

Destiny 1441

Chapter 1441: The Appearance of the Heavenly Demon (Part 1)

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With Shin's Battle Genius Talent, the Demon constantly improved and evolved during the entire battle. It was getting used to its new vessel while wielding and merging the two energies under its command were becoming second nature to it.

Although it was still far from being perfect and unable to reach the ideal state of the said Worldly Origin, its power was becoming infinitely close to it.

This Demon in front of him was someone with an insanely high growth potential due to Shin's talent.

Samuel knew that it would be a great disaster if they let something like 'this' roam freely. There would be someone much scarier than the notorious 'Great Demon', who always created chaos wherever he went – or even the 'Heavenly Demon' himself, who could scare the World Government.

Samuel had left Bernard's body for David and the others to take care of so that he could focus on dealing with this demon.

He could subdue it quite easily if he wanted, but he could not do anything rash as this could also risk harming Shin. The 'Seed of Hatred' had already taken over the body, which would put Shin at risk once it was cornered and decided to commit suicide.

Unless there was a decently powerful Mentalist around to put Shin to sleep and seal the 'seed' once again, then they had to leave this 'demon' on a rampage.

But they could not wait that long either since the 'Seed of Hatred' could also consume Shin's consciousness as he was put in slumber after the takeover. Unless Shin fought against it, this situation was very dangerous for him, especially when Shin had lost his mind in his rage earlier.

Of course, Samuel was unaware that there was another 'consciousness' living within Shin's mind that could handle that problem.

Speaking of him, Uno was currently cursing Shin, who just went to sleep after his trauma was reawakened by the scene of Bernard dying.

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Bang! Bang! Bang!

Uno kept on dodging as a series of attacks from the gigantic demonic monster that just broke free from its seal. It was the embodiment of the 'Seed of Hatred' within Shin's Sea of Consciousness.

There were still some golden chains wrapped around its limbs and other parts of its body, slightly restricting its movements, and somewhat stopping it from moving forward.

Behind Uno, Shin was floating in the air, unconscious. He was protecting the latter, as the Seed of Hatred was trying to reach them.

"Tsk! Why do I always have to clean up the mess? If you sleep there for as long as before, then we will be in deep trouble," he mumbled as he glared at the Seed of Hatred fiercely.

He then turned to the side and looked over his shoulder. Looking at Shin, he clicked his tongue before cursing once again. "You better don't use the same trick this time and run away again, or else your father will have to 'fix' you again."

After that, he turned to the Seed of Hatred once again before conjuring a pair of swords for each of his hands. This place was their domain, so everything was under their control.

Hu~!

Regulating his breaking, two types of Internal Qi surrounded his body; one being silver-white while the other was pitch-black. They were the Sacred Qi and Demonic Qi present within Shin's body. Stay connected through mvl

With some adjustments of his mind, the Qi surrounding him looked like a pair of raging flames fighting against one another suddenly thinned out and formed a layer over his body with an alternating color.

They also spread toward his swords and formed a layer of Qi on them, enhancing their sharpness and hardness. This greatly showed how good his control over the energies that he harnessed.

If any Sword Practitioner saw this, then they would be crazy as it was a sign that someone was approaching the ranks of Swordmaster already. In their terms, this was a perfect control over Sword Qi. With that kind of coating over his swords, his battle prowess reached another level.

But that was not the end as he still had other cards in his arsenal.

The next one was his version of the Natural State. It was a state that perfectly matched his talents and battle style.

'Natural State: True Equinox'

It was the counterpart that Shin had been using until he recently achieved it.

But this one was much perfect and more powerful than what Shin had as Uno had combined the two special states that Professor Plum had created to complement his 'Yin-Yang Martial Arts and Swordsmanship', the 'Black Origin Threshold' and 'White Dawn Boundary'.

Uno was not successful at totally combining, but he created something that was not that far from the ideal state that they were supposed to have. One was meant for an aggressive and fiery offensive while the other was entering a state of absolute tranquility.

An aggressive heart and a calm mind; aggressive as fire but as calm as water.

After adjusting himself and conditioning his mind, Uno opened his eyes and looked coldly at the manifestation of the Seed of Hatred.

He knew that he still did not stand a chance against this monster alone. But if it was just buying time until those people outside find a way to stop the rampage of the 'vessel', he could at least do that much.

Swoosh!

He suddenly disappeared from his current stop and instantly appeared in front of the face of the Seed of Hatred before swinging his swords consecutively, sending huge sword waves that turned into a spinning cross.

Bang!

It exploded on the face of the Seed of Hatred but did not deal that much damage. The monster just faced it head-on and swung its claws at him.

But before it could even reach him, Uno disappeared once again before appearing in a different location. He then attacked for another time, taking an aggressive stance.

He knew that he could not afford to stay in a passive state and just defend in this battle as the Seed of Hatred could gradually gain its strength the longer it controlled the main body. It would not take that

long before it gained enough strength to break from the restraints of the golden chains and fully take over the body.

That was why he had to constantly harass it and prevent it from spreading its influence in the Sea of Consciousness, preventing themselves from being consumed by it.

As Uno was battling the Seed of Hatred inside the Sea of Consciousness and Samuel was restraining the Demon controlling the vessel, David was trying his best to contact his master.

But he later realized that Evangeline was already on her way, rushing with the fastest speed that she had.

This place was quite remote and far away from the direction that she was coming from, so it would take some time before she could arrive.

Moreover, she also had to avoid those people from the World Government since they would bother her once she was discovered, wasting more of her time. Even if she was no longer afraid of them since she had fully recovered, the current situation needed her to arrive at the scene as soon as possible, or else Shin would be in danger.

Besides David, Alyssa seemed to be doing the same, but she also realized that same thing. She exchanged glances with David before clicking her tongue and shaking her head.

"You are in trouble. Get ready for the punishment once all of this is over," she said as she could already imagine the miserable fate that was waiting for him.

"Hey! It is not like I am not doing anything! I have been running around doing all the tasks that she and Sir Adam had given me before sh*t happens!" refuted David through telepathy, preventing others from hearing them.

"But your main task is looking over our junior brother," she retorted with a smirk.

The corner of David's mouth twitched when he heard that before defending himself. "Hey! Do you know how much of a troublemaker he is? I have given him both that teleportation and protection talismans to save himself even against powerful people, yet he still ends up in situations like this."

As they were arguing through telepathy, Vincent walked to them and said. "I have gotten a report from our family. It seems like something serious happened in the Ace City."

He paused for a moment before continuing with a solemn tone. "Not only the Black Serpent Mafia is attacking it, but Jan Mateo, the Great Demon, even appeared along with his people."

David raised him when he heard that before chuckling. "That guy is also here!?"

He then exchanged glances with Alyssa before turning back to Vincent as he continued to laugh. "Then he is f*cked!"

A few moments before Shin lost himself.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Ace City.

The battle both inside the barrier and above the city continued. The battles were still as chaotic as before while all sides were suffering serious losses.

The battle between powerhouses above the city was also reaching its climax.

Nathan and Jan Mateo were still engaging in an intense battle at the highest point in the sky. The former was holding his ground quite well even though he was on the weaker side. However, it was mostly because the latter had been seriously injured by Old Ryong previously.

Regardless, Jan Mateo was still gaining the upper hand in the battle due to his command with both the Natural Force and Spiritual Force. The combined powers of the two were much stronger than what Nathan had even with the help of his bloodline power.

Compared to Jan Mateo, his people were not doing that well. Most of them were on the losing end in their respective battle. But since they were Demonic Partitioners, killing them would be a great challenge given that they could constantly heal themselves. So long as they had enough Demonic Powers within them, they would be able to continue fighting.

Well, aside from a single person.

The Demon General who was fighting Old Ryong was now losing an arm after the old man had cut it off.

He could not regrow his severed limb with his Demonic Powers as Old Ryong's powers were preventing him from healing it. That power was like a parasite that was constantly consuming his Demonic Powers whenever he tried to heal his wounds.

This was one of the abilities that Old Ryong had developed after fighting against Demonic Practitioners in the past, which also made him a notorious enemy of those people.

His Demonic Powers made use of the Demonic Powers of the others, weakening them while strengthening himself.

But in exchange for seriously injuring that Demon General, Old Ryong had risked worsening his wounds.

Jan Mateo also had his methods when fighting Demonic Practitioners, especially when he hunted down those that could be his nutrients. The wounds that he could inflict on other Demonic Practitioners were as serious as what Old Ryong could and tricky to handle.

Boom!

As the battle on this side escalated further, a powerful demonic aura exploded in the distance.

Everyone halted in their tracks and paused the battles as they could sense how powerful that demonic aura was.

As Demonic Practitioners, Jan Mateo, his people, and Old Ryong knew what this meant. A Demon was born!

And given the powerful aura that it was released, they knew that it was someone that could stand at the highest point within their 'hierarchy'.

It was someone more powerful than Jan Mateo himself when he first became a 'Demon'. The same for Old Ryong as well as the current leaders of the Demonic Sects and organizations related to them.

At the very least, it was as strong as a certain person.

As that person flashed through their minds, they could not help but speak out loud. "The Heavenly Demon!"

They all turned in the direction where the demonic aura was coming from and saw that the sky had turned dark as if night befell in that place.

They could not see the column of demonic aura that appeared in that place, but they could at least tell that it had reached the sky given the phenomenon that they were seeing.

Jan Mateo suddenly became excited when he saw that. "I finally found you, my meal!"

He glanced at Nathan before smirking. He turned and was about to issue a command to head over to the place where the demonic aura was coming from when something unexpected happened.

While everyone where looking at the source of the demonic aura, a huge spatial fracture appeared in the sky.

It blocked their line of sight as it appeared right between them and the place where the new 'Demon' was born.

Their attention was quickly attracted to that spatial tear, sensing an overwhelming power coming from it. This power instantly overridden the demonic aura released by the newly born demon, making them extremely cautious.

Then they saw an extremely handsome man walking out of that spatial tear while wearing a set of black Taoist robes with golden and crimson embroideries designing its edges.

An intense shiver quickly ran down the spine of everyone as they saw him and almost simultaneously shouted after recognizing him.

"Heavenly Demon!"

This time, their tones carried a deep fear as they stared at the man, who calmly looked at them with his hands crossed behind him.

He smirked when he saw their reactions before staring straight at Jan Mateo and said. "Since you did not heed my warning, I guess I will be taking your life this time."

His tone was calm and collected but his words carried an air of authority as if he was standing on the top of the world.

With his appearance, time seemed to have stopped while the world listened to his words.

Chapter 1442: The Appearance of the Heavenly Demon (Part 2)

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No one dared to move as Adam stood leisurely in front of everyone. They seemed to have forgotten about the birth of a powerful demon due to his appearance. His presence had overwhelmed the powerful demonic aura that appeared in the distance.

Even the powerful experts in seclusion within every corner of the Soaring Kingdom, who were able to make their respective moves to deal with the newly descended demon, forgot about it and put their focus on him.

This person was a living legend even for the old monsters around the world. He was someone who had conquered an entire generation by beating them in the last Battle of Supremacy and the same person who had broken into the headquarters of the World Government and slaughtered those people trying to plot against his wife.

He was also the only man who could make even those who had reached the pinnacle of their respective disciplines wary of him despite him not stepping on the same realm.

He was said to be the man walking at the pinnacle of Martial Arts due to his talents, physique, and martial prowess, particularly in the path of Demonic Partitioners as he was one of the people who had successfully conquered his demon and seized its powers.

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Everyone seemed to have been frozen in place as they stared at Adam with mixed emotions; fear, awe, amazement, worship, and everything else.

None of them dared to move even those people on Nathan's side. Despite them being aware of the close relationship between Nathan and Adam, none of them dared to move carelessly.

Adam ignored everyone as he kept his eyes on Jan Mateo, who was the only person who could give him some trouble.

At least that was how it was supposed to be. But given the current state of the latter, it was deemed impossible.

He smirked a little before glancing at the ongoing back under them. His eyes seemed to be mocking those people inside the barrier, particularly the one from the Black Serpent Mafia.

There was a dangerous glint in his eyes as a powerful pressure was suddenly released from his body.

Boom!

With such pressure, everyone within the vicinity felt likely they were in the deep abyss. Aside from Nathan, Old Ryong, and Jan Mateo, the rest were having a hard time breathing despite their high martial arts attainments.

But what was even crazier about this was the effects that this pressure had on the barrier locking up the entire Ace City.

Boom!

The barrier instantly collapsed under his might, turning it into shattered glasses that were falling into the ground.

The others were shocked at what just happened and unable to respond in time. But Nathan, who was familiar with Adam, understood what his friend was telling him.

Swoosh!

Ditching Jan Mateo and the others, he suddenly transformed into a flash of golden lightning and fell at the Ace City.

Boom!

He landed at the center of the agents of the Black Serpent Mafia, where most of their forces were gathered while blasting them with the aftershock.

He did not bother to look at the outcome as he quickly dashed toward the location of the Venerable Realm Mentalist of the opposing side, who was supposedly responsible for keeping the barrier earlier.

Cough! Cough!

Speaking of that person, that Mentalist coughed violently and even spat out some blood due to the barrier being destroyed.

He slightly raised his head to look at the man who caused all of this before giving orders to everyone telepathically. "We are to retreat! The Heavenly Demon is here!"

Everyone who had heard his voice inside their heads was scared sh*tless after hearing the name.

They all knew that the Heavenly Demon had been targeting their organization recently and even taken down multiple cities in the process.

Belladonna, Boris, Coffin Maker, and Butcher grimaced as they realized that they were f*cked this time.

Coffin Maker could at least choose to be a prisoner by the Magic Ace Academy and World Research Center as he was currently trapped inside the laboratory with the others. Even if he had the methods that would help him escape his current predicament, he did not dare to leave this place anymore when Adam was waiting outside.

As for the rest, they quickly disengaged from their respective battles, rushing toward the Mentalist at the center of the city.

But their opponents would never let them escape now that the barrier trapping everyone within the city was taken down.

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In the meantime, there was still no one who dared to move in the sky.

The Demonic Practitioners that came along with Jan Mateo originally wanted to gather around their leader, but they remained frozen in place as their bodies did not listen to them.

It was as if a fear was deeply engraved in their bodies.

Or more specifically, their demonic cores did not dare to move in the presence of a higher being. All they could do was submit in front of a demon standing at the peak of their hierarchy.

Adam observed them for a moment before removing his right hand behind him and stretching it forward.

The Demonic Practitioners felt a sense of dread as they watched his slow and calm movements.

From their perspective, Adam seemed to have become an ancient demon with a humongous size that could dwarf even the highest skyscrapers.

And as they watched him move his hand, what they were seeing was a giant hand moving slowly and about to seize them.

As they were thrown into an illusionary realm from their perspective, they felt that their respective Demonic Powers were moving on their own.

It was as if they were being controlled or summoned by something.

They also felt that the energies within their bodies were boiling while their cores shook violently.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Not long after, a series of explosions occurred in the sky.

The body of each Demonic Practitioner ballooned as they failed to control their boiling Demonic Partitioners. Then they exploded and turned into a rain of blood that poured down at the remaining people in the sky.

Everyone was shocked and terrified when they witnessed what just happened.

Even Jan Mateo, who was on full alert and about to use his special method to burn his life force in exchange for powers, was unable to respond due to how 'fast' the course of events.

What was left from the Demonic Practitioners were their respective Demonic Cores, which remained suspended in the air.

That was only when Adam finished raising his hand and placed it in front of him. What followed right after his hand paused in the air was a powerful suction force that attracted cores flowing in the air.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Jan Mateo finally realized what Adam was trying to do and quickly moved. He ignited his Demonic Powers and Spiritual Force at the same time, summoning a powerful tornado that fought against the suction force from Adam.

Bang!

But Adam only smirked when he saw that since it was already too late.

Bang!

He also released his Demonic Powers, which manifested a giant purple flame that warded off the violent gust of wind that the tornado that Jan Mateo was creating.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

As for the other experts who remained standing in the air, they were all thrown flying in every direction.

"Adam! You are stepping out of the line a little too much!" Jan Mateo roared as he glared at the opposing side.

Killing all his subordinates and daring to take their cores in his presence was a huge disrespect from Adam.

Adam smirked as he saw the reaction from the other party. "It seems like you have already forgotten."

"Whether it is Ancient Demons from the era of cultivators or the Demonic Practitioners of the current times, all of them must submit to the strongest."

Swoosh!

After that, all the cores gathered hovering above his hand before being burned by a purple flame.

"Ahh!"

"Urgh!"

"Argh!"

A series of cries of agony reverberated as the souls of the Demonic Practitioners within those cores were being burned.

Boom!

At the same time, Jan Mateo moved as he threw his fist forward, sending a beam of light made of the unification of his Demonic Powers and Spiritual Force.

Adam smirked when he saw that before raising his other hand and flicking his wrist, making the incoming beam of light dissolve and turn into countless specks of light.

"You think you can face him in that current state?" he mumbled before disappearing and reappearing in front of Jan Mateo.

Jan Mateo was about to raise his arms to block but a fist was already planted in his abdomen before he could even put up his defense.

Bang!

Swoosh!

Jan Mateo was quickly sent flying higher in the air, flipping, spinning, and rolling in the process, throwing off his sense of direction.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

He then turned into a silhouette that was repeatedly being hit by Adam, sending him flying in different directions while appearing ahead of him and welcoming him with a powerful punch.

Boom!

Not long after, Jan Mateo found himself somewhat buried on the ground while Adam was looking down at him and stepping on his body.

"Tsk! As always, that defensive technique of yours is still as tough as ever," Adam clicked his tongue before adding. "But that only makes you the perfect punching bag as well."

Jan Mateo glared sharply at Adam while struggling to break from the latter. Unfortunately, Adam was pressing on the wounds that he had gotten from his previous battle against Old Ryong, triggering the lingering Demonic Powers of the old man.

"You have been weakened due to your attempt to consume that ancient demon but failed. Then you still insisted on fighting an Old Demon like that Thousand Hands Demon Asura in that state? You sure are getting greedier," commented Adam as he conjured a sword out of thin air with his Demonic Powers.

"But this allows me to finally get rid of you," he said while trying to stab the sword at Jan Mateo.

Swoosh!

But before the sword could even touch the latter, the space behind Adam was suddenly split open before a pair of hands appeared from it and was about to reach out for his head.

Adam quickly halted his actions and disappeared before those pair of hands grabbed his head.

Swoosh!

Appearing a few meters away from his previous location, Adam suddenly swung the sword that he conjured to the side, clashing against a giant hammer that appeared out of nowhere.

Shing!

After slicing the striking head of the hammer, Adam stood straight while looking in the direction where he had left Jan Mateo.

Right now, there was a group of people surrounding this Great Demon.

One of them was a person that looked like a mummy due to the ancient bandages wrapped around his entire body while the other was an extremely buffed guy with a huge hammer resting on his shoulders.

There was also a person with multiple swords sheathed behind him and his waist and a robed individual seemingly shrouded by darkness.

The final member of the group was a masked person wearing a set of ancient-looking robes similar to the one that Adam was wearing, but slightly different due to the plain white color that it had.

Adam observed them for a couple of moments before smirking. "You guys finally appeared."

"I have been running around looking for you, but you only appear at such a great time. If only I knew about it, then I should have not wasted my time visiting your bases," he added before pausing to fix his posture and then continuing. "Snake Head."

"Are you planning to lure that guy next after colluding with those people from the past? You sure are ambitious," he commented as he could already guess the reason why these people appeared. "Or have you become one of them as well?"

The mummy ignored him as he extended his arms and wrapped Jan Mateo with his bandages.

The masked man, on the other hand, stared at Adam for a couple of seconds before saying. "You should be the one to hold his seat, but it looks like it is impossible now."

Adam laughed as he looked at the other part mockingly. "I am no longer the vessel since I come to sense during that time. And I will do the same to stop all of you."

The masked man went silent for a moment before shaking his head repeatedly. "It is a pity. You are supposedly the 'Perfect Vessel' if not for the stupid mistake that that doctor has made."

As they were conversing with each other, the hooded figure suddenly waved his hand and summoned a tear in space that looked like a portal. They walked into it one after another along with Jan Mateo, who was completely bound by the bandages.

Adam did not make his move to stop them since he knew that the scale of the battle would alert the Transcendent and Exalted Realm Experts of the continent.

He was not afraid of any of them, but the battle between experts of such level would destroy a large portion of the continent, so he could not risk it, especially when there were a lot of innocent people that would be swept in the battle.

He watched them leave while saying. "Now that I have already gotten your 'scent', you better hide properly before I come after you."

The masked man stepped back to enter the spatial tear as he replied. "We will welcome your visit any time."

"But I am afraid that you will be busy guarding that entrance for quite a while before you get the opportunity to come after us," he added as the spatial tear gradually closed.

Adam knitted his brows deeply as he watched them leave before turning his head to the side. "It has been a while since we last met, Elder Ryong."

The old man appeared near him and nodded. He then turned to the spot where the group disappeared before commenting. "It looks like they are getting active lately. Does this mean they have found that place as well?"

Adam nodded his head before adding. "I am planning to stand guard at the entrance to prevent both sides from crossing the borders."

Old Ryong went silent for a moment before mumbling. "Then the continuous appearances of the inheritances and ancient tombs must be the sign."

"You must be careful as you will be one of their targets."

Hearing that, Adam smirked as he answered. "They must have the ability first if they want to seize my core."

Chapter 1443: The Appearance of the Heavenly Demon (Part 3)

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After greeting each other, Old Ryong turned in the direction where he sensed the newly born demon was located.

"The one who was awakened just now must be that kid, right?" he asked, changing the topic.

Adam turned toward the direction where the Demon Pillar appeared and slowly nodded his head. "As much as I want to help him, I can do it given our current circumstances."

"But his mother is already in her way, so things will be fine," he added, turning his attention to the Ace City. "It seems like those guys have saved their people this time, which is quite rare."

"It is such a pity that we only got that coward cosplayer," he added as he found that the rest of the experts that were leading this operation for the Black Serpent Mafia aside from Coffin Maker, who did not dare to leave the World Research Center.

After ensuring everything was under control, he turned back to Old Ryong and returned to their original topic. "I heard from David that Elder Ryong has been teaching Shin the way how to wield his sword properly."

Old Ryong smiled and chuckled. "It is nothing. Teaching that kid is quite interesting honestly."

He paused for a moment as he recalled something before continuing. "When I first time saw that kid, I was quite surprised. It is the second time someone has unconsciously provoked my 'Demon Realm', so I am caught a little off guard."

"Moreover, he even breaks free from it without my help," added as he while chuckling. "Then I later learned his background from those old monsters. No wonder that 'Seed' within him possessed such intense rage and hatred."

As they were having a conversation, Adam suddenly turned toward a certain direction before smiling. "It seems like I have successfully lured those people away from the kid." Stay updated via mvl

He then smiled at the old man and chuckled. "I will be going now, Elder Ryong, before another 'war' breaks out."

"Please, look after my family when I am gone," he added as he looked in the direction where Shin and Evangeline were.

"Hoh~! You are leaving your beloved wife? That is rare," commented Old Ryong with a chuckle.

Adam shrugged his shoulders before looking at the wound on the old man's chest. "It seems like you suffered quite a blow against that 'stalker'."

He then extended his hand and released a suction force from it, absorbing the residual energies of Jan Mateo from that wound. He then burned it with his Demonic Flame, completely dissolving it.

The moment when all the residual Demonic Powers of Jan Mateo were removed, Old Ryong was able to heal the wound in an instant.

"That guy has failed to consume an Ancient Demon, but he has gained some powers from the experience. It has given him an ability to somewhat reach the level of the 'Worldly Origin' with the combination of his Demonic Powers and Mental Energy."

"But at the same time, it has caused him to become somewhat addicted to consuming other Demonic Practitioners to gain more power, which also somewhat makes him crazy."

"I guess Snake Head and his gang are taking advantage of that opportunity to lure him to their side," he said before a tear in space appeared behind him, and stepped into it.

Swoosh!

Right after the spatial tear closed, multiple figures arrived and landed on the ground and destroyed the surroundings.

Each of them was emitting a powerful aura, which was not much weaker than Nathan and his friends. Two of them were even as strong as Samuel and the other old monsters of the Councils of Elders.

An old man wearing a general's suit and cap that was meant for the leaders of the World Government's forces glared at the spot where Adam disappeared before clicking his tongue. "He runs away."

Hearing that, Old Ryong shook his head and commented. "He runs away.? More like sparing your lives."

That man in general suit glanced at Old Ryong and frowned. "What is an old demon like you doing in this place? Are you supposed to be staying in that mountain of yours?"

Old Ryong shrugged his shoulders and turned around, leaving the group behind. No matter how hard he tried, he did not like being in the same place as these people from the World Government.

Watching him leave, one of the younger members of the group turned to the general and asked. "Are we just going to let him leave, Sir?"

The General glanced at that person and smirked, ignoring him. He then walked toward the Ace City while waving at his lieutenant. "You guys can leave now. Just leave two to the location where we have sensed the Demon Pillar appeared."

"Though, I doubt that you will find anything there given that person's personality," he added as he walked further.

The lieutenant turned to the group and said. "You have heard the general, you can go back now. Bin and Talos, you two are coming with me."

The person who had talked to the general earlier suddenly asked. "Is that it? Are we leaving like this? We don't even fight anyone."

"And are we going to let that old demon insult us?" he added with a frown.

The lieutenant looked at him and said. "Do you know why all of us have been summoned here? It is because our earlier target is not someone you can deal with ordinary experts. Even the general himself is not confident taking him on by himself."

"And don't get deluded that we are here to capture that 'criminal'. We are supposed to delay him until the 'inspectors' arrive."

Hearing that, the entire group was shocked and looked at each other. The earlier guy did not believe it. "All of us just to buy time? Stop joking lieutenant. There is no way that someone can survive against this kind of group unless they are a Transcendent Realm Martial Artist, an Exalted Realm Mentalist, or a Sword Saint Paragon."

He paused counted their numbers and said. "We have ten Domain Realm Experts here, and all of us are not much weaker than the Dragon King, Sword Immortal, or the Warrior Sage."

Hearing that, the lieutenant laughed and said. "You are saying that you that there is no one who can survive against us? I can give you at least five people who can do that."

"As for the person that we are supposed to delay here, he exceeds any of those five. The general and I can survive if we happen to encounter him here, but at least half of you will suffer serious injuries while the rest will either be hanging on their last breath or die in the process."

"That how scary the Heavenly Demon is. He is the apex of Martial Arts right beneath the Transcendent Realm."

"You have not experienced the terror that he can do. Even the Supreme Commander back in the main headquarters must be wary of that person, yet you are saying that the Demon Asura is looking down on us when he said those words?"

"The might of the legendary Godly Intuition that he possessed along with his battle prowess is not something that you will ever imagine," he added while recalling the incident that happened years ago in the main headquarters.

He then shivered when he remembered how scary the enraged Heavenly Demon was.

"And that was years ago. We have no idea what level he has achieved now given his astonishing progress."

"That old demon is not exaggerating when he said those words," he paused as he turned at Old Ryong before continuing. "If you don't believe me, then you can try fighting that old man. I will assure you that you never know how you died."

"Yet even that old man is not even close to reaching the level of the Heavenly Demon," he added as he left, heading in the direction that their general had indicated.

Seeing their lieutenant left, the two that had been called out quickly followed and left their colleagues, who were still stunned at what they had heard.

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At the center of the Ace City, Nathan and Elias were currently discussing something when Old Ryong suddenly appeared.

"You two can stop now and leave the rest to the World Government. Their people have already arrived," said the old man as he approached the two.

Hearing that, Nathan frowned slightly as he knew the real reason why these people were here. Elias was also showing his dissatisfaction. After all, these people were not around when the city was being destroyed by the people from the Black Serpent Mafia, yet here they were 'taking over' everything.

They just want to show that they 'cared' for the people and be seen in a different light.

"Stealing the glory of others while advocating that they were the ones that chase those 'villains' away – so typical of them," commented another person, who appeared near them.

"Have you marked them, Emily?" asked Nathan as he remembered that his woman was tasked to investigate the cases regarding the assaults on the students of the Magic Ace Academy.

Now that the real culprits were finally revealed, her job must be done.

He also suspected that she must have used her special technique to mark their people during the chaos earlier.

Emily grimaced when she heard that before saying. "Unfortunately, I failed as someone instantly erased them right after I have put the marks."

She was grumbling about the 'failure' of her task when she recalled why she was here. She looked at Nathan with a serious expression before saying. "Forget about me. I have news for you Nathan, and I am afraid that it is dreadful one."

Chapter 1444: Calming Down

.....

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Samuel could not help but frown deeply as he looked at the Demon in front of him. Even if its strength was still far from being enough to threaten him or someone on his level, the current strength of this demon had already reached most of the Demon Generals.

But this was his secondary concern since the primary problem that they had how were the injuries that Shin's body was slowly accumulating.

It was not some injury that the demon had suffered from any attacks as Samuel did not even throw his fist even once. All he did was block all the attacks that the Demon was throwing at him.

The injuries that the Demon had suffered could be described as self-inflicted injuries. It could also be described as the body collapsing due to the overwhelming powers that he currently possessed.

The powers that the Demon was drawing from Shin's body were burdening the body itself. Shin's vessel was still not strong enough to carry the burden of wielding both the Primal Demonic Powers and Divinity Grade Mental Energy.

Moreover, the Demon was also forced to contain these powers within his body, destroying the vessel and its foundation. Aside from that, the Demon was also trying to forcefully fuse the two special physiques that Shin and Uno were supposed to have, the Spiritual Embryo Physique and the Heavenly Martial Body.

Due to the different properties of these special physiques, the energies that they resonated with were also repelling one another.

The Primal Demonic Powers favored the Heavenly Martial Body as this physique perfectly matched all kinds of energies that were meant for Martial Arts. Read new chapters at [mvl](#)

On the other hand, the Divinity Grade Mental Energy and Spiritual Embryo Physique were a perfect match for each other.

These pairs of energies and special physiques were also the highest among the ranks where they belonged, acting almost as the ceiling for the others. But since the two energies were standing at the opposite end of the scale, they were instinctively repelling each other while the two physiques were fighting one another instead of merging together.

Since Shin and Uno were taking over each 'vessel', they were able to harness their respective powers while avoiding any issues from occurring.

But this time, as the Demon took over the reins of controlling the body, the two physiques and the pair of energies were forcefully merging, causing the entire vessel to collapse.

...

Right now, there were multiple 'cracks' across Shin's body, making him look like a stone statue that was on the verge of collapsing.

In the gap between those cracks, subtle light was leaking out along with a black sticky liquid that looked like a goo or something similar.

At the same time, the Primal Demonic Powers were also forming a makeshift armor to cover his body. But due to the Divinity Grade Mental Energy constantly repelling it, the demonic armor was repeatedly being broken, forming cracks on its surface, and falling out into tiny pieces.

Aside from the pair of claws forming over his hands and the demonic 'mask' made of demonic energy covering his face that was barely maintaining its form, the rest of the armor was in a repeated cycle of destruction and reconstruction.

Grr!

Growling at Samuel, who was calmly looking at him, the Demon paused its assault for a moment and tried to catch its breath. Even if it was not supposed to feel any tiredness, neither physically nor mentally, it felt too exhausted trying to fight this old monster in front of it.

It felt like it was trying to climb an insurmountable mountain in front of it.

On the other hand, Samuel was feeling quite troubled as he was not sure what to do. He might be powerful, but his expertise was to destroy anything in front of him rather than restraining someone.

As he was thinking about what to do, the Demon somewhat recovered itself and was about to launch a powerful attack.

It crossed its arms in front of it before raising them along with his head. There was also a strong gust of energy being sucked toward its mouth.

Roar!

With a deafening shout, it was about to release a powerful demonic beam from its mouth.

Samuel was about to raise his hand to block it, but he was somewhat worried as well. It was because this powerful attack could further harm Shin's body once the demonic beam was fired due to the overwhelming power that it had.

Swoosh!

But before he could even make his move, he suddenly sensed a strong fluctuation rushing toward this direction.

He frowned as he suspected that it was one of the experts from the World Government. After all, those people would not let another powerful demon be born into this world, especially due to the nature of the Demon Pillar that Shin had summoned.

Any of the old monsters in the entire continent could instantly tell that it was something more terrifying than Jan Mateo, the Great Demon himself, and somewhat comparable to Adam, the Heavenly Demon who stood at the very peak of Demonic Practitioners.

There were also the leaders of the Divine Cult and Blood Fiend Sect, who were not trying to concern themselves with the matters of the world, but they still remained threatening to the World Government due to their unrivaled powers.

The notorious reputation of the Demonic Practitioners of the past era made people look at them quite unfavorably. There were also the Evil Partitioners with a very bad reputation around the world, who were somewhat similar to them.

This was the reason why most of the powerful experts of the Demonic Practitioners were laying low.

Fortunately, he realized that his suspicions were wrong once he felt the Mental Energy coming from the other party once they came a little closer. It was also because of this reason that he could not sense the latter until they came a little closer.

It was at that point when the demonic beam was about to be fired from the mouth of the Demon in front of him.

But before it could even happen, Evangeline, who finally reached a decent range from them, extended her hand, manipulated the surrounding energies, and turned them into Mental Energy.

Swoosh!

Bang!

At the same time, a giant invisible hand appeared in above the Demon and slammed down, pinning 'Shin' down on the ground.

Roar!

The Demon struggled hard, trying to break free from the restraints of the invisible hand pressing on it. It tried to flip its body over, but all it could do was dig its body deeper into the ground due to the powerful suppression of the unknown powers of the invisible hand.

Moreover, there was also a strange restriction cast on the invisible hand that was greatly surpassing the demonic power within its body.

The Divinity Grade Mental Energy within its body also somehow became more powerful due to the appearance of the invisible hand, giving it the ability to completely suppress the Primal Demonic Powers.

Due to this, the Demon was instantly suppressed and unable to use its demonic powers to commit suicide as it lost control over it.

In the meantime, Samuel could not help but raise his brows as he watched all this, especially when he saw the 'Force of Nature' filling the air turned into Mental Energy, which was supposed to be impossible.

Or at least that was what he believed.

But at the same time, he also felt that it was somewhat possible if it was that person at the very least.

When he focused his gaze in the distance, he saw the incoming person. Then he suddenly smiled when he recognized that person as was to be expected.

Swoosh!

Not long after, the beautiful woman finally arrived and gracefully landed on the ground above the head of the struggling demon.

Evangeline stared at her son with a pained look on her face. She then pointed her index finger forward and a beam of light pierced through the center of the latter's forehead.

The Demon struggled even further as it sensed the gentle energy entering its body. It was the familiar energy that sealed it for a long time, so it instinctively knew what was about to happen next.

"You can rest for now," whispered Evangeline with sad and sorrowful eyes.

...

Inside Shin's Sea of Consciousness, Uno, who was struggling in the battle against the Seed of Hatred while protecting Shin, sensed something.

He paused and raised his head and saw a huge pillar of light falling from the 'sky' and landed on the manifestation of the seed.

Roar!

The Seed of Hatred roared with full rage as the familiar golden chains repaired themselves along with the glowing runes engraved on them.

Clank! Clank!

Bang! Bang!

The Seed of Hatred tried its hardest to fight back but it was pulled to the 'ground' once again where it used to be sealed.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Then the pillar of light suddenly spread across the 'floor' and repaired the broken seal, creating a tougher and much stronger one than what it used to be.

Seeing all of this happening, Uno finally relaxed. He closed his eyes as he exited all the special state that he was in while also releasing the pair of swords in his hands.

He slowly fell to the ground, completely exhausted.

He then stared at the white 'sky' of this place before turning toward Shin slumbering right beside him. "Everything has been settled, but we still have some problems."

"For how long you are going to sleep this time?" he mumbled before closing his eyes.

Not long after, he also fell into deep sleep forgetting everything. He hoped that the next time he woke up, Shin would not be 'running' away just like the last time.

...

Back in the outside world, Evangeline finally relaxed when she saw that 'Shin' had finally calmed down.

But there was still an apologetic gaze in her eyes as she saw the current state of her son. She gently bent down and fixed Shin's position, so that he could have a proper rest.

It was only at that time that she turned behind him and looked at Samuel. "It has been a while, Uncle Samuel."

She then paused and turned at the body lying behind the old man. There was a sorrowful look in her eyes as she apologized. "And I am sorry for arriving too late and unable to save Brother Bernard."

Samuel smiled gently as he nodded. "You don't have to apologize. It is not like you are the reason why all of this happened."

He then turned around and bent down to pick up the lifeless body of his son.

"But I-... I should have seen something like this ahead of time and prevented it," said Evangeline.

The old general shook his head. "Evangeline, I know that you and your husband are doing your best for all of them. But you can't always fight 'its' will. All of them should have been dead a long time ago if not for the two of you taking the initiative to carry the burden by yourselves."

"And that, we are all thankful," he added as he recalled the events in the past. But he quickly shook his head as he added. "But as more time passes, we all know that we are only delaying the inevitable. Sooner or later, their fates will catch up to them and what's supposed to happen will happen in the end."

He then paused and turned in the direction of the Ace City before saying. "Let's save this for later. For now, let's leave before those people discover you and start another unfortunate event."

Evangeline also turned in the same direction before nodding in understanding. "I understand, Uncle Samuel."

It was only at that time when David and Alyssa dared to walk over and greet her. "Master."

Evangeline glanced at Alyssa before glaring at David. "You two, we will talk later. For now, come with us and leave this place."

She then turned at the trio behind the two and added. "Let's bring your friends as well since I need to say a few words to them."

Right after she said those words, a gentle energy enveloped the bodies of everyone and lifted them from their positions.

Not long after, they found themselves flying in the air at a speed that made their visions blurry.

Chapter 1445: Distant Memories

...

"Look! That kid is here again!"

"Why do we have to accept outsiders in our village?"

"I know right? Don't they want to repeat the tragedy that happened in our home? It is because of those outsiders that we have lost everything."

"I don't know what the leaders are thinking. Have they not learned their lessons already?"

"History will always repeat itself."

Murmurs of people around could be heard by a little boy sitting on a wooden bench. Even if they knew that the poor child could hear them, they did not care as their hatred toward the outsiders was so intense that they did not care whether they were someone old or an innocent little kid.

The poor kid sighed as he heard the ridicule, hate speech, and insults by the people in the little plaza. He had heard these since his parents brought him to this village. He didn't understand why they wanted him to stay in this place while the villagers hated them.

He hopped down from where he sat and left with slumped shoulders and a lowered head while walking.

Not long after, when he reached the secluded place, a bunch of kids suddenly blocked his path and called him out. "Hey! Outsider! Why are you still here? Why don't you just leave and follow your parents?"

Looking at them, the kid could not help but frown his brows confusedly. He did not know why the villagers hated him so much when he did not even do anything.

The group surrounding him was at least two to three years older than him. But even with their very young age, they exuded a strange aura. Each of them possessed the certain momentum that was coming from true combatants of Mentalist Clans.

It was clear that each of these kids was trained at a very tender age, where the systematic training was meant for elites of a powerful kingdom. Discover hidden stories at [mvl](#)

As an ordinary five-year-old kid, he did not stand a chance against this group.

The leader of the group frowned when he saw the kid frowning at them. "What?! Do you have anything to say? Are you mad at us? Then leave this village and follow your parents!"

Hearing their unreasonable demands, the kid sighed before resuming his steps. He did not have any energy to argue with these people.

This was not their first time trying to harass him. They had been doing this almost every day since he had come here three months ago.

Their words were usually aggressive, but there seemed to be something different this time. The people of the village were much more aggressive and contained more hatred.

Seeing him walking away after ignoring them, the leader of the group suddenly became enraged and turned around. He stretched his hand grabbed the shoulders of the said outsider and threw him on the ground.

"Do you take us as a joke!?" shouted the leader as an ugly expression washed over his face.

This time, he failed to suppress his anger. He pounced on the kid on the ground and started hitting the latter. "Because of you, outsiders, we have lost our homes! We have lost our parents!"

Bam! Bam!

Pak!

He continued to hit the poor kid until he was somewhat tired. But he did not stop hurting the latter after that. Right after he stood up, he signaled his group, and they started kicking the kid on the ground.

The younger kid on the ground curled his body, protecting his head. He did not know what they were doing when he did not even do anything. He could not understand why they were doing all of this.

He tightly bit his lips while enduring the pain of their kicks. Tears were accumulating at the corner of his eyes, but he stubbornly endured while suppressing the anger in his heart.

At the same time, he was asking his parents in his mind. 'Why did Mom and Dad leave here?'

The people here might not know, but his parents did not just leave him in this village. He knew that they not only leave this place but this world as well.

As he was about to lose consciousness when he suddenly learned a young and innocent voice.

"What are you guys doing?"

Hearing this voice, the group suddenly stopped and turned to its owner. Then he saw a three-year-old boy curiously looking at them.

This little toddler did not only have a cute appearance but also handsome features as well despite his young age. His grey hair had a clean cut, cute and stylish as if someone had some fun styling it.

His eyes had different pupils; one was grey while the other was purple.

Despite the innocence that his extremely young face had, an overwhelming intelligence filled his eyes. A single look at him and anyone could tell that he was an extremely clever and very smart kid.

Despite being a little toddler, he seemed to be full of intelligence that did not match his age.

He frowned slightly when he saw the injured kid lying on the ground while curling his body. The wounds, scratches, and bruises on his arms, knees, and legs were more than enough to tell him what was going on.

"It is the Little Master!" someone from the group blurted out when he recognized the toddler.

The group quickly shrunk when he recognized the latter. They even became terrified when they saw the frown present on his face.

They turned at their leader, seemingly asking him what to do.

The leader of the group gulped hard as he stepped forward and explained. "Little Master, this kid is an outsider. We are just teaching him a lesson-..."

He was in the middle of talking when the little one inclined his head to the side and asked. "What did he do wrong?"

"Ah! Ahm-..." The leader was taken aback by the question before smiling humbly and responding. "Little Master. It is just what I said. He is an outsider."

The toddler nodded his head but still asked confusedly. "I know what you said. But I am asking you what he did wrong to deserve your beating."

He then crossed his arms while waiting for their answer.

"I-... we-..." the leader stuttered as he tried to find an excuse for what they had done. He only managed to force the words from his mouth after an internal struggle. "Outsiders are enemies of our village, Little Master. They will only bring disaster to our village if they continue to stay here."

The toddler continued to look at them confusedly as he responded. "Is that so? Senior Brother did not mention something like this. I should ask him later during our lesson." – but he sounded like he was talking to himself rather than the other party.

Hearing those words, the group became even more terrified. The leader even interrupted the toddler's thoughts. "There-... there is no need to trouble the Young Prince, Little Master."

The toddler then suddenly remembered something. "Ah! That is right! Uncle Howard is looking for you guys. He says to gather in the plaza. Your training is about to start."

Those words sounded like a saving grace to their ears when they heard them. The leader even bowed and said. "That's right! Our training is starting! Thank you, Little Master, for informing us!"

After that, he turned around and started running toward the plaza, not caring for his friends. He left them behind as he ran like a wind.

It took the group an entire minute before they were able to recover themselves. They also turned around and followed their leader as if they were running away for their lives.

For the children and teenagers of this village, the scariest person in this village was not the village chief, their instructors, or any adult around, but this little toddler. Not even their parents were not as 'scary' as him.

His background alone was already scary enough. But what made them terrified was his overwhelming talent that far surpassed anyone.

He was the most talented person in the village. It was said that even the young prince was barely able to match his talents.

Even their parents were scared of this little one. However, it was for a whole different reason. Their parents repeatedly warned them not to provoke this 'little master' – even better if they distanced themselves away from him.

Due to this, the kids within the village purposely avoided him.

The little toddler pursed his lips as when he saw them run away. He knew the real reason why they were in a rush to leave, which made him upset.

He breathed heavily, mimicking the old people in his house, as he saw this.

After that, he walked toward the poor kid who got beaten up by the group. The latter was still lying on the ground and curled his body while holding his head.

"Are you okay?" he asked despite knowing the answer.

The kid was enraged at first after hearing those words. But when he saw the innocent expression on the little toddler's face, he quickly suppressed it.

He picked himself up and prepared to leave without even patting the dust off from himself.

"You are hurt. Let me heal your wounds for you!" said the toddler as he extended his hand.

The kid subconsciously distanced himself from the toddler, but the latter's movements were too quick for him to do anything.

He then saw a golden light come out from the little hands of the toddler and cover his entire body. His instincts were telling him to stay away from that light, but when the warm feeling entered his body, he subconsciously stopped himself and comfortably immersed himself in it.

His wounds and bruises healed at a visible rate; only taking a couple of seconds before disappearing. Not even a little mark was left behind.

Amazed, the kid looked at the little toddler and blurted out. "How did you do that?"

The toddler giggled when he saw that reaction and smiled. "This is called Healing Mentalism! My Senior Brother taught me!"

He then looked at the kid and asked innocently. "But did you do something wrong? Senior Brother says that only bad people deserve to be beaten up. He also says that the worst of them are from a 'place' called World Government."

"I don't know where it is though."

The kid looked at this little toddler. He did not know if he was innocent or not, especially when he could sense an overwhelming presence from such a small body.

He stared at the latter for a couple of seconds before answering. "I-... I don't know."

The toddler pursed his lips and continued. "If you don't do anything wrong and you are not a bad person, then why are you not fighting back to protect yourself?"

"Senior Brother says that you have to protect yourself at all times. And you must become strong to protect yourself, which is why I am working hard so that I can protect Mom from bad guys."

"Dad is one of them. He sometimes bullies Mom. But he is super strong, so I must work hard to protect Mom from him."

After being sidetracked for a moment, he returned to the original topic and continued. "You are strong- ... Much stronger than them."

The kid paused had stared seriously at this little guy for a good few seconds before asking. "I am strong!? How can tell? I am an ordinary person, though."

"Un," the toddler nodded heavily. "I can see it."

He paused and tiptoed while stretching his short arms wide, drawing a huge gesture in the air while saying. "You have this big fire around you just like Senior Brother."

"Senior Brother is super strong, so you must be super strong as well," he added while trying his best to make a serious expression, which only made him look adorable despite his efforts.

The kid did not reply and just stared at the toddler.

Seeing that the kid did not want to answer, the toddler did not press intelligently and just asked. "Anyway, what is your name?"

The kid thought for a moment before answering. "I am Odin. But sometimes they call me 'First' from where I come from."

"Odin? First?" mumbled the toddler before smiling and extending his hand. "I am Shin! Let's be friends!"

Chapter 1446: Distant Memories (Part 2)

...

"Senior Brother! Senior Brother!" little Shin ran back home as he repeatedly called out his respected Senior Brother with an excited tone.

David, who was currently slacking from his training since his master and her husband were busy with their business deep in the Forbidden Valley, was lying on a swing under the tree full of laziness.

The swing was quite huge which could fit at least two fully-grown adults with its size.

David groggily opened his eyes after hearing the excited shout of his little junior. He rubbed his eyes while watching the little guy run at him.

He smiled as he asked. "What is it? Why are you so excited?"

Shin hopped in front of David with bright eyes as he excitedly shared some news. "Senior Brother! Senior Brother! I made a new friend."

Hearing that, David smiled. "Really? What type of beast is it this time? Are they with the other beasts around the village?"

Shin shook his head with a pouted mouth. "He is not a beast! He is a kid from the village!"

This time, David could not help but raise his brows. There was a little seriousness on his face as he asked. "A kid from the village? Which family he came from?"

Shin inclined his little head to the side while pressing his index finger under his lower lip, thinking. After a couple of seconds, he pouted and shook his head. "I don't think he is from the uncles and aunties."

"Ah!" he recalled what the group had said to him earlier. "I see him being bullied by Nikko and his friends! And they call him Outsider! Or... something like that."

David then instantly understood. If it was someone from outside the village, then it was reasonable for them to make friends with Shin without fearing him. All the children within the village were afraid of Shin after all.

"I see. What is his name?" he asked with a smile.

"He said his name is Odin! Sometimes, he is also called First!" said Shin excitedly.

"Odin? First?" mumbled David as he was trying to recall if he knew someone of the same name, who just joined their village. 'Ah! It must be the kid that those dying couple have left in Uncle Peng's care.'

"Un! He said that his parents gave him that name because he is the family's first child!" Shin nodded his head innocently.

'It has been a while since I have seen him this bright,' David smiled when he saw his junior brother's excitement, especially with those sparkling eyes. "Is that so? What else did the two of you talk about? Share it with Senior Brother."

...

A week later, Shin had brought Odin outside the village and entered the nearby forest.

"Let's go, Odin! We are almost there! I can finally introduce you to my friends," said little Shin in full excitement as he led the kid behind him deeper into the forest.

"Are you sure it is fine to leave the village? What if we encounter a beast," asked Odin as he nervously looked around.

"Are you afraid of beasts? Don't worry, all beasts here are good beasts! The bad beasts are chased away to the Forbidden Valley by the powerful uncles from the village!" said Shin with a confident smile.

Swoosh!

Right at that moment, the bushes near them suddenly moved, making Odin jump in fright. "Ah! There is a beast! There is a beast!"

He ran toward Shin and put himself in front of the little toddler, putting a brave front even though he was also very scared.

What he saw was a huge wolf with snow-like furs and a majestic mane. With its savage and glaring eyes, it looked at the two younglings, scaring Odin even more.

But he became confused when he saw that the wolf did not attack them at all.

Confused, he stared at the huge white wolf, which was looking back at him with the same curiosity and confusion.

"Hehe-..."

That was when Odin heard a giggling behind him. He then turned and looked over, he saw Shin trying his best to suppress his laughter.

After seeing Odin's expression, Shin smiled and walked over to the huge white wolf.

Odin's heart almost jumped out of his chest when he saw this and extended his hand to stop Shin. But he later paused when he saw what happened next.

Shin extended his hands while the white wolf lowered its head, letting Shin stroke and pat its soft and fluffy mane. "This is Uncle Bai! He is one of the good beasts living around the village and protecting it against the bad beats."

Odin's lower jaw was almost reaching the ground because he was shocked at that scene.

Shin smiled as he hopped forward and dragged Odin toward the wolf. Even if Odin was older, bigger, and taller than Shin, he could not fight back when he was being dragged. It was mainly because he was neither a Martial Artist nor a Mentalist.

"Don't be afraid! Uncle Bai will not hurt you," reassured Shin.

...

"You-... you can talk with a beast?" asked Odin after seeing Shin having a 'conversation' with the huge wolf.

Shin thought for a moment before answering. "I am not exactly talking with them. But I can understand what they want to say just by looking at their eyes."

"It is like they can talk to me inside my head?" he added with a small frown before changing the topic. "Anyway, let's ride Uncle Bai now. He will take us with the other friends that I have!"

Odin hesitated for a moment as he could not shake off the feeling of being afraid of a beast. It was his instincts after all.

But after seeing Shin fearlessly 'talking' with the wolf and skillfully climbing its back, Odin suppressed his fears and mimicked Shin's actions.

"Hold on the furs tight. Don't let go if you don't want to fall," said Shin with a smile before knocking on his head with his small fist. "I fell one time and it hurts a lot."

"But don't worry even if you fall. I know how to heal wounds! I can just heal you," he added with giggles as if he was looking forward for Odin to fall.

'It is not very reassuring, little brother,' thought Odin as he lowered his body and hugged the wolf as much as he could.

"Let's go, Uncle Bai and introduce him to other beast uncles and aunties!" shouted Shin excitedly.

The wolf nodded its head briefly before pouncing into the air and turning into a blur that dashed across the forest.

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"Haha!"

"Waah!"

Excited laughter and screams of fright quickly resounded in the entire forest immediately after that.

...

Odin could not believe his eyes as he looked at the huge beasts surrounding him. There was a giant gorilla with thick and muscular arms and robust body, a jade serpent that wrapped itself on a huge tree, a saber-tooth tiger that was as huge as the white wolf earlier, a wild bull as big as a small mountain, an intelligent-looking owl sitting on the gorilla's shoulder, and many others.

The only 'cute' ones here were those little tiger cubs, which were twice as big as Shin. They were currently playing with Shin as he introduced all the beasts to Odin.

It took Odin quite a while before he was able to adjust himself to this environment and not get affected by the auras of these beasts.

...

With a new friend, Shin became even more energetic and did not mind the absence of his parents, who were busy in the depths of the Forbidden Valley.

He did not even train as he wanted to play more with Odin and his best friends.

David did not mind this at all. Aside from this being what a kid of Shin's age had to do – enjoying life and full of curiosity and innocence – he could also slack off. He did not have to train himself or Shin, which was what he wanted.

Of course, there was also the head of the village guards to protect and watch over Shin from the dark during their trips in the forest.

Sometimes, David switched with that guard on duty whenever he was bored, watching his bright junior brother with a smile. This was the kind of life that his master and her husband dreamed for their beloved son.

...

"Shin, are you sick? Why do you always drink that?" asked Odin as he watched Shin drink a transparent liquid from a familiar vial.

During his time with Shin, he had seen this little toddler drink from this vial at least once a day. He was confused and curious at the same time, so he finally asked when he could no longer suppress his curiosity.

Shin smiled at him and said. "I think so. Mom and Dad say that I must always drink this whenever I feel dizzy. They also say to tell Senior Brother before I even run out of it."

After that, Shin suddenly stood up and said. "I have to go now and train with Senior Brother. Mom and Dad are coming back."

"I can't come with to play with the beast uncles today, but I will make sure to be there tomorrow," he added as he hopped from the wooden bench where they sat.

He then smiled before running toward their home.

Odin watched Shin's back for a while before sighing. He was alone again. But at least it was not as bad as before as he at least had 'someone' to play with this time.

Thinking about this, he smiled and hopped from the bench and picked up the basket of fruits before running outside the village.

...

At the village plaza, a man with full of white hair with an overgrown beard and mustache that was almost covering the lower part of his face.

He swayed left and right as he walked while holding a wine jug in his hand. From time to time, he was chugging the wine from the jug, making his swinging worse.

Some of the wine was also leaking from the corner of his mouth as he drank, making his appearance messy.

The villagers who saw him could not help but shake their heads and smile bitterly. They were looking at him with pity.

"Poor Erick. He is always like that," said one of the old villagers with a sigh.

"It is that time already, right?" asked the female fruit vendor beside the old man.

Another person joined them before chiming in the conversation. "Yes. It is that time of the year."

"Tsk! Tsk! It is not like he is the only one to lose our loved ones," said the fruit vendor. "We also have lost someone from that incident, but he always loses himself whenever the anniversary is approaching."

"Sigh~! I hope nothing will happen this time. Every time he is like this, an accident happens," the old man shook his head before continuing his afternoon tea.

As the villagers were already used to this scene, they ignored the poor man and continued their respective businesses.

On the other hand, Erick, who was too drunk to think straight, exited the village and reached the forest groggily.

At that moment, he saw a kid running deep into the forest while hugging a basket full of baskets. He squinted his eyes coldly as a word of anger spat out of his mouth. "Outsider!"

With that, he struggled to walk forward while his body swayed left and right.

...

Shin, who just arrived at their house, frowned when he could not find his Senior Brother. They were supposed to train right now, but it seemed like David was slacking off somewhere once again.

Shin pursed his lips a little while pressing his finger under his lower lip out of habit. But he later smiled when he thought of blaming his Senior Brother when his parents came back home and learned that he skipped his scheduled training.

"Hehe!" with that mischievous thought, he turned around and ran outside the village and toward the deeper parts of the forest excitedly.

Chapter 1447: Distant Memories (Part 3)

.....

As Odin ran deeper into the forest, a sense of danger suddenly made him halt his steps. He looked around with both confusion and nervousness, trying to find the source of this unpleasant feeling.

He was not sure what it was, but he felt that something ominous was about to happen.

"Should I go back instead?" he mumbled as he was getting a bad feeling about this.

As he looked around, he felt that the forest was somewhat different compared to what it used to be. It seemed like there was some dread looming in the air, making the atmosphere somewhat different than it usually was.

But when he looked ahead, he changed his mind.

He knew that he was about to reach the usual meeting place with Bai, the white wolf. He shook the fears just like how he first met the beast friends of Shin. He trusted that the white wolf would protect him.

He then resumed his steps and ran toward the meeting point.

...

Somewhere deep in the forest, David was currently crouching on the ground while looking at the huge footprints that looked like left by an unknown beast that they had never seen before.

They knew all the beast monsters within the perimeter surrounding the village, so they were all familiar with the traces that each beast left behind whenever they roamed around.

Moreover, these beast monsters were also acting as some sort of guardians of the village, so all the villagers were not only friendly with them but respectful as well.

After observing it for a while with the help of his Enlightened Eyes, he extended his hand and touched the sticky liquid left alongside the footprint.

He rubbed his fingers to feel the texture of the unknown substance before smelling it.

Not long after, a man in his mid-fifties walked over along with a group of dogs around him. He was carrying a quiver full of arrows and holding a wooden bow at hand. From his appearance alone, anyone could tell that he was an experienced hunter.

Despite his somewhat old appearance, he was quite fit and robust. He was strong without a doubt, especially with that kind of overwhelming aura that was shrouding his body.

"What do you think, young prince?" asked the old hunter as he walked over to David's side.

Even if he was still young, David was greatly respected by all the people within the village. Not only because of his background of being their prince but also because of his great talent in Path of Mentalism.

Even in their fallen kingdom, someone like him rarely appeared in their history. There were only a handful of individuals appeared with such talent even with their long history.

What was surprising about this two of them were from a consecutive generation.

This old hunter was one of the elite guards of their king, who managed to survive the disaster of their kingdom. Right now, he was working as one of the guards protecting the village after they had lived in this place.

Earlier, when he was doing his usual patrol, his group discovered a breach in the protection array protecting the village.

They tried to track this unknown monster, but they could not find it no matter what methods they used.

The guardian beasts also tried helping them since their senses were sharper than humans, but even they could not help.

Regardless, they still started looking for this unknown beast that managed to enter the perimeter of the village. They could not just let it roam around as it could endanger the lives of the villagers.

It would be fine if it was just some tamed beast just like the guardians protecting the village. But it would be troublesome if it was a wild monstrous beast that could harm the others.

Fortunately, this beast only managed to breach the outer protection array, so it could not go deeper into their territory.

Right after they had realized that a possible monstrous beast entered the barrier, the guards quickly spread to check the second protection array to see if it was broken as well.

Fortunately, the second protection array had no cracks on it and was perfectly fine, so the beast was still somewhere in the outer perimeter of the forest.

As they were having a hard time looking for this beast, they had no choice but to ask some assistance from David, who possessed the Enlightened Eyes, who could see through all the lies and truths of this world.

Hopefully, they could track down the beast with his help, so that the guards could deal with it.

David stood up while wearing a deep frown. He then looked at the old hunter and said. "Granpa Berret, I think we should gather all the rangers now."

The old hunter knitted his brow when he heard the serious tone of David ask. "What's wrong, young prince?"

David pointed at the huge footprint of the monster while saying. "This is left behind by a monstrous beast without a doubt. And if I am not wrong, it is an injured beast that managed to escape from the valley."

Hearing that, the pupils of Berret suddenly contracted. There could only be a single place that could be a single place called 'valley' within this place – the Forbidden Valley.

Berret did not even doubt David's words as he quickly reached for the whistle hanging in front of his chest and blew it.

There were no sounds released from the whistle when it was blown. It was as if something was stuck inside its pipe and preventing the wind from coming through, hence not releasing any noise.

But that was only on the surface as it was a special tool created by them through special refining methods of their kingdom.

Other people or creatures could not hear anything from that whistle, but Mentalists could if they were using a special Mentalism Method.

Shriek!

Hearing the unique sharp sounds that the whistle produced, which also resembled the cry of a certain best, all the patrolling guards within the forest quickly turned to the location where it was coming from before sprinting toward it without any hesitation.

This sound was a signal from their leader, which also indicated that there was an emergency.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Not long after, the entire unit of the rangers finally arrived and lined themselves up in an organized manner before simultaneously respectfully kneeling on the ground as David stood in front of everyone.

David looked at everyone with his Enlightened Eyes fully activated. "I will divide you into two groups!"

He did not even wait as he started pointing them out one another, letting them stand on his left and right side. When he was done, he looked at them again, seeming to confirm something.

After that, he turned to Berret and said. "Grandpa Berret, those standing on my left are infected while the rest are fine."

Berret nodded his head before standing to give his instructions. "Those on the left, quickly head to the Temple and get yourselves cleansed by the shrine maidens. The rest, we are going back to the village and report to the 'Chief'."

The group did not even question his instructions as they quickly moved according to his words.

...

"Ah!"

At the same time, Odin, who was about to reach the meeting point with Wolf Bai, fell on his butt after bumping into someone.

Thud!

The basket of fruits that he was carrying fell on the ground not far away, making the fruits roll on the ground a scattered.

Odin endured the little pain as he raised his head. His body suddenly froze when he saw a huge man standing in front of him. The eyes of this person were so cold that it made him shiver.

This person was Erick, who followed Odin deep into the forest. His breathing was heavy and rapid as if he was currently struggling.

The more he looked at Odin, the harder it was for him to suppress his anger. His rationality was slowly slipping away, making his eyes see nothing but darkness.

He subconsciously controlled his Mental Energy and stretched his hand out.

Odin, who was only a kid and an ordinary person, could not endure the suffocating aura coming from Erick. He wanted to move away from the latter, but his body refused to listen to him due to fear.

His eyes were on the verge of tears, but he stubbornly held them back and put up a strong front.

That was when he saw a huge and dark silhouette of a wolf behind the person. Find exclusive stories on MVL

Erick also sensed the presence behind him, so he quickly moved and leaped forward. He twisted his body in the air as he turned around to look who or what it was.

That was when he saw the guardian beast.

[Villager Erick, what are you planning to do with the poor kid?] The wolf used its telepathic powers to talk.

Odin's eyes turned wide and snapped out of his trance when he heard Bai's voice for the first time.

Erick, who was lost in his rage and very drunk, did not back down despite the hidden threat behind the words of the beast. "Guardian Bai, that kid is an outsider! He will bring disaster to us if we let him continue staying within the village."

[Villager Erick, I suggest you go to the streams and let yourself sober up. You are reeking of the dark scent.] said Bai as he walked forward and stood in between Odin and Erick.

"You are siding with an outsider even though you are our guardian?" Erick's eyes were becoming bloodshot as the Mental Energy that he was releasing was showing a hint of corruption.

Bai squinted his eyes as he could pick up an unpleasant scent coming from that Mental Energy. He might not know the current cultivation system of the humans, but he knew when someone was falling into their inner demons or suffering a Qi Cultivation Failure just by their 'scent'.

He knew that the situation was getting dangerous.

[Little One, can you run back to the village?] asked the wolf through telepathy.

Odin, who just recovered himself but was still scared, slowly nodded his head in response.

Bai was about to instruct Odin when he suddenly sensed something. He quickly turned his head, picked the little kid with his mouth, and threw him on his back.

The entire process was quick yet flawless, making Odin land on the soft fur on his back.

Odin instinctively hugged the wolf as he usually did whenever he was riding its back, tightly grabbing its furs.

Swoosh!

As if something had affected his mind, Erick suddenly snapped and started attacking.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

He went on a rampage, chasing after Bai, who was constantly dodging his attacks while running towards the village.

Bai would have no problem defeating this human given his strength, but he did not want to hurt this villager, so he had to hold back.

Moreover, he also had to protect Odin, on his back who was the main target of Erick whenever he attacked.

He could only lure Erick toward the village so that the guards would deal with him.

The commotion instantly attracted the villagers and they looked in the direction where it was coming from. The guards also quickly moved and headed toward it without any hesitation.

Berret, who was leading his group to head back to the village, also sensed the commotion despite being far from it. The same with his unit, who had sharp senses.

They first thought that it might be the monstrous beast that they were chasing. They did not even hesitate to change their course and sprinted toward the explosions.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

As Erick was falling deeper in his rage, his attacks were getting more aggressive. He was even using some of his special techniques when attacking.

Bai knew that this was getting dangerous for Odin, so he despite to risk hurting himself to protect the kid on his back.

Bang!

A clean hit landed on the wolf as it tried to pick Odin from its back with its tail.

This very scene was seen by a little toddler in the distance, who just arrived at the scene. Seeing the blood coming from the mouth of the wolf and the huge wound on its body, dyeing its pure-white furs red, something snapped inside the toddler's chest.

Crack!

Then he saw a little kid fly in the air from the tail of the wolf. The impact of the attack was so strong that it failed to get hold of Odin.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Odin's small back hit the nearby tree before bouncing on the ground after.

Seeing his only friend lying on the ground without moving, Shin's eyes suddenly turned crimson as he shouted. "Odin!"

Boom!

Then a black Qi was suddenly released from his body and formed a huge storm of energy.

Chapter 1448: Distant Memories (Part 4)

...

Boom!

As Berret and David were rushing toward the direction where the commotion was coming from, the old hunter sensed a few familiar auras coming from that place.

One of them was a villager while the other was a guardian beast. The former was in an unstable state, seemingly on the verge of being crazy, while the other was somewhat in a weakened state, indicating that they were heavily injured.

Then there were also two more presences coming from that location.

One of those two was somewhat unfamiliar, but it was not coming from any Mentalists from the villagers, which meant that they were not someone from the village. In the meantime, the other possessed a unique feature that no one could forget. Anyone from the village would be able to recognize such a presence even if they were from miles away.

What was surprising about this was this person was in an unstable state, seemingly on the verge of berserk.

Squinting his eyes, Berret increased the range of his perception technique so that he could see what was happening in that place in a clearer state. His eyes also glowed with a golden light as he used an ocular technique to enhance his vision.

Through the darkness, his eyes seemed to be able to see a series of golden lights. These lights gathered and formed a few figures in the distance, seemingly re-enacting the events in their destination.

The golden figures moved as he watched with a grim look on his face.

"We are accelerating our pace! Erick is wreaking havoc and seems to have lost his mind in anger!" he commanded while enveloping his body with Mental Energy.

Swoosh!

A moment later, he sprinted and flew forward, leaving the rest of the group behind.

In the meantime, the rangers behind him also used their respective Mentalism Enhancements to increase their speed and catch up to their captain.

"Tsk! Tsk! Erick has really done it this time!"

"Banishment from the village will be the last of his worries."

"This is even more serious since the leaders are away to clear the Forbidden Valley."

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

On the other hand, David remained silent as he ran alongside them. There was a serious look on his face as his Enlightened Eyes could clearly see what was happening in the distance.

He had a bad feeling about this, especially when he sensed the presence of his junior brother in that place.

"Please don't lose it, junior brother," mumbled David worriedly as he increased his speed, overtaking even the adult rangers running alongside him.

Swoosh!

...

Boom!

An ominous storm of Qi was released from Shin's body as he lost himself to the feeling that he had never felt before.

Snap!

There seemed to be a sound of broken glass reverberating in Shin's ears.

Crack! Crack!

Then it was slowly spreading wide while a series of whispers sounded.

"He is a bad person!"

"He hurts your friends!"

"You must punish him!"

...

...

The more Shin heard those words, the more he felt enraged. Then the final words sounded when he could no longer suppress it.

"Lend me punish him for you! I will punish him for you!"

Hearing these words that seemed tempting him, Shin finally lowered his guard and let whoever that person controlled his body.

Boom!

Right after the possession was complete, Shin's eyes became completely red, dark crimson even. It was as if those pupils were dyed in blood.

This 'Shin' did not immediately attack Erick, who was making his way toward the unconscious body of Odin.

Instead, he smiled before raising his head and staring through the darkness. As if he was able to see through everything, he looked straight into the eyes of a person who just arrived at the scene.

This person was the guard assigned to protect Shin. He was neither David nor the chief of the village guards, who were usually watching over Shin whenever he left the village. Those two were currently busy with the task of looking for the clues of the unexpected breach on the outer barrier protecting the village which was why he had sent her to look after Shin temporarily.

This was supposedly an easy job since most of the people living within the village were in harmony. They did not hurt or argue much with each other due to their similar backgrounds.

All of them were from the same root. They were from the same fallen kingdom of Solomon, the sacred land of Mentalism.

The moment when this guard reached the scene, he immediately fired his Mental Energy into the air, sending a signal to everyone that there was an emergency.

He was also on the move, wanting to restrain Erick, who just lost himself and was about to fall into the pit of rage. This fellow from the same kingdom was about to get consumed by his inner demon, so he had to do something before the situation could escalate further.

But something seemed to have pulled his attention before he could even do something with the situation.

Then when he looked in the direction where it was coming from, he could not help but freeze as he saw the crimson eyes staring back at him.

Without being able to put up a fight, and due to him being caught off guard, his mind was easily invaded. It then knocked him unconscious.

That was only when 'Shin' turned his attention to Erick. But he did not plan to make his move as he wanted this person to continue what he was doing so that the real Shin would lose himself in rage even deeper.

"Ahh!"

But since he just took over the body, he did not have full control over it.

Then he felt that a wisp of his energy was ripped from his body and went somewhere deep in the vessel that he was in, forming a new 'seed', albeit being extremely tiny and completely untraceable.

This was just a hint of a new hatred, which signified that it was about to be born.

Due to the two 'hatred' clashing against each other, the new 'Shin' was kicked out of control. This led to the vessel losing its 'rationality' and moving on its own.

In berserk, it moved according to its instincts and attacked Erick.

Swoosh!

Erick was caught off guard and got hit by a small fist in the face.

Since he also lost himself in rage, he could not properly perceive the surroundings. This made him miss the earlier commotion.

He flew and collided with the nearby tree, robbing him of his ability to move for a moment.

Thud!

That was when he snapped out of his current state. He also remembered what happened, especially what he had done. This instantly sobered him up along with a head-splitting headache.

But at the same time, he also sensed someone standing in front of him.

Slowly raising his head, he saw a young 'demon' looking at him with savage eyes.

"I-... I-..." Erick started to stutter as he did not know what to say. He also lost his ability to fight back due to being scared of the current appearance of the young demon in front of him.

Shin slowly raised his small fist as a spiral energy revolved around it, forming a pointed and spinning spear.

Erick was too scared to move his body, seemingly forgetting all his Mentalism attainment.

...

"Urgh!"

At the same time, a subtle groan came out from Odin's unconscious body. The kid slowly regained his consciousness before feeling the intense pain coming from different parts of his body.

He slowly opened his eyes and looked at the surroundings. A flood of events seemed to flash through his mind as he recalled what just happened.

This quickly sobered him up, making him widely awake. He was terrified, especially when he saw the blood on his hands and felt the warm liquid dripping on his face.

He tried to stand up, but he could not be due to the pain across his body.

But when he accidentally raised his head, he saw Shin standing in front of Erick.

His eyes turned wide as he saw the current appearance of his friend. He could not help but unconsciously move back despite the pain that was assaulting him.

Shin was more like a demon than a person right now. He was even more terrifying than the beasts in the forest when they were enraged.

Instincts overwhelmed Odin as he wanted to run away from this place after finding an unknown strength to stand up. But when he was about to move, he suddenly realized what Shin was trying to do.

"N-no! Don't do that-... Shin!"

He did his best to force out those words from his throat, but Shin was unable to hear him due to his current state.

Odin understood that Shin was unable to go back if he killed that person. He tried to look around for any help, but he could not see anything or anyone.

Even Bai was already in critical condition at that time due to the serious wound that he had gotten earlier.

Knowing that no one could save Shin other than him, Odin summoned all his courage and ran toward Shin and Erick. Adrenaline ran through his veins as ignored the pain across his body, forcing it to move.

When he saw that Shin was about to throw a punch toward the terrified Erick, Odin leaped forward while shouting desperately. "No! Shin! Don't-...!"

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Puchi!

The sound of something sharp piercing to a flesh could be heard.

Odin was successful at snapping Shin from his berserk state, but that was in exchange for something important.

"Ah-... O-Odin-... w-why-... I-..." Shin stared blankly in front of him.

Odin stood before Shin with his arms spread wide while smiling at Shin. "I'm sorry, Shin. It seems like they are right. An outsider like me will only disturb the peace of this village."

Blood was dripping from the corners of his mouth as he maintained his smile.

His original intention was to save Shin. But from the look of it, he had made it worse. "Shin, thanks for being my friend."

"Don't be sad. I am sure that we will meet again someday," he stretched his hand and touched Shin's cheeks. "Don't be mad because of me, you will be a bad kid."

"Promise me that you will be a good kid, alright?"

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

It was only at that moment when Berret and the others arrived at the scene. They could not help but pause their tracks when they saw the scene in front of them.

They stared with wide eyes at Shin and Odin, unable to move.

Swoosh!

Then they watched as Odin's hand lost its strength and fell.

Shin was staring at Odin blankly, unable to process what was happening due to his very young age. He was confused as a series of overwhelming emotions flooded him. His chest tightened as tears started flowing from his eyes.

"Ahh!"

He then broke down and started crying.

Swoosh!

It was at that moment when David appeared beside him. He pulled Shin to his arms as his junior brother cried hard.

"Senior Brother-... I've become a bad kid-... what I am going to do-... I am a bad kid now-..."

At the same time, Berret walked over to Erick, who was still stunned and unable to move from his position. "Erick, you are arrested according to the first law of Solomon-..."

...

A week after the incident, Shin shut himself inside his room, unwilling to go out.

David was getting worried and did not know what to do. His master and her husband were currently busy dealing with the powerful beasts that were trying to cross the Forbidden Valley alongside the other elders. They would take at least a whole month before they came back.

Berret regularly visited along with the other elders of the village as they were also worried about the situation.

Moreover, David and Shin were still too young to handle the current situation. Even if they were much smarter and wiser than kids around their age, they were still innocent and inexperienced kids, nevertheless.

Erick was held accountable for the incident. He was currently imprisoned inside the village's dungeon, waiting for his verdict when the villager leaders came back.

At the same time, the people of the village started to fear Shin even more due to this incident. Even if he was not to be blamed, the powers of the seed that he had inherited from his father were still something that terrified them.

They even warned their kids to never get near him due to this.

Swoosh!

While David was currently resting in the courtyard, the sliding door of their house suddenly opened. He quickly stood up as he knew that Shin finally come out.

When he stood in front of Shin, he could not help but frown as the little toddler was somewhat different from before. He did not know what exactly it was, but he was sure that something had changed.

Shin looked at David and said. "Senior Brother. The kids don't want to play with me because I am a bad kid, right?"

"Ah-...!" David was slightly taken aback by the question, but he quickly recovered and swiftly shook his head. "No."

Shin shook his head. "No. I know. Shin is a bad kid that is why everyone doesn't want to play with me. Shin even hurt Odin."

David raised his brows while looking at Shin.

Shin was starting to become aware of his powers.

Before David could even respond, Shin added. "Senior Brother. Can you come with me in the forest? I want to play with the uncles and aunties in the forest to say goodbye to them."

"Goodbye? Why are you saying goodbye to them?" asked David.

"Un," Shin nodded. "Shin will say goodbye to them. I will be staying home now. I will not be able to play with them anymore."

"I don't want to hurt them as well," he added with a sad tone.

David fell silent for a moment before agreeing. "Alright. Senior Brother will come with you. But we also have to bring Granpa Berret, alright?"

"Un," Shin nodded while keeping his head low.

David stared at him for a couple of moments before extending his hand to hold Shin. "Let's Go."

Chapter 1449: Why?

...

Haa-... Ha-...

David ran through the forest as fast as he could. He did not know what just happened, but he suddenly fell asleep when he was watching Shin play with the guardian beasts.

It was the same for Berret, who was supposedly watching over them the entire time.

The two of them ran to the best of their abilities as they heard a loud cry coming from the deeper parts of the forest.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

They could not help but halt their tracks when they arrived at their destination. What they saw was a gruesome scene where the entire place was dyed red with blood while the flesh, innards, and different parts of a monster's body were scattered everywhere.

In the middle of all of this was a little toddler drenched in blood while holding the arm of an unknown monster that they had never seen before.

Not far from the small toddler was the corpse of the monstrous beast that was ripped into shreds while the corpses of the guardian beast littered around it alongside the broken and torn parts of their bodies.

Just from the scene, it was clear that a single person did everything.

Berret, who was a strong Mentalist at the peak of Rulers Realm and a veteran hunter, could instantly guess what had happened here.

It might sound strange, but he could tell that the monstrous beast in front of Shin was the first to die while the surrounding guardian beast was killed after.

He was not sure what just had happened, but he could at least guess that something had happened again.

The pair looked at Shin, who was standing in the middle of everything while looking at his bloody hands.

Shin slowly turned to them and was on the verge of tears.

"Big Brother-... Senior Brother-... Did I really become a bad kid?"

"I am a bad kid, right?"

"I-... I-... I hurt my friends! I hurt them all!"

"First is Odin, then the uncles and aunties of the forest-..."

"But-... But-... it is not my fault! It really is not my fault!"

"I just-... I just-... want to play with them one last time, but this bad one appeared out of nowhere and wanted to hurt us."

"Then-... inside my head-... someone-... someone says that I have to protect them."

"But-... But why did I hurt them again?"

"Is this because-... I have become-... a bad kid? No wonder-... the kids don't want to play with me."

"No wonder-... everyone hates me! Why am I like this?"

Watching Shin cry and stutter, David could not help but feel a deep pain inside his chest. It felt like someone was squeezing his heart while he watched his junior brother break down.

He was just a kid! A very young one at that!

Why did he have to undergo such a painful experience?

Why him? Just why?

David clenched his fists as he walked over and pulled Shin to his arms once again. He could feel the pain as he shared a similar feeling.

On the side, Berret could not help but look at the pair with sad and pitying eyes. This pair of senior and junior brothers carried a burden of their own – one of them was cursed by destiny while the other had the duty of avenging and restoring his fallen kingdom.

How could the Heavens be too harsh on them?

They were just young kids.

Was this the price for their talents? Or was it just their fate?

Wasn't this too cruel?

Why was the Heavens too unfair?

[Present]

David slowly opened and looked at the blue sky. He sighed helplessly after waking up from such a long dream. He stayed still for a couple of moments before taking a deep breath.

He was reminded of such an unpleasant memory once again.

This was the second day since the big incidents, which was also the second day since Shin had fallen into a coma.

David was not that worried because his master was around. So long as she was on Shin's side, nothing serious would happen.

The only issue that he troubled on this matter was whether what happened to Shin before would repeat when those series of unfortunate events happened one after another.

He was worried that Shin might 'sleep' again.

After adjusting his mood, he sat up before picking himself from the ground. He was currently standing on the rooftop of the hotel where Shin was staying.

They avoided confining him in a hospital since it could expose him in the eyes of the World Government. Moreover, his master was more than capable of observing him given her high attainment in Mentalism.

She had mastered almost all the sub-paths of the said discipline, so there was doubt about her abilities. She was even better than most of the Mentalists in every sub-path at her current level.

With her around, Shin being anywhere was no different from being in a hospital or anything.

David sighed deeply as he tried to recall the events that happened just recently.

The operation of the Black Serpent Mafia somewhat failed as they could not steal the research materials nor capture Professor Henry, but they could not catch most of their experts as they were able to barely escape.

Aside from Coffin Maker, who refused to escape from the World Research Center, the rest of the Domain Realm Experts such as Butcher, Belladonna, Boris, and the mysterious Mentalists were able to escape.

However, they had to leave the rest of the agents and artificial mutants behind.

As for the aftermath, aside from the buildings being destroyed, the city did not suffer that hard. Their economy took a huge hit but given the current technology and the age of Martial Arts and Mentalism, rebuilding the city would be easy.

Moreover, the World Government had also put some effort into this as they would be funding the restoration of the buildings. Their Federal Force might have stolen glory from the Military Force, but they were at least putting some 'sincerity' by pouring their money into these projects.

As for the casualties, the military forces had suffered quite a lot. A few soldiers died while some were either seriously injured or became disabled.

Fortunately, none of the citizens were caught in the battle as they were able to evacuate in time due to the preparation that Nathan and others had.

David was no longer concerned about them since the World Government had gotten involved.

What worried him aside from Shin was the matters in Springfield Family. Due to the unfortunate death of Bernard, the family was affected.

Samuel had done his best to suppress the news and kept it tight around the people closest to them.

Aside from the elders and leaders of the family, no one knew about his death yet.

Bernard's rank within the military was quite high, and he was quite popular with everyone was well, so it would not only affect the morale of everyone but would also cause some problems in the process.

Moreover, they also had to investigate what really happened during Bernard and his unit's trip back to the continent after finishing their secret mission.

The Springfield Family was holding a funeral secretly while also waiting for Bernard's children to come back from the exploration of the tomb of the ancient cultivator.

Recalling when the news was told to Nathan, David could not help but shiver. From what he just heard, the Dragon King almost lost himself in rage and flew out of the Soaring Continent to head to the Dark Continent.

If not for Elias and the others stopping him from doing something stupid, then he would have most likely been charged at the known bases of the Black Serpent Mafia alone.

It was also said that there was an intense battle between these experts before Nathan was able to calm down.

David looked at the horizon and sighed once again. "Things will only get messy as time goes by, especially now that the 'Snake Head' is in motion and Sir Adam is not around."

Aside from looking for the traces of the 'Snake Head' when they were destroying the cities of the Black Serpent Mafia, Adam and Evangeline were also trying to cripple most of their powers before the latter left for his 'mission'.

"Tsk! To think they will time their movements when the valley is greatly unstable, those people sure are crafty. Let's just hope that they will not find master during this time," he mumbled before turning around and going back.

In the meantime, while the Eastern Continent was shaken by the events in Ace City, another incident occurred inside the ancient cultivator's tomb.

Sheilla stood in front of the representatives of the Magic Ace Academy which was now almost half of their number since they first entered the place.

Most of these people were seriously injured while the rest were infected by some unknown disease.

She frowned slightly as she looked at everyone before turning to the person beside her. "We have to open the safe area as soon as possible, or else those creatures will catch up to us."

Mariel nodded her head as she responded. "Don't worry, we have already prepared for everything."

She paused for a moment before asking. "But are you sure that we are not going to team up with those people from the Top Military School? The situation is somewhat dangerous."

Sheilla quickly shook her head and instantly rejected the idea. "Have you seen what just happened? We can't trust anyone right now. Even these people in front of us."

"Increasing our number may help us lessen the pressure from those strange creatures, but it will also make it troublesome for us since we have to monitor a large number of people."

"It is better to leave the rest where they can't harm each other while we continue the exploration with an elite group."

She paused for a moment as she recalled what just happened before continuing. "The rules of this place are quite strange, but what is stranger is those people know about it right after entering. It is as if they are already expecting it to happen."

"If you ask me, I think we all have fallen into a trap," she added in a solemn tone.

Chapter 1450: Coming out of the Tomb

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On the third day since the students and representatives of different powers entered the tomb for exploration, the atmosphere outside the ruins was solemn and heavy.

It might be quiet, but there was a heavy and dreadful air looming around everyone.

Everyone might be calm on the surface, but all of them were on their nerves due to the recent event that occurred at Ace City.

The raid that the Black Serpent Mafia had launched on the Magic Ace Academy, the attempt to steal some data, materials, and subjects from the World Research Center, and trying to abduct the Head Researcher Henry, were all big events.

Then there was the appearance of the Great Demon Jan Mateo, who was a notorious individual around the world.

Then an even more ridiculous individual followed after him – Adam, the Heavenly Demon. This man not only made an appearance but also killed a group of powerful Demonic Practitioners, but also beaten up the Great Demon one-sidedly.

These events shook everyone, particularly those who came from other countries. They just came here to get a slice of the pie that Soaring Continent had found, but who would have thought that two powerful 'world criminals' would appear?

There were only three had passed since those incidents, so the people had yet to move on, especially those people who had witnessed them.

There was also the powerful Demon Pillar that briefly appeared, but it was immediately buried when no one found anything about it.

As these people were still trying to move on from those incidents, another one shook them all.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

At the entrance of the tomb, people came out one after another, making those people wait outside to become fully awake.

Moreover, they were all shocked when they saw the current appearance of the students and representatives running out of the tomb.

Some of them were seriously injured and they had to be carried by makeshift stretchers and carriers. Others who were running even had a missing arm or leg as they made their way out of the tomb.

The rest seemed to be infected by an unknown disease as some parts of their bodies were rotting.

The medics and other healing mentalists on standby quickly moved and went straight to these people while carrying their tools.

The situation quickly became hectic due to this.

...

On the side of the students from the Magic Ace Academy, Cloe led the surviving students along with Arthur, Leonard, and the rest of their class.

A single glance was more than enough to realize that more than half of the students who entered the tomb were missing. This included those seniors who came alongside them.

Old Man Lin quickly headed in their direction when he saw this. He swiftly went straight to his discipline and asked with a grim expression. "What happened."

Cloe tried to regulate her breathing for a moment and relaxed a little. Now that she was around her master, she did not need to be too tense.

Old Man Lin did not rush her as he could see the heavy fatigue from his discipline, who was supposed to have more stamina than others after undergoing intensive training under his supervision.

Moreover, she was supposed to have a special technique that could further increase her limits than others. Along with her solid foundation, her limit should be twice or even thrice as much as other people on the same level.

It was the same for her mental fortitude which was forged thoroughly before coming here.

After catching her breath, Cloe looked around before replying to her master. "Master, we can discuss this later. But please help the others since most of them were in a critical condition."

"I will also report everything that happened inside the tomb in full detail," she paused for a moment as she swept her gaze in the surroundings once again before continuing. "There are still others that decided to continue the exploration just like Big Sister Shiella."

"The other seniors from the elite clubs and student council are also left behind with her as they found something within the tomb. But I can only tell the details once the others can't hear us, Master."

Seeing the serious look from Cloe, Old Man Lin nodded his head while turning to the faculty members of the academy to move all the injured and bring them back to the academy as soon as possible.

"Sir Lin, I think we have to rush to the nearest hospital right now. We don't think that these people infected by some sort of disease will last until we reach the academy," said one of the faculty members attending the injured students.

"Hmm?" Old Man Lin raised his brows when he heard before asking. "Tell me more details."

Another faculty member from the academy, who was also a researcher from the World Researcher Center, answered instead. "These students were infected with 'XZY-01 Virus'. It is something that we have recently discovered."

Old Man Lin fell silent before asking. "What kind of virus is it?"

The researcher quickly responded. "It is not something contiguous through air or normal physical contact, but it could infect others once they are wounded and exposed to it."

"It attacks the energies of an individual and poisons them in the process. There were no clear symptoms at first, but once a person got exposed to it long enough, their internal energies will slowly weaken while their Golden Cores or Niwan Palace will get corrupted."

"This virus also attacks the immune system of a person while also poisoning the blood of an individual. The natural healing ability of a person will gradually drop the longer this virus lingers within their bodies, making it harder for them to recover themselves from any wound."

"In serious cases, the infected will worsen their wounds, just like what is happening to these students. Based on their current state, it is highly likely that they have been infected with the virus for at least two days already."

"It can easily be dispelled through regular cleansing techniques in the early stages. But these kids had been seriously infected, and it is impossible for us to heal them unless we have the vaccines and regular equipment."

The expression on Old Man Lin's face instantly turned grim. "Go! Transfer them now!"

After that, he turned back to Cloe and said. "Little lass, come with me for a second. I have something to tell you."

Cloe did not know why, but her body suddenly tensed up for some unknown reason. She felt that whatever her master was trying to tell her would be something serious, especially with the tone that he had.

She gulped hard as she nervously followed her master.

Similar cases were happening in different group circles. The information about the virus also quickly spread to these organizations and they quickly moved accordingly, rushing to the nearest hospitals while

the medics and healing mentalists were doing their best to maintain the 'best' conditions of the infected.

While everyone was in chaos, a group of soldiers approached Arthur, who was trying to recover himself.

Arthur and Leonard, who were resting beside him, quickly noticed the group but they were too tired to stand up and greet them.

Arthur looked at them as the leading soldier reached them and gave him a salute.

For some unknown reason, Arthur had a bad feeling about this. He could not explain it, but he felt something ominous with the appearance of this group.

"Young Master Arthur, can you please come with us for a moment? It is an order from your family," said the soldier, who seemed to have the rank of lieutenant.

Arthur did not immediately reply as he intently stared at the soldier for a moment, especially gazing at the badge that the latter had. It was a special badge that was only limited to the most secretive group within the military force under the Springfield Family.

From his knowledge, there were very limited instances when these units revealed themselves.

Arthur gulped hard as he was unable to open his mouth. He also happened not to like the atmosphere surrounding the group. He was even feeling a little nauseous for some reason.

His blood was also running cold as if his bloodline was trying to tell him something. He was even scared for no reason.

He even instinctively wanted to run, so he tried to refuse. "I still have to report to the academy about our-..."

But before he could even complete his words, the lieutenant quickly added. "Don't worry, young master. The family has already arranged everything."

"They have already informed the academy, so can come with us without worry," he added 'reassuringly'.

Arthur subconsciously clenched his fists. He then closed his eyes and inhaled deeply. When he opened them once again, there was a resolute expression on his face as he nodded his head. "Alright."

He turned to Leonard before saying. "I will be going with them. I leave Cloe and the others to you."

Leonard could also that there was something wrong with the atmosphere, so he nodded. "Don't worry. You can leave it to me."

"Let's go," said Arthur as he stood up and followed the soldiers.

