

Vampire 851

Chapter 851 The Lone Samurai

In a desolate plain.

A lone samurai stood still in front of a river of corpses. Blood dyed the plains crimson and the rotting smell of bodies created a nauseating revulsion.

The samurai, possessing a cold expression on his face and having his long purple hair flutter with the breeze, breathed heavily as he stared in the distance.

A sense of ruthlessness was in his slanted eyes, but a hint of confusion and frustration could also be felt from them.

The samurai's sword was pointed at the side, blood still dripping from its end. The marks were fresh and hinted that the battle had just been over.

"Why..." The samurai questioned in his deep voice.

For as long as he had consciousness, the samurai found himself at the bay of conflicts. There never was once a time when he had been truly free and without any problems.

'Never?' Thought the samurai.

Was there really never a time?

It had been many centuries since his birth and ever since a young age, there had been constant struggle for survival. It was due to this that when the samurai tried to remember a peaceful day, there was just darkness in front of his eyes.

The samurai's dark life flashed in front of his eyes from birth till date. It was shrouded in darkness and barely contained anything that could make him feel warm or at peace.

Right as the samurai was about to feel dejected, lose all hopes, and have his depression resurface, a small blob of bright light flashed in front of his very eyes.

In the next instant, the dark vision changed to...

"Hello, everyone~"

"I'm Tsuki, nice to meet you all."

A green-haired short girl said in a cheery tone.

"I'm Sebastian. Sebastian Sterling, the one that ascended first among you all."

A blonde-haired guy in a suit replied calmly to the green-haired girl.

Just like that, there was then a red-haired, then a silver-haired, then a white-haired in the scene with their names being Anne, Lith, and Ariel.

'Oh...' Thought the samurai, who was none other than Iki, one of the six Chosen Ones himself!

Iki vividly remembered the day he was pulled into some strange dimension and made to fight alongside five other people.

At first, he was really on guard as he thought of everyone to be his enemy. He remembered that he didn't introduce himself to the others and was cold, but by the end, they all were still happy to have him around them.

It was such a strange thing.

Even till now, Iki did not understand why they would be so warm and kind to him. He had done nothing but stayed at a distance the whole time.

Memories of the days Iki was in the Novolzak's trial began surfacing.

It was for the very first time did these memories came back to him after that event. Iki had almost forgotten about it due to how stressful his life was.

Not a single day passed when Iki wasn't involved in some of the other battles. Things were just this hectic for him.

Remembering that memory now, Iki's cold heart felt some warmth.

That fine day, the silver-haired guy had given him a rectangular artifact that contained magic circles within it. It was so amazing that it showed moving paintings of various things.

Iki had never seen such an amazing thing before and still vividly recalled how fascinating and strange that encounter was.

Reminiscing in his happy memories, Iki closed his eyes and took a deep breath.

Right as he did that, the happy memories shattered like a mirror and what appeared in his vision was an army of gladiators running at him.

The battlefield was thumping as hard as the hearts of the gladiators with each forceful step of the army's advancement. The sky was red in agony and the earth was crying in pain for the assault happening over it.

Iki found himself standing alone in front of this army with his blade pointing at the side.

There was not an ounce of fear in his slanted eyes and what was present was mere indifference.

Iki closed his eyes to take a deep breath and the memory stopped surfacing.

That was exactly what had happened when he had left the trial and came back to his world.

Finding himself in a peril, Iki turned to look at the hilt of his sword.

The hilt possessed a diamond shaped red gem in it, which was nothing else but an artifact that could connect him to the other five Chosen Ones.

These five were the only allies Iki ever had till date. These were also the only ones who had saved his life.

The bond Iki shared with them wasn't for long, but it was worth remembering even till now.

All his life, Iki had always thought that he alone was enough. However, in that trial, he realized that if it weren't for the other five, he would've died.

There were some things in life which could not be done alone, no matter what the circumstance.

Still, despite knowing all of this, Iki sighed and put the hilt away.

His current situation was dire and help was very much needed, but Iki knew he was always destined to be alone.

Staring back at the distance, Iki, having his expression softening up, muttered gently, "Live a good life."

Right as he said that, the river of corpses behind him quivered slightly.

The quivering then turned into intense wriggling and the blood, mass, and bones began moving into one single place.

Iki closed his eyes and sighed. He gripped the hilt of his blade firmly and said, "I hope it is death that I achieve by the end of this."

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Dushkarbor.

The assessment was done. The results were with Lith.

Turns out, it was only just the people of Dushkarbor in the Nishkavert kingdom that had overall stronger physiques.

The sole reason for that was the Gilmer Forest which was a magical forest consisting of many different things.

Surviving within it was close to impossible and the people here had evolved to have an overall stronger physique to defend themselves and have a better chance at survival.

The rest of the people possessed strong traits as well, but were only half as powerful as the ones from Dushkarbor.

Whatever the case be, Lith could make them all achieve a stronger physique in a short time and better prepare themselves for the invasion about to happen.

The meeting that Lith had asked the maids to prepare for was scheduled properly.

Lith was currently on his way to the meeting from his residential complex, fully prepared.

However, right as he had left, something suddenly irked him.

Stopping in his tracks, Lith frowned and thought, 'What's this sudden feeling of death?'

Chapter 852 A Sudden Call

Strong tidal waves splashed around as a storm raged overhead.

Powerful wind cut through waves and brought great disturbance in the sea, making it near impossible for any ship to sail.

Amidst this very chaos, there sailed a battleship.

A ship so mighty that even from astronomical nautical miles, it would be visible.

A ship so strong that even the strongest of waves could not wreck it.

A ship so sturdy that even the greatest of storms could be withstood easily.

The ship was sailing smoothly despite the turbulent flows and the reason for that was a single person.

This person sat calmly in his study, reading some papers under an oil lamp.

The bright golden hair shone in the light emitted from the lamp and his white shirt was dyed with an orangish hue.

It was just another normal day for the blonde man and with nothing unusual happening, he continued to read his papers and did some light work.

While he was at it, the door of his study creaked open and there appeared a middle-aged butler with gray sideburns.

Bowing slightly, the butler said, "Master, we are just three hours away from Brinks Harbor."

The blonde man nodded his head lightly. "There's a meeting with the Duke and the King. I'm planning to skip it."

The butler's expression stiffened and a shocked look appeared on his face.

"Surely you must be joking." The butler responded with an awkward smile.

"I'm not." The blonde man said, totally unfazed.

The butler's expression turned grave. "Master Sebastian, I hope you're not forgetting the importance of this meeting. Not only yours, but half the world's fate rests on your shoulder. If something goes wrong here, the providence you'd accumulate would not be washed away even if you spent nine lives."

The blonde man, being none other than Sebastian, the first Chosen One, was currently having a serious conversation with his trusted butler.

It was only this man who could talk like that to Sebastian as he was really respected by him.

Sebastian always took consideration of his opinion and less than a butler, this man was more of an uncle figure to him.

Due to personal reasons, Sebastian was not planning on attending the meeting with the King and the Duke, but the last sentence from the butler made him pause and reconsider the things.

Providence was something Sebastian had not given much thought about.

He felt that it wouldn't really matter if someone died as people usually died every single day. It wouldn't make much of a difference if they did so again.

However, a bad providence would be attached to Sebastian if he didn't attend the meeting.

He would become the sole reason for the death of half the population in this world and Heavens wouldn't let him be so free.

The Heavens were just and some or the other day, he would need to pay the price.

Sebastian rubbed his temples in annoyance as he found himself in a peril once again.

It had been so many years, just so many bloody years since he had been running and working.

There was not a single day's rest and it was killing him.

Today, when Sebastian finally thought of taking a break, there was an important meeting that would last a whole week due.

He truly was a big time miser and nothing could be done about it.

Sighing, Sebastian said to the butler, "Alright, then infor—"

Suddenly, a foreign feeling washed over Sebastian's body and made him shudder.

Goosebumps arose all over Sebastian's body and a chill went down his spine.

'What the fuck...'

Sebastian got up from his seat and as he was about to check for anything wrong, the bracelet in his hand brought a mild burning sensation to him.

Turning to look at the bracelet, Sebastian raised his eyebrows in confusion.

'It's this thing?'

Wondering if he was sensing it wrong or not, Sebastian touched the bracelet and tried to feel it, but felt chills once again.

Such sudden chills that he was experiencing were something that only occurred when he was in a dangerous situation where death was almost certain.

Taking the bracelet off, Sebastian held it and injecting some power into it, spoke,

"Hello? Something's wrong? Hello? Can anyone hear me? Or is it just me?"

Just as Sebastian said that, the bracelet emitted a cooling sensation and then a voice was heard.

"Sebastian, Anne, Tsuki, and Lith... If you're hearing this, then hurry up! Hurry up and inject your powers into this artifact." A familiar girl's rushed voice was heard.

"Ariel?"

"Hurry! Don't question anything and hurry if you don't want to lose your life. I'll tell you guys everything once you're here."

With that, the voice was gone, leaving behind a dumbfounded Sebastian and his butler.

Sebastian turned to look at his butler and said, "Right as I was planning to attend the meeting, this thing came up. I haven't told you about this, but just know that it is much more important than the fate of this world's population, Marco."

The butler sighed and bowed slightly. "I'll do something about the King and the Duke then, Master. You need not worry and carry out your due business."

Sebastian nodded. "Then, if you'll excuse me."

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Dushkarbor.

Lith had halted in his tracks and was about to attend the meeting that was scheduled, but right then, the cross earring that he usually wore, it began giving out a burning sensation.

The feeling of death intensified with the burning sensation and right then, Lith heard:

"Sebastian, Anne, Tsuki, and Lith... If you're hearing this, then hurry up! Hurry up and inject your powers into this artifact."

'Huh?' Lith knitted his brows and showed a confused expression. 'Is that Ariel?'

"Ariel? Is that you?" Lith couldn't help but ask.

Right then, a reply came almost instantly.

"Hurry! Don't question anything and hurry if you don't want to lose your life. I'll tell you guys everything once you're here."

Feeling totally taken aback by this sudden situation, Lith had no clue as to what was even happening

He wasn't the type to take impulsive decisions and do things on the spot, but given the gravity of the situation, he knew that he had to decide quickly.

This Ariel that Lith knew of, she was super smart and probably an angel too. He wasn't much sure of the latter part, but the former was a hundred percent true.

Ariel was also really reserved and barely spoke. He could count the sentences she had said in total on one hand when he had met her in Novolzak's trial.

For her to speak so desperately spoke volumes and Lith's priority immediately shifted to this.

Lith held the cross earring in between his fingers and thinking that he had to go, was about to inject his spiritual power and leave when...

A sudden ominous feeling made him shudder.

'What in the actual fuck? I felt scared for a second? How!?'

Chapter 853 Imposter

When Lith felt scared, then this meant something indeed was really scary.

Turning around to see from where the feeling stemmed, Lith merely saw a few normal people walking on the busy streets of the village's market.

The council's complex could only be reached via the busy village market and as there were so many people here, Lith found it difficult to pinpoint properly.

The feeling had only lasted for a few instances and was gone. Whatever it was that lurked here was great trouble.

Despite the initial panic and scare, Lith stayed calm and looked around, trying to find this person.

People in various different attires roamed the streets of Dushkarbor and there was much more diversity than usual due to the tournaments.

Lith had a hard time finding the one and kept searching for a few minutes.

The feeling of death from his earring was getting stronger and time was of essence. One mistake could cost him dearly.

Shoving around multiple people and searching for the source of the ominous feeling, Lith suddenly found something odd.

There was a kid in the middle of the busy street, not even the height of Lith's knee, looking around cluelessly.

Now, usually such a thing would be ignored by Lith as this may as well be a normal lost child or something, but after his training with his aunt, he had learnt to not ignore such minute details.

Lith's already observational skills had been greatly enhanced and through prior experiences and training, he could tell that this kid was an odd one out here in this place.

Walking up to the green-haired kid with a chubby face, Lith squatted down to reach his eye level and asked with a gentle smile, "Hello~, are you lost? Did you lose your mumma's hand?"

The boy, having someone speak so gently and having a look at Lith, was instantly mesmerized.

Lith's gentle face was a sight to behold and it didn't matter if it was a young male child or female. He didn't have a brutish appearance like everyone else here and was almost an identical copy of his mother.

As far as Lith knew, his mother was the best mother in the whole damn universe and nobody could ever hold a candle to her. She was in a league of her own.

Lith had seen many beauties in his life, but none seemed as beautiful as his mother.

It was exactly due to her that Lith and his sister Lucy possessed the best looks that nobody could even think of.

It was not an overstatement, but an understatement to say that Lith seemed really gentle and charming to everyone.

To this lost green-haired kid, Lith may not be his mother, but the warmth he brought with him was exactly similar to his guardian.

The green-haired kid looked at Lith with his innocent green eyes and cutely shaking his head, said:

"I'm searching for— I have lost my candy— umm, I mean, yes— uhh— AWAAAA, mumma no see anywhere!"

'Sus! Definitely, 100%, very very sus!' Lith thought to himself while looking at the kid with a fake worried expression.

It didn't matter what happened from here on, but Lith was going to bet that this kid was the person or source he was looking for.

If this kid really was that, then Lith was absolutely fucked because there was no way he could win against someone that scary.

However, given how this was an actual kid right now and fucked up with the stuttering, Lith thought that he may be some strong entity that got his body and mind morphed into an immature kid for some odd reasons.

Whatever the case be, this kid was dangerous and Lith had to proceed with caution.

For all Lith knew, this dude may as well be the Star Master of this world in disguise and rise to solely fuck him up because he was not someone from this world.

That was stretching it too far, but it never hurt one to be cautious.

As to how Lith was so sure of this kid being an imposter and highly suspicious was due to him saying candy.

Candy was a word that no one in this world knew of as there weren't any means to make such a sweet thing.

People only ate fruits and drank milk, that was about it for their diet.

The people didn't take part in enjoying food or have any diversity of food because they ate for sustaining themselves and not for pleasure.

Even the royalties only just had some expensive fruits and premium milk, but other than that, nothing out of the blue or extraordinary.

Food was the one thing that was scarcely diverse in this place and this kid just mentioned candy, which was nigh impossible to understand by any nativ.

The kid was probably thinking that he covered things up properly, but too bad for him that Lith was from a world where candies were everywhere.

Having found the imposter, Lith maintained his worried look and holding the kid's hand gently and rubbing them, said, "Don't worry, sweet child, we'll find your mumma soon. Come, let's find her together."

With that, a kid was successfully scammed into walking together with Lith.

There were no girls around Lith for now as he had distanced himself quite a bit in the last few minutes.

Lith pretended to search for the boy's mother even though he very well knew that someone like that didn't exist.

The search went on for a few minutes and all this while, Lith was holding the kid's hand.

He had been constantly talking to the kid while roaming around to indulge him in pointless blabber. It was to distract him and make way for teleportation.

Finally, as Lith felt it was enough fooling around, he turned to look at the kid and said with a gentle smile, "Don't be afraid, child. I'm sure your mumma is—"

Lith's words were cut off as he and the kid immediately vanished from their spots.

The kid let out a surprised yelp before vanishing while Lith was calm as everything was going just about right.

If this imposter was a strong person, then he would be taken far away from Dushkarbor and not be a hindrance in their war.

Lith could also have a better chance at fleeing if this dude was supposedly realms above him.

All in all, it was a cautious step that Lith took for his as well as others' safety while tending to the urgent call from Ariel.

Where the teleportation would take him, Lith didn't know and simply waited for the completely bright vision in front of his eyes to change.

Chapter 854 Can't Go Back

The vision changed and what met Lith's eyes was a hellish scene.

In a dark, desolate plain, there was a giant humanoid shaped monster appearing like a warrior. It was commanding a small army of similar appearing monsters and they were fighting against various dark creatures.

These dark creatures were familiar to Lith and turning his head just a bit, he could see the source of these creatures, that being none other than a tall redhead, standing menacingly above a giant dark summon.

It was Anne, one of the six Chosen Ones, and a master necromancer that summoned dark creatures from the very pits of hell.

A war was going on in this place and on the front lines, Lith could see a blonde guy in a suit fighting against many creatures at once.

Beside him was a purple-haired samurai, heavily beaten up and bleeding, but still standing proud and fighting with his last breath.

Behind the two was a green-haired petite girl, emitting green radiance and providing healing to them.

Right above them, flying in the air with a pair of pure white wings was a white-haired, golden-eyed girl with a lance in her hand.

She was shouting commands one after another while slaying the many creatures that came flying at her.

The situation was messed up and Lith knew there was serious trouble here.

However, having come this far, there was no backing out now.

To see what was going on just took an instant. But to keep his act up, Lith pretended to act confused and said, "What the hell just happened to me— wait, the child!"

Lith turned to look at the kid beside him and saw that he was staring at everything with a dumbfounded gaze.

Not being fazed by this, yet still acting surprised, Lith bent down and touching the boy's face to check whether he was alright or not, Lith said, "Are you hurt anywhere? Can you speak? Can you move?"

Lith's words of concern were so gentle and soft that even the boy was left speechless. The gaslighting was real with this one and the boy was feeling something was wrong, but couldn't really point where.

The perks of high charisma were a lot and Lith ranked as a final boss when it came to that.

After successfully making the kid think that it was an accident, Lith simply said to him that he should stay in a corner while he goes to check on what exactly was happening and where they were.

The kid didn't throw a fit for all the obvious reasons and Lith finally left him, sighing a bit in relief.

After Lith was gone, the kid knitted his brows and gritting his teeth, said, "That damn wizard..."

With Lith gone, the kid finally threw a tantrum and harrumphing and snorting, walked with his little feet to a safe area in the desolate plains.

Meanwhile, Lith reached the gang of Chosen Ones and grabbing onto a flying creature, dug his sharp nails into its head and maneuvered it as per his wish.

Riding on the back of this creature, Lith reached Ariel's area.

Just as he did so, Ariel, with her brows knitted and a tense expression on her face, said, "Don't ask me anything now. Just know that someone big is against us and we can't teleport back for now."

"What!?" Lith was genuinely shocked right now. "We can't go back to our original place or—"

"Nowhere! Can't go anywhere, not even a single step in front of you with teleportation." Ariel replied in a hurried tone while defending against acidic attacks of a humanoid creature.

"Huh?" Shocked by the sudden turn of events, Lith tried to feel the Space element around him but failed to do so immediately.

'What? How can this happen?' Lith couldn't understand.

If he could teleport from a far away place to this place, then how come Space element couldn't be felt here? There was no way that it didn't exist because without it, this dimension would cease to exist as well.

Elements were the necessary building blocks of the universe and while on his way, Lith had definitely arrived due to the complex mechanism of the Space element.

It was definitely existing here, but may be sealed for some reason, hindering all teleportation spells.

"What exactly is happening, Ariel?" Lith genuinely wanted to know about the situation and asked again.

Ariel was really busy with combat and with how things were going, she seemed to be in dire need of help as she was the only one handling the enemy in the sky.

Giving her some support and room to breathe, Ariel took a deep breath and said while slashing a creature's head, "Iki was on the verge of death a while ago. His death was the reason we were feeling a sense of uneasiness. If I'm not wrong then..."

Ariel pierced a flying creature's body with her lance and continued, "Then we are all connected somehow and if one dies, everyone else will follow."

"What!?" Lith exclaimed while powerfully punching a creature, making its body burst.

This was the third shock he got today and if possible, he really didn't want any more of them. They were all so shitty!

Ariel nodded her head and taking out the lance and piercing another creature's body, continued, "This is my hypothesis and I'm leaning on the side that it's true."

Lith's expression turned grave. He didn't want to believe that it was all true and wanted to hope that it wasn't, but sadly, such wasn't the case.

Back in Novolzak's trial where he met this group for the first time, Ariel had shown great wisdom and was a highly intellectual being. All her tactics, strategies, and predictions had come true there and never once was she wrong.

This golden eyed angel was really something. She was a boundless ocean of knowledge and knew so much that the Royal Archies and the two inheritances in Lith's mind would pale in comparison.

Words coming out of such a being's mouth were rarely ever wrong and knowing that his fate was now sealed, Lith sighed and then clicked his tongue in annoyance.

There was some regret to answer this teleportation, but then knowing that this would provide a great experience to him, Lith simply became annoyed.

"Guess I'll just have to kill the boss then." Lith said in a relaxed tone, as if he wasn't going to go up against a creature that could literally smash him to bits within a few seconds.

However, before Lith could fly away to the creature in question, Ariel said hurriedly:

"No, don't! Don't attack that big monster, there's some serious issues with that."

Chapter 855 Clearing The Fodders

The large creature at the front had corrosive properties and any attack sent on it would either be blocked by some other creature or sent back.

It was best to not rattle that thing for now and fight the smaller fodders instead.

Killing these guys was difficult, but with holy elements, things were still fine.

The problem was, the only person who possessed holy elements was Ariel and she was having a hard time managing things.

Being told that Light was needed to defeat these things, Lith stretched himself in a relaxed fashion and said, "Alright, I'll see to it then."

With that, Lith maneuvered the creature he was holding onto right at the frontlines where Sebastian was fighting.

Killing and hopping down beside him, Lith flashed a small smile and waved at Sebastian. "Yo, been a while."

Sebastian forced a smile in this precarious situation and did a light nod, returning the gesture to Lith.

Lith didn't indulge in any more chatter and spreading his palms out, began feeling the Light element to attack these things.

A warm feeling coursed through Lith's body as a connection with the elements was re-established. Just by feeling some of his spiritual power return, Lith found himself in a bliss.

It was so soothing and refreshing to feel it back after an entire year. It was as if a major disability was gone and Lith felt totally complete.

A bright golden magic circle appeared on Lith's palms as he willed the Light elements around him.

Charging right at the monsters in front, Lith slapped them as hard as he could with his magic circles, making them burst apart and sizzle loudly.

Ariel was correct. Light was the way to defeat these guys, evident from the way their flesh was boiling by having some Light touch them.

Zigzagging his way forwards like lighting, Lith went on a killing spree and slightly surprised Sebastian, Iki, Tsuki, Anne, and Ariel who were struggling till now.

A major part of the fodders was wiped out, relieving some pressure off the five Chosen Ones and gave them some room to think further about the ways to defeat this thing here.

While everyone was fighting, in the certain spot of this desolate plains, a small child was sitting on top of a small pile of dead warrior corpses and staring at the group with his emerald green eyes.

The boy's posture was like a thinker and he seemed like a wise old philosopher trapped in a child's body.

"The talent is astronomical. How did such a group come together?" The child said some deep words, but his immature voice brought about a conflict and he didn't seem serious at all.

"Baat! What am I even thinking about? It could be a coincidence— wait, why am I rejecting— wait! What—"

Immediately, the personality of this boy switched as he began having an internal struggle and suffered.

The boy rolled around on the corpses he had piled up and got his clothes lathered in flesh and bones.

"I hate this! Baat! Baat! That damn—baat!—wizard!"

Unaware of a child's struggles, back in the battlefield, the six continued to fight their way to kill the undeads present in front of them.

Anne's necromancy summons weren't working as she was using Dark element, so she merely used her strength to kill whatever came at her bay.

Tsuki sent a few attacking spells here and there, but she was majorly involved in healing.

Ariel's holy attacks were effective, but not as much as Lith's despite him being a Vampire.

Ariel was the most proficient in her wisdom and was of a major help in devising strategies on the battlefield.

Iki was purely strength. If given a chance, he would shut his brain off and simply swing his blade as many times as called upon.

But, his intelligence was far too high as well and when in a peril, he would blast out his full potential.

Iki was doing that before the group came and had exhausted everything he had at hand, getting himself on the verge of death.

If Ariel hadn't arrived on time after finding something wrong, Iki really would've died.

While fighting the monsters, Lith thought of this thing.

It may seem like a coincidence at first, but it really wasn't, in his opinion.

From them being brought together to now Ariel discovering things regarding Iki and calling everybody... things were far too suspicious for them to be mere coincidences.

Who or what was behind everything, Lith didn't know yet. For the time being, it was useless to think about so many things.

The only thing Lith and everyone else needed to worry about now was defeating this monster in front that seemed like it couldn't be killed.

Long range, short range... any attack barely even worked on this thing as it was sending it back with the same intensity.

Not only the six had to dodge while attacking, they also had to make sure to get touched by that warrior monster's body.

The corrosion was really strong and they had found out about this when they threw a dead person's body at it.

The body didn't even melt upon touching that big monster, but instantly vaporized!

The six weren't weak people, but they also weren't stupid enough to test out whether they would survive by getting touched by that thing or not.

For all one knew, it may be a hoax from that monster to scare them, but the risk was far too high and such a bet should never be taken.

In any case, after a few hours of struggle, the six had managed to clear out all the foddors from the field.

Major work was done by Lith and his abilities fascinated the rest of the five, bringing forth a deep respect for him from within.

Nobody said any word to him though and kept the respect buried within themselves. It was slightly embarrassing to portray and these people were the types to 'show' and not 'tell'.

Actions spoke louder than words and they would express their respect to Lith in one way or another in the near future.

While the six continued to fight the big monster boss, far away from them, in a realm astronomically above,

Within a broken temple, there sat a figure on a huge throne, looking down at a person with his calm sagely eyes.

A woman in purple robes was staring right at him with her calm, sharp slanted eyes even though she appeared like an ant in front of such a domineering figure.

"Lord, there's something different happening with one of the soul strands you have sent out."

Chapter 856 Unknown Help

"Lord, there's something different happening with one of the soul strands you have sent out."

The figure's calm eyes slowly focused on the woman, letting her know that he was listening.

The lady continued, "The soul strand seems to be on the verge of dying and is surrounded by a bunch of youngsters with potential I've never seen before. You should check it."

The figure didn't respond, but his left eye shined with a green hue and soon, the scene of the Chosen Ones came into his view.

Silence ensued in the room as the figure and the lady watched the same thing together, taking this matter really seriously.

Meanwhile...

Back in the realm where Lith and his gang were fighting, the green-haired child that was resting atop a pile of corpses suddenly felt a chill down his spine and jolted awake.

The kid immediately turned to the source of the chill, which was the big monster fighting the six kids.

Looking into the monster's eyes, the kid frowned.

The monster's eyes that were pitch black changed into a shade of green and noticing this, the kid's expression turned even more grave.

"Baat! This asshole will kill everybody including me!" The kid yelled in his immature voice.

Jumping down from the pile of corpses, the kid seriously stared at the monster and shook his hands to warm himself up, as if he was about to do some sort of exercise.

The green-haired kid then pictured a bow and arrow in his hands and pulled the string of the imaginary bow, making red flames erupt out of nowhere and take the shape of the imaginary bow and arrow.

The kid's green eyes glowed and turned dark red and the flames matched the color of those.

"Reiki, fifty-fourth movement."

With a lightning fast speed, the arrow of flames shot away from the kid and went straight towards the monster.

The kid felt his head spin as the arrow left and the bow disappeared. His body staggered and he fell down on his butt, feeling a sting and letting out a frustrated grunt.

"Baat! Baat! That—baat!—wizard!" The kid cursed while beating the ground in front of him.

Meanwhile, the lightning fast arrow the kid had just sent out...

BOOOOOOM!

The head of the monster exploded as the arrow touched it and the monster vanished from existence.

The Chosen Ones were surprised to see such a thing happen out of nowhere while in the realm far away...

"Ackk!" The lady in the presence of the mighty figure held her face and grunted.

Blood trickled down her eyes as she held her face and being greatly surprised, asked, "What just happened?"

The mighty figure, whose eyes had now returned back to their pitch black color, looked at the lady with interest while a strange shine appeared in his eyes.

The lady wiped the blood off her face and said with her brows knitted, "There was a powerhouse? They found us spying?"

The mighty figure shifted his eyes down at the lady and lightly shook his head.

The lady clicked her tongue and then said, "If they found us, do they know who we are?"

The figure shook his head again.

"Amusing." The lady replied calmly. "Someone of the calibre to find Lord spying in a realm as low as that... How amusing. I must look into it."

The mighty figure's calm eyes then shined with interest once again.

The lady nodded her head. "Right, I'll keep a check on those kids as well."

The mighty figure nodded lightly and then, for the first time in a while, said, "Variables."

The lady stopped in her tracks as she heard that and trembled, feeling really shocked by the sudden comment.

The lady immediately turned around and replied, "Are you kidding me? They've finally appeared!?"

The figure nodded his head lightly once again.

"Haah! Who would've thought..." The lady, still shocked, rubbed her temples and said with a tired sigh. "Everything was going smoothly for so long and right when... Argh... Nevermind. I must hurry then."

The mighty figure nodded in affirmation and the lady finally left the hall.

.....

"What just happened?"

Back on the battlefield, while staring at the dead monster, Sebastian asked everyone else.

Lith shrugged in response as he didn't know what just happened while Iki stayed quiet, Anne ignored the question, and Tsuki went into deep thinking as if some answer would magically come to her while Ariel replied with:

"Maybe an internal trigger?"

Nobody saw anything other than the head of the monster suddenly explode. How and what caused it was unknown and the only plausible answer that Ariel could come up with was that it was something related to the monster itself.

The six discussed this topic for a few minutes and coming to no conclusion, left it and jumped onto another conversation.

Lith used Earth element and made flat rocks protrude out, getting everybody a chair to sit on.

He then looked at Ariel and asked, "The emergency call... What did you mean by that?"

The way Ariel had summoned everybody was strange. She meant that everyone's life was in danger and they could die any minute, but that seemed too far-fetched and Lith needed answers to that.

What was Ariel thinking when she said that? What were the reasons and so on.

Ariel looked at Lith calmly and said seriously, "If I'm not wrong... After Novolzak's trial, our fate seemed to have gotten connected. Due to this..."

Everybody listened intently to what Ariel said, including Anne and Iki, who usually weren't interested in socializing.

What Ariel was stating to everybody was that from the day they met in the trial, they had been brought together for some unknown future goal.

Something or someone wanted them together, there was a purpose to it, and the trial was probably a means for them to get along well.

The artifacts they now possessed and with how easily they could come to each other due to it... It was far too fishy and something that couldn't be ignored.

The five nodded their heads in affirmation as they had thought of it as well.

Ariel explained a lot of coincidences from the past which weren't really coincidences but purposefully done due to a hidden motive.

Add to that, everyone's ascension in the Astral World... That was so flashy and sudden. It shouldn't have happened in the first place, but it ended up happening.

Lith was amazed by Ariel's comprehension ability and problem solving skills. He wouldn't lie, she was slightly better than him in this aspect and her whole perspective was really different from his, making him be really interested in her.

Ariel explained many things to everyone as there was no point hiding them. Finally, coming towards the end, Ariel's expression turned solemn and she said with much seriousness,

"There's a problem. Among the six of us... No one should die and on the off chance that if it does happen..."

Ariel took a dramatic pause, making everyone's heart itch with curiosity, and then continued,

"...On the off chance If someone ends up dying anyhow... Then we all will die as well."

"WHAT!?"

Chapter 857 Trying To Find Solace, Always Met With Hardships

"WHAT!?"

The shocked yells came from Sebastian and Tsuki as Ariel mentioned the catch.

Lith on the other hand was unfazed. This was not the first time he was in a precarious position such as this.

Ariel looked at everyone and calmly continued, "That's a hypothesis and not something I am one hundred percent sure of. For the time being, let's assume the worst and think that this is true."

Sebastian, Tsuki relaxed and showed their slightly panicked and worried look as Ariel continued on.

She was dropping one bombshell after another with her words and if possible, these guys really wanted her to not speak anymore.

Lith, having heard her bit, rubbed his chin and said, "So... Our fates are tied and we are back to doing that unity thing?"

By unity thing, Lith was referring to the trial where they were all forced to work as a group. Nothing seemed to have changed from then and now, making the whole situation quite laughable.

Ariel could only just nod in response to Lith's comment and then went quiet.

The group fell silent and as they were all thinking deeply about Ariel's words.

After a while, Lith, turning to look at Iki, asked, "Why didn't you run away?"

Everyone's ears perked up as the silence broke and they turned to look at Iki.

Lith's question was something they all had in their minds as well and wanted to know about.

Iki, focusing his serious gaze on Lith, didn't say anything and just stared at him for a while.

The serious eyes Lith was looking at spoke a lot more than what words could.

The eyes conveyed that what other option did Iki have? And leave? Leave where? Where was he supposed to even go?

There were so many thoughts on this matter that Iki was at a loss of words to even phrase and speak about them.

Lith could understand this guy and could see where he was coming from. However...

Showing an indifferent look on his otherwise jolly face, Lith said, "You had the option to run, yet you didn't. The whole universe was your playground, but still you didn't. Why?"

Many things were still unanswered and Iki's mental stability had to be checked.

If it turned out that this emo guy was a crackhead, then Lith was doomed.

Nobody liked people who actively courted death, offended old powerful geezers, thought themselves to be highly entitled and so on.

In what category Iki lay, Lith didn't know. What he did know was that Iki didn't like his life and wanted an end to it soon.

This dude was really tired and it was clearly showing. Even if Lith wanted to ignore it, he couldn't. That's how obvious things were.

Iki, being asked such a question in such a straightforward manner, first didn't answer, but then... noticing how everyone was looking intently and seeking answers, gazed at the distance and said,

"The boundless universe does not fancy me. A mere hut is enough. I tried seeking solace, but found myself journeying through hellish turmoil. I met countless beings and all stated..."

Iki's words were filled with deep meaning and complete seriousness. His hoarse and deep voice made everyone realize that this definitely was Iki's first time speaking in a long while.

How Iki was managing being a loner and antisocial, only he knew.

With his profound experience and immaculate words, Iki stated to all five that he had many people who commented, 'It's all about the journey and not the end goal'.

Meaning that hustling day and night to have your dream come true was actually better than having your dream finally come true.

It was a bullshit thing whoever had said it and Iki was strongly against this.

He tried finding solace so much, but what met him were nothing but hardships from one point of time till another.

With how difficult and challenging these hardships were to conquer, how could this be enjoyable to anybody, let alone Iki, who had even overcome them.

Never once did Iki find happiness within the journey and had always dreamt of actually having his dream come true.

Another really important thing that Iki talked about was how life would get after one's dream is fulfilled and one achieved their reward.

Life would never change despite the dream being fulfilled as there would be some other bigger thing that would come up.

Thus, the cycle of going through the journeys would always repeat and at one point, it would get so hectic that one would get trapped in it with no way out.

With that, the dream would never come true and neither would actual happiness or solace to the man seeking solace.

Being one such man and having suffered through it, Iki was tired of things and just wanted to rest.

He believed that his rest lay in his death and that, maybe, maybe after his death, he would actually end up finding eternal solace and bliss.

Maybe after death, there would be no more seeking solace, no more offending anybody, no more struggling, and no more fighting for survival.

Hopefully after death, true salvation and peace will be achieved, thought Iki and said it out loud to everybody.

His comments were deep and went on to show just how much he was suffering.

Except Lith, the other four could only sigh and shake their heads. They understood him completely and found things really relatable.

Meanwhile Lith on the other hand, rubbing his chin to appear like a wise man, said, "You just said that you've been in constant hardships and never found a day you were at peace. I'm starting to think that the problem..."

Lith turned completely serious.

"...It's actually you, yourself."

Iki shifted his gaze to look at Lith, wondering whether he was trying to humour him or something at such a critical point.

Lith, being completely serious, continued, "You know, I'm starting to think that the problem is not actually your fate, but with how you are. You are your biggest enemy and bring forth consistent hardships."

Iki frowned when hearing that while the rest listened intently, Ariel included.

Lith walked around the battlefield and picking a half broken sword from ground, explained, "You see, we are all sentient beings and there's a reason why we're sentient and stand truly apart from mindless beasts or monsters."

"The reason for our high intelligence and consciousness is simply due to one thing: adaptability."

Lith dragged the broken sword on the ground with some firm pressure and continued, "Adaptability is our greatest tool and how our life shapes into is totally dependent on it."

Lith stopped in his tracks and pulled the broken sword out of the ground, surprising everybody.

The half broken sword, with just some dragging on the ground, had actually turned into a proper short sword.

After showing it to everybody, Lith put the sword back on the ground and continued to drag it.

While walking, he resumed his explanation and said, "So what I'm trying to convey here is..."

Chapter 858 Adaptability

"So what I'm trying to convey here is..."

Lith took a pause and walking for a bit and dragging the sword, stopped when he saw everyone's attention had peaked.

Lith took the short sword out of the ground, surprising everybody once again as they saw that it wasn't a short sword this time, but actually a proper throwable knife.

Showing it to everybody, Lith continued, "Your life, your misery, your personality, your hardships... They're all a consequence of how you adapt yourself."

Lith paused here as everyone had fallen into comprehending what he had just said.

He may be somewhat younger than everybody here, but the wisdom he possessed truly stood out among this group filled with depressed ones.

There were some things in life that could only be known or learnt from someone who had always been privileged and barely had ever suffered through tragedies. Lith was one of those people and his viewpoint was much needed by them.

While Lith excelled in this aspect of life and the rest five failed, Lith also was missing out on a few things.

Life teaches many lessons no matter if it's the sad times or the happy times.

When a person is happy, life teaches them to value and cherish it properly. If they don't, then this happiness gets taken away and washed by the floods of sorrow.

Likewise, when a person is sad, life teaches them to value and cherish their own selves in these hard times. Lots and lots of lessons were being taught by life during sad times and cherishing oneself was just a small part of it.

By now, whatever Lith wanted to convey should have gotten to the heads of these guys, especially Iki.

This guy had stopped comprehending things and was now staring at Lith with a newfound light.

Having his attention, Lith continued, "I may not be fully correct, but with how I see it, you've adapted wrong. You shouldn't have adjusted yourself to be numb to whatever wrongs were happening or strengthen your mind to suck the tragedies up. That's not how it should've been done."

"Instead, when facing pain, you should've sought pleasure."

"When things got heated and a fight arose, instead of duking it out, you should've learnt to calm people down."

"When facing many conflicts, instead of being the person who fought against everything bravely, you should've learnt to instigate others and make them fight themselves."

"There's just so many ways with how you could've adapted yourself and yet you chose all the worst possible options, making your already miserable life even more precarious."

Lith then walked up to Iki, who was sitting on the ground, and bonked his head with the hilt of the knife he was holding.

"Brawn doesn't always work, but the brain always works. This thing here is not a headpiece available for show, use it wisely and adapt well."

With that, Lith stopped speaking on this topic and went to search for the green-haired imposter kid he had brought along.

Lith could leave this imposter here and not come back, but he had a hunch that this kid may return anyway.

If that happened, Lith wouldn't have the kid with him and things would go way out of hand than how they already were.

Searching for a bit, Lith found the kid sleeping on top of a pile of corpses.

Lith didn't say anything and simply picked the kid up by his collar and put him on his shoulder like a sack of potatoes.

Lith went back to the group and saw everyone staring at him.

Staring back at them and smiling, Lith pointed at the kid he was holding onto and said, "Isn't it amazing how this kid didn't die here?"

Sebastian, Ariel, Iki, and Tsuki were still busy comprehending the things Lith had spouted a while ago. It was only Anne who was there to entertain him and looking at him, she asked,

"Why would you bring a kid here?"

This redhead, when Lith had parted ways with her last time, she had totally threatened to kill him when she saw him next.

It wasn't a joke in any way as she was psychopathic enough to pull such stunts.

Anne was only calm right now because she had exhausted a lot of her power and was in no mood to get into a fight.

Sitting beside her and putting the kid down on the ground beside him, Lifh replied, "This kid just clung onto me and then I was forcefully brought here. Couldn't do much about it."

Anne didn't reply after getting her answer and stayed quiet for a while.

She hated socializing and the only thing that fascinated her was killing, that's about it.

Lith stayed silent as well and the ice was eventually broken by Sebastian later on, who asked, "Any idea why we are brought together so suddenly?"

All except Ariel shook her head. "I don't have a proper idea, but I do have a vague one."

"What is it?" Sebastian asked.

Ariel got up and walking around, questioned, "We all agree that it isn't a coincidence that we are here, right?"

Everybody nodded their heads.

"Then, any ideas as to what the entity might have wanted to achieve by bringing us here?"

They thought about it and it was Tsuki who said, "Maybe the entity wanted to test our strength?"

Ariel nodded lightly. "Could be the reason. Anything else?"

Nobody said anything because whatever they had in mind, Ariel probably knew of it as well.

This was correct on everyone's part that Ariel pretty much knew everything they could think or decipher from this situation. She wasn't highly intelligent for no reason.

Noticing that nobody was responding anymore, Ariel said, "Instead of thinking what the entity wanted to achieve by bringing us here, how about we focus on what was even present here and what all things had happened. The things are really limited and can give us a proper idea."

"Right." Sebastian nodded in agreement. "Now that you say it, there's nothing other than a few things present here. The ground soaked with blood, the dishevelled corpses that didn't melt, the lone tree standing in the middle of nowhere, sand, and..."

Sebastian went on for a bit and then Ariel commented, "Alright, so nothing other than those alive corpses are even worth mentioning."

"Speaking of the corpses, did you guys wonder how such a powerful monster got slayed so easily? If I'm not wrong, neither I nor Iki or Tsuki did anything to stop it." Sebastian commented.

Ariel shook her head and so did Anne.

Lith too did the same thing while his eyes sneakily glanced at the sleeping kid.

Gazing at him, Lith wondered, 'I'm pretty sure this dude did it. I just don't have proof.'

With that, the six continued to discuss things and in the meantime, ended up doing a small reunion.

Chapter 859 Lith's The Link

The chatter continued on for a while and the participants were mostly Sebastian, Tsuki, Lith, and Ariel.

As the talks steered to the important bits, in regards to what they should all be doing from here onwards, Anne and Iki paid attention and listened intently.

There was a deep discussion going on, but not having enough time on hand, Lith jumped in the conversation and said, "Let me shorten things and explain to you guys."

The five, Anne and Iki included, nodded their heads lightly and looked at Lith.

Despite appearing seemingly unserious, Lith was still revered and respected by everyone in this group. He was the very link that connected the remaining five together.

In his absence, it would be absolute chaos as Sebastian, Anne, Ariel, and Iki were all born to lead and could never be under someone on their own.

Just as two tigers could not share a single mountain, these five could not coexist in the same place together.

Tsuki might be able to adjust, but the rest definitely wouldn't and may end up killing each other rather than extend out even a single finger for help.

Lith explained to everybody that they should go about living their lives normally just like how they've been doing it till now.

Hardships were bound to come sooner or later and on the off chance that they ended up stumbling across an enemy they couldn't defeat, seeking help should not be a problem.

Now, seeking help was a must as not only theirs, but the whole group's lives were at stake.

The five nodded their heads in understanding. These points were something they didn't disagree on.

Lith then told them that everyone should be on a lookout to break this curse and further advised them to not fall into depression or go berserk over the smallest of things.

The latter part was easier said than done as simply saying don't fall into depression didn't mean jackshit.

Everyone's struggle was different and the way to cope through it was different as well.

But, it didn't matter to Lith. He was just saying it formally and merely assumed that everyone understood what he meant. In case they didn't, it was not his problem.

Everyone was a grown up here and had to be mature enough to take care of themselves.

Lith then talked about a few emergency things and how they all should be tending to it and reacting.

After all was said and done, Lith stretched and said, "Phew... What a hectic day. Alright, time to leave."

"I hope the worst situation never arises." Tsuki said suddenly while everyone was preparing to leave.

Everyone turned to look at her as she said that while having their eyebrows widened.

"Don't raise a death flag like that, damn. You really wanna get us all killed or what?" Lith commented.

Tsuki spat out her tongue playfully and said, "Sawry."

Everyone's mood was pleasant right now and they were all being playful, this time Iki was included as well.

Iki didn't understand humour or anything, he was just happy to be there and enjoyed their company.

Finally, with some more talks, they all parted ways with each other and left for their respective universes and worlds.

.....

Dushkarbor.

Lith was back in the village with that dumb green-haired kid. He was really suspicious and couldn't be left alone for even a moment.

Lith was babysitting this dude and always kept him close and entertained.

Lith really treated this child as a child and didn't once think he was an adult.

Lith squished the guy's chubby cheeks, which made him really angry, but then gave him a lollipop with a really niche flavor.

This thing was not available anywhere except for the Royal Castle and without any surprises, the child was hooked to it.

Lith then began gaslighting the kid into thinking he was small, cute, and deserved all the pampering in the world.

The thing he did was working as the boy began getting absorbed into this.

The boy was finally taken care of and with that done, Lith began making preparations for war once again.

Upon arrival in Dushkarbor, Lith learnt that a few days had already passed and that the meeting had been cancelled.

Lith didn't mind this and made them schedule a meeting once again while keeping that damn green-haired kid close by.

As the kid was near, Lith couldn't even touch his maids or have fun with them. The time he had spent outside was so hectic that some stress balls were needed to relieve pressure.

But, it seemed that the stress balls would have to wait.

Damn, this kid!

Within a few hours, the meeting was scheduled and once again, the officials from various provinces came to check on what the new King had to say.

The Queen was with Lith, the King had been killed, this meant Lith was the highest authority in the kingdom and could do pretty much anything he wanted here.

Despite having full freedom, Lith didn't actually do anything .

He simply kept the green-haired kid close to him and handing him out a lollipop, began addressing the issues one by one.

Different provinces had different problems, thus they were being individually told what they had to do.

The meeting lasted for three whole days. It was boring, but everyone was somehow interested in things as the improvements sounded quite good to them.

The officials then were sent back and immediately sprung into action, making people correct the stuff they had been doing wrong for so many years or give them some extra boost.

Lith inspected everything on his own while having the green-haired kid by his side.

For some reason or another, this child was looking at everything with great interest and this made Lith frown and question, 'Is he in the enemy camp?'

This thing was something he couldn't tell based on looks alone. A lot of evidence was needed for it, but if such was the case, then Lith thought to better take the necessary precautions.

From the next day onwards, Lith began taking this kid into places meant for kids and then straight into work places where discussion regarding administration was going on.

The kid seemed to be bored to death, but Lith gave him good food and drinks, coaxing him into going where Lith went.

Time passed with such shenanigans happening and without even knowing, it had been a month since Lith's return.

It had also been a month of babysitting and honestly, Lith was really tired of it but also got used to it, so there were barely any difficulties he faced.

On the other hand, the green-haired kid was constantly thinking, 'WHY IS HE NOT LEAVING ME ALONE!?''

Chapter 860 Successfully Manipulating A Kid

Another month passed by.

It had been so many days since Lith was together with the green-haired kid that by now, this little creature was used to his presence and had begun liking it.

By now, there was no suspicion left against this kid that Lith had, for everything was confirmed with proof.

This chubby kid definitely belonged to the enemy camp—the demons. He had been consistently trying to check what the people here had been up to and tried to either run away or establish a connection with the demons.

Lith wanted to believe that this kid was a powerhouse, but with how the kid acted, which was just like a normal child, Lith could not properly guess.

There was a lot of immaturity expressed by the kid and for some reason, he also made a 'baat' sound whenever he was annoyed, frustrated, or just too stimulated.

Lith was starting to have fun poking this guy as he would make such funny sounds. He also seemed cute overall and reminded Lith of Ren.

That fluffy golden boy was probably being hugged to death by his three mothers or being used by Alea for some experiments.

Remembering all of them made Lith homesick, but nothing could be done until the war here was over and benefits had been accumulated.

Staying for such a long period of time, Lith had learnt by now that his physique was getting much stronger than ever.

When he had left this world to meet Iki and felt magic for the first time in a while, a weird sensation brushed all over him.

Lith felt empty and his body had gotten really light. He found himself able to suck up more elemental energy and become strong overall.

The magic attacks had also seen a boost in power and there was not a single disadvantage that could be seen.

Previously, back in his own world, when Lith had gotten too strong in his 20s, his body felt as if it would burst apart any minute.

Due to that, he had to go into a deep slumber for many decades and only then did such a feeling die down.

Lith had understood then that cultivation could not be rushed and he could not get stronger really fast.

A body was like a vessel while the soul and magic were like water.

If Lith cultivated fast, the vessel would fill up fast and the water would overflow.

This overflow meant death and it was not a good thing.

The vessel's growth and the influx of water within it had to have a proper balance otherwise one would just sprint to their own grave.

Lith couldn't help it when he was in his world in regards to magic. His cultivation was fast because he had access to all the resources in the world followed by the fact that he was a literal genius.

Lith found knowledge in every little thing and his comprehension was top notch, meaning there was rapid progress in the magic department.

His body had always been a limiter, but spending over a year and two months in this world, Lith had made quite a lot of room for magic cultivation.

Lith believed that his body was ready to take on at least a few decades worth of cultivation. This was a big deal and something Lith felt happy about.

He didn't know for how long he was in this world, but everyday was a great day as his physique was only growing stronger.

In any case, the little kid here was a demon and couldn't be left alone. Thus, the babysitting was continuing on and Lith was barely getting any time to hangout with the new maids.

Meanwhile, the chubby green-haired kid, he was thinking, 'Mhm... This candy is good.'

The boy was sitting right on Lith's lap and eating candies given by him.

There was a meeting going on and Lith was addressing some issues that were needed to be taken care of.

This interaction was perfectly normal by now for both the kid and Lith.

At the start the kid hated it, but the pampering got the best of him and he just couldn't resist it anymore.

To Lith, this chubby kid seemed cute and he saw him no less than a young toddler who had to be pampered. Lith's brain completely ignored the fact that it could be a person older than him within the child's body.

The reason for such an ignorance was due to his species' inherent ability of being biologically superior to everyone else.

Vampires were the apex forms of life. Their intelligence, physique, connection to elements, abilities, and everything else overall was far superior than any other species in existence.

As they were higher life forms, they unconsciously thought of all other species as harmless.

It was the equivalent of an interaction between a man and a dog. The man would find the dog cute and while being around it, pamper it without questions asked.

There was no afterthought to it or any manipulation or selfishness, just the innate trait of wanting to provide something to the lesser species due to them being superior.

This demon on his lap, who was acting immature and looked like a little kid was someone Lith deemed harmless after spending so much time with.

It was this fact that made him pamper the guy more and as for the demon, since he was a kid and his mind was thinking like a kid, his tendency leaned more towards wanting to get pampered and spoiled.

The kid felt safe in Lith's embrace and was also getting fed tasty candies, what more could he ask for?

Both were unaware of the subconscious acts their minds were performing, but as it was all harmless, they continued on with it.

Meanwhile, the kid, while eating candies, thought to himself, 'They are discussing war strategies. Pfft... How laughable are they? If I—Ohhh... This orange flavor is much better!'

The kid's focus shifted to the orange colored candy he was holding. He then looked down at his basket full of candies and thought, 'Oof! There's only three such candies in the basket!'

Shaking his head and then thinking of distracting himself from the sadness of knowing he only had three orange candies, the kid went back to focusing on the war strategies.

Looking at the people discussing stupid stuff, the kid wanted to scold them, but then Lith chimed in and said a few statements that made the kid surprised and think, 'Damn. Big bro's not bad at all.'

Lith had successfully manipulated the kid into calling him big brother. It had been done so skillfully that even in his thoughts, the kid called him that.

The discussion went on for a while and after finding half the basket of candies and getting sugar rush, the chubby kid felt really tired and leaned back on Lith's body.

The kid then began napping and in no time, a bit of drool could be seen coming out of the corner of his mouth.

Lith looked at it and feeling a bit surprised, thought, 'Is this really a powerhouse?'