

the monarch Chapter 121 - Second test

Chapter 121: Second test

This time, the fights would begin. There was a surreal amount of people participating, and from what Kayden learned, this phase would be a fight between more than one group simultaneously.

Mainly to reduce the number of participants quickly, five teams entered and only one of them left. But the detail is that the team that eliminated the most opponents could go to the next phase together with the winner of the bubble.

This gave Kayden a very interesting idea, which was nothing more than attacking everyone like a madman, but logically waiting for the right moments to do so.

"We're going to focus on defending at first and then try to take out as many opponents as possible at once," Kayden passed the strategy to his team as they entered a huge bubble.

There were already two other teams waiting there, and within a few minutes the other two that were missing arrived. The majority there had a balanced composition, Kayden was entirely covered in cloth so as not to be identified.

He knew what teenagers' egos were like, and surely some funny guy would try to focus on him to gain credit.

"We will start in five minutes, everything is allowed except pre-made weapons," a judge dressed in purple was floating in the air. With his instructions, the teams began to prepare.

Kayden's team began gathering mana to raise a barrier as soon as the start signal was released. Considering that the three conventional mages on his team would raise the barrier together, it would be stupidly resilient.

"The fight has begun," the judge's voice began the confrontation. And as Kayden had imagined, everyone quickly started attacking each other. It looked like a war scene with dozens of spells being cast simultaneously.

Kayden was just not stunned, as he had already faced a much worse situation in the illusion, with millions of people fighting and dying around him, with the ground and all the trees smelling of blood. This shitty mess of spells wasn't even close.

Some came to Kayden's bubble, but few were in the mood to waste energy tearing down a bubble. Several insults were directed at his team, mainly calling them cowards.

A few minutes later, most of the competitors were already fighting more carefully. The first confusion of attacks was to test the strength of their opponents and recognize the strong and weak.

It didn't take long for the teams' weak links to be eliminated. The number of people dropped from 25 to 21, there was practically one person from each team of the four. You could tell this was a balanced bubble in strength levels.

For the next few minutes, the battle became a stalemate. Little by little, the fight became a battle of attrition, with no strong advance on either side. It was practically a fight of who could last longer.

This lasted for the next thirty minutes and only changed when Kayden's team bubble started making some strange noises. It was like a drum rhythm, the sound was loud enough to disturb everyone and stop them from fighting.

The sound was beating harder and faster as the seconds passed. Not only that, but the bubble began to slowly move towards one of the teams.

Because of the strange situation, she didn't even retreat. Firstly, they had never seen an apprentice-level bubble moving. Most participants began to feel apprehensive as the rhythm of the beats increased.

Finally, the bubble began to unravel. Everyone's vision was 100% focused on seeing what was causing all this confusion. The first thing they saw at the top of the bubble falling by layers was a raised katana.

"Transcendence", Kayden activated his strongest spell at the same time as he blasted one of the most powerful Pop flashes of his life. Practically everyone around was blinded by the light.

Kayden rushed at a mage from the nearest team using his bizarre speed because of transcendence. His first blow would cut her in two if the judge didn't remove her from the arena.

Kayden didn't even waste time seeing if she was disqualified. Long ago, he realized that the government officials were fast and he didn't even need to complete his move for the opponent to be taken out.

It was a small flaw that he only thought about taking advantage of now. It was enough for him to gain a few milliseconds.

His next strike was at a knight wielding a large axe. Even though he was blind, he tried to protect his body with a huge weapon. But Kayden was like a snake and tried to hit his unprotected neck.

One more was eliminated and Kayden ran to the mage a few meters to the side. Even though she managed to briefly regain her vision, that didn't stop Kayden from removing her from the arena with a well-aimed blow to her neck.

The other opponent left was a swordsman carrying a spear. He had already regained his vision but was still in shock at the turn of events. His defense was practically done subconsciously.

The sound of iron against iron made him regain consciousness of where he was and focus on dealing with Kayden. The problem was that the boy was already very close. His spear couldn't be used in its entirety and Kayden wouldn't let that happen.

Each blow from Kayden was defended with the handle of the weapon or, the most he could do was use the spear halfway.

"What a shit boy," the spearman cursed at Kayden's persistence in staying on his tail. He didn't have a second of peace. If he made even one mistake, he would be disqualified.

One wrong move. That was all it took for Kayden to deliver a concentrated beam of lightning to his opponent and strike his right leg. The cut was deep enough to weaken the spearman movement.

After that, it was just a matter of a few more strikes for Kayden to finish him without difficulty. In less than 30 seconds, an entire team was eliminated. Taking a breath to catch his breath, Kayden looked around.

Astolfo and the other three managed to eliminate four other people as well. Eight casualties for his team alone. Kayden deactivated transcendence and raised his hand.

"I give up" Along with his sentence, the others on his team also came out surprising everyone who was watching, it took a while for everyone to realize that they were deceived.

Kayden's team went on to the next stage, as there was no way any other team could surpass theirs in terms of points for removing opponents, when the two remaining teams understood this they began to fight as if their lives depended

the monarch Chapter 122 - The fight against the beast

Chapter 122: The fight against the beast

But this had nothing to do with Kayden, he and his team were being taken to the principal again, who was once again ecstatic about his students' performance. This time it was a joint effort and an excellent example of strategy.

No matter how strong their opponents were, they were blind and completely unprepared for what happened. In normal situations, none of this would probably have happened.

"Your strategy was impressive, Kayden," Astolfo was the first to praise when they returned to the hotel. Ryan also agreed with the boy, it was something simple, but it had the desired effect.

"Tomorrow the real fights will begin, the third and final test to take out the remaining teams is a magical beast of the peak ninth rank," Astolfo's sister said in a serious tone that made them both agree with her.

Kayden had already found out about this through rumors spread on the internet, but having confirmation made him apprehensive. It was one thing to fight beasts of your level, something that was already very difficult, but to face a level above and still at the peak of the rank?

This was something completely different, it would be a ridiculously difficult fight.

"But that's something for tomorrow, let's go out to eat again", Astolfo was the first to encourage the quartet. It seemed like the boy was a source of good energy and enthusiasm.

"What the fuck?" Astolfo cursed when he saw the huge crocodile in the center of the arena. It was at least four meters long and covered entirely in scales that looked like metal.

His aura identified him as a peak beast among his species, a natural predator, born for combat. When the animal opened its mouth, it was possible to see a huge row of completely sharp teeth.

"You have five minutes to decide your strategy," the judge's voice boomed above Kayden's head. The boy was reflecting on the situation. This was the last test before the top 25 came out, that is, this was done to remove only the best of the best among all the participants.

"Me and Astolfo are going to try to distract him. I want several debilitating spells on him, ice on his paws, stone blocks, anything that weakens his movement", Kayden began to give orders calmly. "First we must remove both of his eyes from functioning. Klaus, your function is to burn the entrances to his body, focus on his mouth, ear, and ass."

His last order was met with a strange look from his companions, but no one dared to say anything. Even though it wasn't the prettiest strategy, it was still the best option they had.

"The battle begins," the judge ordered once the five minutes had passed. The crocodile seemed to regain some degree of consciousness and began to look around. As soon as his eyes landed on Kayden's team, he let out an animalistic roar and rushed at the five.

Author's note: I looked it up and they do roar, it's quite scary actually. I recommend watching it on YouTube as a curiosity.

Apart from Kayden, the other four were nervous seeing the huge beast coming towards them. For someone who had fought against human beings all his life, it was not easy to see a frightening beast coming towards him at the speed of a car.

"Strength and agility," Kayden ordered. And after a second, it received the two "Transcendence" buffs. Going all out at the start, he rushed at the huge beast. Seeing his friend advancing, Astolfo snapped out of his shock and advanced as well.

Taking advantage of the surprise factor, Kayden used a Pop Flash. It was surprising as the beast had never fought it before and this proved correct when it stopped in its advance with its eyes closed.

Kayden didn't even think twice before climbing onto the animal's back and, holding the katana in both hands, stabbing it into one of its eyes with all the strength he had. A few sparks flew, but his blade failed to penetrate the animal's eye.

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"Shit," Kayden thought before seeing the animal rolling over to lift him off its back. With a jump, he landed on the other side of the animal and, without giving it time to recover, ran against the crocodile.

The beast tried to grab Kayden, but its mouth was entirely shaped with a large piece of stone, the magic was so fast that she didn't even notice, the twins did this by connecting their magic with the target beneath the ground.

It was slow, but when you had time it was a good strategy, Kayden took this opportunity to jump against the crocodile again, this time he used more than 100% of his strength in an upward blow.

After many sparks came out, his blade entered the lower part of the eye, the blow resulted in a tower of blood and the blinding of one of the sword's eyes, the problem was that Kayden's sword got stuck and when the animal rolled he had to let go.

At that moment Klaus threw several balls of fire against the animal's mouth, the fire entered burning all the soft tissues, this made the beast learn a lesson, it shouldn't roar.

the monarch Chapter 123 - End of the fight [BONUS]

Chapter 123: End of the fight [BONUS]

With one blind eye and her entire mouth burned, she jumped at Astolfo. The spearman didn't know exactly how he should attack something so big, so he just flanked it.

With a quick swipe of her tail, she threw Astolfo to the other side of the arena. It was so fast that none of them were able to react. The beast ran after the boy with frightening speed, and before Astolfo could even get up, he already had hundreds of teeth in his neck.

Or at least it would have if he hadn't been removed from the arena. At that moment, Kayden continued running against the animal. Even without his sword, he still had to do something.

"Klaus, I need you to get close to burn the other eye," Kayden yelled at the boy. Even though he was shaking with fear, the boy followed Kayden's command. "I want stone magic on your legs, fast!"

The girls worked twice as fast to fulfill Kayden's order in time. When the boy got close to the beast, he saw something he didn't expect: it was standing still, just watching the boy's movements.

It seemed that he had accepted that he was a dangerous enemy and that he should not take action without thinking. This was a classic example of intelligence in magical beasts: the higher their rank, the greater their intelligence.

"Klaus, be careful", Kayden started running against the animal without even thinking twice. His attack was met with a blow from the animal's tail at high speed. With a leap, he landed on the animal's back again.

His speed was not superior to that of the crocodile, but his battle experience undoubtedly was. This allowed him to predict certain movements of the animal and deal with them in the best possible way.

Quickly, the animal tried to roll over but found itself prevented by strong restraints across its body. This small amount of time was enough for Kayden to reach for his sword and, against the expectations of those watching, he did not remove the weapon.

Instead, he dug in deeper and swung the blade, drawing a roar of pain from the animal. Realizing his mistake, the crocodile quickly closed his mouth, but at no point was that the team's goal.

A super-concentrated fireball that was launched at low speed hit his healthy eye at this moment. The fire came directly into contact with his organ and burned everything in sight.

This time, the pain was much greater. With an increase in strength caused by its survival instincts, the beast broke free from its restraints and rolled to take Kayden away. His next move was to run away. The boy jumped to the opposite side of her.

Or at least she tried. Since her sense of direction always depended on her vision, she wasn't very aware of where each of her attackers was. She ran to the center of the arena and stood still.

She didn't know what to do. She was always the king of her kind. No one dared challenge his reign, and even those who did were ruthlessly killed.

"Girls, tie her back up carefully and circulate the air," Kayden ordered as he stood up. "Klaus, keep an eye out for any sign of him opening his mouth." As soon as he passed the orders, Kayden began to walk slowly.

His footsteps were practically inaudible and with the air being circulated, the beast couldn't even pick up Kayden's scent. She was practically waiting to be shot down.

This was an execution from the beginning and Kayden knew it. The superiority of reasoning in this case was great and with him acting as the front line, his team was not in danger of being removed from the arena, at least the majority.

When he was just a meter away from the animal, he raised his hand, and with his signal, several stone vines began to attach themselves to the animal. At that moment, he ran to retrieve his sword.

The beast even tried to move away, but the time it took to free itself from its bonds was enough for Kayden to grab the katana. Along with that, he also fired a concentrated beam into the animal's eye.

Unfortunately, it wasn't enough to melt the crocodile's brain into jelly, but it slowed its movements significantly, almost as if only one lobe of the brain was damaged.

"Prepare a cocoon for me." This was one of his plans a long time ago and it finally had the opportunity to be put into practice.

Without opening its mouth, the beast started to run but crashed head-on into an earthen wall. In the meantime, a wall nearly 4 meters thick was erected around them by the twins.

Considering it was just piled dirt, it cost almost no mana. Kayden ran against the animal and, taking a risky stance, threw himself under the animal.

The space he had was little, but it was enough for a blow from his sword to cut the beast's abdomen from one side to the other. The animal noticed the attacker beneath its body and, in an attempt to crush him, released all its weight.

Unfortunately for her, Kayden was already in a hole six feet above the ground. The beast began to run against the earthen wall again and crashed violently into it. Its huge body made the ground shake every time it hit the wall.

It didn't take long for her to break through the barrier. Unfortunately for her, Kayden was on the other side and again attacked from below. This time, the boy put all the rest of his mana into a concentrated beam.

His katana went through the wound that was already open and his spell burned several of the animal's organs. She didn't even have the strength to try to crush Kayden. His body just fell to the ground at such a speed that the boy was able to easily get out.

Kayden deactivated transcendence and collapsed to the ground. The boy didn't even have the strength to stand up. This match lasted a little longer than he would have liked, fortunately, it didn't go beyond a point that would leave consequences for the next few days.

"The battle is over." The judge ended it when he saw that the beast was no longer able to fight. "The team advances to the next phase."

the monarch Chapter 124 - Two agreements [BONUS]

Chapter 124: Two agreements [BONUS]

Kayden gave a satisfied smile. His team was among the top 25 in the region. That was a noteworthy feat. As soon as they returned, the director cried with emotion. His school had never gotten this far.

This time, he could brag to the whole city. Even the elite private schools didn't perform that well this year, with only one of them managing to rank in the top 25.

Something Kayden reflected on was how they got there with relative ease. The tests were not something difficult or something that only a small privileged group could pursue. They were balanced tests.

Apart from the last one, the fight with the beast, you needed to have a certain level of strength and strategy well honed. Furthermore, strength was not the most important thing. For example, in the case of Astolfo.

Even though the boy was at a high rank, he was eliminated without even being able to land a single blow.

The next day's test would be the fights between the teams. First, the 24 best would face each other and then the 12 best.

Until reaching the number of 3 best and, at that moment, there would be four teams: the 3 from this tournament and another team that won the last tournament and already had a guaranteed place in the semifinals.

Kayden was already happy with his current prize. It wasn't every day that you got a mana stone from the second realm and, best of all, it would be your second, as you had the elder's prizes.

The next day, Kayden woke up normally and ate his meal peacefully while waiting for his friends. Normally, he was the first to wake up. A few hours later, his entire team was gathered in front of the hotel.

Again, the principal took them to his school tent. This time, they arrived well in advance. Each match lasted a maximum of one hour and then 30 minutes of rest.

It was a short time, but that was the intention. The tournament started at 10 am and the final battles would only take place in the evening. It was practically a separate show from the entire championship.

Author's Note: I hate writing fights, why.

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When it was time for the competition, Kayden and her team were taken by the director to the center of the event. When they arrived, Kayden had a bad feeling. He saw the same boy who had called him "king of kings" earlier.

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His team was four knights looking like giant blocks of meat. They didn't even remotely look like normal teenagers. Without a doubt, they were knights focused especially on the physical.

"You have five minutes to think about your strategy", the judge's voice resounded throughout the entire arena. Meanwhile, Kayden was thinking about how to deal with this team, probably the boy was at a very high level.

He remembered what happened and had no doubt that this was a losing battle, time was frozen. He didn't say that to anyone, because who would believe that a mere boy could stop time and not only that, but also in front of two elders.

"The fight has started", the judge ordered as soon as five minutes had passed.

"Kayden, how about a deal?" A mischievous smile appeared on the boy's lips. "I give you the game and you owe me one more favor?" The proposal took Kayden by surprise, but it was short-lived.

"As long as it's something acceptable, I'll accept it", Kayden didn't even think twice before agreeing, and seeing his answer the boy smiled.

"My name is Thoth, remember that", along with his sentence, everyone on his team raised their hands and gave up the match. Just like that, another match was over. Even the judge was surprised.

Author's note: remember this name, it will be very important in the future, but in like a thousand chapters. /:

5

A withdrawal at this stage of the championship was unheard of, everyone who arrived here fought as if their life depended on it, as they didn't know if they could ever get here again.

"That..." Astolfo scratched his head as they were taken to the director. "It was weird." No matter how much his team pestered him, Kayden continued to say that he didn't know why Thoth withdrew from the match.

And deep down that was true, he didn't know who the boy was, but without a doubt he was dangerous. The director this time even fainted with emotion and when it was time for the next match, a government official took them.

As soon as they arrived at the bubble they came across another person that Kayden also didn't want to see under any circumstances, the old man's son was standing in the center of the arena. His aura was not that of someone ordinary and Kayden's instincts screamed at him to avoid the boy.

"You have five minutes to think of a strategy", the judge gave the basic instructions for the match.

"Kayden!" The red-haired boy spoke in surprise, he didn't expect to see Kayden so far ahead in the championship, after finding out from his grandfather that the boy was just a boy in the eighth realm of a random public school, all his hopes of having a strong opponent were taken away. from him.

"Hello", Kayden tried to be friendly and gave the boy a nod, he didn't know exactly how to react.

"My name is Alexandre Ron Pei ", his name was that of a nobleman. "I don't know how you got here, but this is your last fight, my entire team is at the peak of the ninth realm." When Kayden heard this his jaw almost dropped.

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the monarch Chapter 125 - Duel

Chapter 125: Duel

Five people at the peak of the apprentice realm, he didn't even know how this was possible. The other four who were with him were wizards, but it was not possible to get any more information, as they were entirely covered in clothes and wore black masks.

His team's morale simply plummeted. It was too big a leap for them to cover with their ranks.

"But don't be discouraged, I want a duel with you", Alexandre smiled. "The winner gets everything and the loser gets nothing, what do you think?" Another surprising proposal was made in this tournament.

Everyone watching stopped watching the other fights and focused on this one. On one side, the Monster of the North and, on the other, the son of the ruling family of that state. Everyone had seen Alexander's fight against the beast.

It was a massacre. The boy alone cut the animal into pieces using a modified sword, instead of just a sharp tip, his weapon had four sides of the blade sharpened.

"Kayden... I will trust your choice", Astolfo was the first to speak and then received the support of the other three. It wasn't like they had many options anyway.

None of them were cowards, but they knew this was an unwinnable fight. So, if they had even the slightest chance to proceed to the next step, they would grab it with full force.

"I accept your proposal," Kayden was ready to use his final trump card. This was a fight that would gain him a lot of experience. "Transcendence", Kayden used the final phase of his technique.

He had already accepted that this would be his last fight in the tournament, but it would be worth it. In less than a second, his entire aura changed. Practically all the high-level mages who had their spiritual sense in the fight got a shock.

Kayden looked like he was about to collapse from too much mana. His breath exuded a ridiculous degree of mana in gaseous form. But that wasn't the most ridiculous thing. And yes, he looked like a small black hole swallowing the surrounding mana.

"I'm coming," Kayden warned before picking up momentum and far surpassing the speed of a normal ninth rank. His first blow was parried by Alexandre at the limit of what was tolerable.

The match almost ended there.

"He's at the eighth rank!?" His delay in defending was because of the speed with which Kayden reached him. It was just bizarre. But Alexandre was not someone normal either.

A mere average ninth rank would never be able to match him. Over the next few seconds, an exchange of insanely fast blows were exchanged between the two. Each strike cut through the air at a terrifying speed.

Kayden looked like a snake with quick, connected strikes. Every time he finished an attack, another one would land almost instantly. On the other hand, Alexander looked like a lion with strong blows.

It was clear that the techniques used by the two were different. While Kayden had subtlety, Alexandre had strength.

"I can barely follow their movements with my eyes," Astolfo muttered and began to wonder when Kayden opened such a big gap between them.

None of them were using any spells. Almost like an unspoken mutual agreement between the two. His fight had barely lasted 5 seconds and he was already the center of attention throughout the event.

Since when were wizard apprentices so fast? Kayden and Alexandre went into a kind of hyperfocus, neither of them had any thoughts in their minds, it was simply a big void.

Only his strikes mattered. There was no hesitation whatsoever between his movements. The exchange of blows was looking like a dance. Kayden struck on the side and Alexandre dodged with a feint and then followed with a frontal blow.

Kayden just countered with the flat part of his blade and tried to attack the boy's opening, but his opponent was not new and fixed his opening, forcing another attack against Kayden.

'Is he crazy?????' Kayden continued his attack towards Alexandre's neck, the boy saw that he was going to receive a blow to the shoulder and, in these conditions, his experience spoke louder than his self-protection instincts.

Alexandre took a step back at the last moment, avoiding a fatal blow, but still received a cut across his chest from one end to the other. Even though it was medium in size, it was still the first blood spilled in the duel.

Alexandre began to take this seriously as a life-and-death battle and, without caring about the consequences, began using his family's technique. A strong red aura covered his rapier.

Her weapon no longer made noise as it cut through the air, it was almost as if she was ignoring air resistance. This greatly increased his speed and, consequently, the strength of his blows.

Every save from Kayden caused his fingers to shake, but that didn't diminish his aggressive style. If his opponent was stronger, he just had to stop him from attacking.

His sword technique was perfect for this. After a few more blows, Alexandre managed to make a deep cut on Kayden's rib, in exchange for having one of his legs pierced by the katana.

The fight quickly escalated into a melee of exchanged blows. Within seconds, they were both dripping blood from every part of their bodies. Alexander had never fought such an exciting battle before in his life.

All of his opponents were either too weak for him or were afraid of his family. This was one of the only times in his life that he had been injured in battle and it was turning out to be the best fight he had ever had.

"I give up," Kayden took two steps back and quickly shouted at the judge. His time limit was up. His withdrawal was so unexpected that even Alexander froze in his movement, not knowing what to do.

The judge took him to heaven in moments and, along with him, all the other members of the two teams too.

"I reached the limit of my technique, it was a great battle", Kayden smiled at Alexandre.

"Indeed, we will fight again when we are stronger," Alexander replied.

Kayden couldn't hear the rest of the sentence as his body collapsed from exhaustion. Fortunately, he was being held by the judge. If not, your fainting could have cost you much more than a good night's sleep.

Author's Note: The next chapter begins the real story:

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the monarch Chapter 126 - Torture

Chapter 126: Torture

NOTICE!!!! -> This chapter may be a little unpleasant for some people, it involves physical and psychological torture, I tried to make it as mild as possible, but this part was necessary

"Slowly, Kayden," Ryan supported Kayden as he tried to get up from the hotel bed. "You exhausted yourself too much," a lecturing tone was felt by Kayden.

"Relax, Ryan, I'll be back to normal in a bit." It would probably take a week again or even longer, because this time he went a little further than he should have, but the boy forgave himself for that mistake. It was too exciting a battle for him not to give 100% of himself.

"I ordered food for you," Ryan pointed to the table with a nice plate of fruit and bread. "The last fights will be in four hours, there's time for you to eat and we can go watch the final." Kayden readily agreed this would be a good time to gain experience.

OCD! OCD!

Several knocks on the door were heard by the two, Ryan didn't remember anyone who was going to come visit them now, and Kayden's team stayed behind after learning that the boy's life was not at risk.

"It must be the hotel staff, I'm going to go and see", Ryan got up and went towards the door, as soon as he opened it he was in for a big surprise.

"Hello", the red-haired nobleman from a few previous nights was standing in front of the door, next to him was a man in a suit wearing a black mask leaving only his eyes visible.

"What do you want?" Ryan didn't have any good feelings towards this noble and didn't show any friendly attitude. The response he received was a laugh and then the wizard simply froze Ryan with his mana.

"Hello, monster of the north," Kayden turned around in surprise upon hearing the strange voice and found himself facing the two intruders and Ryan behind in the air. The boy didn't even think twice before jumping to the hotel phone.

Quickly dialing the emergency number, he turned to the two and received a cynical smile from the boy.

"You think I didn't think of that, idiot?" At that moment Kayden was immobilized by an invisible gel around him, no matter how much he tried to escape, nothing happened. The nobleman sat on a kitchen chair and stretched.

"What do you want? We have no money or anything valuable," Kayden said with a neutral tone.

"My name is KevinAshford, the heir of a duke and...", his tone began to get angry, "and I didn't make it into the top 25, but a disgusting commoner did, how ridiculous isn't it?"

Kayden didn't like the boy's tone, he seemed exactly like the nobles in the novels of his past life, arrogant and a little crazy.

"And not only that, but he was the commoner friend of the guy who humiliated me", he started laughing to himself, "so I decided to take my anger out on you". This time his tone was serious and Kayden understood that he was screwed.

"Marco", with the young man's command, the masked man took two black balls from his pocket. "Each of you will take one of them, one pellet is poison that will burn all the veins in your body for the next few days and the other is just rice dough."

'Shit', Kayden didn't know what to do, his body didn't even respond to his movements, and his mana sense was at its lowest. At that moment Ryan broke free of the wizard's spell and ran against him without thinking twice.

Crack!

Ryan's nose was crushed in the wizard's hand before he could even think of anything.

"You were released, you worm, do you think you could escape alone?" the nobleman said as he kicked Ryan in the face, causing even more blood to come out. "Heal him," with his order, the masked wizard punched Ryan in the face again.

"Oops ", pretending to have made a mistake, the wizard apologized and healed the boy on the ground. "Behave now, okay?" he said as he broke Ryan's finger with a crazy laugh.

"Already good", the nobleman ordered him to stop, not because of mercy but because he didn't want Ryan to break before the show he prepared. "Choose a ball, commoner."

The noble threw them both to the ground facing a completely knocked-out Ryan on the ground. During this entire moment, Kayden was a sea of emotions inside, and the worst thing was that he couldn't do anything.

He seemed to be reliving his previous life when he lost Nicolas without being able to do anything but watch. When Ryan recovered, he refused to eat the pellet, and another round of beating and healing was done.

"Let me eat", Kayden said and received a maddened look from the masked man.

"Who allowed you to speak?" The beating was now over to Kayden and he didn't even feel any real pain. His resistance to pain was ridiculously high, but he still pretended to be in great pain so that the two of them would get it over with.

After a few minutes, the nobleman ordered Kayden to choose, and the boy had already accepted reality and simply ate either of the two. At this moment, Kayden did not have any turbulent feelings within him.

It was not time to be carried away by emotions, he had to be cold and look for the best chance of survival, because in the future he could take revenge, but for that, he had to be alive.

"It looks like you got lucky," the nobleman said after a few seconds without Kayden expressing any reaction. "Now it's your turn", and at the same time, he turned to Ryan, this time he didn't wait for the boy's refusal and just ordered the wizard to force the ball down the boy's throat.

Kayden saw Ryan fall to the ground right after swallowing the ball, the boy started screaming nonstop and all the veins in his body started to stand out, the problem was that they were red, as if they were on fire.

'Shit, shit, shit, think Kayden, think', the boy was free, but still stuck in reality, there was nothing he could do. The minutes began to pass and Ryan continued to scream louder and louder.

It felt like a very strong pain. Finally, Kayden couldn't take it anymore and attacked the nobleman, he simply lost control over himself, before he could even take a step, his face was punched by the wizard.

What followed was a beating sequence and when Kayden regained consciousness, Ryan was still on the floor twitching, the nobleman was sitting in the chair playing on his cell phone, completely uninterested in what was happening.

This torture lasted for the next two hours, at least that was how long the nobleman told Kayden. Every five minutes, the wizard would come and beat him and remind him to watch Ryan's torture.

Kayden was in a vegetable state, his mind was simply blank, he couldn't deal with the situation and there was nothing he could do.

"Hey Kevin, I think this one is about to die", the wizard commented casually to the nobleman. His speech finally brought Kayden out of his mental seclusion.

the monarch Chapter 127 - Torture[2]

Chapter 127: Torture[2]

"Kill him, this shit has no one protecting him ." Before Kayden could reason and understand what was happening, the wizard burned Ryan to ashes with a fire spell. An endless hatred began to well up in Kayden.

"Again the same shitty fate was screwing up his life and he couldn't do anything but exist." Kayden started pulling in all the mana around him like crazy.

1

"His veins were hurting and burning at an absurd level, but even so he continued without caring about anything, his mind had lost its reason a long time ago." Within seconds, he forced his body to a level beyond the second stage of transcendence.

"All the mana in the room was being dried by the boy, it was almost ten meters of space in the apartment and he kept sucking it like crazy, within seconds he absorbed everything around him." Kayden estimated that he was at least five times stronger than when he fought Alexander, without wasting time he turned towards the nobleman, even if he lost his life, that was his goal.

"Putting all the mana in his veins to work, he... couldn't do anything. The man was rejecting his orders." "Let's go! Do!" No matter how hard he tried, the mana's will did not obey him.

"He was disowned." His only true confidence in his second life was himself and his strength, even if it wasn't much, he could still utilize it however he wanted.

"But in the end, he was wrong. His mana considered him unworthy to use it, he could almost feel its mockery, the amount he absorbed was too much and there was no time for him to digest it."

"Look what a joke young master, he can't even use the mana he absorbed." The two began to laugh as if a big joke had been told between the two. Reality began to knock on Kayden's door.

"Unfortunately, he didn't have time to reason before his entire body started to catch fire; it was an unbearable pain that started to grow uncontrollably throughout his body."

"I forgot to say that one of the balls also had poison. I was just a little late." That was the last thing Kayden could hear before pain overwhelmed all of his senses.

"The intensity was similar to when he was going through the first time in his advance, even though his body was completely dominated by pain, the boy was relatively calm in mind."

"His focus now was to survive, at any costs, he slowly started heading towards the entrance of the apartment, every inch that his body moved took a few minutes."

"He wasn't sure where the noble was with the wizard, but he didn't care, his mind was clear on his goals, nothing else mattered beyond that." Kayden had no idea how much time had passed when he leaned against the wall by the door.

"Fortunately, his spatial memory was good enough to take him to the right place, at this moment the right part of his body was barely functioning, his left arm supported all his strength to bring his body to his knees."

"The door opened to the outside and Kayden's body fell out, the boy continued to crawl towards the elevators." His determination reached an inhuman level, he was going to kill the noble and the wizard.

"His revenge would extend to everyone who bore the Ashford name, he didn't care, even if he needed to kill a god or overthrow an empire, it would be done, whatever the cost."

1

"Kayden!?" Darkness took over Kayden after hearing Astolfo's sentence.

At a hospital in Kayden's hometown, two people were talking. One of them looked extremely worried as the conversation continued.

"Are you sure, doctor?" David asked, not believing what he heard.

"Yes, he will probably never be able to use mana again in his life, even if I heal his wounds. And even then, he may never be able to move again," the other voice said, without hesitation.

"Please heal him. I will pay the agreed amount of 1 billion gold coins, don't worry about it."

All this time, Kayden was just listening. He had been awake for a few minutes, but the only thing he could do was listen. He quickly understood that he was in a similar situation to his first life.

Confirmation came with the conversation between David and the doctor. After learning about his condition, the only thing he did was try to sense the mana... and nothing. It was as if he had returned to when he was born.

He didn't feel a shred of mana in the air or his body. When he calmed down, memories of the event came back like a bolt of lightning in his mind. An endless hatred assaulted his emotions.

Not only for the nobleman but also for the sister who disowned him. This betrayal he felt was something that hurt more than all the physical pain caused by the ball. Why didn't she obey his commands?

He withdrew the main will of the mana, he was sure of it. The residue shouldn't be enough even to hinder the most basic spell. His reflection lasted only a few seconds and he concluded that his cleaning was inefficient.

"Never use mana again." That phrase started repeating itself in his mind over and over again. Time stopped making sense to Kayden. Any hope he had was shattered. He didn't know what to do.

"Even if it costs me my life." That's what Kayden thought when he remembered the nobleman's face. At that moment, reason returned to his mind. He still had dozens of years ahead of him.

With a lot of hard work, he could feel mana again. Maybe it was something he would never get even close to, but that didn't matter. The last barrier separating Kayden from something inhuman was broken.

His emotions were buried deep in his mind. He had a goal and that was all that mattered. Kayden was a strong person, even with the stress of his previous life, he had never truly broken.

But now it was different.

"Even if I have to kill millions."

Ethics and morals meant nothing to him now.

Kayden couldn't think of anything else as unconsciousness soon took over him.

the monarch Chapter 128 - Path

Chapter 128: Path

Over the next few days, Kayden continued to alternate between consciousness and unconsciousness.

"Healing process initiated," a voice brought Kayden out of his thoughts. He knew he was about to be healed, as he had heard the conversations before. The boy felt nothing for the next few minutes.

"This..." Kayden concentrated as much as possible. "Sis, this is sis." The boy felt, albeit faintly, a little bit of mana. It was a tiny amount, barely enough to perform a basic spell.

Not even lighting a small fire above the fingers would be possible. The first thing Kayden did was... take out all the accumulated hate. With all his willpower and concentration, he began to pluck mana from the will of the world.

Slowly, he imposed his will on her. He was no longer asking, but ordering. The mana would be yours and completely submissive to your desires. Most of the world's will was wiped clean easily, but the remnants were bound tightly to mana.

The boy had no idea how much time he spent cleaning every tiny bit of remaining will. His sense of time was lost long ago. For every 1% of progress, he gained twice the difficulty.

Time passed slowly. Kayden's body was already fully healed. He could get up now and try to live a normal life, but the boy was in a self-induced coma.

It's been three months with Kayden just refining the tiny bit of mana. After all this time, he finally managed to reach the end. There was just something minimal missing.

"Bend over," Kayden ordered in his mind. And with all his willpower, the mana was cleared. "Finally..." The boy couldn't finish the sentence. He found himself floating in the middle of outer space.

All around him were gigantic stars and planets. Kayden felt tiny next to the size of the things around him. No matter where he looked, everything was gigantic.

"Beautiful." That was the only thing he could say. The creation of the universe was a beautiful thing. Kayden had no way of denying the existence of a superior deity. Only a rational being could create something so spectacular.

"But what am I doing here?" He perfectly remembered taking away the mana's will.

CRACK!

Kayden felt crushed to the floor. Every inch of his body felt like he was carrying a mountain. The boy wasn't bothered by the pain and tried to reason what was happening.

Two golden eyes stared at him. He didn't know where they had come from and couldn't even see them. It was information that was introduced into his mind. As soon as he realized this, the weight on his body multiplied thousands of times.

But that wasn't the main thing. A surreal headache took over Kayden. It seemed like all the pain in his life was insignificant next to this. He couldn't even think.

His only action was to stay on the ground. A world of pain was presented to Kayden at an absurd intensity. The nobleman's torture would be compared to affection. Time started to pass.

The only thing keeping Kayden alive was his subconscious willpower. Living was embedded in his soul. He still had many goals in his life. In six months, there hadn't been a single thought inside Kayden's head. But after that, it was different.

Reason slowly returned to the boy. He got used to the pain. This didn't mean he was 100% functional, but he was now able to orient himself. The first thing he noticed was the golden gaze fixed on him.

Kayden stared at him in kind and the pressure in his body increased even more. He didn't care. It was clear to him, after all this time. This was a battle of wills.

Yours against the mana of the world. He did not doubt that he was facing the battle of his life. Either he would subdue the mana or he would be subdued. This last option would probably result in his death.

The pressure in his body increased more and more. He didn't even have a correct comparison to make anymore. The pain in his mind was constant. It was as if this was the most a human being could feel.

Time passed quickly.

Days.

Weeks.

Months.

Kayden remained firm in his goals. After four months, he was able to move his head, it was minimal, but it was progress.

Time passed again.

Days.

Weeks.

Months.

Kayden managed to lift his entire head off the ground. Progress was slow but steady.

Time passed quickly.

Days.

Weeks.

Months.

It had been a year since Kayden regained his sanity and, at that moment, he only had his torso raised, his hands couldn't even support his body, it was practically his abdomen pushing on itself.

1

Time passed quickly.

Days.

Weeks.

Months.

A year later, control of both of Kayden's hands was regained. Even with all this progress, the pain and pressure were the same, but the pressure continued to increase, Kayden didn't know how far it would go.

And most importantly, at no point did he stop looking at the immense golden eyes floating in the void. He didn't even blink.

Time passed quickly.

Days.

Weeks.

Months.

Kayden managed to regain control of his two legs, practically his entire body was under his control, but he still hadn't been able to get up, his eyes were stopping him.

Time passed quickly.

Days.

Weeks.

Months.

It had been five years since Kayden had been facing the will of the world, that was how long it took him to be able to stand up and find the golden eyes above him, during all that time he could only have the sensation of seeing the eyes.

There were two gigantic golden planets, Kayden couldn't even define where it began and where it ended, each color in the eye looked like a planet, and the eyes were pure gold with some black dots.

Kayden felt in front of a true god, the feeling he had was of insignificance, like a grain of sand in the entire universe, his death or triumph didn't matter at all, in just a few years he would be forgotten in the river of time.

'And?' Kayden didn't care about recognition or anything like that, that pressure didn't mean anything to him. He understood all this time that he was the god of his existence.

The man was not able to resist his strength, his eyes met with golden eyes. He would no longer be submissive to anyone, they could break his body, but not his will.

the monarch Chapter 129 - Birth of a monarch

Chapter 129: Birth of a monarch

That place... was his mind. This whole time he was facing something inside his head. He was the master of himself, the owner of his will.

"Get down on your knees"

Kayden rose above the eyes. This time, the size difference became even greater, but it still didn't matter. The pressure on his body was unimaginable, but it was nothing compared to Kayden's willpower.

This was the last stage and the situation finally reversed. Kayden was applying pressure to the eye. An invisible fight began between the two, it felt like a man pushing a boulder against a mountain.

Time passed quickly.

Days.

Weeks.

Months.

Years.

Ten years passed before Kayden managed to break the balance. This time, even with the difference in size between Kayden and the eye, the boy still seemed bigger, his aura was more oppressive.

"Get down on your knees"

The same words he repeated thousands of times during these years finally took effect. The huge golden ball finally expressed some reaction. This time she blinked, but that was all.

"When you reach the false peak, look for me"

Those were the words that resonated in the boy's mind before he lost consciousness.

Chapter 2

David had not only paid for Kayden's surgery but also cared for him throughout this time. It took a while for Han to accept his request, but after signing a few contracts, the old man accepted David's request.

Kayden was placed in a room where the variation of mana in the environment and his body was monitored 24 hours a day. Their vital signs and many other points were monitored in real-time and, if a variation occurred, a medical team was called immediately by artificial intelligence.

BEP! BEP!

An incessant sound began playing while David was in the middle of a meeting. At a huge table with almost fifty seats, everyone turned to him. This was something unheard of, no one had ever dared to enter this room with their cell phone on.

Before anyone could reason about what was happening, David stood up abruptly from his chair.

"Master!"

David looked desperate. "I need to go out, I'm sorry about that, but it's something very important to me!"

A woman who seemed to be shrouded in darkness sat at the end of the table. No features of her were visible, she was practically a shadow.

"You will still have to pay for your crime."

His voice was neutral, but it sent a shiver through everyone in the room.

"Even if I have to put my head on this table, I will gladly accept it."

His words sparked the curiosity of everyone in the place to know what was so important that he was willing to trade for his life.

"Can go."

In a very distant place

In a very distant place, outside of space and time, a dragon was lying down. Its size was monstrous, reaching more than a few hundred kilometers. It could easily be confused with a mountain.

1

"Master," a smaller dragon called from elsewhere. It was difficult to say when or where this voice came from, as space did not exist in this place and time did not pass, it was as if the entire existence existed in the same time and place. "A monarch has arisen."

1

The gigantic dragon opened its eyes in surprise. This was an infrequent event. His perfect memory reminded him perfectly of when the last one came.

"It's been a few billion years, hasn't it?", he commented amicably, not even seeming to be the lord of several universes.

"The last one was the human king, sir, do you want me to give the orders to look for him? He appeared in our area", the smaller dragon seemed eager to reach this person.

"Yes...", he was interrupted before the bigger dragon could say anything.

"I don't allow them to look for him," a voice resounded out of nowhere. The two dragons remained motionless. Time had no direction in this place, so it was not possible to know how long they just stood still, but it was very long.

"What was that sir?", the smaller dragon broke the silence after a long while.

"I don't know, but for him to be able to resonate his voice in here... that means he's on the last step", a huge sigh came out of the dragon's mouth. "Do nothing or our race could be annihilated in seconds."

"I see", the doubt in the smaller dragon's head was who that voice belonged to.

Note: Get used to Kayden taking a thousand steps back to be able to take 1001 steps forward, that's his personality type and he will always be willing to change everything to move even a millimeter forward.

1

Kayden found himself on a large bed connected to dozens of wires. This time the boy had no confusion in his thoughts, as it was just like changing scenes, he didn't even become unconscious.

The first thing he did was look at his body. Firstly, he grew a lot and secondly, he no longer had any trace of mana, his heart didn't even exist anymore.

" Humph ", with a snort from Kayden, all the mana in the environment began to face his will and almost instantly all of it became neutral, or rather, without any trace of the will of the world.

Easily directing all the mana into his chest, he began to build another heart, this time much stronger, using only pure mana that he completely commanded.

His eyes turned a shade of blue for a few seconds because of the amount of mana that was entering his system. Slowly he shaped his new heart. The pain that always came with every process Kayden did was present, but it didn't even take away a bit of his concentration.

This amount of pain was simply insignificant to him. Again he repeated the process he had done years ago, he slowly built each cavity of the heart, manipulating the mana to fill each space.

This time he managed to fix small mistakes that he didn't have enough experience to notice in the past. The process was incredibly smoother and faster. What previously took almost an hour, this time it took barely 10 minutes.

The mana came in a constant flow and his control reached an absurd level. Now he was just fixing the primary functions of the heart, like beating and... pulling in mana and completely cleansing it of the will of the world.

That last part was something he decided on now and it was proving to be quite easy. He just had to make the mana go through several cycles inside the heart before it could be released.

It was something done automatically, it was similar to training your immune system against a disease. In this case, the vaccine was a weaker virus and that was what

Kayden was doing. Slowly the will of the world in mana was presented to his body as something bad.

Another ten minutes later Kayden finished the process. He felt his body begin to be elevated to the first apprentice level and...

the monarch Chapter 130 - 4 years after the coma

Chapter 130: 4 years after the coma

"I am the master of my body." He stopped the force of natural advancement provided by nature and began to control where and how each thing would be improved. The pain of the process was hellish, but he didn't even blink.

His veins were being shaped to withstand more pressure than if the world had just raised his level naturally. Furthermore, he was making them in directions that would allow for better circulation of total mana.

"It's done." Kayden finished the process stinking because of the amount of impurities his body released. The boy was skinny and did not appear to be in good health.

The boy began to pull all the surrounding mana into him. Slowly, his control expanded more and more. What he was doing was similar to entering the last stage of transcendence, only this time the amount of mana was even greater than when he was at the eighth rank.

His eyes took on a blue glow and his breath was exuding mana in gaseous form. But the boy still hadn't reached the point he wanted. His instincts were guiding him.

He felt that even with his entire body cracking, he still hadn't gotten to where he wanted to be. The man began to become unstable for a few dozen meters, almost as if he understood that something big was happening.

"More, I want more." Kayden went into an absurd trance. Slowly, his control extended to nearly thirty meters around him. At this range, his mastery over mana was absolute.

CRACK!

Kayden felt something break inside him. His entire life was separated into before and after this moment in his mind. He finally understood his path. That was decades ago.

Without him realizing it, this process had already begun in his other life and then in limbo, it was further refined. Those mere four years in limbo easily amounted to decades.

If you add it, Kayden could easily achieve a century of productivity in this pursuit. The boy's mind became calm.

"I am a monarch." Kayden finally understood his life's purpose. He was a king, nothing more. The entire man around the boy seemed to bow. It sounded like they were shouting in celebration of the birth of a king.

"Kayden?" David's voice came through the door. And as soon as Kayden's eyes met David's, the scientist almost had a heart attack. The pressure from the boy and the environment caused an instinctive fear in David.

It felt like he was facing a living god. His mana bowed to him. His very existence felt wrong in space as if he were something ancient and dangerous that shouldn't exist.

In all his life, David had never been so afraid of anything as he was now. He felt tiny, like an ant facing an elephant.

Pooft!

Kayden fell to the ground unconscious. And David finally snapped out of the trance he was in and went to check on the boy. He was in shock to see the boy with something similar to the core and knew it was the mana heart they developed in the past.

What he didn't know was that it was no longer a mana heart, but a tyrannical mana heart.

"So it's been three and a half years?" Kayden asked as he devoured some pasta and meatballs made by David. The boy had just woken up from another seven days of sleep.

1

"Yes," David confirmed Kayden's question. The boy didn't know how long he stayed in there, but he was sure it was much longer than here. Time probably ran differently there.

Kayden was fascinated by this, the ability to manipulate time itself.

"What happened in that time, David?" The boy finally asked the question he had been putting off. The scientist gave a big sigh before continuing.

"The nobleman who did this to you was unharmed, his family was too strong for us to do anything. The footage and evidence were buried." Kayden didn't even change his

expression, he already expected something like this. "The army also broke the contract with you, they came while you were unconscious."

1

This Kayden didn't expect, but he didn't care either. After discovering his path, he no longer doubted that he would be able to reach the top in a short time.

"Astolfo entered one of the most reputable elite colleges in the kingdom and Heimer continues to do very well and excel in the matrices field." David had done some research on Kayden's friends to stay informed. "They came to visit you once every few months."

In short, Kayden didn't miss much.

"One year," Kayden muttered to himself.

"What's a year old, Kayden?" David could hear even though he was short.

"I'm 13 years old, I can still enter the Sol Academy." David remained silent for a moment, not knowing what to say. He didn't expect to hear this and didn't believe at all that there was time, even though he witnessed that scene seven days ago.

The two didn't discuss anything about it, David understood that it was Kayden's secret.

"Please take me to the orphanage, David," Kayden asked, he already had a plan to improve his rank, and that involved using the mana stone from the forest.

"Thank you, Heimer." Kayden thanked the boy for taking him to the forest. Luckily, Kayden was lucky enough to wake up in December, and during that time, his brother was on vacation. This was better than him revealing the secret to someone else.

1

The boy didn't have time to have a proper conversation with Han, it seemed like the old man was avoiding him. Probably out of shame for not being able to protect Kayden and Ryan or for not being able to even take revenge for them.

The boy also had to invent a miraculous excuse for his cure and he... threw all the responsibility on David. He simply said that the scientist had found an exceptional healer and did not go into further detail.

"I'll be back in a week, Kayden." The boy said after Kayden entered the tree. He still hadn't quite accepted the fact that Kayden spent seven whole days there, isolated. This seemed impossible, Heimer was sure he would go crazy in this place.

As soon as Kayden entered, he packed all his things and instantly began cultivating. The mana density here was much better than outside, and according to Heimer, the stone had returned to almost 100%.

His initial focus was on increasing his rank quickly and then training in life-and-death fights endlessly. This was the best way for him to progress quickly with his new style of mana manipulation.

Kayden began to draw mana towards himself. The boy looked like a vortex sitting on the stone, all the mana in the environment came to him naturally, and he had no resistance.

bonus chapter tomorrow