

The Noble 131

Chapter 131: Art of Darkveil

Third-person POV: Moments before

Four beautiful women were running through the forest; it was the group of Elena, Alice and the twins, Eira and Selene. They were going in the direction pointed out earlier by Seraphina.

While Eira was still struggling in her sister's arms, and asking for an explanation, why they abandoned a companion, but Selene was holding her tightly, there was no time to explain.

Suddenly Alice, who was in front, stopped and warned the rest...

"Wait, there are people in front and their presence is strong. I don't think they are students," said Alice, who had a strong magical detection, stopping the group. Elena immediately took her words into consideration.

"Miss Alice, can you tell me the approximate number and strength?"

"This... about ten. Two emit a particularly strong presence, roughly between 6 to 7 metamorphoses. The rest have an energy hovering around four to five metamorphoses."

"Hum, I understand. For now, let's go around them and avoid unnecessary conflict."

"Wait, Elena, they're heading in our direction, they seem to have noticed our presence."

"..."

Elena was silent. At that moment, she didn't understand how they had been detected. She had cast a stealth spell on the group. It was basic and not very strong, but it was imbued with her Blessing, so it shouldn't fail.

So far, it had never failed. Thinking of an answer she remembered what she heard, from for some reason, always well-informed Seraphina, told her a while back.

["Remember this, Elena: blessings are not omnipotent. Blessings have different strength depending on the god. Yours is from the god of darkness, a powerful god, but there are still ways to break through your concealment. There are three cases that are the most common: first, abilities."]

Now, with no choice, Elena began to take things out of the bag that belonged to Seraphina and that she had left in her care.

Elena was a little annoyed that Seraphina was right, even if everything seemed to imply otherwise, but more than that, she was happy that, despite her personality, Seraphina was still as reliable as ever, Seraphina always made her feel complicated emotions.

Elena equipped the girls with what they needed. Seraphina had given her the knowledge of everything they could use and what the things saved for emergencies like this were for, so she divided the equipment among the girls, among them things that originally, belonged to her's, like Alice's bow and arrows or Selene's giant axe.

Most of the things were looted from William's legacy domain. She didn't tell him, but Elena knew what she had stolen, as she herself was complicit in hiding it.

They quickly prepared for the inevitable battle. Even Eira knew this was no time to ask questions and concentrated and accepted the equipment she borrowed. Elena on the other hand still kept thinking about what caused her discovery.

["Second, when the existence range difference is very wide, basically when they have gone through many metamorphoses, they have chances to find you if they are sharp enough. Of course, if you use a powerful spell, you can still overcome that difference. That's why I'm telling you to use powerful spells when we have our love escapes...erm I mean, our hunts. understand?"]

"Miss Eira and Selene, take care of those who possess strength four and five metamorphosis."

As the new leader, Elena organized the roles and thought about the capabilities of each.

["And the third, if that person has a blessing that counteracts yours, a lot of things come into question here, such as the level of existence, the spells you use and the rank of the god from which the enemy receives their blessing. So there is a chance that they will find you. Be careful, blessings come in all forms and functions, even for the same god."]

"Miss Alice, you take care of one of the stronger ones. I'll take care of the other. Do not hold back. If there is killing to be done, do not hesitate. They are coming for our lives."

She had also practiced with Seraphina how to deal with people, since, besides the forest, they used to sneak into the slums and dangerous neighborhoods to deal with human scum.

They didn't kill them if they didn't have to, but there were times when they didn't measure up, which made them both experience what it was like to kill a person.

Still, those guys were the worst of the scum, and no one regretted their death.

Besides the bad feeling it gave them, they got used to it fast. Although Elena remembers that even Seraphina threw up the first time, even though she herself had proposed to do it.

Killing was never a good feeling, but it was necessary; that was the way the world was, and Elena understood it clearly, when she did it...

..

She had no time left to think, as the presences were close, and she could already feel them. Before When they parted, Seraphina sent her a real mental message, made with magic, not that nonsense of couple connection.

She told her that those guys were coming to kidnap them and that, if they were caught, it wouldn't be a good outcome, especially for Alice, who might die. So Elena didn't hesitate and headed ahead.

She immediately realized who was the person leading the group. She didn't know if it was the one who had discovered her, but she felt it was one of the two strongest that Alice pointed out.

Without any hesitation, Elena stepped forward. The group of men and women noticed her approach, The men, at first, did not understand the situation.

They did not think that the students they were to catch would attack first, and even when they understood they only believed that they were girls who did not know the vastness of the world and that they, as their future elders, would teach them the reality.

So Daric, the man who was leading them signaled one of his subordinates to go ahead and take care of this enthusiastic young girl, who would be a good prospect.

Elena was undeterred by her rank. With footwork unique to her art, she moved quickly.

Like a ghost, Elena seemed to intermittently disappear and appear closer and closer, as if they simply couldn't keep up with her movement because of her speed.

But Elena didn't do that, even if her main focus was speed, she couldn't be so fast that Daric and Taryn the two most powerful of the group couldn't follow her with their eyes. both were people who had reached the seventh metamorphosis.

The reason for this phenomenon was her art acting together with her blessing, which caused the opponent to lose focus on her for a few moments, hiding from her attention, causing the attention on her to dim and even temporarily disappear, this combined with her blessing, was lethal.

It didn't matter the rank of the opponent. At least for those few moments, she would be dangerous.

Slice!

And by the time the stronger Daric and Taryn, who could barely see Elena, reacted it was too late.

Elena had already gone through the minion that was supposedly enough to suppress the enthusiastic young woman and had cut off both of her arms.

The minion could not even see more than a quick blink of Elena, and had no time to react until his arms were suddenly cut off.

Elena was holding two short black swords, and no one noticed how long she had been holding them or if she had been holding them from the beginning....

Not only that; a few moments later the man had also been pierced in the feet by two arrows that exploded, causing him damage and leaving him immobile and bleeding to death. If he was not treated, he would die soon, so there was one less adversary for the girls to deal with.

It all happened very quickly, and only now did they realize that they had seriously underestimated these beautiful students. Not long after, a rain of green arrows fell on the group of ten.

"Art of Emeralds: Lush Rain."

Alice, with the second movement of her art, began to sow chaos among the men. The green rain fell, injuring several of them who still didn't seem to process the situation. Elena took advantage of that and finally approached the man who was her priority target.

'Art of Darkveil: Midnight Blade.'

Mentally visualizing her third attack technique, Elena, like a flashing shadow, approached and, with a diagonal slash, inflicted wounds on Daric.

Unfortunately, Daric was particularly tough, and the wounds were not lethal, which made him finally wake up, and, angry, he shouted:

"!!What do you think you're doing, you bastard!?"

His voice was loud and annoying, but that was not all; it was truly irritating and piercing, to the point that Elena began to pour blood out of her ears, Daric, was a blessed warrior, by 'the God of annoying sounds'.

This caused Elena's eardrums to be ruptured even if it sounded like a simple scream. Now she couldn't hear anything, but, even so, that didn't change her aim, and without hesitation, she attacked again.

'Art of Darkveil: Midnight Blade.'

Elena didn't like to say the name of her attacks unless it was necessary. She felt it was foolish to announce what she would do next, so she specially trained herself to visualize them in her mind, Even if her power was lessened by not saying it.

Another attack landed on Daric wounding him again.

"How dare you attack me you little bitch. I'll teach you a lesson.!!!!"

"..."

Elena couldn't believe it, even with her deafness she heard clearly what he said, making her dizzy it was like a mental attack, causing her to lose concentration as well as giving them severe headaches.

Still, she did what she had planned and gained Daric attention,

Still, she did what she had planned and gained Daric attention, so she decided to stand back, while fighting those symptoms, and luring Daric along with her.

Finally, the rest of the girls arrived on stage. Both Selene and Eira, started attacking the relatively weaker but still one or two metamorphosis superior to them.

Taryn, who was the second most powerful, was going to interfere. The situation was starting to get out of control and they had no time to waste, but at that moment....

'A branch? 'Yes, a branch grabbed him by the torso and threw him through the air. It was so sudden that he couldn't resist.

'what? what's going on?'

Chapter 132: Art of Emeralds

Taryn was puzzled, as he was a wizard and felt no magical movement, but it didn't change the fact that he was suddenly attacked by a plant element spell and needed to act.

Quickly, Taryn put several barriers around him to cushion the fall, but....

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh

Several arrows made of green mana destroyed some barriers. Still, they didn't manage to destroy them all. When she landed, Taryn looked around for the attacker, but no matter how hard she looked, she couldn't see anything.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Again, several fast arrows attacked him, but his defenses were tough and did not destroy them all. Taryn immediately conjured up several earth spells and cast them in the direction the arrows were coming from.

She didn't worry about being vulnerable, she believed in her barriers, but in the end her earth stakes found no targets.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

The arrows kept coming from various places, the arrows were precise and lethal, as if they hit a single point, one after another, efficiently destroying the magical barriers he had set up.

He looked around, but saw no one he did not understand if the attacker was very fast or if she had something to hide her. Still, she couldn't lose against a girl not even half her age.

Taryn activated all the perception and search spells she had learned throughout her life, but still couldn't find her. All she felt around her were trees and nature.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Taryn began to get annoyed and used his blessing. He had been blessed by 'the God of mud', a god with pseudo-authority over water and land, and obviously, mud.

So all the land around him became soft. No matter where he hid, as long as he stepped in his mud he would know right away, he was confident.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

But still the arrows kept coming, he couldn't detect anything. At this point, he thought it was some high-level skill, but he kept his attention and detection to a maximum.

Out of the corner of his eye he noticed a small movement, and in reaction, and with a wave of his hand he circled the area quickly with his mud to trap the girl.

But again, there was only a tree trapped in his mud, nothing else.

"damn... girl come out, you can't beat me leave the useless resistance "

Taryn destroyed it tree, wanting to understand what was going on. But there was nothing to give him any clue, his patience was running out.

The girl still didn't show up, she didn't even answer and he knew that talking more was useless, the arrows continued to fall on him.

Annoyed, he decided to get rid of all the obstacles. And since they were in his mud, he separated all the trees. He didn't know what the girl was doing, but she definitely had plant element mana, so he thought it might have something to do with the trees.

As if spitting them out, the mud separated all the trees and threw them into the sky with the intention of clearing the area. Taryn observed everything in detail, looking for traces of the attacker.

"Lala... zippity... bop... whee..."

At that moment a small murmur or rather a song was heard, and the trees that were being thrown out of the area began to intertwine with each other, creating a kind of tree-like structure.

Taryn felt no use of mana, she concluded that the girl was definitely using her blessing, a blessing related to an arboreal god.

Few gods of that type are part of her gods' faction, so she probably wouldn't be useful, for his organization, so he had to get rid of her, he quickly made a decision...

But he could think no more, as the trees began to take action, it had only been a few seconds since they were expelled until they formed that large structure.

Now, united as one, they spread branches and vines around it, burying themselves deep in its mud and taking root. This allowed the structure to propel itself in his direction, approaching him sharply, as if seeking to crush him with its weight and inertia

"girl don't think that would be enough." However, he cushioned the blow easily with his mud.

But as if adapting to the situation, or perhaps the plan all along, the structure restructured and surrounded him like a wall of intertwined trees.

Taryn was now surrounded by that pesky tree-like structure, which he could not throw because it was so firmly rooted to the ground.

Branches spread out from that structure and pierced through the mud he controlled, attacking it from all directions.

The trees moved as one great entity, attacking and surrounding him. Taryn did not stand still and did the same with his mud, countering the attacks from the branches, but he was still in the center of the confrontation.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Not only that, arrows kept falling from time to time, and Taryn still couldn't identify the attacker. Finally, a branch passed her mud defense, and just as she was about to take care of that, from said branch, as if growing from it, appeared a blonde girl with green eyes, Alice.

"Art of Emeralds: Wild Growth."

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

From his bow flew many arrows, which did not hit Taryn directly, and impacted his surroundings Taryn, at first thought he missed, but then realized that on his feet grew vines that held him tightly, it was a restrictive art, this caused him to lose his concentration for brief moments.

This allowed more and more tree branches to overtake his mud defense. Not only that, Alice disappeared in an instant and, the next, appeared on another branch from another angle.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Repeating what she had done before: more arrows landed near Taryn, and out of her came vines that began to slowly bind him and squeeze him until the multiple barriers he had were being broken and pressed down.

Despite his superior rank, Taryn was feeling overwhelmed. Although he moved the sludge at will, without expending mana, casting spells to get rid of the restraints and bolster his defense drained his mana and took his concentration away from the sludge.

Allowing Alice to continue to launch her arrows and bind him even more making a maelstrom in which he was slowly being more and more suppressed.

But that was only for now Taryn knew she was superior to Alice as far as amount of mana was concerned, which would eventually give her the advantage. She just needed to defend herself.

But Alice knew this, so, saving her mana, she controlled the plants solely with her blessing, 'Nature's Song (Ω)', which allowed her to control the plants without using mana.

Moving with the art Seraphina had given him years ago, it was an art that combined perfectly with his innate ability 'Forest Assimilation (C)', which allowed him to assimilate with plants.

But that alone was what made that skill; his 'Art of Emeralds' was what allowed him to move fluidly through them. It was a perfectly crafted art for someone with her ability, not to mention that she had an 'affinity for plants (S)'.

Not for nothing was she immediately blessed as soon as she set foot in a temple of the plant deity. The deity didn't take her as their agent, but she was a promising potential for them and already marked Alice as their property, giving her their blessing

Slowly, she bound Taryn, who constantly reassembled her defense, which was destroyed again and again. Even the sludge concentrated only on defending as Taryn had no room to control it, giving Alice time to concentrate.

Until now, she used arrows made of mana or quickly created from branches molded at will with her blessing. But this time, she pulled a special arrow from her storage.

It was green, made of wood from an extremely rare tree called Verdalia was a tree with a very hard wood and had the peculiarity, at certain times of the year to have emerald-like leaves.

They were given to her by Elena before. These objects were gifts that Seraphina had previously given him, but that he asked her before this test to keep them and use them in an emergency situation.

Even Alice, who faithfully believed in Seraphina, did not believe that anything would really happen, in the end when she realized that Seraphina was serious, she believed in her as always.

Alice temporarily gave her back many things, and as always, Seraphina was right, which further strengthened Alice's belief in Seraphina.

Alice drank a recovery potion. Although it could not cover the entire mana expenditure, it was still effective. She began to imbue the arrow with various spells that improved its piercing, edge, strength and speed, in addition to other spells she had practiced as a magical archer.

She concentrated and also activated her art. She could do all this while still attacking with tree branches, as she had acquired an ability during her intimate interactions with Seraphina: 'Parallel Thinking'.

Thanks to this, he was able to perform his most powerful attack technique without interruption or loss of concentration, he even had time to recall a conversation he had with Seraphina.

["Big sister, why are you shouting out the number of the attack move, does your art require it?"]

"Huh, that's your question, doesn't the name bother you?...?Well, you know, Alice.Saying the name is only to stimulate the art and complete it, due to inexperience."

"Yes, sister, but you also told me that it helps to increase the power, right?"

"Exactly, that's why I add it.It's not necessary, but, for some reason, it stimulates in me a kind of.....how shall I put it?Will... yes, will is the word... it's not at all a 'chuni' thing."

"What is 'chuni'?"

"ehemm... No, see, the point is that you can add or say whatever you want, even nonsense unrelated to art. The important thing is that you feel it awakens in you the power that you have dormant inside you. Like I said, it's like a kind of will or creed that brings out the best in you, the power that you don't use correctly."

"So that's the 'chuni' thing."

"No, Alice, I told you to forget that..."]

Her older sister Seraphina was a bit... unique, and had a lot of quirks that made Elena speak to her or look at her harshly. But when it came to combat, she was a serious person; she would never give bad advice.

Well, ignoring that at that moment Seraphina who was teaching Alice was wearing a bamboo hat, with narrowed and barely open eyes and a drawn mustache, the reason? Only she would know.

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'Will'. Alice searched for her inspiration and what path to follow. After that, whatever would stimulate enough to bring out the best in her. She didn't have to look far; Seraphina, her older sister, was, to begin with, her pivot, her example and guide, her truth.

If her sister said that saying the number made them stronger, she believed her and would do so as well.

Immediately she finished circulating the mana to perform the art, she took the correct position of fingers, arms and body, pulled the bowstring as never before, with the arrow on it and said at the top of her lungs

"!!!Art of Emeralds, Fourth Stance: Thorn of Blood !!!"

SWOOSH!!!!

Chapter 133: Thorn of Blood

"!!!Art of Emeralds, Fourth Stance: Thorn of Blood !!!!"

SWOOSH!

With a fierce momentum. The arrow, whether from the art or the large amount of spells, was now a reddish color.

It flew without restraint, dodging all obstacles. She didn't know how, but her always found a path to follow when she shot an arrow. It was not a skill, but a natural talent, which could even match those with real skills.

The arrow traveled. Before it impacted with the mud, which it could not avoid, but as if it was common mud, it went through it without losing momentum, and immediately after that also the barriers, which were mainly of earth element, began to break without resistance under the impact of the arrow.

Thwip-thud!..

Finally, the arrow impacted with Taryn's body and, an instant after the arrow penetrated, like a bud, a bloody flower appeared and formed on her chest at the place of impact, causing her a lot of damage.

Taryn, who a moment ago was concentrating on maintaining his defense, did not understand what was happening.

He thought his defense would be enough for anything Alice sent that should only have four metamorphoses. Sure, he was surprised at the tactics and plans, but, still, his mana should be mammothly superior to hers and he should be able in due time, to suppress and kill her.

He just had to wait. Either she would tire, or she would run out of mana, but he would triumph all the same. Or so he thought, but that attack took him by surprise.

No matter how talented she was, she should be weak in something: be it mana, strength, speed, endurance or protection. He should be able to exploit some weakness, but the girl seemed proficient in everything.

Many thoughts ran through Taryn's head time was going slow and he couldn't go on like this.

swoosh!..swoosh!..swoosh!..

he saw more arrows that, although not as lethal as the previous one, with his defenses destroyed, seemed to want to finish his job.

"That's enough!!!, that's enough, haa!.... The game ends here!!!"

Angry and out of patience, Taryn ripped the arrow out of his chest, gave himself a quick treatment and exploded with a mana that was from someone who had gone through 7 metamorphoses, and introducing it to the sludge.

To save mana, he only controlled the sludge with his blessing so far, and when the mana entered the sludge he made it stronger and more lethal by destroying all the branches and devouring them with no chance for them to reattach Now it had finally gotten serious.

Tired of the slippery Alice, with even more mana he made a huge dome of mud in the area; 'now there was no escape'.

Slowly he squeezed and destroyed the rest of the trees and branches, closing the dome.

The mana he thought to save for emergencies, since they were still in enemy territory, began to be spent, but he could no longer allow a student to continue playing with it.

Finally, the dome shrank enough that Alice had no room to maneuver, only a piece of wood remained. Finally, Alice stepped out and, without a second's delay, quickly fired another arrow, this time a purple arrow.

swoosh!

This arrow was something specially made by Seraphina, with knowledge in divine runes, along with Astrid's help. On it, she had engraved runes that had only one function 'Interruption'.

It could be said that it was inspired to be a demoted version of the spear's authority 'Connection' and to copy a bit of one of its functions. This interruption allowed her, for a brief time, to interrupt the magical flow as well as the blessings.

Seraphina had made sure that all her girls had at least one artifact with this functionality, as they were difficult to make.

Seeing That purple arrow, perhaps sensing something wrong, Taryn did her best to block it, but, still, it again went through the defenses. Although it didn't hurt him as much as the first one, it still managed to penetrate him a little.

Causing for a brief moment, interrupting everything Taryn had prepared, from her spells she had on him and the ones she would use to finish off Alice, even the control of the dome. The interruption was brief, but effective.

Angrily, Taryn rushed over and, controlling the sludge in his hand, which was the only thing he could do instantly after suffering that one-second interruption to all his defense spells, as well as his attack spells, and even his control over the sludge dome, he had no time to put them back together again.

Taryn didn't understand what the hell that purple arrow was, but he had to finish quickly with Alice, who kept surprising him and taking the situation more and more out of his control.

Luckily Alice was close enough that he could reach her even with his poor mage physique, yes, Taryn didn't think correctly and although his priority was to get rid of Alice, he did what a mage would never do, but he believed that his blow would definitely finish off the annoying girl, who was just an archer.

Bamm!

Taryn delivered a strong blow that would definitely end the life of someone from four metamorphoses; he was a mage, but it was still a direct hit, along with the help of his blessing. That would beat even someone of metamorphosis sixth to a pulp.

With four metamorphoses, no matter how much protection or resistance Alice had, she would definitely die.

Or so he thought, but when the blow impacted; he felt as if she had hit something very hard, like metal. He thought it was armor, but when he looked closer, he realized that Alice had green skin at the site of impact.

tracing the origin of that greenness, upwards as if her skin had the shape of an inverted tree the roots originated from her mouth where Alice was biting a green arrow.

The situation was unexpected and left Taryn blank for a moment, long enough for Alice to throw aside her bow, remove the arrow from her mouth and pull a dagger from her bag.

Alice, despite having temporarily assimilated and integrated with Verdalia's wood, which temporarily increased her defense, which was her only weakness, still suffered painful internal injuries from the blow.

Nevertheless, with tenacity he completed his art. Now, being at zero distance, it was the perfect time.

"Art of Emeralds: Fourth Stance: Thorn of Blood."

The same technique different method, and taking both the arrow and the dagger one in each hand, he performed his most powerful attack art he could perform.

Rip!, Clack!

Again, the weapons took on a red hue, and he quickly thrust them from both sides of the head into both ears of Taryn, who was now helpless.

Crunch!

the dagger and the arrow pierced him deeply. Everything was too fast for him and death was already present on the spot, it was too late to do anything.

He did not even have a moment to regret it or to say his last words, as his vision was extinguished and he fell dead immediately afterwards.

..

"Haaa...haaaa...haaaa...haaaa."

Alice, breathing heavily, had no reaction as she looked at the man's corpse. Since the day of the academy invasion, she had practiced intensely; she couldn't afford to be a burden to her older sister again.

She wanted to be someone she could trust, not someone who needed to be protected.

She would not forgive those who tried to hurt her loved ones, and she would eliminate them all, without exception.

Never again would she allow herself to drag her sister down in any way. From now on, she was ready for anything.

She took a breath of air and finally after drinking recovery potions, and whatnot, her wounds were healed, her strong point was her vitality, so it wouldn't take long for her to recover with the potion, she had to make sure of the situation of the others.

Third-person POV: Moments before

when Alicia with a tree threw one of the most powerful men and Elena dragged another out of the place. Only Selene and Eira were left, along with eight others, or rather, seven, because one of them, due to the loss of his limbs, it was only a matter of time before he died.

The twins began their attacks against the seven. It was unfair, but all those present were only between five and four metamorphoses.

Eira knew that existence rank wasn't everything, and they, as young elites of the realm, should be able to handle something like that, but that was only when it was one on one.

Still, she didn't back down; she couldn't. The other two girls, Alice and Elena, took subjects that would be even more difficult than dealing with this group. Besides, Eira relied on her resonance, which was her trump card and part of her battle style.

"Fracturae Glacialis"

Whoosh-thunk, whoosh-thunk, whoosh-thunk..

As was normal, Eira had chosen to attack with a barrage of ice spears or a ranged attack while being powered by, albeit little, by her sister Selene's mana.

Yes, it would have been, if it had been earlier, because Eira was enhanced to the point where she felt a little pressured. Eira had not noticed it much before, but the resonance put pressure on the body of those who received the enhancement, and now she was clearly noticing it.

She didn't know how her sister trained, since whenever she asked she always said it was a secret. She only mentioned that it was training with Christian, her brother-in-law, who was also a monster, who seemed to have no weaknesses and whom she wanted to eliminate if the opportunity arose.

He was so questionable that she was seriously worried about her little sister's future, and every time she saw him she was so angry that she wanted nothing more than to tear him to pieces.

Also, Eira could never ask him to help her, because Selene told her that she had to become his girlfriend first, something she definitely won't do, Just thinking about it made her angrier.

It also made her a little suspicious about the origin of the strength of her new friends, who seemed surprisingly just as strong as her sister.

But, there was a possibility that Seraphina also had that method, to become stronger and it was a secret and limited of the Silvercrest duchy so she didn't stick her nose into it and would try on her own, or so she thought.

But she was falling further and further behind and even asked Seraphina if she could help her, but Seraphina just made a hard face, as if helping her was beyond her power, and her resonance that picked up her intentions also noticed that she seemed to be in a problematic situation so Eira backed off, and told her to forget it, which made Seraphina feel relieved.

She never imagined that at that moment Seraphina would find the situation problematic because she needed to perform the dual synchronization.

Even if she found her annoying, Seraphina did not dislike Eira to the point of denying her any possibility of joining her harem, since they were now friends-foes.

but that did not change that when Eira found out the methods and the whole truth, Seraphiana would have to be ready to face a berserker who seeks her life, so she ruled out the possibility of introducing Eira to her harem.

And therefore the methods towards the strength that Selene currently has.

Chapter 134: Silent Strike

Thanks to the powerful enhancement provided by Selene, her spell was truly powerful, hurting the weakest among those present. At that moment, Selene, without any enhancement, also cast an ice spell to defend and hold back, those who overtook Eira's attack.

Selene had no affinity, so she relied on her use of runes, which she was surprisingly good at despite how she acted. The same was true of smithing; her younger sister was a prodigy at many things but common sense.

Certainly, both had always learned what the other should, thanks to her skill. Oddly, however, Selene had always been good at magic despite having slow mana growth and having skills that would be for a warrior, while Eira, was good at close combat.

Despite only being able to increase her strength reasonably with the mana breathing exercise, it was as if her talents had been reversed.

But now, Selene, had had a growth in mana to the point of being almost on par with her, who strives daily, Eira didn't want to be left behind, but simply she couldn't match her sister now.

Finally, they continued their attack methodology and changed the direction of the resonance, improving Selene's strength.

Thus, the physical enhancement was not so good, but as usual, Selene was ahead. With her new axe, which was a gift from Cristian, it was a very special axe; especially for Selene, it had the quality of getting heavier the more mana you put in.

Cristian gave it to her especially because he knew Selene's combat style, plus what would result from her resonance with Eira, who only has mana as an advantage. Selene, even with her sleepy face, attacked like a beast despite her appearance and the axe that was bigger than her, which was a disconcerting sight.

Bamm!!!!...crack

The first and strongest tried to block Selene's attack, but the axe was overwhelming, immediately breaking his warrior stance and destroying his weapon and armor. He was sent flying.

Selene, without stopping, went to the second, who looked like a wizard. Even so, he was quickly subjugated, as the axe broke through all defenses.

Selene wasn't even using her art to attack, just brute force and mana on the axe, quickly subjugating the rest.

It was all so quick and easy that Eira couldn't act anymore; it didn't even seem necessary. Well, Selene wasn't that overwhelming on her own. What Eira hadn't noticed yet, due to her astonishment, was that Cristian activated his resonance and imbued Selene with his enhancer. With Cristian's stats added, Selene also became overwhelming.

While resonance was an ability that seemed like power could grow without limit as long as the body could support it, it had two restrictions: the first was that they could only share base stats, and the second, that it could only be done in one direction at a time, the same as when Selene and Eira were interleaved to receive the enhancement, and could not be boosted at the same time.

In the optimal scenario of this ability, it was that one person could receive two enhancements, while another only received one, leaving the third without enhancement. That was the limit with three people, as long as their bodies could handle it.

But what if they added one more person? Well, that's why skills are so important to bridge the gaps between levels of existence.

Cristian wasn't afraid that Selene would be hurt by the side effects of resonance, because thanks to Alice's addition, her vitality was also at the fourth metamorphosis.

And they found that having high vitality and defense helped sustain the resonance more easily, even with two enhancements at once, at least for a longer time.

On the other hand, even when she realized that her sister was also improved by Cristian, it didn't take away the bad feeling she had, Eira got angry, but the target of her anger was not anyone else but herself.

The credo she followed since she was a child, was repeated in her head 'You have to be strong, you can't be weak'.

If she were, she would not be able to protect her sister, Eria right now can barely hold Selene's power when they resonate, if Christian wanted to, he could explode her, with an ability, which was supposed to be beneficial, while her sister is holding all that power without problems.

At this point, she was barely holding resonance with her sister for more than a few minute, even though she could do so almost limitlessly before.

was falling too far behind, and Eira notice it more clearly than anyone else thanks to its resonance., Eira decided that she had to become strong even if she had to pay a high price, to do so.

'I will do whatever it takes'

Third point of view: Moments before.

A few moments earlier, when Elena dragged Daric away from the other battles and thought she was far enough away, she disappeared from the sight of her pursuer. Daric, who knew Elena could disappear, was attentive.

Daric didn't know if it was an ability, characteristic of the art, a spell or a blessing, but he would definitely find her using a secondary function of her blessing.

He concentrated and listened to everything around him like an equalizer; he only had to make a small sound and he would immediately find things even miles away.

Daric He was one of the main ones in charge of collecting scattered students, and in fact, he took his leader where the strongest ones seemed to be near his initial location.

He separated from his leader, and he along with his companions were supposed to search for more. But he realized that most had escaped their leader and he had no choice but to catch them himself.

Their leader seemed fine and was only temporarily trapped in a barrier, talking to a girl who was a priority target to be kidnapped.

So he confidently went to catch those girls who, although he felt they were strong for their age, he was sure they had only passed four existence barriers, which meant they had only four metamorphoses, something easy for him.

Though his carelessness led to him getting hurt. That was all it was; now he had to catch that girl.

Concentrating on finding any trace of her, Daric knew that all living things emit sound, so their method of location was almost absolute. Even if they used concealment spells, he could find them. After all, a blessing from a god is more powerful than anything created with magic.

Daric found her, though it was more difficult than he thought and he almost didn't detect her. He couldn't reflect much on the reason, because Elena was already just inches away from him, aiming at his neck with a sword.

He barely managed to block Elena's attack, who, without any warning, made a vertical slash with her other hand.

Daric had enough reflexes to dodge her attack at the last moment, although, for some reason, he had ignored the second sword until it was too close.

He was a warrior with physical attributes in good shape; although defense was his strength, he realized that the girl's weapons could cause him quite a bit of damage.

He even had to admit that he had felt the blow through his armor. He didn't understand how someone so young had such a powerful weapon.

But, even more troubling, he was unable to concentrate on Elena's movements. He knew she used double swords, he had seen it before, so he must have taken it into account.

However, it was only when he sensed mortal danger that he remembered and recognized the existence of the other sword, narrowly avoiding it.

Elena's movements were strange, so Daric became more cautious.

"!!!Hey bitch, what kind of moves are those, what's the secret?!!!! "

He said, imbuing his blessing in his voice. Daric was completely a defensive warrior, and although his mana was scarce, this blessing granted him a detection ability better than many mages and allowed him to attack from a distance without expending any resources, just with his voice, Daric had perfect balance.

"..."

Hearing his voice, Elena lost her concentration, feeling somewhat confused. She didn't even know how she could hear him, considering her eardrums were already burst; it was as if the sound was transmitted directly to her head.

The fight seemed disadvantageous for Elena. Not only could Daric locate her, but he also had a solid defense and could perform mental attacks. Coupled with her range of existence, the odds were not in her favor. But still, he had to find a way to win.

Fortunately, Daric was not particularly fast or agile, so Elena managed to gain some distance and get a few seconds to think clearly.

Her mind, stunted by the annoying voice, was able to gather enough wits to, with difficulty, think of what to do, remembering something her Lady Seraphina had told her.

He came up with an idea, though he didn't know if it would work. She began to stimulate her own blessing; her blessing was only concealment, which only made her hide and conceal things, or so she thought. But Seraphina had told her it was more than that.

["Look, Elena, blessings, depending on what they are, are a part of a god's authority. You know you're blessed by the god of darkness? how do I know that? Well, I read it...yes I read a lot of reading! Well, the point is that the god of darkness is a big shot among the gods, and although he is only limited to occultation, the whole concept of occultation enters into anything that has to do with occultation. Theoretically, it is possible to do anything with your blessing that encompasses that concept."]

Elena began to stimulate her blessing, not to attach it to a spell as she usually did, but to use it in its purest form. That strange energy, a manifestation of a concept, began to surround her.

It had no shape, color, or any visible characteristics, but Elena, connected to it, could feel it.

elena thought 'if I can hide others, be it presence, sound and visibility I should also be able to hide things from myself', with that thought, Elena was using her raw blessing to separate and reject everything she didn't want to see and hear by hiding them from her, as if they didn't exist for her.

"..."

now All was silence, but for her it was paradise, at last she could fight in silence.

"..."

Now All was silence, but for her it was paradise, at last she could fight in silence.

"....."

Daric seemed to talk about something with a lot of confidence, and maybe he could be imbuing his voice with his blessing, but Elena didn't hear anything; she only saw how he, with a confident smile, approached.

Elena, concentrating her blessing to the maximum, disappeared again, surprising Daric. He tried to detect her again, but this time he could not. The difference between 'the god of annoying sound

' and 'the god of darkness' was immense.

Now that Elena was stimulating his blessing to the max, albeit in a crude form, he couldn't find her. He panicked, but his experience and instincts were acute.

He couldn't feel her, but when a shiver ran down his spine, he knew it was time. He immediately turned and blocked Elena's attack, or so he thought, as the only thing coming towards him was a dagger, thrown from what appeared to be a hand made of darkness.

It was something created only with darkness, a decoy. Daric parried the dagger, dangerous in itself, but for a moment he thought it was just a distraction and that the real attack was imminent.

He waited on high alert, but in the blink of an eye, just a slight involuntary eye movement, suddenly and without warning Elena was in front of him, staring impassively at him without making a move, about ten feet away.

Something was wrong; it was strange that she would just give up out of the blue when she had put up so much resistance before. But Maybe she had understood the difference between them, and finally this childish game was about to end.

Elena was a great talent and would be handsomely rewarded when he brought her to his organization.

Daric, seeing her doing nothing, set out to subdue her and get on with his work. The more he managed to recruit, the more profit he would make. But as he took the first step, he sensed something was amiss.

'What's wrong? Something is wrong.'

he thought. Maybe Elena had done something, but he couldn't figure out what it was, the only thing he understood and felt was that it was cold, very cold.

Of all the thoughts Daric had when he looked at Elena, he had only been right about one thing, this was over.

the cold daric felt was the cold of death. That was the first and last time he would feel it, it was a unique experience.

Yes, Daric was already dead, that first step was what he needed to realize.

"Art of the Dark Veil: Silent Strike."

And only then did he hear a sound... the voice wasn't coming from Elena, at least not the current one. It was a late echo heard only now, as if caught in its occultation.

Perhaps her blessing had helped to hear it, but that too would be the last thing he would hear in this life. vision became blurred and the angle of his vision tilted to finally drop.

His head separated from his neck with such a clean cut that it took him a few seconds to notice he was dead.

Elena didn't mind saying the name of the technique out loud, why? Because even if it contradicted her essence, elena could hide any sound that would come from her she could hide everything.

As Daric had thought, the dagger was a decoy that distracted him for a few moments, and in that instant, his art and his blessing were elevated to the extreme of their current capacity.

The 'Art Darkveil' had the ability to make people pay no attention to her to the point of consciously ignoring her, allowing her to move even in front of them without being noticed.

That was complemented by her ability to hide thanks to her blessing. Certainly, any enemy at her level wouldn't stand a chance at all.

Elena did her best to hide herself well, letting nothing escape her concealment including her murderous intentions, she was so ermetic to the point of not giving her away at all.

And in the end, it was only on the first step that Daric finally realized that something was wrong and that he had basically been dead for a few seconds, and the sound came only when Elena deactivated her blessing.

By the time Daric saw her in front of him, it was over.

Chapter 135: Divine Agent

"Hurk..."

At that moment, I got a hard punch in the stomach from the guy I said I would take care of a few moments ago.

I went straight towards the guy who looked like the leader; he had seven metamorphosis and I thought he underestimated us as he was unarmed, with only his pants on, so I wanted to finish quickly. However, the guy countered me with a strong punch.

Like me, he is an unarmed combatant, I thought he would be a perverted mage, since he doesn't even have gloves like me, but I was wrong, even so it was only a test attack, although if he seemed to get careless, I would attack in earnest at the last moment and finish it quickly.

'I was a bit hasty, ', I quickly took distance . I cast recovery spells on my stomach, but oddly enough they didn't work. That meant it wasn't a simple hit .

I quickly moved my blessing; it finally expelled 'it' that was preventing me from healing. whatever blessing his was, I expelled it, giving relief after effectively casting healing spells.

'I can't be hasty; most of these guys have a blessing.'

They are of a lesser god, but they are still divine entities, so I needed to act wisely. I regretted that my lust eyes had such a useless condition to activate, which doesn't work in really dangerous combat situations. Still, I gave it a try since I wasn't losing anything and

Name: Rael Thorne

Race: Human

Rank: Ascension Major

Gender: Male

Stats:

Strength: 456

Mana: 65

Agility: 181

Defense: 155

Vitality: 248

Skills:

Persistent Contusion (Ω)

Blunt Strike (Ex)

Copper Skin (A)

Unarmed Combat Mastery (B)

Penetrating Strike(c)

"..(͡° ͡°).."

I take it back; this skill is good for really dangerous people...,¿ why do I always run into perverts. Shit, he doesn't even look it; the guy seemed stoic and calm. I didn't even think it was possible to see his state, but I see I was wrong.

.... well, the important thing is that I can see his status and he's a strong guy, seven metamorphosis, plus he's blessed, so I assume he's the god of contusión or something.

He has an (Ex) ability, which means he has his favor and he's an agent. On the face of it, he is relatively young; only about ten years older, not past thirty, so for such a low god he may be a worthwhile talent.

His focus is strength and his skills are all combat. I suppose his blessing serves to make wounds lingering and painful, but as a kind of noxious effect, my purification can neutralize it.

Well, it's a tough nut, but not impossible. I thought all this quickly and the man finally spoke.

"boy , stop resisting, Just give up and you and your friends won't get hurt."

"You... have you no shame, attacking people younger than you, does that make you feel good or something?"

"..."

I replied with whatever came to mind , trying to buy time. The guy is powerful, so I need to prepare myself a bit. Surprisingly, it worked; he was silent. I guess, even in that organization, there are people with some pride.

'Well, I can take advantage of that.

'Why don't we do this? You let me prepare and we have a fair duel. If you win, I'll go with you without resistance, and I'll even convince my teammates, is that okay with you?"

"..."

He thought about it. Well, it's a bit idiotic to want a fair duel in this situation, but still, he's hesitating quite a bit. 'Okay, I've got it.'

"You think if you let me prepare you're going to lose? Just ten seconds, that's all I need."

With my parallel thinking, occupying in my doppelgänger, it might be more difficult, but I have to work with what I have even so I can do several processes at once incluso now that I'm talking.

after having received four metamorphoses, including one dedicated especially to mana, my mental capacity is so strong that I can cast several spells at once and quickly, reformulating the processes rapidly in my head.

Almost all mages from a certain point can do this, so having parallel thinking may sound like a silly and unnecessary ability, if it weren't for the fact that parallel thinking, has the ability to do the same as me, without interfering and even do more mental processes at once, not for nothing is it a rare ability.

And with my affinities, especially my recent affinity for runes, ten seconds will be more than enough.

"Well... Make sure you keep your word, kid."

'well with this, I already have the time I was missing'

Unfortunately, I don't have a decent weapon since I don't have my bag, but I can still manage. considering we're both melee combatants.

I just have to avoid his direct hits and his abilities especially the Ex rank one, which seems to be an attack of great power.

even so I only asked for a little extra time because I was forming something even before attacking him, I was already preparing a spell, a particularly powerful one, although it consumes quite a lot of mana, but it will be worth it and I already finalized it.

"Aegis Prismae Lucis."

Immediately, a layer of crystal was formed, covering my entire body from my hands, which had common gloves, to my shoulders, it was white crystal that reflected various colors in contact with light, very similar to the crystal beasts of the domain.

It is light magic, a rare branch of magic that was found among the few items in the last warehouse. This type of magic is easier to use if you have an affinity for light, earth or crystal, and I possess the former.

'Well, that was the hard one.' But I didn't stop there. With the remaining seven seconds, I began casting quickly.

"Folia Defensor, Spinae Muralis, Lux Fulgoris, Aurum Scutum, Umbra Fortis, Nigrum Tegimen, Mortis Aegis, Vigor Ferrei."

Without stopping, I used my A-ranked affinities with light, plants, and darkness to conjure several reinforcement spells, both for myself and for my crystal gloves.

After all, I am a magical warrior, with all the spells together I spent almost half my mana.

but thanks to my affinity with runes (B), I was able to make these spells especially complex and strong, not to mention that this shortened the creation time.

They were not low level spells, each one should take me 3 to four seconds to be created and even more, even with affinities towards these elements and as if that wasn't enough I consume less mana.

Having affinity with runes has greatly improved my battle power, a strong skill with many uses and advantages, not for nothing Astrid if she had a decent talent, would have been a genius without equal, in the kingdom.

Finally, the ten seconds she gave me passed, and I was more than ready.

I activated my Eyes of Lust and watched carefully, looking for weaknesses and anything that might work in my favor. I found many; it seems his fighting style is deficient in some respects.

'I have an advantage there.'

We were somewhat apart from the group. The other four in the group of were attacking William and the rest. 'I think they'll make it, as those opponents only have, at most, six metamorphoses.

Although they are a challenge for them, who are still on the fourth metamorphosis, I trust how I trained them in the last few months.

The guy is still not moving, probably waiting for me to strike the first blow, talves for his pride or another reason, I don't know. . I don't have time to play along. Without hesitation, I launch myself at him, straight to the stomach with my fist ready to crash.

thud!

My fist hits, but he blocks it with his open palm, absorbing the force with surprising speed. Although the blow is accurate, his posture doesn't break; his muscles tense to resist the impact.

I see a flash of surprise on his face, probably not expecting so much force in a single blow, but he is still not really affected.

Immediately, his fist comes at me like a hammer, fast and brutal. I barely have time to turn my head, feeling the cutting air rush past my cheek. But before I can recover, another blow comes from the side. I raise my forearm in defense, and the collision resounds.

Crack!

The impact knocks me back two steps; the pain vibrates to the bone, though the glass in my arm absorbs much of the blow.

'As I expected, it wasn't a serious attack;' he doesn't seem to be trying to kill me yet. That's something I can take advantage of.

I lunge forward, closing the distance quickly. This time I mean it. his speed and agility are not far from mine, I know I can take advantage of my technique.

With the Eyes of Lust active, I can read his movements. I anticipate the flow of his fists and narrowly dodge it, managing to sneak through his defense and expose his side.

"Art of Lust, First Stance: Fiery Burst of Lust."

bamm!!,..bamm...,bamm!...

My fists repeatedly impact the same spot on his side. Each blow is an attempt to break his guard and widen the opening I found. Finally, after the last flurry of blows, I stagger him, albeit barely.

This 'art of lust', leaving aside the names of the attack techniques and that can strengthen me when I feel the 'power of friendship (lust)', even taking that out, only in its base state is very powerful and complete.

has a unique specialty of maximizing every slightest move and exploiting any weakness in the enemy. I harness every ounce of speed and power possible from my body.

Drawing strength above what my stats say, and perfects the fundamentals to the maximum and his attack techniques even help me to seriously hurt entities far above my actual strength.

..

Well, although I managed to destabilize him a little I didn't find the opportunity to continue since he recovered quickly, he countered and before I could retreat, he threw a knee towards my torso. I reacted in an instant, swerving to dodge.

Whoosh!

The knee passes within inches, and taking advantage of his momentum, I lower my center of gravity and launch a sweep toward his supporting leg. My feet collide with his ankle.

Thud!

He staggers, but this guy doesn't stop; he quickly recomposes himself again and stabilizes his stance, launching a barrage of blows with renewed ferocity.

Whoosh!!...Whoosh!!!...Whoosh !...

I dodge each one as best I can and deflect the inevitable ones; the sound of his fists cutting the air fills my ears, and I feel the pressure of his attacks on me. Still I kept watching closely, watching his pattern and openings....

'Okay, one chance...Art of Lust, Fourth Posture: Eruptive Embrace.'