

O Summoner 191

Chapter 191 - Prelude To War

Adrian and Creepysoo were shocked by what they just heard. Adrian remembered that Valar is that strong looking undead that is a Ghoul Tyrant. Having a Tyrant as a name modifier means that someone must have to be domineering and overbearingly powerful.

Creepysoo is the most shocked as he is speechless ever since he heard the news. Valar is the strongest undead in their faction that has the most attack power. He knows that just one punch from the Ghoul Tyrant could decimate mountains into dust in an instant.

Creepysoo knew that if Valar fell in battle that means someone must have been stronger than him which is terrifying to just imagine. Adrian saw Creepysoo's expression and he could see that the latter is jumping into conclusions. Adrian decided to break the ice and speak to Creepysoo.

"We should wrap our adventure here then. Let us head out of the dungeon." Adrian stated as he prompted everyone to head to the transportation circle inside the vault.

It seems that for Creepysoo, the undead family he has is actually not just mere ones and zeroes. The boy must treat them like real family for him to be shaken up by the sudden news. Everyone headed immediately to the transportation circle and just stuffed their inventories with everything that is inside the vault.

They could no longer be picky and just stuffed everything inside. Gefroren did say that they could take everything that is inside the vault. The Barbegazi also followed them outside using the same transportation circle. The Barbegazi were excited to view the outside world once more as it has been years since they wandered the outside world.

The transportation magic circle actually led to the peak of Mt. Nieve. The area they were sent is rather flat. The Barbegazi looked around with intense curiosity as this is the first time they have set foot on the outside world since they were told to become caretakers of the tomb.

"Adventurers, we will say our goodbyes here as we need to find a place to call our home. Be well and if you encounter us again then do not be shy on asking for our help." Barba stated as the rest of the Barbegazi bid their farewells.

"Now onto the problem at hand. You should call Du'an and tell him to pick us up." Adrian said to Creepysoo who is still clearly shaken.

Creepysoo whispered Du'an's name on the ear of the shrunken head and it made a continuous clicking sound. It did not take long before the shrunken head's mouth suddenly started mouthing words. It is the same voice that previously called Creepysoo that told him to return to the castle.

Creepysoo told Du'an to pick them up and asked the latter if he could bring others with him. Du'an hesitated for a moment but the voice of the undead king came through to the shrunken head and answered it is alright. A portal then suddenly appeared before them as the shrunken head is also some sort of GPS.

Du'an is the one who appeared from the gate and he bowed to the group as he must treat the prince's friends with respect. Du'an gestured them to go inside the portal and the others immediately

complied. They reappeared outside of the castle and the others who have just seen the castle were deeply amazed. The castle looked majestic yet imposing at the same time.

"Wow! Is this a different dimension or a different world?" Peridot stated.

"This is a different world if you really want to know." Adrian replied and then they saw Creepysoo bolt.

"Well, someone is impatient." Levin Cloud commented.

Creepysoo ran towards the castle as he could no longer wait. The others just followed Du'an's pace as the Astral Wraith is calm. Du'an is even answering the questions of the curious visitors which are mainly Peridot and Kabrakan. Those two have yet to travel in a different world because the main world is big enough so adding smaller worlds even made it bigger.

Those two feels like tourist that just left for their first trip. Finally, all of them arrived at the throne room and saw all the high ranking undead except for Valar. Creepysoo still looked sad but he is now calmer than before as the undead king must have told the former of the situation.

"Greetings! I hope the castle is to your liking. My son was a bit rude as he left his visitors without even a word. I apologize for that. I am what history calls as the Undead King. You can address me as such." The undead king heartily stated exuding his friendly aura.

The others knelt and bowed but the undead king told them that it is not necessary. He told the group that the friends of his son is like his children as well. The others except for Adrian though were a bit shy to speak. Adrian had to start the conversation in order for the atmosphere not to turn awkward.

"I am sorry for being blunt your majesty but what did Du'an mean when you said that your faction might go to war?" Adrian asked with a bit of worry.

War is never a beautiful sight as there would always be casualties on both sides. The undead king could only sigh slightly before he answered Adrian's question. He beckoned the Blanche to give Adrian something before he spoke.

[You have received a Crown Fragment of the Undead King.]

[You have successfully completed the quest Return the Crown to the King.]

Adrian is actually shocked by the item he was given because it is a quest item. He was given the last fragment that he needed to obtain. Adrian looked towards the undead king in a questioning gaze as it is the first he learned that NPCs could actually help you in your quests even if they are not in the party.

"We managed to find a location of one of the fragments but apparently we were not the only one who is looking for them." The undead king stated.

"Did the Church of Light encounter you guys?" Adrian asked as he did get some fragments from them.

"It would have been better if it was the Church of Light but it is far worse." The undead king replied.

"Worse! Do not tell me that they encountered a dark god." Adrian replied with shock because dark gods cannot just manifest in the mortal plane without sacrifices.

"It was not a dark god per se. It was actually the new Envoy of the Dark Gods. He managed to take control of Valar using his defiling magic. Thankfully, Valar is not completely under his control so the others managed to escape. The only problem is that Valar is still under his control and the longer we take to rescue him then he might be under the envoy's control." The undead king stated.

This is a new term to some of their party members so Adrian had to explain it to them. Adrian gave them a basic rundown of envoys and dark gods. The others were shock because this lore is not revealed to everyone and it is actually different from the known truth of the world. Their minds were completely blown.

"Then do you need help in finding Valar?" Adrian asked after briefing everyone on what was happening.

"No dear champion. I would like for all of you to search for a demigod blacksmith who would be able to repair my crown. The fragments themselves do not combine even if you collected them all. A demigod blacksmith would be needed in order to restore my crown. You should leave the search for our kin to our own." The undead king stated.

Adrian then wracked his brain but he does not know any blacksmith much more a demigod blacksmith. He looked at the others to see if they have any idea but even they were dumbfounded. Nevertheless, they all received the mission and the reward is fitting enough for this difficult request.

QUEST NOTIFICATION

Find a Blacksmith Demigod

The Undead King Caesar wants you to find a blacksmith capable of fixing his crown so that he would be ready to confront his enemies.

Difficulty: S

Requirement: Find the Blacksmith and convince the blacksmith to fix the crown.

Reward: The formal oath of the Undead King's faction to the God of Death. Pick an item in the Undead King's treasury.

Failure: The Undead King and his attendants will not be able to join the battle against Arch Lich Malus.

Time Limit: May vary depending on Arch Lich Malus' actions

The only thing difficult for this quest is that the time limit might vary. Adrian has a lot on his plate right now. He still needs to help find a cure for the world tree. He is thankful that he is not the only one to receive the mission as all of them received it.

Even if one of them finds the blacksmith, they would all be rewarded. They could split up and search in order to cover more ground in order to quicken the search. The only troubling thing is that they do not know where to start searching.

"Demigod Blacksmiths tend to stay in areas that have high heat and abundant metal. I hope you can finish my request early as we would prepare our kin to be ready for a possible war. That damned

Arch Lich must have made a contract with the dark gods. He might have wagered the location of the Lich King." The undead king explained.

Chapter 192 - Invited To The Player Auction

All of them could only process the information that is given to them. The brainwashing of a high ranking undead, the possibility of war, or worse the extinction of all that is living. Though through all the information given to them, they agreed that finding the demigod blacksmith would be the best.

The others agreed to search for the demigod blacksmith in full haste. They would still try and level up as much as possible so that they will not fall behind. Kabrakan is the likeliest one to easily find a clue because he told them that he has familiarity with some blacksmith due to him wearing down the durability of his equipment and always going to get it fixed.

"I know that my request is a tall order but the reward is greater than you might think. Now onto the reward that I promised you Champion Equinox. The unique undead would actually be in a location not far from this castle. A death knight would escort you to that area." The undead king stated.

"What is peculiar about this undead anyway?" Adrian asked as he is extremely curious.

"The only thing that I could describe it is mischievous and mysterious. It actually does not follow me despite being a king. Some of my knights even tried confrontation but they could not get near it. The area it resides in is protected by some kind of barrier that undead could not pass through." The undead king stated.

Adrian suddenly became excited with the prospect of having this undead. It might be a special undead that resided here in Terra Mortuis. He decided to calm down as he might overhype himself and end up disappointed. The group decided to come along with Adrian to the location because even they are curious of this peculiar undead.

The death knight who escorted Adrian and the others is Castillo. It seems that Castillo's level also increased from 100 to 150 which is a lot and fast if you think about it. Even NPCs in Pandemonium could move like players and conquer dungeons by themselves if they want to. They are like players but they level up faster because of the special rule that named NPCs should always be higher leveled than a player to some extent.

Castillo led them to a place about three or four miles away from the castle. There they saw a gigantic skull of a humanoid where half of it is buried in the ground. Only a skull could be seen and not the other bones of this humanoid creature which is weird but no one thought too much about it.

"I could only escort you up to here, Champion Equinox. That would be the entrance and inside is that peculiar undead." Castillo stated as he stood his ground. He would wait for the Adrian to finish what he want to do and escort them back to the castle.

Adrian only nodded and suck in a breath of air before entering the skull's mouth. The inside is actually not dark but is actually lit up nicely which is strange. Adrian immediately summoned his soulbounds out as he does not know what will jump at him.

They could see the inside of the giant skull but there is nothing there. Adrian thought that the undead king might have duped him but that would be unlikely for someone like a king. A while later when they were looking around, Adrian suddenly heard a giggle.

"Kekeke" a sound of a laugh is heard.

Adrian looked behind him and suddenly he saw a skull face staring at him. Adrian suddenly screamed out of reflex because of the jump scare. The others were alerted and readily brought out their weapons to see the threat.

Adrian reflexively slapped the skull face his hand just went through it. The being that surprised Adrian is actually wearing oversized black robes for its size while the only its skull face is visible. The skull face is actually more of the cutesy style rather than the creepy type.

Monster: Life Eater

Level: 50

HP: 100/100

MP: 100,000 / 100,000

Description: A strange undead that has unknown origins. Not much is known about this undead as they are rare and could not be easily found. Even necromancers do not know how to create this type of undead as they are said to be only created naturally.

The little thing is actually not attacking but rather just making sort of scary faces towards Adrian. Adrian though is shocked by the health pool of this undead as he might kill it with just one magical attack. Adrian really thought he has been duped because it is obvious that this undead is weak.

Adrian though could feel something strange with the undead. It clearly has no compulsion to hurt the living like any other wild undead which is strange. This might be what the undead king thought as strange because only those under the undead king could ignore their thirst to kill the living.

"I might as well get that thing. I should not waste my time here. I still have to store that yeti in a companion stone and give it to my big sister." Adrian grumbled as he took out the Corrupted Spirit Stone.

[Do you wish to trap the Life Eater in the Corrupted Spirit Stone? Yeas or No]

Adrian agreed and the corrupted spirit stone suddenly exploded into fragments. The fragments suddenly became a chain and it shot towards the Life Eater. The incorporeal Life Eater is suddenly bounded and it even tried struggling. The Life Eater even looked like it is begging and crying though it could only do gestures to express itself.

"Why do I feel like I am the bad person here?" Adrian suddenly muttered.

"That is just your imagination." Levin Cloud stated but he could not look Adrian in the eye.

The chains tightly bounded the Life Eater until it is pulled into Adrian's hands. The shards of the Corrupted Spirit stone suddenly reassembled themselves into its crystalline form. The stone shook for a few moments before it finally stopped. The whole room became silent when that happened.

[You have successfully captured the Life Eater.]

[You need to bring the Corrupted Spirit Stone to a church in order to purify the bloodthirsty nature of the undead.]

"You just got it like that?!" Levin Cloud said as he is shocked.

"Even I am as speechless as you. It might be a weak undead seeing as I easily captured it. Ah!" Adrian suddenly exclaimed.

"Why is something wrong?" Levin Cloud hurriedly asked because Adrian suddenly screamed.

"I even used my advance corrupted spirit stone on it! I should have used the intermediate one first." Adrian said as he forgot to use the intermediate one because he is too excited about a new prospective member to his soulbounds.

The others only ignored Adrian's grumbling as they head for the exit. Castillo greeted them again and they headed back to the castle. They did not witness the giant humanoid skull disintegrate into particles because they are already a mile away from it.

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Du'an sent everyone back to the main world so that they could start their search. Before the group dispersed, Cersei suddenly contacted Adrian and invited him to a special player event. Cersei invited Adrian to be a participant in the bidding.

What Cersei really want to do is entice Adrian with the auction so that he finds what he likes. If Adrian could not buy it then Evergreen will buy it for him. Due to the raid results of the hidden dungeon, the guild master of the Evergreen guild Anastacia has put Adrian in a high regard. Mariposa even supported Cersei's vote to actively recruit Adrian.

"What should I do? Should I accept the offer?" Adrian asked the others.

"You should go. You do have a much more discerning eye and you might find something rare that others do not." Levin Cloud stated.

"We can give you money now and you could bet for us. You will be like our proxy." Peridot chimed in because she might find rare stones inside the auction.

"Yeah! There might be things we like that could help us later on." Kabrakan added unknown that he just added fuel to the fire.

"I also think that is a great idea. There might be items that we usually do not see." Vayu added as he is started to become more addicted to the game.

"Why does it feel like that I became an errand boy?" Adrian suddenly pointed out.

"Do not be stingy! We will search for the blacksmith while you are just lazing around and participating in an auction. You could do that for us at least." Peridot once again started the attack.

Adrian could only slump his shoulders and agree because an auction is rare opportunity. They might see items there that are beneficial to them but useless to other players. Just like the saying that "One man's trash is another man's treasure".

Adrian replied that he wanted to come and Cersei replied with the location. The auction would be held tomorrow at the imperial capital, Antares. The building that it will be held in is the merchant

association's headquarters. It seems that the player who arrange this auction might be a rather high ranking member of the merchant association.

"Anyways, it is held tomorrow so give me the money for the things you want. Apparently, the auction would be broadcasted so you could just chat me with the thing that you want." Adrian stated.

"You should have just accepted so that the discussion did not have to trail too long." Peridot rebutted which made Adrian dumbstruck.

"Yes, Ma'am!" Adrian said with a salute as he bid goodbye to the others.

Adrian ripped a scroll so that he would be teleported instantly to the Paradox Planes. He would tell the elders on what is happening as they also might have an idea about this demigod blacksmith.

Chapter 193 - Piggy Bank

Adrian reappeared back in the Paradox Planes and headed towards Ascalor's abode. He briefed Ascalor on what is happening and the latter also called the other elders. Bronx and Koronn hurriedly went to Ascalor's place that they even used self-made portals.

Adrian relayed everything to them about what is happening to the faction of the undead king. They had worry in their face when they heard of the name "Lich King" but other than that they listened calmly. Koronn even looked somewhat bored while Bronx listened attentively because he is the leader of the Daemos Corps.

"I see. If there comes a time that war will come then we might intervene." Ascalor stated.

"What do you mean by might intervene?" Adrian asked as he thought that the Daemos would cooperate fully.

"We should hold balance in this world and that sometimes means only protecting what is made naturally. There would be changes though if the Undead King formed a covenant with the God of Death. But until that time, we will only protect the living people of this universe." Ascalor stated.

"We may be appointed as the protectors but that does not mean we should give up our lives blindly. The universe is vast and the Daemos are not that many." Bronx added.

"The only reason we took up the mantle of protectors is because we could freely travel to other worlds. It is not like the gods told us to do it. We are only doing this protector thing out of respect to the Twin Gods who created our ancestors which are the Asmodians." Koronn stated with a flat tone.

"I am sure that you might have heard stories about our kind that is not like what we do today." Ascalor stated.

"Ooh! I remember that back then the Imp race were playful and mischievous that the Asmodians had to give them timeout in another dimension." Koronn suddenly stated which made a vein pop out on Ascalor's forehead.

"I heard the djinn would grant wishes to random people but all they were doing is just transporting what is already made. The djinn basically became thieves that the Asmodians had to limit their powers using bangles." Ascalor rebutted.

"Okay. Stop squabbling like kids. You are acting like kids in front of the kid." Bronx stated.

"Huh?! I remember that the diabolons are such a rowdy bunch." Ascalor suddenly stated.

"Yeah! I remember that they always play so roughly that everything around them would get broken or trampled. They would often be sent to the meditating grounds." Koronn added which made Bronx suddenly participate in the mudslinging.

"Here comes their childish sides resurfacing again. Still it is very interesting when hearing about the past. It seems that some truths are mixed in the stories of the past." Adrian thought.

"Hey! You just thought of something very insulting to us didn't you?!" The three of them simultaneously said to Adrian.

"What!? You guys are just imagining things." Adrian immediately replied without hesitation.

"I guess he is in need of additional training." Bronx suddenly stated.

"Yes. I very much agree." Koronn replied.

"Should I teach him how to use spatial portals then? He has the strength to use them now unlike before when he is really weak." Ascalor stated with a large grin.

"After that we will have a turn." Koronn stated with a large grin.

"He is a Daemos Corps member so I should test him now and again." Bronx replied with an even larger grin.

Adrian stood up and is about to walk away but a portal appeared below him. He fell into the portal but he manage to scream something before he could no longer be heard.

"Crazy elderssss!"

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Adrian logged back in the game but he still felt tired because of the torture (training) he had to endure. His mind was so taxed by Ascalor and Koronn's training while his body became a punching bag for Bronx. The other trainees in the training ground even pretended not to see him go through the beating. Nevertheless, the training is fruitful because he got three skills.

Skill: Teleportation

Tier: Epic

Type: World Movement

Effect: Allow the user to transfer to a location that the user have been in. Cannot be used during active combat. Can only be used on areas that the user has previously visited. Movement is limited to the current world the user is in.

Cooldown: 1 hour

Mana Cost: 10,000 Mana Points

Cast Time: 1 minute

Skill: Chrono Phase

Tier: Epic

Type: Evasion Passive

Effect: Have a 5% chance to evade damage by becoming unbound by the rule of time in the universe.

Cooldown: None

Mana Cost: None

Cast Time: None

Skill: Unyielding Tenacity

Tier: Epic

Type: Strengthening Passive

Effect: Reduces the duration of status effects if the user is in battle. It also increases the user's stats by up to a maximum of 10%. The longer the user is in battle, the stronger the skill effects.

Cooldown: None

Mana Cost: None

Cast Time: None

"The skills are great but the training was hell. It became even more horrendous when Bronx found out I had an instant revive skill. Better head towards the imperial capital." Adrian thought as he shivered and headed towards the portal toward the imperial capital.

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Adrian appeared in a hidden alley at the imperial capital of Antares. He is already in full glamour as he is in his human form. Before he goes to the meeting place with Cersei, Adrian wanted to purify the corrupted spirit stone first so he headed to a nearby church of life.

The Church of Life located in the imperial is not luxurious to say the least. The main religion of the empire is centered on the Church of Light because of the rumor of the imperial family being a descendant of the sun god which is the son of the goddess of light. It is quite a sight though as it is the only building that is a mixture of vibrant plant life and stone.

Adrian entered the church and immediately searched for a priest that could help him. He immediately got a priest to help him but the priest looked at him strangely. It felt like the eyes of the priest is looking at him with adoration but it was not only the priest but everyone inside the church. This is the effect of his title Champion of the Twin Gods now showing its effects.

The priest and Adrian moved to a room that had a white flower in the center while the surroundings were full of plants. The priest told Adrian to place the corrupted spirit stone on top of the white flower and he did just that. The white flower suddenly started becoming black in color which alarmed the priest but he immediately sang a song.

The priest sang a song in a language that Adrian did not recognize but his scribe class could identify it.

[You are hearing the Song of Nature.]

[You are purified from all status conditions.]

[Your journal will automatically record the Song of Nature.]

The white flower suddenly started glowing followed by everything inside the room. The room looked extremely ethereal and Adrian thought that the flowers came alive and sang in a chorus with the priest. The corrupted spirit stone is suddenly coated in waves of white light as it floated above the flower.

Adrian immersed himself on the song that felt good to listen. After a few minutes, the priest finally stopped singing and the creepy aura of the corrupted spirit stone is no more. The name even changed into Spirit Stone signifying that it is finally cleansed.

Adrian also noticed that the corrupted energy diffused in the surroundings became pure energy which is then transferred to the plants in the room. The pure energy became nourishments to the plants that participated in the cleansing ritual. Adrian thanked the priest wholeheartedly and gave him the donation for successfully completing the cleansing.

Adrian now went to the meeting place that Cersei gave him which is an inn located in the imperial capital. The inn is named Hungry Cow and is located in the business district of the imperial capital that is separated into three layers with walls. The outer part of the city is where the commoners live while the middle is the business district where all types of stores do business. The last layer would be where the nobles stay and at the middle of that is the imperial citadel.

Adrian finally found the inn as the logo of the inn is actually a cute cartoon cow holding a beer mug while eating hay. Adrian entered the place and saw Cersei, Mariposa and most surprisingly Anastacia. There is also a plump looking man sitting next to them and is chatting happily with the three girls. The plump man is even getting death glares because how dare he hog three beautiful ladies all at once.

"Equinox!" Cersei shouted in a promiscuous fashion which made the men turn towards Adrian's location.

Adrian could only sigh and come close to them because he already gathered the attention of the others. If looks could kill then Adrian would be full of holes by now. Adrian just sat on an empty chair that must have been prepared for him. The others then introduced the man sitting with them.

"This man here is Piggy Bank. He is a member of the merchant guild and is the host of the player auction." Cersei stated.

"I see. Nice to meet you! I am Equinox." Adrian introduced himself.

"The pleasure is all mine. For the adviser of the Evergreen guild to hold you in high regard, you must be a great player. Hohoho." Piggy Bank replied.

"I know it is our first meeting and all but I am wondering if maybe you could sell something for me." Adrian stated and Piggy Bank's ears listened carefully. His qualities as a merchant were screaming that money is coming.

Chapter 194 - Player Auction

"I am hoping if you can sell something for me?" Adrian stated.

"Can I see the item in question?" Piggy Bank replied with a happy face but it is actually the façade of a merchant.

"I think we should change locations if you want to see the item that I want to sell." Adrian said adding a mysterious element to his tone.

Piggy Bank raised his eyebrows as he did not know if this kid is serious or bluffing. Adrian is indeed right though as if it is an important item then you do not want other prying eyes to see it. This makes it seem that the item is much better than it seems but an acquaintance of the Evergreen guild must have some legitimacy so Piggy Bank decided to trust Adrian.

"Well then shall we move to the merchant guild? We can view the item there if it is so important. Hohoho." Piggy Bank stated with a happy laugh.

"Can we also join? Our interests are also peaked. I mean personally, I do not like some keeping me hanging. The suspense might kill me." Cersei stated while Anastacia and Mariposa nodded.

"Let us see if the person in question would like to agree to your request." Piggy Bank stated as he looked towards Adrian.

"I see no problems with that but you guys might want to but it from me directly if you see the item." Adrian stated which made everyone even more eager.

"Follow me then. This lad surely knows how to increase expectations. It looks like you might become a fine merchant if you decided to become one." Piggy Bank said with a hearty laugh.

"Did the businessman aura rubbed up on me due to dealing with my father and sister too long? Scary!" Adrian thought as he shivered.

All of them headed towards the headquarters that is located in the farthest part of the business district. It is located at the border between the noble district and the business district. It looked much grander compared to the rest of the stores in the business district.

The building did not have floor but the ceiling is high and it is wide. It would be more appropriate to say that it is as big as a colosseum. The merchant guild are basically the organization that legalizes those who want to do trade. They also crack down who do illegal trade and also issue patents to craftsman who want their work to be one of a kind.

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If one were to see the imperial capital from above then they could see the huge amount of traffic. This traffic is not only generated by the players who are flooding the capital because of the player auction but also those of NPCs that do their business in the capital. Not all businesses are legal though as even the most shining city will leave shadows but that story is for another time.

The players were busy lining up in order to participate in the auction. The VIPs have long entered the venue and is already in the rooms that they rented before the event started. The ones queuing

would be the players not affiliated with a guild. They needed to pay a fee of five gold in order to enter. The limited slots of about fifty thousand made the early birds winners for this type of event.

Some wealthy players even paid the ones who are first in line in order to trade places with them. This action is not condemned as it is the player's own volition to sell the spot he lined for. Some of the early players lined up did this so that they could have money to fund their items.

"The event is going to start in an hour so please proceed accordingly and orderly. Those who do not comply will be banned from ever doing business to stores affiliated with the merchant guild." A guard shouted which made the rowdy crowd a bit orderly.

Nobody on their right mind would want to be banned because the merchant guild handles every business in the empire. You would basically have no way to buy stuff if you offend them which is why no one dared to be rowdy. There are some exceptions of course but they would be silenced by the guards.

With loads of money, the merchant guild could hire the finest of guards that are higher than the average level of the players. Offending the merchant guild also means offending the craftsman guild that they have a good relationship with so nobody would dare. The merchant guild officials are basically nobles by how the ordinary people treat them.

The venue where the player auction is being held is like a stadium type of place. The bleachers below are for those who queued while the rooms located above them would be where VIPs would be staying. Each person in the bleachers would be given a device so that they could cast their votes and purchase price.

The VIP rooms though will light up and a screen would flash the money value that they use. Anastacia, Mariposa, Cersei and Adrian are located at the seventh VIP room and it was awkward for Adrian. Awkward for Adrian at least as he is in a room full of women but he just pictures that he is with his older sister.

Thankfully for Adrian, there is an attendant of the merchant guild in there with him. It is an old man named Steve and is one of Piggy Bank's butlers. He would also be the one who would fetch the item that Adrian's group would successfully buy.

The crowd inside is rowdy because those who know each other are talking to one another while waiting for the auction to start. The more people started pouring in then the noisier the crowd had become. It did not take long for the entire venue to fill their seats. The event finally started when all of the seats are filled.

A beautiful woman in an elegant bright red dress walked towards the stage with a handsome entourage. The handsome men are basically the ones holding the where the first item is placed. The first item is covered with a glass box and that glass box is once again covered by cloth that could block ocular skills.

"Greetings Everyone! I am the announcer for this auction. My name is Mei. Please treat me well!" Mei stated while posing cutely which did not compliment her rather elegant looking outfit.

A scream erupted from the bleachers because they were mostly men. This is a known technique for auctions but it is always effective as an excited crowd usually bids more money. Seeing the crowd all excited Mei already started the auction.

"Let us start the auction then! I would also like to tell our lovely bidders that some items had been added to the items so I hope you brought some extra money with you. Anyways, we will now show the first item." Mei stated while gesturing the entourage to take off the cloth.

The players did not mind that some items were added because that usually happens when an item is suddenly presented. Just because it is added does not mean it will sell as no one knows what might happen. The item might be great but if no one had a use for it then it would usually not be bought.

The first item is revealed and it looked like a gemstone of some sort. It had a bright red color and the others stared in wonder. They tried using their ocular skills to know the item but all that popped up is its name which is Red Gem.

Item: Red Gem

Tier: Rare

"This is the first item on our auction list. Even the one who placed the item on our auction did not know what this stone is but all we could say that it can warm anyone who holds it. The bid will start at ten gold coins and an increment of one gold per succeeding bid." Mei explained.

Murmurs could be heard from all of those in the crowd as they thought this item is useless. There are potions that could do the same effect of this stone and those might be better. The owner of the stone might have just auctioned it off as it is just collecting dust in his inventory.

While the others gossiped about the stone's uses, one individual in the VIP room could not believe his eyes. He did not think that he would encounter one of the items he needed immensely in this auction. Adrian just really attended because he is curious on what an auction is like.

Item: Gem of Fire

Tier: Rare

Type: Runestone Fragment

Effect: Imbues the socketed weapon or armor with properties related to fire. For weapons, it would imbue it with one passive skill and one active skill. For armor, it would imbue resistance and a passive skill.

Adrian walked up to a machine to enter his bidding price. The light in VIP Room 7 suddenly glowed and it displayed the bidding price.

Chapter 195 - Increasing Prices?

"VIP Room No. 7 has bid 100 gold coins for the Red Gem. Is there no one going to bid higher? Going once...Going Twice...Going Thrice...Sold to VIP Room No. 7!" Mei announced.

The people on the stands though are pissed off because it is clear that the person in VIP Room No. 7 just wanted to flex their money. Although 100 gold might not be much, there is still a possibility you might get outbid by 100 gold for a really great item. They all thought that 100 gold for an item just to warm you up is not worth the price.

They are also outraged as this VIP might just raise the prices voluntarily. Some even voiced their displeasure but Adrian did not pay attention to it. All he needs to know is that he secured the stone that can increase his fire resistance. Those in the room with Adrian though were looking at him with shock and wonder.

"Is it okay for you to buy that gem? There might be other thing that is more valuable." Cersei stated but in fact she did not mind. They already had a plan for Adrian to become indebted to them.

"It is fine. I think I got the stone rather cheap. Anyways, the next item is being auctioned." Adrian replied which made the others ponder on what he meant. The others decided to not pry any further and listen to the auction.

"The next item is something new added to our roster and is one of a kind. It is a first for even the merchant association to sell this." Mei announced which made everyone calm back down and observe the item in question.

The cloth is taken off and everyone had a displeased expression. All they saw is paper with just markings on it which is the reason of their displeasure. Sensing the discomfort in the crowd Mei immediately explained the item so that the excitement would continue.

"I see that some of you are disappointed but all of you will like this item. Let me explain what this item is. This is a talisman and the person who created this just recently registered his works at the merchant's guild. A demonstration is needed for all of you to believe how extraordinary this item is." Mei stated as she held one of the talismans.

Mei held the talisman so that the target dummy is facing the side with the inscriptions are written on it. She actually did not know how to activate it herself but she was there when the crafter of the talisman did a demonstration. She only needed to copy how Adrian actually activated the talisman.

"Activate!" Mei chanted.

A fire bird suddenly materialized as the talisman disintegrated. The fire bird shot towards the target dummy and a scorch mark could actually be seen. The others were not amazed by the damage as they saw that the damage value is only 500 or so but they should not expect much to a low leveled NPC.

"As you can see, the talisman has an attack spell attached to it that makes it amazing! Seeing as all of you are not believing then we will show you the details of the items." Mei exclaimed and she directed her hands to a projecting screen made by a crystal ball.

Item: Flame Bird Talisman

Tier: Rare

Type: Consumable

Effect: Consume the talisman in order to release a bird made of flames that travels in a straight line. If the flame bird collides with something then it will explode and deal damage. The first to be hit by the arrow will be dealt with 75% of the player's damage and the others in the two meter blast radius will be dealt with 75% of the player's damage. Has a 5% chance to inflict a burn status condition.

Cooldown: 10 seconds

Description: A rare talisman made by a Beginner Scribe that has yet to make a name for himself. He made this talisman after being inspired or so he believed. The Talisman is an upgrade of the Flame Arrow Talisman but it sacrificed its damage for low cooldown.

This were the spare talismans that Adrian made during his rest on his "training" that the Daemos Elders made him do. He went to Aernas and got 500 pieces of enchanted paper so that he could increase his scribe mastery. He is still having difficult breaking through to become an intermediate scribe as Aernas told him that he needed to become enlightened.

Everyone's eyes became wide when they saw the details of the item. This talisman actually had no mana requirements which would make it an excellent cover fire or diversion. It also has AOE with a status condition inflicting chance. The defining thing about the talisman is its damage modifier which makes it more appealing.

Seeing that the crowd had become silent due to the details of the item, Mei immediately announced the bidding rules of this talisman. She proceeded to flaunt her beauty while doing so which made all the men in the area look closer.

"The crafter of these talismans have given us 200 pieces of these. There would be ten sets that would be auctioned and each set consists of twenty talismans. The bid for each set will start with 50 gold and the increment per succeeding bid would be 1 gold." Mei exclaimed.

The players at the auction could not believe that the item is cheap considering the numerous usage of it. The auction suddenly became rowdy and numerous bids came from numerous players. Some even started throwing shade and that they would PK them if they do not back down. It was absolute chaos because of the usefulness and uniqueness of the item.

Each set managed to be sold by 180 to 200 gold so now Adrian just added an easy thousand or less gold coins on his pouch. The three women with Adrian did not bid because Adrian gave them ten talisman each as a thank you for inviting him in the auction. Even the other players saw that VIP Room No. 7 did not bid which made them wonder but forgot due to the heat of the competition for the talismans.

"Who do you think made these talismans? It seems that someone got a rare sub job class like the crafter for magical swords." A random player in the crowd whispered to someone next to him.

"He probably wanted to become anonymous or he would be hounded by players wanting to craft it for them. Some guilds even threaten some crafters so I would not blame him for being anonymous." The player next to him replied.

After the auction for the talisman ended, the atmosphere chilled down a bit and the bidding for items became normal. Adrian bid some items that his friends wanted like a rare skill book for healing magic for Levin Cloud, an epic tier stone for Peridot and other skillbooks that the rest wanted. The most expensive one he bid for was for Kabrakan called the Crystal Skin skillbook which is 3000 gold coins. This is almost Kabrakan's entire savings so Adrian could hear him tearing up in their voice chat.

"We are finally in near the end of our auction! The next items would be the most important." Mei stated which made the crowd go all serious.

All of the VIP's are waiting for this segment of the auction as this is the only thing they really participated for. Even those in the bleachers are anticipating what the next batch of items look like. Even those that just entered in order to watch the auction paid close attention because the next segment is the real highlight of the auction.

"I am sure that all of you know that there are only supposed to be two items as finale but a patron gave us two more splendid items that could rival or may be even better than the original two we are supposed to auction." Mei announced which made all the people gulp.

Even those in the VIP room started contacting others in order to get more funds. It is clear that the VIPs know what the original two items are. Some of the VIPs even asked the merchant guild attendants but the attendants were ordered to not speak much about the two items.

"The first item to be auctioned is an armor set that is crafted by the Blacksmith Hanvil." Mei announced which made everyone pay attention.

Hanvil is the most famous blacksmith in the game that is said to be nearing Advance Blacksmithing mastery. He could even make magic swords by using rare rank materials so he is an important person for all players. Even the heads of the guilds must be respectful towards him because NPC blacksmiths just make standard equipment.

"Reveal it already!" someone shouted.

"Yeah! The suspense is killing me!" another shouted.

"I want to see the masterpiece so I could have inspiration." A blacksmith player muttered.

"Without further ado, let me reveal Blacksmith Hanvil's current masterpiece. It is an armor made from scales of a fire drake. It is the perfect armor for swordsman type users because of its flexibility and weight." Mei stated as the armor is revealed to the crowd which made everyone exclaim in shock.

"An epic armor that could evolve into a legendary. I got to admit that it is an amazing feat considering a player made it. His mentor might be a demigod blacksmith or being close to one if he could make that type of armor." Adrian whispered to himself as he used his evil eye to see the armor's information.

Chapter 196 - The Hot Items

Everyone sat in anticipation as they waited for the details of the armor to be displayed. Even if they could not afford it, they still wanted to see because fantasizing is free. They wanted to picture themselves wearing the armor and looking dashing.

Mei did not disappoint the anticipating crowd and gestured for the crystal ball to project the details of the armor. The crowd is extremely shocked because an epic rated armor had superior stats that is comparable to a legendary armor despite not knowing what the defensive value of a legendary armor is.

Item: Fire Drake Armor

Tier: Epic (Upgradeable to Legendary)

Type: Light Armor

Defense Value: 850

Effect:

- A 2.5% chance to nullify fire attribute attacks and spells.
- 0.1% chance to reduce the durability of a weapon that hits the user by 200.
- Flame Resistance + 25%
- Flame Body Skill

Skill: Flame Body – envelops the user in a fiery aura and damage those in a one meter radius around you by 50% of your total damage for a duration of twenty minutes. (8 hour cooldown)

Description: An armor made by the Blacksmith Hanvil. It is made using the skin of a fire drake which is why the armor wearer will have high flame attribute resistance. Due to the incomplete materials, Blacksmith Hanvil did not complete his legendary work but he is still proud of it.

Restriction: Strength must be 150, Agility must be 130

The armor looked like a dragon scale armor with red tints but it is not pure red due to it only coming from a fire drake. A lesser dragon will have muddier colored scales compared to a true dragon that is pure blooded. It had intricate designs of dragon heads as the shoulder pads and knee pads.

The armor itself would make anyone who wear it look dashing and cool. There would even be wisps of fire flickering here and there as an effect which adds a coolness factor to the armor. It is really that fantasy like armor that anyone would really crave and would even kill for it.

"We will add another tip for the buyer of this great item! Blacksmith Hanvil said that he will upgrade the item for free if you manage to collect the necessary materials for it. Blacksmith Hanvil will be able to talk to the buyer after the auction for the details." Mei stated which made the crowd even more heated up.

The news that they will personally meet with Blacksmith Hanvil is more important than actually completing the armor. If they meet Hanvil and form a friendship with him then it is a bigger win for the buyer. The armor just became a hot item because of one sentence.

"The starting bid will be 1000 gold and an increment of ten gold will be observed. Let the bidding begin!" Mei announced.

[VIP Room 1: 2,000 gold]

[VIP Room 3: 2,100 gold]

[VIP Room 4: 2,300 gold]

[VIP Room 12: 4,000 gold]

....

Big money values started showing up all of a sudden which made the poor players ashamed of themselves while some aspired to be like them. The armor became something the big wigs wanted while suddenly someone from the bleachers bet something.

[Visitor No. 6795: 10,000 gold]

The others are actually shocked that someone actually managed to bid high despite not being in an organization. The others could only speculate on what is the identity of this person but someone in the VIP room once again increased the bet. It once again flared up the competition between the VIP room bidders.

[VIP Room 1: 12,000 gold]

[VIP Room 12: 13,000 gold]

[VIP Room 8: 13,500 gold]

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The bidding war increased the price of the armor to 20,000 gold and it is actually VIP Room 1 who got the armor in the end. A laugh of triumph could even be heard from the room as the player there enabled the sound function of the room. It seems the player or players there have an air of superiority to them.

"Ah! I hate people like that the most." Cersei stated with annoyance.

"He is just having his victory laugh so to speak. He will not be laughing later though." Mariposa stated gracefully as she looked towards Adrian who is standing and staring at the next auction item that is presented.

"The next item that I will present to you is something made by a magitech engineer which will definitely be a hot item for those who uses guns as a weapon. Let us see the beautiful craftsmanship of the item." Mei announced and the cloth was taken off in order to reveal the item.

"This is made by the magitech engineer Thinktank. It is his finest work for a magitech gun as it can use mana and materialize it into exploding shells as an epic rated earth stone is its core. It has high burst damage and it could even punch through steel armour." Mei stated in order to make item more desirable.

"Start the bidding already!" someone shouted.

"Since we have many impatient guests, we should now start the bidding. This fine masterpiece is being sold at a base price of 1,500 gold and each increment would be 50 gold. Let us start now!" Mei announced.

[VIP Room 1: 2,000 gold]

[VIP Room 12: 3,000 gold]

[VIP Room 7: 5,000 gold]

....

The battle for the item is fierce and unrelenting. Some of the VIPs decided not to partake in the battle but that is only for players that do not use a magitech gun as a weapon. The bids continued to rise until it reached 18,000 gold and made the increase slower. It seems that the buyers know that magitech guns cost lower than an armor as these types of weapon have high maintenance fees.

The bid finally stopped when someone bid it for 18,700 gold coins. The bidder who won is actually Visitor No. 6795 as the VIPs realized what Mei stated about the remaining items. They could let go an epic magitech gun as weapons are disposable after you get a higher level.

"Congratulations to the bidder for the magitech gun. Now let us proceed to one of the newly added items in our roster. Sadly, we cannot demonstrate the usage of the items as there is only one copy in existence. Please show the crowd what is." Mei announce with flare.

The item is revealed and it is another set talisman but this seemed different as you can feel an aura from it. There are three talismans stacked together and this would be sold as a set. If one looked close the three talismans are actually different. The writings are different if a scribe were to check it but scribes are extremely rare in this era.

"We will now show you the details for each talisman. Please be patient as we increase the projections." Mei announced.

Three projections are seen up in the air and the details of each talisman is revealed. After even reading just one talisman, the crowd became silent and stupefied. The only thing to describe this talismans are game changers.

Item: Tortoise Shell Talisman

Tier: Epic

Type: Consumable

Effect: Create a wide dome shield that can soak up damage equal to the user's defense that is multiplied by a factor of five. The dome radius is fifty meters. The user will not be able to move as long as the shield persists.

Duration: 1 hour or until the shield is broken

Description: A talisman made by an unknown scribe that is yet to show his skills to the world. He made this talisman using the idea of a tortoise hiding in its shell which is somewhat creative.

Item: Firm Mountain Talisman

Tier: Epic

Type: Consumable

Effect: Makes the user invincible for the duration but the user cannot make any actions. Also cleanses the user's status conditions but also dispels the user's buffs.

Duration: 3 seconds

Description: A talisman made by an unknown scribe that is beginning to show his skills to the world. He made this talisman using a mountain as an inspiration because of a mountain's unyielding nature to disasters. It is passable as a talisman made by a scribe.

Item: Last Resort Talisman

Tier: Epic

Type: Consumable

Effect: Sacrifice 99% of the user's health and mana in order to deal 2,000% true damage to a selected target.

Description: A talisman made by a promising unknown scribe that is honing his skills so that he could proudly face the world and announce that he is a scribe. This talisman is made using the most desperate of emotion so that whoever uses this could overturn the battle. This is the most decent talisman that the promising unknown scribe has made.

"These talismans are sold as a set courtesy of the maker. He generously set the starting price at 3000 gold for the whole set. The increment per bid will be 100 gold. You can now start the bidding." Mei announced and then the whole auction became embroiled in chaos.

Chapter 197 - War At The Auction

Before the Auction started at a private room in the merchant guild....

"Well then young lad, you can bring out the item here now. I am pretty sure our location is far from prying eyes." Piggy Bank stated.

"Here are the first set of items." Adrian stated as he pulled out talismans from his inventory.

"Talismans? What do these do?" Piggy Bank said with uncertainty as this is the first time he has seen one.

"Talismans have numerous uses depending on what type of talismans they are. They can be used to attack or defend and many more as long as the scribe can make them." Adrian stated.

"Then should I believe that the young lad in front of me made these?" Piggy Bank asked as he knows that Adrian would not be able to have this many talismans unless the craftsman themselves make them.

The others also looked at the talismans in order to see their details. Three talismans stood out the most as they are the things that could make or break a fight. Even the calm and composed Anastacia had a shocked expression and now she is set in stone in recruiting Adrian.

"The Flame Bird Talismans can be tested but for these three epic talisman is a different story. I only have these three so far as they are extremely difficult to make." Adrian stated as he remembered another round of face explosions due to talisman making.

"I believe we can make that work as you only need to make a consumer believe once for the market to explode." Piggy Bank stated as Adrian conducted the demonstration with the announcer of the auction in the room.

The others could only exclaim in shock on how a talisman is used because there was no mana consumed. The damage is also passable for the talisman's low cooldown usage. Piggy Bank though could smell the money from Adrian's personage which made him one of the best merchant players.

Piggy Bank told Adrian that as long as he needed a merchant to sell things then the latter could contact him directly. The members of Evergreen could see what Piggy Bank is doing but does not stop him as even they have a friendly relationship with him. They might become the priority customers as long as they remain friendly with Piggy Bank.

"Is there anything else that you wish to sell?" Piggy Bank asked as courtesy but he honestly did not expect there to be more.

"I have one more but I think I want something different for this other than money." Adrian stated which peaked everyone's interest.

Adrian then pulled out the epic skill book called Abyss Dragon Breath (Degraded) Skill book. The others did not understand why an epic skill book is more important than the game changing talismans. Adrian then explained why this skill book is unique.

"This epic skill can be upgraded to become a legendary skill upon achieving mastery of it. But of course, it will not be easy." Adrian suddenly dropped a bomb to those in the room and they could no longer keep a straight face.

"A Legendary skill!" All of the onlookers thought as Adrian downplayed the importance of a legendary skill. Perhaps only a few individuals have legendary skills and Adrian himself is downplaying it.

"Unless! He has a legendary skill himself!" Anastacia thought as she is the first one to become calm.

"So how much do you think these items would sell?" Adrian asked while Piggy Bank is still in huge disbelief.

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"These talismans are sold as a set courtesy of the maker. He generously set the starting price at 3000 gold for the whole set. The increment per bid will be 100 gold. You can now start the bidding." Mei announced and then the whole auction became embroiled in chaos.

[VIP Room 1: 3,000 gold]

[VIP Room 3: 4,100 gold]

[VIP Room 4: 4,200 gold]

[VIP Room 12: 5,000 gold]

...

The bidding price continued to soar and it actually long passed the value of the previous to items.

[VIP Room 1: 21,000 gold]

[VIP Room 3: 21,100 gold]

[VIP Room 2: 21,200 gold]

[VIP Room 7: 21,300 gold]

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The price suddenly skyrocketed towards 25,000 gold before someone finally stopped the silence. The voice sounded authoritative and threatening.

"Anyone who bids bigger than our bid will forever be hunted by the Crimson Fangs!" an authoritative voice coming from VIP Room 1 echoed as he used the audio function in the room.

"Nobody is threatened by your guild. This auction must be fair and you must not use your influence to terrify others to not bid. We will have those items no matter what! 27,000 gold." A feminine voice from VIP Room 5 replied to the voice from VIP Room 1.

"Let your money do the talking. 28,000 gold." A voice from VIP Room 8 stated.

"Just you wait until I find you and let you taste hell!" The voice from VIP Room 1 shouted in fury.

A lot of murmurs suddenly started to erupt in the crowd as this verbal debate is definitely news worthy. Even the broadcasting companies that are currently airing the event suddenly made headlines like "Top Guilds uses force to scare other buyers" or "Using Power to crush competition".

Anyways, everyone started talking about what these type of talismans could do. The biggest search on the Pandemonium forums is "Who is the one who made these talismans?" and "What is the sub job class in order to make talismans?"

The fight for the talismans became so hot that a lot of people tuned in to watch it. Even an auction is as exciting as a real battle due to all the mudslinging that is happening. People really like watching fights because it gets their blood rushing.

The bidding finally stopped at 33,000 gold which is bid by VIP Room 5. It seems that whoever bid at that room really wanted the talismans as they must be attempting to raid a world boss or something. The people at VIP Room 1 were not happy by this development but their funds could not handle that extravagant price.

"Everyone please calm down! Unruly behavior will not be tolerated at the Merchant Guild." Mei announced and everyone finally started to calm down.

Being banned at purchasing at any store affiliated with the merchant guild is basically a virtual reality death wish. As everyone calmed down and the item is finalized to be sold to VIP Room 5. Mei began promoting the next item.

"For the next item, the seller is hoping for something in exchange but if the exchange could not be procured then we will proceed to bid it using money. This is the last item for this event so I hope you brought something for it to be exchanged." Mei announced as she gestured for the next item to be shown.

The crate is then carried by an entourage of men and is covered in a cloth that is bright purple. It is even carried on a golden podium in order to signify the importance. The others could not wait as suspense is finally building up.

Finally, the cloth is taken off and everyone can see the item being hidden. The reaction is different from what is expected. The expected reaction would be to be shock and awe but the crowd is actually dumbfounded.

The reason the crowd is dumbfounded is because the last item is actually just an epic skill book. They were even outraged. They waited all day and the last item is actually just an epic skill book.

"Yah! Are you joking! You made a big speech and it is actually just an epic skill book!" A random player spouted which made a chain reaction.

"You already sold some epic skill books earlier! Why sell this one now!?" another random person spouted.

"Settle down please. Settle down. You have yet to hear my explanation why this skill book is the main event." Mei stated while acting cute in order to settle down the crowd and it did by quite a bit.

The crowd is still a bit unruly but little by little they are calming down. Mei could see this and decided not to speak while there were still people shouting. She is like an adult waiting for an unruly child to stop its tantrum. She finally spoke when a respectable level of silence is heard.

"Finally, I hope all of you have calmed down. Please stop acting like kids because only I can do that! Chu!" Mei stated while giving a flying kiss towards the crowd. She acted cute so that the crowd will not go back at her for insulting them that they were kids.

"Let me explain to you what this epic skill book is." Mei announced but someone cut her off.

"We can see it clearly that is only an epic skill book!" someone shouted.

"If you think this skill book is just an epic skill book then you are wrong. This epic skill inside this spell book can evolve into a legendary skill." Mei announced which made everyone in the venue speechless.

Chapter 198 - Is The Seller Serious?

A legendary skill is something not anyone could pick up. Only a handful of players could get one as even NPCs that are rated legendary could use or teach a player a skill like that. Even if it is an epic skill now, just the assurance that the skill book can evolve into a legendary one would increase its price astronomically.

The first thing that popped in the heads of those that are in the auction is "who would sell a potential legendary skill?". Nevertheless, why would they care as the only thing important now is they people in this room had a chance to get a legendary skill. They eagerly waited for the conditions for the trade.

"The seller of the skill book would like to exchange a legendary weapon for the epic skill book. We will show you the details of the book that a highest rank appraiser of the merchant guild personally inspected." Mei stated as she gestured at the monitor.

Item: Abyss Dragon Breath (Degraded) Skillbook

Tier: Epic (Upgradeable into a Legendary Skill upon mastery)

Conditions: Magic Job Class

Effect: Fires a concentrated beam of cold energy in a straight line of damaging enemies for 500% of magic damage. Induces frostbite for mage classes specialized in ice magic.

Mana Cost: 1500 MP

Cast Time: 10 seconds

Cooldown: 2 hours

Even Adrian only found out that the skill could evolve into a legendary skill when he inspected it using his Evil Eye. Even after knowing this fact, he still wanted to trade the item. He needed legendary items in order to upgrade his weapon.

"The seller also pointed out that he would even accept broken weapons as long it is still legendary rated." Mei announced.

At first, no one actually wanted to speak because who in the right mind would give up a legendary weapon. Another fact is that who even has a legendary weapon that you would be willing to give away. The reason Adrian added the condition of even if it is broken is that he could ask the demigod blacksmith to fix it after finding one.

The quests given by the NPCs will not lead them to a dead end because there should be a demigod blacksmith that could fix even a broken legendary weapon and they just need to find the person. Adrian's rationale is that a legendary skill is much more useful than a legendary weapon that has lost its durability.

The NPC blacksmiths in-game could only fix weapons that are of their caliber or rating. This is the reason why top players who managed to get a legendary weapon would have another weapon for mobs. Seeing as they could afford lots of gold means that some players here have encountered a legendary weapon at least once.

"Is there no one willing to trade?" Mei asked and scanned the crowd if anyone would bid.

Adrian became disappointed as no one answered. When he is about to tell the attendant to change the bidding to gold, a voice is suddenly heard. This bid ignited the bid war for the skill book.

"One broken legendary weapon for the skill book." A voice from VIP Room 2 stated.

"Two broken legendary weapons for the skill book." A voice from VIP Room 8 stated.

Silence descended when they heard the bids. Even the crowd is shocked as nobody thought anyone would actually agree to the bid. The reason the VIPs are fighting to get this skill book is that a legendary skill is a game changer. Legendary skills are vastly different from epic skills like Adrian's Vortex skill.

When the videos of the fort defenses are released, certain videos got more views than others. One of them would be the defense of Hou Yiwei and Alabaster fort's defense. The two videos caught the attention of the big guilds video because they saw legendary skills being used.

Hou Yiwei used a skill that brought down a sun to smash the undead in a wide area. In the Alabaster Fort defense, they saw two swirls of energy that sucked all the undead inside it. The top guilds could only be amazed and envious at the same time. They longed for a way to get a legendary skill no matter what.

"Three broken legendary weapon for the skill book." A voice from VIP Room 9 stated.

Those below actually became numb as they did not expect people to bet that much for a skill book because some have yet to see the effect of a legendary skill. Ignorance could really kill someone. The fact that top guilds are willing to throw broken legendary weapons should mean something.

"Four broken legendary weapons for the skill book." A voice from VIP Room 6 stated.

"Five broken legendary weapons for the skill book." A voice from VIP Room 5 stated.

After the last bid, no one could increase the bid anymore and no voice could be heard for a whole minute. The silence became no more as Mei begun the countdown for the current bet. It seems that no one is bidding anymore as no one is raising the price.

"Five broken legendary weapons from VIP Room 5....Going once....Going Twice....Sold to VIP room 5. Congratulations!" Mei announced and the auction finally ended.

The auction ended and it became the buzz of every news outlet to gaming. Adrian got his money increased by more than he imagined. He even considered just spending all his time making talismans but he shivered at the thought of undergoing continuous explosions.

"Here are your items that you have bid for Master Equinox." The attendant of the merchant guild stated as he gave the items to Adrian.

"We really profited this time Brother Equinox!" Piggy Bank stated with a hearty laugh to which the Evergreen ladies raised their brow.

"If not for this guy's great business sense then I would have hated him by now." Mariposa thought but not voiced out.

"I should be the one to say thank you. If not for you then I might have just sold them at a lower price." Adrian replied.

"Just contact me again once you get something good. We are friends after all." Piggy Bank stated as he shook Adrian's hand and left as he needed to count his earnings for this day.

"Do you have anything to do Equinox?" Anastacia asked as she wanted to gain the boy's favor.

"I am currently doing a quest to save a tree so I have to finish that because there is a time limit." Adrian replied with a vague answer.

"A tree? You surely do odd quests. Is that how you get so strong?" Mariposa teased.

"Well, an old woman basically forced the quest onto me so I had no choice." Adrian stated and a dryad somewhere sneezed.

"If you want, you can join us in one of our raids again. I am sure that you have trouble leveling up." Cersei inquired as she knows that summoners take vastly longer time to even reach another level.

"I am good but if you need more talismans then you can contact me but the next set will be for sale though. I will see you guys again if you need me." Adrian stated as he bowed and left.

"I wanted to recruit him then and there but now would not be the right time. I got tongue tied though." Cersei stated after Adrian closed the door.

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"Now that I am at the imperial capital then I might as well visit the mage tower and buy skill books for Kanlaon and Saena." Adrian murmured to himself as he is now in front of a giant spire.

The mage tower is different from the other buildings and it is actually located at the edge of the noble's district. The mage tower is actually being managed by the Royal Wizard of the palace. Each floor of the tower has different access levels but the first floor is where you can buy spell books. Adrian entered the mage tower with enthusiasm as even he is excited of the prospect of new skills.

At the top of the mage tower, a certain old man is currently meditating but he is suddenly awoken by what he sensed. He felt the presence of what he felt as something familiar as he himself has almost the same kind of aura. He is the head of the mage tower and is the current royal wizard.

He had a robe that is colored royal purple with gold and silver linings. You could see that everything he is wearing is carefully made by the finest craftsman. He had gray hair and a long gray beard. On his head is the signature wizard hat that everyone knows and it is colored the same royal purple as his robes.

"Interesting. A demon actually managed to come inside the tower without any malicious intent. Maybe he could fulfill the wishes of our kind." The old man stated as he disappeared from the room that he is in.

Chapter 199 - Another Peculiar Old Man

Adrian is looking at the spell book descriptions in the bulletin board when someone suddenly tapped on his shoulder. Adrian turned around and saw an old man in robes that mages in the tower wore. Adrian wondered why this old man suddenly tapped him by the shoulders.

"Do you need something from me Sir?" Adrian asked.

The old man did not answer Adrian's questions but instead stared at him intently. Adrian felt creeped out by the old man's staring because it was as if the old man is seeing him naked. The odd reason though is that Adrian felt some sort of familiarity from the old man's aura.

"Can I help you with anything Sir?" Adrian asked once more but this time he used his evil eye to discern the old man's name.

NPC: Emrys

Adrian used his evil eye but all he got was a name which is very weird to him. He wondered why that is the reason but all he could think about is that this old man is special. The old man in front of him could not be someone weak as Adrian's evil eye could not discern all of his information.

"You might be a bit weak currently but that might be the only way out of our current predicament." Emrys started muttering to himself.

"Uhm? If you do not need anything Sir then I will be on my way." Adrian stated but the old man grasped his shoulders.

Unexpectedly the old man's grasp is firm and unyielding that even with Adrian's strength, he could not budge an inch. Try as he might but he is not able to get away from the old man.

"Seriously what does this old man eat anyway? How come he is stronger than me despite his frail looking body?" Adrian thought as he kept trying to walk away from the old man.

"Follow me." Emrys stated as he dragged Adrian's hand and they entered a door.

"Should I shout for help? I feel like we are invisible or something. This old man is covered in magic and he also covered me with it when he held my hand. I should at least try." Adrian thought.

"Help! I am being dragged against my will!" Adrian shouted but no one could hear him. His suspicion is suddenly proven when no one actually even turned towards them.

"You should keep quiet while I am still being patient, young demon." Emrys stated which made Adrian shocked to his core.

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"We need to find the person responsible of making those talismans." A voice of a man that resembles that of the person in VIP Room 1 stated.

"The only lead we have would be to ask the merchant guild but even their lips are tightly sealed. They would protect all the craftsman that are registered to them. Even if we try to bribe them, it would not work as that scribe's identity will be heavily guarded." A voice next to him stated.

"We are not the only one curious on who is that scribe. Everyone in Pandemonium is curious on what his identity is. We just need to be the first one to recruit him not the first to find him." The voice of the man in VIP Room 1 stated.

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When Adrian and Emrys passed through the door, they did not reach the next room but instead vanished. Adrian felt the same sensation when he used his new skill Teleportation. Adrian finally felt why the old man seems familiar and that is he had the same aura as that of a Daemos.

The two of them arrived in a room full of books and drawings of magic circles. Emrys finally let go of Adrian as they arrived at their destination. Adrian though is still suspicious of the old man as who in the right mind would drag someone unwillingly.

"Where did you drag me to, old man? Do you not know it is illegal to detain a minor?" Adrian suddenly blurted.

"You cannot fool my eyes brat! I know you are a demon. I can see through your disguise very clearly." Emrys stated.

"I am human, old man. Have your eyes gone blind or have gone senile?" Adrian replied.

Emrys' brows were raised and he suddenly chanted something. He then threw something invisible towards Adrian. Something like a blast of air hit Adrian and with that his Glamour was also blown away. His full demon visage is now for everyone to see but thankfully there are only two of them inside the room.

"Anything else to say?" Emrys inquired.

"You are not a pure human are you?" Adrian stated which made Emrys raise a brow.

"Oh? What makes you say that?" Emrys inquired.

"A normal human would not react like you upon knowing that a demon is in front of you. You also smell different from other humans. You smell like a demon but not completely." Adrian replied.

"Hoh! It seems that I lucked out this time. You are right as I am not completely human." Emrys stated.

"Then I would like to know how someone not entirely human became the royal sorcerer for the empire." Adrian suddenly stated as he remembered who Emrys was.

"I thought his name sounded familiar but I did not think I would meet him in my visit to the mage tower. Emrys, the royal sorcerer of the empire, a wizard that is said to have complete mastery of the elements and is even said to be able to cast arcane magic." Adrian thought as he remembered all the details about the old man in front of him.

"Of course, I can tell you that but I doubt you would like to hear the rattling of an old man about his past glory. Rather, do you not want to know why I dragged you all the way to the top of the mage tower?" Emrys stated.

"You are probably going to ask something of me that will be a major pain the head. I am already busy enough as it is so do not add something on my plate. The normal reaction would be to immediately kill me because demons are well verse in space magic so escaping is rather easy. The fact that I am still alive means you want to ask something of me because you might get find out by the empire or something if you make a move yourself." Adrian stated which made Emrys dumbfounded.

"Well, you are no fun. I wanted to be mysterious for once or something." Emrys replied and the old man became sulky.

"So what is it that you want Royal Sorcerer Emrys?" Adrian asked as he knows this might ultimately lead to a quest.

"I am not asking you as the royal sorcerer but I am asking you this as the half demon Emrys. Can you accept our kind and shelter us?" Emrys stated with a firm determination that even Adrian felt the old man's dignity.

"We ourselves are having a difficult time protecting ourselves because the whole world is basically hunting us. How can we help you half demons if we cannot help ourselves?" Adrian replied as he knows that half demons would not be able to survive in the Paradox Planes.

"Are you not curious why the demons are being persecuted by every church even the church of life?" Emrys stated which made Adrian immediately interested.

Even the elders of the Daemos only told him that the churches suddenly started persecuting the demons. They could only speculate the reason why such things happen but could not investigate any further. Glamour cannot always keep you in hiding just like what happened to Adrian as Emrys easily saw through his illusion.

"Apparently, some kind of shapeshifters managed to infiltrate the royal families of each kingdom and even high positions in the church. I managed to find one by accident when I made my rounds of the royals of the empire." Emrys stated then something clicked in Adrian's mind.

"When the one you found shed their disguise, what do they look like?" Adrian immediately asked.

"If you want more information from me then you would have to agree to my demands. Do we have a deal?" Emrys stated but Adrian could not easily agree to the demand.

"I would need to consult with my elders before agreeing to any of your demands. I am not someone who could shoulder the responsibility of an entire race just like that." Adrian stated as he knew that making this decision is not easy.

"I will await your decision then. We are not in a hurry but a faster decision would be much appreciated." Emrys stated.

Adrian then activated his Teleportation skill in order to go towards a fracture. He stepped inside a fracture but he suddenly remembered something important that flew by his head. He actually forgot the one of the reasons he actually went to the mage tower is to get spell books.

"Ahh! I did not even get a chance to buy one spell book!" Adrian suddenly shouted as he entered the spatial fracture.

Chapter 200 - The Truth Of Seclusion

Adrian returned to the Paradox Planes and immediately went to Ascalor's abode. He realized this but it seems that Ascalor is something like the elder that manages everything while the other two have different responsibilities. Bronx is responsible for training the Daemos while Koronn is responsible for intelligence or researches.

Adrian went to Ascalor and found him once again giving orders to some other people. He waited for the elder to finish what he is doing before he bothers the latter. When Ascalor is no longer talking to someone, Adrian would then ask his question as for him the task is not that important in his opinion.

It is not that Adrian is cold hearted but he is logical. You have to consider what the economic standing of your community is before accepting others. Kindness might be great and all but kindness will not feed everyone especially if the others are in a difficult situations themselves.

"Is there something new that you want to ask brat?" Ascalor asked.

"Do you know about half demons, old man?" Adrian rebutted.

Ascalor then squinted his eyes and looked at Adrian when he heard what came out of the boy's mouth. Adrian saw Ascalor's reaction and is sure that the elder knows something. Adrian waited for the elder to talk as the old man looked like he wanted say something.

"Did you encounter one of them?" Ascalor asked.

"Yeah. I encountered one and it asked me to help them relocate or something. The one thing I am not sure about is the one I encountered became the royal wizard of the empire." Adrian stated.

"Do you know why we became a secluded race?" Ascalor suddenly asked which made Adrian ponder.

"I thought we are in seclusion because the whole world is after our kind. You did tell me one time that our cores can be harvested in order to power up teleportation devices." Adrian replied with what he is currently told.

"Even if the whole world knows of our kind, we can easily scare them off because of our unique nature of our race. The asmodian races chose to live in seclusion not because we are scared but because of what happened when we mingled with others after the war with the dark gods." Ascalor stated and Adrian listened attentively as more lore is being told to him.

Ascalor stated that before there was a council made by the five descendant asmodian races. At that time, any race became free to mingle with each other but that also came in with complications. Some races liked to live with others while others have different habits.

The most apparent problem came when hybrids appear. They were of two different worlds and yet they belonged to none. They were not trouble makers but they cannot maximize the strength of one race because they are basically the average of both races that they belong to.

The division became apparent because none chose to understand each other despite interacting with each other. This is not avoidable as every person is unique despite belonging to a certain group. In the long run, fights started to ensue and the council could barely keep everything together.

In the end the council decided to disband but the main problem is where the hybrids will stay. The hybrids decided to form groups dependent on their lineages. The half humans decided to stay together and others did the same. Then the hunting began hundreds of years later when the first few generations of hybrids died.

The five asmodian races who were living in peace started becoming hunted by their descendants due to someone insinuating them. This forced the others to flee because for the hybrids outnumbered the five asmodian races. The Daemos sent the Selvaggians and the Faekin to other worlds that are suitable for them.

The Jotunn stayed in areas with extreme temperatures that are of their mental affinity. The Erebian managed to blend in with the society of humans because they do not look different from them. The Daemos decided to stay in a paradox point in order to stay elusive which made them the most elusive of all the asmodian races.

The Daemos can never forget what happened because the one behind the hunt for the asmodian races is actually a human daemos hybrid. This hybrid is later known as the first hero of the human race Kaiser. He utilized both elemental and arcane magic thanks to his daemos genetics.

The five asmodian races did not know why there came sudden hostility as each group agreed with a non-aggression treaty. Most of all, why were the five asmodian races the only groups targeted. Even Adrian became suspicious and started to think that it is indeed the faceless ones responsible or maybe even worse.

"So now you know why I will not agree to help those half demons despite having our blood. It is not because we, The Daemos, are the good ones but we must prioritize the safety our kind first. If we all perish then no one will watch over the universe." Ascalor stated with a strict tone.

"What if we start the council once more?" Adrian asked and then Ascalor froze because of the suggestion.

"It seems that whoever is behind the divide is moving once again and this time they are targeting the half demons. What if we are the ones to start a haven for the five races in the main world once again?" Adrian suggested.

"Just because we failed the first time does not mean that we will fail a second time. This time though what if we make five separate communities and one large integrated community in the middle. Koronn always told me that "Time heals all wounds". Plus, we have a larger threat we need to deal with now." Adrian stated as he noticed that the movements of the dark gods suddenly increased.

"I will run your suggestion by the elders. You do have a voice as you are the Champion of the Twin Gods but the safety of the Daemos must come first." Ascalor stated as he thought deeply of Adrian's suggestion but the latter is still staring at him.

"Is there anything else brat?" Ascalor asked with his playful tone once more.

"Can you send me to Alfheim?" Adrian immediately asked as he only has eighty days remaining on the mission to save the world tree.

"Why do you want to go there?" Ascalor asked while looking at Adrian with squinting eyes.

"I need to save the world tree on the main world. The world tree located in Neo Alfheim. Koronn and I speculated that a dark god might have poisoned the tree." Adrian stated in a serious tone.

"If you are going there then you can bring something for me to a person named Danaya." Ascalor stated as he started to scribble something in a piece of paper and put the letter in a bejeweled box.

"What is this? Is this for your lover or something?" Adrian asked jokingly but Ascalor actually blushed a little which shocked Adrian.

"Give this to her when you go there. She is an Elder Dryad and she might even help you with your problem." Ascalor stated as he gave Adrian the box.

"Wait! I still need to visit Pann. That old man said to visit him when I get peculiar or strange creatures." Adrian stated.

"Seriously! That demigod surely has strange tastes." Ascalor mumbled which Adrian did not hear clearly.

"What did you just say old man?" Adrian asked.

"Nothing just the mumblings of an old man. Come to me when you are ready to go to Alfheim." Ascalor stated as he shooed Adrian away.

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"Old man Pann! Are you here?!" Adrian shouted.

"I am not deaf! You do not need to shout brat!" Pann shouted back towards Adrian.

"I am here because I found an interesting creature. It is an undead though." Adrian stated.

"Well, put it out already then. I want to see." Pann stated in an excited tone.

Adrian then took out the Purified Spirit Stone and activated it. The purified spirit stone became light particles and is absorbed into Adrian's body. A system notification then appeared before him.

[Do you wish to name the Life Eater?]

"The name will be Charon." Adrian stated.

[You have named the Life Eater as Charon. Your souls shall be bound together.]

"Greater Summon: Charon" Adrian chanted and a magic circle with a skull insignia appeared.

Adrian also summoned his three other soulbounds so that they can meet their new companion. Charon still had the same look but its aura no longer reeked of the polluted undeath aura. The little Life Eater that is only about two feet in height looked at the others curiously like a child meeting new people.

"Interesting! Very Interesting!" Pann stated as it grabbed Charon and started pinching here and there.

Pann even tried stretching its hooded cloak. He even pulled down Charon's hood to reveal a floating skull with nothing connected to it. The inside of its body is all darkness but the Life Eater did not enjoy the sensation of being examined so it scurried its way to Adrian as instinct.