

O Summoner 201

Chapter 201 - Back In Alfheim

Charon could not handle Pann's curiosity so it took shelter behind Adrian's legs. It is definitely a normal undead as it actually felt fear and is even shaking from it. Pann no longer needed to inspect the undead but he looked like he was thinking something.

"What are the skills of that little fella?" Pann stated.

"Surprisingly, there are only two that it currently possesses." Adrian reply.

"Do you know how Life Eaters are made?" Pann asked.

"Not really. Even the Undead King said he did not know how undead like Charon spawn." Adrian answered.

"Life Eaters are what you call natural undead." Pann stated.

"Natural Undead?" Adrian said in a questioning tone.

"What do you think would happen if an unknown force is added to reality?" Pann asked Adrian.

"Then reality would find a way to fix or reject that unknown force if harmony is not achieved." Adrian replied.

"Very Good. It seems those old rascals are teaching you things that you need to know at the very least. Since undeath energy became a plague to the universe, the universe itself coped up by harnessing undeath energy so that equilibrium will be attained. The result would be undead that the universe itself created." Pann stated.

"The undead is created by the universe itself not by the Goddess of Life, Gaea?" Adrian inquired.

"The twin gods made the universe like a machine that could function even without their supervision because if they made it reliant on them then they themselves will be the pillars. The twin gods would sacrifice their wills in order to become the machine itself." Pann stated.

"I see that would sense then the universe has something like a mind then." Adrian asked.

"Even I do not know because the twin gods basically just reshaped the remaining chaos energy to make the universe. As we know, chaos energy is volatile and prone to change which is why it split into creation energy and destruction energy which are the past titles of the twin gods." Pann stated which made Adrian speechless because he thought he knew everything about the twin gods.

"Old man Pann, what are you really? Even the elders do not really want to associate with you." Adrian asked as he became extremely curious of Pann's origins.

"I am just an old man that cares for the animals in my farm. I would chase your elders with a broom if they happen to mess with my farm. Anyways, show me the skills of your Life Eater because even I do not know what the specifics are of what they do." Pann stated in a nonchalant tone.

Adrian did not bother Pann anymore as the latter did not want to answer the question. If Pann wanted to tell him then the old man would have already told him without hesitation because that is

his character. There are currently two skills that Charon possess which are Soul Siphon and Unbothered.

Skill: Soul Siphon

Tier: Rare

Type: Absorption and Barrier

Effect: Absorb 20% health of the surrounding enemies in a given radius. The absorbed health will then become a barrier that can be bestowed to others. The barrier generated will have neutral attribute and true damage will deal twice the damage on the barrier.

Radius: 20 meters

Duration: Same as cooldown

Mana Cost: 20,000

Cooldown: 5minutes + Variable Time Value (Cooldown is increased dependent of the health absorbed. Every 50,000 health = 1 minute of Variable Time Value)

Cast Time: 1 second

Skill: Unbothered

Tier: Epic

Type: Passive

Effect: Anyone who bears this skill can only be damaged by super effective type of skills and attacks. Attacks that are not super effective will deal no damage and just pass through the skill bearer.

Mana Cost: None

Cooldown: None

Cast Time: None

Charon, the Life Eater, is basically a god tier undead summon due to just one of his passive skill which is the Unbothered passive skill. The only downside is that Charon has miniscule amount of health. In just one hit of holy attribute magic, Charon would turn to ashes instantly.

"Why not try out the skill here then?" Pann suggested.

"Are you sure?" Adrian asked as he looked around and saw all of Pann's creatures lazing about.

"My babies are tougher than they look." Pann stated with firm belief.

"Okay then." Adrian replied.

"Maybe target just two of them." Pann immediately interjected.

Adrian then commanded Charon to use his Soul Siphon skill. Charon then brought out a lamp from who know where. The lamp looked like lamp used in a medieval lamppost and the flame inside is actually a blue flame instead of a yellow one.

Charon floated towards the two capricorns and activated Soul Siphon. Something like a blue sphere of light is generated by the lamp that Charon is holding. The blue sphere grew until its radius became 20 meters and then it retracted suddenly when it reached its maximum size.

Adrian checked Charon status and its health bar has another health bar placed on top of it. Another set of values is beside the exact health value near Charon's original health.

Name: Charon

Race: Life Eater

Level: 50

HP: 100/100(+ 80,000)

MP: 80,000 / 100,000

Adrian the commanded Charon to use 10,000 barrier health on him so that he could see the effects of being enveloped in a barrier. Charon went close to Adrian and the lamp the former is holding emitted a blue light that is then transferred to Adrian.

Adrian checked his status and beside his numerical health value is another set of number values. Another health bar also overlapped his health bar. Adrian asked Pann to attack him so that he could test the barrier's efficiency. Pann just did a slight tap with his finger and the barrier instantly popped which shocked Adrian.

"It seems that the barrier has no defenses like other barrier type skills. I just made a slight tap and it already blew up like a balloon. Still it is useful as you are not affected by the force even if the barrier is dispelled." Pann surmised.

"Anyways, any suggestions on how I can evolve this little fella?" Adrian asked as there is no evolution paths available for Charon which means he had to find things that can aid it in evolution like what he did with Kanlaon.

"Even I do not have an idea. But since you did keep your promise of showing me interesting creatures, here is the batch of food you wanted. If you want suggestion on how to power up an undead then you better ask another undead. Now scram squirt, I am very busy." Pann stated as he chased Adrian away from his farm.

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"You are finally back brat! You sure did take your time. I almost wanted to drag you here because you were sure taking your time." Ascalor stated.

"Old man Pann became too excited in examining my new companion which is why it took so long." Adrian replied.

"Anyways, are you ready now?" Ascalor asked.

"Yup! So where is the door I need to enter?" Adrian asked but Ascalor just smiled mischievously.

A portal then manifested below Adrian and he fell down. Adrian did not even manage to shout something in protest this time as it took him by surprise. He did not even feel the flow of spatial energy in the surroundings. It seems even Ascalor is improving his antics.

"Good luck brat! You will need it." Ascalor stated as he threw a teleportation scroll towards the door below hoping it would hit Adrian by the head.

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A door then manifested above the skies of Alfheim and a figure could be seen exiting from it. Adrian finally saw Alfheim from above and could not help but be amazed by its mystifying beauty. The immersion is broken by a scroll hitting his head but he still manage to catch it after it hit his head.

"The air in Alfheim is really different compared to that of the main world. The closest would be the air quality in Neo Alfheim but the purity in the air here is vastly superior." Adrian stated as he unfurled his wings and safely flew down.

"That crazy old man! He actually materialized the dimension door at the upper layer of the atmosphere." Adrian grumbled as he landed on the ground.

Adrian looked around but this location is not familiar to his eyes so he decided to use Teleportation. He used the coordinates on where he was first transported to Alfheim. He disappeared from his location after a few seconds of chanting.

If Adrian is actually paying close attention to his surroundings then he might not have to use Teleportation. He actually flew down at the outskirts of one of the fae towns. He just did not see it clearly because the town is shrouded in a mist that inhibits others from recognizing it from afar.

Adrian just needed to walk a little bit and he would have been at one of the towns but fate is never anyone's mistress.

Chapter 202 - Whimsical Forest

Adrian reappeared at the plains where he first met the spirit kings and where Vayu and Soleil's ascension or evolution took place. He could see from there the distant forest that Lauma had warned him not to casually enter because that is part of the territory of the faekin.

Adrian made up his mind and strode forth towards the distant forest. Along the way, he could see tall reeds of grass that sway with wind as if dancing with it. The three suns were high in the sky yet the temperature did not increase but instead a cool breeze always touches Adrian's face.

Unlike other places rich in plant life, Alfheim is a bit different as there are more flowers than grass. You can even mistake some flowers because they look like grass. Along the way, Adrian could even hear faint singing and chimes of a bell but he could not pinpoint the location.

He could not pinpoint the location of the sounds that he is hearing because he can hear it all around him. The sound feels distant yet near and near yet distant. It felt like he is hearing it in his mind not with his ears. He enjoyed listening because it felt like nature itself is singing a song just for him.

[You have arrived at Whimsical Forest.]

He finally arrived at the distant forest that he could see from afar but it was not trees that greeted him. The forest from afar looked like it had trees on it but it is actually large mushrooms. Mushrooms of different colors that are as tall as trees could be seen everywhere.

The biggest of the mushrooms is about ten meters tall. It has a color scheme of a brown top with some patches of red and a green stem that had rings of yellow on it. The next in height are

mushrooms that are purple but has red spikes at the end of the top hat. The stem is white with dark rings on it.

All kinds of mushrooms filled this forest that made it look something from a children's fairy tale. The atmosphere of the place is completed by the occasional flickering lights that felt like glittering stars fell from the sky.

"Fairies are said to be like children because they like to pull pranks on other people for their own amusement. But I should not forget that not all tales about fairies are nice and sweet." Adrian muttered to himself.

In olden folklore, fae people are told to be beautiful and ugly at the same time. They might protect nature and such but there could use extreme methods in order to protect nature. They sometimes also abduct children and exchange them with something more sinister.

In the end, the image of the fae people are dependent on where the stories are created and who created them. Adrian wished that he did not encounter the evil half of those stories. He continued to travel inside the Whimsical Forest but he found it strange that he encountered no foes.

The beautiful scenery also made him lose his guard a little so he is partly to blame for not being observant. Adrian immediately summoned his soulbounds because he found it strange that he did not encounter monsters. He asked Sirius if he could sense monsters nearby but the latter shook its head.

Saena though perched at Adrian's shoulders as she stood upright like a queen looking down on his subjects. Kanlaon just circled above the group and is ready to spew its breath attack towards anyone who would dare attack them.

Charon though is like a child and poked some of the mushrooms here and there. Adrian did not stop it because he found it cute as the Life Eater is acting like a curious child. Adrian let his soulbounds do what they want whenever they are out because they might feel cramped in the Soul Chamber.

Charon saw something different from the surroundings because his sight is different from the others. Charon has a special sight to only see the souls of others even if they hide it from sight. Charon lifted its lamp and activated his Soul Siphon skill.

A large blue sphere of light enveloped the area they were in and Charon absorbed all the souls of the hidden enemies. Adrian became alarmed when he saw Charon use its skill without its command. He thought that Charon just used it accidentally but the latter could be seen with a large pool of health for barriers.

Adrian then immediately tensed up and sensed that something is wrong with the surroundings. He unfurled his wings and flapped it so that the shining particles in the air is not in his general area. He also asked Saena to do the same.

The area they were in became cleared of shiny particles and he could finally see what the inside of the forest really is. The mushrooms are actually hideous monsters that grab their prey suddenly and Charon is actually just ignoring their attacks because of the Unbothered skill.

The beautiful scenery that Adrian saw is actually just all an illusion. The beautiful mushrooms are actually monstrosities that eat the flesh of others. This must be the reason why he did not encounter any other creatures in this forest despite being inside it for so long.

Monster: Man-Eating Terroshrooms

Level: 145

HP: 4,000,000 / 5,000,000

MP: 1 / 1

Description: A dangerous living mushroom said to eat anything and everything around it as long as the prey gets close to it. It poses as a giant mushroom in order to seem harmless. When an unsuspecting victim comes close to it, it will transform into its monster form and swallow the prey whole. They like to live in areas where Whimsy Spore are abundant.

"Whimsy spore? Is that the glittering powder like thing that is inside this forest?" Adrian thought as he opened his system interface and saw something horrific.

[You have been affected by Whimsy Spore. Do not trust what you see.]

[You have neutralized the effect of the Whimsy Spore.]

[You have been affected by Whimsy Spore. Do not trust what you see.]

[You have neutralized the effect of the Whimsy Spore.]

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Adrian is shocked because the spore is actually affecting him every second that he is inside the forest. The odd thing about it is that Adrian did not even see the system notification pop up. This forest is basically a death trap for anyone who goes inside of it.

"This spore is very dangerous. I need to get out of here as soon as possible." Adrian stated as he climbed up of Kanlaon.

Adrian instructed Sirius to bring Charon and Saena in his shadow. Sirius then hid in Adrian's shadow as he tapped Kanlaon's side to blitz through the forest as fast as he can. He also instructed his dragon to evade every mushroom in the vicinity because he is not sure if it is just a mushroom or is actually another monster.

Seeing the prey escaping the area they were in, the monster mushrooms decided to forego their disguise and attack actively. Thankfully, they were rooted in place so they did not chase Adrian. The downside is that the obstacles for flying because arms made of mushrooms stems would suddenly stretch to block their way.

"Use your breath attack!" Adrian commanded hurriedly as it is more dangerous to stay in the forest.

Kanlaon spewed its breath attack but the fire element in his breath did not burn anything. The frost element in his breath is the one dealing damage to the stretched out arms of the monster mushroom. Adrian wondered what is happening because this is unusual for an element like fire be unusable inside a forest. Fire should be a very effective use in a forest so Adrian checked the system notifications.

[The Whimsy Spore is inhibiting the fire element of Kanlaon's attack.]

[No Fire elemental damage will be dealt as long as the Whimsy Spore is active in the air.]

"What the heck!?! What is this monstrous spore?! Where does it even come from? There are only mushrooms in this area." Adrian shouted to the wind because of the situation.

While Adrian is grumbling to the air, he could suddenly see light coming from afar. He became excited as he could finally see the exit of this ghastly forest. He even commanded Kanlaon to speed up faster so that they could reach the exit faster.

Kanlaon is speeding through the Whimsical Forest when suddenly a wooden arm that had mushrooms growing on it that is different from the previous monster mushroom arms extended from below Kanlaon. The wooden arm hit Kanlaon's chin so hard that the dragon became unconscious and Adrian is thrown off.

Due to Kanlaon losing consciousness, the dragon started crashing to the ground along with Adrian. Even Adrian is not prepared by the sudden attack as Kanlaon's head hit him because he is sitting near Kanlaon's head. Adrian's vision became blurry as he got thrown off outside the forest and he could see Kanlaon becoming particles of light.

Chapter 203 - Out Of The Forest

Adrian's blurry vision could only see Kanlaon's body becoming particles of light. He started standing and wanted to know what happened so he looked at the system notifications in order to make sense why Kanlaon suddenly died.

[A fatal blow has been delivered to your soulbound Kanlaon.]

Adrian stood up with a ringing headache because even he became damaged and half his health is gone just like that. A figure suddenly started emerging from the Whimsical Forest. The silhouette of a large entity started walking towards Adrian but the entity stopped at the edges of the forest.

His vision is still a bit blurry but he could make out the look of the entity. It looked like an old man that is hunchbacked. It is about 2 meters tall despite being hunchbacked. The skin of the hunchbacked old man resembles that of rotten tree bark.

The hunchbacked old man also appears to be wearing some sort of large hat. But when Adrian's vision cleared a little, the hat is actually a large head of a mushroom. The hunch backed old man's body is also covered in mushrooms here and there. His back especially as it is filled to the brim with mushrooms.

His face resembled that of an old man that is in his 80s while the wrinkles on his face looks like tree carvings. The eyebrows of the hunchbacked old man looked like decayed grass while his beard is made up of leaves that show no signs of life.

The hunchbacked old man just stared at Adrian and did not even take a step forward. It seems that he could not physically step out of the forest so Adrian breathe a sigh of relief for the time being. The old man still looked at Adrian and his vision not even shifting.

The hunchbacked old man just stared at Adrian without even blinking. Adrian though just stared back because he thought something might happen if he avoided the old man's gaze. The inactivity of the old man suddenly stopped when it raised its arm up and made it stretch towards Adrian.

Adrian thought he is seeing things but it seems that the hunchbacked old man is not wearing a costume. The hunchbacked old man himself is made out of a dead tree with mushrooms growing on him. That same old man is stretching its arms towards Adrian so the only thing that the latter could do is limp away.

Adrian could only limp away because his body has yet to stabilize from the fall. Also, the stretching arm of the old man is coming at him faster than he could limp away. The barmy hand of the old man is about to reach Adrian when something cut the arm.

Adrian turned around to see what is happening behind him and he is shocked because someone is actually there. Adrian did not even notice that someone is actually behind him and he is very perceptive of that. This only means that the person that suddenly appeared is higher leveled than Adrian by leagues.

The person who appeared behind Adrian is actually a woman donning armor made of bright green leaves. The armor did not look sturdy and Adrian even questioned if that could even protect her. The woman also wielded two tonfas that looked like it is made using sturdy trees.

The woman is extremely beautiful and she had her golden hair tied in a horsetail hairstyle. Adrian could not clearly see her face and could only see her back because she is facing the hunchbacked old man.

"I thought we made our agreement clear Toadstool. You are not to leave the premises of your forest. That is the agreement." The woman reprimanded the hunchbacked old man.

"I am just punishing a trespasser, Emera. You of all people should know that is acceptable." Toadstool replied sounding apathetic.

"Nevertheless, you have broken the rules and tried to encroach upon our territory. Do you want to battle it out? I am always ready for a battle." Emera replied while she tightened her grip on her tonfas.

"You can clearly see that the boy is a demon. I am sure he will bring destruction to us." Toadstool scoffed.

"He could have just mistakenly transport himself here and is allured by your deadly forest." Emera scoffed back.

"My forest is lovely. It is the most beautiful thing to have been grown here in Alfheim and you know it." Toadstool replied with a happy expression whenever he thinks about his forest.

"Deranged old man. If a bloodthirsty forest is beautiful then you are crazy. Anyways, leave the boy alone now. I will not ask kindly next time old man. He is within our borders so our rules apply to him now and not yours." Emera said in a commanding tone.

"You are lucky I am a stickler for the rules or else." Toadstool scoffed one last time and he turned his back. He completely disappeared from view as if he blended back inside his forest.

"And you? Mind telling how you came to our world?" Emera asked the still shaken Adrian.

Adrian finally saw the woman's face and could only call it beautiful. She looked like her face is sculpted by an artisan. She had green eyes and light green eyebrows. Her nose is perfect for her face that is small and somewhat thin.

She looked like an elf that is a hundred times more beautiful and elves are already beautiful. Emera had a different air around her though as Adrian could feel a calming aura from her. Adrian told her why he is here in Alfheim.

Adrian told her that he needed to cure the world tree that is located at the home of the elves but she reacted differently when she heard the name Danaya. Emera suddenly turned hostile when she heard that name uttered. Emera pointed her tonfas at Adrian while the latter became dumbfounded.

"That freaking old man! I knew that the name of his acquaintance is no simple thing," Adrian thought.

"Speak! Why do you know the name of the elder dryads?! How I treat you would be dependent on your answer." Emera asked in a serious tone.

"One of our elders is an acquaintance of your elder. I was tasked to bring here this." Adrian stated as he brought out a bejeweled box which made Emera blush.

"Why is she blushing?" Adrian thought.

What Adrian did not know is that this bejeweled box is special. For dryads or leshies, a gift that had the fruits of the earth is very special. It could be said to be a token of love or appreciation so it is not wonder why Emera suddenly blushed.

Emera coughed and immediately told Adrian to open the box but he could not. Emera thought that he is not opening it because he is tasked not to. She eventually tried to pry open the box and she could not budge the lid. It is like the lid is glued shut so that no one can get what is inside.

"Why is it not opening?!" Emera shouted as her face is becoming red from using excessive force.

"It has a seal in it and it could only be opened using high tier magic." Adrian replied as he remembered what Ascalor told him.

Emera still did not believe him but the aura that is radiating from the boy is making her trust him. She still held suspicion so she directed Adrian to the guard quarters. Adrian followed her so that he could easily accomplish what he is tasked with.

"I was not even given a mission by Ascalor and his task already mentally tires me out. I almost got killed by a crazy old man and now I am going to be held hostage." Adrian grumbled as he followed Emera to the guard post.

Along the way, Adrian encountered other faekin at the outskirts of the village. Faekin from old to young and each had different colors. Some wore glittery outfits while others wore clothes made of leaves. Adrian guessed that fairies wore the glittery outfits while dryads and leshies wear clothes made of leaves or bark.

The one thing that surprised Adrian is that young fairies do not have wings yet or those that look like teens have petite wings that cannot carry them. The fairies have a different type of beauty

compared to the dryads or leshies. The fairies are more in the category of cute and beautiful while the dryads or leshies are in the extremely beautiful category.

The houses of the faekin are also different from the way the elves designed their houses. If one were to describe the houses then it would be organic. The faekin houses looked like it is grown from the ground because they looked like oversized fruits or plants.

The most notable thing that Adrian could view is a giant tree from the horizon. The distance from the village looked so far but that could only mean that the tree is enormous. The tree looked like a version of the world tree that is a hundred times bigger. Adrian had to admit that it is a grand sight that would become a seven wonder of the world if it is real.

The two finally arrived at the guard post in the quaint village. There are a decent number of guards despite the village being little. It seems that is the case because of that deranged old man that is in the Whimsical Forest.

"So what is the deal with that old man?" Adrian asked before Emera left to convey his message to her elder.

"Do not mind him. He is just too engrossed in his own world." Emera replied.

"Okay then. Please tell Elder Danaya that Elder Ascalor from the Daemos race wants to give her something." Adrian replied and Emera nodded before setting off to go to her elder.

Chapter 204 - Danaya

Adrian just waited patiently for Emera to return. He is looking at all the new skills that his two soulbounds gained when they reached level 100. He also took a closer look at this Trial of the Dragon King that Kanlaon suddenly accidentally participated in.

Skill: Summon Pack

Tier: Epic

Type: Summoning

Effect: Able to summon two additional pack members that will aid the user in battle. The stats of the two pack members must not be higher than the Alpha (Sirius). The level of the two additional pack members will always be one level below the alpha.

Mana Cost: None

Cooldown: 1 hour (Cooldown will only start if the summoned units are no longer in battle.)

Cast Time: 3 seconds

Restriction: Wolf or any monster with Canis strain

Skill: Enhanced Intelligence

Tier: Epic

Type: Passive

Effect: Any creature that has this skill will be able to use spells and abilities belonging to the respective element of the skill bearer. Can only learn one spell or ability and the passive skill will go on cooldown.

Mana Cost: None

Cooldown: 1 day

Cast Time: None

Sirius' new skill is interesting because it lets Adrian contract new monsters to fill Sirius' pack. The two new monsters are also not part of his soulbounds but acts more like they are in a master and servant relationship with Sirius. The limitation is that they should be of the same family as Sirius but there are like hundreds of dog family monsters and Adrian just need to find good ones.

Saena's new passive skill is akin to Kanlaon. She can now use spells that can deal damage as long as Adrian could find suitable spell books for her. She can now use spells that rely on the wind element and light element because of her unique blood trait.

"Why did I have to forget to but skill books? Seriously! That freaking half demon old man is to blame!" Adrian grumbled while the other guards are looking at him like looking at someone who have gone insane.

"Now let us look at this Trial of the Dragon King or whatever." Adrian thought as he looked at the quest notification log.

QUEST NOTIFICATION

TRIAL OF THE DRAGON KING

Kanlaon has reached the minimum qualification in order to partake in the trials held during the Festival of the Dragon King. Find the ancestral dragon homeland in order for Kanlaon to join the trial.

Reward: Unknown

Time Limit: Unknown

Failure: Kanlaon will not be able to participate in the next festival. Kanlaon could only join after proving himself once more by reaching level 200.

"Hmm... I do not know if this is troublesome or bothersome. If Kanlaon joins maybe he gets a title like dragon king or something but I am already busy enough as it is. I guess I will just proceed with it after helping the undead king." Adrian thought to himself as he is unaware that the ground is suddenly shaking a bit.

"Wait! Elder! Please calm yourself!" Emera's voice suddenly sounded. It seems her shout is loud enough that Adrian managed to hear it despite being inside the guard house.

A loud boom is suddenly heard and the whole room that Adrian is in shook. He wondered what is happening so he asked one of the guards but even they were scrambling. The sound of something being broken could be heard coming near towards Adrian. The shaking even started becoming more powerful as time passed by.

"I think it is coming towards my location?" Adrian thought to himself and suddenly the wall in front of him came flying towards him.

The wall facing Adrian suddenly burst inward which sent rubbles towards him and even doing damage to him. Adrian waved off the rubble that is sent flying to his body and stood up. He once again dusted his clothes because soil and dirt are also sent flying to his location.

Adrian then looked at his 'assailant' because he wanted to know the brute that could cause such havoc. He thought he would see a muscled being or something but instead a beautiful woman with platinum hair is before him. She looks like any other dryad but she had different clothes on and her hair is freely flowing with the wind.

She had a flower crown on that made her beauty like that of a goddess of spring. Her clothes are like that of what Greek goddesses wore but has more length on the arms and legs. Her dress looked like it is made of silk. Like her hair, the long parts of her dress flows freely with the air like she commands the air itself.

"Did you bring me something that Ascy wanted to give to me?" The beautiful woman suddenly asked Adrian which made him snap from his daze.

"Ascy? Who the hell is that?" Adrian thought to himself.

"Elder Danaya! Wait for me! It is not safe for you to just speed up." Emera stated while panting as she became out of breath. But what Emera is actually thinking is: "You are a walking hazard elder. You might harm others if you are not assisted."

"This is Elder Danaya? Damn, old man Ascalor is still in the game. If you think about it, this beautiful lady must already be an old hag." Adrian thought but Danaya suddenly bonked his head.

"Ouch! Why did you hit me?" Adrian suddenly exclaimed because he got hit out of the blue.

"I suddenly got the feeling that you are looking down on me." Danaya replied with a smile that is not a smile.

"You hit me because you got a feeling. Seriously, you and that old man are very much alike. No wonder he liked you." Adrian grumbled as he soothe his head.

"Oh! I am starting to like you boy." Danaya stated as her head entered the clouds due to the supposed praise.

"Does this game not have any characters that are normal? They do say that only special types of people could become powerful. I guess this game proves that is true." Adrian thought.

"Anyways, where is it?" Danaya asked Adrian.

"Where is what?" Adrian replied.

"The thing that he wanted to give me dummy." Danaya answered.

"Oh! I have it but the old man said that I should give it to somewhere more secluded." Adrian stated.

"Why did you not say earlier?" Danaya stated.

Danaya made a bright smile but Adrian shivered upon seeing that smile. Emera had a hunch on what is going to happen so she acted fast but it is not fast enough. Danaya swept Adrian up in a princess carry position. A giant flower with rows of sharp thorny teeth suddenly grew from the floor and swallowed Danaya and Adrian.

"Not this again." Adrian thought to himself as he could only see darkness because he is swallowed by the plant.

"Elder Danaya bring me a..." Emera said but is unable to finish the words she is about to say nor was she heard as the two individuals disappeared from her view. She had no choice but to find where their supposed location is.

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The man-eating plant sprouted in a room that is more suitable to be called a garden rather than an actual room. The man-eating plant spit out the two individuals it carried and the scent of flowers immediately assailed Adrian's sense of smell. He had to admit that this place smells divine and smells just like nature.

"Give it to me now brat." Danaya stated in an excited tone.

"The name is Equinox. I would give it to you as long as you help me with what I need." Adrian replied.

"Fine. You need help repairing a world tree do you not? I can easily solve that problem of yours so give me the box." Danaya urged in a rather commanding tone.

"Can we at least take a seat?" Adrian stated but all he saw are flowers.

Danaya then made some hand twirls and flowers that are enormous started sprouting from the ground. Two smaller flowers are used as chairs while a bigger flower is used as a table. Even Adrian got to admit that it is pretty neat. After the chairs and table are now present, Adrian gave Danaya the bejeweled box that Ascalor gave him.

As if recognizing the recipient, the bejeweled box immediately opened with a click as Danaya held it. Inside the bejeweled box is a seed that is shaped like a star and a note. Danaya immediately read the note and if Adrian bothered to pay attention to her face then he might have seen the immediate changes in her expressions.

She rolled the note once more and kept it in the box. She examined the seed and a smile so beautiful can be seen from her face. Giving a seed to a dryad is basically the most genuine gift someone can give and the rarer the seed then the more valuable it is. After verifying the items in the case, she immediately asked Adrian about his problem as stated in the second to the last line in Ascalor's note.

"What do you say is the problem with the world tree in the land of the elves?" Danaya asked.

"I was hoping you could tell me that because all I know that it is poisoned." Adrian replied.

"Did you just say poisoned!? Do you happen to have a sample?" Danaya exclaimed.

"I do. I have it right here." Adrian replied as he pulled out the vial from his inventory.

Danaya immediately swiped the vial once Adrian got it out. She also examined it like how Koronn examined the poison.

"How did you get this?" Danaya asked and Adrian immediately told her how he came upon the poison.

"It seems that dryad there is very lucky that you were in the vicinity. The poison used at the world tree is a special type that will show no traces after a day or two. The world tree in the main world is not the only thing targeted as other trees are secretly poured with this poison." Danaya stated which shocked Adrian.

"You can now leave, young demon. I will call for you if I find a cure for this poison. I thought the problem with that world tree you are talking about was minor but I am mistaken. I will contact you with this bulb if I find a cure. You cannot also stay here at Alfheim as some fae do not like visitors." Danaya stated as she gave Adrian a bulb that looked like a pink tulip.

Danaya wrote a note and told Adrian to give it to Ascalor. He is a bit perturbed because he became something like a carrier demon. Adrian said his goodbyes as he tore the scroll and disappeared in a burst of light. He did not manage to see the grave face that Danaya made when staring at the poison vial.

Chapter 205 - Halloween Special Part 1

Adrian reappeared at the Paradox Planes and is actually immediately teleported to Ascalor's abode. He thought that it is sketchy that the scroll that Ascalor gave him would immediately transport Adrian to Ascalor's house. The sketchiest thing is that Ascalor is looking at him right now with a wide smile. The old man is basically smiling like a fool.

"It seems you were expecting me, old man. Can you erase that creepy smile on your face?" Adrian stated with a smile.

"What do you mean creepy smile? You know that I always smile like this. So did she gave you anything?" Ascalor replied still having a smile that looks like he is over the moon.

"She actually gave me nothing." Adrian replied which made Ascalor's smile turn into a frown.

"I have it. You do not need to look that let down. Here!" Adrian stated as he handed the note. Ascalor immediately grabbed the note but also hit Adrian on the head.

[You have received 1 damage.]

"You should have given it to me immediately instead of making things harder on yourself.

"Why does it hurt a lot despite only dealing one damage?" Adrian thought as he pondered but he still could not solve the mystery. He just rubbed the spot where he is smacked in the head.

[Attention to all players! The Halloween patch will be added. All players are not required to log out but you might experience some NPCs unable to speak to you. The patch will be applied in one hour real world time or three hours in-game. Your game pods will automatically download the patch so do not worry.]

Adrian read the system message and decided to log out. He wanted to take a power nap and return feeling refreshed. He had a lot to process and wanted to clear out Ascalor's cheesy romance out of his head.

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Adrian got out of his game pod and had a light snack before taking his power nap. He laid in his bed and tried hard to fall asleep as he really wanted to rest. He even set his alarm for an hour and snooze every ten minutes. He felt a heavy sinking feeling assault him as he finally manage to fall asleep.

Some say that dreams are portals to another world so sometimes you have to be careful in them. Some say that your dreams of this world are actually a mirror reality. There is a reason why shamans of the past used herbs to make them see visions using dreams.

Adrian is tossing and turning in his sleep and he felt extremely heavy. Adrian woke up but he could only open his eyes. He could not move his body given that he could barely move his lower body on command. He could not even move his arms which is extremely weird even for him.

The strangest part is that his room is dark but he perfectly remembered that he left the light on. Also he only took a nap at 3:00 in the afternoon so there should still be light shining from his windows. He did not even close his curtains. But from turning his eyes to the side, he could see that no light is shining from his windows.

"Was I not woken up by my own alarm? I set it at max volume so that anyone in the house would be annoyed if I did not wake up from it. Mom would have come screaming by now and berate me on why bother having an alarm if you will not wake up from it." Adrian thought to himself but he still feel creeped out by what is happening.

Adrian suddenly felt something is odd because he could not move his body. Another weird thing that he wants to point out is that he could see shadows moving just past the corner of his eye. It is as if the moving shadows are eluding his sight and they do not want to be seen.

Adrian could feel the temperature of the room suddenly dropping. This is finally the time that Adrian has felt that things took a turn for the worse. He suddenly had cold sweat on his forehead and his back but the creepiest of all is that he feels that he is being watched.

He feels that someone is watching him from the foot of his bed. He is currently lying in a position where his face is facing the ceiling. Adrian tried his best to even just lift his head but his head is not cooperating with him.

There is this odd feeling in his gut that he is being watched and it is not like glances or anything but full blown staring. He also feels that the one staring him down is actually in the shadows. You know that feeling when you subconsciously stare at a dark area and feel like someone is watching you. That is what Adrian is currently feeling right now.

Except Adrian is actually being watched by a huge shadow figure, he could see it now because that shadow figure is at the foot of his bed. At first, the shadow figure is only about as high as his bed but little by little it started to stand. Adrian could actually see it becoming bigger and bigger until what looks like a head is about one inch from his ceiling.

Adrian really likes watching horror movies but experiencing it is actually more terrifying than he imagined. There is a reason why people say 'do not bite more than you can chew' and 'fact is stranger than fiction'. Adrian started panicking as he is being assaulted by terror. Not just plain terror but pure terror.

The huge shadow suddenly started coming towards Adrian which made him internally scream because even his voice would not come out. All that is coming out of his mouth is air and he could

not even shout for help. He felt powerless and fear started to creep up as the huge shadow man started coming closer and closer to him.

Due to his panic Adrian just recited the Apostles Creed, this became his fight or flight response because he could not do anything. The worst part is that he could not even speak the words so he just recited it in his mind and closed his eyes.

"I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary..." Adrian prayed with great intent like his life depended on it.

He opened his eyes but the shadow man disappeared and he breathe a sigh of relief but there is still the fear in the back of his mind. He also has yet to regain control of his body but this time he could now finally utter some words. Adrian could utter words but the problem is his throat is incredibly dry that he could barely utter a word.

He could still not move his arms so that he could anchor his weight and stand up. Adrian though breathe a sigh of relief and he thought it is just some weird delusion or his eyes playing tricks on him. He closed his eyes once more but he made a mistake by opening them up quickly.

Adrian is now staring at the shadow man and it is looking at him directly. Every part of Adrian's body tingled as fear once again assaulted him. The worst part finally came when something that is resembling that of a face started emerging from the dark shadowy face.

Adrian could clearly see the face emerging from the shadowy head. It was that of an old decrepit woman. She looked so gruesome and gnarly that one might vomit upon seeing her. She could only be describe by one word and that is 'hag'.

Adrian could not even blink as his eyes are wide open due to terror. Panic once again struck Adrian and his heart beat became erratic that it felt like it would break open from his chest. In major desperation, Adrian could only recite Apostle's creed but now in French.

"Je crois dans Dieu, le Tout-puissant du Père, Créateur de ciel et monde; et dans Jésus Le Christ, Son seul Fils, Notre Seigneur; qui a été conçu par le Saint-Esprit, né de la Vierge-Marie..." Adrian forced the prayer out of his mouth so much so that he began forcing out spit.

If one could see Adrian now then you could see that his eyes are becoming teary and his clothes are all sweaty. The hag finally started reaching out to Adrian and he became petrified because of the demonic grin that she had.

Adrian could no longer keep his head and started mentally breaking down. He started shouting "In the Name of Jesus Christ" over and over again until everything suddenly stopped and disappeared. Adrian could finally move his arms and he supported his body to sit upright.

Adrian wiped the tears and snot from his face. He managed to calm down. He looked around his surroundings and saw that there is still sunlight from his window.

"It was all just a dream. Just a dream." Adrian told himself as he calmed himself down.

Adrian checked his haloswatch for the time and it indicated that is just 3:15 in the afternoon. Adrian could not believe what he just saw. He dreamt all of that in just 15 minutes which shocked him to the core.

Adrian felt a sudden chill on his spine as he had a sudden realization. The strange thing is that Adrian could barely remember his dream after calming himself down but the terror he felt is still there in his subconscious.

Adrian decided that he can no longer take his power nap and instead went downstairs to drink a glass of water to make himself feel refreshed.

Chapter 206 - Halloween Special Part 2

Adrian drank his water and collected himself before hopping inside his game pod. He went and check the patch notes first before entering Pandemonium. He found some interesting mechanics on the new Halloween event despite it only being available for a few days.

Halloween Patch Notes

Event Duration: Until November 2

-New Time Limited Dungeon: The Harrowing

Harrowing Dungeon has three areas:

1. Wheat Field
2. Forbidden Cemetery
3. Abandoned House

-All Undead summons, pets or mounts will be have twice the experience gain during The Harrowing.

-Monsters inside the three areas will drop candy that can be used to exchange some rewards from a special NPC that will be available during the event period.

-In order to go inside the special dungeon, find a giant pumpkin carving located outside any villages, towns or cities.

-All monsters in the dungeon will be scaled down to the average level of the party.

-For further details please log inside the game and experience the terror for yourself.

"I guess I have to check the dungeon by myself. The good thing is that Charon would get twice the experience from defeating one monster. I should just use Charon and Kanlaon and plow through those dungeons." Adrian stated as he finally dove into the game.

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Adrian reappeared at the Paradox Planes and he could still see Ascalor in a happy mood. He did not know why he found it obnoxious. Adrian just shook his head and left Ascalor's house and looked for the pumpkin carving outside the outskirts of the town.

Funny enough, Adrian actually found the pumpkin carving. It is a bit far from the outskirts so he had to walk quite a bit of distance. He found this enormous pumpkin patch with a giant pumpkin carving that could be seen decorating the homes during Halloween.

Beside the pumpkin patch is a black cat wearing a witch hat. Adrian walked towards the cat thinking it is just something like a prop. Adrian walked close to the black cat but then he got shocked because the cat suddenly talked.

"Do you want to enter the Harrowing Dungeon nya?" the black cat with a witch hat suddenly stated.

"OMG! A talking cat!" Adrian suddenly shouted.

"I am a witch familiar nya not a cat. If you do not want to be turned into a frog then respect me nya." The black cat with a witch hat stated.

"Okay then. Can I go inside the dungeon then?" Adrian asked.

"You can nya. You just have to go close to the Jack-o-lantern nya. Inside the dungeon, the monsters there will drop sweets nya. If you want you can exchange the candy for items in my Treat or Trick Basket. I love candies nya." The black cat with a witch hat stated as it began playing with a ball of yarn that came from nowhere.

"I guess that sums it up. I hope the dungeon is not that difficult. Well, it is scaled to my level so every monster there should be about level 101. I really need to start grinding again." Adrian stated as he walked towards the giant jack-o-lantern.

Adrian then walked towards the giant mouth of the jack-o-lantern and entered from it. Adrian disappeared in a flash of light. The jack-o-lantern though made a swallowing motion that made it look like it ate Adrian.

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Adrian found himself in a huge area filled with wheat. The uniqueness of the dungeon finally became apparent when Adrian arrived inside the dungeon.

Sudden Quest Notification

Find the Exit

You must find the entrance to the new area unless you want to be trapped forever in this wheat field.

Time Limit: 1 hour

Adrian immediately summoned Charon and Kanlaon. He wanted to level up Charon so that it could catch up with his other summons. Kanlaon is summoned because he deals high damage to undead but Adrian would summon the others if he needed to.

Adrian decided to fly by himself so he unfurled his wings and took to the skies. The wheat field is massive and it seems that the time of day is also different. The setting of this dungeon is currently at night which makes it more challenging for those that do not have night vision.

Due to Adrian's ability to fly, the monsters that are supposed to sprout from the ground became ineffective. The monsters that emerge from the ground would only emerge when someone stepped in the area they are buried. So by Adrian flying, he could no longer encounter these monsters.

Even though Adrian is airborne that does not mean that the first part of the dungeon will be easily passed through. Adrian is just going towards a location he saw where lights are coming from so he just headed straight to that location via flight.

A loud caw of a crow can suddenly be heard but Adrian did not pay too much attention to it. He and his soulbounds just headed towards the where the light is coming from when a flock of crows suddenly blocked their vision. The flock of crows came flying from the ground.

Adrian did not think much of it since it might be a dungeon mechanic to at least deter those who take flight. He did notice the odd nature of the crows because they look like they are watching Adrian. All the dark beady eyes of the crows could be seen looking at Adrian's general location.

Adrian also did not immediately notice that the whole area has been filled with crows. Adrian stopped for a little bit because even he thought this is strange. Usually birds would not pay attention to Adrian because normal monsters could feel a subconscious fear and would immediately fly away.

When Adrian stopped to observe the situation, the crows all looked at him and this eerie silence covered the area. The silence is broken by the sudden flapping of the crows and their ear piercing caws. The crows in the air suddenly started circling Adrian's general location.

The crows formed something like a crow storm or what you call when crows starts circling something. In this case, the center of the crow storm is Adrian and his soulbounds. He tried inspecting the crows but the strange thing is that no information would pop out.

Adrian had already wasted 20 minutes reaching his current location and he could no longer waste any time. He wanted to power through and just bash the crows. Before he moved, the some crows that are flying started to descend but they did not hit Adrian.

The crows descended to an area that is about eight to ten meters away from Adrian. He thought that the crows were killing themselves but the reality is different. The crows started becoming black flames when they descended to the ground.

The dark flames rose to a height of ten feet and it started shaping into something. Adrian who saw this could feel that this should be something like a mini-boss. The black flames died down and the figure that it concealed can now be seen perfectly.

"A scarecrow?" Adrian uttered.

The scarecrow is your typical depiction of one. Its body is made of discarded wheat stalks and is in a T pose. It also has a farmer's hat made of leather that is colored red. It has a checkered polo and a jumper. The end of the hands have worn out gloves that are dirty which indicated that it has been used.

The face of the scarecrow is made using cloth made to put flour in. The sack still had traces of branding but the eyes and mouth are drawn using a black marker. The scarecrow suddenly lifted its head that is tilted down.

It surprised Adrian a little because he is still a bit shaken up by the events of his nightmare. The part where the mouth of the scarecrow suddenly ripped and it let out an inhuman laugh. A magic circle started to form below the scarecrow as its whole body started to become crows once more.

[You have resisted the fear status.]

The crows then suddenly had health bars when Adrian used his evil eye. The crows then charged towards Adrian but Kanlaon shielded him. Kanlaon took damage due to the onslaught of charging crows but it is only in the double digit value but the sheer number of the crows made the damage higher.

"Charon use Soul Siphon and apply the whole shield value towards Kanlaon." Adrian commanded via the soul link and Charon understood.

A blue sphere of light enveloped the field they are in and the health of every crow is reduced by twenty percent. Each crow had only a thousand point in health but the sheer number of the crows made the absorbed health reach fifty thousand. Charon transmitted all that barrier health towards Kanlaon who is tanking all the damage.

Adrian decided to use Vortex. A small dying star is created from Adrian's palm and he released it upwards. He snapped his finger and an explosion is heard. A giant vortex that sucked all of the crows inside of it can be seen ten meters above the ground and below it the creator of such black hole.

Chapter 207 - Halloween Special Part 3

The black hole summoned using Adrian's Vortex skill sucked all of the crows. The sound of dying crows could be heard from the black hole. It did not take long for all of the crows to be sucked inside and killed.

The duration of Vortex ended and tons of black feathers were spit out when it ended. The black feathers started melding together and once again became like black flames. A magic circle started to materialize from the black flames and the real figure of the scarecrow can be seen.

Monster: Harrowing Scarecrow (Mini boss)

Level: 101

HP: 2,500,000 / 5,000,000

MP: 500,000 / 500,000

Description: A monster created from the deepest darkest fear of people who sneak out in fields at night. It is said that whoever sees this monster will be overtaken by fear so much so that they will be terrorized for days. It feeds on terror and fear in order to survive.

"I manage to get it down to fifty percent health with one skill. I guess the health on those crows are also considered its health but only fifty percent maximum of its total health." Adrian thought as he gazed at the real form of the harrowing scarecrow.

The scarecrow is now more menacing and looked more ghoulish in a way. The eyes and mouth now became sack holes with something like a tongue drooping out of the mouth. The clothes on the scarecrow became smeared with blood and more tattered.

The right hand of the scarecrow is holding a scythe used in harvesting crops while the left hand is now a pitchfork. The legs of the scarecrow is no longer a single stick but three pairs of shadowy legs. The scarecrow also does not stand upright as it crawls using its five limbs.

The harrowing scarecrow charged towards Adrian but it is greeted by a breath attack from Kanlaon that is composed of two opposing high temperatures. The harrowing scarecrow made a painful shriek as it is hit by Kanlaon's attack.

The harrowing scarecrow stood no chance of flames carrying hint of divinity. Adrian summoned his spear psyche armament as he wanted to test out its new skills for himself. The gloves that Adrian is wearing dematerialized and started becoming a spear.

The spear's appearance now resemble the other psyche armaments that Adrian has. It is no longer the boring normal looking spear that Adrian encountered in the tomb. Its blade shimmers in a silver light while the spear's shaft looks like the texture of Adrian's demi-gauntlets. At the other end of the sphere is an orb with something like a cat's eye.

There is also a pale blue fire burning just below the blade and it looks like fire generated by the skill Demon Fire. The spear is also 2.5 meters long that made it longer than Adrian's height. He got a full blown course on the spear thanks to Bronx' hellish training.

The harrowing scarecrow is still shrieking in pain due its body burning from the divinity present in the fire. Adrian twirled the spear while charging towards the harrowing scarecrow. This is one of the ways Bronx taught Adrian on how to move when holding a spear.

He is taught to move the spear in accordance to the shift in his body's center of gravity. He now knew that the twirling of the spear is not just about looking cool. He is basically taught that using a spear is something akin to dancing with a pole.

Adrian used Chrono Shift to make his charge speed faster and also to increase the weight to his piercing attack. Adrian felt like he hit a bunch of hay as he pierced the harrowing scarecrow's body. It is a weird sensation as it has no rebound compared to tough muscles. He did not even feel any resistance.

Adrian continued doing this until the harrowing scarecrow turned into particles of light. The harrowing scarecrow had a unique death animation as it will fall into shambles once all its health is lost. Adrian now only had five minutes before he fails the emergency mission.

Adrian would have had an easier time if he activated the monsters inside the wheat field. He would have encountered the monsters called 'Black Eyed Children' but maybe Adrian dodged a bullet by not encountering them. He might accidentally activate his trauma because there is an event where a tractor would hit one of the 'Black Eyed Children'.

If Adrian faced the Black Eyed Children then he would have gotten trinkets that will greatly weaken the harrowing scarecrow. The harrowing scarecrow might not have the need to be summoned using a crow storm and he would have beaten the boss in under five minutes. He would have also gotten candies.

[You have received 100 candies.]

"No time left." Adrian stated as he held Charon and hopped into Kanlaon. He ordered Kanlaon to fly at full speed to the next area.

Kanlaon made use of its full speed and even used his fire elemental control to make something like thrusters in order to reach the next area in just three minutes. The next area they are in is a cemetery

but it looks more like an abandoned and rotting cemetery. The tombstones are filled with overgrowth and cracks which indicates that the dead here are not taken care of.

[You have completed the sudden quest within the given time.]

[You have received extra 20 candies.]

Sudden Quest Notification

Help Them Find Peace

The spirits in this cemetery are restless and want to find peace. Find the corrupted banshee that is tormenting and holding the spirits hostage as she uses them for her corrupted magic. Find the totems she is using in order to keep the spirits trapped.

Remaining number of totems: (0/5)

Time Limit: None

Reward: 100 candies

Failure: -20 candies

Adrian is very much amazed by the concepts of abandoned cemeteries because the cemeteries in the modern world are quaint. Only those from wealthy families can afford a burial home because land price has skyrocketed. The cemeteries are also well maintained and cared for so something like the cemetery in his sight cannot happen.

Adrian managed his resolve and found clues to where the corrupted banshee is performing her rituals. This part of the dungeon is more on the search and destroy mechanic. He would hear whispers of some people like children and elderly.

Adrian did not pay attention to the whispers but the occasional sudden apparition would make him jump of fright. Adrian finally found one totem. The totem looks like a makeshift doll made of bones and discarded skin and feathers.

Item: Forbidden Totem

Durability: 100/100

Adrian pierced the totem with his spear and a wail of souls is heard when the item is destroyed. A sudden chill could be felt suddenly when Adrian destroyed the totem.

[The Corrupted Banshee has noticed that someone has destroyed her totem.]

[She will search for the one who desecrated her unholy grounds.]

"Kanlaon, use Polymorph to turn smaller. Charon do not stay too far away from me." Adrian commanded via their soul link.

Adrian decided to be discreet in finding the totems. He may not be able to defeat the banshee if he does not destroy the remaining four totems. This type of mechanic is very common in any type of game.

He now had to move stealthily as he might get the attention of the banshee. Just before he could move, a wail of a woman is suddenly heard. Adrian now know that the banshee is now active in searching for him. He does not want to experience what kind of terror that the banshee will inflict on him if he is caught.

Adrian moved in the maze like cemetery until he found another totem that is about twenty meters away from the one he just destroyed. He immediately destroyed it without hesitation. Another notification showed up when he destroyed the totem.

[The Corrupted Banshee has noticed that someone has destroyed her totem.]

[The Corrupted Banshee has sent out her dark hounds to aid in her search.]

"Every time I destroy a totem, she will increase the number of pursuers. I need to hurry." Adrian thought.

Adrian once again ran into another route that he has not been before. At the end of that route is a dead tree with something below it. Adrian ran towards the object and he found another totem in that location. He once again destroyed the totem and now he only needs two more before he completes his mission.

[The Corrupted Banshee has noticed that someone has destroyed her totem.]

[The Corrupted Banshee has sent out her dark bats to aid in her search.]

Adrian did not pay attention to the system notification as he just searched for the totems once again. He is suddenly blocked by a hound made of shadows. Adrian engaged immediately but the first thing the dark hound did is howl. Adrian cancelled his attack and instead jumped over the dark hound in order to run away.

It did not take long for another dark hound to follow Adrian but he did not engage and kept looking for the remaining totems. Adrian is burning his stamina at a fast pace due to continuously running. Fortunately, he found another totem at an empty tomb. He apologized to the dead there and unceremoniously broke the totem.

[The Corrupted Banshee has noticed that someone has destroyed her totem.]

[The Corrupted Banshee is now protecting her last totem.]

"Great!" Adrian said sarcastically.

Adrian now started his search for the Corrupted Banshee.

Chapter 208 - Halloween Special Part 4

Adrian hurriedly searched for the Corrupted Banshee and he did not find it hard. The Corrupted Banshee is hovering at the very middle of the cemetery. Adrian only needs to break one more totem in order to complete his mission and free the trapped souls.

The corrupted banshee looks like a woman in her 30s with wearing something like a mourning gown. She had black hair that reaches her knees while her face had dark make-up that is smeared from all her crying.

The corrupted banshee also noticed Adrian but it did not move from her position as she is currently guarding her last totem. Kanlaon immediately transformed back to his original form but all the dark

bats and dark hounds attacked him. Adrian now had to fend for himself so he summoned Sirius secretly using his shadow.

"Greater Summon: Sirius" Adrian chanted.

He learned this trick when he speculated how far Sirius' ability to hide in shadows can take him. He tested this on a whim but it is unexpectedly successful. It also hides the fact that Adrian summoned one of his soulbounds.

"Sirius destroy the totem while I distract the banshee." Adrian commanded via their soul link.

Sirius understood immediately and hopped from shadow to shadow of the tombstones in the cemetery. Adrian needed to catch the attention of the banshee and give Sirius a chance to destroy the remaining totem.

"Hey! You ugly excuse for a woman!" Adrian suddenly shouted which made the banshee look at him but it still kept to its position.

"Damn, that always works when I use it for Mina. She goes ballistic when she hears me say that. I guess I need to provoke her by damaging her." Adrian thought.

Monster: Corrupted Banshee

Level: 101

HP: 3,000,000 / 3,000,000

MP: 3,579,577 / 4,000,000

Description: A banshee that performed dark rituals and feed on the energy of the souls to make her powerful. She cannot leave her location because if she does then she will grow old and die. She maintains her youth and powers by channeling the energies released by tormented souls.

Adrian charged towards the corrupted banshee and suddenly threw his spear. The spear whizzed through the air at a fast speed that caught the banshee by surprise because the spear suddenly vanished and reappear one feet away from her. The corrupted banshee became impaled on the stomach and she tried hard to pull the spear off her.

Adrian basically used Blink on the spear psyche armament in order to catch the corrupted banshee by surprise. Ascalor taught him this as his psyche armaments are special because this weapons are extensions of his soul which means they are a part of his body.

Adrian held up his hand and the spear pulled itself away from the banshee and back to Adrian's hand. The spear returned to Adrian's grasp and the corrupted banshee looked at him with extreme anger. The banshee's eyes became red and no longer bothered guarding the totem as she flew towards Adrian in rage.

Adrian smirked a little because the corrupted banshee is easier to provoke as she became enraged by just one attack. Adrian unfurled his wings and flew away from the totem so that Sirius could do his task.

"Charon be ready to absorb her health." Adrian commanded via their soul link.

The corrupted banshee suddenly screamed and the soundwaves generated is so powerful that once can physically see it. Adrian evaded the attack but a dark bat suddenly attached itself to his back. Adrian had to be creative and free fall to the ground crashing down on some tombstones but crushing the dark bat in the process.

The corrupted banshee reached Adrian's location due to the sudden interruption of the dark bat. She is supposed to plunge her sharp nails on Adrian's neck when a white light suddenly rose towards the sky.

[You soulbound Sirius has destroyed the last totem that is sealing the souls from ascending.]

[The wrath of the sealed souls will now affect the Corrupted Banshee.]

A lot of smoky figures with facial features suddenly rose from the tombs. Adrian even had eye contact with one before it turned its head towards the corrupted banshee. The souls that are trapped for centuries flocked towards the banshee.

The souls even sang some sort of song and the floor below suddenly cracked. The cracked floor suddenly broke and became a hole. A light could be seen from that hole but it is generated by either magma or fire. The souls then dragged the banshee towards the pit but the banshee kept clawing the ground trying to resist.

When the souls dragged the banshee about ten feet away from the pit, a giant clawed hand that is made of molten lava suddenly started searching for something. The hand then landed on the banshee when the souls dragged her closer. The banshee started screaming and bashing the giant hand but it would not budge.

The hand then dragged the banshee inside the flaming pit. The earth that made the pit once again returned to normal as if there was no pit there in the first place. The trapped souls suddenly started ascending as there is no one inhibiting their ascension.

[You have successfully cleared the sudden quest.]

[You have received 100 candies.]

"This dungeon does not give experience and only drops candies." Adrian uttered as he saw no system notification telling him that they receive experience.

The cemetery is suddenly filled with mist that even covered Adrian's vision. All his soulbounds also returned to him like they were transported near him. When the mist cleared, the group is now in front of an old house that is a type of western house built in the 1900s.

The door suddenly creaked open and a lamp like that which Charon uses could be seen floating towards Adrian. The lamp floated in a fixed speed towards Adrian. The lamp stopped about two feet away from Adrian and that is when he received his next system notification.

Chapter 209 - Halloween Special End

Sudden Quest Notification

Find the Portal back to the Real World

You have been trapped in an alternate reality by the spirit of Halloween. You must find the portal back to the real world located somewhere in the house. The lamp will be your only source of light and you cannot fight back as any activity might break the house leaving you trapped in this reality.

Reward: 100 candies

Failure: Repeat the previous stage

Adrian's soulbounds vanished and all his skills got sealed. Even his weapon is gone and is sent to his inventory. He had no choice but to play by the rules of the dungeon. He grabbed the lamp and entered the house. The door eerily closed with a creak with Adrian's figure disappearing.

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The inside of the home is the same as any other home with furniture and photos hang here and there. The only thing different is that everything is eerily quiet and the only source of noise is Adrian's footsteps. He first arrived at the living room and in there is a woman sitting on a couch with her back turned from Adrian.

Adrian decided to ignore her and continue on to the next room at ground level. He saw stairs but he would only go up once he explored everything at the ground level. The room adjacent to the living room is the dining room where a number of people with veils on their heads are just sitting there and not doing anything.

"Are they mannequins?" Adrian asked himself but he still decided to ignore them and proceeded towards the kitchen.

Inside the kitchen is a bunch of food that is rotting because flies and worms can be seen. Adrian looked around but could not see something like a portal so he decided to return to the living room. He passed by the kitchen door but he noticed something strange.

"Why are they all staring at me?" Adrian thought to himself as the heads of the people are now looking at the kitchen door where he exited. He just walked quietly towards the living room but the same thing happened as the woman sitting on the sofa is not looking at the door leading to the dining room.

"Okay...This is starting to get creepy." Adrian thought but he just went to the stairs not trying to scare himself.

He climbed the stairs quietly but it produced creaking sounds that are unpleasant to hear. He reached the second floor of the home and it only had two rooms there. Adrian opened the first room and it is empty but there is a large king size bed in there. He suspects this is the master's bedroom as the bed is large and the room is quite spacious.

Once again, he did not see a portal or a way out so he checked the next room. He opened the next room and he could clearly say that this is a kid's room due to the number of toys inside. Adrian suddenly heard whimpering somewhere in the room.

Like all horror movie characters, Adrian made the dumb choice of looking for the source of the sound. He shined his light at a corner of the room and saw a kid huddled there crying. Adrian once again made the stupid choice like any other horror movie character to get close to see what is happening.

Once he is about a few steps away from the child that is about eight or nine years old, the child stopped crying. Adrian stopped in his tracks when the child stopped crying as he suddenly realized that he acted like a horror movie protagonist.

"I think I just killed myself with the way I acted." Adrian thought as he slowly backed away towards the door and exited the room.

The room of the door suddenly closed before Adrian did so. That became Adrian's cue to hurriedly go downstairs. He arrived at the middle of the staircase but stopped on his tracks because of what he is witnessing.

All the people inside the house are now looking up at Adrian which made his skin tingle. He then backtracked a little to go back up. But when he looked up, he saw the child that is crying in the corner of one of the rooms. He could see the face of the child looking at him with its nonexistent eyes as it is just dark holes.

The people standing still started walking towards the staircase. Even the child started going down the stairs. Adrian is stuck between a rock and a hard place as he cannot see a way out. He could not even bash the people in the house because he deals no damage but that did not mean the environment could not deal damage.

Adrian wanted to use the fire of the lamp to damage the oncoming people. Adrian wanted to bring the house down with him if he is going to fall here. He threw the lamp at the stairs with as much force as he could.

The lamp broke but the fire did not spread. Instead an apparition of a Jack-o-Lantern appeared and it spoke to Adrian.

"You easily broke my maze. You are no fun but the next time it will be more difficult." The spirit of the Jack-o-Lantern said in an obnoxious voice.

[You have successfully cleared the sudden quest.]

[You have received 100 candies.]

The spirit of the Jack-o-Lantern then took Adrian by the collar and dragged him to a portal. The two of them then reappeared at the entrance to the Halloween dungeon instance. The Jack-o-Lantern is still grumbling that someone easily broke his dungeon. Adrian used his evil eye on the Jack-o-Lantern to find out what it really is.

NPC: Spirit of Halloween

Description: A mischievous spirit that sprouted due to the belief of numerous people. The belief is that in a certain day of the year, people must dress up and give candy to those at their doorstep unless they wanted to be pranked.

"The next time you enter my dungeon then it would be more difficult." The Jack-o-Lantern said before disappearing.

"He is still the same nya. He does not like people conquering his dungeon but he does give good tasting candy nya. Do you want to exchange some items for the candies nya?" The black cat with a witch hat stated and Adrian looked at the cat's goods which made his jaw drop.

"They are all expensive! I might need to do a few more runs of this instance dungeon."

Chapter 210 - Leads On Valar

After the Halloween event, Adrian finally grinded enough levels for Charon as it manage to reach level 85. The odd thing is that the little skeleton ghost thing did not increase his health but only the mana increased. He really could not predict how to make the little rascal evolve.

Adrian and his soulbounds also increased their levels due to the grinding but a two times experience booster with only a few days is not enough to skyrocket one's level to a hundred. Charon also has a high experience bar like Kanlaon so he needs more experience than a regular monster.

Adrian is currently chilling and looking at the thing he exchanged for at the Halloween event. He had to collect about ten thousand candies in order to get the one time purchase item there. He exchanged an item for a three times experience multiplier that has a duration of one day.

He would activate this item when he goes into a raid as it is only applicable to himself and not the entire party. It is a good exchange for all the horror he experienced. When he ran the dungeon again, there were different conditions in for each sudden quest so that the dungeon does not feel repetitive. He suddenly received a chat from Creepysoo.

Creepysoo: Big Brother, are you free now? Or are you searching for the demigod blacksmith?

Equinox: I am currently free right now but I want to start the search after I rested up quite a bit.

Creepysoo: Can you help me for a moment then? I think we have a lead where Valar is being held captive.

Equinox: No problem. Where are you right now?

Creepysoo: I am at the southwest part of the empire. I am currently hiding at a location called Wayward Mountains.

Equinox: Wait for me then. I am going immediately.

Adrian then immediately headed towards the location Creepysoo told him to come to. Even he is interested on someone who managed to disable a high ranking NPC. From Creepysoo's description, the perpetrator looked like it is a player and not another NPC.

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In a decrepit makeshift cave, a hooded figure is seen with a being that has four arms that is currently shackled. The hooded figure can be seen torturing the shackled being but it seems the shackled being does not feel pain. Despite him using all kinds of tools, the shackled being does not even utter a word or show signs of pain.

"Why are you playing so hard to crack? I am pretty sure the Seed of Eternal Pain I planted on you is making you feel extreme pain despite you being an undead." The hooded figure stated with a smile on his face.

The shackled figure is Valar and he is currently channeling all his will not to scream in intense pain. The Seed of Eternal Pain that is inserted in his spine should be at its middle stages by now. The pain he should be feeling right now is akin to being electrocuted by a thousand watts.

He is bearing with the pain because he knew that if he speaks then it would be over for him. The herald of the dark gods that is in front of him will definitely do something more to make him speak the truth. The Undead King explicitly told them that they will revive by his side even if they die at the hands of heralds.

They will only truly perish if a god or dark god would kill them personally. Valar thought that the herald in front of him will kill him back then but who would have thought he would take him. Valar also thought that he could easily escape but it seems the current herald of the dark gods is meticulous.

The herald of the dark gods, Eldritch, even used chains that weakens anyone by 50% of their strength. To be extremely sure, he even planted a Seed of Eternal Pain at Valar's spine. Even undead fear that seed because it is said to make them feel pain that they have been numbed because of their unique racial characteristics.

"You know it is getting boring if you do not speak or even react." Eldritch stated as he is now choosing another torture weapon to use.

Valar is still tight lipped and refused to answer. Eldritch finally gave up trying to make the Ghoul Asura speak so he tried a different approach. He threw away the weapon that he just picked up and faced the Ghoul Asura that is bound in the chains he is given by a certain dark god.

"As long as you tell me where the Undead King is hiding then I will make you the new undead king. Do you not want to become the most powerful undead?" Eldritch said in a tone that could tempt anyone.

"Hahaha!" Valar suddenly laughed.

"Why are you laughing did I say something funny? I did not know that I could be a comedian." Eldritch stated but deep inside he is pissed off because the undead in front of him dare mock him with its laughter.

"You think I follow the Undead King because he is more powerful than me. If you think that way herald of the dark gods then you must live a very sad life to not know anything of loyalty." Valar finally broke his silence and mocked Eldritch.

"You think I live a sad life just because I know nothing of the word loyalty? Loyalty will not even fill your belly when you are hungry nor can it save you from danger. You can only trust yourself and only yourself." Eldritch stated with a tone that had a bit of anger mixed in but he still controlled his emotions.

Eldritch believes that showing raw emotions is a sign of weakness. He uses his emotions as a weapon to get what he wants while he uses the emotions of others to benefit himself. Valar no longer bothered replying to Eldritch as he knew that he has spoken enough.

"You speak of loyalty yet that undead king of yours has yet to send people to find you. Now you know that loyalty is nothing but a fleeting sentiment whenever you are useful." Eldritch stated as he took something from his inventory.

Eldritch took out something like a seed that is the size of a palm. The seed had three eyes and five mouths with sharp teeth. Valar recognizes this as this is the Seed of Eternal Pain that he was injected with previously.

"I guess the pain is not enough yet so maybe I should add another one." Eldritch stated as he walked closer to Valar but a sudden explosion from the entrance of the room they are in caught him off guard which made him drop the seed.

"I told you not to be too excited. Our cover might be blown." A voice sounded.

"Sorry, big brother. It seems I got too carried away." A different voice replied but Valar recognizes this voice.

"The Prince" Valar thought as his eyes suddenly widen.