

# Solar Ascension

## *Chapter 26: Nox Vs The Tier 1 Eclipsed*

\*\*\*A Few Minutes Ago\*\*\*

The Examiner, Garron Boar, looked at the screens before him with a focused look.

He had long gotten used to the two power houses of the academy standing in the same room as him and refusing to leave.

The technicians though, not so much.

They were focused on making sure not a single thing goes wrong with the simulation, least they risk embarrassing themselves before the headmistress.

The candidates didn't know this....well, since it was general knowledge, but each had a camera trained on them at all times, so the examiner would see exactly what went on.

In the forest also, there were some instructors from the Stealth Division just a tree jump away from rescuing the candidates if something did indeed go wrong.

Garron looked at the camera tracking the new candidate, though she requested to be teleported close to the candidate named Nox, she was far away for them not to immediately meet.

And he suspected she was heading towards his direction from the way she moved. Although she entered the test a few minutes later than the rest,

She was currently at the top of the table, leading with a ridiculous amount of points in just a short amount of time.

'What is that kid?' Garron couldn't help but think.

He then turned turned the screen showing Nox, who was trying to escape from the Eclipsed, much to his disappointment.

Yes the creature's size was scaled up for this test, but it was still a tier 1, it was no more harmful than a mouse and yet, the kid didn't have the guts to stand and fight it.

Though, for a coward, his instincts for dodging were really impressive, but the examiner knew he couldn't keep that up much longer.

And he was right.

Garron watched as the kid got momentarily distracted, only for the creature to take the chance and leapt at him.

With a sigh, he tapped his watch, about to order one of the instructors to pull him out of the exams but he was stopped.

"It's fine, Radiant Boar," the headmistress's serene voice caused him to pause and turn towards her, "let the kid continue."

"But, Headmistress," he began carefully, glancing at the screen where Nox was about to become lunch, "the boy is about to be incapacitated. If we wait too long—"

"He'll be fine," she said with a smile before pointing back at the screen, "just watch."

Nodding, he turned back to the screen and as the headmistress had stated, just moments before the creature's maw could snap shut on his head, the kid disappeared, reappearing a few meters away.

"I knew he could do it," Ascend Dawn said with a wide grin on her face as they watched the kid let his SE flow through the gauntlets and they activated.

'I guess I understinted the kid,' Garron said as he focused on the screen again, watching as he took something you'd hardly call a battle stance, 'show me what you can do kid.'

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Back in the simulation, a rush of adrenaline or rather Solar Energy flowed through Nox as he stood waiting for the Eclipsed to make the first move.

The creature was now a lot more cautious as it looked at its prey. The prey didn't feel helpless as it had been before which made it hesitate.

But unlike a true intelligent being, this one was guided by its instincts and currently, due to Nox's use of SE, it could smell quite the delicious smell coming from its prey.

With a hungry growl, the Eclipsed launched itself at him, but this time he was ready.

He searched for the same feeling as before and before the creature could reach him, he teleported away again in a flash of golden light, but this time, instead of reappearing far away from it, he appeared just to its open side.

The Eclipsed didn't get a chance to realize that the prey was now at its blind spot. Nox immediately took the advantage, he pulled his fist back and threw a punch.

There was no technique behind it. He had no special stance nor form, he was just by instinct and the mind-numbing determination of not failing this test.

Still, the instant his fist connected with the creature's ribs,

**BOOM!**

The Eclipsed let out a screech of pain, its entire massive frame lifted off its feet as it was launched sideways, slamming into multiple trees which fell upon contact.

Nox staggered back, staring down at his trembling hand.

The numbness in them quickly faded and a wide grin appeared on his face. This feeling was exhilarating.

He looked back at the recovering Eclipsed with a smile, the next moment, he was gone again, appearing by its side and delivering a strike.

**BANG!**

The shockwave this time caused the trees around to tremble as the creature was launched in the opposite direction.

Nox didn't let up, every one of his attacks were followed up by the next and the next until he was completely lost in the feeling of SE flowing through him.

It felt as if he had just awakened a missing piece of himself, one that made him feel truly alive.

The forest around was now filled with dust, craters and fallen trees as Nox continued ragdolling the Eclipsed.

"Stay down," he let out as he appeared above the creature's and threw another punch towards its head.

**BOOM!**

This punched had the strongest impact yet, as the shockwaves forced the trees to sway and the dust to immediately clear up.

A new crater was formed was formed in the shape of the Eclipsed, one where it twitched for a couple of seconds before going completely still.

Nox awkwardly landing, quickly balancing himself to prevent faceplanting to the ground, he then took a seating position as he caught his breath.

Though that was unneeded since his SE was doing it job.

"D-did I win?" He asked as he looked at the battered creature's still body.

As if a reply to his question, his watch let out a ding.

[DING!

Eclipsed Eliminated

Tier 1 – +20 Points]

[Total: 20]

*Chapter 27: Fear*

[DING!

**Eclipsed Eliminated**

**Tier 2 – +50 Points]**

**[Total: 350]**

In the last thirty minutes, Nox had managed to take down thirteen Eclipsed, ten tier ones and three tier two, and he had learnt a couple of things.

One, turns out, the emotions he always got from Solar tech wasn't actually from the Solar tech itself but rather the residual SE that flowed within.

This was proved by how 'silent' his boots were before he activated them with his SE.

This was important because, even though Nox had virtually zero combat experience, the 'emotions' from the tech acted as a kind of guide.

This didn't automatically make him a combat genius, but at least he wasn't completely lost when it came to using the tech he had in hand.

Two, he was embarrassingly bad at SE Control. Yes, he could now use solar tech but all he had been doing came from instincts.

Everytime he consciously tried guiding his SE he'd either end up overloading the Solar tech, as shown by the cracks appearing on the SE pathways or outright do the opposite of what he wanted to.

When he allowed his instincts to take over, everything worked perfectly well until he tried manually controlling his SE.

"This is stupid," he muttered, "why is it so hard to control?"

His frustration was pretty evident, after all, what was the use of awakening a cool ability if you couldn't actually control it.

Instincts could only take him so far.

Golden light enveloped him as he teleported away from the Eclipsed attack reappearing behind it and swinging his gauntleted fist at it, an action which he found a lot easier now.

**BOOM!**

The shockwave shook the ground as the Eclipsed was sent flying towards a tree before it completely stopped moving, turning.

**[DING!]**

**Eclipsed Eliminated**

**Tier 2 – +50 Points]**

**[Total: 400]**

He now understood why tier ones and twos were used in the test, anyone with a bit of SE could take them on.

"This should put me in the top 50 right?" He muttered as he looked at his scores on the watch before sighing and taking a seat on the forest floor.

Another thing he had realized was that his body had stopped absorbing SE ever since he finished climbing the stairs.

Instead, it felt as it was actually being created within him, hence, the reason why no matter how much SE he wasted when actively trying to channel it, he never seen to run out.

But all this just raised more questions for him. Why could he, unlike everyone else, use SE without a core?

How was he even generating it within his body?

After all, humans had naturally tried to absorb SE years ago, back when they hadn't figured out how to use the energy, and the results were.....less than desirable.

"Maybe it's because of the being in my dream?" He muttered as he thought about it.

The being of light had obviously done something to him and just after, he could absorb and control SE which meant it was somehow responsible.

"Well," he said as he stood back up, "let's gather a few more points, just to be safe."

According to Devon each division in the academy accepted a certain number of students and it's usually fifty.

But before he could move a feeling of dread washed over him. It was the same feeling he felt while in the plaza.

It felt as if he was being watched by a bigger predator, one with a presence so big that it made it hard for Nox to breathe.

"You're.... interesting," a voice was heard from behind him and he slowly turned towards it.

After finally fully turning around, he was faced with dull gray eyes, ones that had not a single bit of emotion within.

The owner of them had short black hair and was wearing the same combat uniform as he did, but he didn't get the time to give her a once over.

Now that he was facing her, his instincts were screaming louder, warning him to make himself as small as possible so the monster before then didn't take notice.

But it was too late, she had her gray eyes locked with Nox's golden ones.

Before he could react or take a step back, she suddenly disappeared and the next moment she was right in front of him.

Like Nox, she seemed to have a solar tech that allowed her to teleport, but unlike the golden light that briefly enveloped him when he did, she had a more darker energy almost like wisps of black smoke.

Nox stood incredibly still as she leaned closer, observing his face, almost as if she was looking for something.

He didn't know when or for how long, but he he held his breath and refused to make the slightest of movements.

"Are you afraid of me?" The girl asked as she looked at his reaction.

Of course he was, the aura she gave off made him feel as if an Eclipsed was standing before him instead of a human.

But he wasn't going to say that...or rather, he couldn't.

"I see," she mumbled under her breath before stepping back a bit, "the headmistress did say to try and smile when meeting new people...maybe that'll work?"

The next second she gave him a smile... correction, tried to smile, only for it to come out awkwardly on her face.

It looked like she had some type of face cramp and worse still, there was no emotion in the 'smile'.

Her eyes were still bereft of emotions and she seen to be straining her face with an expression it wasn't used to.

"That didn't work?" She muttered as her expression returned to normal, "headmistress says a smile can help make people comfortable, I guess she was wrong."

Of course, that 'smile' only worked to make people terrified not comfortable, so how in the world did she expect that to work.

"I-I think the smile just needs more emotion," Nox finally managed to mutter.

If there was one good thing that came out of the smile, it was that it allowed him control over his brain again.

"I see," she nodded before looking back at him, but before she could say anything, an Eclipsed that had been waiting for an opportunity to attack finally did.

But before it could get any closer, spikes rose from the ground, impaling it mid air.

Nox's eyes widened at the action, but they got even wider when her watch announced.

**[DING!]**

**Eclipsed Eliminated**

**Tier 2 – +50 Points]**

**[Total Points: 1950]**

## *Chapter 28: A Problem*

"You're weird," the girl, who Nox had now learnt was named Ayla, said.

"You're one to talk," he said...or rather wanted to, but there was no way he would.

The feeling of dread had subsided or rather, he had completely compressed it. The trick to it was to allow his SE to freely flow within him and that feeling just disappeared.

Though, it was still subtly there every now and then.

A couple of minutes with her and he had learnt a few things, one, she was ridiculously strong.

All the tier one and two primals that had come their way had easily been taken care of by her and she didn't even seem to be trying.

And two, she had no idea what personal space meant, after all, she had refused to step back the moment he started circulating his SE.

"Can you.... step back a bit, please?" He requested.

"Hmm?" She let out before looking at the space between the and saying, "oh.."

"The headmistress did say something about personal space," Ayla muttered thoughtfully, "am I in it?"

"Yes," Nox nodded.

"Oh," she muttered before taking one step back.

...Then another.

...Then three more.

She stopped only when she was like ten meters away, she then looked at him before asking,

"Am I out of it?"

He speechlessly stared at her wondering what the hell was wrong with the girl.

Maybe she was trying to be amusing because she noticed he had been a bit afraid of her.

No, that definitely wasn't it and the look on her face told him so.



"...That's too far," he said after a while.

Ayla looked down at her feet, then back at him.

"So... here?" she asked, taking a small step forward.

With an exhausted sigh, he took a few steps towards her before stopping and saying, "this is fine."

"Right," she nodded.

"So," Nox started, "what do you want from me?"

"You are interesting," she said without hesitation, "your energy and the smell is different."

"Sme—" he froze before taking a whiff of himself.

Yes he came from the slums, but he ensured he showered everyday. Besides, he remembered taking a shower earlier today so there was no way he gave off whatever scent she was picking up.

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Back in the sky box, the headmistress chuckled as she observed the two. The first interaction between light and darkness was going completely different from what she expected.

She had 'seen' the way dread overcame Nox when he first met Ayla, but the kid had been smart enough...well, more like instinctive enough to let his Solar Energy circulate and suppress the natural fear response.

"Your kid is weird," Astra muttered with a frown as she focused on the screen showing Nox and Ayla.

"Well, she hasn't had much interaction with people besides me," the headmistress replied calmly, there was a small smile on her face.

As the two continued speaking, one of the technicians, unseen by the eyes of most in the room, subtly moved his hand to a button he definitely shouldn't press, at least not in an entrance test anyway.

Hesitating for only a few seconds, he tapped on it and the screens of all the other technicians changed, displaying the same thing.

**[UNAUTHORIZED COMMAND RECEIVED]**

**[ECLIPSED BEHAVIOR PARAMETERS OVERRIDE]**

**[COMPLETE SIMULATION LOCKDOWN]**

**[THREAT LEVEL: ESCALATING TO TIER 3]**

**[SIMULATION SAFETY LOCKS DISABLED]**

"What was that?" Astra's gaze immediately moved towards the screens as soon as that warning was heard.

The headmistress didn't answer immediately, instead she turned towards the technicians, her eyes, hidden behind the white cloth glowed as she scanned each of them.

Her gaze fixed on one of the technician, the one now sweating bullets as he tried and failed to look calm.

"Interesting," she muttered which immediately caused the man to freeze.

But she didn't call him out, not yet at least. The headmistress just calmly watched the panic settle on the faces of the other technicians.

Garron Boar, however, was the opposite of calm.

His massive hand slammed onto the console near the technician as he barked, "Who the hell authorized a Tier 3 override during an admission test?!"

"T-The system... it must be a malfunction—" the head technician stuttered but was cut off.

"Don't lie to me," Garron let out an angry growl, "how the fuck does the system just malfunction when we have the best technicians controlling it?"

He grabbed the technician by the collar, effortlessly lifting him off the ground like he weighed nothing.

Before the terrified man could respond, the headmistress raised a hand.

"Radiant Boar," she said calmly. "Set him down."

Garron hesitated for a moment, before he then obeyed, dropping the man back into his seat.

But her next words caused the entire room to freeze in shock.

"Let it continue."

Astra turned to her with a glare, "the hell do you mean let it continue?! A Tier 3 will tear those kids apart. Half of them don't even know how to use their tech properly!"

"They'll be fine," The headmistress simply responded.

Astra froze for the second time today doing a double take to make sure she heard the blind bat right.

"Did you hit your head on the way here?" she asked flatly. "Because there is no universe where throwing Tier 3s at a bunch of fifteen to seventeen year olds counts as fine!"

"They'll be fine," the headmistress repeated, keeping that annoying smile on her face, "besides, the teachers from the Stealth division can step in if things goes south."

"Also," she added, "even if you wanted to, there's no way to stop the override in time or even enter the simulation."

"Watch me," was Astra's answer as she walked out of the sky box and down the elevator which led to the door of the simulation room, which was tightly sealed.

"Let's go rescue my lab rat," she said as she pulled her fist back and slammed it on the door.

**BOOM!**

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While Astra tried breaking the door down and entering the simulation room, Nox and Ayla froze at the new notifications on their watches.

Well, mostly Nox since Ayla was just curiously looking at it.

Before he could say anything, a low growl was heard behind him...well, rather than one, he heard multiple so he stiffly turned around only to realize that they had been surrounded.

"Shit."

*Chapter 29: Shadow Girl*

"Shit," Nox cursed as he looked around.

They were currently completely surrounded by Eclipsed and for some reason, he was getting bad feeling.

A feeling which was confirmed by the watch he currently wore,

[Warning: Safety parameters have been removed, multiple tier 3 Eclipsed has been generated.]

Nox's eyes went blank as he read the message, he blinked multiple times to ensure his eyes weren't tricking him as he reread the message.

Ayla, by his side, didn't seem to have any reaction to it...though that just seemed to be her 'normal' reaction to everything.

"We're surrounded," she stated, helpfully.

"I can see that," Nox answered with a frown, before turning to her, "any ideas?"

She seemed to think about it for a second or two before replying, "we kill them?"

"That's your plan?" He asked, as if that wasn't obvious enough.

"Yes, is it not correct?" She asked innocently

"No, I mean, YES, but..." He let out a loud sigh, still keeping an eye on the Eclipsed that hadn't made a move yet, "forget it, what does your solar tech do?"

"Solar tech?" She asked a bit confused.

Nox looked at her in surprise before explaining, "...Yes? Your gear? The thing you've been using to take down the Eclipsed."

Well, she looked as confused as ever now. It seemed as if she had no idea what he was talking about... Until a while later, when realization dawned on her .

"Ah, right. My... Solar tech." She nodded mechanically.

Nox raised a brow but he didn't question her reaction, "okay... and what does yours do?"

"I...I can control shadows?" It sounded more like a question than a reply.

That was strange, most solar tech he had heard of were light based but a shadow one? Maybe some kind of new model?

"Good, you'll handle those —"

Before his words could be completed, one of the Eclipsed let out a loud roar which seemed to be a signal for the rest to attack and they soon lunged at them.

Guided by instincts, he teleported away from his previous spot as one of the Eclipsed crashed there.

He looked back to make sure Ayla was okay, only to see that she had also teleported away and in her place was an Eclipsed kebab.

Most of the Eclipsed that attack her were now pinned to the ground by a black spike.

But he didn't get the chance to say anything before he suddenly jumped out of the way to avoid the claw of a primal.

The ground suffered the full force of the attack as a crater the shape of the claws were created.

Before he could catch his breath, another primal lunged at him, but before it could reach him, a black rope like object rose from the ground and coiled around its neck.

Nox could see in slow motion as the black rope firmly tightened around it before pulling it towards the floor with full force.

Boom!

The ground shook and the Eclipsed slammed into it, creating a crater.

"You okay?" Ayla asked flatly as she appeared by his side.

He stared at the bisected Eclipsed behind her... then at the flattened one beside him... then at her empty hands.

"Yeah, I'm good." He answered.

"Good," she nodded, already turning as another pair of Eclipsed launched themselves towards her.

The poor creatures didn't even get to register what hit them before spikes rose from the ground and went cleanly through their skulls.

Though Nox didn't get the chance to admire her display of power as he quickly sucked to save his neck.

"Fuck," He rolled back, narrowly avoiding the follow-up strike.

This Eclipsed looked like a wolf type, which reminded him of the one that attacked the slums...the one that almost killed him.

The Eclipsed crouched low and launched itself towards him, but unlike the slums, he wasn't powerless against this one.

Nox teleported upward, reappearing above the creature mid-air.

"Not this time."

His gauntleted fist swung down with all the Solar Energy his body would let him channel into the gauntlets.

BOOM!

The impact cratered the wolf-type Eclipsed's skull into the dirt and the shockwave kicked up leaves and dust around him as he landed in a crouch.

He barely had time to breathe before two more lunged at him from opposite sides.

"Shit—!"

Golden light covered him as he teleported out of their way, causing them to collide with each other instead.

Not giving them a chance to recover, he swung his gauntleted fist towards the two and with a boom, they were launched towards a tree.

The watch confirmed that they were both dead and it issued him his points but he didn't let down his guard just yet, not until he looked around the battle field to see that all the Eclipsed were either in craters or were skewered.

He let out a small huff as he crashed into the forest floor before looking down at the Gauntlets.

They seemed to have been overworked again and this time, it'd be a lot harder for him to fix.

"You did good," he muttered to them before taking it off and sending it into his inventory.

He then took out the daggers and looked at them, "guess it's your turn now."

Ayla approached while he sat down and said, "I'm done."

"Hmm," he nodded, "let's rest a little."

Fighting multiple Eclipsed had taken quite the stamina, but luckily, thank every star, none of the ones surrounding them were tier threes.

Well, it seemed his thoughts just successfully jinxed them because the next second, Ayla just turned towards a certain direction, her emotionless eyes focusing on that direction.

Before he had the chance to ask, Ayla spoke up.

"One is coming," she said simply.

Nox immediately felt his stomach drop.

"One Tier 3?" he asked cautiously.

Ayla shook her head.

"Not one," she corrected, "three."

Nox's jaw dropped.

"Three?! Right now?!"

Before panic could swallow him, Ayla looked at him with that same emotionless expression and said:

"Do you want to run?"

Running sounded great, no it sounded incredible, it also sounded like the only way to not die in the next few seconds.

"...Yes," he answered with a nod.

But Ayla thought about his answer for a while before she answered,

"I don't think that's possible anymore."

With her words, the ground suddenly started shaking due to the vibration caused by heavy, but hurried steps.

The sound of trees falling could be heard and soon enough, the Eclipsed were revealed.

"You've gotta be fucking kidding me!"

### *Chapter 30: Tier 3s*

Nox had been given first hand view of what a tier 2 Eclipsed was capable of.. the slums or rather the recent lack of it was proof enough.

So what was the most logical action when faced with not one but three tier 3s?

"..."

"Why are we running?" Ayla asked as Nox continued pulling her by the wrist while they sprinted through the forest.

Behind them, the ground continued rumbling as the three Eclipsed continued chasing them.

"Why?" He repeated, not stopping nor turning back, "can you fight a tier 3 Eclipsed?"

"I should be able to," She answered, seriously thinking about it.

"How about multiple?" He asked again.

"Hmm," she placed her free han on her chin before answering, "we could find out?"

"Not today!" He said before focusing on running again.

'Where the hell are those instructors' he thought to himself.

At this point he had tapped the watch so much that he thought it had malfunctioned, since nothing was happening and no instructor was coming to their rescue.

Was this situation not classified as dangerous enough?

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Meanwhile back in the sky box, Garron Boar looked at the ongoing test with a frown on his face.

Most of the candidates' safety had been ensured by the Stealth division instructors but those two?

It had been the headmistress's orders not to send help....though that order might not remain followed since Ascended Astra had already successfully created a dent in the door....one which was supposed to withstand an attack from tier 4 Eclipsed.

It just showed how much of a monster she really was.



"Headmistress—" Garron started but was interrupted by a raised hand.

"I understand your worries, Radiant Boar," the headmistress began calmly. "But those two will be fine, besides fate has far more in store for them than to let them fall in a simple entrance test."

She paused for a while before adding, "or maybe I saw wrong and they will die here, though I doubt it."

"Please don't say things like that, headmistress," Garron muttered under his breath as he turned back to the screen.

"I'm kidding," she waved her hand, though it didn't feel like she was, "besides, those Eclipsed should be more afraid of Ayla than she should be of them."

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**Boom!**

Nox and Ayla teleported out of the way as a massive tree was hurled at their previous spot.

He landed on one knee, panting lightly. Ayla, meanwhile, simply looked at the fallen tree seemingly only mildly inconvenienced.

"How are they so fast?!" Nox yelled, already grabbing Ayla's wrist again and dragging her forward as the forest floor continued trembling behind them.

"They are slower than the ones in the rift."

"What rift?!"

"..." Well, she just remembered she wasn't supposed to talk about that either, "nevermind."

Not bothering to ask further, he continued running and didn't dare look back.

"Okay, new plan!" he yelled as they ran through a clearing, "let's find somewhere narrow, funnel them and take them one at a time."

"Why not just kill them now?" She asked, still a bit confused about his decision to run.

"Because, unlike you, I don't have whatever... murder-happy shadow solar tech nonsense you use!"

"Oh," she nodded profoundly as if that finally explained something, "you are weak."

Nox nearly tripped.

"Can you stop saying things like that?!" He grumbled.

"Am I wrong?" Ayla questioned.

"Well—" he couldn't say she was wrong either since he wouldn't be running right now if he was strong, "that's besides the point, right now, all we need to do is survive and running is the only way."

"We cannot outrun them," Ayla said and as if to affirm her words, a shadow suddenly passed over them.

Nox grabbed her and dove aside just as one of the Tier 3 Eclipsed landed where they'd stood, the impact sending a shockwave through the clearing.

The creature slowly raised its head, its red orb for eyes locking on them. As with all Eclipsed, this one also seemed to be absorbing every light that tried reaching it.

It was shaped like a gorilla but multiple times bigger.

"Oh fuck," Nox teleported reflexively, dragging Ayla with him, reappearing behind a cluster of trees.

"Feels strange," she suddenly spoke up, successfully giving away their location and forcing him to teleport away again as the second Eclipsed launched its tail at the gathering of trees.

All the trees were quickly turned into splinters of wood as they rained down on them.

He glared at her before saying in a whisper-yell, "do you have to talk every time we hide?!"

"But it feels strange," she repeated.

"What feels strange?!"

"Your energy, it feels warm."

"...."

Maybe he should just leave her behind, after all, he didn't know her, nor was he obligated to keep her safe.

But he couldn't, rather than not wanting to, it was more due to the fact that they were now in the middle of the three Eclipsed.

And that's when she slipped out of his grip, no rather, she actually... yanked herself free.

"You take that one," Ayla said, pointing at the closest Tier 3, it was a hulking wolf like Eclipsed with dagger sized teeth, "I'll handle the other two."

Before he could argue, she teleported away, her shadows enveloping the Eclipsed and dragging them with her.

"Ayla—" it was already too late as she had completely disappeared.

The wolf-like Eclipsed looked in her direction with confusion for a moment before turning back to him.

*Growl*

It let out a low growl as it crouched low, ready to pounce at any moment.

"Damn it," Nox muttered as he took the daggers out of their cases.

Unlike his gauntlets and boots, the daggers were completely 'silent', so he had no idea what to do with them.

But that was only because he hadn't let his SE flow through them. The moment he did, the SE lines on it started glowing and soon enough, a part of the handles, that was a bit too long for a dagger, detached and wrapped around his wrists forming cuffs.

The cuffs also started glowing, as Nox instinctively knew what to do with the daggers.

"Sweet," he muttered before turning to the Eclipsed, "come at me, then."