

Card Apprentice Daily Log

Chapter 610 Vulgar

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 9:56

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

"Corey, apologies to Kane. He is our client, and he trusts us enough to share his deepest secret. It's not our job to judge him but help him. Remember, our job as card creationists is not to judge our customers. " God only knows how much courage it would have taken Kane to open up his desire to me. And for Corey to judge him based on that was uncalled for, totally unprofessional.

"..." Corey hesitated but feeling my glare, she caved, feeling guilty for judging someone when she, herself, is no good. And apologized to Kane, "I am sorry, Kane."

"I won't forgive you. But I appreciate your decency to accept your mistake and apologize." Kane did not forgive Corey. Instead, considering that she worked for me, he decided to let it slide.

"..." Corey went silent, realizing that her old ways had not entirely erased from within her.

Ignoring Corey, Kane looked at me eagerly and asked, "Master Wyatt, is it possible for you to create what I am asking for?"

"Yes, yes I can," I said confidently.

"Yea!" Kane cheered with enthusiasm, knowing that his dream was one step away.

"Okay, now, I need you to tell me what kind of girl you are into? Your preference in the women with details. Blonde or redhead, Long legs or shorty, big chest or small, oval face or sharp, etc. If you have a picture of your dream girl, it would be better." It would all be a waste if I created Kane's origin card in an image he doesn't like. He would end up with a living blow-up doll that doesn't arouse him. Who am I kidding? He is a teenager. They will hump anything with a hole. But after he grows up, this origin card will become a burden, so I had to make sure to create an origin card that not only satisfies him physically but emotionally too. That way, he cannot grow tired of his origin card. After all, origin cards are for life.

"Master Wyatt, I possess the photos. I hope they help." Kane shared the images of his dream girl with my grimoire.

"Damn, boy. You got some taste." Looking at the pictures shared by Kane, I could not help but commend his taste. This kid was in a thick milfs with a perfect hourglass body. Enormous Juggs, fat butt, long legs, luscious long black hair with caramel brown skin.

"Hehe..." Kane was happy, feeling that his idol had the same taste in women.

"Perverts, sick perverts, I don't care if I offend your little hearts because that's what you two are. Who else would discuss such... such profanity in broad daylight in public." Corey yelled, pointing at us with a tomato red, embarrassed face.

"So it's okay if we discuss this some other time in private." Asked Kane. The boy has a backbone, but in his school, he is burdened by the responsibility to not cause any trouble for his mother and grandfather, but here he could unwind without restraint.

"Do you know no shame in asking such a vulgar question to a lady?" Corey cried out loud, pointing at Kane.

"Which part of what I said was vulgar? Please enlighten me, my lady, so that I can rectify myself." Kane asked sarcastically.

"You!..." Corey's patience had reached its brim. Thankfully, Susan made her entrance glaring at Corey, " Why are you pointing at the client? Don't you know it's rude?"

"Big sis, these two see bullying me." Instead of Answering Susan, Corey wept and jumped into Susan's embrace, complaining.

"Susan, thank god you're here. This gal has gone crazy, I say. If you had been a few seconds later, I am worried she would have laid hands on our dear customer." Seeing an opportunity, I decided to show Corey how it feels to be on the other end of the stick for once. This girl has been slandering me for a long time now. Let her taste her own medicine.

"Big sis, they are lying. Boss, how dare you slander your most honest and trusted employee." Corey tried to explain to Susan, and she turned to yell at me.

"Corey, enough. I have eyes. From what I saw, it did appear as if you were going to assault the customer." Susan heard the commotion and came to check and found Corey pointing at Kane in anger. All she saw was Corey failing to control her anger, and, worst, the target of her rage was the client.

"No, he started it. I was defending myself." Corey explained but seeing the cold glare in Susan's eyes. She knew right then that she had messed up.

Susan would forgive her if it were some other time and another place. But right now, it wasn't the place or time. She shouldn't have messed with the client. Susan is very professional when it comes to this. For her, the customers are gods and should be treated as such if they continue to prove that they deserve such respect.

Right now, Kane was one such customer who has shown no such reasons to receive such a rude response from Corey. Susan has met a lot of customers in her seven years of experience as a sales representative. So she knows Kane wasn't the type to act as Corey claimed him to be. Therefore, Susan was fuming at Corey.

"Corey, one last time. Tell me honestly what happened otherwise, you no longer need to come to work here. I have tolerated you time and again, but this time you have to give me a proper explanation or forget about working with me again." Our Card boutique's past with Corey has been very rocky. Yet, Susan would always forgive Corey. But this was the first time Susan had ever actually threatened to fire Corey. Worse, never work with her again.

"..." Corey was shocked to hear such a severe reaction from Susan. This time she felt that she might really lose the privilege to work together with her mother. Worse even get on her wrong side.

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Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 10:09

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

"These two were discussing such vulgar things in broad daylight with me right there. When I pointed it out to them, the Boss reprimanded me, and the client mocked me. Big Sis, I really did not do anything wrong. You have to believe me." Corey explained everything to Susan from the start without exaggerating.

"A... correction, I didn't reprimand her but taught her that as a card creationist, it is not our job to judge our customers but help them. But it seems my words fell on deaf ears. She stuck to her instincts and ended up creating a ruckus." I explained my side of the story to Susan.

"..." Susan was torn between the two narratives of Corey and her boss. She understood where Corey was coming from. But as a professional, she agreed with her boss's statement. Corey's situation reminded her of her first Adult sales, the Sex Manic Card.

Six months into the job as guild association mall's sales representative, Susan found herself with a customer who wanted to purchase the Sex Manic Card. By now, Susan was used to some of the customers hitting on her and had learned how to deal with them. Now, this customer was regular, never behaved inappropriately, and was a gentleman until one day he asked her to keep track of the Sex Manic card and to inform him if it were to appear in the market.

At that point in her career, Susan did not understand what was happening. That particular customer asked her to do so because he had grown to trust her and was willing to confide in her about his private and intimate purchase. It was too early in her career. Susan had minimal experience. Therefore, she couldn't understand the customer's perspective and ended up giving the customer a stink eye.

Feeling judgment in Susan's eyes, the customer thanked her for her work and never contacted her again. Not until it was too late did Susan realize what had transpired. Susan understood that the customer felt comfortable enough with her to share his intimate and private stuff, but her unprofessionalism had caused her to lose a good regular customer.

But Susan did not give up. Understanding her mistake, she decided to follow through on her client's request. She went through the catalogs of different guild association mall branches, searching for a sex manic card once every week. And finally, in the fifth week, she found the card listed in one of the guild association mall branches.

As the regular customer, the customer, had given his personal contact information to Susan. Susan contacted the customer and apologized for her unprofessional behavior. And then reported the good news to the customer that she had found the card he wanted in one of the guild association mall branches. If he was willing to cover the transportation charges, she could get him the card by the next day at the earliest. That's how Susan bagged her first personal client.

Based on personal mistakes, Susan knew that Corey might have gone overboard, but it was understandable. Considering Corey's little experience and lack of contact with the opposite sex, this was bound to happen if she planned to continue in this line of work.

"Corey, I can understand why you behaved as such. But you can not continue to do so. In society, these things are expected. And especially in our business as a Sales representative or a card creationist. You are no longer a child. If you want to make a living in society, you must follow its rules. Especially when it comes to our clients, no matter what the job is, you swallow your opinion and have to be impartial and unbiased as you fulfill their demands without judgment." After giving Corey an earful and seeing her reflect, Susan continued, " Now apologize to the customer. It is up to him whether you keep your job. If he decides to complain about you, I will have to take action."

"..." Hearing Susan's decision, Corey's face paled. She knew she had left a terrible impression on Kane since their first meeting in the morning. There was no way that brat

would let her keep her job. Still, she couldn't just give up. If she is going to go down, she might as well go down fighting. So she said, "Kane, I know I behaved very immaturely. My words were harsh, but they were spoken out of ignorance. But still, it was a mistake on my part, so I sincerely apologize and hope that you will forgive me."

"You expect me to believe that bullshit. You have apologized earlier, and here we are, you repeated the same mistake again. How do I know that you are being serious this time?" Kane had already once received Corey's apology. He decided to overlook her disrespect considering she worked for his idol, and she apologized to him, accepting her mistake. But Kane was not willing to let it slide once again.

"..." Hearing Kane, I gathered that today would be Corey's last day working for my card boutique. From our conversation earlier, Kane should have understood that I was not on good terms with Corey, and he would not let Corey go scot-free this time out of consideration for me.

"..." Corey understood this was a doomed struggle. No matter how much she apologized or graved, Kane will not forgive her, and that pervert will have her job just to see her suffer. Just then, Corey's eyes shone with brilliance as she thought, 'That's right, this guy is a creep and a pervert. He might hate me, but there is one thing in my arsenal which can make all this mess go away.'

"I am being serious this time. To show how serious I am, let me invite you to dinner, just the two of us, after your origin card creation. Please allow me to make up for my mistakes." Corey's brilliant epiphany was to seduce the sad virgin to save her job.

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Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 10:18

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

"..." Hearing Corey's proposal, Kane's mind went haywire. Her words made his brain go into overdrive and blew up the words out of proportion.

'Dinner, just the two of us.' turned into 'romantic dinner date.'

'Let me make it up to you' turned into 'let's see where the night takes us.'

'I will earn my forgiveness.'

Corey's every little action started to seem seductive in his eyes, even though they weren't.

Kane's thoughts began to wander, from a romantic dinner date with Corey to a marriage ceremony in a chapel to a maternity hospital. Where he and Corey are smiling at their cute triplets and then to a country house where he and Corey spent their old age as their children came to visit with their grandchildren.

"..." I couldn't help but shake my head in disappointment seeing Kane in a chaotic state. I knew Corey's words had gotten to him. My disappointment grew, knowing there was no way this sad and desperate Virgin would go against Corey now.

"..." Seeing the sad virgin lost in thoughts, Corey's eyes brimmed with joy knowing that her choice was right. She managed to save her job and could continue to work with her mother.

sigh Susan wanted Corey to apologize sincerely to Kane and move him with her words. If that were not enough, Susan would step in and would ask Kane to forgive Corey this once. To her astonishment, Corey took a route she had never considered, that is, to seduce her customer.

Susan did not condone such behavior. This went against her work ethic. She found it downright demeaning and disrespectful towards the profession. But right now, she could do nothing about it as she had left the decision in Kane's hands. If he doesn't plan on filing the complaint, then it is his decision.

Ahem I cleared my throat disapprovingly. Awakening Kane from his thoughts.

"I suppose this dinner will not happen if I were to complain about you to manager Susan over here," Kane said awkwardly. Clearly, he had made his decision, but his shyness led to his temporary hesitation. But then, steeling himself, he continued, "Corey, I am looking forward to our dinner tonight."

"Thank you, leave it to me. I will make the arrangements for tonight. For now, you focus on the creation of your origin card." Corey thanked Kane enthusiastically and made a victory sign with her index and ring finger toward Susan.

To her surprise, Susan looked away from her in disappointment. Before she could ask Susan what the problem was, Susan apologized to Kane, "Mr. Kane, I apologize for the inconvenience caused by our employee."

"Manager Susan, it's alright. Corey has already apologized. You don't need to do this." Kane hurriedly stopped Susan from continuing to apologize.

"Alright, then I will leave you be and excuse myself." Saying that, Susan turned to Corey and continued, "Corey, a word."

"Yes," Corey followed Susan into the other part of the warehouse. Seeing Susan stop, Corey asked, "What is it, big sis?"

"Corey, don't repeat what you just did ever again. If that happens again, I will fire you right then and there." Susan thundered.

"Big Sis, I promise it will not happen again. From now on, I will attend to my customers without bias and never judge them." Corey hurriedly made a promise to calm Susan down.

"Shut up, Corey. You know I am talking about you seducing Kane. That's unprofessional and disrespectful to the job. I will let this slide. But if I ever catch you repeating this, you can stop coming to work for our card boutique." Susan snapped at Corey and warned her from repeating such actions.

"Big sister, I know I was wrong. I had no choice but to do that. Otherwise, that guy would complain against me just to see me suffer as I lost my job." Corey explained why she had no choice since odds were stacked against her as Kane was biased against her. And she was afraid of losing the chance to work with her big sis.

"Whatever the reason may be, you should have tried. If Kane insisted on being difficult, I would have tried to mediate and help you. But what you did is unethical. What's the difference between this and prostitution?" Susan did not go easy on Corey.

"Big sis, are you calling me a prostitute?" Corey asked in shock.

"No, I am trying to explain that you have to respect your work, and it will respect you. I hope you understand what I am trying to say. This is the last warning, do not misuse it." Susan remained cold to the very end. She did not bother to understand Corey's action. Corey had finally hit the bottom line of Susan's patience. This time around, Susan was thoroughly disappointed in Corey due to her actions.

'I told you. Stop messing with Wyatt. But you wouldn't listen. You had to keep picking fights with him. That dude is bad luck for you. Every time you try to prove him as the bad guy to our mother, you end up becoming the clown. I could see the disappointment in our mother's eyes. If you continue to do this, we may end up losing our mother's grace. ' Corey Park's mental voice sounded in Corey's head.

'Shut up!' Yelled Corey mentally and soon added, 'But I agree that Wyatt is my nemesis.'

'Good, now that you get it. Focus on getting close to our mother rather than distancing her from Wyatt.' Corey Park did not understand Corey's obsession with that boy, even though she had been through Corey's memories hundreds of times.

'We will see about that.' Replied Corey mentally.

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"Sorry, master Wyatt. I caved to my..." as Kane was trying to apologize to me and explain his behavior, I interrupted him and said, " I understand. Corey is a beautiful girl. You have nothing to apologize for. Instead, I should be the one apologizing for all this drama."

"Thank you for understanding, Master Wyatt. And can you make my origin card in Corey's image?"

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[1,015 words]

Chapter 613 Consent

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 10:27

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

"And can you make my origin card in Corey's image?" Kane's eyes shone brightly as he spoke these words.

"..." Hearing Kane, I couldn't help but stare at him with deadpan eyes for a second. Kane was really making it hard for me not to judge him. Still, with a professional mask on, I answered him, "If you can get Corey's consent, I can make it happen."

"Do you think she will give me her consent?" Kane asked eagerly.

"We will never know until you ask." I gave a neutral answer because a part of me wanted to watch Corey thrash this sad virgin, and part of me was also worried that he would enjoy it.

"Huh, I think I should stick with the images I sent you." After a lot of consideration, Kane finally decided not to tempt fate. Hearing his decision, I was disappointed as I had grown curious whether Kane would enjoy Corey breaking each bone in his body.

"About that, before we continue, I have some concerns regarding the images you sent me. Whom do they belong to, and if you have their blessings to use them?" At first, I thought the images belonged to a random chick but seeing how a small interaction with Corey could result in Kane's creep response, I had a hunch that the images he sent to me belonged to someone involved in his life. It could be his caretaker, teacher, friend's mom, Aunt, or worse.

"Umm... those images belong to my bully's mom. I thought —" Before Kane could explain the twisted reason behind his actions, I interrupted him.

"Kane, you cannot do that without consent. No matter what reasons you have to justify your actions, I don't want to hear it. Unless or until you have the other person's permission, I cannot help you." I almost made a huge mistake. I shouldn't have broken my rules for this sad virgin. No matter how unchallenging the task, I should have stuck to my rules and used his fate ingredients Ironwood Seed to create a Viltronian Treant or something.

"I understand, Master Wyatt, you are morally bound from helping me. But still, can you make it so that my origin card has the ability to take the shape of anybody I want it to? Of course, with aforementioned conditions in play." Kane did not get disappointed by my rejection. Instead, he came up with a brilliant solution to his problem, which in no way put me in a tough spot morally. But knowing Kane's intentions, I was still entangled because what he was asking for was a living blow-up doll that could shapeshift into any woman he desired.

"Sure, I can do that." Keeping my conflicts aside, I did what a professional would do, get that money, cha-ching!

"Great. When do we start?" Getting a positive response from me, Kane was enthused and eagerly asked me to get started already.

"Yes, but before that, we have to wait for one of my associates. She is paramount in the creation of your origin card. At least her origin card is." Saying that, I used Hive AI to mentally inform Vivian to come to the warehouse immediately.

'Yes, master. I am nearby. I will be there in 6 minutes.' Vivian replied through Hive AI.

Vivian was my first opponent during the tournament. Her family paid 75,000 soul jades to get her the opportunity to be my first opponent. I didn't turn her into my calamity daughter gem because I held a grudge but for her origin card, the Forbidden Garden. It was a field card with tree monsters called Elder Druids that could bear fruits that would grow into a fully grown homunculus within a few seconds.

Vivian's origin card caught my eye for various reasons. But for now, I am interested in its ability to give birth to humanoids from trees as I needed to create a living blow-up doll using ironwood tree seed.

"Sure, Master Wyatt, whatever you need. I will wait." Kane politely agreed to follow my arrangements.

As we were waiting for Vivian's arrival, I received a call from an unexpected person, Ronnie, my ungrateful cousin.

[Ronnie Calling.... Answer/Reply/Reject]

"I need to take this call..." Kane was my client now, so I informed him of the call before answering it, following professionalism.

"Please, go ahead, master Wyatt. Don't mind me." Kane replied hurriedly.

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"Ronnie, it better be important. I am with a client." I growled at Ronnie, answering his call. The last time I talked to him or anyone in his family was when he left for the monster meat culinary and butchering course at a university in the southern academic city.

"I am sorry, Wyatt. But it is really important." Ronnie answered from the other end of the call.

"What is it? Did you get into some trouble already?" I asked, knowing Ronnie was not the type to call unless he needed help. Therefore, I decided not to ignore his call. After all, I invested in him so that I could build a small monster meat processing empire surrounding his origin card. And as an investor, I had to attend to my investments until they were ripe for harvesting.

"Yes, but it wasn't me, I promise. This time the trouble came seeking me." Ronnie hurriedly explained.

"Is it Jackie's father or her ex-father-in-law?" I listed the only people with a grudge against Ronnie.

"Not them. I wish it were them. Then I could teach those old relics a lesson with the almighty origin card you created for me." Ronnie went to his fantasy of beating his father-in-law into submission.

"Ronnie, stick to the matter at hand. If you dare to go off the topic again, I will send my people to your university just to kick your dumbass." I reminded Ronnie, dragging him out of his fantasies.

"Yes, yes. I will get to it." Ronnie replied, returning to reality, snapping off his fantasy.

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Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 10:48

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

"One of my professors here at the University belongs to the family that owns the Butcher Bob meat and poultry processor company..." Ronnie spoke, weighing his words as if he had something too difficult to say. Still, in the end, he trailed off, unable to speak his mind.

"So?" Seeing how Ronnie trailed off, I knew this ungrateful cousin of mine was up to his tricks again.

"I'm sorry, Wyatt, I will not lie to you. My professor asked me to join the Butcher BoB for a hefty compensation and a few shares in the company." Ronnie finally came clean and confessed to me. I was not surprised because hearing him trail off, I saw this coming. Though it did not astonish me, betrayal is a betrayal.

"So, why are you calling me? Isn't that a great thing? Shouldn't you be celebrating? Let me guess, there is a catch?" I said in scorn.

Butcher Bod is one of the biggest monster meat and poultry processor companies, with nearly 210 outlets in the blossom district alone. They were a massive corporation with a percentage of shares worth millions of soul jades in the market.

I can see why Ronnie chose to betray me, his cousin and benefactor. Millions of soul jades can blind anybody, let alone a high school dropout like Ronnie. Like how too much sweetness comes with diabetes, Ronnie's sudden fortune also has a price to be paid.

"Yes. About that, it turns out the deal is only valid if I marry into their family." Ronnie finally spoke about the thing troubling him.

"So, what's the problem? Since you have betrayed me, I don't think you have a problem betraying Jackie. So let me guess, the girl they ask you to marry is ugly?" I wasn't being sarcastic. I really thought this ungrateful dumbass was ready to betray his baby mama.

"No, she was beautiful. In fact, she is the most gorgeous woman I have ever seen. But I love Jackie, and I can not do this to her, not when she left her family for me and is carrying my baby." Ronnie reflected on his emotions and laid them out.

"Good for you. You have a little consciousness." I said sarcastically and then added, "So you rejected them, but they don't want to hear a no for an answer, and now they are threatening you. So you decide to call for help from the person you didn't think twice before betraying."

"Yes." Said Ronnie, and taking a deep breath, he continued, " In a moment of weakness, I made a terrible decision. It was a mistake. I don't expect you to forgive me. But they are threatening Jackie and my unborn child."

"I see. So?" I asked in a deadpan voice. I thought Ronnie would say cringe dialogues, but this jerk began spewing opportunistic and realistic bullshit to justify himself and beg for my help. Not like I would cave to his cringe bullshit either.

"Wyatt, don't be like that. Listen to me. I did verbally agree with my professor's offer, but when I called my parents to tell them the good news, you know what they said to me before I could tell them about my once-in-a-lifetime opportunity?" Ronnie's voice turned emotional as he spoke these words.

"That you are dumbass, and you should drown in your piss." I did not mask my anger. I even planned on sending a few TSR guild members to his university to break a few bones in his body.

"No, they said that they may have given birth to me, but by creating my origin card, you gave me a second life, and I should use this second life to pay off all my debts to you.

Hearing those words, my blood boiled. I couldn't believe they would say such a thing to their own son. I was angry right then, I wanted to tell them aloud about the offer I received from Butcher Bob to show them I could achieve greatness, and I would pay off all the debts to you in no time.

Thankfully, before I spoke those words, I realized that they were right. Without your help, I would be working at the airstrip doing manual labor, unloading, and loading cargo. Heck, if you did not save me in time, I would have become a gang member, worse, imprisoned, leaving my baby mama alone in an unknown city. At the same time, my parents would have become the target of my disgruntled father-in-law's venting.

Everything I have today is your grace. I realized that and decided to right my wrongs. Hanging up on my parents, I called my professor to reject the offer he made to me.

I don't expect to gain sympathy from you by narrating my story. Still, I chose to tell you about this because I felt that expecting your help without explaining everything to you would be selfish of me. So, here I am." Hearing Ronnie's words, all I felt was that seeing

the opportunistic and realistic bullshit not work, he returned to spewing classic cringe bullshit.

"*yawn*Good to know. I have a client waiting for me. If you are done with your bullshit, I would like to get back to my customer." Yes, I yawned purposefully, and its purpose was evident.

"Yes, I will get straight to the point. I want to sign a soul contract with you. I ask nothing in return, just that you protect my family." It seems my yawn did better than its intended purpose by having Ronnie skip the bullshit and get to the point. This so-called professor must have given Ronnie quite a scare for him to take such drastic measures and promise to sign a soul contract in exchange for my asylum.

"I don't know, Ronnie. I am just an orphan high schooler. How can I face off against a giant corporation like Butcher Bob? I don't think I can be of any help to you, Ronnie. After all, my only cousin taught me that personal interest comes above loyalty and family. I am sorry. I don't expect you to forgive me, but I hope you understand how hard it was for me to make this decision."

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Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 10:48

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

"Master Wyatt, everything alright? You seem to be in a bad mood." Said Kane, seeing me return with frowned brows after I hung up on Ronnie's call.

"Nothing, just an ungrateful and unloyal dog who betrayed its master, unable to withstand the harsh world outside, is begging to return to its master again." I take betrayal very seriously. If it were someone else, I would have ordered my goons to torture and kill them. Fortunately for Ronnie, his parent's grace will keep him alive.

I was willing to spare Ronnie for betraying me, considering uncle and auntie Wyatt, but I would not help him from his predicament, even if it meant that uncle and auntie Wyatt's life would be in danger.

I planned to take this opportunity to cut off all ties with Ronnie and his entire family. I was done cleaning up after him. I did so much for him and his family, but he did not think twice to betray me at the first chance he got to.

I risked my life and saved him from the clutches of Zhang mercenaries. Not to mention the millions of card boutique seed money I had collected to improve my strength were wasted to create low-level cards that would help in the search and rescue of Ronnie from Zhang mercenary's hideout. After rescuing Ronnie, I barely used those cards. Such a waste of money.

Since he had a child on the way, I decided to buy him an occupation card so that he could make a living using it. Still, he was too lazy for that, so I ended up creating an entire assembly line of meat processors with 10,000 automated mechanical arms with special Butcher AI as his origin card, 10,000 Arm Butcher, despite it costing me a fortune. I did all that despite the risk and zero obligations, but this focker went ahead and betrayed me at the first chance he got without thinking twice.

Though lured by honey, he returned, fearing the stings, and begged for my help. People like this are like cancer. Medicine is only a temporary measure, and cutting them out of our life before it spreads is the best and permanent remedy. Now that I have decided that I had nothing to do with Ronnie Wyatt and his family, I will follow it without hesitation.

Yes, Ronnie promised me to sign a soul contract and become my slave. Still, I chose not to help him because I didn't want to do so. And also because it is more favorable for him than for me. By signing the soul contract, I will only get what I was supposed to get in the first place. But Ronnie will get out his mess scot-free without paying a penny and thrive latching on to me.

Back on earth, in a wildlife documentary, I saw an interesting article about how hunters find a water source in a jungle. Supposedly baboons inhabiting the wilderness know the location of all the fresh water sources in the jungle. And the hunters make use of these baboons to find the water source.

Baboons' greed for salt transcends their fear for life, so hunters make a small hole in the tree trunk, place a handful of salt in it and wait patiently. A passing-by Baboon smells the salt, and in greed, it shoves its hand in the hole to get to the salt. Taking the salt baboon's hand balls into a fist and gets stuck in the small hole. If the baboon has to get back its hand from the trap, all it has to do is let off the salt, but it won't because it is too greedy for the salt. Due to its greed for salt, it will be stuck in the trap set by the hunter.

At this point, the hunter stealthily moves in and captures the baboon into a cage. Then he feeds the baboon salt until it is satisfied and later releases the baboon into the wilderness.

Now that the baboon has its fill of salt, it feels incredibly thirsty, and once released, it will head directly to the nearby water source, and the hunter will follow the baboon to the water source.

Right now, my case with Ronnie was somewhat similar to the baboon and the hunter. I knew how to make money and survive in the world, like how the baboon knew where to find water and survive the jungle. Ronnie and the hunter had no similarities, but like how the hunter made use of the baboon to find a water source and survive the wilderness, similarly, Ronnie would be making use of me to make money and survive the world if I were to agree to him signing a soul contract.

The Baboon was used because of its greed for salt, and I will also be used if I continue to nature the family sentiment when Ronnie and I aren't even related. I don't even know that dude aside from young Wyatt's memories. Out of gratitude for young Wyatt and his parents, I went above and beyond to help out Ronnie. But was paid with betrayal.

I am glad this happened sooner than later. This way, at least right now, the damage done was within my control. And I had one less responsibility in this world. It is because I considered Uncle, Auntie, and Ronnie Wyatt as my responsibility, I feel betrayed. I guess with this, I can move on.

I may have spared Ronnie, but I did not plan on sparing the Butcher Bob. How dare they try to take something that belongs to me? This meant war. These people dared to steal from me. They better be prepared for what's coming. But I plan to leave this debt collection at a later date because if I make a move right away, my curiosity will not be satisfied. I wanted to know if Ronnie would cave and betray his baby mama.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[1,008 words]

Chapter 616 Analysis

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 10:59

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

Why did I care if Ronnie betrayed Jackie and married into the Butcher Bob family? Because If Ronnie betrays his baby mama and joins the Butcher Bob, then I would get to destroy him along with the destruction of the Butcher Bob.

Though it was a shame that I would be losing the 10,000 armed butcher origin card. I was confident that I could create a similar origin card with someone with a favorable fate ingredient. Therefore, I didn't mind letting go of Ronnie.

And there was also the blood rule meaning I comprehended, the fate plunder. Using this rune, I could plunder anything of the victim through their blood. That includes the victim's origin card. Let's hope that it doesn't come to that.

At what cost was I willing to forgive Ronnie? I would be willing to forgive him if he were willing to let me plunder his origin card, 10,000 Arm Butcher, using my blood rune, fate plunder. Yes, this way, I would be getting something for my troubles.

By willing to help Ronnie, I meant I would help him take care of Butcher Bob. After that, we would return to being strangers. Him or his family's life would no longer be of my concern. They should be happy. At least they get to keep their son alive. As I said, I took betrayal very vindictively *cough* I meant to say seriously. I am willing to take the first step and trust someone to earn their trust because I believe that to gain someone's trust, one has to trust them first. But if they take my goodwill for granted and dare to betray my trust, I will rip their beating warm heart out of their chest right then and there.

Right now, Ronnie and his family are only figuratively dead to me, thanks to the gratitude I felt for mama and papa Wyatt. And am also willing to help them out of their current predicament for a cost. That is Ronnie's Origin card, 10,000 Arm Butcher. Let's see how the matter proceeds. Will Ronnie cave and marry into the Butcher Bob family, or will he be persistent and keep begging for my help.

Signing a Soul card meant Ronnie would gain a lot by leeching off me without repercussions for his mistakes. But taking away his origin card meant I would earn an awesome card for my card collection while Ronnie would have paid for his sins in full.

But this is a significant loss because Ronnie is still in the low realm. If I were to extract his origin card now, then it would also be of his realm, and I will be losing a lot in the long run. But it is a lot better than tolerating the feeling of being used. And I would feel more satisfied this way by taking away everything I gave to him. Whatever Ronnie chooses, hell awaits him.

"Sorry, Kane. I was preoccupied with my thoughts." I apologized to Kane as contemplating Ronnie's matters, I ended up totally forgetting about Kane and his origin card creation.

"It's okay, Master Wyatt. I understand." Kane replied politely. He did not complain as he was too busy fantasizing about his profane origin card yet to be made.

"Vivian, you have arrived. I hope you two have introduced yourselves already." I asked

"Yes, Master Wyatt. We did. Mr. Kane tells me that my origin card is required for his origin card creation," Vivan replied. And explained that they had introduced themselves while I was lost in my thoughts.

"Good. Vivian, activate your origin card. I need to get some insight from it." I ordered Vivian, pointing to the empty part of the warehouse.

"Forbidden garden" Vivan summoned her grimoire, chanted the name of her origin card, activating it.

Thankfully the available space in the warehouse was enough for Vivian to activate her origin card. Soon 25 tree monsters appeared in the warehouse.

"Woah!" Exclaimed Kane in surprise. And added, "Ms. Vivian, is your origin card a field card?"

"Yes," Vivian replied coldly and kept it short.

"..." Seriously, I can not believe that this sad virgin was drooling over Vivian too. How horny is this kid? I shook my head and asked, "Vivian, summon your fairy guards. Just one is enough for now."

I remember Vivian summoned at least 300 fairy guards during the tournament. I did not require that many right now. All I needed was to observe one Elder Druid give birth to one fairy guard. And deduce how the elder druid can produce flowers that blossomed into humanoids.

I activated my soul pupils and focused on one of the elder druids just to see which soul pathways and arrangements reacted as the elder druid tried to produce a fairy guard.

Plant cells, and animal cells are very different, I wanted to figure out how the elder druid monster achieved the cell transformation from plant to animal cells. This part was out of my knowledge as nobody has ever tried to research in this field back on earth, maybe because this felt too much fantasy than science.

As the cell transforming from a plant cell to an animal cell was like turning a fruit into a lump of meat. Just thinking about it, I felt weird. However, there were many stories and folklore about trees that bore meat instead of fruits.

Science had progressed a lot and was able to use pig kidneys as kidney replacement for kidney transplants in humans. And lots of other things that would be considered fantasy at a specific time in human history.

Therefore I believe in a period of more advanced science. People may have dared to attempt and create the tree of fantasy that could grow meat. And maybe even achieve

success in a decade or two. Since I already have a living specimen in front of me, I did not require that much time.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 11:06

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

A small bud started to grow one branch of an elder druid. It slowly matured and blossomed into a dark green flower. All this growth and metamorphosis was happening fast in a matter of seconds, making it hard for me to keep up with every change in the soul pathways and arrangement. Therefore, I kept my soul pupils activated, and ask Hive AI to recorded, everything soul pupils watched.

There was a reason behind the fast growth in the flower of the elder druid, that is, to create a fairy guard in a matter of a second to protect their mistress. During combat, victory can be decided in a few seconds. Therefore the birth of the fairy guards needed to be instantly and born ready for the fight.

The fully bloomed dark green colored flower morphed into a dark green fruit which slowly grew bigger and bigger, from the size of a Lemon to a watermelon to the size of a Jackfruit. The fruit finally stopped growing once it reached 2.1 meters and 270 pounds in weight.

Soon the enormous dark green fruit began to crack, revealing a green-colored humanoid within the fruit's shell, like a chick breaking free from its eggshell. It did not take long for the green humanoid to break free from the casing of the fruit and descend on the warehouse floor. Upon scrutiny, the green figure turned out to be an orc wearing attire made up of leaves covering its private parts.

"No wonder," I muttered, realizing that this time the elder druid did not produce an elvish-like humanoid called fairy guard but a green Orc.

I had my doubts when I saw the bud that grew on the elder druids' branch mature into a dark green flower and transform into a green fruit. I remember during the tournament, the bud from the elder druid grew into a cream color flower that developed into a caucasian fruit. One thing became clear to me that the dark green flowers produced Orcs, and cream-color flowers produced Elvish humanoids. I did not know that Vivan's forbidden garden origin card could create different types of fairy guards.

"Vivian, I didn't know you could also produce Orc-ish fairy guards. Why did you not use them in the tournament instead of the elvish fairy guards? Don't get me wrong, you would have lost to me anyway, but these guys would have posed more of a challenge to me." I asked Vivian, wondering why she did not use orc fairy guards during the tournament against me instead of elf fairy guards. Did she underestimate me? If yes, she paid the price worse than death.

"Master Wyatt, I didn't use them in the tournament because, at that time, my origin could not produce Orc-ish fairy guards," Vivian answered, keeping it short and not explaining what changed for her origin card to be able to produce Orc-ish fairy guards now.

"Miss Vivian, that was amazing. Your origin card is fantastic! I saw it in the tournament recordings, but it is more miraculous in person." Kane couldn't help but yell in amazement seeing a monster tree produce an orc similar to an average tree growing a fruit instantly.

"I know." Replied aloof Vivian.

"Could you give more details on why your origin card can produce Orc-ish fairy guards now? What changed?" Seeing Vivian was not the talkative type, I stressed for more information.

"It is because of the blood rule meaning I have comprehended. Using it together with my origin card allows me to produce any monster as my fairy guard, not just elf or orc type fairy guards." Vivian announced. I thought she would give more details about her blood rule meaning and how it influences her origin card after a pause, but she didn't. I was irritated by her short answers. She wasn't this tight-lipped while fighting against me in the tournament. Heck! She spilled everything about the Circle and the local leader's arrangement to get me killed during the tournament to win the favour of the heatsend royal family. I did not notice such personality changes in other calamity daughter gems.

"Awesome! Miss Vivian, you already forged your ego gem and comprehended a rule! You are a genius. Even in the capital, there are few people your age to achieve such a feat." Kane sang Vivian's praise. I was starting to doubt that this kid was my fan or Vivian's? I get that you are a virgin, but buddy, you're being too obvious and trying too hard. Get a grip.

"I see," Vivian responded to Kane's shower of praise with two syllables disinterestedly.

"..." Vivian's coldness towards him only made Kane worship her beauty more. It appears that if this continued, he would be enthralled in her beauty to the point of no return. Now I understood why simps were mostly virgins.

"Vivian, blood cloning should be the blood rule meaning that you comprehended, right? How does it work, and how does it influence your origin card?" When I used Hive AI to

check if any of my calamity daughter gems had comprehended a practical blood rule meaning, I categorized blood cloning with other blood rule meanings with no combat or practical use, considering it an average clone type meaning. But turns out blood cloning has more to it than that. If my memory serves correctly, Vivian has a Super Rare level understanding of blood clone meaning of blood rule and a Rare level blood clone rune of blood rule.

It seems I was too hasty in categorizing the blood rules' meanings comprehended by my calamity daughter gems. I need to personally interview each of them about the blood rule meaning they learned, meaning uses, and if they influenced them in a particular way. This is imperative to increase the strength and understand the power of my calamity daughter gems. The better I know my subordinates, the better I can make use of them and, in a way, increase my external power.

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Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 11:17

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

"Master Wyatt, the blood rule meaning that I comprehended at the bifurcation point of the blood rule is indeed the blood clone meaning. As its name suggests, it allows me to create blood clones in exchange for the appropriate amounts of the target's blood and blood rule power." Vivian explained what her blood rule meaning, blood clone, was capable of.

"Wait! What do you mean by the target's blood? Does that mean you can create a blood clone of anybody as long as you have their blood?" I asked Vivian and could help but wonder how I missed such a handy blood rule meaning during my inspection of blood rule meaning comprehended by my calamity daughter gem.

Being able to create enemies' clones with their blood was a huge advantage during combat. Especially when facing hoards of monsters. Vivian could create blood clones using the blood of the fallen monsters to add to her numbers. It was kind of similar to Cortney's blood fiend blood rule meaning. Maybe the combat strength would vary depending upon the ritual and sacrifice required to create the blood clones and blood fiends.

"Yes, Master Wyatt. I can use my blood or others' blood to create a clone of the person's blood used as a sacrifice during the ritual of blood clone meaning of blood rule.

So I applied this ability of my blood rule meaning to my origin card, allowing the elder druids to make blood clones using the blood clone meaning of the blood rule. The produced fairy guard in the image of the victim's blood." Vivian replied and explained how her blood rule meaning could be used by elder druids in her origin card and produce fairy guards of various species depending upon the blood it has sacrificed in the ritual.

"Wait, backup. Explain to me the strength of the blood clone and the amount of blood required for sacrifice in the ritual. And if these blood clones can use the abilities of their originals." I need to know how stronger the blood clones could be and how much material is required in order to create one of them, and not to mention how capable they are compared to their originals. Whether they possess all the abilities of the originals or not. Because if the blood clones are also like the normal clones that can only have half or less of the strength of their originals, then as a blood rule meaning, blood clones lose their value in terms of combat.

"Master Wyatt, the blood required to produce a blood clone is not much. A drop is enough, but if you want it to possess the power, abilities, skills, memories of the original, then the amount of blood required to be sacrificed in the ritual for the creation of the blood clones increases drastically. Almost all of the blood in the body of the original is needed to create such a clone." Vivian explained how the creation of the blood clones worked and that the strength of the blood clones depends on the amount of victims' blood used in the creation of the blood clone. If she were to use the complete blood in the target's body, she could create the exact replica of the original with its whole strength, power, skills, ability, memories intact.

"Wait! The blood clones retain the memories of the original. This is just incredible. What if the blood clone meaning of the blood rule is used on you? Are the requirements the same as using it on other people's blood?" Vivian made it clear that she could create a complete blood clone of the victims with their whole blood. I think that if Vivian's mastery of her blood rule meaning increases, these requirements will decrease drastically, making this blood clone meaning of the blood rule more desirable than it is.

I wanted to know if the exact requirements needed to be met for the creation of Vivian's blood clones are the same as the requirements for blood clones of other species. If yes, then that's a bummer, but if the requirements are steeper, then Vivian's blood clone will be near the absolute clone arts.

"No, the requirements for the creation of my blood clones are different. One drop of blood is enough for me to create a perfect blood clone of myself with my strength, realm, power, skills, abilities, and memory. Not only does it not stop there, but when the blood clone is killed, I gain all the experience they have lived. But the creation of a perfect blood clone of myself requires a lot of blood rule power. This is the limitation I am currently facing with my blood rule meaning.

But I have found a solution for it by making use of the blood rule meaning blood clone, along with my origin card. With the materials required to create a single perfect and absolute blood clone, my elder druids can make nearly 300 plus perfect blood clones. Yes, so I have found a way to overcome the limitation of my blood rule meaning." Vivian explained how she only required one droop of her blood to create her perfect blood clone, but a huge amount of the blood rule power is required in exchange. Making the blood rule power her limitation.

Trying to overcome this limitation, Vivian found the answer to it in her origin card, forbidden garden, where the Elder Druids could produce numerous perfect clones of any species with only enough blood sacrifice required to create a single perfect clone.

"Awesome, you did a good job, Vivian. Not only did you overcome the limitation, but you also made your blood rule meaning more powerful and convenient to use as your understanding of the blood rule meaning grows to the ultimate level.

But how does your origin card produce numerous perfect blood clones with only requirements for a single blood clone? Let me guess, does it replace the blood and blood rule power with soul power? Usually, that would not be possible, but the fairy guard ability of your elder druid monsters seems to be playing a huge part in this."

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[1,025 words]

Chapter 619 Recycle

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 11: 32

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

"Yes, Master Wyatt. My origin card can compensate for the blood and blood rule energy required for the blood clone ritual with soul energy and create blood clones as fairy guards." Vivian explained that her elder druids were able to use blood clone meaning of blood rule to evolve their fairy guard production process.

Vivian's origin card was not creating blood clones, instead utilizing the blood clone meaning to upgrade their already existing fairy guard production skill giving the elder druids the ability to grow the fairy guards in the form of any species, not just the elves.

"Do the elder druids require a blood sacrifice every time they try to create another species of fairy guards, or do they remember having made them once." Seeing how Vivian did not start a blood ritual before producing the orc-ish fairy guard, I bet it is safe to say that the elder druids record the process and do not require a blood ritual a second time for the same species.

"No, Master Wyatt. My origin card doesn't require a blood ritual for the production of the same species' a second time. The elder druids are sentient and record the information required. But to create a higher realm of the same species, a blood ritual of the higher realm monster of that species has to be conducted.

Though the elder druids are sentient, they are not all-knowing. They can only create the fairy guards of the specification they acquired through the blood clone ritual. Therefore for the production of a higher realm of the same species, the blood clone ritual has to be conducted again." According to Vivian, Elder Druids are like machines that produce fairy guards based on the specifications they acquire through the blood clone ritual. If there is an upgrade need to be done to the fairy guards, then they need a blood clone ritual to get the upgraded specifications for the creation of the fairy guards.

"Interesting, your elder druids are like the bio-assembly line for the production of the fairy guards.

Huh, great. This time could you use your blood as a sacrifice in the blood clone ritual to create a human fairy guard." Kane wanted a living Human blow-up doll, not a living Orc blow-up doll. So I asked Vivian to use her own blood for the blood clone ritual and have the Elder Druid grow a human fairy guard.

"Yes, give me a moment, master." Vivian accepted my proposal, and turning to her elder druids, she chanted, "Recycle."

Soon the roots of the elder druid extended and wrapped around the orc fairy guard. The roots then dragged the Orc next to the elder druid and began to suck the soul energy and vitality out of the orc fairy guard.

During the tournament, in my fight against Vivian, I massacred all 300 fairy guards, so I did not get to see Vivian recycle them to regain the soul energy lost in the creation of those fairy guards. Turns out the elder druids were not only a bio-assembly line but also a bio-recycling house.

"Interesting. Vivian, this recycle thing, does it only work on fairy guards or other monsters too?" If yes, then the elder druids are not just good at summoning but also attacking. Since the elder druids were rendered immobile, to set up the space array in the tournament, I did not see them use their roots and branches. If the branches and roots can attack, the elder druids are not helpless without their fairy guards.

"No, Master Wyatt, I cannot use this recycle skill on any monster other than my fairy guards. Because this skill doesn't belong to elder druids, but it is a part of my Blood Clone meaning of the blood rule. It allows me to recycle the blood clones to replenish the blood rule energy lost in the blood clone ritual. The elder druids use blood Clone meaning of the blood rule, to replenish their soul energy." Vivian explained that using elder druids to suck soul energy and vitality out of other monsters was not possible because the recycle skill belongs to her blood rule meaning but not her origin card itself.

"..." Seeing the life be sucked out of the orc by the elder druid, Kane's complexion paled. Thankfully his stomach was strong enough not to barf after witnessing an extremely sickening scene.

"Master Wyatt, everything is prepared. Shall I begin the production of human fairy guards?" Vivian did not have to make many arrangements to use her own blood to create a blood clone of herself. So it did not take a lot of time for Vivian to give the elder druids the specifications to produce the fairy guards in her image.

"Go ahead. I am ready." Saying that I activated soul pupils and asked the Hive AI to record everything I watched through my soul pupils.

Soon I witnessed a small bud start to grow one branch of an elder druid. It slowly matured and blossomed into a pale white flower. The fully bloomed pale white colored flower morphed into a pale white fruit which slowly grew bigger and bigger, from the size of an apple to watermelon to the size of a Jackfruit. The fruit finally stopped growing once it reached 1 meter and 110 pounds in weight.

Soon the enormous pale white fruit began to crack, revealing a pale white Vivian within the fruit's shell, trying to break free from within, like a chick breaking free from its eggshell. It did not take long for Vivian's clone to break free from the casing of the fruit and descend on the warehouse floor wearing clothes made up of leaves that left very little to the imagination.

"Holy! I can't believe my eyes," Yelled Kane as he watched Vivian's clone in one piece made up of leaves. This is the first time he has seen a girl reveal so much skin in person, and his buddy down below erected a tent in his pants.

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Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 11: 45

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

"..." Hearing Kane, Vivian gave him a stink eye. Due to too much excitement, he could not keep up his honest guy charade and ended up hinting at what was going on in his head. Gaining scorn from Vivian.

"Vivian, cover up the clone. I don't think the boy can hold up for long." Vivian was a petite beauty, attractive enough to gather the attention of everyone in any gathering or event. I can understand why a semi-naked Vivian would stimulate a virgin like Kane.

"Master Wyatt, could you point me to the washroom?" Kane asked while bending a little to cover the tent in his crotch. His actions weren't fooling anybody.

"Not in my warehouse," I said sternly, there was only one washroom in the warehouse, and Anna was currently using it for a bubble bath. Even if it were unoccupied, I would not allow Kane to use it, knowing why he wanted to use a washroom. Still, I was once a horny teenager, so I added, "Kane, why don't you return in the afternoon? By then, I will have done all the research for your origin card. Once you return, we can jump straight to the card creation process."

"That's a good idea. See you in the afternoon, master Wyatt." Kane agreed to my arrangement without hesitation and left the warehouse hurriedly. Kane reacted as such, mostly because he was embarrassed and also because he felt Vivian's disgust towards him.

There was a reason why I asked Kane to come in the afternoon, and that reason was that the fairy guard produced Vivian's blood. The fairy clone Vivian had a calamity daughter gem in her. What's more interesting about it is that, as soon as it formed, it established a connection with my calamity soul gem.

This was a huge discovery. Blood clone meaning of blood rule is turning out to be more and more outrageous the more I explored it. Two things puzzled me the most about this,

1. How can the elder druids create such a perfect clone of Vivian with details down to the calamity daughter gem? Does that mean Vivian's blood clone meaning can create blood clones of enemy units with ego gems?
2. Why was the calamity daughter gem created by the elder druid establishing contact with my calamity soul gem?

Vivian's comprehension of the blood rule and its meaning is still low, yet she is able to explore so many uses of the blood clone meaning thanks to her origin card. I can't imagine how powerful her ability will grow when she achieves ultimate comprehension of her blood rule meaning.

I was starting to see a pattern here about how rules used in combination with the cards could lead to realm-shattering power. For example, Old Ben's blood rule meaning, boiling blood, is also a perfect match for his original card, the Emotion Olfactory Gland. Chances of a card apprentice finding rules that synchronize well with their cards are meager, almost nonexistent. Am I lucky for having two such cases among my calamity daughter gems?

Back to the topic, How are Vivian's elder druids able to create my calamity daughter gem? Even if I attribute it to the blood clone meaning of blood rule, why does the calamity daughter gem created by the elder druid establish a master-slave relationship with my calamity soul gem? Is it because it is the only calamity parent gem available? Or is it because the original Vivian's calamity daughter gem is under the enslavement of my clarity soul gem?

I asked Vivian about it mentally through Hive AI. Now that Kane was not here to spectate, I could end the charade and devote my complete focus on the matter at hand.

'I don't know, master. I think things will become more clear if I were to increase my mastery of blood rule meaning.' Vivian, too, did not have an answer to my question, and she argued that is because her mastery of blood rule meaning is shallow, and if it were to increase, she might be able to answer how and why.

'Huh,' I did not want to give up just yet. I had Hive AI run tests on the calamity daughter gem inside the fairy clone Vivian created by elder druids. I wanted to check if the calamity daughter gem produced by the elder druid had any flaws. After a brief cross-checks, it was verified that the calamity daughter gem in clone Vivian is an exact copy of the calamity daughter gem in original Vivian.

Knowing there is no such thing as perfect, I persisted. Upon further scrutinizing the clone Vivian, I realized that her calamity daughter gem had not unlocked the second transformation. The clone could not come up with the necessary soul jades or soul energy for opening the second transformation of the calamity daughter gem.

I noticed one other thing even though the clone Vivian's calamity daughter gem held duplicate blood rule energy. It was nowhere near the blood rule energy contained in the original Vivian's calamity daughter gem. No matter how mind-bending and realm-shattering a rule meaning is, it cannot escape the law of conservation of energy.

Though on the surface, the clone Vivian appeared to be a perfect replica of Vivian in terms of realm and strength, beneath it the clone, Vivian did not have the soul energy or rule power to back it. Meaning that the perfect clone of Vivian could not last very long in a battle. But still, it should be enough to turn the tide of combat.

Not to mention the clone Vivian did not carry a grimoire of her own. The very noticeable limitation of using the blood clone meaning on card apprentice. It will shine better if used on monsters. Unlike humans, they do not need an external tool like a grimoire to use

various abilities. And also, monsters have a very high close combat prowess making them the best candidate for blood cloning for the purpose of battle.

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Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 11: 58

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

"Susan, can you get me some ironwood seeds and an arborist card?" Having recorded the soul pathways and arrangements of the elder druid as it grew a human fairy guard. I wanted to record the soul pathway and arrangements of the growing ironwood tree. Then using these two sets of soul pathways and arrangements, I can transform the soul pathways and arrangements of the fate ingredient ironwood seed so that when planted, it can grow up into a tree fairy with numerous additional abilities.

"Currently, the mall has 3 E-rank and 1 D-rank arborist cards. Which level would you prefer?" Asked Susan after checking the guild association mall catalog for an arborist card.

"Ironwood tree is a mortal grade G-rank tree, so a D-rank arborist card should be enough to grow an Ironwood seed into a fully grown tree in a few minutes," I answered, feeling that a D-rank arborist card should meet my requirements.

"Okay, give me a few minutes. I will make arrangements—" as Susan was about to go get the ironwood seed and arborist card, Anna interrupted her, "I will come with you. I am feeling bored in this warehouse."

"It will be my pleasure, your highness." Hearing Anna, Susan quickly reacted and answered politely even though Susan was worried about Anna's intention behind tagging along with her.

"I am coming too!" Corey yelled, worried for Susan, believing Anna was up to no good.

"Corey—" Susan wanted to reprimand Corey and reject her from tagging along, believing it would inconvenience her highness. But was interrupted by Anna once again.

"Good, let her come. More the merrier." Anna agreed to Corey tagging along with them and nodded at me before following Susan.

'What is Anna up to again?' I thought as the girls left the warehouse, leaving me alone in the warehouse with Vivian.

"Vivian, I will require your assistance with card creation, so if you have any other work today, make arrangements for them." saying that, I made myself comfortable on my couch and began to go through the recordings of changes in the soul pathway and arrangements of the elder druid as it produced a human fairy guard.

"Thank you, Master Wyatt, but my schedule is wide open," Vivian replied, standing behind similar to a bodyguard.

"Vivian, sit on the couch." Following my orders, Vivian sat on the adjustment couch.

After a few minutes, I heard a few footsteps enter the warehouse. I got up to welcome the guest. It was a middle-aged woman wearing a tight uniform followed by two uniformed young men in their mid-twenties that had entered the warehouse.

I was astonished to see the middle-aged woman. She was an unexpected guest. Honestly, I never believed that we would cross paths again. I had difficulty discerning why a person of her status would visit my card boutique.

"Long time no see, kid." Seeing me, the middle-aged woman's eyes shone as she greeted me.

"Hello, Auntie Denise. What brings you here? Are you here to check up on how your friend's orphan son is doing? How gracious of you?" The visitor was none other than the chief of Sky blossom city police department - 89th precinct, Denise Johnson. Mama Wyatt's trusted friend. Young Wyatt met her at his parent's funeral. As for me, I officially met her in the information room of the 89th precinct.

"I see you are doing quite well for an orphaned high schooler. But that's not why I am here. I am here due to work." Getting my rude reply, Auntie Denise's brows couldn't help but frown and reply sternly.

"Are you here to finally update me on the complaint I filed against the Zhang mercenary group? I heard their leader field the city. Is it true?" I asked innocently as if I had no idea about Kevin Zhang's whereabouts.

My first card fight in this world was against three rookie card apprentices from Zhang mercenary group. I managed to defeat them in self-defense but was dragged to the police station. With sufficient evidence for my innocence, I was released, and then I made use of the same evidence to file a case against Zhang mercenary group goons for various charges enough to spend the rest of their life in prison. But I never heard back from the authorities regarding the proceedings of my case. Therefore I was pretty surprised to see the police Chief show up at my card boutique.

"I don't know about that, but we believe that Kevin Zhang and his nephew Ben Li are missing, and you are the prime suspect." Police Chief Denise's words jolted me awake. Now she had my full attention.

"What do you mean, Police Chief? May I ask why I am the prime suspect?" I was indeed behind Kevin Zhang and his nephew Ben Li's disappearance, but I have made sure to cover my tracks. What is she playing at?

"Sure, we will answer your question at the 89th precinct. Please follow me quietly. Don't make me cuff you." The Police Chief ordered as she dangled handcuffs in one of her hands.

I didn't know why Denise was doing this, but it did not distress me. After all, I had the backing of the southern royal family. Without sufficient evidence, Denise couldn't hold me for long. And Van would arrive with bail at the 89th precinct before these people took me to the 89th precinct. But I did not want to experience the feeling of wearing the handcuffs with the weird ability to suppress the wearer's contract with my grimoire, making it impossible for me to summon it.

"Sur—" before I could agree with her, another uniformed young woman ran into the warehouse and reported to Police Chief Denise, " Chief, not good. A mob has surrounded the entire area."

"What? Who are they? Why are they doing this?" Yelling that, Denise rushed outside the warehouse, not waiting for the young female officer's answers.

"Huh?" The commotion outside was deafening. Loud enough to be heard within the warehouse. Curious, I followed behind the officers.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 11: 58

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

Following the officers, I headed outside the warehouse to check out the commotion. Arriving outside, to my astonishment, I saw numerous teenagers in various school uniforms surrounding the warehouse entrance. Their number was so many that they had crowded all the streets to the warehouse. Not just the streets, they had climbed the

roof of warehouses, except for warehouse no.234. Some even had brought their hoverbikes.

"What the heck is going on here?" Police Chief Denise screamed at the top of her lungs, seeing the mob of high school students. The young officers she brought with her could barely hold the crowd back.

"Bright Lions, greet the Leader." I heard Nick's voice thunder from the front of the crowd of high schoolers.

"Boss!" Bending 45 degrees and bowing their heads, more than 1000 students screamed, greeting their leader.

"Bright Lions at your service, Boss." Yelled Nick as he walked out of the crowd, followed by Tom and Ed, stopped in front of me, bent 45 degrees, and bowed their heads.

"Holy shit!" I couldn't help but cuss seeing the sight in front of me. A crowd of more than 1000 students bowed out of respect for me.

As I admired the mob of high schoolers showcasing their respect. I felt police chief Denise's glare fierce enough to make a hole in my head. Ignoring her, I asked Nick, "What the heck is going on?"

"One of our informants in the police department informed me that the 89th precinct Chief of police was heading out to meet the boss, so I gathered our bright lion brothers just in case," Nick replied. Without lifting his head.

"Informant in the police department? Who? Tell me who?" Chief Denise rushed over and, grabbing Nick's collar, she questioned him.

"Chief Denise! Behave yourself. Let go of my friend's collar." I had no clue what was going on, but it was not the time for me to be dazed. I was in the presence of my subordinates. I had to leave a good first impression.

"Boy, just because a few high schoolers gathered for you and called you boss, did you start considering yourself a mob boss? How dare you talk to me in that tone? That's it. Officers cuff these four. We are taking them down to the precinct." Denise handcuffed Nick herself and ordered other officers to handcuff Tom, Ed, and me.

"Summon" hearing Chief Denise, all the high schoolers surrounding the warehouse summoned their grimoire, ready to fight the cops. Seeing the display of high schoolers, the officers that were about to cuff Tom, Ed, and me back off.

"What are you waiting for? A memo? Cuff them." Seeing the officers hesitate to cuff Tom, Ed, and me, Denise yelled at them. I did not know Denise was such a hothead. Her actions were totally different from my first impression of her.

"Bright Lions, stand down!" Yelling at the crowd, I looked at Denise and said, " Chief, no need for cuffs. We will follow you to the precinct voluntarily."

I did not know what was happening for such a tense relationship between the Police and Bright Lions. Yet, I decided to follow the cops voluntarily cause I did not want to elevate the situation when it could be handled easily.

"Who the heck are you to order me? Cuff them " Snatching the handcuff from an officer, Denise cuffed me personally and ordered the others to cuff Tom and Ed.

Thankfully, fearing that once handcuffed, I would not be able to make use of my abilities, I had contacted Van through Hive AI beforehand, informing him about what was going on and asking him to free me as soon as possible.

"Bright Lions, Tonight party at the usual place," I announced as Denise dragged and shoved me into the cop hovercar.

"Party? When I am done with you lot, you won't be able to walk straight ever again." Denise commented as we headed to the 89th precinct.

"The usual place? Where is that?" Asked every high schooler present as the cops took their four leaders to the police station.

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Setting in the back seat of the cop car, I tried to use Hive AI to contact Nick. Fortunately, it worked. Unlike my soul energy and grimoire, this handcuff couldn't suppress my calamity soul gem. Thanks to this, I got an opportunity to understand what was going on, on our way to the 89th precinct.

Contacting Nick, I asked him why did the police suddenly decide to target an upstanding citizen like me.

'Boss, sorry, because of my oversight, this mistake happens. Please punish me as you see fit.' Nick confessed to a crime that I didn't even know he committed and begged for a chance at redemption through punishment.

'Nick, tell me what actually happened. Then I can decide whether to punish you or not.' I assured Nick that there would be a punishment and asked him to recount what happened for Denise to act so brazenly.

'Boss, you ordered me to take care of the Bright Lions, but I failed to do so, leading to this blunder.' Once again, Nick skipped the details and confessed his crimes. Still, I gathered that this incident was related to Bright Lions.

I had forgotten about the Bright Lions entirely after making Bright trios my calamity daughter gems. I don't even remember asking Nick to takeover Bright Lions for me. Still, I did not understand how a high school gang could acquire the attention of a police chief? Or did Denise take a particular interest because I was involved?

'Nick, what happened between Bright Lions and the Cops? Explain. Don't skip anything.' I made my question detailed so that Nick would make his answer more detailed.

'Boss, you know taking care of a gang is not cheap, even if it is a high school gang without benefits, it's hard to keep the students loyal and excited about the gang. Therefore to gather the required funds...

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[1,037 words]

Chapter 623 Afraid?

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 12:20

Location- Sky Blossom City, Police Department car

The Circle's sudden withdrawal from Sky Blossom city led to large ripples in the city. And an even more significant ripple occurred in the city's black market. Circle stood at the top of the city's market and the black market. It had a hand in every business and crime in the city. With the Circle fleeing from the sky blossom city to sun blossom city, many gray business opportunities became available.

Many forces in the city, be it small or big, were eyeing the gray business opportunities that once belonged to the Circle. But none made a move to takeover and fill in availability because they were too scared of the circle making a comeback. But there was one group that was not afraid of the circle or the repercussions that would follow. They are none other than the Bright Lions.

Bright Lions, the high school gang led by Nick, Tom, and Ed under the leadership of their capable and mysterious shadow leader, began to take over everything that once belonged to the circle. At first, nobody opposed the advance of Bright Lions and labeled them as fools blinded by greed.

But things changed once Circle decided to build its new nest in the neighboring sun blossom city. Hearing that the circle was laying its roots in some other city than the sky

blossom city, the forces knew that the circle was not coming back and no longer hesitated to take what was left behind by the circle as they fled the city.

But it was too late. Bright lions had already filled most of the empty spots left behind by the circle's absence. The city forces did not like this but chose to swallow their anger, fearing that the Bright family must be backing the Bright Lions. After all, the high school gang was headed by the juniors of the Bright family. And decided to compete for the remains that Bright Lions hadn't touched.

'Don't tell me that the Bright Lions have taken over the crimes that the circle once used to run in the city.' I asked in distress, hearing that Bright lions have replaced the circle in the sky blossom city market.

'No, Boss, Bright Lions doesn't involve itself in crimes. But what we do cannot be considered entirely legal either.' Nick explained.

'If Bright Lions don't take part in crimes, then why are we in cuffs in the backseat of a cop car?' I could not blame Nick for doing something I asked him to do. I should have been more detailed with my instructions.

'I don't know, Boss. The Bright Lions never took part in things that would disturb the public or the city's interest. I have even stopped the members of Bright Lions from bullying schoolmates and collecting money from them. Other people in the police department aren't even keen about our high school gang. I don't know why we are being targeted by the 89th precinct's Chief of Police.' Nick explained how other higher-ups in the police department weren't even keen about the Bright Lion gang, but Denise seemed to have taken a particular interest in us.

'So you mean to say we did nothing wrong, and the chief of police is just abusing her power to show us the insides of 89th precinct.' I said sarcastically. There had to be something. Otherwise, police chief Denise would not be so confident as she cuffed four high school students.

'Sorry, Boss. It is my fault for not being more prepared.' Nick, himself, didn't seem to know what went wrong and why the police chief was targeting us. Still, he kept confession to an unknown crime and apologized for his incompetence.

'Forget it. Tell me what all businesses you take over from Circle.' I never considered that once the circle left, my people would fill in its place. Right now, I was not worried about being dragged to the police station. I was concerned about whether the Bright Lions had become the next circle. That's something I would come to regret.

"Hello, deputy, what is it? I am on my way to the precinct." I wanted to listen to Nick, but right then, police Chief Denise answered a call. I wasn't eavesdropping. I happened to be stuck at a place where I could hear her.

"What? They are fast. Ok, then stall them. I will take these kids to my favorite picnic spot." I couldn't hear what the person at the other end of the call said. Without the full context, I could barely understand what Denise was talking about.

'Boss, I am at the 89th precinct. I have prepared the top legal team. They will not let you set foot in the prison cell. You will be acquitted before you know it.' Van contacted me through Hive AI. He seemed to have already reached the 89th precinct with the legal team. And already had contacted the police deputy chief regarding my arrest. But the deputy chief appears to be stalling and not giving them an answer.

Hearing Van, I understood what Denise was saying on the call. It seems police chief Denise's deputy has contacted her, informing her about my legal team waiting for me at the precinct. But I did not understand what she meant by,

'I will take these kids to my favorite picnic spot.'

I noticed that we had deviated from our original route, finally understanding what Denise meant. Since my legal team was waiting at the 89th precinct, she planned to take us to a different precinct or a secluded place.

"Chief, this is not the route to the 89th precinct," I announced to Denise.

"I know that this is not the route to the 89th precinct. I am hungry, so I will be making a quick stop at a burger joint before dropping you off at the 89th precinct. Why are you afraid?" Denise smiled, asking me if I were afraid. It seemed as if she wanted me to be frightened, or she was trying to show me fear. I was not able to understand the intentions of this woman.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[1,012 words]

Chapter 624 Grateful

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 12:32

Location- Sky Blossom City, Burger empire

"Why would I be afraid? But I, too, am hungry. Since you have stopped at a burger joint anyway, I would like a big mac and large fries." It was about time for lunch. I did not mind having a meal at the expense of the taxpayers' money.

"A Smartmouth, huh. That will definitely make you popular in prison." Denise retorted as she parked the cop car in front of the Burger Empire joint.

"Come on, Auntie Denise. Are these cuffs necessary? What's that matter? Talk to me. You know that the intimidation techniques did not work on me last time, and it will not work on me this time." I said as Denise got out of the car, seeing that she planned to keep me cooped up in the car while she enjoyed a carb-rich meal.

"You want to talk? Let's talk." Opening the backseat door, she pulled me out and freed my hands from the cuffs. Then I followed her to a table not far from us. And she asked, "Do you know how I met your mother?"

"How would I know? I did not know that you were friends with her until you attended her funeral." I spoke the truth. Mama Wyatt never talked about her social life with Young Wyatt, and he did not come to know about Denise until she attended mama Wyatt's funeral.

"You are right. I will not bore you with the details, but all you have to know is that your mother is the reason my daughter is alive and studying at Morningstar university, one of the top ten universities. She saved my daughter from the clutches of the circle. If she had not intervened, when she did, my daughter would be one of the circle's dogs instead of attending one of the top ten universities." Police chief Denise answered, saying that if not for mama Wyatt her life and her daughter's life would differ from the present. She was full of praise for Mama Wyatt. And from her words, one could tell that she was grateful for what mama Wyatt did for her and her daughter.

"How can that be possible? I heard that the last person to attend the top 10 universities from sky blossom city is the brother of the sky blossom branch circle's leader." I clearly remember hearing that the circle's Supreme leader was the last person to attend the top 10 universities from Sky blossom city. Therefore I was having a hard time believing Denise's story.

"The world doesn't know what your mother did for my daughter and me that day. That doesn't mean that your mother did not help me. My daughter and I clearly remember the help she provided to us to this day. I owe her my life. If not for her, my daughter would be leading a gruesome life, and I would be buried 7 feet deep underground." Even though Denise said that she would not bore me with details, she went ahead and recounted what transpired and how Mama Wyatt risked her and her family to rescue Denise's daughter's life.

Turns out Denise's daughter awakened a very unique trait as she contracted her grimoire. Somehow, the circle got the news of it and decided to turn Denise's daughter into one of their own. The Circle's cruelty is known to all, so how could Denise let her lonely daughter suffer in their hands. Therefore, Denise made a plan to flee sky blossom city and live a life on the run.

While preparing for her run, one of her trusted friends ratted Denise out to the circle. The circle was very upset by Denise's audacity to reject their invitation. They planned to kill her and snatch her daughter from over her cold dead body. Coincidentally this task was assigned to Clown Mask.

Fortunately, before the Clown mask would take action, Mama Wyatt came to the rescue of Denise and her daughter like a messiah. Mama Wyatt contacted her old professors at Morningstar university and informed them about Denise's daughter's unique trait. The unique trait not only managed to gain the professor's interest but also the university's interest too. And in a single night, Denise's daughter's existence was erased from the history of sky blossom city. It was as if Denise never had a daughter, to begin with.

"Wait? My friend told me that traits and physique are pretty common. Why did the Morningstar university require you to erase all the information about your daughter?" Anna did assure me that traits and physique are prevalent, and there are many card apprentices with unique traits and physiques in the southern watch. Therefore I did not understand the need for the morningstar university to hide all information regarding Denise's daughter and erase all her documents.

"Your mother, too, asked the same question to the people from the MorningStar university, but they did not give her any explanation and asked her not to interfere with the university businesses. Considering your mother's circumstances, she couldn't force them to answer. Honestly, at that time, I was worried that my daughter had escaped from the wolf's mouth and fallen into the tiger's mouth.

After leaving for the university, my daughter has contacted me many times. She seemed to be enjoying herself there, so I am less concerned about her now than before." Police chief Denise, too, did not know why the morningstar university wanted to erase any or all information regarding her daughter. But it seems her daughter has contacted her frequently and assured her not to worry about her.

"What about the circle? Didn't the morning star university do anything to them? After all, they know about your daughter's unique trait." If the morning star university was so keen on erasing the information about Denise's daughter, they should have paid a visit to Circle.

"I don't know. The whole thing happened so fast that sometimes even I question myself if I ever had a daughter."

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[1,007 words]

Chapter 625 Untaintable

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 12:45

Location- Sky Blossom City, Burger empire

"What was the unique trait that your daughter awakened?" I asked Denise. I was curious. After all, the trait awakened by Denise's daughter should be pretty remarkable for the entire Morning Star University to make a move for a signal card apprentice from a backward third-rate region.

And knowing Circle's Supreme leader's reach, I can bet that the morning star college would make some deal in exchange for the circle not leaking about Denise's daughter and her unique trait. The morning star university has gone to great lengths to remove Denise's daughter's existence on paper. Therefore I couldn't help but ask Denise about her daughter's unique trait.

"I am sorry I cannot tell you anything more than I have already said. They had me sign a nondisclosure contract in exchange for my daughter getting a full scholarship at the university.

Honestly, the contract was a lot harsher than this. If not for your mother intervening for me I would not have been able to tell others that I have a daughter who is studying in one of the top ten universities.

Still, due to the NDA, I can't tell people that I have a daughter, and she is studying at morning star university. Until they ask me first." Denise recounted. The morning star university tried to make sure to seal Denise's mouth but still failed to, thanks to mama Wyatt. Still, the morning star university warned Denise that if she cared about her daughter, she better not leak the information about her daughter and her unique trait.

Come to think of it, Denise asked me if I knew how she met mama Wyatt, and then the story slowly progressed about her daughter. It seems over the years, Denise has found loopholes in the NDA she signed with the morning star university.

"It's okay. I was curious, that's all." I did not need Denise to tell me what her daughter's trait was. I had the Clown Mask's memories. I will get the information I need from there.

As I explored the Clown Mask's memories, I discovered that Clown Mask had used tricks to inform Mama Wyatt about Denise and her daughter's circumstances.

It seems in the alternate timeline foreseen by Clown Mask. When the circle ordered her to kill the fleeing Denise and grab her daughter, Clown Mask had completed the

mission. Denise died. Her daughter was brainwashed to serve the supreme leader, kill and die for his cause.

Denise's daughter's unique trait made her a crucial asset when the Supreme leader took over the capital region. If not for her, it would have taken another decade for the Supreme Leader to complete his plot. Therefore in this timeline, instead of completing the mission, Clown Mask had Mama Wyatt help the Johnson female duo, Denise and her daughter.

Fock! In her own way, the clown mask has been stealthily intervening with the Supreme leader's reign to power that he had in the alternate timeline seen by her. As far as I know, the supreme leader has lost Denise's daughter and my soul pupils. Taking away these two alone should be enough for setting back the Supreme leader's plans by another century or so. Yet the Supreme leader is not to be underestimated. His strength already rivals the peak powers in the present world. But he is hiding because that is not enough to take over the central region. Unlike the Matron, who relied on schemes to take over the Northern and Southern regions, the Supreme Leader had single-handedly dominated the entire capital region and its various forces in terms of pure strength before taking it over.

"Did you two know each other before this incident?" I asked Denise if She knew Mama Wyatt before she extended an arm to help them.

"Since your parents used to work for the Circle, we would occasionally meet when the city's police department extended its courtesy to the circle. We were acquaintances at best. Therefore, I was shocked when your mother offered to help me. Since I had no choice, I ended up believing her and followed her arrangements." Denise and mama Wyatt weren't friends until Clown Mask leaked her mission details to Mama Wyatt, who righteously decided to help the mother-daughter pair.

Upon stumbling on the plot of Clown Mask, I almost forgot to check about the unique trait gained by Denise's daughter. Untaintable, that was the unique trait that Denise's daughter awakened after contracting her first grimoire.

Even the Clown Mask had limited knowledge about the Untaintable trait of Denise's daughter. Even in the alternate future foreseen by her, the Circle quickly transferred the untaintable holder to the main branch after getting hold of her. Then she wasn't seen until the Supreme leader declared war on the forces of the central region.

According to the limited information the Clown Mask had about the untaintable trait, it made its holder's soul energy and rule energy very pure. And also, the user was safe from all curses. Safe not immune, meaning she could get cursed, but the curse would have a very negligible effect on her. I don't see how this trait can cause great commotion and attract attention from both the morning star university and the supreme leader.

There had to be more to the untaintable trait than just making its holder's soul energy and rule power pure while dampening the effect of curses on the holder. Otherwise, morning star university would not go as far as making a mother sign a nondisclosure contract about her daughter and erasing the holder's existence from any or all forms of documents and paper.

If I were to trust Clown Mask's future vision, then holder of the untaintable trait would become an unfathomable being under the personal guidance of the Supreme Leader. During the Circle's invasion on the Central region to take control over it, the untaintable's presence would make even the strongest forces surrender without much resistance.

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Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 12:54

Location- Sky Blossom City, Burger empire

"Old lady has been carrying this for quite a while, unable to tell anybody what your mother did and my daughter is doing. So much so that I went off the topic reminiscing about the past. Now let's talk about why we are actually here." Denise wanted to relax the tension between her friend's son and her. So that they can talk freely and she would gain his attention. Therefore she decided to share a secret. Having talked about the secret she had been carrying for years, Denise finally felt lighthearted and went a little off topic but soon returned to the original course.

"About time. I don't know why an outstanding citizen like me is being treated like this. I want answers." I demanded. Hearing my words, Denise's brows frowned, and I could see a vein almost pop on her forehead.

"Wyatt, you said, let's talk. So I am reaching out to speak now. Why are you being unreasonable?" Denise thought sharing the friendship she had with the boy's mother would make him open up to her, and they could have a truthful conversation, but her plan doesn't seem to be working. Gaining the information he wanted, the boy, once again, reverted to shutting himself off from her.

"Look, Police Chief Denise, just because you are grateful for my mother's help, it doesn't give you the right to interfere with my life. If you understand what I am saying, please tell me why you have taken me into police custody." I entertained Denise till now

because I was interested in Mama Wyatt's past and later Denise's daughter's trait, untaintable. Now that my curiosity was satisfied, all I wanted was to return to the warehouse, take care of Bright Lion's matter and help Kane with his Origin card creation.

"It seems there is a misunderstanding between us. But I don't deny that I am at fault here. I owe you an explanation for why I did not take care of you after the funeral, why I could not be more present in your life if I am as grateful to your mother as I say I am." Denise explained that she owed me an explanation why she did not help young Wyatt after Mama and Papa Wyatt's funeral.

"That is not the only thing you owe me an explanation for. What about when that bastard Kevin Zhang challenged me for a life and death duel? Where were you then? What about the time when the whole city wanted to kill me to impress the southern royal family? Where were you then? What about when the entire world called me a fraud? Where were you then?

Honestly, it doesn't matter anymore. I don't want to hear your excuses. I have managed to survive fine on my own, and I don't require your help. And please don't drag me into your guilt. It is not my problem that you feel guilty and burdened because of how grateful you are for my mother's help. Don't try to push it on me and deal with it yourself.

Now my legal team is here. Discuss the charges you are charging my boys and me with them. I am done talking to you now." As soon as we stopped at burger empire, I contacted Van and asked him to come over with the legal support as quickly as possible. And they had arrived. I could have used Anna's name, but I decided against it. Anna wouldn't mind, but I did not want to rely on her for every little thing. Plus, the TSR guild had paid a substantial amount to groom a legal team just for days like this.

"Police Chief Denise, I would like to hear the charges you have brought up against my client. If they hold no merit, I demand that you release my client right away." An older man in an expensive suit rushed to our table and started to represent me legally.

"Shut up, old fart." Denise ignored the lawyer. And looking at me, she said, "Wyatt, if you don't want to hear why I could not help you before, fine. But please hear me tell you why I am here for you now."

"Master Wyatt, you don't have to speak to her. Please let me handle this." The old lawyer advised me not to indulge Denise and turned to Denise. Then he sternly said, "Chief Denise, I strongly advise you not to speak to my client unless you have stated the crimes brought up against him and his friends by the state."

"Get lost, you old relic. I am his aunt. I don't need a lawyer to talk to him." This interference of the lawyer as she wanted to talk sense into her nephew was why Denise changed her distinction from 89th precinct to Burger empire after knowing that her nephew's legal team was waiting at the precinct.

"What?" The old lawyer started to sweat bullets, not knowing how good his employer's relationship was with his aunt. If he liked her, he would have to change his entire strategy of facing the police chief Denise because he did not want to lose his job because he could not mediate a family feud correctly. Lord only knows one wrong word from his mouth, and he will end up offending both his employer's aunt and the employer himself, putting his position in jeopardy, "Chief Denise, I don't care if this is a family feud. You took it too far, abusing your power over a mere disagreement with your nephew. You have left him no choice but to defend himself using legal means. Chief Denise, please state the charges that the state has brought up against my client and his friends."

"Old man, let her speak. I want to know what she has to say for herself." I wanted to know why Denise became so proactive out of nowhere. Did she have a motive? I will not know for sure until I get a read on her.

"I dare to be seen with you now because the circle has fled the city."

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[1,013 words]

Chapter 627 Stupidity

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 13:08

Location- Sky Blossom City, Burger empire

"The day my daughter left for college, I thought I had nothing to lose. And decided to spend my days living for righteousness, let's call it what it actually is, revenge, against the people who wanted to harm my precious. Even though I knew my baby was safe, the thought that everything could have gone south if not for an unexpected acquaintance extending a helping hand kept me awake at night.

There are two times I felt helpless in my life, first when my daughter asked who her father was and second when the circle tried to take her from me. I don't want to feel that helpless ever again. Therefore, I did everything in my power to end the circle.

Turns out I had a lot to lose. My trusted subordinates who believed in me and my idea of righteousness. They selflessly dedicated themselves to my arrangements against the

circle. They paid the price for my recklessness. Not just them, their families ended up becoming collateral damage in my quest for revenge.

The power of a third-rate city's police chief wasn't worthy enough to even become a thorn in the circle's paths. But they took a particular interest in me. Since they could not hurt me because of the morning star university, they started to aim at the people surrounding me. One by one, all of them or their families suffered a terrible fate.

By the time I realized what was happening, the damage was done. I had lost most of my loyal colleagues, friends, and subordinates, and they had lost their families. The circle had turned me into a jinx. Anyone who ever worked with me or was in contact with me started to get hurt directly or indirectly.

Worst of it all, all this was a game to them. They wanted to see how long I would last before breaking down. To end it, I gave them what they wanted. I stopped going after them and isolated myself from the world. They got bored and eventually stopped. Or at least that is what I thought.

Remember the last time we met at my precinct? Later that day, I did some digging to check what was going on in your life, and it turned out that attending your parent's funeral was a big mistake. I put a big target on your back. Kevin Zhang was targeting you under the orders of the circle. That fool was greedy. He eyed your parent's silver grimoires instead of completing the circle's mission.

After that, I warned Kevin Zhang to leave you alone and went to the circle to make a deal in exchange for your life. They agreed and asked me to do some things for which I had to leave the city and returned today early this morning.

When I returned to my surprise, lots of things had changed. For starters, the circle fled the city and settled in sun blossom city. And then I came to know that the Bright Lions had taken over more than half of the circle's businesses in the city. What came as an even greater shock to me was that my nephew, for whom I risked my life outside the city, had become a high school gang leader.

I can't let that happen. How am I supposed to show my face to my friend in the afterlife? So I decided to do the only thing I knew, to scare the shit out of you and set you straight. But who knew, when I was busy dealing with my demons, you had your demons to face. It changed you. I can no longer see the timid little boy I met at the funeral.

As you said, intimidation doesn't work on you, so I am trying to reason with you, Wyatt. It is not too late. You have to quit this delinquent lifestyle and buckle down. Earlier I saw the videos of the tournament. You were great. I know if you try harder, you can get into a morning star university and study with your sister. You are a lot more mature than her. With you there, I would worry less about her." Denise was trying to coax me. She didn't mean the last part. What she actually meant was the other way around. She would

worry less about me if I were to enter the morning star university under the protection of her daughter.

If I were to believe her explanation, the reason she kept her distance from young Wyatt after the funeral was because she was worried the circle would target him as they did to all the people she had shown sentiment for.

And the reason she did not reach out when Kevin Zhang challenged me to a life or death battle, or when the entire city was conspiring for my death, or when the whole world called me a fraud was because she did not know about them as she seemed to have left the city after making a deal with the circle for my life.

I don't think Denise is lying because with my connections, I can find the truth, and Denise, too, knows that. So that meant I had every little to blame Denise for. How narcissistic of her to think that the circle was targeting young Wyatt because of her, and how could she trust a deal with the circle?

All I can blame Denise is for being stupid. Other than that, she stepped up when actually needed. Even though it was idiotic of her to make a deal with the circle for my life, in the end, she stepped up. When the lamb itself was idiotically begging to be used, how could the circle say no? Once she left the city, Kevin Zhang did not waste time challenging me to a life-and-death battle.

"Let's say I believe you. Then what did the circle ask you to do outside the city in exchange for my life?"

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 13:21

Location- Sky Blossom City, Burger empire

"Awe... Is my little nephew worried about his aunt? You don't have to worry about that. Nothing I can't handle. Enough about me. Tell me about you. How did you end up as a high school gang leader?" I monitored every word and action of Denise. This woman did not lie and did care for her benefactor's son.

"Master Wyatt, let me stop you right there. You cannot answer her. She is trying to get you to perjure yourself." The old lawyer hurriedly warned his employer that answering

his aunt's question would mean that a high school gang named Bright Lions exists in real life, and his employer is its true boss.

Gangs are not like companies. They do not register themselves with the government. So without a paper trail and proper evidence, it is hard to prove in court that the said gang exists in real life and the crimes committed by it were done under the direction of one man, its leader.

"Old relic, how dare you interrupt me and misinterpret my words. Are you trying to ruin my relationship with my nephew so that you can make a few more bucks? I have no case against my nephew and his friends. I am not arresting them. There I said it. Now you can buzz off, or I will charge you with public disturbance and imprison your ass for the next 24 hours." Denise wanted to slap the old lawyer's dentures out of his mouth, but she controlled herself. She did not want to come off as too fierce in front of her nephew.

"Boss, If you want me to, I can sue the police chief for abusing the state's power." The old lawyer was not new to the business. He was tolerating Denise's name-calling because she was his employer's aunt.

"What the..." Denise wanted to cuss but stopped. After all, she had unwittingly given the old lawyer enough evidence to comprise herself. Now she did not want to give her nephew enough reason to sue her.

"Old Man, since the Police Chief already said she would not be charging my friends and me, you can leave now." Seeing that Denise meant no harm, I decided to forgive this once. Honestly, there are not many people surrounding me who care for Wyatt and not the prodigy card creationist Wyatt who invented silver milk powder.

"Old suit, buzz off, you heard, my little nephew~ah." Denise called my name endearingly, and then, turning to me, she added, "You don't need to act coy with me. Address me as aunt Denise, not as police chief."

Earlier, this woman was intimidating, strict, and stern. Now she acted girly and giddy, calling me endearing names and whatnot. I don't understand her.

"Police chief, I don't know what you think is happening here, but we are not close enough to call each other so endearingly. And could you please free my friends? They must be bored cuffed in the back seat of the car." Now that things were clear, I asked Denise to release the bright trio. Hearing me not address her as auntie Denise, her brows narrowed, and her mouth pouted.

"Huh? Did you say something to me, my dear nephew~ah? I can't hear you." Denise said aloud childishly. It seems she is taking Nick, Tom, and Ed hostage to make me play by her rules.

"Fine, you can keep them. I am heading to work." I did not try to negotiate with Denise and got up, planning to return to the warehouse.

"I just remembered I forgot to leave the air conditioner on in the car or crack up a window." Hearing Denise, my footsteps stopped for a second but soon they continued believing that the Bright trio could handle being a little cooped in the backseat of the car.

"Aren't you a cruel friend? Still, you win. I give up. Address me with whatever makes you comfortable. But you have to have lunch with me now. I will go get your friends." Denise has still not given up on turning her nephew away from the delinquent lifestyle. But she did not force it and decided to take it slow as normal means would not work on her nephew as he isn't a typical teenager. What kind of high schooler has a private legal team on speed dial? Not a normal one, of course.

"Kids, order up. Lunch is on me." After freeing the Bright trio from handcuffs, Denise brought them to our table to have lunch together with her.

"Yes," each of us used our grimoire to order our meals at the Burger empire and tagged the bill to Denise's grimoire.

[Your order has been accepted by the Burger Empire. Due to rush hour, your order will take a while. Please wait patiently. Estimated wait time 14 minutes.]

"So guys, how is school going on? The college entrance exam is nearing, and the school must have started the special classes." Denise decided to use small talk to know what was going on in her nephew's life.

"Our family has preplanned training for my brothers and me. So we are not attending the school's special classes." Nick replied to Denise while Tom and Ed nodded in agreement. Denise was not surprised by Nock's answer.

She knew many prominent families like the Bright family would devise a special training regime and train their kids personally. But this only made her worry about her nephew, who did not have such privileges. So she couldn't help but ask in concern, "What about you, Wyatt?"

"I am not attending high school anymore," I said casually. But my simple words exploded like a bomb in Denise's head.

Denise knew that her nephew was strong and talented enough to make him eligible for the top ten universities. Still, unlike kids from an entitled family, he needed to go through proper channels to enroll in the top ten universities. She knew how unfair the world was to the poor and weak.

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Across the street where Wyatt was seated with his aunt and friends, a cloaked single-horned figure looked at him and blurted, "I will kill everything she holds dear."

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 628 Charges Dropped

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 13:21

Location- Sky Blossom City, Burger empire

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Chapter 629 Demonic Card Apprentice

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 13:34

Location- Sky Blossom City, Burger empire

"Boss, I feel a malicious intent directed towards us." Said Nick as he and his brothers got up and began to scan the surroundings.

"Huh, you felt it too," I said while looking at the cloaked figure across the street. Her murderous intent was directed toward me, so once I took notice of it wasn't hard for me to find her.

"What are you kids talking about?" Even though Denise was a silver grade grimoire Card Grandmaster, she did not possess the viltronian fighting instincts which every my calamity soul gem and clarity daughter gems had. Viltronians are a spice that has gone through constant war such that fighting instinct is ingrained in their DNA through evolution.

"Chief Denise, it would be a great help if you start evacuating the people from here. This place is going to turn into a war zone soon." I got up and headed towards the cloaked figure. I saw a single-horn sticking out of the hood covering its head. Alerted, I activated my soul pupils to check what kind of enemy I was facing.

Booom!

Before I got the chance to use my soul pupils on the hooded figure, it burst into a gore shower. Spreading mayhem on the street.

Ahhh!

The people who were tainted by the gore shower slowly dissolved in gore within a matter of seconds. Soon all the blood and gore began to gather, forming a pool of blood. Once all the pool of blood was created, it emitted a blood-red beam of light reaching the sky. Soon various deformed beings began to crawl out of the blood pool and walked out of the red light beam. Ignoring the people nearest to them, they rushed towards me. It became clear to me that I was their target.

Being adept in blood rule, I knew that the cloaked figure seemed to have sacrificed itself by detonating to start a blood ritual to summon these deformed monsters. But the problem was I did not feel the presence of blood rule from the blood pool, which meant the cloaked figure did not make use of blood rule to summon the deformed creatures but something else veil to describe.

"Demonic Card apprentice!" Denise exclaimed, seeing the blood ritual, and hurriedly summoned her grimoire to report to the headquarters and request back up.

"Boss, leave it to us. We will take care of it." Said Nick as he summoned his grimoire.

"Good. While Nick and Tom handle the veil creatures, Ed, you help Chief Denise to clear the civilians." I ordered, and the calamity daughter gems nodded in agreement.

"No, kids, it's dangerous here, retreat. And leave this for the adults to handle." Seeing Nick and Tom charge toward the deformed creatures, Denise cried out, asking them not to act recklessly and retreat. But Nick and Tom did not respond to her. Instead, they summoned their grimoire and activated their origin cards.

"Summon - Mountain Golem"

"Summon - Mud Golem"

"Chief, my brothers can handle them. Now let's focus on clearing the civilians." Ed replied to the frantic Denise as he rushed towards those in need of help.

"Chief Denise, the creatures are of card soldier realm. My boys can handle it. Please go and help the civilians till the back arrives. This is just the beginning." I directed Denise, reminding her that the civilians needed to be cleared because whoever was behind this mayhem was not done.

I knew that the perpetrators were far from done because it was clear that I was the target. So whoever the perpetrators are, they should know that I am almost invisible under the card overlord realm. Despite knowing that, why would they send summoned creatures of the card soldier realm to deal with me?

Their intention was clear to create chaos and distract people's focus. Making a perfect hunting ground for their target. All that mattered was how long the perps would continue to hide patiently and when they would commence their hunt.

Thankfully I had soul pupils, so I did not need to play with their rules. I will find them and make use of the hunting grounds they made to hunt them. After all, I did not like to wait for death or follow others' rules.

I achieved my soul pupils to look beyond the mayhem in front of me. The colorful world turned into one large black tray filled with strings. And compare what I saw with my soul pupils to what I saw with my name eyes. It was like finding the difference between the two images. And I did, in the sight of my soul pupil, I had an extra soul pathway that did not seem to belong to any entity in the view of my naked eye.

It was clear the soul pathway belonged to the perpetrator, who was hiding and witnessing the chaos he had unleashed on the peaceful street. I further analyze the soul pathways of the perp to check the race and realm. To my surprise, I found a core within the perp's body. It was surprising because the perp was human, not a monster.

Yes, a core. Not an ego gem but a core. This is the first time I have seen a human with a core. It appeared to be slightly similar to viltronian but not entirely identical. The viltronian core fuses with its host perfectly, but the core I saw in the middle of the perp's soul pathway was not fusing correctly with the host's soul pathway causing mutations and deformation in the host's body.

It seems that the perp has acute senses as it discovered that I had found it. I thought it would run since I had found it, but it walked out of the hiding spot and revealed itself. It was another cloaked figure with a horn extending out of its hood. Exactly the same as the one that detonated itself as the sacrifice to start a blood ritual and summon the deformed creatures.

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Chapter 630 Foul Mouth

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 13: 33

Location- Sky Blossom City, Guild Association Mall, Warehouse No 234.

"Haha, Anna, you must be pissed seeing how Wyatt forgot the breakfast for two he promised you." Corey taunted Anna, reminding Anna of the compromise she made with Wyatt at the Horned Hare Heaven Gate dungeon.

"Little girl, aren't you becoming too comfortable with me? Even your parents bow before reporting to me. Yet you address me with my name as if we are friends." Anna said, intimidating Corey.

"My parents work for you. I don't. Show your haughtiness to the people that work for you. Not me." Corey did not back down after hearing Anna's words. If words could intimidate her, she wouldn't have taunted her in the first place.

"Girl, that's a rather interesting theory you got there. But you forget I own this entire southern region and everything within it." Anna looked at Corey as if she had found a new play toy.

"You may own the land I am standing on, but you don't own me. I am my own person. And I don't bow to anybody." Corey spoke her modern democratic bullshit.

"Believe it or not, I can make you bow to me willingly?" Anna said with a playful laugh, but a dangerous glint shone in her eyes.

"As long as I am alive, believe it or not, I will use your arrogant tongue to wipe my shoes clean," Corey spoke with her fist clenched because she knew what Anna was hinting at, her family. After all, even demons have a soft spot for their home.

"Corey, watch your mouth. Apologize to her highness." Susan, who walked out of the kitchen, yelled, hearing Corey's words. And turning to Anna, she bowed and apologized, "Your highness, please forgive that ignorant child."

"Here we go. This is the third time. You vouched for her twice in the Horned Hare Heaven gate dungeon, so I forgave her insolence. Still, she continues to disrespect me. Shall I take this as a challenge to my authority?" Anna's words turned more severe once Susan intervened. Clearly, she seemed to hold something against Susan.

"No, your highness. Corey is a troubled girl. She didn't mean what she said." Susan started making excuses for Corey. The relationship between her and

Corey has deepened since the incident at the Horned Hare Heaven gate dungeon.

"Big sis, don't worry about her. She is just toying with you. If she were outraged, she would not have kept us alive. Sadistic bitch." Corey didn't back down. She went another step further and cussed Anna. Hearing Corey swear at her highness southern emperor, Susan felt her knees go weak.

"Hahaha, aren't you a wild child? Corey, honey, you know that I settle my scores with interest, right." Anna's eyes squinted, and a threatening aura emitted from her body. But still, she did not attack Corey. As for Susan, she regretted the day she hired Corey to work for her. She would have yelled it out loud, but the chill she felt from Anna left her speechless.

"..." Corey did not stubbornly rebut to Anna this time as her head was occupied with the words Corey Paek was instructing her mentally.

"Little girl, you dare to get distracted and ignore me!" Anna thundered, but it did not seem to faze Corey. As for Susan, on the other hand, her mind was already overloaded and unable to process any new information. She wanted to slap herself for recruiting Corey.

"Whatever. I have someplace to be." Saying that, Corey headed out of the warehouse and, witnessing the crowd of high schoolers loitering, she yelled, "You guys are still here? How many times do I have to tell you, people, to buzz off? I will deal with you guys once I return."

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After Corey's figure leaves their sight for a good minute, one of the High schoolers said grimacingly, "Boys, that girl is getting cocky. If not for her being the boss's employee, I would have taught her a lesson."

"How can the boss let a girl with a bad mouth become his employee. If he had asked me, I would have worked for free." A girl in the crowd of high schoolers commented. Not knowing that Corey was working for free.

"Though she has a foul mouth, her figure is a perfect ten. I understand why the boss chose her as his assistant." The high schooler from earlier commented.

"Whatever, are you guys sure that, by usual place, the boss meant the warehouse? If not, we will be in great trouble." One of the delinquents asked, hearing him rest quietened.

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"Park, are you sure you felt the dark realms from that part of the city?" Corey asked as she rushed towards the direction Corey park pointed her at.

"Yes, I still feel it. The feeling is getting stronger and stronger." Corey Park replied affirmatively. Just in the middle of Corey Bright's argument with Anna, She felt the presence of the Dark realm. She can never be wrong about this because she had spent almost a century in the dark realms.

"If it's dark realms, as you say, are you sure we should be heading in that direction? Won't your old boss recognize our titled demon core? And know that you are alive?" Corey had been through Park's memories and knew how dangerous the dark realm was. Not to mention that Park's old boss ruled the dark realm. Considering how they parted from each other, he should be bearing a grudge against her. So instead of heading towards the dark domain, they should be running away from it.

"He may be a ruler back in the dark realms, but here on this world be reduced to a mere mortal. So we have nothing to worry about. Just reach there as soon as possible. I want to know what's going on. And how can the dark realms be connected to this world? This world is getting weirder and weirder the more I explore it."

- Chapter 631 Demon Cult

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 13:39

Location- Sky Blossom City, D-rank Silver Beach gate dungeon.

"Hold, this is restricted space. Please return." A southern watch soldier announced to a cloaked figure entering the blocked route.

"Bob cut the formalities. Can't you see, it looks like trouble? Get your ass up and take care of it." The soldier's colleague warned, eyeing the single horn pointing out of the cloaked figure's hood.

"Master, it seems I can only carry you guys this far." The cloaked figure ignored the southern watch soldiers guarding the Silver Beach gate dungeon and mumbled to herself.

"Girl, this is earlier than the time we agreed upon." An eerie voice sounded from within the cloaked figure.

"Sorry, master. My location got compromised. The boy spotted me. More like he found me through my intent." The cloaked figure explained to the voice coming out from within her.

"His intuition must be sharp. Away, no harm done. I will get off here. You go enjoy your revenge." The voice forgave the cloaked figure.

"What is she mumbling?" Asked the soldier from earlier. Hearing him, his colleague asked, "Does it matter? Subdue her. I will ask them to prepare the interrogation room."

"Fine," the soldier reluctantly agreed to subdue the hostile entity physically.

As the Soldier neared the cloaked figure, he saw a slender blood-covered arm pierce out of the cloaked figure's abdominal region. Soon another bloodied arm shot out of the same area. Widening the tear in the flesh of the cloaked figure. Both the arms retracted and grabbed hold of torn flesh at the entrance of the incision. With force, split open the body of the cloaked figure from the inside, and a figure covered in blood emerges out of the body of the cloaked figure.

"Oh, Bloody hell." The soldier did not freak out seeing a gore-covered figure split open the cloaked figure and crawl out of her cold corpse.

"Fock! It's the demon bastards. I thought the demon cult was lying low. Why are you here?" A voice sounded from above the two southern watch soldiers.

The soldiers did not flinch at the gruesome sight of a human being split from inside by another human who climbed out of it but hearing the voice, their expression turned severe, and they shouted, "Commander!"

"Stand at ease. This one is strong, out of your league. Let me handle him. You guys stay on alert. There are more demon worshipers out there." Anna, who was about to follow Corey, suddenly received an alert from her granduncle requiring her presence at the silver beach gate dungeon. He had discovered several hostile forces surrounding the silver beach gate dungeon.

Heeding the alert for her granduncle, Anna gave up pursuing Corey and returned to the southern watch base. Had she been a second late, the two soldiers guarding the silver beach gate dungeon route would have lost their lives in the hands of the demon cult card emperor.

"Commander, let me take care of this one. You sit back." A deep voice sounded as a figure flashed next to Anna. It was a bulky male soldier in a southern watch uniform. He was emitting the same fierce aura as Anna and the demon cult Card emperor.

"Baron, go find your prey. This one is mine." When it comes to combat, Anna is like a fish in water. She thrived in battle. She did not think of sitting back and watching when her subordinate asked her to.

"Commander, this one is stronger than other demon cult fanatics present here. You always take the strong ones. Let me take the premium goods this one time, please." Baron complained that Anna always hogged all the strong enemies and begged her to let him fight the strongest one this once.

"Nope, not happening. I saw him first. First come, first serve." Anna did not give in to Baron's pleas.

"Hahaha, aren't you guys cute? Don't underestimate our Demon cult, for we are demons." The demon cult card emperor was pissed to see Anna and her subordinates take the demon cult lightly.

"Funny, no matter what you call yourself, you guys are nothing but hybrid demon bastards, and your ancestors are hybrid born with the union of human and demon." Said Baron as he looked at the man covered in blood with two ox horns sticking out of his forehead in disgust.

"Tell me, hybrid. Which one of your ancestors was an ox demon? Your grandpa or great-grandpa." Anna's words stung the demon cult card emperor, enraged the demon cult card emperor summoned his grimoire, yelling, " SS-rank Legend grade field card Bloody Spring, activate."

Soon a forest filled with giant blood-red blossom trees emerged, covering the 5 km area with the demon cult card emperor in the center, encircling Anna and Baron within it.

"Commander, it looks like your prey is not interested in foreplay. Since things are getting steamy here, I will no longer intrude on you. Happy hunting, commander." Sensing the other demon cultists' aura near the restricted area, Baron rushed to find an opponent for himself.

"Where do you think you are going? Bloody spring wind cage!" The demon cult card emperor wanted to stop Baron from leaving, so he activated a skill but failed, "Where did he go?"

"You want to trap the Typhoon emperor. Aren't you ignorantly ambitious?" Anna revealed the Baron's title, Typhoon emperor. Hearing it, the demon cult members' eyebrows narrowed, and he gremincingly said, "What the heck are you guys doing

here? A dungeon relocation testing doesn't require the presence of three titled card emperors. There must be something afoot here."

"Fock! You demon cult people are slipping. How could you cultists' plan an ambush without proper information?" Anna thought the demon cult was here for the silver beach dungeon, but when she heard the demon cult card emperor, she realized they weren't interested in the silver beach dungeon.

"Are you guys even conducting tests on dungeon relocation?" The Demon cult seemed to be more interested in Dungeon relocation than the dungeon itself.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[1,023 words]

Chapter 632 Stalling

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 13:43

Location- Sky Blossom City, D-rank Silver Beach gate dungeon.

Numerous identical cloaked figures with a single horn sticking out of their hood neared the restricted area, and upon reaching a certain distance, their body was torn from inside. Numerous card apprentices of the various realms ranging from Card king to Card emperor crawled out of the cold corpse.

In order to avoid being detected by array formation covering the city, the Demon cult high realm card apprentices were smuggled to the restricted area where dungeon relocation tests were being conducted.

"You made a lot of preparations for this ambush. I got to say, even though your ways are gruesome. Still, it was ingenious. I mean, who would have thought that you people would smuggle your guys past cities formation array by hiding in corpses. Tearing open the belly from inside and crawling out of it was brilliant. Color me impressed." Anna genuinely appreciated the demon cult's planning and decision to execute the ambush on her military base.

"Shut up. Do you think this is funny? All people here are going to be sacrificed to the demon realm. Is it still funny for you?" The demon cult card emperor said aloud, seeing Anna not take their ambush seriously.

"Whatever, tell me, what are you guys after? Me? No. Seeing how your people are trying to break into the military base, supposedly are you guys after something within the base? Who else could be worth more than a royal hostage like me? Luna?" As soon as Anna spoke Luna's name, Anna heard the enemy's heartbeat rise a little before going tranquil again. Proving that the demon cult's ambush was somehow related to Luna.

Though Anna figured out that the demon cult's ambush was somehow related to Luna, she still did not know why they were doing this. Was it because they wanted to avenge their fallen comrades, the Raining alchemist, by killing his granddaughter? If so, then the demon cult would have done that lot sooner. Even though Luna's grandfather had slain a lot of demon card apprentices, it was not like the demon cult's usual memo to seek revenge for their fallen members, not to mention this was a matter of decades ago.

Something related to Luna but not her grandpa. That could only mean dungeon relocation. Anna also remembered that her opponent was curious about dungeon relocation. But he did not seem interested in the silver beach dungeon, which meant that the demon cult was interested in the knowledge of dungeon relocation. Not just the knowledge behind dungeon relocation, they were also after the dungeon relocation apparatus.

Dungeon relocation is high-level classified information accessible only to those with very high privilege levels. Even with the high privilege level, only the theory behind the dungeon relocation was accessible. If one wanted the dungeon relocation apparatus, they needed a lot of pull in the central region and morning star university. Dungeon Relocation was in its infancy stage with a lot of space for improvement. Therefore there weren't many apparatus available for Dungeon Relocation. Since the supply did not meet the demand, they were highly regulated to avoid families fighting over who gets to use the apparatus and when.

The southern royal family's influence and Luna's authority in the dungeon relocation field of the morning star university were enough for Luna to get her hands over the dungeon relocation apparatus for them to transfer the D-rank silver beach dungeon to the secured location.

"You guys are after the Dungeon relocation apparatus and Luna," Anna yelled out.

"It seems that the rumors about you are nothing but false. Haha, Or was I too obvious? What gave it away?" The demon cult card emperor seemed to be in no rush to fight. Instead, he appeared to be stalling.

"It is written all over your face. From terrorizing the central region to resorting to robbery, you guys are have really fallen. Who knew that you hybrids, too, are dumb like your demon ancestors. I guess it was to be expected. After all, a donkey will only give birth to a donkey. Or, in your case, should I say a cow will only give birth to a cow." Anna's sharp tongue cut deep into her opponent's heart with her words.

Anna, too, was in no hurry to fight with the demon cult card apprentice because she trusted her soldiers could take care of themselves. And most importantly, she wanted to figure out the ambush of the demon cult. Where did they get their information from?

"At least rumors were true about you having a foul mouth. I also heard you like to have a good time? If you cooperate, I would like to find out how much the rumors about you are true." No matter how much Anna taunted him, the demon cult card emperor was holding in his rage and not engaging in combat.

"I like to have a good time, but have you seen your shelf in the mirror? No female in the world will willingly have intercourse with you. You better find a demon cow for a partner like your ancestors did. Oops, I forget even the demons despise your kind and consider you lower than the lowest creature in the demon realm. Your future is bleak, buddy. You hybrids have it tough, huh." Anna did not spare her opponent. Her words left her opponent's ancestors rolling in their graves.

"Enough! You foul woman. You should worry about yourself. Both of your mouths are looser than worn-out rubber. How will you find a partner with them? Any man would run a mile away if you brought up the word marriage in front of them. I bet your lower mouth must have eaten more sausages than you have ever eaten with your upper mouth. Yet you are still hungry for more, maybe because a human sausage can no longer satisfy your worn-out goods." The demon cult card apprentice let loose his mouth and did not hold back this time. It seems whatever he was stalling for had been prepared.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 13:49

Location- Sky Blossom City, D-rank Silver Beach gate dungeon.

"I guess you are finally ready to stand up for your demon-loving deviant ancestors." Hearing the demon card apprentice's finally come up with some quality trash-talk, Anna knew he was done stalling and ready to battle.

"You're going to regret letting me complete my move. Infinite blood spring." The demon card apprentice scoffed at Anna's mockery as his preparations were finally done. With his yell, the forest of giant blood-red blossom trees started to spread.

Earlier the blood spring forest only covered the 5 km route to the D-rank silver beach dungeon, but now it was slowly spreading to swallow the entire military base built surrounding the D-rank dungeon gate.

When the Demon cult card emperor activated the Blood spring field card, he already had a plan in his head, that is, to swallow the military base into the blood spring forest. Making it easier for his minions to sneak into the military base and steal all the dungeon relocation apparatuses.

While the demon cult card emperor summoned the blood spring forest and stalled Anna, the roots of the blood blossom trees in the blood spring forest extended to the various corpses of the cloaked figure surrounding the military base, in which the cult card apprentice was smuggled.

Using the corpses of the cloaked figure as marks, the roots of the blood blossom trees circled the military base, meeting the condition for the demon cult card emperor to activate the skill infinite blood spring of his field card.

[Anna, you lazy bitch! What are you doing? If any of the parts of the dungeon relocation apparatus is damaged, the Royal family will lose a lot of money. Please stop trying to enjoy the battle and, for once, finish the fight quickly.] Ann sent a mental voice message to Anna after the blood spring forest covered the entire military base. She was thankful that the dungeon relocation apparatus were unharmed in this ordeal.

[Don't worry, the demon cult minions don't dare to damage the dungeon relocation apparatus. I guarantee.] Anna sent Ann a message assuring her that the dungeon relocation apparatus would be fine and wouldn't be damaged by demon cult minions.

[How can you guarantee that? What did you do?] Anna's assurance made Ann more frantic, worrying about the dungeon relocation apparatus.

[I didn't do a thing. The demon cult is after the dungeon relocation apparatus and Luna, the core members of the dungeon relocation research. Since they want the dungeon relocation apparatus, I figure they would prefer it to be working. So they wouldn't dare harm the dungeon relocation apparatus.] Anna reported nonchalantly. She was still not in a hurry to defeat the demon cultists and secure the military base.

[Why didn't you report all this? And why are they after Luna?] Ann was surprised and irritated that Anna was sitting on so much information and did not think to report it others.

[I am the highest authority in this temporary military base. Whom do I report to? Now that you know you report to the others.] Anna was indeed the highest authority on the military base. Therefore, she had no one to report to and had to decide how to deal with the ambush on the military base by herself. And then command her soldiers accordingly.

[Wait! Why are they after Luna? I know she is the core researcher in dungeon relocation. Still, if they can get information that we are conducting a dungeon relocation test here, then they should have all the research work on the dungeon relocation done by Luna and her team. So why do they need her?] Ann didn't understand why the demon cult would risk abducting the descendants of the southern royal family. Stealing from the royal family is one thing, but the abduction of the royal descendants was equal to declaring war on the royal family. No matter where the demon cult hides, the royal family would hunt them.

[Idiot, what is the use of stealing the dungeon relocation apparatuses if they do not know how to operate them? Why do you think the morning star university and the government agreed to allow our family to use the dungeon relocation apparatus? It is because we had Luna, one of the very few people who can operate the dungeon relocation apparatus.] Working the dungeon relocation apparatus was no joke. It required excellent skills and knowledge about the dungeon relocation and not something the could be mastered by practicing a few times.

Because in case of failure, the gate dungeon about to be relocated will destabilize and turn into a small black hole swallowing everything around it for a minute before getting exploded by the World's Will. Unlike earth's will, this card world's will was awake, so it would not shy away from taking action against any potential danger to itself. Since all its creations are equal in its eyes, it rarely participates in mortal's mundane matters.

Therefore, the demon cult required someone like Luna to operate the dungeon relocation apparatus. Without her expertise, they have no use for the dungeon relocation.

[I see. Finish the demon cultists fast. Grandpa Lorenzo said that if any one of the demon cultists set foot in the military base, he would make use of the formation. You have been warned, so don't blame grandpa Lorenzo later for killing all the demon cultists and ruining your fun.] Ann mentally conversed with Anna and simultaneously reported Anna's findings to Lorenzo and other high-ranking soldiers in the base.

[What the —] Anna wanted to cuss the old Lorenzo for giving her an ultimatum but was interrupted by Ann. The latter hurriedly reported Lorenzo's latest discovery, [Anna, the demon cult people can transverse between these tall trees free. All of them are avoiding our soldiers and heading towards the center. This is bad, when the enemy is inside the trees, grandpa Lorenzo's array can't kill them because they immediately teleport from one tree to another. Cutting down the forest is not an option. The trees are resilient, they instantly regenerate and recover after being cut or burnt.]

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[1,032 words]

Chapter 634 CheckMate

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 13:57

Location- Sky Blossom City, D-rank Silver Beach gate dungeon

[Card Name: Bloody Spring

Card Type: Field Card

Card Rank: SS-Rank, Legend Grade

Card Rate: 13-stars

Card Durability: [89/100]

Card Effect: Bloody spring is a field card that can summon a blood spring forest made up of giant blood-red blossom trees. The blood spring forest covers 5 km in diameter with the user at the center.

Additional Effect: Blood Spring wind cage, Bloody spring walk, Infinite Blood Spring, Bloody Spring detonation

Note: Blood Spring is not possible without blood.]

Blood Spring Forest- blood blossom trees are as bloody as the cherry blossom trees are beautiful. Blood Spring Forest is a forest entirely made up of giant blood blossom trees. They have high resilience with instant regeneration and instant recovery. Making them more challenging than weeds to root out.

Blood Spring Wind Cage - the Wind of the spring is gentle, but it can also be deadly. The wind in the Blood Spring Forest prevents any or all the creatures within the forest from leaving.

Infinite Blood Spring- Spring may come and go, but Bloody Spring is infinite. The Blood spring forest will expand to claim its offerings.

Note: the blood spring forest will expand in the direction of the blood sacrifice.

Bloody Spring Walk- walking past the blossom trees during spring and walking through the blood blossom trees during bloody spring are the same. By offering blood to the blood blossom trees, one can transverse through them.

Additional effect- Bloody Instant transfer

Note- spring doesn't differentiate between enemy and ally. Everyone can enjoy it. The Blood Blossoms will allow anyone to travel through them if enough blood is given as payment.

Bloody Instant transfer- by offering a blood blossom tree enough blood, a person can instantly transfer between two blood blossom trees.

Bloody Spring Detonation - All good things come to an end. The user can detonate the entire blood spring forest with a thought.

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The reason the demon cult wanted the blood spring forest to spread and cover the entire southern watch military base was that they knew how to use the various abilities of the giant blood blossom trees to their advantage.

"Congratulations, you have managed to make this battle more interesting and challenging for me," Anna announced to the demon cult card apprentice. Hearing that the demon cultists could walk through the Blood Blossom tree avoiding the southern watch soldiers and unscathed from the array formation, Anna wasn't worried. Instead, she became more excited.

"Hahaha, it's funny to see how arrogantly ignorant you are. Here I can kill all of your subordinates with a little thought of mine, and yet you are thinking of battling me. Give up, little girl. I have already won the war." The demon cult card emperor laughed smugly, feeling that he had already won the war.

"You arrogant dickward. Let me tell you, my punches are a lot faster than your little thoughts." Anna didn't back down. She felt that she could win this battle with a single punch.

"Ignorant till the end. I guess you don't realize how dire your situation is. Let me tell you." Saying that, the demon cult card emperor thought 'detonate.'

boom!

With his thought, the blood blossom tree not far from him exploded. Feeling his win near, the demon cult card apprentice laughed hard and then said, "When you arrived, I thought my plan was going to fail. Blame yourself for being too arrogant and letting me finish my preparation."

"Is that it? What about your people? They, too, will die with mine if you detonate the entire blood spring forest. And what about the dungeon relocation apparatus you guys went through so much trouble for?" Anna wasn't threatened in the slightest, even though the demon cult card emperor had taken the entire southern watch military base hostage and threatened her to blow up all the soldiers.

Anna's reason for not worrying about the demon cult's threat of mutual destruction is valid and justified. If the demon cult card emperor were to detonate the blood spring forest, the soldiers of the southern watch would not be the only casualties. Even the minions of the demon cult will join the number of death counts. It would also lead to the destruction of the dungeon relocation apparatus.

Though the higher-ups of the demon cult think of their members as expandable still, they would be pissed if they were to lose a large number of high realm cult members without achieving the main objective, theft of dungeon relocation apparatus.

"Hahaha, that's where you are wrong. My people have nothing to worry about. Because I will not detonate the tree they are hiding in and the trees surrounding the dungeon relocation apparatus. This way, both my minions and the dungeon relocation apparatus will be safe. Hahaha." The demon cult Card apprentice laughed heartily, telling Anna that he had her checkmate.

"If you blow up my soldiers, then you will no longer have the leverage. And then I will smash you and your minions to death mercilessly. " Anna retorted.

"Haha! Wrong again. Once I blow up your people, I will use their remains as sacrifices to summon the Devil from the demon realm. I have heard that Devils are stronger than demigods. I wonder if it's true? But I am sure they are a lot greedier than demons. They would not return to the demon realm unless they had their share of fun. The city nearby and the other neighboring cities should be enough to satisfy the devil." The Demon cult had prepared to face the southern emperor and the raining alchemist, thanks to the information they got. Therefore the demon cult card emperor had an appropriate field card for the situation. It could withstand raining alchemists array formation and take the military base as a hostage. Successfully trying the hands of the two most powerful and feared people under the demigod realm, Anna and Lorenzo. The demon cult planned meticulously. They were prepared to form a ritual to summon the devil if Anna did not intend to cooperate with their arrangements.

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[1,064 words]

Chapter 635 Demonization

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 14:09

Location- Sky Blossom City, D-rank Silver Beach gate dungeon

"Devil, huh? Are they really stronger than demigods, though? My family has lots of demigods. They have so many crazy stories and souvenirs. My uncle said he slew a few devils back when your demon cult was still in its prime, terrorizing the government, not indulging in petty crimes like robbery. My family did a number on your cult. Hey, nothing personal, just business. After all, the devil's body is a walking treasure trove of SSS-Rank card ingredients." Anna was not lying. She had seen many devils' skulls that her family's demigods had kept as a souvenir. After all, slaying a devil is not something everyone can brag about.

"Shut the fuck up! Demigods have an unfair home-ground advantage in this world. If not for the world's will suppressing the Devil's realm, your ancestors would have died in the hands of the Devil. " The demon cult card emperor was enraged hearing Anna's words. As a demon worshiper, he had unwavering faith in the devil. Part of him wanted to blow everyone up and use them as sacrifices just to see the Devil. If not for the mission objective, he would have done so.

"Dude, the truth hurts, I know. Still, you don't have to lash out at me. Blame the devil you worship for being weak. My family has been kicking the Devil's ass for generations. You don't see us complaining to you about how the Devils are wasting our time." Over time Anna's words made less sense. Still, they managed to rile up the devil worshiper. Proving fanatics are brainless fools.

"You think you are funny, huh?" The demon cult card emperor was in a bind. According to the orders from higher-ups, he is not allowed to make an enemy out of the southern royal family. Right now, the demon cult is still trying to get back on its feet and is undergoing a revival stage. At this moment, they cannot afford to have an enemy like the southern royal family hunting for them.

Therefore, despite the almost perfect plan, he was asked to negotiate with Anna. The Dungeon relocation apparatus and Luna's knowledge in exchange for the lives of southern watch soldiers. Knowing how the southern royal family valued their people,

especially the soldiers, the negotiation was possible despite their famous quote, 'No Negotiations with terrorists.'

But there's one thing the demon cult did not take into account, Anna. This crazy bitch was not playing by the script. Instead of panicking in fear like a cornered rat, as anybody else in her situation would do. She was calmly cracking jokes with no worry whatsoever. She acted as if she had everything under control. Therefore, the demon cult card emperor could not pitch his negotiation conditions to her.

"Out of words, buddy? How about pitching the conditions for negotiation as ordered by your higher-ups?" As the heir to the southern royal family, Anna is already familiar with the demon cult pattern. These guys are no joke. They don't make threats. If you see one of them in your area, you know something terrible is about to happen. But if they do make threats, then you have something they want.

Their negotiations are always one-sided, with no room for bargaining. If you make it out alive after negotiations, you are lucky but should think twice before thanking your lucky stars. One would say instead of complaining that the demon cult stole all your fortune and left you dirt poor. At least be grateful they left you with your life, and you can earn back what you lost in no time. But what they don't know is that if they rebuild themselves is also part of the demon cult's plan to plunder you again. These unlucky people were termed piggy banks by the demon cult.

So when the demon cult card emperor went through the trouble to tell her what would happen. How he planned to sacrifice her soldiers to summon the devil and escape with the dungeon apparatus and Luna amidst the chaos. Right then, Anna knew that these people were looking for negotiations rather than an all-out bloodbath, which was a shame because she was hungry for some carnage. Since her opponents are from the demon cult, nobody would blame her for going overboard.

"What! How did you know?" The demon cult card emperor asked in surprise? Anna knew his next move before he even showed it. This freaked out the devil worshiper. He started to doubt whether there was a leak on their side. This would explain why the royal slut is calm despite her men being cornered. The more the demon worshiper thought, the more paranoid he grew. And finally, he snapped, yelling, "Was it that bitch? So all that hatred and revenge crap, all of that was just an act? No wonder that bitch volunteered for this mission. I should have seen it coming, arh!"

"What the fuck are you talking about? And which bitch?" Anna seriously had no idea what the demon cult card emperor was talking about.

"Of course, you would deny it and cover for her. After all, you both are one team. You guys think you are smart and can screw me over, huh. Let's see who will be laughing when I blow up the whole blood spring forest and sacrifice them to summon the devil. Yes, the devil. He will be my salvation. He will avenge me." The demon cult card

apprentice's eyes had turned pitch black. Black fur had started to grow on his body. Clearly, he was no longer himself driven by pure chaotic emotions.

"Buddy, don't lose control. You are undergoing demonization. Don't let the darkness control you. Before you end up doing what we both regret, take the pill, you son of a bitch. Take the pill." Anna was familiar with what was happening with the demon cult card emperor; it's called demonization. A very common phenomenon in the hybrid bastards born due to the intercourse between a demon and a human. When their emotions go out of control, they gain super strength and vitality in exchange for intelligence and charisma. This phenomenon is so common in the demon cult that they had to research a pill to suppress this demonization.

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[1,040 words]

Chapter 636 Negotiations

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 14:09

Location- Sky Blossom City, D-rank Silver Beach gate dungeon

"I'm sorry. Betrayal is my trigger. Whenever I experience it, I lose control. I thought that bitch, and you might have allied and pulled one over me. Clearly, that's not the case. If so, I would be dead already." The demon cult card emperor apologized to Anna after taking the pill to suppress his demonization. Emotional triggers are the situation that could rile the hybrids up into entering the demonization. And this particular demon cult card emperor's emotional trigger was a betrayal. So when he mistook Anna's calmness as a leak and thought he was betrayed, he was emotionally triggered and entered the demonization state. Thankfully Anna was able to remind him to take the pill in time to suppress it.

"No problem, it happens to the best of us. Who is this bitch you speak about, somebody I know? Hearing you, she seems to hold quite a grudge against me." An unexpected discovery through an unexpected source, finally something worthwhile after trolling the sucker for so long. Anna wanted to know who was so vindictive towards her that they would be willing to join the demon cult. Anna gave it a thought, but nobody came to her mind.

"I don't think you know her. If you had, then you would have hunted her down by now. After all, your grudge against her is not small. Forgive me. That's all I can say about that matter without being called a snitch." After the demonization incident, the relationship between Anna and the demon worshiper had turned weirdly friendly. Still, the demon cult card emperor knew where to draw the line.

"That's ok. You said she volunteered for this mission. Does that mean she is here?" Anna recalled all the information tattled by the demon worshiper during his demonization to help her figure out who was the girl who held a grudge against her.

As the southern emperor, Anna had a lot of haters, enemies, and a lot of displeased people. So one more hater was not a big deal for her, but this one was different. She was able to move the demon cult to achieve her goals. Setting her apart from the other haters. This one showed the ability to do some potential damage to her right now. And what about after a decade or two. Then she might as well be powerful enough to come for her head directly. This alone was enough reason for Anna to take this one particular hater seriously.

"No comments. I really cannot talk about it. Forget about that, and let's negotiate about our current circumstances. Show of cards, I will show you what I got and want, and you show me what you got. I don't want things to get worse. Let's discuss and come to an understanding." The demon cult card emperor suggested to Anna that now that they are at this weird and awkward point, they might as well peacefully settle without any bloodshed. The demon worshiper used the awkward moment to slide into the negotiation deal his higher-up had asked him for. All he hoped for was that Anna would agree and she would not go off the script like the previous times.

"Sure, but you go first. After all, you have spilled most of it anyway." Anna followed the demon worshiper's suggestion.

"Fine, all I want is the dungeon relocation apparatus and a copy of Miss Luna's knowledge about operating the dungeon reputation apparatus. Of course, we will require Ms. Luna to make a soul contract stating that she did not lie or leave out anything in the copy and also there is nothing harmful in it. In exchange, we will spare your soldiers" The demon worshiper finally announced his negotiation conditions. After a thought, he continued, " please don't consider my willingness to negotiate as a sign of weakness. If needed, I will not hesitate to summon the devil at the expense of my people too."

Anna finally understood what the demon cult wanted from Luna. They did not want to kidnap her, but they wanted to make a copy of all her knowledge on demon relocation and its apparatus operation. To make sure that the information given by Luna is correct and complete, the demon cult wanted her to make a soul contract.

Yep, these guys never planned on kidnapping Luna along with the dungeon relocation apparatuses. All they wanted was her knowledge. They chose this despite the easier

way available in order to avoid getting on the wrong side of the southern royal family. After the war with the orthodox faction decades ago, the demon cult was near collapse, but thankfully after a few long years, they have finally entered a revival phase, and they did not want to be disturbed right now. So it was in their best interest not to antagonize the southern royal family by kidnapping one of their cubs.

"Wow! Was that a threat? I will take that as a threat. And buddy, sorry, I cannot accept your conditions because your leverage is not enough." Anna responded without a thought as she already knew what the demon cult card apprentices' conditions would be. After all, he had mentioned them a few times already.

"What? Aren't the lives of your soldiers leverage enough? I guess the rumors about you caring for your soldier's well-being were untrue." What the demon cult card emperor was afraid of happened again. Anna once again did not play according to the script. In concern for her soldier's life, she should agree to all his conditions, but she did not do that; instead claimed that the leverage was not enough, which was equal to saying that the life of her soldiers was not as valuable as the dungeon relocation apparatus.

Anna, as the commander of the southern watch, had to be prepared to make tough choices once in a while. If the people get the idea that by holding a few southern watch soldiers hostage, they can shake down the southern royal family, then the soldiers of the southern watch who are meant to protect the southern region will require protection.

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[1,032 words]

Chapter 637 Groveling

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 14:21

Location- Sky Blossom City, D-rank Silver Beach gate dungeon

"Bestowal card 'Southern Emperor.'" With Anna's chanted, her aura turned divine and immeasurable. And an overawing intent covered the entire Bloody spring forest and everyone within it. As if the domineering intent could differentiate between friend and foe, it provided an assuring warmth to the allies wandering in the Bloody spring forest aimlessly searching for their enemies and bone-chilling fright to the enemies hiding within the giant blood blossom tree.

"Now, do you understand what I meant when I said that your leverage is insufficient? If not, I don't mind giving you a demonstration." Anna's piercing gaze looked at the demon cult card emperor as if looking at an ant. Be it the devil or outer god, here in the southern region. She was the unparalleled one.

"Demi... Demigod. How can this be?..." The demon worshiper stuttered. He felt overwhelming dread surrounded by Anna's overbearing intent. No amount of high-grade cards, rules, and runes can overcome the difference between a card demigod and a card emperor. After all, demigods are near-immortal half-divine beings.

"I hate to repeat myself, but if it's to prove my point, I can make an exception. Now, do you believe that I can punch faster than you think?" Thoughts excel light in terms of speed. While light travels at 300,000 kilometers per second, thoughts virtually travel in no time. Therefore claiming that a person can be faster than thought will be incorrect. But what if the said person is stunned and rendered incapable of thoughts. In the face of a demigod's punch, a mortal would barely have time to think before being sent to the afterlife.

"You broke through the demigod realm? The information we had on you said you didn't even start to forge your divinity yet. So, how did you break through to the demigod realm? This mission is a bust." The demon cult card emperor finally understood why Anna was not worried the whole time. Her carefree and calm approach to him stalling for time as he prepared his trap finally started to make sense. As a demigod, Anna did not have to worry about a mere card emperor and his traps. She could escape it all with a thought. At this moment, the Demon worshiper realized that he was the cornered rat the whole time. He was so full of himself that he never considered this possibility, even when Anna made it evident by not playing by the script.

But then he thought about the cult's information on Anna. It clearly stated that she had not started forging her divinity, yet she could take on semi-demigods by herself. Either Anna had stepped a foot in divinity long ago and was hiding it, or Anna's current show of power was just bravado. Then the demon cult card emperor remembered the Southern royal family's heirloom passed down to the next generation heir for self-protection. And couldn't help but blurt out, "Unless.... He gave you the key! The next heir of the southern royal family and southern region has already been selected. Does that mean he is retiring? This is big—"

A King never voluntarily steps down from his throne in his prime unless he is on his deathbed. Even if that's not the case, still the enemies will consider it a sign of weakness. It will be like declaring that the king is about to die.

Prematurely choosing an heir can lead to conflict, which leads to conspiracies, the formation of factions, and internal struggle. That could prompt a coup, rebellion, and even civil wars. During the change of King, these things are unavoidable, but it will be hastened if the king shows favor to an individual. Therefore, most of the time, an heir is only chosen when it is indispensable, that is, when the king is on his deathbed.

Hence the information that they have already selected Anna as the heir to the southern region was a big and juicy news. Anna's grandfather is basically a war god whose mere presence is keeping a lot of the royal family's enemies at bay. But the news that he chose his heir would only make these enemies jumpy. Therefore, Anna never used the family heirloom unless she knew there would be no witnesses left to spread the gossip.

Boom

Under the oppression of Anna's overbearingly domineering intent, the flying demon worshiper crashed into the ground. Stuck to the ground, the demon cult card emperor couldn't move a muscle and felt his bone fracture under the intent. Knowing he spoke carelessly, throwing away his dignity and pride, he hurriedly begged for mercy mentally, 'Your highness, forgive this lowly one. Please show mercy.'

"I thought you were a smart dude for a demon worshiper. Now, why did you have to go and disrespect my grandfather? I shall claim two of your limbs for this. Give me a hand and a leg." Anna commanded.

Soon the demon cult card emperor felt the overbearing intent oppressing him loosen slightly. Knowing what he had to do next, he jumped up on his feet and mercilessly cut off his left hand and right leg. And then yelled, "As the world as my witness, I commit to hit highness Anna that I will never regrow my left hand and right leg."

"Now that's the smart dude I saw earlier. Now, how should I deal with you for ambushing my military base?" Anna was impressed by the demon cult card emperor's ruthlessness. Had he not made the oath with the world as a witness, gruesome torture by Anna would be awaiting him.

"Your Highness, please show mercy. I beg you to spare this lowly one and my minion's lives. I will be eternally grateful for your generosity." The demon worshiper knew that Anna would not spare him or his minions, yet he was begging relentlessly. While keenly observing Anna. One moment of carelessness on Anna's part, and he would detonate the entire bloody spring forest. With this aim, he was buying time even if he had to forego his pride and grovel at his executioner's feet.

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[1,042 words]

Chapter 638 Sinner

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 14:21

Location- Sky Blossom City, D-rank Silver Beach gate dungeon

A moment that is all the demon cult care emperor needed for him to blow up this military base sky high. This is the reason why the demon cult fanatics are feared. These guys are so ruthless to themselves than how ruthless they will be to others. There was no telling.

"Well, tell me about the girl you mentioned earlier. Ask her to show herself." Anna was in no hurry to kill the demon worshiper because she wanted to find out about the vindictive girl who willingly joined the demon cult to gain the power to get vengeance on her. Such determination was worth her concern.

"...that" The demon worshiper didn't answer. He looked hesitant. After all, he had nothing to gain from snitching to Anna. But if he doesn't make it here today, at least that girl, knowing her, will continue to pursue vengeance. And maybe she will be successful in getting her revenge and avenge him indirectly.

"Huh, I see. You guys are ruthless to the end. Fine. Let's sweeten the pot for you. If you give that girl up, I will let you and your people go. A good deal, right. Your lives, in exchange for one life." Anna meant what she said. She could kill these guys, but on the off chance, if the card emperor is able to blow up his field card, then the losses are not worth the risk.

The loss of the soldiers' lives is already an indispensable loss adding to the dungeon relocation apparatus and not to mention the D-rank silver beach gate dungeon undergoing the transfer. If the dungeon relocation apparatus were to be destroyed, the D-rank gate dungeon attached to the apparatus would also be demolished.

The death of soldiers is a vegetable, but they signed up for this. The destruction of the dungeon apparatus may cost the royal family a fortune, but it can be earned back. But if the D-rank silver beach dungeon were to be destroyed, then Anna would become the greatest sinner of the southern region because the silver milk power was going to pull the southern region out of the bottom and out of it besides the wealthy states like the central region.

The silver milk powder was the ticket for the southern royal family and the southern region to stand toe to toe with other big wigs. Such a god-given opportunity might never appear if lost. Anna knew that there, for she did not dare to gamble with it no matter how low the odds were. This was something she couldn't do.

Anna knew this but not the demon cult card emperor. He did not know how big of leverage he had in his hands. Therefore, she made it seem like she was being generous and willing to level with him in a mutual exchange.

"Your highness, it is not that I doubt your words, but it feels too good to be true." The demon worshiper was not a newborn. He knew that if someone who can kill you and has all the reasons in the world to kill is not killing you, then that person wants something from you. But he did not think that the life of a single girl was worth his and his subordinate's lives. Why would she agree to an unfair deal? Unless she did not plan to honor it.

"Haha, be smart, not a wise ass. If I want to, with my intent, I can flatten every being in this city I feel has a relation with the demon cult. Getting rid of the girl is not the problem, but finding the mistake that I made. The grass that I did not pull out with its roots. I want to know that root so that I will not repeat the same mistake twice. Count your lucky stars. You have something that I require to bargain for your life, or else I don't mind imprisoning each of your and your minion's souls to get the information that I want. You people are not the only ones who can use demonic cards." Anna knew it would be hard for her to convince the demon cult card emperor not to plan a suicide hastily, even if she gave him a good reason because no one in his position would.

But Anna also knew that anyone and everyone would choose life over death when given a choice. Therefore she did not worry about the demon worshiper's choice but diverted his mind from discerning what she was trying to hide. As long as the demon cult's card emperor's mind was occupied with the thoughts about surviving and whether or not he could trust Anna, his mind would not wander trying to find the reason that made Anna so generous. Therefore, Anna did not hesitate to threaten to torture the demon worshiper and his minion's souls for the information she required, to maintain the mental pressure on the demon worshiper.

"Your highness, your generosity knows no bounds, but a rat will only feel safer in its hole." The demon worshiper skillfully asked Anna to assure him that she would keep the end of her bargain. Otherwise, there is no point in talking about all this.

"A rat, huh? I have never seen such a poetic rat. Since the rat feels safe in his hole, a few of your people can leave. But don't you dare try to trick me if you help the girl slip away. Then your demon cult had a new problem to watch out for." Anna let loose her leash a little so that the demon worshiper could start to feel that maybe, just, maybe he could make it out of here alive.

Anna was giving the demon worshiper hope so that he did not plan on drowning while sinking the ship with him.

"As the world as my witness, I promise not to betray your highness's trust. The girl will stay behind and not leave with the rest of my subordinates." The demon worshiper

made a one-sided oath with the world as his witness to show Anna that he could be trusted.

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[1,018 words]

Chapter 639 Descent

Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 14:32

Location- Sky Blossom City, D-rank Silver Beach gate dungeon

After making the oath to show his sincerity to Anna, the demon cult card emperor, under the watchful eyes of Anna, had half of his minions gather next to him. And then, summoning his grimoire, he activated his long-distance mass teleportation card.

Seeing the colossal teleportation circle appear under the demon cult minions, Anna was assured that the demon worshiper would keep his oath. He hadn't given up on life and wouldn't have crazy thoughts of embracing the afterlife by blowing up everything in flames. Still, she continued to monitor the Bloody Spring forest. After all, she would be an idiot to trust a demon worshiper.

shriek! a maddening shriek sound as the people who gathered in the teleportation circle died in the most horrifying way possible, torn to shreds by unstable space. And soon, eerie laughter attracted Anna's attention, " Hahaha, How dumb are you to believe a dying man's oath? Though I will not be here to see the descent of my lord, I will die in peace knowing that you will follow me to the afterlife soon...."

The words trailed to nothingness as their source had turned into dust. It was difficult to tell whether the demon worshiper sacrificed himself or the backlash of breaking the oath got to him before he could sacrifice him. Either way, that crazy son of bitch got what he wanted. Vengeance at Anna.

The demon worshiper never counted on returning alive if he failed to obtain his objective because the higher-ups would not tolerate failure. Upon his return, they would kill him and distribute his runes and cards to death demon slaves trained to detonate themselves to assassinate the target. So Anna's mercy and not a boon for him but a short lease on his life.

Therefore, he never planned on going back. Instead, he wanted to die while being a part of something more significant, like the descent of a devil, so he needed a moment out of Anna's constant scrutiny. Hence he played along with Anna's arrangements. And played his part to assure her that he chose life over vindictiveness.

The oath served as an assurance, but no sane person would fully trust a demon worshiper. His plan of sacrificing his subordinates by using the long-distance mass teleportation card was a total gamble. The demon worshiper hoped that Anna would not catch on to his tricks. In the end, it worked in his favor as Anna focused on the blood spring forest for any last-minute foul play and ended up missing him using the teleportation card to sacrifice his minions to summon the devil.

Death by being trapped in an unstable space is excruciating as the victims are shredded to tiny particles. The demon worshiper couldn't be crueler to his subordinates. Even a butcher or an executioner is more merciful as they see to it that the lives they end die as fast as possible and as painlessly as possible.

With the death of the demon cult's card emperor, his field card was deactivated. With the blood spring forest protecting them gone, in a breath, all the remaining demon worshipers were killed by Lorenzo's array formation. Before the southern watch soldiers could celebrate, the world darkened.

'Damn it, Anna. What did you do?' Ann's voice sounded in Anna's head as the world turned dark, as the sun disappeared from the sky. It was as if the world was void of any color. Everything was black and gray.

Soon a deep yet breathy and labored voice sounded, 'It's time for food.'

The land where the sacrifice ritual was conducted cracked into deep veins and magma could be seen coming out of the large crack. Before the cracks filled with magma could swallow all the grimoires, Anna reacted. Grabbing them, she placed them in her storage trunk card. It would be a considerable loss to let so many platinum grade and diamond grade grimoires burn and destroy in a pit of scathing hot lava.

Then a pair of giant hands extended out of it, taking support from the ground, a massive moldy black oddly shaped creature climbed out of it. With its presence, the world returned to normal, but a dark menacing intent filled the surrounding. This overwhelming and intimidating intent originated from the creature. Heavy intent filled the surrounding area just with its presence, so how strong would its unbound intent be?

The creature's body was similar to a sumo wrestler, entirely made of dried-up molten magma. It has eyes made of burning hot golden-red magma so was its tongue. While the molten lava acted as its saliva. The creature appeared to be drooling as magma could be seen dripping out of its mouth as it pointed at Anna and cried, "Food!"

It wasn't clear whether it was asking for food or calling Anna its food. Soon things became apparent as a freakishly long red hot magma tongue shot out of its mouth, aiming for Anna. Clearly, it was calling Anna its food.

'I will handle it. Don't worry.' Assuring Ann mentally, Anna chanted, " S-rank mythical grade Giga Force, Giga fattening activate, Giga punch!"

Anna threw a Giga punch at the incoming scathing hot whip-like tongue. As Anna's punch landed on the tongue, the molten lava turned tongue, burst into dust. Seeing its prey defend against its attack, it yelled with its meaty throat, "Food Strong!"

"This isn't going to work. I guess I can finally use that. SSS-Rank Legend grade bloodline field card Unparalleled Arena, activate!" Anna knew she could not continue to fight the creature out in the open, near the millinery base. It would not be safe for the dungeon relocation or her southern watch soldiers. Therefore she hurriedly activated one of her infamous unique field cards. Teleporting the creature and her to an arena-type dungeon, cutting them off from the outside world. As long as she defeats the devil in the field card, no harm will befall the military base or the dungeon relocation.

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Date- 31 Mar 2321

Time- 14:32

Location- Sky Blossom City, SSS-Rank Legend Grade Unparalleled Arena

[Card Name: Unparalleled Arena

Card Type: Field Card

Card Rank: SSS-rank, Legend Grade.

Card Rate: 13-stars

Card Durability: [100/100]

Card Effect: A field card created using the unparalleled bloodline. When a descendant with unparalleled bloodline fights in this arena, all the predecessors of the unparalleled bloodline that have joined the world's will, will descend to bear witness to their descendant's battle along with the world's will and the rules within it.

Additional effect: Unparalleled glory, Unparalleled honor.

Requirement: consumption of Unparalleled Bloodline

Cooldown period: duration required for the card apprentice to rejuvenate their bloodline.

Note: A card apprentice can only use this card by feeding it their Unparalleled bloodline. And neither of the party can leave the arena without a proper victory has been announced.]

Unparalleled glory: Be victorious and bring glory to the unparalleled bloodline. Within the unparalleled arena, all the prowess of the card apprentice with unparalleled bloodline will be boosted by ten times unconditionally.

Unparalleled honor: Regain the honor of the Unparalleled bloodline with your life. In exchange for one's life, one can gain unparalleled strength for a short duration.

Note: the duration of unparalleled strength depends on the realm of the card apprentice.

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Soon the devil and Anna appeared inside a glorious arena. Its walls were covered with colorful murals which recorded the unparalleled lores. And then there were giant full-body statues of the predecessors with unparalleled bloodline who had become one with worlds will. As soon as Anna appeared in the arena, the eyes of the statues shone with divine light. The unparalleled bloodline ancestors have descended into their respective statues to watch their descendent fight.

'Why are we summoned?' A sheepish voice asked its fellow statues with telepathy.

'It appears our descendant has summoned us using her bloodline.' Another thought responded.

'Why?'

'Supposedly to bear witness to her fight.'

'I can't believe one of our descendants has such an inflated sense of self-importance.' A thought commented on Anna's idea of summoning her predecessor to watch her fight.

'No, this is more than that. Very creative to think of such a card. If I had this card, I wouldn't be here with you people.' A younger thought sounded

'Boy, if you longed for life. You should have chosen reincarnation then becoming one with the world's will.' Reprimanded a thought.

'I have lived a long and satisfying life, but I think could have ended differently.' The younger thought clarified that it had no attachment to the living but showed regrets towards its last moments.

'Shut up! That's the devil Feastus. I killed him long ago. Why is he still alive? And I thought your generation ended the demon cult.' A wild thought furiously shouted, seeing its old enemy well and alive.

'Hey gramps, you do know that you can't kill a devil. After all, their soul is tied to the dark realms. They can reincarnate limitlessly unless you kill them in the dark realm.' Answered the younger thought reminding the wild thought that devils have become a part of the dark realm unless they are killed within the confines of the dark realm. The devils don't truly die, but their souls fall into a deep slumber and reincarnate once their energy is rejuvenated.

'Fuck Dark realms! Devil's existence in the dark realm is equal to gods. Fighting them there is equal to walking to our deaths.' Another sound pitched in talking about how the Devils are almost unbeatable in the dark realm.

'Forget about killing them. How do you travel to and from dark realms?' Asked another younger thought.

'Boy, don't you know about making Gates to other realms?' An elderly thought asked. After all, it clearly remembers passing down the method to its descendants.

'About that, I destroyed the method to create the gate, fearing my son would fall for the enemy's honey trap and hand it over to them.' A thought reported with great embarrassment.

'What the heck were you thinking? If you had such a prodigal son, you kill him, not destroy the secret arts passed within the family for generations.' The wild thought cussed ferociously.

'...about that, he was stronger than me, so I had no choice but to resort to desperate means.' The thought replied in great embarrassment.

'Who is this fool's son? Come out for me.' The wild thought yelled, believing that if the fool's son was stronger than him, then his soul must have been able to become one with the world's will.

'About that, he chose reincarnation in his final moment. If I am not wrong, he should have been strong enough to resist the erosion in the river of souls. So he would have reincarnated with his complete memory.' The thought, though embarrassed by its son, did not hesitate to brag about him and his prowess.

'Fuck, you are the prodigal one here. I believe it is you who spoiled him rotten. Fuck if I had my hands, I would have slapped your ass back into your mother's womb.' Hearing the thought brag about his prodigal son shamelessly despite having destroyed his family's secret art, the wild thought went ballistic.

'Old foggy, watch what you say about my daughter-in-law.' A feminine thought sounded, warning the wild thought from talking ill about her daughter-in-law.

'Huh. He is your grandson! No wonder. If the tree is rotten, it is no surprise the fruits are also rotten.' The wild thought said sarcastically.

'What did you say to me? That's it. I have had it with you. Come on, let's see who is who, what's what.' The feminine thought was wilder than the wild thought. She was very edgy for someone who achieved true one with the world.

'Ancestors, calm down. I think the descendant who summoned us can hear us. So it is not too late to pass all the secret arts to her once she is done defeating the devil.' A younger feminine voice hurriedly came to mediate between her two ancestors. Reminding them that it is not too late. They could still pass on their heritage to the descendant who summoned them.

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