene defect will get worse with the increasing realm.

"Nope, I can't do this." And explained to Elliott why. But in response, Elliott just gave a knowing smile and said, "Forgive me, Mr Wyatt, I knew this already but could not help but test you."

I nodded in understanding because if you trust a high schooler you just met to create your origin card then what are you if not dumb, no offence Susan. Looking at the bright side my friendship with Susan would not be this deep if not for Susan blindly trusting me to create her origin card.

"Mr Wyatt thank you for understanding. I want you to create an origin card for me using the bone production ability of Ram bull. But the problem is my fate ingredient does not have any relation with bones, it might be tricky."

Origin card unlike normal cards also get baptised as the host's realm increase, so the Origin card was the only solution to fix the gene defect.

"Let me be the judge of that, what is your fate ingredient?"

"Sorry, you are the specialist here. my fate ingredient is Clear Scale Earthworm core"

Hearing Elliott's build-up I thought this card creation will be complicated and challenging, ah! What was I expecting in this world with no comics or anime people here have almost negligible imagination.

If it was back on earth even a 14-year-old would have come up with a more creative plan to deal with this gene defect.

Letting out a sigh I provided Elliott with two options, " Elliott I have two plans for your origin card first one is the one you proposed that is if you just want to cure the gene defect then Ram bull ability is enough.

However, the bone produced by the origin card level will fall by a grade fixing your gene defect.

The second route is if you want more than just a quick fix for your gene defect then you will have to trust me and let me take charge.

But with this card not only will you be cured of your gene defect but also become capable beyond your imagination.

Now it's up to you Mr Elliott, what is your choice?"

Chapter 66: Soul Jade

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 9:25

Location Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse no. 234

Elliott was emotional, just an hour ago he was blaming himself for being too hopeful even though he was living a life of despair and now he was presented with a choice to become an average person and maybe even more than average.

He did not know whether to just be satisfied with being cured or he could even have hope for more in his life.

Ever since he started to gain an understanding of his surroundings all he remembers is people's pity for him, but he did not need their pity he was the first son of the Jk group's chairperson,

So what if he is cursed with brittle bones,

He is not a victim for them to pity but a symbol of never dying fighting spirit he could accomplish more than what they will ever accomplish in their entire life.

He proved it when all hope for his cure was lost as grimoire and cards could not help his condition, he did not forswear to sit in despair but decided to gain the respect he deserves by climbing to the top of his father's company from the bottom against all odds and ridicule.

So... Yes! He can have hope for more in his life, better yet he will fight for more in his life and all he had achieved till this point was the proof of it.

“Mr Wyatt could you tell me more about this second choice you are talking about...”

If it was some other client who had asked me for more info, I would just say either they had faith in me or not. If yes then blindly follow my lead, if no then don't let the door hit you on the way out.

But Elliott was different, not because I took pity on him but because I wanted to check if it was possible to rectify and modify a gene. I know normal cards can not but the origin cards were different as they become part of the card apprentice and would upgrade with their increasing realm.

I had created origin cards for three people till now Susan, Debra, Jaya and I did not inform my plans about their origin card before the creation. I would ask them what kind of card they wanted and then I would surprise them with the origin card.

Elliott's origin card creation for me was very important because his origin card creation was a practice run for my second origin card.

“Mr Elliot, unlike other Card creationists out there I prefer not to involve the clients in my plans for their origin card, I can only promise you a 99% success rate and to give my 100% to provide you with the best card I can think of for the type of origin card you asked for within your budget.

Mr Elliott, how much is your budget? my labour is not cheap.” I only said 99% rather than 100% to not attract unwanted attention, but not because I was afraid or ashamed of sounding narcissistic and full of it.

“99% success rate... good I chose to trust you, Mr Wyatt. As for the budget, my entire life savings.”

“Well, How much is it? I need an estimate to work with.”

“Could you help me with that, Mr Wyatt?” Saying that Elliott summoned his grimoire and activated his storage trunk card and opened the trunk with his mental energy.

‘Thud!’

‘Click!’

Upon seeing inside the trunk I was greeted by 15 shimmering blue jade bars placed neatly in a 3x5 formation and next to an incubator containing a 30cm blue egg.

“Soul Jade!” I recognised those blue jade bars, they were the soul jade only found in the core of the dungeons and the actual currency of the Card apprentices.

But I did not recognise the egg, since it was placed besides 15 soul jades it must be expensive. Showing his net worth Elliott recalled the storage trunk.

The whole room went silent with Elliott’s show of wealth.

“Mr Elliott, this won’t do. I don’t mind you paying Wyatt with soul jades but we can not pay for ingredients using soul jade. it would be a huge loss for both you and us.” Susan broke the silence by reprimanding the prodigal S.O.B in front of us.

“I know Ms Susan I am rich but not that rich, this is just the price I am willing to award Mr Wyatt with depending upon how satisfying the origin card he created for me is.

As for the ingredients budget I have 500 million dollars in my account and a 7 billion dollars trust fund under my name.

Now Mr Wyatt, Let me ask you how much do you need?” Said Elliott, glancing at me with a provoking smile.

‘Fu<k! Is he taunting me? MF! Believe it or not, I will bring your entire family to the footpath creating this origin card.’

...

While Elliott was busy showing off his wealth Corey was wondering ‘Are Soul jade bars expensive, grandma gave me 100 of them as a reward to cultivate my active soul control when I became a card apprentice. I still have 97 left, maybe I should gift some to mama Su... big sis Susan and give back the rest to grandma.’

Chapter 67: Soul Scissors and Incubator

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 10:31

Location Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse no. 234

[Soul Scissors – \$25million

Soul Incubator – \$30million

C-rank Mandragora roots – \$13.9million

C-rank Mandragora core – \$19.7million

C-rank Matango spores – \$12million

C-rank Matango core – \$20.8million

E-rank High Wood Wisp core x100 – \$10million

Unique grade Origin core – \$125,000

Total cost – \$131.525million]

The total cost of ingredients amounted to near \$131.5million, I could not use ingredients higher than C-rank as both I and Elliott were only silver rank grimoire holders, limiting my choices.

But for the origin card, I had in mind these ingredients were more than enough. Not to mention I still have the Gemini and Para share cards from Fine Gold, which I forgot to return.

Susan had prepared the ingredients and also invited the guild management to set up the card lab equipped with the soul scissors and incubator in the warehouse.

Soul scissors is not an ingredient, it is a machine that a Card Creator uses to split the patient's soul, which the soul incubator houses and nature the split soul.

While the guild management was setting up my very own card lab equipped with Soul scissors and Soul incubator, I was learning how to use them through their user guide and Susan was entertaining the guest.

Gotta commend this world's occupation cards, they built the card lab equipped with soul scissors and incubator in one and a half hour to be precise it is one hour 20 minutes. But they were not cheap, I was not worried as all the cost was paid by Elliott.

Soul Scissors is a very expensive and special machine its primary use is to observe the wavelengths of the soul pathway to identify and differentiate each of them individually. Once identified then the Card apprentice can use the machine to cut the required soul pathway.

Thanks to my soul pupils I do not require a machine for this, I needed this machine for its advanced use that is to split Elliott's soul to make a false human core just like the one Jaya had.

Using my soul pupils I had already deduced Jaya's false human core but I was not certain if the soul pathways arranged in the false core were familiar to Jaya's normal soul pathway arrangement.

Therefore I went back to the bathhouse to collect Jaya's hair, which fell when she was rolling on the ground in pain.

The soul pathway arrangement of a person is unique and the same in their entire body, similar to DNA.

Comparing the soul pathway arrangement in me and Jaya's hair and the false core I began to deduce the secret behind Jaya's false core and the Viltronian powers it gave her.

But this was not enough to deduce the secrets of the false core and Viltronian, thankfully I was an expert on Viltronian DNA and had successfully created Viltronian's back on earth.

Using my knowledge I gained of Viltronian DNA back on Earth and the unique soul pathway arrangements of the false core I was finally able to deduce all the secrets behind the false core and Viltronian powers.

Turns out Viltronians are humans who under million years of evolution had their DNA and soul pathway arrangement cleverly evolved to give them their current prowess and false soul core.

I hated Viltronians more than anyone else out in the universe but I had to acknowledge their prowess and their long life span, therefore I wanted my second origin card to be a variant of the Viltronian card that Jaya had.

But being an inventor I knew nobody gets the best results on their first try therefore I decided to experiment *ahem* I mean I let Elliott have the honour of being the first human to have a soul core. Jaya was excluded as she was not human, to begin with.

To be clear I was not going to make Elliott a Viltronian origin card but an origin card that followed the example of Viltronian evolution and soul core. And to make things easier Elliott's fate ingredient was the clear scale earthworm core.

I was not going to cure Elliott's gene defect using the origin card I planned for him but I was going to use his gene defect as an advantage to create him a perfect origin card.

...

"Wyatt, the card lab is set up and ready to use" Susan informed me as I was busy learning how to use the soul scissors and incubator.

"I am done here too, are the ingredients in place," I said closing the user manual.

"Yes, Corey is placing them in the card lab as we speak."

“Great! then what are we waiting for, let’s get started.”

...

Inside the card lab, Looking at the operating bed of the soul scissors machine Elliott nervously asked, “how sure are you about this?”

“100%” I replied

“even though the machine has a 22% error rate and its manual highly recommends to avoid soul splitting if not necessary.”

“Don’t sweat the small stuff, my skill reduces the error rate to zero. Now get on the bed.”

The machine has such a high error rate because its lens was not that accurate and also making it cheaper and affordable.

But this error rate did not hinder me as I was going to use my soul pupils rather than the machine lens.

“Remind me how old are you again?” Asked Elliott comparing my skill to experience.

“17.”

“Aren’t you a little young to operate a soul scissors?”

“No, I am not”

Chapter 68: Clear Scale Earthworm

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 10:51

Location Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse no. 234, Card Lab

Gathering his courage Elliott finally laid on the soul scissors operating bed, connecting the apparatus to Elliott and monitoring that his stats are at optimum condition, I activated my soul pupils.

With my soul pupils, I found Elliott’s soul. It was the origin and end of all the soul pathways in his entire body, the soul was this huge mass of bright light in which a mini Elliott laid peacefully.

The light blue threads originated from the mini Elliott spreading throughout the body and returned to merge with it again, these threads were the soul pathways.

The other card creationist use soul splitting usually to make Clone cards, Doppelganger cards, Horcruxes cards or curse cards. But I was using it to make a false soul core for Elliott.

Now that I had located the soul I had to cut and split it in two in the ratio of 1:10. The part of the soul I will be cutting is not just any part but the part of the soul over which Elliott has active control.

Since Elliott had suppressed his realm to the card scholar realm, his active soul control percentage is 29%. Now I had to split this 29% into the ratio of 1:10, so I had to cut 2.9% rounding off to 3% of the actively controlled soul.

It was easy to differentiate the actively controlled soul from the normal soul as the actively controlled soul is brighter than the normal soul.

After splitting the actively controlled soul according to the ratio, I extracted the smaller soul and incubated it in the soul incubator to nature and to maintain it in optimum conditions until I completed the other part of the card.

Though this procedure seemed easy and clean it was not, splitting a person's soul is a taboo art and one can damage their soul trying to do so and enter a vegetative state.

Not to mention the pain the soul undergoing the procedure will be facing, if not for the soul-numbing gases the patient is put under the patient would lose himself to the trauma and pain.

Disconnecting the soul scissors apparatus, waking up Elliott I pass him a soul jade to recover the lost part of his active soul control.

The reason I split the soul which is under Elliott's active control because he could easily regenerate it with enough time and soul power. Thanks to the soul jade, Elliott could now recover his lost soul within minutes.

Once Elliott had recovered I formed a party of two with him and equipped Gemini and Para share cards. Placing the ingredients on the creation page and closing my eyes to concentrate I begin the card creation.

First I take Elliott's fate ingredient Clear Scale Earthworm core and origin core to fuse them to form a normal-sized core with both the abilities of a Clear Scale Earthworm and origin core.

Earthworm's notable abilities are to borrow through the ground, its elastic and highly resilient physic with full-body regeneration function.

Clear Scale Earthworm is an evolved variant of the normal earthworm. Be it size or abilities the Clear Scale Earthworm is nothing but a normal earthworm if not for its special clear scales.

According to popular belief, earthworms don't just dig tunnels into the soil using their body but they do so by eating up the soil in front of them.

After extracting the necessary nutrients from ingested soil the soil is then excreted with mucus to caste burrow walls. These casted tunnels are not permanent and don't last long, their lifespan depends on the various species of earthworms.

The Clear Scale Earthworms like normal earthworms also digs tunnels not just in soil but any normal form of matter. But unlike normal earthworms, clear scale earthworms do not have a mouth to eat soil or any form of matter in front of them.

Instead, their clear scales fuses and ingests anything that it touches—gases, liquids, solids, or even energy sources to extract nutrition and duplicate the properties of that particular matter.

Making these clear scale earthworms a very difficult infestation to fight with. Because of their ability, they are usually attracted to eat up special metals and ores with soul energy which is an expensive habit to cultivate. But this also makes them easier to trace as they leave a trail of excrement in their path.

To protect important, expensive materials and machines from these worms they are usually laced with diluted soul poison just enough to kill these worms but not enough to harm humans.

Thankfully these clear scale earthworms are small in size samiliar to normal earthworms making their appetite small and enough to notice before they cause any serious damage. And also their core is of a small bead in size.

Chapter 69: Human Soul Core

Date 22 Mar 2321

Time 11:02

Location Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse no. 234, Card Lab

Clear Scale Earthworm scales have many special abilities but the most fascinating thing about them to me is their small size and each scale is like lego pieces they join together to form one large scale and break to form a smaller scale so as not to hinder the Earthworms movement and give it a sturdy frame when it requires.

I was planning to replace Elliott's bones with these scales, crazy yes but not when you know that the gene defect which made Elliott's bones brittle would help the clear scales in reducing their actual size from micrometres to nanometers.

Yes, the size of clear scale earthworm is very small and its scales are micrometres in size that is approx to the size of an average cell in its body, therefore even though clear scale earthworms whole body is covered with scales it could still bend, compress, and contort like a normal earthworm.

Osteogenesis imperfecta is caused by defective genes which affect the collagen protein in the body in turn weakening the bones. But in the case of clear scales, it just reduces the size of the clear scale and not affecting it in any other way, because unlike bones which require a sturdy large size to show their strength clear scales strength lies in their small size.

Turning from micrometres to nanometers in size the clear scales ability to assemble and connect has gotten stronger more than enough to assemble into a hard skeleton frame for Elliott's body.

But this is not possible by just transferring or altering soul pathways, I will have to evolve Elliott's soul pathway into replacing clear scales for bones using the Viltronian evolution method and modifying the soul pathway arrangement of the soul core.

Thinking of what I had to do next I take the new fused origin clear scale earthworm core and erased the unwanted soul pathways in it.

Then I took mandragora root and core, mandragora is a spirit root plant monster which with age gains wisdom and the roots start taking the human form.

I was going to extract and transfer the spirit ability of mandragora into fused origin clear scale earthworm core so that what remains of clear scale earthworm in the core would use the spirit ability of the mandragora to give birth to wisdom and a spirit will.

After I transferred the soul pathway of the mandragora spirit ability into fused origin clear scale earthworm core, all the soul pathway in the core merged to form a miniature human baby within the core.

The baby looked ugly and ghostly, its entire body was covered in clear scales, its eyes and mouth were hollow. now the core was fit and ready to house a living soul.

Removing Elliott's soul from the soul incubator I transferred it into the core.

Feeling the presence of Elliott's soul the sleeping spirit baby woke up in vigilance and started to attack Elliot's soul according to its instincts but its no match to Elliott's soul in strength.

This spirit baby had just been born and its strength was nothing compared to the strength of Elliott's 3% active soul.

Soon Elliott's soul swallowed the spirit baby and took its place in the core, and I helped it completely take over the core by rearranging its soul arrangements according to the soul arrangement of the viltronian core forming a mini Elliott in the centre of the core but this Elliott was bald and covered in clear scales head to toe.

And I could see soul pathways from the core reaching out and connecting with the soul pathways in Elliott forming a bond between them. Now the whole core had become Elliott's fate ingredient, not just the clear scale earthworm part of the core.

Finished with that I took Matango spores and core, Matango is a mushroom type monster.

What's unique about this monster is unlike mushrooms it doesn't live of decaying organic matter but only lives of inorganic matter. Its spores fuse and grow on anything inorganic that it touches be it gases, liquids, solids, or even energy sources.

Matango spores property is quite similar to the ability of clear scales therefore I was going to use it to strengthen the ability of clear scales.

After I transferred the soul pathways of Matango in the core, the clear scales covering mini Elliott in the core grew brighter.

Even though I had completed creating the soul core, it was still not mature as it was only 3% of Elliott's active soul control it had to grow equal to Elliott's complete active soul control to be able to communicate with him and actively try to fuse with him, like how Jaya's core tried to fuse with her despite the grimoire blocking it.

Jaya's core was with her since her birth and had slowly matured with her till her 16th birthday. But Elliott's core was just born and I could not sacrifice 16 years of my precious time on just one origin card creation so I had to mature this core using an external stimulant like the High wood wisps and soul jades.

It took a total of 3 soul jades for the core to mature, and just when it was about to initiate contact with Elliot I activated the morph ability in the core and turned the core into a card successfully creating a human soul core origin card.

[Origin card creation completed...]