

Few Wives 441

Chapter 441 Terrible sister

"..." Layla was left speechless.

Truly, no matter how many times she saw the spell in action it always made her feel uneasy.

After all, not only did she not see when Hope cast it, but she couldn't sense it at all. Even when she knew that it was in effect.

Out of everyone in the group and pretty much all the evolvers she had encountered, Hope's spell was definitely the most undetectable by far.

It was way better than Muku's Telekinetic domain that could be sensed if one focused hard enough.

But for Hope's spell... That didn't work at all! Layla and the others had given up on trying to sense it. They had long realised that it was probably something only those significantly stronger than Hope could sense.

After all, even Jade with her broken senses couldn't sense it...

Anyway, with the spell in place, they should be safe from most threats for a while.

And that's exactly how things went down.

Hope managed to kill off eleven R5s with it and many more weaker ones.

After that, the beasts became more cautious and no longer approached the place.

This gave Layla enough time to recover a significant amount of mana. After that, she took everyone away.

Even though Hope had been able to keep them safe up to that point, she couldn't do it forever. Especially when she was still working together with Raya to heal Muku's wounds.

Muku's wounds still healed slowly despite Raya and Hope working together. While the situation was stable, it would still take a while for Muku to be completely healed.

So getting out of there was for the best. Fortunately, nothing too serious happened as they waited for their group's arrival.

Which was rather surprising considering how they usually face any and all problems that can be faced in such situations.

Maybe Murphy's law was on break during that day. After all the legendary, "Anything that can go wrong, will go wrong" didn't occur....

By the time the castle arrived, Muku's wounds were almost completely sealed up. However, he still looked as pale as a ghost after losing so much blood...

Speaking of his blood, it was really weird, it almost instantly disappeared when it touched the ground. While the blood on his skin would last longer, it would also disappear after a while.

In the past, when this happened, Audrey was always around so nobody asked about it or thought it was weird. They just assumed she was getting rid of it somehow. (She knew what was happening but saw no need to explain it)

But now, it seems that wasn't the case. The blood was getting rid of itself. Truly a weird occurrence, but oh well, there were already a lot of weird things going on around Muku, so what was one more?

Anyway, after getting back on the sky castle, Muku was taken to his room. Hope and Raya continued their treatment there.

After his condition completely stabilised, Raya jumped back into his mindscape and never appeared again.

She knew that she wouldn't get any mana to fuel her evolution, but that didn't matter to her.

She was spent and just wanted to sleep. And sleep she did.

Even a week later, she wasn't out. Also, Muku didn't wake up during that week. However, his condition was getting better and better.

Audrey estimated that he should wake up within the next few days.

During this time, the girls sought out the matters with Klaus and Lisa.

Klaus's matter was simple, he and his crew weren't planning on staying. So as soon as Muku wakes up and says their goodbyes, they'll leave.

Lisa on the other hand, really made the girls feel nervous. After all, she and her group weren't going anywhere.

While the girls wanted to trust Muku, it was undeniable that he had lecherous tendencies. So they were afraid that they'd wake up one day and find out he had impregnated all the ladies in Lisa's group.

Of course, it was a crazy thought and would never happen. But they couldn't stop themselves from having it. Muku really didn't inspire confidence in them.

Even if he didn't do something so exaggerated, they were more than certain that something would happen between him and Lisa if left alone.

They wished Lisa would leave too. Unfortunately, that wasn't happening..

And so, they agreed to do their best to make sure that Lisa never meets with Muku in private.

Of course, it wasn't all the girls who thought like this.

Hope was too preoccupied with staying at Muku's side to think of such things. And she probably wouldn't think of such things anyway.

Audrey as usual was too relaxed and didn't bother with such things. To her, as long as Muku had a spot for her in his heart, then everything else could be discussed. Maybe it was how a mature lady thought. For that reason, she cared more about running the mansion than what might or might not happen.

Elsa as expected couldn't care less. Though she even tried to tell the others that he wouldn't do anything with the ladies, after all, he hadn't done anything with her even after such a long time together.

To which she was laughed at by the others including her own sister.

In fact, it was Emily who went a step further and said, "Just because nothing has happened yet doesn't mean it won't. Don't forget that most of us here haven't gone all the way yet but we know that it's an eventuality. You might only be safe because you're still younger than he prefers. I mean, he even made us wait two years despite our willingness to go all the way. So don't be so smug little sister, as far as we're concerned, you're already one of us"

Emily spoke with such a disdainful expression that Elsa felt a chill go down her spine.

She even wondered if her sister had been replaced. After all, the Emily she knew wouldn't so readily accept more competition for her man. Especially to the point of roping her own sister into chaotic waters when she wasn't even interested. Did their being sisters somehow make Emily think that it was okay to share a man? That's just crazy if it were the case.

Elsa couldn't help but curse Emily out in her mind. After all, she was being a terrible older sister right now.

Shouldn't older sisters be overprotective of their younger sisters instead of setting them up?!

After that, she couldn't help but think of what Emily said... Did Muku really consider her as someone who was already in the bag? Was he just waiting for the right time to pounce on her?

No, no! He wasn't that type of person. He might be lecherous, but he never looked at her like tha... Okay, so maybe, she had found him stealing glances when she had wardrobe malfunctions during battle in recent times, but that didn't mean he was interested right?

As far as she knew, it was natural for men to do that... But then again, would they do that if they weren't attracted to some extent?

"Argh!" Elsa suddenly let out a scream as she felt a headache coming on from all the chaotic thoughts she was having.

After that, she walked away from Emil and the others and went to her room. Not the room she forcibly shared with Emily, but her own room she never used until that day...

Everyone else, including Freya, surprisingly enough, was hesitant about having Lisa around.

Though unlike Emily, Chloe, Jade and Layla who without a doubt wanted Lisa gone, she was still hesitant. After all, Lisa was her friend.

Fortunately for her, she had other things to think about so she could forget about the dilemma for the time being. The thing that was distracting her was how to combine two barrier crystals into one.

She had recovered the new crystal from Lisa's old base after it was abandoned. From then on, most of her free time was spent trying to figure out how to combine them into one.

She could use both separately, but that would only create two barrier layers that were equal in strength.

Theoretically, that was great. However, in the current world, there were countless beasts that could break both layers easily.

And the original residents themselves could easily create stronger barriers, so those two layers would be display items at best.

That wasn't something Freya wanted. She wanted a stronger barrier that was actually useful. For that reason, she wanted to combine the crystals into one. The result of that should at least be equal to the barriers the others created right?

Unfortunately, the combination wasn't going well. No matter what she tried throughout the week, nothing worked.

It was only then that Iris who had been quietly watching Freya fail time and time again say that one needed five crystals to be able to combine them.

The combination process wasn't even hard, as simply placing them next to each other would cause them to combine automatically. The resulting crystal would have the capability of blocking even the strongest attacks of a PR6 with ease...

As expected, Freya ragged and copied Muku's move by binding Iris down in her mindscape then spanking her until she begged for mercy.

After that, Iris cursed Freya, saying it wasn't her fault that Freya had never asked, and she thought Freya had a plan.

Yet after she was nice enough to help she was beaten up in the most embarrassing way. She even swore revenge... Which she took back after Freya threatened to continue the spanking.

With an aggrieved look on her face and sore behind, Iris began ignoring Freya...

Chapter 442 I will devour you whole! (18+ ish)

A few days later...

Muku finally opened his eyes...

His attention was immediately drawn to Hope who was sleeping next to him then Emily on the other side.

This time he wasn't flustered like all the times before. After all, to a certain extent, he had gotten used to it.

Though the intimate way in which Hope was holding him still felt a bit...wrong. But oh well, she was asleep so maybe it was okay.

And he didn't mind feeling her soft body pressed against his own like that. And her scent was also rather enticingly fragrant.

No! No! He shouldn't think like that about his younger sister. He already had so many girls waiting for him and yet there he was lusting after Hope. He was truly scum.

"Lustful scum..."

Suddenly a slightly cold voice was heard from beside him.

He felt a chill go down his spine. His attention was drawn away from Hope and transferred to Emily.

He was met by her burning golden eyes the moment he looked over. That's when he noticed something...

His hand... It was groping Emily's large chest... At the very least, it was trying to.

"You pretended to be focused on Hope while taking advantage of me. Truly lustful scum, taking advantage of every chance you get, even after just waking up you're already so unruly. So you can stop looking confused like that, I've already figured you out! And stop that!" Emily continued.

The more she spoke the redder her cheeks got. After all, Muku didn't stop groping her even when he was found out.

It wasn't that he was that shameless... Well, he was, but this time, he tried to stop but his hand wouldn't listen to him.

Internally he was also glad Emily misunderstood the situation. After all, he wasn't acting before, he was really focused on Hope. At the very least, he was mentally focused on her. But it seemed his body was focused on Emily. At the very least, the dark thoughts he wanted to act out with Hope were transferred to Emily without noticing.

It was a good thing Emily thought she was the target from the start or Muku might already be burning by that point.

After all, there was no worse thing for a girl than to have their man use them as a replacement for his freaking sister.

I'm Muku's defence, it was a mistake. He didn't even know that he was doing such a thing...

As someone who didn't know what to say and was sure that if he kept silent, Emily might suspect something, he did the only thing he could think to do. And that was to kiss Emily's juicy-looking and inviting lips.

Now that he was paying attention to her, he was all in, those dark thoughts related to Hope were momentarily forgotten, all he cared about was Emily.

And so, he greedily devoured her lips, his tongue quickly invading her mouth.

Emily's eyes widened in surprise for a second before she was overpowered by emotions and started passionately kissing Muku back.

Muku's hands quickly started wandering all over her body as hers did the same on his.

The two had completely forgotten about Hope who was next to them...

It was only when Muku pulled Emily on top of him that the girl noticed that there was another person in the room and on the same bed as them.

All her hot feelings were instantly cooled down.

Her hand which was gripping Muku's shaft instantly snapped back like a scared rabbit.

Muku was about to ask what was wrong when he noticed Hope too after Emily looked her way.

He also froze...

"We shouldn't do this right now, let's do it another day..." Emily felt sad to hold back when the "right mood" had finally come around but she couldn't possibly do it with Hope next to them.

It was already a miracle that Hope wasn't up yet. Which was probably because she was spent after taking care of Muku for so long. But it was best they didn't push their luck.

Muku looked at her in the eyes for a moment without saying anything, then...

"You'd like that wouldn't you? Well too bad, I've finally got you and today I won't let you go! I will devour you whole!" Muku finally spoke.

His words surprised Emily greatly. She never expected him to be such a rogue! Did he really want to do it with Hope beside them? Wasn't his fetish a bit too heavy?!

Before Emily could say anything, Muku activated his invisibility domain and carried Emily like a princess before going out of the room.

After finding out that Elsa was in another room, Emily's room was free. He immediately headed there.

At that point, nobody in the castle had noticed that he was up yet. So he was free to have some fun with Emily...

As soon as he closed the door inside Emily's room he threw her on the bed... Before she even reached the bed all her clothes had been stripped off and Muku's "clothes" were also off.

The nightmare armour which had long been manipulated into a normal clothes state by Raya was turned into its steel thread by Muku again and then he slowly walked toward the naked Emily like a predator stalking its prey.

Emily felt her body completely lose strength under his gaze. She subconsciously covered her intimate parts. Yet at the same time, she felt a surge of excitement internally. She was happy that it was finally happening after the long wait...

Her juices overflowed in anticipation.

"Hmm, from that waterfall I could probably devour you right now and there'd be no problems..." Muku teased and Emily's expression reddened. He really had noticed how excited she was.

"But, since it's your first, let's make it as memorable as possible..." Muku continued.

At that point, he was already beside Emily and was whispering in her ear.

Without waiting for her to react, he kissed her on the neck then slowly started going lower until he had one of her erect nipples in his mouth. Of course, his hands weren't idle either.

While his mouth worked on peak, one hand danced around on the other peak. The other hand was downstairs teasing, pinching and rubbing.

"Mmnh... Aahn!"

Pleasure assaulted Emily from multiple points at the same time. She couldn't stop herself from moaning out loudly. And surprisingly, she even orgasmed!

"Oh my! Who knew our Emily was actually a quick shot" Muku teased again.

And again Emily felt embarrassed, and again, before she could say anything, he assaulted her with more pleasure.

Just like that Muku played around with Emily for around twenty minutes and making her moan for most of those minutes. But the time he was done with foreplay, she had orgasmed more than ten times. Sometimes twice in a minute.

The teasing didn't stop from start to finish. He had noticed that Emily seemed to get turned on by it. And so, he continued.

After he was done, Emily was gasping for breath with a satisfied look on her face.

She regretted not doing it sooner. If she had known, she would have jumped Muku and forced herself on him years ago. That's how good it felt.

Maybe because she was the one who waited the longest, being the first to love Muku, she orgasmed way more easily than the others. It was embarrassing but satisfying.

"Oh? Why do you already look satisfied before we even started?" Muku asked.

That's when Emily who was almost out of it, remembered that they actually hadn't done it yet.

Her eyes were immediately drawn to Muku's dragon. And... It was even bigger than when she touched it before. It wasn't just a dragon, it was a raging dragon. One threatening to destroy her.

Looking at it she couldn't help but wonder if it would even fit. A little fear even appeared in her eyes...

"Don't be afraid of it. It will only make the process more painful if you're tense. Try to relax... After all, haven't you always wanted to do this? But if you really aren't willing, I will stop here..." Muku spoke after seeing the hesitation in Emily's eyes.

"No! I'm ready! Go ahead! There's no need to stop!" Emily instantly refused to stop.

What a joke, waiting so long and coming so far only to stop? There was no way she'd allow it! Even if it killed her, she didn't care! It had to be done no matter what.

She even wrapped her legs around Muku's waist and pulled him closer as she spoke...

His dragon kissed her virgin cave as a result and a cold chill went down her spine...

Muku smiled slightly and without speaking, he started kissing her passionately again while his hands played with her boobs.

As he did so, Emily's body naturally relaxed. That's when his dragon slowly invaded...

Despite being high-level Evolvers, doing it for the first time was always painful for the girls. So Muku still had to be gentle.

As he slowly entered, he was soon met with a barrier that prevented him from going further...

When he got there, Emily tensed up again. However, Muku could be said to be a budding veteran in such matters by that point.

So he worked to distract Emily again then...

Thrust!

With one strong thrust... He passed through. Blood gushed out as Muku claimed Emily as his own...

Chapter 443 Chaotic thoughts

Soon after Muku and Emily left...

The "sleeping" Hope suddenly opened her eyes.

That's right, she was awake from the start... Well, maybe not from the start, but she woke up soon after Muku began staring at her intensely.

What Muku had forgotten was that people as strong as she can keenly feel it when they are being looked at. Hell, even normal humans can feel it let alone a R5 Evolver.

Muku must have been disoriented not to notice it...

Anyway, she didn't open her eyes since she felt it would be rather awkward if she did.

As she lay there, burning under his hot gaze. Her body started feeling a bit weird. She didn't know why, but a little excitement started building up inside her.

Slowly her cheeks started getting rosy, she could feel them heat up. Fear started building up in her mind that Muku might notice. The situation would be even more awkward than it would have been initially.

Fortunately, that's when Emily came in and Muku's attention shifted. However, at the same time, she couldn't help but feel sad that he wasn't looking at her. She didn't understand what was happening with her at all.

After that, something even more unbelievable happened. Muku and Emily began making out right beside her like two animals in heat.

She was even afraid that they might go all the way if they weren't stopped. But it wasn't like she could suddenly "wake up" and tell them to stop after all.

And so, she could only pretend to be sleeping as the duo got crazier and crazier beside her.

Oddly enough, she started feeling a tingly feeling between her legs. Before she knew it, she started wondering what it would be like if it were her and Muku instead of Emily...

That thought instantly made her heart skip a beat.

It took everything she had to stop herself from blushing furiously. She started chiding herself internally. How could she, as his sister think like that?

Was she into taboo relationships or something??

Her world view was quickly crashing down in front of her...

Fortunately, just when she was about to completely crash, the duo remembered her and took their clandestine acts somewhere else.

Yet again she had mixed feelings when they left. She hoped they had left sooner, yet at the same time, she wanted to know what they were going to do. Like, were they going to go all the way or not?

And just like that, Hope was left with chaotic thoughts. Sleep was completely out of the question at that point...

.....

Three hours later...

"Ahn ahn..."

The pain was long gone and all that could be heard from Emily's mouth were blissful moans.

The duo had been going at it for hours. They were both fortunate that Muku had woken up at night or they would have long gotten caught if they had done it for so long during the day...

Finally, they stopped... Not because they had had enough, but it was Emily's first time. Her body might be tough, but it wasn't as tough as Audrey's or Jade's.

Maybe if he had done it a bit more slowly they could have lasted longer. But unfortunately, she felt so good that he couldn't control himself. In fact, she had been done two hours ago but told Muku to continue if he wasn't satisfied yet.

And he ruthlessly accepted the offer. So currently, Emily lies powerlessly on the bed barely awake. However, there was a tired but satisfying smile on her face.

After all, what she had been imagining for years had finally happened. And it was even better than she thought it would be. It was definitely worth the wait...

With that last thought... She fell asleep.

Muku was left on clean-up duty... Which was no problem for him after doing it quite a few times.

He first purged all the evidence of their dirty actions from the room then cleaned himself and Emily. After that, he put the back on his sleeping beauty before he jumped her again.

Yeah, that's right, despite doing it for three hours, he was nowhere close to being satisfied.

He had a feeling that his bloodline's effect on his libido had increased again. And it wasn't for the better... Or was it? After all, the more libido he had, the higher the chance of being able to please all the girls.

Speaking of issues with his bloodline, he had noticed another thing... When he wanted to clean up with his erasing gaze... Nothing happened. Well, other than his eyes burning up that is.

It seemed his erasing gaze was out of commission. Which meant that his major trump card wasn't working anymore...

As for how he felt about it... Well, I'd course he was panicked. After all, without it, he no longer posed any threat to beings significantly more serious than him.

But he didn't let himself completely panic. After all, it might be temporary since his body wasn't completely healed yet. Hope had done all she could and the rest could only be healed naturally through time.

Even if it wouldn't naturally return after he completely healed, he should be able to get it back with some practice... Right?

Well, whatever, the sun was coming up and the others would be up soon so he would worry about it later. He had to get back to Hope's side.

Hopefully, she wasn't up yet. That way it would be easier to explain. If she asks about Emily when she wakes up, he'll pretend not to know anything, then Emily will just say she felt cramped and returned to her room or something.

With such thoughts swirling in his head as he walked back, he couldn't help but remember how everything started beside Hope. He cursed himself for doing such a thing, what would have happened if she had woken up?

Would he be able to keep his face in front of her? Would she still look at him the same with respect and love or would it all be replaced with disdain?

Well, fortunately she didn't wake up so he doesn't have to leave such a reality...

As he thought that, he opened the door and entered the room. What met him made his heart skip a bit.

Hope was underneath a blanket and making faint sounds. And there weren't any random sounds. They were sounds he was quite familiar with.. sounds he had heard Emily making for three hours just now...

That's right, Hope was moaning... He had likely caught her touching herself.

His eyes widened in surprise then without a thought, he turned around, walked out and slammed the door behind him.

The loud bang sound from the door startled Hope who hadn't initially noticed that Muku had returned as she was busy with herself.

She hadn't planned in doing such a thing and she wasn't doing anything too extreme, just touching herself here and there but she was so into it that she couldn't help but moan.

And Muku of all people caught her...

It was obvious that it was him. After all, if it was anyone else, she would have been able to sense them since they wouldn't consciously hide their aura indoors. Nor would they barge in so early before the sun fully came out...

The reaction of immediately getting out after seeing what was happening was also something only Muku would do. The others would probably stick around a bit even if it was awkward. After all, they were all ladies...

Anyway, all of Hope's lustful thoughts were thoroughly erased the moment the door was slammed shut.

What replaced them was shame... Overwhelming shame.

How was she supposed to face Muku now? Will he despise her and call her a filthy girl? Will he ever allow her next to him again?...

Ironically, Hope's thoughts were on the same wavelength as Muku's from before. Both of them didn't want to be seen in a negative light by the other. Which was why they always tried to be their best selves in front of the other...

They thought differently from typical siblings, but they weren't typical siblings now where they?

Anyway, just when Hope was having the biggest mental crisis of her life... Muku walked in.

There was a serious expression on his face as he did so. Fortunately, at that point, she had cleaned up and fixed her clothes, so the awkwardness wasn't too bad.

"Oh, Hope, you're up... I thought you'd sleep a little longer. I woke up a while back and went to check the situation outside and just returned. Why do you look so troubled? Did something happen?" Muku spoke in the most oblivious voice he could imagine.

That's right, he has chosen to go on the... "Even though I saw everything, I didn't see anything" route. Basically pretending that nothing happened.

"O...oh. I'm glad you're up brother. And n...no, nothing happened, maybe it's because I just woke up that I look weird" Hope who was quick on the uptake replied.

She internally thanked Muku for giving her a way out. Truly, he was a great brother. It seems she didn't need to worry about him looking at her differently...

Muku smiled back. Internally he was also thanking her for giving him a way out. After all, it was obvious that she knew about what he and Emily did, otherwise there was no way she'd randomly start doing what she was doing after waking up and finding out that he and Emily were gone.

He didn't blame her, after all, it was only natural for humans to have desire. Especially when stimulated like that.

However, he couldn't help but wonder who she was thinking of when she was doing it. It was obviously not him so who was it?

Whomever it was he hated them with everything he had. Maybe he will ask her about it later and set out to kill the person if they are still alive.

Interestingly enough, he saw nothing wrong with his extremely dark thoughts. Clearly, as Hope was a bro-con, he was also a sis-con.

As for what would happen between them, only time will tell...

Chapter 444: Sprained ankle?

"..."

"..."

The two looked at each other quietly for a moment then...

"Big brother! I'm glad you're finally awake" Hope jumped off the bed into Muku's arms and gave him a tight hug.

"And I'm sure it's largely thanks to you, so as always, thank you sis" Muku spoke as he hugged her back.

The duo stayed like that for a few minutes before letting go.

At that point, everyone was starting to get up so the duo didn't bother going back to sleep... Not like they could sleep with all the hidden awkwardness.

Anyway, Hope decided to update Muku on what was going on as they waited.

What she told him ranged from how they were currently in hiding because the current world was too dangerous to loiter around without sufficient strength.

It was even worse than before where danger was present but with enough luck, you could avoid it.

However, now, it was easier to find yourself in trouble than not. PR5s and Pseudo-R6s were everywhere.

And this was after their group killed thousands upon thousands of them in the last battle.

Considering the size of the world. Even if they took care of the largest portal of the evolution, high-level beasts that made it through were probably in the millions from the other portals combined.

So yeah, maybe a few thousand wasn't that much after all...

Then there were R6s... They had never come across any of them. But they had come across signs. Signs like thousands of kilometres of burnt forest and frozen solid ones too.

It seemed that two R6s had clashed in the area. The damage the two caused was actually more than two thousand kilometres when combined, one side was burnt black while the other was frozen solid.

It was almost like the world's evolution level wasn't enough to dampen their attacks... It may be, that was what they became after being dampened. This was a rather scary thought if it was true.

It was actually after that experience that they decided to completely go into hiding. After all, there was a possibility of escaping or fighting back when fighting R5s even Pseudo-R6s but there was no chance at all of fighting back against R6s.

So staying out was for the best. Hell, even if they were hidden, they might still get caught up in the crossfire if R6s decided to have a clash. The point is... They were in a really dangerous situation and their group needed R6s. At the very least, they needed one.

And since Muku and Raya were the only ones close to reaching R6, that hope was placed in their hands...

The castle was currently hidden under a fake hill. It wasn't made by earth elementalists soil but natural soil instead. How this was achieved was that everyone gathered naturally soil and bound it together with natural methods that didn't involve mana then covered the castle with it. There were even trees planted on top of it to sell the act.

After that, everyone reduced their mana signatures to the minimum level possible.

Of course, this wouldn't keep them hidden from the superior senses of R6s. But there was a low chance of R6s specifically scrutinising them. So there was a chance of being mistaken for super weak ground-dwelling people.

Sure, some beasts liked tormenting weak humans, but most ignored them. They would rather torment the strongest humans.

Just like you don't see bull fighters fight runts...

Anyway, she told him about some other random matters until he was completely caught up...

"Well, it seems we really are in a pinch huh?" Muku commented after she finished...

"Yeah..." Hope replied.

The way she was looking at him practically screamed, "So, what are you going to do now?" Yup, she'd completely dumped the whole burden on him.

It wasn't like she could jump from being LR5 to Pseudo-R6s after all. So, it really was Muku's problem...

She could help him with ideas... But she couldn't think of anything. And she trusted that he already had a plan. At the very least, whatever he thinks of as the person who has to do something would be better than anything she can think of...

"Don't worry. I already have a plan... It seems the others are up and have noticed that I'm also up. So let's go and finish this downstairs... Cough, can you go heal Emily before that though? She... Fell and sprained her ankle" Muku remembered something when he was about to go downstairs with Hope.

If Emily went out now, she would definitely be limping and everyone would immediately realise what had happened.

Technically it wasn't anything wrong and was expected. But it was still embarrassing for Emily as a girl.

Especially now when there were so many people loitering around the castle even if they didn't live in the castle...

"... Sure... I'll go heal her sprained ankle... Just like Ms Audrey's and Jade. To think it's happening this much around here. People really should be careful..." Hope replied in a weird and knowing tone as she looked at Muku.

Before, she never thought of it too deeply when her brother used the same excuse when it was Audrey and Jade who needed healing. After all, her brother would never lie to her right? So while it was odd for Evolvers to sprain their legs, she reasoned it might be possible for ones who heavily relied on their bodies like Audrey and Jade.

But now, it seems her brother had claimed those two and left her on clean-up duty. She felt a bit sour about it for whatever reason. Well, whatever, it was probably because he wasn't truthful with her... Right?

"Ye..yeah. But who knows, if it will happen again and to someone else. The world is just as such after all" Muku awkwardly replied.

He even indirectly admitted to needing Hope's services in the future...

"You give a man an inch and he takes a mile. But fine, I'll help whenever that happens. But brother, can you think of something more believable next time? Even if I know what is actually happening, it would be great to know that you at least thought the excuse through..." Hope replied as he walked away.

Muku's shamelessness really knew no bounds. So she felt she had to make things a little harder for him next time lest he think she's that easy.

"...." Muku was left speechless with a wry smile on his face.

He never expected her to call him out like that. After all, he completely pretended not to have seen her mastu... You know what, whatever, he shouldn't be so calculative with his own sister.

With that, Muku went downstairs and waited for the others in the lounge.

Sure, he could have held the meeting in his room. But he felt that it wouldn't be appropriate when he wanted to call Klaus and Lisa over too.

....

A while later...

Everyone who mattered had come. The girls, Lisa and Klaus who were accompanied by Chris.

Of course, one person was missing. And that was Emily. Even after Hope healed her. She didn't wake up. Hell, even when she was healed she didn't move. The look on her face just relaxed more and she continued sleeping.

After all, Hope's healing didn't restore a person's energy. That's something that could only be recovered naturally since they didn't have any way of doing it artificially. It couldn't be helped, Muku has not only completely drained her energy, but he has also made her do overtime.

Looking at her expression, Hope couldn't help but wonder what it was like... Well, Emily's rosy expression even in her sleep clearly painted a blissful picture, but that was all. The room was completely clean so she had no other way of telling.

She couldn't help but wonder how many times Muku had done such things to be so good at it. She couldn't help but wonder if he even did it with someone on his bed... The same one she likes sleeping on.

Speaking of which, there were times when Muku's scent would randomly disappear from his bed... Was that because he had cleaned everything up after doing something that shouldn't be discovered?

It seemed Hope had come across an unexpected truth which answered a certain mystery that had plagued her for quite a while. And again, she didn't know how to feel about it...

As for the excuse given to the others as to why Emily wasn't present, the experienced Muku had a reasonable answer as always.

He told them that the previous night Emily had noticed residual energy somewhat similar to her's inside Muku's body. It was probably from the golden beam. So of course she has to take care of it.

The process was long and tiring, which is why she was currently exhausted and sleeping...

The majority believed him albeit with a little doubt. Audrey who was completely familiar with his excuses just smiled slightly.

Jade rolled her eyes slightly. Hope's eyes completely widened in surprise. She was surprised by how easily her supposedly perfect brother could lie.

Lies flowed out of his mouth so naturally!

Chapter 445: King of the World!

For a moment Hope wondered how many times he had lied to her in the past. How much of their interactions were truthful?

After a while, she calmed down. She figured that she was thinking too much. After all, there was no way he'd lie without reason.

While he lied with a straight face, it was to protect Emily's integrity. So if anything that was a white lie right?

Just like that, she justified her brother's lies and moved on...

"Hello everyone. I hope you've been well during my incapacitation. Anyway, Hope has already updated me on the current affairs. With that in mind, I've come up with a plan for the future. And that plan is

focusing completely on Raya's rank-up. For her to advance at this point, she only needs enough pure mana. I on the other hand will require a much more complicated process. Does anyone have an issue with that plan?" Muku spoke and asked for the others' input at the end.

No one has any issues with his choice. Three people in the room didn't even qualify to have problems at this stage. Those three being Lisa, Klaus and Chris.

For that reason, all eyes were on the ladies. And they remained silent to show their agreement.

Maybe Lisa will have a say in the future, but even if she had a say now, she wouldn't have disagreed.

She wasn't too sure about this Raya since they hadn't actually interacted. And Raya looked like a child from her perspective. A strong child, but a child nonetheless. But hey, if Muku and the others felt she was up to the task, then she'd believe in them.

What she didn't know was that on top of Raya's advancement being easier than Muku's, it would also be a lot less conspicuous. In fact, it would be completely undetectable as it will happen in Muku's mindscape.

If Muku were to advance first without someone to conceal his aura, he'd be immediately discovered by R6s and possibly taken out before he was a problem.

And no, Raya's advancement in the mindscape wouldn't harm him in any way. That place was like a different dimension under Muku's control.

As long as he has enough mana, it could be as strong as it needed to be...

Anyway, with that matter taken care of, what was next was Klaus's matter.

"So brother-in-law. I heard that you were planning on setting out soon after I woke up. Are you sure about that? The current world is less than ideal for strolling around without enough strength. Even I wouldn't casually travel with my current..." Muku addressed Klaus.

Jade couldn't help but blush when Muku addressed Klaus like that. While everyone basically knew their relationship, it was never specifically mentioned. And there was no better way of announcing it than this... Directly to her brothers.

The others couldn't help but slightly feel jealous. After all, they also wanted to be claimed like that... Unfortunately, there was no one to claim them in front of.

Anyway, after that, everyone's expressions turned serious. They all understood the underlying meaning behind Muku's words.

He had basically said that "If I with my strength that's countless times better than yours can't travel freely. What makes you think you can do it? Especially with such a large and even weaker group?"

Of course, everyone understood he was saying it from a caring point of view. So no one was offended. Klaus even smiled in appreciation. His sister really had stumbled into a good one by mistake. He didn't know where she got such luck, but he was happy for her.

Muku was the best man to have in the apocalypse. Someone who wouldn't let old-world ways of doing things affect his judgement.

If it were before the apocalypse, his words would have been very disrespectful even if he censored them and the chance of getting hated because of them was high. After all, people liked putting on airs for no reason back then.

But now, he was the best relative to have. Someone who cared enough to tell you when you were making a dumb move. Someone who cared enough to keep you alive without getting anything back in return... Well, he did get Jade but that's beside the point.

"Brother-in-law.... No, no. We're sworn brothers, so just saying Brother is enough, even if my sister suddenly dies our relationship won't be affected (Hey! Why are you casually cursing me?!) I completely understand your worry and it's actually an issue my crew and I discussed after I said it back then. We came to the conclusion that the outside world really is too dangerous now. For that reason, we'll stay here until my brother and I reach R5. After that, the two of us will go and scout the surroundings then come get the others after figuring out how to survive. Well, that is if you'll have us for so long..." Klaus replied with a slight smile on his face.

Besides hi Chris remained quiet, but he'd glare at Muku from time to time since the moment Muku called Klaus brother-in-law. He was clearly not happy about someone claiming his sister.

Honestly, his reaction was more normal than the ever-smiling Klaus who seemed more than happy to throw Jade away. Hell, the man even casually cursed her to an early grave. After that he ignored her. Others couldn't help but wonder if he really cared about her.

Then they remembered, while some siblings cared about each other a lot and showed it. Most were actually like Klaus, as long as you were alive, they'd even kick you when you're down.

"Now that sounds like a plan! And of course, you're free to stay with us, you can stay as long as you need to. Though if I may ask, why are you so set on going out?" Muku replied enthusiastically then asked a question.

"Umm... It's a bit embarrassing to admit but I guess it's something I should say proudly if I really want to achieve it. You see, I have a dream. And that dream is to one day rule the world. Not as some dictator, but as a saviour. You know, someone who gathers the remaining people and fights back against the beasts. I know humans are vastly weaker and lesser than humans, but I feel that what we lack in those areas we make up in heart... Not to mention that we are rather sinister when we want to be. Which I didn't want to admit but desperate times call for desperate measures. We might have to fight dishonorably but it's the winners who write history after all" Klaus replied, he got more and more passionate as he spoke.

Something completely different from his usually laid-back attitude. This surprised everyone present and also convinced them that he was really serious about it.

"Well, what a big dream you have there brother. To be a true King of the world... How many of you! I wish I had such a big dream" Muku complimented with glowing eyes.

He really genuinely admired Klaus's dream. And he was actually the first to bit look at Klaus like he was crazy when they first heard his dream.

This surprised Klaus as well as made him view Muku in an even more positive light. So much so that if he had more sisters he might have offered them to Muku.

Of course that would probably get him beaten up by Jade, Chris and that sister if she were real...

"Hahaha. Brother, you and I really were meant to be brothers! Only if you were my twin instead of cough, anyway, I know that the dream is highly unlikely for me to achieve. But you, you might actually have a chance, a very decent one in fact, so if you want it, I don't mind handing it over to you" Klaus replied with a big smile on his face.

"No no brother, while I'm happy that you think so highly of me. I lack the drive you have. You might not have noticed it, but I'm one of those people who had zero hope in humanity, that's why I never thought of actually saving the race which I'm sure many have thought of doing. I wouldn't mind saving those I come across. But I won't go out of my way either. Besides, I can feel that this dream means a lot to you. So I'd never want to take it away from you. I'm sure you'll achieve it eventually. Just don't forget us little people when that happens. Also, I hope you don't completely let your guard down around the people you save. I'm sure you know how ungrateful humans can be. Your current group seems very close, but those who come later may not be the same..." Muku refused to accept Klaus's dream and gave him some advice as well as expressed his support.

As for even considering it? Hell no! Screw people! All the people he needed were already with him. And it sounded way too troublesome for someone who had no intention of doing it.

Besides, he already had enough problems of his own. Why add every other person's problems on top of his own?

"Sigh, I should have known. I honestly thought I could dumb it in you for a second there. Haha. I guess I have to do it after all. Anyway, I doubt that even if I were to rule the world I'd be at your level. Something tells me that you're in for something way beyond that. And thanks for the advice. Humans really are like that. I wouldn't have been doing this if I didn't like seeing my race getting wiped out by alien beasts. If it were human on human, maybe I wouldn't care. But this situation is something I can't ignore. Whoever tries to get in the way I will execute... If I can't do that, I hope you don't mind if I borrow your hands" Klaus replied then held out his hand to Muku.

"Haha. It seems you've thought about it properly. And don't worry, if there are troubles, you can call on us" Muku replied and shook his hand.

And just like that, the alliance between some of the most important people in the world was made.

As for whether Klaus's vision will be fulfilled... Only time will tell...

Chapter 446: Group meeting...

"With that taken care of, I guess it's your turn. Don't worry, I'm not going to ask you to leave or anything. I promised after all. Besides, only a fool would let go of you after what happened... cough, so that everyone doesn't misunderstand, I meant her class upgrade. Nothing else happened" Muku spoke in relation to Lisa.

His words made her blush at one point while earning him glares from the girls and one brother-in-law(Chris), Klaus just gave him another admiring look.

So of course he had to clarify lest he got beaten up. Fortunately, his explanation barely managed to pacify the situation. Of course it was with zero help from Lisa... The girl was blushing like crazy.

It was almost like she was trying to get him caught...

And from the suspicious gazes she was getting, he was almost certain that she would get questioned after things settled down. Hopefully, she won't crack under pressure or he's in for a terrible time. Well, whatever, he'll cross the bridge once he gets there.

"Anyway, Lisa, are you settled in? Is there anything you and your group need? And how's the new class level? Have you reached the peak yet?" Muku threw a barrage of questions at Lisa.

There was so much that she could barely keep up. The others couldn't help but roll their eyes. After all, it was obvious that he was interested in her n matter how much he wanted to pretend he wasn't.

But if he thought they were going to let him do as he pleased and bring another girl in, then he was solely mistaken...

"Yes, we're settled in, thank you for accepting us. The new class is great, I couldn't be happier with it. And I'm not yet at the peak, but I am close after the last battle..." Lisa answered to the best of her abilities.

The daring way of speaking from their last encounter was completely gone. After all, she couldn't speak like that with so many eyes present... Especially when some were glaring at her.

Besides, she was only that daring because the situation called for it. While she was ashamed of it, she didn't regret it at all. After all, with their proximity to the battle from before, if she hadn't held on to Muku's thigh... She and her group might have long been wiped out.

Even if all that was ignored. Just the personal gain alone was worth it. While she felt that she might have put Muku in a tough situation by what she did... She didn't know what else to do.

After all, being in his service for life had already been spoken for. So all she had left was her body. He didn't need it, but it was all she could offer.

It was still selfish but selfless people don't make it far in the apocalypse, so it was what it was...

"That's great. I guess you can join these two in the training I'm going to give them. Yeah, you two... You want to break through to the next realm sooner right? Well, y'all need a mindscape then" Muku spoke smilingly as he shifted attention from Lisa to Klaus and Chris who looked back in confusion.

Unlike the path which directly leads to the next stage, the mindscape which only makes it convenient wasn't covered by the IA. So like many other things like hidden attributes, mana empowered flying and the importance of mana purity, it was something Evolvers had to discover on their own.

In normal cases, Muku wouldn't bother teaching other people like this, but they were Jade's brothers and his "new lady" so he didn't mind.

Also, he felt that if he just chose to teach Lisa alone, it wouldn't sit well with the girls, so he might as well teach his brothers-in-law too.

His plan was a resounding success. None of the girls found an issue with the plan.

Which might be because Emily wasn't present and there was no way Jade would say no.

The two friends were the most vocal in such matters after all.

Chloe and Layla might not like it too much, but they wouldn't voice it as easily as the other two. They were more controlled in such public settings. They'd however settle scores in private. Like that time Layla literally beat Muku up yet no one else was made aware of it.

She was too lazy to say it and there was no way he'd say it even if he was beaten to death...

"Umm, so before we start this training, can you tell us more about it?" Klaus asked curiously.

"Well, it goes like this..." Muku went on to explain what a mindscape was and how it worked.

"Wow, who knew there was something so wondrous. Truly the apocalypse never ceases to amaze me... Who would have thought? I wonder what else is there I don't know" Klaus commented in amazement.

The other two were just as amazed as he was.

Everyone from Muku's group couldn't help but feel a bit smug. After all, it always felt good blowing someone's mind with something you consider common knowledge. Like a sage enlightening bumpkins.

"While I'll admit that there is a lot of good stuff you might not know that we do. But there are also a lot of terrible things we know that you don't. And let me tell you this... Sometimes ignorance is bliss..." Muku replied seriously.

He'd rather not have known about the Beast World and all the monsters there waiting to be set loose the moment the wait can contain them. And something told him that they might not be anywhere close to strong enough when Monarchs are allowed to walk the Blue Planet.

Sure, Klaus and Chris knew about Monarchs to some extent. But all they knew was that there was a Monarch spirit in Tactoa.

While that creature gave them a little glimpse into the power of Monarchs, it was nowhere close to what the creatures were capable of. Then there was that bleeding sky... Just thinking about that gave him chills.

So yeah, sometimes not being in the know wasn't bad. It also kept one safe from mind-numbingly scary stuff.

"Well... I guess that's true. Though don't count me out completely. I might not know as much as you do, but I do know a few things. Maybe one day we can sit down and talk about it..." Klaus replied in an equally serious manner.

His seriousness even had a layer of darkness to it which made everyone curious. But none pressed him for details. It was clear that he wasn't ready for such a conversation yet...

"Maybe we will... Anyway, enough of that. For now, we need to scout the area. I know y'all probably scouted the immediate area, but we need to do more than that. After all, normal AoE attacks from R5s can cover many kilometres, so before we get caught up in any of that we need to scout ahead and maybe even set up signs. With that said, the team can't be too big. So I'll be taking Layla only, for obvious reasons. If things go south, she can hide in the shadows while I make a break for it... Cough, I mean, try to fight it out with whatever is causing trouble" Muku moved on to the next thing.

Everyone rolled their eyes at how he just admitted that Layla was the only one he was comfortable with ditching when things turned south because she'd likely survive.

But no one said anything, despite everything they understood his reasoning. The world really was too dangerous now. They currently couldn't afford to be careless like before. Raya, their "getaway driver" was currently out of commission after all.

It was only now that everyone understood that she was more useful than just being their strongest card. Even in daily matters, she was indispensable...

As for ditching Layla, it wasn't like Muku wouldn't try his best before doing such a thing... It was a last resort. Which hopefully they wouldn't have to use it.

After all, they weren't sure if Muku would be able to escape in such a situation. Hell, Layla might end up having to take him into the Shadow realm if that happened.

Which was something she had never done before. Sure, she could "teleport" with others, but that was momentary and it drained her. So nobody knew if the current her could even support having another person in the Shadow realm, especially someone on Muku's level.

She had long noticed that a person's strength determines how much she's drained... Well, she'll get drained anyway, but those slightly weaker mean she'll be slightly less drained.

Anyway, the immediate plan was put into place. And there was no need to delay. Muku and Layla immediately set out... There truly was no rest for the wicked...

As they left, everyone went to do their own thing while they waited.

Klaus and Chris were about to leave when red beast claws made out of Beast Aura landed on their shoulders and stopped them in their tracks.

"Brothers... Stay a while. I have something I need to speak with you about..." Jade's calm voice sounded behind them.

Klaus and Chris couldn't help but gulp down some saliva in trepidation even though they didn't remember doing anything wrong...

Chapter 447 Jade's sibling talk

"What's the matter sis?" Klaus asked.

"Oh nothing much, just want your help with clearing up some matters from the past. You don't mind right?" Jade spoke calmly.

At that point everyone else had left so it was just the three of them in the room...

"Oh, okay. Ask away. We don't mind at all" Klaus replied enthusiastically.

Though internally he felt like he was falling into some trap...

Chris just quietly looked on. The other two took his silence as a sign of agreement...

"Well, do you remember that time when I was a baby who suddenly appeared on your doorstep then mom picked me up and my hair changed colour to match hers?" Jade asked with a cheerful expression on her face.

"Oh, that. Of course I do, I remember it like it was... You told her?!" Klaus was replying with a gleeful smile on his face then he realised what he was saying.

It was the one thing their mother had told them never to reveal to Jade, and yet there he was, revealing it all.

But it was something she shouldn't have known in the first place. Yet she was talking about it so vividly. So he, who never expected it was caught off guard and started spilling everything.

Since this was the first time he was talking about it with her, and there was no way their mother would have told her about it before the apocalypse... It only meant one thing. And that was, Chris must have told her. So he immediately accused his brother ruthlessly.

"... What? What!?! No! Of course not. She tried asking me about something along those lines last time I met her. But she didn't seem sure and was a bit out of it, so I brushed it off and it was never mentioned again. So if anything, between the two of us, it's you who has told her. After all, she might have somehow found out about it but wasn't sure but your reaction confirmed everything. Couldn't you control yourself? Weren't you always calm and collected under pressure? What's this then?" Chris snapped at his brother.

He was infuriated by how Klaus so resolutely accused him without a doubt like that. Sure, he kinda understood Klaus's reasoning, but that didn't mean he'd take it lying down.

As a leader, Klaus should know better than to act without being sure like that!

"Oh... Well, sorry brother. I was caught in the heat of the moment. But even if I kinda confirmed it, you definitely just reinforced what I confirmed. So honestly, we're both at fault. We shouldn't keep on fighting amongst ourselves like this. It's only making the situation worse..." Klaus apologised and shamelessly split the blame with Chris.

Chris just rolled his eyes silently. There really was no getting Klaus to admit that he was solely responsible for what happened after all. Internally he swore to settle scores somehow. Maybe not through a fight because there was no chance of winning that, but there should be some way...

"Umm, sorry to break it to you Klaus but it's already too late. And I didn't exactly need your confirmation since I already knew. But it's certainly appreciated. It does make talking about this with you much easier" Suddenly Jade chimed in which startled Klaus who had at some point forgotten that she was there.

"Ah... Is that so? Okay. May I know how you know if you don't mind? There's no way you remember the things from such an early age right?" Klaus asked in a slightly awkward manner.

"Actually, that's exactly what happened. Oh, and I guess Muku forgot to mention that when one has a mindscape they can revisit all their memories, even the very first ones. So... Anyway, that's not how I remembered mine though. It happened naturally while I was asleep or even awake a while back. Almost drove me crazy even. In theory, my mindscape should allow me to know everything I experienced, but for some reason, some parts of my memories are blocked off. I can feel them slowly unsealing but I'm too impatient to wait, so here we are..." Jade explained.

"Oh, brother-in-law really skipped a big part in his description then... Well, the cat is out of the bag. And I always felt that you shouldn't be kept in the dark forever. Especially now when you're old enough to take it. Anyway, what do you want to know?" Klaus spoke with a freed smile on his face after getting over the shock of the new capability a mindscape had.

He never liked keeping his beloved sister in the dark. While she came as a baby, maybe she would still hold a strong attachment to her background and would want to know about it. So keeping her in the dark wouldn't be a good thing.

It was best to leave how she dealt with the information to her. It was her life and she deserved to know. While telling her before the apocalypse might have been hard to believe, telling her now makes sense.

It was obvious that her background wasn't average from how her hair turned green from red back then. And that was in a world where mana was dormant. It was worth looking into the matter just based on that reason alone.

Chris remained quiet. He chose not to say anything unless spoken to. Besides, it wasn't something they both needed to say together. His presence was enough...

"Hmm, I only know about the day I arrived. So I want to know what happened after that. I mean, I know what happened in my later years which is living a normal life. But I don't know about the younger days. So if anything there's anything significant that happened during that time, I'd appreciate it if you told me..." Jade replied.

"I don't think there was anything too weird after that. Just that when we played with you outside until you were maybe four, all the animals that saw you would run away. Interestingly enough, that didn't happen when mom was with you. Almost like she was suppressing something about you. Come to think of it, that was rather weird wasn't it?" Klaus recounted the past.

This made him think about something he never thought of before. How did their mother do that back then anyway?

"Speaking of which, don't you think that she and Mom kind of look alike? I mean, maybe not completely. But vaguely they look related beyond more than just their features. And mom wasn't even surprised when Jade's hair turned green to match hers. I think she even smiled a little bit..." Chris who was more observant of their mother on that day chimed in.

"..."

"..."

"..."

The three siblings suddenly all went quiet. They had never realised it before. But their mother was rather mysterious.

And Jade thought the same. None of them knew their father. They were just told that he died a long time ago. Yet there wasn't even a single picture of him. Also, their mother left on certain nights every month without saying anything.

They'd only know she was gone when the nanny arrived.

Back then they thought that she had gone to see a secret boyfriend since that's what the nanny said, but now they weren't so sure.

Why is it that they never questioned the situation until that point?

Was Jade's arrival on their doorstep even a mistake?

"Umm, Jade, when you last saw Mom before the apocalypse... Did she say or do anything weird?" Klaus suddenly asked.

They paused Jade's matter for a moment. Though honestly, there wasn't much more to say in that regard. After all, Jade was a pretty normal child apart from those two situations so...

The point was, currently, their mother seemed way more interesting...

"What do you mean? Do you suspect something?... Fine, she didn't do anything weird apart from hugging me a little longer than usual while telling me she loved me like she always did. That's hardly worth noting since she did that from time to time anyway. Her reason for it when I asked was "I feel sentimental sometimes and like hugging you to ground me". So I don't think there are any clues to be gotten from the situation..." Jade recounted what happened after Klaus gave her an unrelenting look that said, "tell me or I won't stop looking at you".

"That same day she called me and we talked for around fifteen minutes... You must know, usually she waits for me to call and we only speak for a minute at best" Chris chimed in.

"And I also had a similar experience. However, instead of ten minutes we spoke for thirty... I can't believe you only spoke to mom for one minute in normal cases... Are you crazy?" Klaus joined in.

"How long I spoke to her doesn't matter okay? Do you have a point here or are you just wasting time?" Chris snapped.

"Tsk. Fine. I do have a point actually. And I'm sure both of you have already picked up what I laid down, you just don't want to acknowledge it. But I'll make you face it. And that's, the likelihood that mom knew the apocalypse was coming. On top of that, she might not be dead like we thought. She might be out there in the apocalypse, either looking for us or avoiding us. Either way, whether you help me or not. I'm adding another goal on top of world domination, something even more important. And that's finding out everything I can about mom. Finding her would be more ideal of course. Anyway, I know it's hard in a ruined world where almost all human traces are gone.... but I will keep on looking until I have covered the whole planet. No matter how many times it grows. And I might even look two more times after that just to be sure!" Klaus passionately declared his plans to his mother.

He suddenly had so many questions he needed her to answer...

Chapter 448 Brother to Brother...

The other two were surprised by their brother's sudden enthusiasm. They immediately realised that the water ran deeper than they thought.

Klaus had probably gone through something neither of them had, and he thought their mother had the answers. As for why he wasn't telling them, they didn't know, nor will they ask.

It was the same when he vaguely revealed that something was up during the discussion with Muku and the others. Oh well, they'll know eventually.

"Well, if that's what you want, feel free to look. I am not convinced. While it's sad, I think Mom is really gone and looking for her is a waste of time. It's no different from rubbing salt into your own wounds" Chris chimed in.

He felt that while there was definitely something weird about their mother, that didn't mean she had some supernatural connections.

She might have some other secrets she just didn't want to get discovered. As for how she didn't get frightened by Jade's hair colour change back then... Well, some people were weird like that. And mothers tended to be weak against babies, so ignoring a little harmless hair colour change wasn't anything big.

"Well, personally I'm in between you two. I half believe you and half don't. For that reason, I'll help you look for Mom. But I won't be as serious about it as you. If I look all over the world once and don't find her, I'll stop. I'll leave looking three times to you" Jade expressed her stance.

"Great! That means three of us will look then!" Klaus happily replied.

"Didn't you hear what I sa..." Chris was clarifying when he was interrupted.

"Trust me, I know what you said you none believer. But sis you forgot that you're still in my group? So whether you want to look or not, I as your leader just need to order you and you'll have to look" Klaus interrupted Chris.

"..." Chris realised that he had been put on checkmate so he didn't say anything else.

He kinda missed his days in Tactoa at that point. After all, despite having many higher-ups, none of them personally targeted him like this brother of his who was always on his case.

Of course, he could leave... But he chose to stay. This life was more fulfilling than back then. Besides, it would be a lie to say that he didn't also want to look for their mother.

Reason told him that it was pointless, but his heart said that if there was a possibility, why not look?

It wouldn't be good if the others looked for her alone and found her. Not only would he feel bad, but Klaus would never let him live it down...

"Well, since we're done here and the two of you were mostly useless, I'm going to cultivate my mindscape, hopefully I recover my memories soon" Jade said then got up and left without waiting for her brothers to reply.

"Sigh, the brat really doesn't put up in her eyes. You'd think we're her subordinates with how she does whatever she wants with us" Klaus lamented while thinking of the good old days when Jade was still little and always followed after him like a little tail with admiration in her eyes.

Now that admiration was reserved for Muku while he only got minor glances. He finally realised how fathers felt when their daughters grew up and got married.

"And whose fault do you think this is? You spoiled her then and you spoil her now" Chris commented in a hateful manner.

"I mean I can understand back then, but now?" Klaus replied confusedly.

"Back then no matter what she wanted to do, you'd let her. Fortunately, most of the things weren't too bad or who knows how she would have turned out. And now? She randomly decided to get together with that Muku fellow who has many girls and you're just letting her be" Chris explained.

"Oh? Are you still on about that huh? Well brother, I remember telling you back then that if you have issues with her life choices, do something about it. You can try at least. The chance of getting beaten up is rather high though. Do I need to remind you back then when she beat you up despite you being five years older and a boy?" Klaus replied with an amused expression on his face.

"Shh! Whom do you want to hear that? And why is violence your answer to everything? Can't we just speak to her?" Chris shushed Klaus while looking around to see if anyone heard him.

Fortunately, there was no one around and they had long realised that the castle was soundproof. Hell, even their mana sense couldn't breach the walls. So no one should have heard anything.

At the same time, he couldn't help but remember when Jade was 14 and he was 19. They had an argument for some reason which broke into a fight...

Due to his weak body at the time that wasn't much bigger than the much younger Jade, he was beaten up without a chance to retaliate. It was Klaus who ended up having to separate them while their mother laughed until her eyes got teary.

It was the single darkest day in Chris's life. And from that day he swore never to fight Jade again. And there was no way he'd fight her now when she was a whole rank above him.

"Haha. Yeah, I thought so. But brother, let me give you some advice. You really should get over this matter. She's old enough to do whatever she wants. And honestly, everyone might start looking down on you if you keep on hating while getting benefits at the same time. You must understand that without brother-in-law, we might be dead instead of sitting here comfortably. And as you saw, he keeps her safe and happy. Something you probably can't give. So why hate? Why try to fix what's not broken? Honestly, I already feel a bit embarrassed for you" Klaus laughed at his brother's fear for their younger sister then gave him some advice before walking away.

"..." Chris remained sitting there for around ten more minutes before getting up and leaving.

Somehow, it seemed a weight had been lifted off his shoulders. He himself felt lighter. His advancement which hadn't progressed for a while actually stirred a little...

.....

Somewhere on the Blue Planet which was now around the same size as Jupiter...

A mature-looking green-haired woman could be seen sleeping on a big bed in a dimly lit room. The lights and everything about the room seemed to have been taken out of medieval times.

Even the lady didn't seem out of place. Like she was a relic leftover from a bygone era along with everything else.

Another interesting thing about the situation was how the room was below ground... and yet it wasn't crushed by the evolution a few days back. This only meant one thing... magic was at play. Strong magic at that...

"Sigh..." A barely audible sigh escaped the lady's mouth but she didn't get up. Then again, it wasn't like there was anyone to hear it around...

After that rather out of the system occurrence, everything returned to its usual calm...

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On Muku's side...

He and Layla had decided to scout at least five hundred kilometres in every direction. That distance should hopefully give them enough time to react to anything.

Well, that is if they weren't being specifically targeted...

Honestly, neither of them liked the situation. After all, no matter, they never had to do such a thing before.

Sure, they weren't rampant, but at least they could move around as they pleased. Sure, initially they moved like that due to ignorance. But after a while, it was a calculated risk. As for now, they could vary show themselves.

Come to think of it, if Muku didn't have Raya, maybe they would have been this careful a lot sooner...

At the very least they had the capital to scout, right? Most people were probably still shaking in their boots at that point. After all, the safety of barriers no longer exists.

Sure, they were safe from R4s and lower but in a world where R5s and R6s roamed, what was an R4?

"So, when did you seal the deal with Emily huh?" Layla suddenly commented as the duo cautiously moved through the greenery.

They could fly, but they didn't dare...

"Huh? What are you talking about?" Muku replied confusedly.

Unlike Klaus who completely let his guard down before, Muku didn't, so he was able to reply appropriately.

Which was to be expected from a veteran liar such as himself really...

"Oh please, do you really think that we are still naive enough to fall for your lies? Sure, at the start of all of this, you could get away with it. And yeah, even with Jade we were fooled for a while..."

"But you two became too daring with those subtle touches with others around when you thought that we weren't looking... almost like you forgot that we have long mastered the technique of observing without looking..."

"Even those flirtatious gazes before either you and mom disappear or you and Jade under the pretext of scouting or training."

"Anyway, I just want you to know that Chloe and Freya know too. Just that unlike Emily, we chose not to make a scene. After all, it had to happen at some point. But we do hope that you don't forget about us while pleasing them..." Layla spoke words that chilled Muku to the bone without even flinching.

To think they knew all this time!

Chapter 449 Desire...

"Since when did you know?" Muku asked curiously.

There was no point in trying to hide it at that point. It would be an insult to Layla's intelligence if anything.

"Is there a point in knowing? Just be happy that Chloe stopped me from stabbing you in the back from the shadows the moment we found out" Layla replied calmly.

"What was that?!" Muku asked in surprise and slight fear.

He even questioned what he heard.

"Nothing" Layla replied then flew ahead...

Muku smiled wryly then followed after her. Whether he heard her correctly or not, it didn't matter since it had passed... Right?...

And so, just like that, the two continued their scouting for a whole week. They could have finished it sooner but they wanted to be thorough and careful.

During this week they didn't go back home, they lived in the wild... It wasn't like they needed sleep anyway. And it also allowed them to study the nighttime activities of beasts.

Fortunately, they found no R6s during their search... They did however come across hundreds of Pseudo-R5s and other R5 variations.

It was really enlightening on how much more the world had become dangerous. However, it was also beneficial for anyone who hadn't yet reached the peak of R5.

Someone like Layla, who with Muku's help manages to rake up a significant amount of KP which propelled her closer to MR5.

If they had killed all the beasts they came across, she would have definitely reached MR5. But unfortunately, that was easier said than done, some of the beasts were very close to each other, so they weren't exactly something a still recovering Muku could take on.

However, they did kill all the weaker beasts they came across. It wasn't because they were cruel... Well, maybe a little bit. But the main reason was delaying the next evolution as much as possible. Every little kill mattered...

Layla's KP percentage wasn't the only thing that increased during their time together. The sexual tension between the duo increased along with it.

It was unavoidable really. After all, both were attracted to each other and had some stuff before. So such a thing happening when they were alone was understandable.

At first, they'd steal glances at each other until they'd straight up stare at each other with unmasked desire in their eyes.

Muku was the most rampant as he'd touch Layla intimately every chance he got. He even got so daring as to slap her bubble butt once after a successful MR5 kill she accomplished alone.

A normal reaction would be to get angry right? Well, Layla's emotions were high from all their subtle flirting and the battle she just had, so she immediately jumped into Muku's arms and an intense make-out session began.

Both couldn't help but feel more excited than usual. Maybe it was because of the taboo nature of doing it outside along with the danger involved.

Fortunately, Layla still had the presence of mind to push Muku back before things went too far. After all, the location really wasn't ideal.

Even if they had scouted it and knew that it was relatively safe, one could never know what would happen next.

Muku resisted a bit but gave in eventually. He also understood the situation but just couldn't control himself well enough.

He internally cursed his bloodline. The thing was now completely useless to him and yet it still left him the side effects...

If it wasn't for it there was no way he'd have been such a horn dog.

Muku thought to himself while conveniently ignoring that the bloodline only intensified what was already there. Which means that there was a high chance of him doing what he did even if it wasn't present.

Anyway, after that, they minimised physical contact with each other until they returned. Layla even specifically banned Muku from slapping her behind under any situation...

Muku suspected that maybe she liked it so much that it made her lose control. After all, as a "good girl", she has probably never been spanked.

And like those cliché stories, maybe that made her develop a spanking fetish. After all, Jade didn't react like that when hit.

Sure, she ended up subtly enjoying it after a while, but Layla was way more exaggerated. From the get-go, she was hooked.

Well, whatever, he'll get a chance to test it out again eventually...

For then, they had to return. The others were getting worried even if they kept in touch daily and even multiple times per day...

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A week later...

The duo made it back safely after fulfilling the mission.

After that, everyone could relax a bit knowing that they were in a relatively safe area.

From then on, the next step was obvious. And that was a rapid improvement in strength.

From the strongest to the weakest, everyone set out to improve their strength.

Of course, it was in turns with Muku and the girls overlooking the process. Muku overlooked the girls while they overlooked the rest.

It was then that Klaus, Chris and Lisa were taught how to awaken and manipulate their mindscapes. Scarlett and Genevieve were allowed to join in for obvious reasons.

Out of the group of five, Lisa was actually the best student followed by Klaus then Chris.

Scarlett and Genevieve were struggling a lot more than the others. But Scarlett was slightly better. On the other hand, Genevieve gave up after seeing no hope.

She had figured out that it might be quicker for her to directly advance without the mindscape than first awaken it then advance. And she was right, her progress was that slow.

Besides, with so many experts to cover her back, it wasn't a bad idea. Especially with her sister-in-law Jade who was more than willing to help her.

Scarlett joined in too. She was progressing faster than Genevieve but it wasn't nearly as fast as the other three. So it was better to advance directly than work on the mindscape later on...

Since Muku didn't forbid it, Lisa and Klaus went on to teach their people on the mindscape. However, it was simply impossible to achieve for most. And only around ten individuals from both groups combined showed promise.

But they were even worse than Genevieve...

Yeah, the mindscape wasn't for everyone just like many good things in life.

Jade even graciously revealed how to fly using mana... And again, only a few people had the talent and mana control needed to access the ability...

As for the Force Technique... Yeah, there was no way Muku was going to publicise that, even to Jade's brothers. Something Jade completely understood, the technique wasn't public info waiting to be discovered after all.

It was a technique directly gotten from Mrs C, something akin to a family legacy so it was off limits to most.

He did consider teaching it to Lisa though... Yeah, he was biased, but he didn't do it in the end. She hadn't shown enough to warrant getting it. Both to him and the others.

So, even if he ignored that she was still not worthy, he was sure the others wouldn't agree. Even the easy-going Audrey. After all, that lady respected the technique even more than he did.

And honestly, out of all his girls, he was afraid of her the most. Which was odd because she was the least likely to find trouble with him. Maybe it was because of that he was afraid of her.

As they say, still water runs the deepest...

Speaking of Audrey, he had just found out that she could now create blood instead of just manipulating that which already exists. Considering how she was already as strong as everyone else with the huge shortcoming, he wondered how strong she was now.

Then he remembered how she dominated the last great battle... That must be part of the reasons why...

Just like that, the days went by steadily, and everyone's strength was improving. Well, except Muku of course, he was competing focused on advancing Raya as quickly as possible.

Whenever he was bored, he'd go inside his mindscape and kick the black and white cocoon Raya was wrapped in.

Of course, he wouldn't do it too roughly. Just enough to annoy Raya who was busy with her evolution inside. She couldn't even spare a moment to curse at him but he could sense her anger whenever he kicked her. It was childish but fun.

After that, he'd attend his other activities which were mostly assisting others and trying to reclaim his erasing gaze from his bloodline. The first activity was working out fine but the second... Not so much.

It was like his bloodline was on strike ever since his last usage. Which really sucked. Animes clearly suggested that he'd be better at manipulating his ability after he healed from such an event. Yet there he was, without even what he had before...

While Muku was cursing his bloodline, sitting on top of the castle covered by dirt, he suddenly sensed a huge mana wave approaching them from a distance...

His expression along with that of every other person present turned grave. Some could barely stop themselves from peeing their pants as they quivered in their shoes...

Without anyone having to tell them, they all knew what was happening.

A Rank 6 beast was approaching...

Chapter 450: Eagle-Rex

Like the brave warriors they were, everyone gathered together and... Hid like the scared little ants they were with their presence suppressed to the extreme...

Honestly, they all knew that even with their presence suppressed, the R6 would probably still be able to accurately judge their real rank.

It was more of them showing their submission than actually hiding.

Soon enough the R6 really did appear. Surprisingly enough it appeared right above their small mountain(castle).

It was a huge bird-like creature which looked like a cross between a T. rex and an eagle.

The body looked like a giant eagle but the head was that of a T. rex. And instead of feathers it had brownish-grey scales.

The creature was at least three hundred metres tall. More than double the size of any R5 they had encountered.

The passive pressure radiating from its body was so strong that most couldn't breathe. And that included Klaus who was infinitely close to R5. Only the girls and Muku were doing much better.

The creature really looked quite majestic. Especially how it didn't go around in its humanoid form like R5s. Maybe R6s have gotten over that tendency or this one just didn't care about keeping up appearances...

None dared look at it for too long though.

Especially when it tilted its head down and looked directly at the mountain. It was almost like it was looking through it and directly at them.

Fortunately, it didn't do anything and continued on its way. It was probably because they were too weak to catch its attention.

After all, in a world where Pseudo-R6s were abundant, even the girls weren't anything special with their higher LR5 strength. Even if they were humans, they weren't worth its time.

It was like killing ants. There was zero benefit to it. Sure, some didn't mind doing the thankless and rather cruel task, but fortunately this beast wasn't one of those individuals...

Muku suspected that if his aura wasn't hidden behind the nightmare armour, the situation might have been different. After all, it wasn't an exaggeration to call him unrivalled under R6... As long as Raya wasn't counted.

Such an individual would definitely draw the attention of even this nonchalant Eagle-Rex.

Fortunately, the armour still retained that effect despite the many cracks on it that were slowly recovering.

For whatever reason, Muku felt that there was something slightly different about the armour but he couldn't put his finger on it...

Well, whatever, there were currently no problems and that's all that mattered...

People only started moving thirty minutes after the beast left. That's how much it scared them.

After that, they became even more resolute in improving their strength.

Even Muku went into a retreat with thousands of beast cores so he could get Raya out as soon as possible.

He didn't like living like this. He even wondered how other humans had managed to do it for so long without going crazy...

And so, a full two months passed without people going too far from the castle.

Fortunately, it wasn't even necessary to go far. Beasts were more numerous than ants at that point... Then again, weren't ants extinct like most wildlife on the planet?

It just couldn't be helped. Most small earth creatures couldn't take the mana. So they died off. Only those around the size of cats and above survived.

Even among those animals, most of them were driven crazy by mana and somehow got themselves killed. Mostly by attacking beasts.

One had to know that even unranked beasts were way stronger than any animal of equal size or even larger. So the fights were always one-sided until animals were mostly gone.

But then again, with so many beasts that looked like advanced versions of beasts, it was hard to notice their absence...

And who'd care about animal extinction in the apocalypse? Well, obviously there would be a few crazies who would care but they were probably also extinct with the animals by that point...

Anyway, due to the availability of beasts everywhere, most people managed to advance at least one stage.

The minimum rank in Klaus and Lisa's groups was now R3 from R2. Even those with terrible talents were pumped with resources until they advanced.

The leaders themselves had also advanced significantly. Firstly Klaus... He'd finally broken through a month ago after successfully awakening his mindscape.

Though it wasn't as good as the girls who had Muku's guidance and assistance from start to finish, it was more than good enough for what needed to be done.

His avatar was surprisingly a giant panda... He didn't know whether to laugh or cry after seeing it and comparing it to the avatars he's seen from the girls.

However, after testing it in battle, he'd realised that it wasn't a slouch. The avatar could hang with the best.

And it didn't completely look like a panda either. It wasn't fat but muscular instead with longer arms and legs. Its claws were also longer. The speed was also outstanding...

It was clearly the combat version of pandas which he named Battle Panda...

Next was Chris who also broke through. His avatar was an armadillo with a crocodile head.

Jade jokingly called it a crocodillo, which angered Chris greatly but he didn't fight it out with her. He was beyond fighting with kids after all. Definitely not because he knew that he'd lose.

And besides, he didn't dislike the creature he got after asking for the heavens' assistance. This was because he expected a tortoise. So this armadillo was definitely better. At least it had more manoeuvrability than a tortoise right? Plus it has significant offensive abilities like an energy beam attack and great snapping strength. Which was great!

Lisa also reached the peak quickly then breezed through the Pseudo-R5 stage with the help of the girls.

Some didn't particularly like it, but they couldn't deny her abilities and usefulness. And she was there to stay, so they might as well help her get stronger right?

And so, she advanced soon after Klaus and Chris. Her avatar turned out to be a dragon turtle.

The creature had a land dragon's body with a turtle shell on its back. It was surrounded by a thick dark and earthy aura which made it eerie and rather scary looking.

It also came with an ability everyone was jealous of, and that was "Earth Mother's dark summon"

This ability allowed Lisa to partially summon the creature from the ground. And it was actually free of cost and she could use it as many times as she wanted as long as the soil in the area she was had mana.

What happened when she cast it was a giant draconic head emerging from the ground and swallowing the target or at least ripping a giant chunk from their body.

The ability was also undetectable as it had the aura from the planet...

Everyone went green with jealousy especially Chris who was happy he didn't get a turtle or tortoise.

Then again, was that thing even still a turtle or just a dragon in disguise? Literally, only the shell gave off the turtle impression. He only calmed himself down by knowing that he didn't have the earth element, so even if he had gotten that creature, it wouldn't have the cool ability he wanted...

If Raya had been around when Lisa advanced, she would have laughed like a maniac. After all, she had called it when Lisa was still just a LR4 Evolver that her avatar would likely be some sort of turtle-like creature. And there it was.

Her reasoning for that was that Muku had practically gathered the other three legendary mythical beasts in Chinese folklore... You know, Azure Dragon, Vermilion bird and White Tiger.... Of course, their colours were a bit off and maybe even species to some extent, but they were close enough.

Hell, there were even extra legendary creatures in the forms of leviathan, manticore and kirin.

All that was missing was the turtle. And now it had appeared!

Two more people advanced to R5 actually. And these were Scarlett and Genevieve.

Scarlett's avatar was a beast which looked like a mutant falcon, clearly an avatar built for speed.

Then Genevieve, hers was something rather familiar to Muku's group. A giant venus fly trap. This was because Iris first appeared to them in a form somewhat similar to that.

The plant fairy actually complimented Genevieve for awakening the avatar. She said that it was one of the best plant types in offence. She didn't even speak about the crowd control part since it was pretty much something all plant-types could do...

After around a month of getting used to their new strength level. Klaus and Chris set out... With two extra people. Who were obviously Scarlett and Genevieve.

The twins tried rejecting the ladies from tagging along but no matter what they said, it didn't work on their wives.

That's right, Klaus and Genevieve were now official.

Maybe it was because it had been long enough or she felt threatened by the pretty girls from Muku's group but Genevieve actually sorted out Klaus in front of everyone and confirmed their relationship before dragging him away.

Klaus was confused then overjoyed. His patience and persistence have finally paid off!...