

## **Last Days 461**

### Chapter 461: The Demonic Magician

"Well, you can just state out the real drawback through this method and it should deter some people," Peter said.

"Yes?"

"Demonic Magician will never live past the age of 50 unless they reached rank 7," Peter said. "No matter what age they started and if they started above the age of 50, I estimated that they will only have their strength for a week at most."

Governor Zachary was stunned and he looked at Peter in disbelief. "How...?"

"Well, the demonic magician can only learn the method that was taught by their predecessor. But from the moment they meditated using this way, they're actually connecting their link with the founder, which I estimated to be Dina Alden," Peter replied. "So after their death, she can conveniently take part of their power through this link, which will increase her strength faster."

Peter guessed that Dina should have reached rank 5 and experienced how hard it is to advance after reaching this rank. After all, the magic beasts that came out were only rank 3 to rank 4 at the highest.

If she wanted higher ranked magic beasts, she had to enter the crack.

But how could it be so easy for them to enter the crack?

Unless they have full confidence in themselves and willing to bet their lives, they would not be willing to enter the crack in their entire life.

So the other way for demonic magician to become stronger was if their 'follower' died.

So this should be the reason why Dina spread out this method.

"This..." Governor Zachary felt chills on his back when he heard this. He felt that the demonic magicians were indeed very cruel.

They were basically taking other people's entire life's hard work for the sake of their improvement. And the number of people who had lost their lives for them was countless...

It was really terrifying.

"Is it that bad?" Peter asked calmly, his tone didn't fluctuate in the slightest bit. "Perhaps you will think that becoming a demonic magician is a path without any future, but at the same time, it's also the brightest path in the dark side."

Governor Zachary: ???

Seeing the confusion on Governor Zachary's face, Peter laughed. "All paths will eventually lead towards one point but the paths taken are all very different. Because there's only one main purpose for all practices."

To be stronger, to live longer, to live freely...

These reasons were gathered together during their practice.

"But everyone had different reason why they choose to practice..."

"Yes, they have different reasons but it doesn't matter that much," Peter said calmly and then stood up to wash the blood on his hand. He has been fighting a lot and felt that he should wash up a bit.

Otherwise, the sticky feeling of blood on his hand doesn't feel that good.

"The demonic magician..."

"There are a lot of profession in that world, but why do you think the demonic magician's path has never been erased?" Peter asked back. "It's not only because they're powerful but there are many people who want this rapid advancement. Not everyone can stand being patience and practice step by step."

Especially the people who have been spoiled by technology and always wanted everything to be done fast.

To be honest, Peter himself also felt that way.

When he first came to that world, he was not used to it. He used to be able to get all kind of information easily through looking up in the internet. If he wanted something to eat, he could just walk to the nearest restaurant and eat some food or simply ordered takeout.

Life was very comfortable.

But that world was completely different.

It was a brutal world where they had to do almost everything by themselves and practiced on their own.

Life is slow.

And for people from modern era like them, they were definitely not used to it in the beginning.

Moreover, the harsh requirement of talent had made them feel that the world was really unfair. Rather than sticking on the path that they knew would take a long time, they would rather try their best to look for the best path that would allow them to get stronger faster.

"We're still young, so even if we know that the demonic magician's lifespan could only last until we're 50 years old at most, how many people will think about it?" Peter asked back. "What's the normal lifespan of humans in our era?"

"...70?"

"Yes."

Peter smiled and Governor Zachary's words had already solved the main problem why he didn't mention this matter in the beginning.

Because there was no point in saying that.

For many of them, the most pressing moment was how to survive and it was simply impossible for them to care too much about how long they will live in the future.

To put it simply, they left this problem to their future self.

"So, none of us mentioned about the lifespan limit and only mention about the few things that we can do to prevent these demonic magicians from taking our mana," Peter replied calmly.

He's not a magician, but he still knew these things because of various reasons. After all, some demonic magicians also maliciously target warriors for the sake of their strong life-force, which was said to be able to help them prolong their lives.

It was really disgusting.

Peter washed his hand while Governor Zachary was busy digesting the news that Peter gave to him.

He had never been to that world, so he didn't know as much as Peter did.

Hearing what Peter said... Governor Zachary felt that his worldview was about to be destroyed.

"But if it's spread, it can still be useful, right?" Governor Zachary finally asked.

"Don't think that it can completely deter people." Peter waved his hand. "For some people, having the chance to become powerful is already very good. But for those who wanted to have a future, they would rethink their decision."

"Alright, I'll report this matter."

## Chapter 462: The Demonic Magician (2)

With that, Governor Zachary left.

Peter glanced at Governor Zachary's back and silently shook his head as he washed his hand. "There's no point in worrying about them... for they who have chosen to take this path will not back down so easily."

People who have never been to that world will never understand these returnees' fixation towards their training, paths, and also the fact that they would not actually kill other returnees. Even if they 'compete' for one reason or another, they would never actually point their sword towards the other party's heart.

Because the difference in the two worlds is very different.

Peter closed his eyes as he sat down, reminiscing the days when he was in that world.

He's a poor child, someone who couldn't even eat enough and had to travel to various places in order to train. Having tested his talent when he was in that world, Peter knew very well that he had no future to be a magician.

So he trained his body.

Day and night, like a madman who kept on abusing his body without any sign of stopping.

'From the moment we come to this world, our only way out is if we keep moving forward... to break the restriction of life and to welcome the future path that only we could carve ourselves.'

They have no time to care about the past and could only look towards the unknown future.

Live in that world is strange.

It was filled with both danger and peace at the same time.

If they didn't want to make progress, all they could do was to become an ordinary person for the rest of their lives. Nothing will change from the beginning to the end, just eat, sleep, and wait for death.

But how could they be willing to live a life like that?

There was indeed such a chance...

It was just all returnees never thought of living like that unless they truly had no other choice.

Amidst the difficulty to find the most suitable path, they managed to find a way to practice and carve their own path.

Four years.

Through those four years, they experienced various life and death battle, a different kind of struggle, and a completely different life.

And it was also after they reached rank 7 that they came to understand how the fragile balance of the world could be achieved.

They're geniuses on their own.

To be able to reach such a height in such a short period of time, it had long proved their excellencies.

Yet at the same time, it also proved how desperate they were to practice during that period of time. For their respective reasons, they have to keep moving forward at the fastest speed possible.

Peter didn't know about others.

But for him, he wanted to become stronger so that he could challenge all kind of people and enjoyed the feeling of progress. Sensing one's strength kept on getting stronger, who would not like it?

It was just that all kind of progress had to be accompanied by a lot of pain.

Pain from battles, pain from injuries, pain from losing, and so on.

"You're back?" Peter opened his eyes and looked at Governor Zachary who came back and looked hesitant. He smiled and said, "The other returnees should have told you the same thing as me, right?"

Seeing the confident and calm look on Peter, Governor Zachary felt a bit strange instead.

Because he was used to see Peter's reckless and lively side that it was a bit hard to believe the person in front of him is the same person.

What he didn't realize is that if Peter was truly only reckless and all muscles without brains, he would not have been able to survive for so many years in that brutal world. He had to struggle on his way up by himself and fought many people who wanted to bring him down until the very last moment.

"Yes, but this should curb down their interest," Governor Zachary said.

"Only for a while," Peter said and he stood up.

Because he was sure that once Dina reached rank 7, she would definitely reveal that secret about demonic magicians. Now that Dina hadn't reached rank 7, she would still restrain herself and not willing to expose too much.

Other people, including him, also knew about this secret, but they were not willing to tell others.

Because they had their own reasons.

"Peter?"

"You don't have to know... but you need to keep in mind that perhaps in the future, demonic magician's path will become more popular," Peter said with joking tone. He knew better than anyone how attractive the demonic magician's paths are.

If it was not because of his persistence and rapid progress through various battles he experienced, he might have chosen to become a demonic magician.

But there was no if.

He had chosen this path and Peter will continue to walk down this path to the very end.

"Forget it, I'm not good at talking about these problems. Just tell me where there are more magic beasts. My fists are itchy."

"Yes!"

...

In this way, the matter of the demonic magician's lifespan was spread out.

And since a portion of people have already started practicing and showed the result, many people put down their hearts.

They have a long way to go, why should they go down this path?

Isn't it more fragrant to go on the path of magic warriors or magicians? No matter how hard it is to become a magic warrior, it was still very stable. As for magicians... it might be embarrassing, but it would not cost them their lives.

However, it was estimated that their handsome image would be gone forever without any chance to return it in their entire life.

After all, everyone knew how these magicians sang and danced in front of those magic beasts....

There was simply no reputation left to say.

But in this way, things calmed down.

It was just that... not everyone is happy.

Chapter 463: The Demonic Magician (3)

"Tsk, the other returnees are simply annoying." In City J, Dina Alden was looking at the news in the official website with annoyance. The matter of her practice only spread out for three days and then the officials had already found a countermeasure.

Thankfully, there was no lack of impulsive people in the world.

There were still a lot of people who practiced the demonic magician way and Dina could sense their presence through the link.

As long as she wanted to, she could take their power.

But not yet.

They were too weak.

Even if she took their abilities, the improvement for her wouldn't be small.

'If I spread that news, it'll definitely be faster and spread wider... but I'm not sure I can control that scale.'

Dina shook her head and felt that the current situation was good enough. Unless she was truly desperate, she was not willing to spread that out.

Of course, if other returnees were to spread that matter on their own, then Dina would thank them properly.

After all, these returnees all have relatively amicable relationship only on the surface. They knew very well that they shouldn't kill each other because of the magic beasts' existence, but if someone wanted to provoke them, then they would not take it lying down.

Who among them could withstand such a thorough provocation?

They have lived in that world for a long time and would naturally not be willing to be insulted on the face.

Each of them had their own strength.

"Miss, Ruth is here to see you."

"Tsk."

Dina clicked her tongue and then stood up in annoyance. Ruth Karan Naira is also a returnee like her. But the difference was that Ruth had exceptional talent as a magic warrior and even developed to become an amazing hunter.

In that world, Dina had long heard about Ruth's life experience and was very envious of the other party.

Since Ruth came from a relatively ordinary family but managed to shine so brightly in the end... she had become the idol for who knows how many people in that world. Moreover, she's a famous female magic warrior with no lack of suitors.

Dina has always been jealous when she thought about that.

Because her identity meant that she would never enjoy such attention and love from other people. She will always be in the darkness and only the twisted people will worship her and be willing to look up on her.

She's a demonic magician.

This will never change.

Klack.

The door was opened and a woman walked in. She was dressed in standard army's clothing and looked solemn. Her blonde hair was tied into a ponytail and it swung slightly as she walked.

Ruth looked at Dina and said, "The government said that if you dare to do something like this again, I have to send you away."

"Just you?" Dina showed disdain on her face. "Even if your archery is powerful, do you really think that you can defeat me?"

Ruth narrowed her eyes and didn't answer.

She only came here to relay the message that the higher ups asked her to send. They gave her benefits and also trained her, so Ruth was doing her duty.

The two women stood in front of each other, seemingly ready to fight shall the situation need it.

But after a while, both of them retreated.

They had no intention of fighting against each other.

For they understood very well that fighting would not give them anything.

"Hmph." Dina snorted after Ruth had left.

If Ruth was not here, she could have long dominated the supplies here. Unfortunately, it was simply impossible for her to do that.

The governments were wary of these returnees and would arrange so that they would not be able to dominate... or well, to put it bluntly, they were trying to keep a balanced check on all parties.

Dina knew their moves very well as she had seen those things very often.

They didn't want any of the returnees to be particularly strong yet at the same time, they also hoped that these returnees could be stronger and eliminate the magic beasts.

Contradictory, isn't it?

Right now, the governments were still in passive situation and they were not willing to break the tension.

Everyone was keeping a peaceful appearance on the surface tacitly.

Behind?

Hehehe, everyone just wanted to send a knife to others.

If they could be strong on their own, why should they share it with others?

Dina was very disdainful for this kind of practice.

'If it's not because I can't deal with the magic beasts all over the world on my own, I would have kill you first.'

Thinking about those magic beasts, Dina felt headache. She had taken a visit to the crack and knew that there were so many magic beasts inside that her scalp felt numb. If she was the only person who eventually survived in the entire world, it would be too boring.

She had no interest to see things ended like that either.

So the best way would be for her to cooperate with other returnees and try their best to maintain the 'stability' of the world to a certain degree.

Of course, this is temporary.

None of them were willing to be lackeys of others.

But when there's a chance...

She'll eliminate her.

...

Bang!

Inside the crack, Riya and Samuel were still working together to kill the lich and the skeletons around it. These skeletons were disassembled and then the next moment, they would turn back to normal.

This made the battle basically never ending.

Whoever saw this scene would definitely feel despair.

"The magic source of the lich is still very strong... it's a rank 6 lich," Riya said with a frown. If they continued to fight like this, they would run out of mana before the lich.

Moreover, it was not cost effective to use high ranked magic against these skeletons.

What should they do?

Chapter 464: Against the Lich

Slash!

Samuel swung his sword and killed another skeleton. He also knew that they couldn't last long like this.

His eyes moved towards the Protective Rune Circle around Riya thoughtfully.

So far, Riya basically didn't do anything but stood there, letting the skeleton destroyed themselves after attacking her. After all, the Protective Rune Circle around Riya was more than enough to kill these lower ranked summons.

Even though the two of them called these summons lower ranked, they were actually still rank 3.

So if it was anyone other than the returnees who came here at this point of time... they would only send themselves to their own death.

"Can your Protective Rune Circle protect others?" Samuel suddenly asked.

Riya heard Samuel's words and looked at the man speechlessly. "I'm not going to give you permission to enter my Protective Rune Circle."

That's a big no.

Even in that world, no rune master would allow anyone to enter their Protective Rune Circle easily. The exception belonged to their wife or husband or someone whom they could trust with their own life.

Otherwise, they would only put themselves in danger.

While Riya trusted Samuel, it was not to the point where she would trust her life in his hand.

"No, I mean, let you make a temporary Protective Rune Circle for me." Samuel also knew that it would be impossible for him to let Riya allowed him to join her circle. The rule for these rune masters were clear for Samuel and he had known about those things from the elders in that world.

But what he wanted was to let Riya created a Protective Rune Circle for him.

This will allow him to go out and didn't have to care about his defense. After all, his counterattack shield would consume his mana and he didn't have that much mana.

"That..." Riya thought for a moment and nodded. "I can make the simplified one for you."

"Great."

"Come here."

Samuel stood in front of Riya as she raised her finger and runes started to appear from the tip of her finger until it circled Samuel completely. The process lasted for 4 seconds and during this time, the magic beasts that came along with the skeletons were killed by Riya's Protective Rune Circle.

"Done."

In the past month when they were traveling in this crack, Riya has been practicing her rune drawing skills. She made sure that her fingers were able to move faster and concentrate whenever she drew the formation.

Through this method, Riya was getting faster and faster when making the runes.

Samuel, who watched Riya's progress, was amazed.

He didn't know how Riya was able to draw hundreds or even thousands of runes in one second. In any case, he would never be able to do that.

His finger was not as fast as her.

Samuel also saw how Riya practiced, which was to draw formation and runes over and over again to familiarize herself with various runes.

With them having to fight a lot of magic beasts, these runes were also very useful.

"Good." Samuel grinned and turned around, launching himself into the sea of skeletons and rushed over towards the lich in the distance.

Riya looked at Samuel's move and pursed her lips slightly.

While Samuel was watching Riya's progress in the past month, Riya also watched Samuel's progress and she was equally amazed.

Because Riya could see that Samuel's attack power increased so much that it was several times his attack power in the beginning. Seeing how he easily cut off the rank 5 magic beasts after two weeks... Riya felt that the reputation of Samuel being invincible of the same rank was really true.

Even she started to feel that her defense was simply not enough to face him.

So she had to be one small rank higher at the very least!

For this, Riya felt more motivated to train and increase her strength.

Anyway, if Samuel were to ask her to fight against him in a spar again, she would refuse. She didn't want to be hacked to death by his sword.

It was too terrifying.

Fighting against Peter didn't seem to be so scary.

Then again, Riya didn't know if Peter had advanced too since he should be practicing out there.

Swish!

Samuel rushed over towards the lich directly and the larger skeleton immediately came towards him.

Riya saw that and raised her hand.

'Light arrow tracking formation magic.'

Several lights appeared from the formation circle in front of her and shoot towards these skeletons.

Crack!

The moment it hit, these skeletons either fell down or have a lot of cracks on their bodies.

It was light element.

Samuel saw that and didn't attack these skeletons and instead looked at the lich in the distance. He poured his mana into his sword, filling it with the lightning element and then he roared as he swung his sword.

"Great Lightning Storm Strike!"

BOOM!

Lightning strike down from Samuel's swords towards the lich.

The few skeletons around it has been attacked by Riya's light element magic, basically cleaning them all out so that the lich didn't have anyone to defend.

The lich raised the skeleton shield in front of him, but it was split into two instantly.

Peng!

Lightning crackled and large hole was formed on the ground.

Samuel panted and quickly got away from his place as several skeleton's hands appeared from under the ground. Seeing the human like hands, Samuel frowned slightly.

How many people had died under the lich?

It was common knowledge for them to know that any enemies who fall to the lich could be transformed to be part of his power.

It was precisely because of this that many people hated lich so much and also afraid of him.

Crack! Crack!

"It's not dead yet." Samuel's expression changed when he saw the intact lich in front of him. He felt his sword trembled, warning him of the danger he would face.

Swish! BOOOM!

Chapter 465: Shatter

RUMBLE!

The ground shook and a skeleton dragon came out of the ground with its mouth open, wanting to swallow Samuel whole.

Swish!

At the last moment, Samuel was able to escape from the dragon skeleton's range and moved to the side. But his expression was grave.

Because he understood one thing.

"This lich is rank 7."

No rank 6 lich could control a complete dragon skeleton.

Riya, who was watching in the distance also has her expression changed.

If they were facing against rank 6 lich, there was still a chance for them to win because of Samuel's insane attack power.

But no matter how powerful Samuel is, crossing realms to kill a rank 7 lich is impossible. He had to reach rank 6 at the very least.

In this case, they only have one method to cope up with it.

"Distract it for as long as you can!"

Riya took out a plate and poured mana into it. The plate hummed as if it was alive and then a large circle formed around her, instantly killing any magic beasts that was nearby.

Right afterwards, Riya took out a large number of rank 5 magic beasts' blood and nearly splashed them on the ground. Her two hands started to move, forming two completely different formations.

"Got it," Samuel said.

He looked at the skeleton dragon that was chasing after him and quickly used his lightning mana to stimulate his nerves and ran away as fast as possible. This was one of the fighting methods that he developed in the past in order to cope up with some insanely fast magic beasts and magic warriors.

When one's reaction speed was not fast enough, lightning element could be used to stimulate their own nerves.

Through this method, Samuel was able to escape from many dangerous situation.

Swiss! Bang! Bang!

With the large destructive power of the skeleton dragon, it continued to move around, attempting to swallow Samuel into its mouth full of bones.

With the bone dragon on the way, Samuel couldn't get close to the lich.

And without being able to get close to the lich, it was basically impossible to stop the bone dragon.

But...

Samuel saw that Riya was still drawing at rapid speed.

"Lightning Storm Strike!"

Bang!

The skeleton dragon was split and it stopped for a brief moment, bringing enough time for Samuel to escape the skeleton dragon's range.

Swish!

RUMBLE!

Seeing the ground shook once more, Samuel's eyes trembled and he looked at the lich in the distance. The lich himself was usually weak physically but it was also an 'immortal' in a sense. Because it could live as long as it has enough mana inside.

But once their mana run out... they would be very fragile.

It was just that at this moment, it was simply impossible for the lich to run out of mana or be attacked in close distance.

Boom!

Another skeleton dragon came out and bumped on Riya's defensive shield. The formation plate trembled as if it was suffering from the attack just now. But the next moment, it stabilized.

The power of the skeleton dragon was only at rank 6 at most.

"Come here!" Samuel yelled and swung his sword.

Bang!

The second skeleton dragon was shattered into pieces.

The lich didn't like it.

But it didn't do anything and only the skeleton swarmed towards the two of them at rapid speed. It seemed that the lich knew that Riya was planning something, so one of the skeleton dragon was hovering towards Riya while the other one hold Samuel back.

The second crumbling skeleton was instantly formed back and Samuel who saw it quickly dashed towards it.

Swish! Bang!

The sword blocked the skeleton dragon's claw and the sword trembled as it met with the skeleton dragon's claw.

The power behind the claw was really big.

And the sword was telling Samuel how dangerous it is.

'Even if it's dangerous, I can't run away right away...'

The suction force from the formation was not over yet and there were still other magic beasts got attracted. These magic beasts somehow worked together with the lich to attack them.

So aside from these annoying skeletons, Samuel had to pay attention to the other magic beasts around him.

RUMBLE!

Seeing the third skeleton dragon appearing from underground, Samuel's forehead turned dark.

Just how many dragons did this lich killed in the first place?

He wanted to curse and could only swung his sword and tried his best to hold back the three dragons.

The fight sounded long, but everything happened in less than 5 seconds!

Swish! Swish!

Blood red light came from Riya's left hand and headed towards the skeleton dragon in front of her.

"Samuel! Come here!"

Hearing the order, Samuel decisively abandoned the skeleton dragon in front of him and directly launched a big attack.

"Lightning Storm Strike!"

Boom!

The lightning element raged on around them and stopped the skeleton dragon that was about to pounce on him.

The first skeleton dragon was stopped, the third skeleton dragon was hit by Riya's magic and only the second skeleton dragon was left.

Samuel saw it and simply swung his sword towards the second skeleton dragon.

Bang!

Afterwards, he rushed into the shield area that Riya had set up.

The formation plate trembled for a moment when Samuel entered but it didn't give any other reaction.

Riya had set up so that the formation would not attack him.

Otherwise, it would be impossible for him to get close to Riya in the slightest bit.

"Stay!" Riya gave order.

The bloody runes under them lit up and Samuel didn't dare to move. He knew that rank 5 teleportation formation required them to stay quiet for a while for it to be activated successfully.

If they were to move around in the middle, it might fail directly.

Boom! Boom!

The second dragon skeleton was bombarding the shielding formation. The formation plate kept on trembling.

Again and again.

Prang!

Until it shattered.

The last thing they could see was the claw of the skeleton dragon reaching towards them.

Chapter 466: Return

Swish!

The light flashed and the next moment, Riya saw the white wall in front of her and the familiar ceiling.

Before she could move, Riya heard a faint thud and saw Samuel in front of her. He stared blankly and then saw Riya in front of him.

"We're back."

"Um, yes." Riya nodded and wanted to take a step back but found that she was facing the wardrobe behind her.

Riya: "..."

Why did she make the teleportation formation so small?

At this moment, she kind of regretting making the teleportation in her room and the diameter was so small.

Samuel saw Riya's awkward move and chuckled lightly before taking a step back politely. "It seems that the lich is still too powerful for us."

"It might be attracted by the formation's suction power, which is why it bumped to us," Riya said helplessly. This matter could be said to be accidental on both sides. Since Riya had only set up the teleportation formation in her room, she was unwilling to use the teleportation from the beginning.

Anyway, they could go back through running and in the meantime, hunt a lot of magic beasts. In this way, the amount of magic beasts that will come out to the surface of the Green Planet will decrease.

Unfortunately, Riya kind of miscalculated.

There were some powerful magic beasts lurking underground and these magic beasts were also attracted by the suction power.

Whoever designed the formation should have arranged it this way for test and to make it harder for them to get resources. As for why the limit three times, it should to prevent them from using the formation to kill all of the magic beasts and possibly used it against each other.

The world will be very chaotic at that time.

"Shall we try again after we reach rank 6?" Samuel asked with a faint smile.

If they were rank 6, the chance to defeat the lich would be higher. Moreover, they also have a lot of harvest from coming into the crack this time.

"That'll be a good idea." Riya agreed.

"Ok."

Knock! Knock!

The door was knocked and the two of them looked at the door.

"This..." Samuel looked at the door and then at the window. He was tempted to jump out of the window instead, but he felt that it would make things worse. After a second of contemplation, he walked to the door and opened it.

"Riya, I heard noise..." Mrs. Jones wanted to ask whether Riya had returned or not when she saw her son inside. Mrs. Jones was stunned and looked at her son suspiciously. "Why are you here? Wait... when did you return?"

"Just now, Mom. I need to see father," Samuel said and slipped away.

Mrs. Jones looked at his son's running back suspiciously and then saw Riya coming out. There was a flicker in her eyes as she looked at Riya kindly.

"Sorry, Aunt, I didn't mean to startle you." Riya looked at Mrs. Jones with embarrassment and scratched the back of her head.

"It's alright. Did you have a hard time in the crack? Auntie will prepare more food for you."

"There's no need to trouble you so much, Auntie."

"It's no trouble, no trouble at all."

...

Samuel could guess that his mother should have the wrong impression, but it was not easy for him to explain this matter. Samuel sighed deeply and rubbed his forehead, feeling that things were really complicated.

He shook his head and headed to his father's office, intending to report his finding. At the same time, he wanted to talk with Ruben to let him process the video and cut off the unnecessary parts.

After all, he was inside the crack for almost a month.

There was no way he was going to show a full one month video.

Mr. Jones was happy when he saw his son coming back. He was starting to get overwhelmed with everything that happened in the past month.

"Victoria turned to be a demonic magician?" Samuel asked with a frown. It seemed that Dina was making a move on purpose. She should have her progress slowing down and if she didn't want to enter the crack, her only method to get stronger was through spreading out her practice method and let the other magicians be her nourishment.

"Yes... Amelia is now a training madman." Mr. Jones felt another headache when he thought about his daughter.

Samuel smiled faintly. "She wouldn't last long and if she can get stronger, she'll be able to protect herself better, so this is not a bad thing."

Mr. Jones sighed and said nothing.

"Also, the temperature is getting colder. The higher ups are afraid that the temperature will get into the extreme cold and requested for more temperature talisman." Mr. Jones looked at Samuel with the look, 'You know what to do.'

"I'll talk with her." Samuel's lips twitched.

Thankfully, he had seen that in the past month when they were in the crack, Riya had made a lot of talisman and magic scrolls.

It seemed that he had to replenish her paper first.

Otherwise, Riya would use up her stock and there would not be any medium to make these scrolls anymore.

"Good."

"Anything else?"

"Nothing much, you just need to operate as usual."

"Alright..."

Samuel discussed with his father about the exploration in the crack. Knowing that there were rank 7 magic beasts down there, Mr. Jones felt that their future might be a bit difficult. Thankfully, Samuel told him that it was really far away and it was unlikely for the lich to come to the surface anytime soon.

But the cold temperature might be quite suitable for him...

Well, this was another problem they have to solve.

Samuel sighed when he thought about the few things that he had to think about. He felt that he was really busy.

...

"Ahhh, Riya, you're finally back!" Amelia was the happiest when she saw Riya came back.

In the past month, they couldn't see Riya in the slightest bit and Amelia felt a bit uncomfortable about it.

She missed her friend!

Chapter 467: One's Path

"Do you miss me so much or miss my magic scroll?" Riya asked teasingly when she saw Amelia again.

At the same time, she felt glad that Amelia came at this time or Mrs. Jones might have already started to bring more food for her to eat again. Even though most food could be turned into mana since these were all magic beasts' meat, but her stomach really couldn't handle it!

Her small stomach was not designed to eat too much food.

"That, that..." Amelia coughed and looked away. After that, she couldn't help but look at Riya again and asked, "Did you get hurt when you're inside? You left for such a long time that we thought that you might die."

"Sorry," Riya apologized helplessly.

When she first entered the crack, Riya herself didn't expect that the few days exploration would be turned into a full month of exploration. There were so many magic beasts there and also other resources.

Oh right, she had to go to the research institute to hand over some minerals for them to research.

Considering Samuel's lack of space to store things, many things were in Riya's hand.

Of course, she had no intention of keeping them for herself. These didn't belong to her alone. She and Samuel had also agreed together that these things would be handed over to the research institute and the base.

Or at least, a portion of it.

"It's fine." Amelia pursed her lips and then thought of something and told Riya about Victoria.

Riya nodded thoughtfully, her eyes scanned Amelia in front of her. She could see that Amelia's progress was indeed quite fast. If this girl has been fishing and being lazy as usual, her practice would never reach this point.

It seemed that Victoria's matter hit her hard.

'What did she exactly pursue?'

Riya knew the weakness of those who became demonic magicians very well. After all, with her low talent in the beginning, there were some people who tried to tempt her to become demonic magician.

But Riya was firm in her stance.

She didn't want to be a short lived ghost.

Only those who came from prominent background within the demonic magicians could possibly become a powerful magician. Others would be nothing more than a cannon fodder and Riya didn't want such a thing to happen to herself.

Even if there were some exceptions, but that path was full of thorns and Riya didn't want to sacrifice her future through betting like that.

"I... I can't stop her at that time," Amelia said sadly.

When she thought about the day when Victoria left, Amelia felt that her heart was pierced sharply.

Because she didn't think that her own cousin would be turning against her in such a way.

"Demonic magician improved quickly the more you kill..." Riya pursed her lips and then said, "There are many different paths within the same demonic path and if Victoria chose to attack you, her path should be the extreme ruthlessness."

Having been exposed to various paths in her previous life, Riya was very familiar with various magic paths. After all, she didn't immediately started her practice and had to work hard step by step to reach her ranks in her previous life.

A rune master is more of a support profession.

Her seniors taught her many things, from other professions to how a rune master could counter them.

One of the most basic knowledge was about the demonic magician. Because every profession had to be wary of these demonic magicians who didn't talk about martial arts and wanted to steal their magic.

Many people hated demonic magicians.

Riya herself didn't have much thoughts about them because even demonic magicians would not try to attack a rune master so easily.

The runes carved in her heart had prevented the demonic magician from being able to absorb it. If they tried to take it, there was a chance that they would be destroyed together.

This was definitely a big no for both.

"Extreme ruthlessness?" Amelia asked carefully.

Even though the website had announced the method to become a demonic magician, it was taken down quickly. Amelia is a magic warrior and had no interest to change her path, so she didn't pay much attention to it.

"Yes, a path where you cut off all of your connection with the world and walked on the path to the top alone," Riya explained. "The reason why this path exist is because many people who had reached higher stages will not be able to have many friends and families members left."

Amelia looked at Riya blankly.

"What?" Riya saw Amelia's look and blinked her eyes in response.

"No, I mean... what about you? If you reach such a stage, doesn't it mean you..." Amelia didn't know how to explain it.

Riya chuckled. "Learning magic meant that you will have longer lifespan than ordinary humans. At the same time, you will learn more about magic and various mystery of life, space, time, and many others."

"But this also meant that those who could not keep up with you will be left behind and leave the world earlier than you. There's no immortality... at least, so far, no one could truly achieve immortality."

Even in that world, there was no true immortality.

Riya had learned many things and knew very well that even the strongest magician was shackled by the rule of time.

It was also because of this that Riya thought about leaving on her own and didn't contact her friends before. Because Riya knew very well that there would come the time when she couldn't contact them anymore.

How many people would be able to keep up with her progress?

Perhaps one or two people.

And then, she would be left alone in the world.

Walking towards the peak all by herself with no one accompanying her.

It's going to be lonely.

But since she had made the decision to walk towards the peak, she will never regret this decision.

Chapter 468: Demonic Magician

"That..." Amelia looked at Riya's expression and after a moment, she closed her mouth again. She felt that there was no need for her to talk about such a heavy matter with Riya.

"I'll do my best to keep up with you," Amelia said seriously.

All along, she has been pressured by her brother to train and so on. For Amelia who was lazy by nature and didn't like training, it was nothing short of torture.

With the family protecting her, Amelia has been able to grow up safely without any problem so far. She didn't want to think too much about many things and simply lived her life while enjoying the present time.

But right now, Amelia understood that it was not only Victoria.

If she continued to be lazy, she might lose other people.

Because if she couldn't keep up with them, they would leave her behind and walked on a completely different path from her.

"Don't pressure yourself too hard." Riya chuckled and pinched Amelia's cheek. "Your talent is really good and what you need to do is to balance your work and rest to achieve the best result."

As long as Amelia was not too lazy, it was already the best result for both her and Samuel.

Because Amelia's position is crucial for both of them and there might be others targeting her, especially if Riya's identity was exposed.

Thinking about this, a hint of coldness flashed within Riya's eyes.

She knew very well what it meant to have weakness and she would never let her friends be targeted by those b\*stards. Even if her friends might not be able to keep up with her for her entire life, it would be enough as long as they're safe and not be targeted.

It seemed that she had to design some rune formation later for them.

"Well, I still want to train again." Amelia's eyes were filled with determination. She didn't want to lose against Victoria.

And...

She wanted to stop the other party!

Stop this foolishness.

"Train hard." Riya saw Amelia's look and knew that the other party had already decided. So she chose to pat Amelia's head.

Amelia looked at Riya blankly.

She had evidence that Riya is treating her like a child!

"Is it possible to switch to other practice after becoming demonic magician... and, is it possible to stop their power from being taken away?" Amelia asked one by one.

"Well, yes." Riya nodded.

If Amelia had asked this question when she first arrived in that world, Riya would not be able to answer. But after becoming rank 7 rune master, Riya was exposed to various knowledge that she had never thought before.

Magic has many unexplainable things.

Riya was impressed by magic and always felt that it was really good for her to be able to learn many things.

Runes always fascinated her.

Because how could these strokes produced such an effect was something that Riya could not understand in the slightest bit at the beginning. But slowly, she was learning the essence of magic and that these strokes were basically guiding the mana to act in a way that they wanted the mana to be.

Riya thought that it would stop that way.

But after reaching rank 7, Riya realized that she was wrong.

Runes were more than that.

"What? It's possible to switch to other methods after becoming demonic magician?" Amelia asked in surprise.

Riya nodded. "Yes, it's possible. But you need to abolish your entire progress to start a different one and clean up the previous traces... I don't think any magician wants to do that."

"But your mana is in your heart..." Amelia looked at Riya in confusion.

Riya chuckled. "It's true, but it didn't mean that you can't replace your heart."

Amelia paused and looked at Riya in disbelief. "Heart transplantation?"

"In a way, yes. The exact method is different, but you can think of it that way if you want to." Riya nodded thoughtfully. "Also if you have reached rank 7, it's absolutely impossible for you to take other people's heart."

Because for all profession, once they reached rank 7, they had reached a stage where their heart, mind, and body were completely connected. It was already impossible for others to take their power from them.

There were some forbidden methods for them to steal other people's body and magic, but those methods were the type that harm the enemy 1000 points and oneself 800 points. Not many people were willing to use such methods unless they were at the end of their lives.

"If a demonic magician reached rank 7, is it possible for them to switch to other methods?" Amelia suddenly thought about something else.

"Not switching, but she wouldn't need to worry about her power is taking away from her," Riya corrected.

"You mean..."

"As long as Victoria reach rank 7, she will not be controlled by Dina," Riya said calmly.

But she also knew that it's impossible.

As long as Dina is still alive, she would thoroughly grasped the progress of those who practiced her methods and when they reached rank 6, she would undoubtedly kill them and take their power.

Because only in this way would she be able to control the demonic magicians in the entire world.

Who would want to cultivate a rival for themselves?

If there was another demonic magician in the future who could surpass her, Dina would be in danger for a long time. This was something that she herself didn't want.

And Riya guessed that Dina should have died not long after she reached rank 7 in that world.

Because this was the time when the person who gave her the technique realized that someone was about to be out of their control and killed her in order to get her ability. After all, there were not many powerful demonic magicians for this reason.

'Why do I have the feeling that all of us seems to die when we reach rank 7?'

Chapter 469: Demonic Magician (2)

Riya blinked her eyes.

After a moment, she tossed the thoughts away.

It was really outrageous to think.

But for some reasons, Riya felt that her conjecture about their lives in that world was correct.

It was just that she couldn't prove it.

"That's a good thing.... No, I'm not here to worry about her progress." Amelia smiled bitterly. She should have been thinking about how to train harder and defeat Victoria because the latter tried to kill her, but for some reasons, Amelia was instead worrying about Victoria instead.

This made Amelia irritable.

Riya looked at Amelia and didn't say anything.

The two cousins were close in the past and this was something that Riya knew as well. But it was precisely because the two of them were close that it was unacceptable for Amelia to see Victoria attacking her instead.

"Time could change a person," Riya said quietly. "Just do what you think is right."

Amelia blinked her eyes and looked at Riya in front of her. She smiled faintly. "I know. I'm going back to train."

Riya watched Amelia went to the backyard and she herself also walked out of the Jones Family Residence.

To be honest, Riya's knowledge about the demonic magicians were very limited and there were many things that she didn't know clearly. After all, her contact with the demonic magicians were limited.

But because of the existence of the demonic magicians, she also has to learn how to guard against them.

The rune masters association in that world had a special library that could only be entered after they reached rank 7. So after Riya reached rank 7, she directly stayed in that library for days to learn about many things.

One of them was about these demonic magicians.

In order to make sure these demonic magicians would not target them, the rune masters prepared special runes that they could learn after reaching rank 7. The main reason why it had to be rank 7 was because of the special nature of this set of runes.

The runes didn't only use the mana but also their mental strength.

It was engraving a special magic spell that could affect one's mind.

In this way, those demonic magicians all knew that if they dared to attack a rank 7 or above rune master, they had to be prepared to have their mind shattered. They could even be directly turned into a fool because of killing a rank 7 rune masters.

This rune would only be activated upon their death.

If they were willing, those who killed them, or even the mastermind behind the killer who killed them, would be affected by the runes and turned into a fool.

There were already many bloody experience in that world.

So much that the demonic magicians always avoided rune masters in fear that they would be retaliated.

The only weakness was that these runes could only be activated upon death.

Otherwise, the price is too big for them to bear.

After all, these were the type of runes that could defy the nature and forcefully traced their opponent.

It was terrifying.

Riya also learned this set of runes.

So even if she hadn't reached rank 7, she could already use it... upon her death that is.

Using it at other times would only result in her own death and no magicians would be willing to do that.

Well, unless they were stupid enough to sacrifice their lives to kill someone.

That would be another story altogether.

Aside from this special runes, there were also some runes that could directly destroy their mana heart upon their death. This kind of runes was more common and could be easily engraved in front of their heart.

In this way, demonic magicians would not be able to have any idea about them.

'Should I popularize this rune?'

Riya thought to herself as she walked out of the Jones Family Residence.

The runes were not that difficult to make, but if they have no talent as rune master, it was hard to say whether they could even draw the strokes correctly. And the rune masters under the government were still very weak.

None of them had truly reached rank 1 rune master.

It was basically impossible for them to draw this runes for others.

'Forget it, I'll tell Samuel about this first but not spread it out.'

Even if it was spread out, it would be useless anyway.

Riya went to the Carson Family Residence nearby and saw Mo who was eating happily.

Riya: "..."

This white tiger is a foodie, isn't he?

"Did you spoil Mo when I was away, Sophia?" Riya asked helplessly as he looked at the white tiger that kept on eating.

"Ah, I just think that Mo is hungry, so I give him more food." Sophia woke up from her meditation and looked at Riya sheepishly.

Riya looked at Sophia, who was also training hard and pursed her lips.

"Let me teach you some basic magic spells so that you can protect yourself."

"Can I?"

Sophia was surprised and she looked at Riya with hopeful gaze.

"Yes, but first... what's your magic element?" Riya suddenly asked. She had completely forgotten whether she had ever asked Sophia about this.

"I never tested."

Riya silently took out the paper runes that she had prepared and after handing it to Sophia, she found out that Sophia has wood element.

Well, this element has nothing to do with Melly.

If she was not wrong, having magic beasts of similar element could also help but eh, it's not the most important.

Because it's difficult to find the magic beasts that matched them all the time.

"Alright, then..."

Riya still knew some basic magic spell and she taught Sophia about these.

Sophia's talent was not that bad.

At least, she could understand what Riya was teaching. But whether she could use it later was another question.

"Sophia, Grandfather is looking for you..." Stephen stopped talking when he saw that his sister was learning under Riya.

Chapter 470: Doubts

"I'm coming, Brother." Sophia stopped studying unwillingly. She still wanted to learn more from Riya because she knew that it was impossible for Riya to have time all the time.

But her grandfather's majesty was not something that she dared to refute either.

"Miss Riya." Stephen nodded politely.

"Senior Stephen," Riya greeted back politely.

Like Samuel in the past, the only interaction Riya had with Stephen was when he picked up his sister in the dormitory. Considering that Riya was not in the same dormitory with Sophia, she rarely met him in the past.

Now, Riya could see that Stephen was training along with Samuel's group.

His relationship with Samuel should be pretty good for the other party to be willing to bring him along for many things.

"Are you going to bring Mo back?" Stephen asked suddenly.

Mo has been under Sophia's care these days. That white tiger will definitely become a fat white tiger under his sister's care if not for the fact that the white tiger's digestive system was really strong.

It was able to consume and restore a lot of magic beast's meat without becoming chubby.

But at the same time, the entire body was getting bigger.

"Yes." Riya nodded.

"If possible, try not to let anyone from the Carson Family see you." Stephen had a bitter smile. "They might not be happy if they know how Mo come from."

When they came back, the Carson Family members had been staring at Mo and itched to know who supported Sophia. After all, Sophia had a say in the Carson Family because of Riya's support through allowing her to keep Mo with her.

What they didn't know was that she was also the one who helped Sophia to contract Melly.

If they knew, how could they be willing to let her go?

It was estimated that there will be chaos.

"I see." Riya pursed her lips.

She knew that some rich big families were really complicated. They have a lot of things to consider and the relationship between the family members were not very good. This was evident from what she had heard from Amelia when she complained about her cousins.

"Don't worry, the wouldn't see me." Riya patted Mo's head.

\*rawr?\*

Mo looked at Riya in bewilderment, not understanding what Riya wanted to do.

Swish!

The next moment, Mo had appeared in the special space dedicated for him.

Mo: "..."

Alright, there was no way anyone would be able to find Mo here unless they could peep into her world treasure.

Stephen saw Mo disappear and blinked his eyes.

Right, the pet's space.

But...

"The pet space only exist for beast masters, right?" Stephen asked for confirmation.

"Yes, how do you know that?"

"It's written in Magic Association's website."

Magic Association website?

Riya silently took out her phone and looked at the Magic Association website. Just like what Stephen said, it was mentioned that beast masters had a pet space dedicated for their pets.

The size and the environment would depend on the beast master's strength. The higher the strength, the better the pet space would be.

'Murin really didn't hold back in sharing information about beast masters.'

Looking at the large amount of information written in the website, Riya arched her eyebrows.

How about if she started to popularize rune master's path too?

There were only a few runes that other people knew and Riya hadn't told them many things about rune master. Though, Riya doubted that there would be many people who could become rune masters as it had high requirement for talent and mana control.

Without enough talent or mana control, they wouldn't be able to advance far in this path as rune master.

She'll talk about it with Samuel later.

"I'll be going now," Riya said after she put away her phone. She didn't have any plan to stay here for that long.

"Alright. Take care."

Riya immediately used her runes and disappeared in front of Stephen. Since she took Mo away and Stephen said that it would be better for her not to see the Carson Family's members, she simply used her concealment runes.

In this way, no one would be able to find her.

Stephen looked in the direction where Riya disappeared without any surprise.

He had seen Riya's various magical abilities when they were fighting the magic beasts back then.

After a moment, he walked inside.

He didn't know why his grandfather suddenly look for his sister. Hopefully, he would not ask anything ridiculous anymore.

Inside the house, Sophia was standing in front of his grandfather. "Grandpa, are you looking for me?"

"Yes." Old Master Carson looked at Sophia up and down. "Your cousin brought his friends here and I want you to entertain them."

Sophia paused.

Her eyebrows furrowed slightly as she looked at her grandfather.

Even though it was called 'entertaining others,' but Sophia has been staying with her family for a long time to know enough that this was basically a blind date.

"Grandpa, has the matter of supplies have been solved?" Sophia asked slowly.

Old Master Carson snorted. "You don't have to worry so much. There are more works available in City A Base every day. Everyone is working hard and you should do your part too."

Do her part...

Sophia took a deep breath and said, "I understand, Grandpa."

As the young miss of a rich family, what would her obligation be aside from being married away as a tool for the family's business? Even though the Carson Family was really big, but it was not the best family.

They have a lot of branches here and there and the main reason why they could have powerful business empire was also due to the fact that there were many people who were married away.

Aside from some really useless son, most of them would be the girls.

When she was young, Sophia had long been prepared for this because this was what her mother told her.

But...

She thought that things would change after the world changed.

It turned out that things were still the same.

She's still nothing more than a tool of the Carson Family.