

O Summoner 681

Chapter 681 - Moksha

"It seems that the value of the Qilin is much more than we thought it is." Adrian stated as they returned back to the courtyard as the event outside is no longer interesting.

"Why is Kimat looking at the Qilin like that?" Peridot asked as Kimat is looking at the Qilin warily.

"He is just suppressed in terms of elemental affinity as the Qilin has perfect mastery over lightning. Kimat is a lightning elemental cat so it makes sense that he could easily sense the disparity between them." Adrian replied as he knows that certain monsters can suppress others just by their aura.

"Also, what are you going to name the Qilin? Is it even a boy or a girl? Maybe it is without a gender since some monsters are like that?" Adrian asked series of questions that made Peridot get bombarded.

"It did not like the first name that I came up for it though." Peridot stated as the Qilin's eyes suddenly looked sharp.

"What did you want to name it first?" Adrian asked as he knows that Peridot has the most terrible naming sense out of all of them.

"I wanted to name it Qinchuan but it vehemently refused. Also, Qilins do not have genders due to certain racial qualities." Peridot replied.

"Of course, it would hate that name as it is like a nickname that you tell someone who is cute not a name befitting a great beast." Adrian stated.

"See...he gets it as he named all his soulbounds with decent names that strike a good first impression." The Qilin stated as it already returned to its smaller form like the rest of Adrian's soulbounds since their huge bodies are too much for the courtyard.

"You said that all your life, you wanted freedom. If that is the case, then I would name you something to make sure that you will be remembered as someone who is free. A being not bound by difficulties of the world. Your new name would be Moksha." Peridot stated in a serious tone as she thought for this name ever since she got the Qilin.

"Moksha. I like it. From now on, I will be called Moksha." The Qilin, now named Moksha, stated with a proud air surrounding him.

"Where did you get that name?" Adrian asked as he is seriously shocked that Peridot thought of a great name. She would usually name all the small pets at school with names like Brown, Meow Meow or the hamster that they took care of with the name Hamchi.

"It is the word Freedom in the language of the Ryujin. It perfectly describes the Qilin's desire for liberation for the hundreds of years it got imprisoned in Mt. Thunder." Peridot replied with a smile and Adrian nodded.

Adrian could more or less see the Qilin with himself when he woke up from the accident. He could not leave the hospital for three months as his bones needed to slowly repair themselves. When he got released, he could not even go to school and just got homeschooled.

He did not get to enjoy life to the fullest but now is different. Pandemonium changed his life so much that he did not even want to go out and explore the real world. He could explore the vast universe of Pandemonium. Even his friends do not go out much since they do not want Adrian to feel that he is repressing their experience.

"It is a great name. So, what are the skills that are available to the Qilin?" Adrian asked as he is curious what a beast that even the prestigious houses of the eastern continent would want even at the cost of countless lives of others.

"The skills are actually insane. I will share them to you." Peridot stated as she shared the skills that the Qilin possessed.

Skill: Lightning Incarnate

Tier: Unique

Type: Racial Skill

Effect:

- No form of lightning-based attacks or spells will ever hurt you.

- All lightning-based attacks will be absorbed into the body and be turned into health instead. Only 10% of the total supposed damage could be transformed into health.

- If health is full, the Qilin will gain the Supercharged Buff.

- Supercharge Buff: Increase lightning elemental attacks for an hour.

Mana Cost: None

Cooldown: None

Cast Time: Always On

Skill: Flame Incarnate

Tier: Unique

Type: Racial Skill

Effect:

- No form of fire-based attacks or spells will ever hurt you.

- All fire-based attacks will be absorbed into the body and be turned into health instead. Only 10% of the total supposed damage could be transformed into health.

- If health is full, the Qilin will gain the Flaming Inferno Buff.

- Flaming Inferno Buff: Get layers of shields using the excess flames absorbed into the body. Total number of shields: Three.

Mana Cost: None

Cooldown: None

Cast Time: Always On

Skill: Lightning Elemental King

Tier: Unique

Type: Racial Skill

Effect:

-Able to turn mana from the surroundings into the lightning element for a period of time and launch it towards enemies.

Mana Cost: Dependent on the attack cannot exceed maximum mana.

Cooldown: 5 hours

Cast Time: Instant

Skill: Fire Elemental King

Tier: Unique

Type: Racial Skill

Effect:

-Able to turn mana from the surroundings into the fire element for a period of time and launch it towards enemies.

Mana Cost: Dependent on the attack cannot exceed maximum mana.

Cooldown: 5 hours

Cast Time: Instant

Skill: Lightning Fire Qilin Core

Tier: Unique

Type: Racial Passive Skill

Effect:

-Able to use any type of lightning or fire attribute spells.

Mana Cost: None

Cooldown: None

Cast Time: None

Skill: Fury of Fire and Lightning

Tier: Unique

Type: Racial Skill

Effect:

-Use all the mana in its body and an equivalent maximum mana in the surroundings in order to launch an attack that pierces the defenses of enemies in an area.

-This ability has piercing properties and shreds the magical defense of the targets by 50%

-This ability deals 10,000% of the Qilin's total damage.

-The Qilin will be unable to move for 10 minutes after casting this skill.

Mana Cost: None

Cooldown: 24 hours

Cast Time: 5 minutes

"What the heck is this monster?! It is able to get no damage from two elements and it could even heal from two elemental attributes. No wonder that annoying bastard wanted it despite sacrificing so many soldiers. This monster is really overpowered." Adrian stated.

"Why do you regret giving the Qilin to me? Huh?" Peridot teased.

"I admit that I am a bit envious, but I already have a fire elemental and a lightning elemental monster in my arsenal. I do not want multiple of the same elements for my soulbounds. I need to find a delicate balance which is why I have yet to find my seventh one." Adrian stated as he is being very picky with the seventh soulbound.

He also could not bear to let go of soulbounds which is why he decided that he must only collect monsters that he will be fighting with forever. It might be a cheesy sentiment, but Adrian values the time he spent in caring for others.

"You do not look like a cheesy person, but you really are one. Sometimes, I even cringe at the fact that you are that cheesy. Good thing that Levin Cloud is not like you or else I would barf every time that we hang out." Peridot stated.

"Speaking of Levin Cloud, do you not have any idea why he ditched me when I said that you would accompany me in the eastern continent?" Adrian asked.

"It seems that he is busy with something and said that he needed to get stronger or else he might slow you down." Peridot stated as she does not know the exact location of her significant other either.

"He told you what he was doing? I guess the saying about bros before gardening equipment is not true after all. He must be meeting his secret lover or side chick which is why he did not tell you

about his exact location in the game." Adrian stated jokingly but Peridot's expression could only be expressed as something scary beyond belief.

"If he does have one, make sure that he is ready that I will break his bones in half. I will make sure that there is no more future for people him." Peridot stated with a smile that is not a smile.

"You actually think that he could do that? He is an introvert that rarely speak with others. Although, that is the trope that adventurous women want as they want to unleash his inner beast." Adrian stated.

"Where did you even learn that?" Peridot asked.

"Well, my big sister is an avid reader of novels like that. She says that it is more fun chasing a shy guy than a confident one. She said that they are cute at the start but then become dangerously spicy when they let out their inner beast. It is fine as he does not fit that kind of image anyway." Adrian stated but Peridot suddenly stood up.

"Where are you going?" Adrian asked.

"I am helping my master with the process.." Peridot stated as she hurriedly went to look for her master and Adrian followed as he is curious about the process.

Chapter 682 - What Is The Grade?

Adrian followed Peridot to the Refining Room where her master, the Dragon Lady or Nuwa, is currently extracting the magic stone from its shell. The protective layer that the magic stone is also an important ingredient as it has great lightning resistance.

Adrian told Peridot that he could just give it to her as he does not even know how to process it. In exchange, she will give Adrian a rune stone when she gets a hold of one with an elemental attribute. Adrian wanted to complete the rune stone that is inserted in his armor.

"If rune stones are that easy to get then I would also have equipped it in my armor. Those things are extremely rare, and you can only either get them in events or really difficult missions." Peridot replied as she opened the main door that led to the room where her master is refining the magic stone.

Adrian is greeted with the sight of Nuwa floating in the air doing hand motions. With each graceful hand motion, she would chip a part of the shell that covered the magic stone carefully. Adrian could see the extreme concentration that Nuwa is using which meant that she is doing her best.

"Perfect timing. Help me with this as the elders are needed to convene on something urgent. I cannot extract the magic stone in a rush just by myself." Nuwa stated as she instructed Peridot on what to do.

The process that the two are doing is a delicate process that needs careful consideration as one mistake would make the magic stone go wild. This is one of the reasons why only professional miners are able to extract large magic stones with mediocre success rate. An amateur would easily break the magic stone and would make the mana inside it leak out into the atmosphere.

If the two of them are to make a mistake, then the supposed grade of the magic stone will drop by one. It would be fine if it is a pinnacle magic stone as it would degrade to a large magic stone, but the story would be different if it is a large magic stone by nature.

"Let the wind gem carry you while use the earth gem and water gem combined in order to take the pieces of the shell off. It is fine to do it in small strides as this is not a contest on who finishes up first. Using the fire gem, disintegrate the shell into dust to create magic powder." Nuwa instructed as she kept up with her work.

The master and apprentice duo looked like goddesses that are shaping the world using their magics. Even Adrian likened the process to an elegant folk dance that entices anyone who sees the performance. The way the shard of the shell becomes fine dust once it reaches the ground is a beautiful scenery that perfectly balances the concept of fragility.

This scene continued for an hour with Adrian just observing the process without one word. If there is one thing that Adrian learned when he grew up in an Asian household is that you must know when to speak or not speak at all. He is too enamored by the process that he did not even notice that an hour has passed.

When all of the shell has been shed, a whitish blue magic stone that crackled with intense lightning is left floating in the air. Before Adrian could even command Kimat to get ready, the mischievous lightning elemental cat suddenly jumped and ate the floating magic stone.

A look of pure satisfaction could be seen from the expression that Kimat showed. The worse thing that Adrian thought of is that he did not even find out the grade of the magic stone. Adrian almost used the Heimlich maneuver on Kimat but a system notification stopped him from doing so.

[Your soulbound Kimat has eaten something beneficial for its evolution. Three out of the four requirements are now complete. Do you want to view the progress?]

Adrian heaved a sigh of relief as whatever Kimat ate must be at least a large magic stone. He looked at the pre-requisites just to be sure that Kimat did indeed eat something equivalent to a large lightning magic stone.

Evolution Requirments for Thunderlight Tigris

1. Achieve Level 50 (Done)
2. Gather One Lightning Magic Stone (Large) (1/1)
3. Feed the Lightning Magic Stone (Large) to Kimat (1/1)
4. Kill enemies with the Metal Element that is +/- 5 levels from Kimat (0/10)

Adrian is glad that the evolution requirement is not strictly just for the large magic stone or else he would have to return to Mt. Thunder that is surely being monitored by the House of the Azure Dragon. He would definitely be chased and will not be able to mine a large magic stone properly if that happened.

"Did you happen to know the grade of the magic stone?" Adrian asked as he wanted to know if the two that processed the magic stone knew of its grade.

"I was not able to see the grade as I was too focused in getting rid of the shell. Also, magic stones are different from normal gems or metals as you need to appraise it closely. The mana that it has is preventing detection or appraisal magic to be used on it at a distance.

"Very good, my daughter. It seems that you have already memorized all the basic information relating to magic stones. You can now start in studying the next volume of the book that I have instructed you to." Nuwa stated as she is proud of her 'daughter', but Peridot has a tired smiling face when the former said that.

"Thank you, Master. What is the meeting about anyway that all the elders are needed to attend?" Peridot asked as she is curious since a meeting with all the elders of the House of Creation rarely happens.. They only meet when something serious has changed or happened in the eastern continent.

Chapter 683 - Ain't My Fault

"It seems that something has happened to Mt. Thunder. It seems that something has fundamentally changed in terms of the severity of the storm and lightning it calls upon. Reports of a black crystal that suddenly appeared in a certain area of the mountain is also given to us." Nuwa stated as she told the reason for the meeting.

When Nuwa mentioned the black stone, the demon guest that they have suddenly averted his gaze. Nuwa also looked at Peridot and she as well averted her gaze. The Dragon Lady could easily tell that these two are hiding something because the demon does not dare to look at her straightly even when he had no qualms doing it earlier.

"You two are hiding something from me and it seems that you know of this black rock that I speak off. I suddenly remembered that you were heading to Mt. Thunder when you departed here earlier.

Tell me or else I will not be able to protect you if all of the eastern continent's powerhouse were to hold you accountable for this mysterious circumstance." Nuwa stated as she is concerned that her 'daughter' might have been roped by this playful and mischievous demon.

"Ain't my fault." Adrian stated as he headed to the door sliding one foot at a time.

"Hold it right there." Nuwa stated as the ground beneath the floor suddenly trapped Adrian. The stone tiles used in the room are now fractured from the spell that is used.

"I am not going to pay for that." Adrian stated as he looked at the cracked floor. He could not point to it because only his face to the neck is not covered by the earth attribute spell.

"Master, let me explain. The Qilin that I have obtained that you are very proud of actually came from Mt. Thunder." Peridot stated as both her and the Qilin explained what happened.

"To think that a Qilin is hiding under our noses. If the other houses knew then they would have claimed ownership of Mt. Thunder right away. No wonder that noisy elder from another house came here demanding compensation." Nuwa stated as even she did not know of this tale.

"If master does not know then the Qilin must have been sealed for a long time." Peridot stated but Adrian had a different outlook.

"Or she just did not bother to care what other people do in their free time. I have been here for almost a day, and I could see that the Ryujin have inquisitive and sharp minds, but they take long breaks. No wonder their research takes years to complete." Adrian stated which made Nuwa have an expression of shock.

"To be able to notice that means that you have great investigative wisdom. No wonder the demons let you act freely despite being a stickler to their guarding duties." Nuwa stated as she knows what the demons do as a job.

"Is there no other way to release the Qilin from her body?" Nuwa asked as she is not an expert when it comes to magic that uses the soul as a catalyst.

"The only way for the bonding to be broken is that two parties must be in mutual agreement, but the master holds more dominance in the relationship. Also, if someone rips the Qilin out of her body then she will most likely die as it is equivalent to ripping a part of someone's soul." Adrian stated.

"Do you know the process that is needed to rip it apart from her body?" Nuwa asked.

"The only plausible situation that I could think of is that someone must reverse the process that I used. If that is the only issue, then the Qilin will never be taken from her. Even if they forcefully rip the Qilin from her soul, their souls will undergo the revival process at the same time." Adrian stated.

"Reverse the process then she must never set foot in Mt. Thunder until the array rejects her due to her power level. Since you two have come clean, I will tell the elders that you have conquered the Qilin using both of your strengths.

This would make those that are opposing me to shut up but the case with the stone is a different matter. We cannot go inside that array due to the restrictions, but I must know the real power of that stone. I have heard reports of strange things happening in Mt. Thunder." Nuwa stated as she needed to know everything in order for her to protect the two from being targeted.

"What kinds of things?" Adrian asked as he is curious because he is tasked with gathering data for this black shard.

"You mean you used an unknown material to perform a great spell that etches another soul to someone?" Nuwa asked as she did not think that someone would be so reckless.

"Yes." Adrian replied casually but intense bloodlust could be felt from Nuwa's stares.

"Do you have another piece of that black shard? I might be able to see through it and identify it. It managed to change the terrain and make some monsters evolve despite having no proper habitat." Nuwa asked as she is curious what this black shard is.

"Unfortunately, I was only given one as the others are still radiating miasma. Do not worry as it will not have a detrimental effect to the mountain that much. That stone shard is more proficient in distributing power to Mt. Thunder which the Qilin sometimes ignores to do." Adrian stated.

"Also, I sacrificed my arm to transfer the Qilin to her body. A little respect would be appreciated." Adrian stated which made Nuwa slightly embarrassed as he is correct after all.

"He is right, Master. I will never get Moksha without his help. He has no ill will and that stone came from a god so it must have great capacity for energy." Peridot stated.

"No wonder the lightning no longer becomes erratic outside the area near Mt. Thunder.." Nuwa muttered.

"Are you telling me that we changed a whole mountain?" Peridot asked and then sent a whisper to Adrian.

"Is that even possible? We made the dungeon more dangerous than it already was and it still has the same restrictions. That dungeon is basically a death sentence by now." Peridot whispered to Adrian.

"Yes, whatever that little demon brat did made changes with the whole of Mt. Thunder that is has become twice as dangerous. We do not know if it is only the terrain and the monsters that changed but we will look into it as it could also affect the rare minerals present inside that mountain." Nuwa stated as she knew that change like this is not small in scale.

"Did you know that the mountain will change when you used the black stone? Then again, demons have a bad habit of leaving their troubles behind in order for others to clean up. That old man Pann is another example of that bad behavior.

It seems that you are related to him. Are you like...his grandchild or something?" Nuwa stated as she presented a lot of questions to Adrian.

"I suddenly got the chills when you said that. Even I find that old man difficult as he is freer spirited than the elder that likes to blow off work for his research." Adrian muttered as he imagined himself being Pann's grandchild.

"So...did you know that would happen?" Peridot asked this time using her mouth.

"I do not know because the black stone is not a rock that is of this world. It is probably from another dimension that is just carried here. If it was a stone from a dark god, then we would have destroyed it. The only thing we know is that it is a great catalyst for mana.

One of the elders even told me that it actually might have been an ingredient in making the Philosopher's stone." Adrian stated but Nuwa's expression became stiff and serious.

"Did Koronn say that to you in that exact same manner?" Nuwa asked with a stiff and serious face that told Adrian to answer just by looking at her.

"Not those same exact words but it went like...uhum...This stone might be the key to unlock the mystery of the Philosopher's stone since it has one of its qualities." Adrian stated with a perfect imitation Koronn's voice and speaking habits.

"If that is the case then the House of Creation would like to be the one to monitor that black rock in Mt. Thunder. This is the eastern continent, and it is our duty to monitor such a variable thing as the guardians of the eastern continent." Nuwa stated as she invoked their right of guardianship for the item since it is located in their territory.

Adrian already knew that this situation could occur because Koronn already told him possible scenarios if he planted the black stone shard in different continents. The eastern continent is currently in the guardianship of the Ryujin affiliated with the House of Creation.

The House of Creation holds the rights of protecting whatever is in the eastern continent. This is the reason why they cannot join in on the power struggle of the eastern continent. They are also the reason why there is no one emperor that united the eastern continent as wars has been banned by the Ryujin as it destroys too much than what it can create after.

"If that is the case then I, Equinox as the Champion of the Twin Gods and representative of the Daemos tasked with keeping this world safe, shall agree with you demands as long as the representative that we will also send is welcomed with basic manner of respect." Adrian stated as his avatar moved on its own like it is already a predetermined script.

"I, Nuwa as the Great Mistress of the House of Creation, promise to uphold this end of the bargain." Nuwa stated as she also made the oath.

Two different lights came out of the two individuals. A dark purple light covered with a green ring floated out of Adrian while a white bead with a sleeping dragon floated out of Nuwa. The two lights have been fused together a system notification appeared.

[The Oath of Fellowship has been stated.]

[Anyone that dares break the oath shall be punished by the Goddess of Justice herself.]

[Do your best to keep your oaths until you become dust.]

"The oath has been made and that means that the matter regarding the black stone is now under our control. A representative from your team will be welcomed by the House of Creation with open arms in return.

I believe that one of your purposes here is to also get information about the effects of the black stone. We promise that the details that we gather even if your representative is not yet hear will be honest and true." Nuwa stated as she radiated the elegance and dignity of the Great Mistress of the House of Creation.

"You are correct as that sneaky old man wanted me to plant the black stone in Mt. Thunder when I mentioned that I will take a trip here. It just so happens that fate brought it perfectly for me." Adrian stated but he believed that this scenario must have been manipulated by the script of the devs that controls the game.

"That means that you have used me. I am appalled." Peridot stated but she is not actually serious or offended in any way. She said it in a sarcastic tone as she already received much from Adrian during their trip.

"I sacrificed an arm for you but do not tell the representative that when he or she comes here. Tell them that I sacrificed my arm in order to install the black stone." Adrian stated as his swindling personality is now activated.

"What do you get for that simple mission though?" Peridot asked as he knows that NPCs usually pay in advance when it comes to missions like this.

"About a hundred scrolls that can execute time and space magic. I already have yours here. This is ten scrolls that each of you guys will have. Five of them are Teleportation scrolls while the other five is called Rewinding scrolls since those can refresh cooldowns instantly but you can only use one per day." Adrian stated as he gave the scrolls to Peridot.

"I already got so much though but thanks anyways." Peridot stated as she does not know how to refuse a gift given by a genuine friend.

"Aiyah! You did not even try to refuse once. How can you become refined if you do not refuse only once? I already taught you that you must refuse at first and then accept it after a few tries. That is the elegance of mature women must nourish." Nuwa stated as she is also interested in those scrolls, but her student is the one that received them.

"What elegance of mature women? It is more like you are teaching her on how to be a con artist or a gold digger." Adrian thought as he now really believed that there is no normal personality type for strong NPCs.

"I will take note of that, Master. He is different though as he will immediately hide those if I even try to refuse once. I already have a good grasp on her personality which is why I immediately accepted. I already fallen for that trick once which is why I will never fall for it again." Peridot stated.

"Is this about the food that I offered you, but you said that you were not hungry which is why I ate it? I mean you just needed to be straightforward about it. You did not need to add mental gymnastics for a simple question of yes or no. Seriously, what is it with women and mind games." Adrian stated.

"I see. He must still be very pure that he thinks like that. It is always the ones that are promising that have the least experience when it comes to that aspect of life." Nuwa stated and Peridot wholeheartedly agreed with fierce nodding.

"Even she is not that well versed in that part of her life. She has been a tigress all of her life which made the boys feel scared of her. She is actually quite lucky that she managed to bag a man despite her 'pleasing' personality." Adrian replied as he also teased Peridot back for teasing him.

"Ohoho! So, my 'daughter' already bagged a man before her master. Yes...you must do that or else you will grow up like me who is sad and alone. You must be more active than me as I was very shy when I was your age." Nuwa stated but Adrian suddenly had question marks in his head because he is told a different story.

"That Dragon Lady? She is so fierce that no man dared to even come near her despite her beauty.." Pann told Adrian when they were on their way back from their first encounter in the eastern continent.

Chapter 685 - It Changed Me

"I see. Well, I should now start arranging my stuff as I will now take my leave." Adrian stated as he does not want to get caught up in anymore problems since he already handed down the right of guardianship like what Koronn planned.

The old man is too busy to even monitor the black stone all the time which is why he planned it to be relegated to someone else. He will just need to drop in occasionally in order to see the progress and Ryujin value honor above all as their motto.

No mishaps will happen as long as they keep their word, and the demons honor the deal. Koronn also wanted it placed in Mt. Thunder as he also knows about the restrictions of the mountain which means powerful followers of the dark gods will not be able to interfere with the black stone.

"How can you return when you cannot activate your spells that connect two locations? You should just wait here until all your mana circuits are fixed." Peridot stated as she knew that the only way for Adrian to return would be through riding Kanlaon all the way to the central continent.

"Do not worry as I have a scroll!" Adrian stated as he took out a teleportation scroll from his inventory.

Adrian was fairly confident that this will work and is actually showing a smile. Soon, that smile turned into a frown and then the act of throwing the scroll to the wall. A system notification brought out that reaction from him.

[Cannot use the item due to broken mana circuits.]

[Time left before mana circuits are repaired: 10 hours and 5 minutes.]

"You might have underestimated the curse placed upon you little brat. It is a curse placed by the world itself as you defied phenomena and brought about a miracle. People might not know this but 'Miracles come at a price'. Some pay it in advance, some pay it in the future and others like you... pay it upfront." Nuwa stated as she left the room to attend the meeting with the elders.

"Even I thought it might work since you could use summoning magic earlier." Peridot stated.

"I thought as well but it only solidified one of my speculations in summoning magic." Adrian stated.

"Well, look at who has so much free time to become a scholar. What did you find proof about then?" Peridot asked.

"I found proof that summoning magic actually completely uses the soul as the catalyst instead of the mana circuits present in one's body. That is the most plausible reason why I could use summoning magic earlier. I guess I need to stay here for 10 hours to recover my magic circuits." Adrian stated with a sigh as he really wanted to leave the place.

"What if I activate the magic scroll for you so that you can be on your way?" Peridot asked.

"Do you want to kill me or trap me in an unknown dimension or something?" Adrian asked rhetorically.

"Can that even happen?" Peridot asked with a serious expression.

"There is a 0.00001 chance that it could happen if you use the scroll on yourself, but I do not know how big the rise of that chance is if it is used on others. I do not want to be trapped in the Void for ten whole hours." Adrian stated as he already experienced what would happen if spatial magic were to fail or go wonky.

"Are you not sending us to our deaths by giving these things to us then? You are basically giving us a random bomb that could explode if we make a mistake." Peridot stated as she hit Adrian's head with the scroll that he tossed.

"Ouch! Do not worry as that will not happen but these scrolls are designed to be used by the caster since it will register your mana safely. You would be fine, but I will be the one that pays the price if you ever so made a slight mistake.

Have you not seen that all magic scrolls in this game uses a non-targetable skill or only those that could affect the body of the caster? If a magic scroll that could pinpoint a target would ever surface, then they could easily assassinate someone without even revealing themselves.

Not only one or two kingdoms will be at war but the whole world will be affected. A perfect assassination tool will be created if someone ever manages to do what I just told you. It would no longer be a fun game as magicians will be persecuted and those that can create magic scrolls will be burned at the stake." Adrian stated in a serious tone.

"Yah! I just had goosebumps when you told that. You really are a genius but it such a shame that you are using it in analyzing the possible future of a game. I suddenly remembered something my grandfather told me about that.

'Misplaced geniuses are often called Fools'. I guess you fit that bill to a tee. Sometimes I wonder why you even bother with the things that are not a big part of your life." Peridot stated in a sarcastic and yet judging tone.

"But Pandemonium has already been a big part of my life and it has made me realize some things." Adrian stated with a face filled with hope and genuine happiness.

"Yah! If you make a face like that when saying something cheesy then you will only make me look bad for even saying something like that to you. Anyways, I am glad that you are enjoying the game as much as I thought you would be.

Imagine! You were the one that begged us to play with you in Pandemonium, but you actually started late. The nerve to even make us wait. If you were not sick, then I would have beaten you to a pulp for not even keeping your promise.." Peridot stated with a smile that showed genuine happiness to for a friend that found his way in life.

Chapter 686 - Serious Competition

Adrian waited out the whole ten hours by either reading books about the monsters in the eastern continent or having tea with Peridot. He is particularly fond of the sweets in the game as he could eat as much as he wants without getting fat.

His mother is very strict about his diet to the fact that he dreaded hugging her. He once came back from summer camp and the moment her mother hugged her became his downfall. His training regimen became more difficult as he built up fat from eating lots of sweet snacks and late-night junk food.

"Anyways, did Levin Cloud tell you about the tickets for the Pandelympics?" Adrian asked Peridot.

"He did but how did you get them so early? Also, thanks for the ticket since I always wanted to go outside the country but my parents' busy lifestyle and them providing to all our family members are holding us back from even thinking of visiting a nearby country much less halfway across the world." Peridot stated as she is from a typical Asian family.

Her father and mother are the breadwinners of their extended family as the others are not as blessed with the world. There is nothing wrong with always being helpful as they are family but that also comes with inconveniences.

Peridot does not voice her opinion about it as she was always pampered by her parents and makes sure that all her needs are met. Even the money she earns in Pandemonium is used to lessen the burden of her siblings' education.

"I think you earned it and I have very few friends that actually stick by me through thick and thin. Although, the only reason you wanted to be my friend at first is because of Marlon." Adrian stated as he did not use the in-game name of his best friend.

"You were very observant back then that I had a difficult time clicking with you two. You had walls up that not everyone could get in as if you were traumatized by something that involves trust. A lot of people wanted to be your friend, but you only treated them as acquaintances." Peridot stated.

"Well Jade, at least I was not someone who fell in love at first sight and was head over heels. At least that love of yours blossomed even though it took quite a bit of time. Just remember to invite me to the marriage and I must be the first person to know." Adrian stated in a jovial manner but there is something hidden within that smile.

"You are really jumping the gun! I will kill you!" Peridot stated as she playfully hit Adrian.

"It seems that my master has a very deep friendship with your master." Moksha stated as he could see that the two were great friends to the point that the Qilin envied their interaction.

"Our master is not someone who easily lets someone in as you have noticed. He is a talented summoner that could just seal lots of monsters, but he is picky and determined to find what fits his character. As the eldest, I have seen my master observe numerous monsters in order to pick the right one." Sirius stated as he knows that Adrian observes the mannerisms and personality of monsters before performing a seal.

"What a weird one but then again...he would not be able to handle all of you if he was normal." Moksha stated as it closed its eyes and slept.

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Each of the players chosen to represent their country for the upcoming e-sports tournament for the game Pandemonium are preparing like crazy. When news that a special skill will be granted to those that reach level 200 reached the ears of the participants, they started to rush like madmen.

The rules of the games have already been released and one of them is very important. All characters will have the same levels fixed but their skills and masteries will be kept the same as that of their game counterparts.

The levels are fixed so that the health bars will be somewhat the same. It is also put into consideration so that the people will not be bored with the games when one party just easily wins due to the large difference. The organizers want the games to be fun and exciting while also testing the skills of the players to the utmost limits.

The players of the countries that are also members of large guilds are doing their best. This is the chance for them to prove that they are much better than the other competitions when it comes to the greatest guild. It is a matter of both pride and standing when it comes to competitions like these.

All the rules for the other games have been released except for the last raid event. They do not even know what type of opponents they will face as the developers and event coordinators are keeping their mouths shut. It seems that the last event will be the grand finale that everyone waits for as the other events are just appetizers.

The players of all the countries that will participate has also been released. Like any type of media on the internet, some were met with praises while some are bashed due to petty things like jealousy. Some are even having rumors floating around about their personal life that should not affect their game but being in the spotlight is difficult.

Life is all about sacrifice as nothing is ever free and things come at a price. You want to be famous then some of your privacy will be affected as a result. You want to excel in your job then your social life will be impacted.

The players of each group are faced with praises and criticism but they are still determined to win the games as they want to be the first champions that the world of Pandemonium has ever seen.. That title is something to be coveted.

Chapter 687 - Sprouting Tombs I

While Adrian and Peridot are enjoying their rest time, an attendant suddenly came and fetched both of them. Adrian's senses suddenly tingled as he felt that something is amiss and wanted to escape immediately.

"Oh, my goodness! Look at the time. I must prepare for my departure as I suddenly remembered something that I needed to do." Adrian stated as he started to pack his things and headed towards the exit.

Adrian is about to walk away when the Qilin, Moksha, suddenly grew to its full form and pinned Adrian to the ground. The Qilin dragged Adrian against his will, but he did not even fight back because he could not do so. The scream of a young boy could be heard echoing in the mountain for a few minutes.

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Nuwa joined the meeting of the elders and reported all the things that she learned from Adrian. She did not hide thing as there is one thing that must be observed in meetings like this. The Elders of the House of Creation are meeting in a special place inside of the mountain itself.

This place has been blessed by the Dragon of Truth herself before she passed away. This is considered one of the holy places of the elders and the best meeting spot for discussing things involving the eastern continent.

The elders are shocked to learn that this black stone that she spoke off might be a key to the Philosopher's stone which reportedly could transmute any material to a highly valuable material. The ability of the Philosopher's stone is Transmutation but there is one thing that the elders of the House of Creation know about the Philosopher's stone.

"To think that the stone said to be able to bring back the dead might be closer than we think." One of the elders of the House of Creation stated.

"I still remember when that kind of stone existed, it became the root of all evil because of the greediness of men. We must prevent this black stone to fall into the wrong hands if it is an ingredient for the Philosopher's stone." Another elder of the House of Creation stated.

"I say that we destroy it so that we no longer have any future endeavors. We must also demand the demons to hand over their supply so that we can be sure that nothing of that horrific incident will happen again." Another elder of the House of Creation added.

"When it was first made, the Philosopher's stone became the most helpful item that restored the world into a beautiful one. It made the filthy energy of the dark gods into beautiful and useful things for the last of the living beings.

Power is only evil and dangerous when it lands on the hands of those who are evil and will stop at nothing to get what they want. Also, the demons said that it might only be a possibility and they are not entirely sure. This is the reason why one of their elders chose Mt. Thunder for a reason." The oldest of the elders of the House of Creation stated.

"Are you saying that they deliberately put something dangerous here in the eastern continent? Where is that demon brat! I might as well punish him myself for doing something like that." The most violent elder of the House of Creation stated.

"If they chose Mt. Thunder then they chose well as no Array Master has emerged for a thousand years. Even the strongest Charm Master has yet to even step foot in that realm. That will be the safest spot to handle that black stone." The elder that was silent just now stated which made those that want to cause a ruckus calm down.

"It might just be a better conduit stone and not an ingredient. Fearing the unknown is not our style as only humans do that. We are Ryujin and we are beings that value knowledge than anything else. I already sent some to inspect the black stone as it already has caused quite a stir to the other houses." Nuwa stated as she knew that a stone that could actually channel that amount of energy will be beneficial to the Ryujin.

"The Grand Mistress is correct. We are not humans who fear the unknown as we are known to face the unknown with smiles. The stone might be a chance to bring us to new heights or absolute destruction, but we will always stay strong and objective. Do all of you agree?" The oldest of the elders of the House of Creation stated as he reminded them that they are not weak.

"Since that matter is settled then let us go to the next one. Are we sure about Little Peridot's Qilin? Is it really safe for her to be attached to that thing to the point that they share the same soul?" One of the elders stated as she is worried for Peridot's safety.

"I might not like to admit it, but that young demon is very gifted when it comes to the magic relating to the souls of others. He is the Champion of the Twin Gods after all, and it seems that Peridot's special someone is the Envoy of the Twin Gods.

Suffice to say...if something were to go awry then her friend and lover will definitely be able to handle it better than us. They are chosen by the two primordial gods that have usually stayed indifferent to the plight of the people." Nuwa stated but there is still a bit of worry painted on their faces.

"No more objections then onto the next important topic, it seems that we have been getting reports of tomb like dungeons suddenly sprouting from random locations." An elder reported.

"What are these tombs? Are you sure it is a tomb or just a dungeon that looks like a tomb?" Another elder asked.

"We have confirmed it is a tomb as it looked like a large mausoleum fit for a king.. The only difference is that the things inside are like clay soldiers."

Chapter 688 - Sprouting Tombs II

"I will file this to the law as I am being dragged against my will!" Adrian stated in protest.

"Shut it will you! You are needed which is why I am dragging you myself to the mission area. Well, more like Moksha is dragging you under my command. I already know your personality that runs away when you smell something bothersome." Peridot stated as they were escorted to the Room of Truth to meet the other elders.

"Peridot greets the elders of the House of Creation." Peridot stated as she bowed with respect. The elders of the House of Creation all looked at her with smiling faces and beaming smiles.

"Hi, old dudes!" Adrian greeted to which the elders found unpleasant as some of them are sensitive about their age. All of them are sensitive about it but some plants grudges if you mention something about their age. The smile that they showed immediately turned into frowns.

"It is good that both of you are now here. I have a mission for the two of you." Nuwa stated.

"I know that I am here due to my duty but why did you need my friend's help?" Peridot asked as she was sent a telepathic message to make sure that Adrian will also come.

"The problem that we are currently experiencing will need the expertise of someone that is connected to the God of Death. We need both of you to investigate the tombs that are sprouting in random areas of the eastern continent." Nuwa stated which made Adrian somewhat interested.

"By tombs, you mean the ones floating in the rumors that give ordinary people special abilities that resemble the one that is buried in the tomb?" Peridot stated as she knows the gossips that are circulating in the eastern continent due to her secret excursions.

"How did you know of that information? You know what never mind. The young demon looks uninterested since we dragged you here against your will, but we will compensate you with any reward you desire as long as it is not something on the level or higher than the Pinnacle Magic stone that you wanted to get extracted." Nuwa stated.

Adrian smiled as this might be the perfect chance to get hold of the item that he has been searching for a long time. He still needs to evolve his second oldest soulbound that he cherishes but his evolution path has been stunted because Adrian could not find a way to introduce another evolution.

"If that is the case then I want the Core of a Wind Dragon." Adrian stated boldly since they so gladly offered any compensation.

The members of the House of Creation got stunned at Adrian's request as it is lower in quality compared to the pinnacle magic stone but who in their right mind will give the core of a dragon to someone that they barely know despite being a close friend of their cherished 'granddaughter'.

"To actually dare demand dragons to give up the core of another dragon! Preposterous! We should punish him for thinking so little of us." One of the elders stated in a slightly angry tone.

"You guys said anything that is lower in quality than a Pinnacle Magic stone so I chose something that I need. I am currently handicapped so this compensation should be just enough." Adrian stated as he pointed out that he is missing a whole arm.

"We shall agree but in return, you must find out the real truth about the sprouting tombs." Nuwa stated which made the other elders shut their mouths as the Grand Mistress herself agreed.

[You have agreed in receiving the mission 'Investigate the Sprouting Tombs'.]

QUEST NOTIFICATION

Mission: Investigate the Sprouting Tombs'

Description: The Grand Mistress of the House of Creation wants to know why there are random tombs dedicated to fallen heroes of the past suddenly sprouting in the eastern continent. Find out what is causing these disturbances and find out if the rumors are true.

Difficulty Rank: S

Completion Requirement: Reason for the Sprouting Tombs (0/100%)

Completion Reward: One Wind Dragon Core

Failure: None

Failure Penalty: Reduction in Trust with the House of Creation.

Restriction: Mission can only be completed when in the same party with the individual named 'Peridot'.

NPC Companion: Saru (Level 199)

"Peridot will be accompanying you since you are currently not in tip shape for fighting. I am giving both of you this mission because there are restrictions in entering the tombs. And only the both of you fit the bill in this entire house. Saru will also be present to protect you my beloved student." Nuwa stated.

"I am grateful for the protection that you have given me, master." Peridot replied.

"Is there something that we should know about the tombs before we will head out in about an hour?" Adrian asked as he could only cast magic after the timer for his magic circuits become zero. He will be able to complete cast magic again after an hour.

"The only thing that we have noticed about these tombs are their random locations. There has also been an instance that a tomb that has been cleared popped out again in another location but there is no same tomb that sprouts at the same time." Nuwa stated which Adrian already made a hypothesis given the sample data that he has been given.

"Is there anything that we need to know about the tombs? Like the enemies that are present inside?" Peridot asked.

"The only thing we know is that all the enemies inside the dungeon are types of humanoid golems. Apparently, beating the whole tomb will grant you strength equal that of the person that the statue represents but nothing has been proven if that happens all the time." Nuwa stated.

"Despite them being made of clay, the enemies are fierce and strong that most of those that can enter the tomb has died. A golem that is made of metal is said to be the strongest monster in the dungeon.." Another elder added which made Adrian come alive as defeating metal enemies is the way to go.

Chapter 689 - Sprouting Tombs III

"A tomb that is populated by clay soldiers with the boss being a hero from the past. Saru does not look like he has an idea either." Adrian uttered as they are now going to the newly sprouted tomb dungeon that is reported.

"I think we are already in the area." Peridot stated as she pointed to an area that is filled with people.

The tomb that emerged looked like a giant cave entrance which is decorated by mysterious items and symbols. Adrian could feel that something is different in the air, but he could not pinpoint its exact nature.

Players started to clamor as they saw a huge dragon descending from the sky and two people riding on it. Accompanying the two people is a monkey like person that rode a cloud. When the two people descended, numerous gazes and chattering noises could be heard as the crowd recognize the two people.

"It is Equinox and Peridot, but something is strange with Equinox' right arm?!" One of the players whispered as a sudden wave of gossip suddenly emerged from the crowds. Adrian covered his right side with the cloak as it could be easily changed in the way it is hung on the body.

"It seems that we have gained some fame from being other races." Adrian stated but he did not really care to hide anymore as he is strong enough to defend himself.

"More like notoriety since you are famed for allegedly kill stealing the boss during the dark god raid." Peridot stated as she moved to the entrance of the tomb.

"Is that why some people have glares that could kill? Then again, I never really cared but what are they doing here in a tomb?" Adrian asked as he does not know why there are a ton of players here when the reported loot of the place is chump change.

"It seems that something blew up when we were waiting for you to heal your magic circuits." Peridot stated as she could see that the forum for the eastern continent started blowing up.

"What is the commotion all about?" Adrian asked as it seemed to be something great for a lot of high leveled players to gather in a certain place.

"It seems that someone got a Legendary Tier skill when she defeated the boss with her teammates when they cleared a tomb. It was only her that got the skill, and it is extremely powerful as it buffed

the team with near impenetrable defense." Peridot stated as she read the thread of the player and she even posted video evidence to back up her claims.

"If they really wanted that then why are they not raiding the tomb?" Adrian muttered as he soon arrived at the conclusion why no player has yet to enter the tomb.

[Answer the riddle in order to gain entrance to the tomb.]

[Riddle: My life can be measured in hours; I serve by being devoured. Thin, I am quick. Fat, I am slow. Wind is my foe.]

"It seems that we need to answer the riddle in order to proceed. Do you have the answer?" Peridot asked.

"I have the answer. Do we go inside now?" Adrian asked via the party chat.

Peridot is about to answer when a group of individuals suddenly came towards Adrian and Peridot. The items that these five people wore are definitely not normal as it is shining like it has been enhanced. The only thing that Adrian did not like of the group is their attitude of arrogance that they radiated.

"Are you that famous demon player?" One of the players that came towards Adrian asked.

"I do not know about famous, but I am of the demon race." Adrian replied but did not look at them since he is busy looking at the layout of the tomb.

"Party with us and you will easily clear this tomb. We are from the Shadow Claw guild, and we can assure you that anything you encounter inside is covered." The man that looked like a berserker stated as he radiated that arrogant attitude that Adrian finds annoying and hurts his eyes.

"I do not know of your guild but thank you for the offer. The three of us are already enough to clear this tomb." Adrian stated respectfully as he does not want to sound snarky or an inflated ego.

The man finally snapped as he thought that Adrian is looking down on them because he is famous. He admits that the Shadow Claw guild might not be a top guild now, but it is steadily growing into one. The man wanted to lunge at Adrian but a mage from their team pointed at Kanlaon and then to Saru.

"I did not say that to offend you, but my friend and I are in a mission that we cannot share nor have other party members in the group. Please be understanding of that. Goodbye!" Adrian stated with a smile as he answered the riddle by drawing runes that spell out the word 'Candle'.

Adrian and his group vanished from the outside which made the others gasp in shock. The fact that they entered the tomb earlier than those that arrived before them meant that they knew the way in. Someone from the crowd stated that Equinox drew something in the air using mana.

"What did he do?!" One of the players that witnessed the sudden disappearance of Adrian's group shouted as he believed it to be witchcraft or some type of magic that can shift locations since demons operate like that.

When the players tried looking at the playback, they found out that he drew some symbols, but they do not know what they mean. They tried recreating the word that Adrian drew but nothing happened even if they perfectly copied it.

Writing the word Candle is not the only way to enter the tomb but Adrian used the most inconspicuous method instead of saying the word outright with his will. The only thing that the players missed is that they did not infuse will to their words which is why the tomb never accepted it.

"It is no use. I cannot encrypt the message which is why we need someone who can understand runic languages." The female mage player from the Shadow Claw guild stated.

"So, we will be stuck here while that lucky player just has a free pass?" The leader of players from the Shadow Claw organization stated which meant that they will not stop until they get the money."

"It is not that, but I do need a moment to talk to someone and he just waltz in from the corner like a child." Another member from the shadow guild stated.

"Make sure that demon brat gets a bounty or else I will rampage here and hunt those that failed." The berserker looking person stated as he indeed to be on his way to the toilet for a break.

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Adrian, Peridot and Saru arrive inside of the tomb, and it is pitch black. Adrian had no problem, but Peridot does not have the ability to see. She had to illuminate one of her floating gems in order to even see the light of day.

"What is this place?" Peridot asked.

"It feels familiar in a sense, but I do not know what it is. Is it one of the Deathlands but that should be impossible? I can feel it inside of my bones, but I cannot remember what it is, but I know this feeling like I have always been a part of it." Adrian stated as he thought where the scent inside of the tomb is familiar.

"What are you doing?" Peridot asked as Adrian is ducked onto the ground while smelling the eerie mist that rolled out.

"I am trying to see if a Deathland is accidentally summoned here which made the clay soldiers walk and kill people that enter their master's tomb. It is almost like they are being controlled but I am not sure if the area of coverage is small or large." Adrian added as his keen observations continued to evolve with his skills.

Before Peridot could react, a group of fifty clay soldiers suddenly sprouted from the ground despite being dead for years. The clay soldiers were not that difficult for their group since they are quite brittle and easy to break with just the perfect amount of pressure. The clay soldiers that attacked them easily got broken amidst the fight.

"Sorry that I was not much of help from your battle against them." Adrian stated.

"So, this is what it feels to be in the front line. I kind of got jealous that you will be sitting back but then again, it is still better than not telling him something that I learned." Peridot stated which Adrian heard.

"The clay soldiers are nothing but fragile pottery but the alarming thing the fact that those kids are just normal humans that I failed to protect."

Chapter 690 - Tomb Of Kongming

"So, this is what it feels to be in the front line. I kind of got jealous that you will be sitting back but then again, it is still better than not telling him something that I learned." Peridot stated which Adrian heard.

"The clay soldiers are nothing but fragile pottery, but the alarming thing is the fact that those kids are just normal humans that I failed to protect." A voice from somewhere echoed throughout Adrian's ear.

He got surprised as the voice he heard felt like it is directly said beside his ear. The only explanation that he could surmise from this experience is that a wandering spirit told him something. The only problem is that the spirit is not showing itself to him.

[You have entered the Tomb of Kongming.]

Adrian, Peridot and Saru arrived at the inside of the tomb with fifty clay soldiers, but they easily destroyed them. Peridot looked at the loot and it disappointed to see that there is nothing valuable being dropped by the mobs.

"Do you have any idea who this Kongming person is?" Adrian asked as the tombs seemed to be connected to heroes of the eastern continent in the past era.

"I do not, and I have not even encountered that name in any of the books on heroes that I have read. Not all heroes are recorded in ledgers or notebooks as some died before their legend could spread while some are erased from the history books." Peridot answered as she knew that not everything is recorded.

People like to say that History is a perfect retelling of the past but that is not true. History is written by the victors. A saying that rings true even to this day as some countries that were conquered by ancient monarchies have their history erased.

In fact, some of them have their history start at the time where they got conquered by the ancient monarchies. It is a sad but true reality as they will never know what their real history is despite being able to free their country.

"If that is the case then this Kongming fellow must be someone that they tried to or at least want to forget. Sometimes being an absolute villain is better than being a hero because they remember you more for the bad things you have done to people." Adrian stated as unspoken heroes are never really discussed but the most notorious people in history are always recorded and talked about.

"That is just sad." Peridot stated.

"It might be sad, but the people of the world would rather remember the worst of the worst than the best of the best. Some people could just not bear someone to supersede them when it comes to good deeds as they do not want to feel that they lack as a human being." Adrian added.

"How about you Saru? Do you know of a person named Kongming? This is his tomb so we might have a better chance of clearing it if we know who he is." Peridot asked.

"Unfortunately, I do not know of a person named Kongming that is said to be a hero. He might not even be a hero as some tombs seem to be from unknown people of origin. It is just that one of the tombs that we secured a few days earlier is a tomb of a hero.

The tomb of the hero did not have much difference to this tomb. The only reason that we knew that the previous tomb is for a hero is due to the fact that one of the elders remembered her." Saru stated as he recalled the things that he was told about the tombs.

The three could not get any information about the name Kongming which is why they decided to push through. The way back outside is not even known as they were thrown in a place that was barely lit with no exit. They did not even know how they got inside of the tomb as they got swallowed by something after Adrian unlocked the code.

"Do you find anything strange?" Peridot once again asked Adrian as she cannot hear the voices of the elemental spirits inside the tomb. She could only rely on her own mana to use spells.

"It is strange because it feels like we are inside of a pocket dimension but not at the same time." Adrian stated.

"Can you elaborate please? Not all of us are demons so we do not know what you really feel." Peridot stated.

"Fine then. Demons have this unique sense they have from birth which could differentiate the space they are in. It means we know instantly if we get trapped inside an area or something. The same feeling goes for other dimensions.

Pocket dimensions feel constricted and tight which means that it gives us the feeling of being claustrophobic. Normal dimensions are not too much and feels like a gentle breeze is hitting your skin. Dimensions that are extremely vast gives us the feeling that we are incredibly small." Adrian explained as he gave the explanation of what he is currently feeling.

"So...you are saying that we are trapped inside of a pocket dimension but not at the same time." Peridot asked as she tried wrapping her head around the topic of a demon's sixth sense.

"This tomb feels like it is contracting as I could feel something pulsating but the numerous voices that I can hear is making me unable to focus properly to even investigate." Adrian stated as he would be distracted by something from the corner of his eye.

"You are hearing voices? I cannot hear anyone. The silence is actually creeping me out which is why I am talking to you." Peridot stated as they continued exploring the tomb. Occasionally, a group of five to ten clay soldiers would attack them but Peridot and Saru could easily destroy them in mere seconds.

"At first, the voices were audible but now they are speaking at the same time that it is making my head spin. They are not ordinary souls as they could voice out their thoughts albeit in a crazy sort of manner." Adrian stated as he could be seen suddenly jumped back from fright.

"Why did you react like that?" Peridot asked as she could be seen also somewhat disturbed by Adrian's reaction as he never acted this strongly before.

[Your party member, Equinox, is afflicted by Fear.]

[If he gets more than ten stacks then he will be afflicted by Terror.]

"I heard someone wanting to kill me and they sounded like they were behind me." Adrian replied as he could feel that something is not correct. He is being tormented by something that even he could not see which should be impossible. His eyes are made to be able to see souls so being unable to see spirits of the dead are a given.

"You were afflicted by a status condition which is why you are hearing things. You already have one stack of fear. You must be careful as they seem to be aiming you particularly since Saru and I are not having the same problem as you." Peridot stated as she tried using a cleansing spell towards Adrian.

[Cannot purify the status ailment.]

"What the heck! I cannot even heal that annoying status ailment that you have. You have to find out if you can use some potions." Peridot stated as Adrian finally noticed that something is indeed afflicting him that it makes him worried that he would be more of a burden than someone here to help.

Adrian checked on his status ailment and found out that he got afflicted by an array. He found it weird as he did not trigger an array from his perspective until he remembered that he woke up from a sleep. He could have been directly transported on top of a trap that induces fear in the long term and it activated without him even knowing.

Adrian then noticed that his senses are being dulled and that strange voices are being heard from everywhere. He then activated his ocular skill to the fullest as he wanted to know if there are more arrays set in place.

Upon using his evil eye, Adrian could not believe what he saw as the whole tomb is actually a culmination of arrays. This Kongming person might actually be someone from the ancient era that is an Array Master.

"If he really is an array master then I hit the jackpot! The whole place is covered by magic circles that utilize the ley lines as a power source." Adrian thought as he could learn more about arrays and the loot might actually be array formations that he could study.

"How is that Jackpot when nothing could be done in dispelling those arrays?! You already lost an arm! Do not tell me that you actually want to lose the other one as well?" Peridot stated.