VILLAIN 47

Chapter 47 Against the Promised Hero
-Frey Starlight Pov-

A storm of emotions clashed within me as I prepared to face him
The protagonist of my own story.
The perfect version of myself—the one who had everything I ever wanted.
I raised my sword, steadying my breath.
"Come, hero."
Snow Lionheart nodded, an overwhelming aura surging through him. Three colors intertwined within it—white, red, and green—proof of his tri-elemental affinity.
And that was only half of what he was capable of.

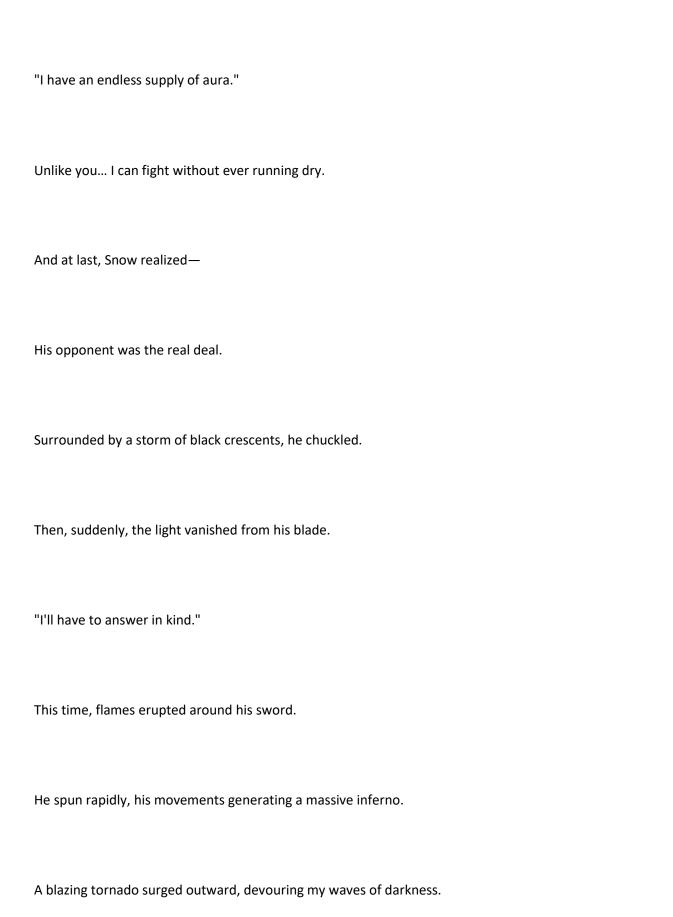
In response, a dense black aura of darkness enveloped me.
I pushed my power to its peak, activating Hawk's Eye and Phantom Steps.
I would give this fight everything I had.
We moved in slow, deliberate circles, each gauging the other. From the sidelines, Dawn and Seris watched in silence.
"You know, Frey I've been waiting for this moment for a long time."
Snow's golden eyes glowed as he spoke.
He stood several meters away.
Yet in the next instant, his voice whispered right beside my ear.
"Ever since you defeated Feyrith"

One moment, he was in the distance.
The next, a flickering image of him appeared at my side, his glowing blade slicing toward my neck.
His strike tore through the air itself, but at the last possible moment, I bent my body, narrowly avoiding the blow.
What I had seen before was merely an afterimage—a remnant of his overwhelming speed.
Fortunately, Hawk's Eye allowed me to follow his movements.
I launched a counterattack, slashing at his vital points with a blade wreathed in black aura.
In an instant, Snow shifted from offense to defense, parrying my attack with effortless precision.
Light and darkness clashed violently, each force trying to consume the other.
At that moment, we both had the same thought.
In a flash, we exchanged dozens of strikes.

Black and white collided, locking us within a whirlwind of flashing swords.
From afar, all an observer would see was a storm of dark and light streaks crashing against each other at blinding speed.
My Ten Thousand Steps of Shadow was relentless—sharp, unpredictable.
Yet he deflected every strike with ease, his mastery of swift swordsmanship rendering my attacks ineffective.
Then, with perfect timing, Snow baited me into attacking, sidestepping with expert precision before slipping past my defenses.
"Let's move on to the next phase."
His sword erupted in blinding radiance as he unleashed a devastating wave of aura at my side.
The hall trembled as the force of his attack sent me hurtling backward.
"One Sword: Mountain-Splitting Sword."

Dawn and Seris flinched as the sheer brilliance of the strike filled the room.	
For a moment, they may have thought the battle was over.	
But within the overwhelming light—	
A single black speck expanded, growing at a menacing pace.	
A pitch-black slash tore through the brilliance, splitting Snow's attack in half.	
My sword burned with dark flames as I raised it toward him.	
"Don't think for a second that defeating me will be easy."	
With a powerful swing, I unleashed my full strength.	
"Ten Thousand Steps of Shadow: The Black Cutter."	

A massive arc of darkness surged toward Snow.
He simply laughed, raising his sword into a defensive stance.
"I never did."
A radiant crescent of energy shot forth to meet my own, equal in size and power.
The two attacks clashed, annihilating each other—
But then, his eyes widened.
Because behind the first slash came dozens more.
No—hundreds.
In every way, he surpassed me.
Every way—except for one.



I watched as the fiery vortex rose—
Then, suddenly, it tilted toward me.
At its center, Snow's silhouette flickered.
The flames around him shifted to an eerie blue.
Then, little by little, they evaporated
And something else took their place.
Lightning.
A colossal storm of crackling electricity surged toward me at terrifying speed.
I clenched my jaw, gathering every ounce of power I could muster.



Our blades clashed.
A storm of lightning and darkness erupted, each force struggling for dominance.
This might have been the strongest attack I had ever faced.
In the end, we both plummeted from the sky.
Snow landed in his original position, while I stumbled a few steps back.
My entire body ached, electricity coursing through my limbs like molten fire.
I barely managed to steady myself—
But Snow didn't give me the chance.
I watched in alarm as a misty aura spread over his body.
Damn it

Hawk's Eye.
A thin trail of blood dripped from my eye as I pushed my vision to the limit.
Snow was preparing something.
He tapped the ground—
And in an instant, the world around him shattered.
Black lightning coiled around his form like writhing serpents.
"Void Step."
Snow shot forward, a straight-line charge that obliterated everything in its path.
This technique condensed all his power, combined it with the force of his momentum—



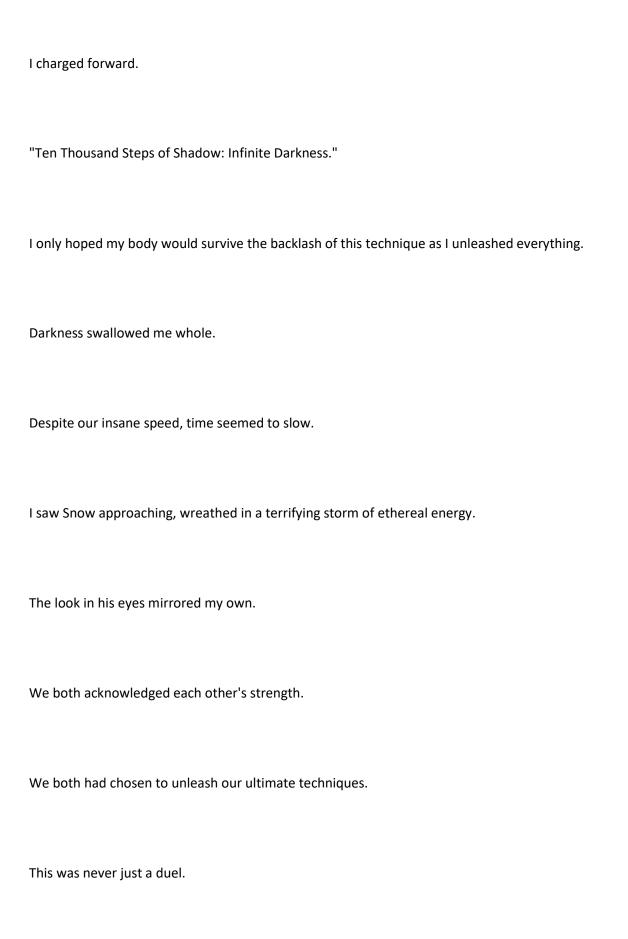


But Snow matched my speed, the black lightning serpents dancing around him.
Then, at last, we both halted.
Standing mere meters apart, he remained completely unscathed—
While I panted heavily.
I hated to admit it
But at this rate, I was going to lose.
And then—
A white, ethereal glow spread over Snow's body.
"Frey I'm going all out. Try to withstand this."

I recognized that power immediately.
And so did Dawn and Seris, gasping in disbelief.
The higher-order ability of Light.
The Star.
The strongest aura known to exist.
The one power Frey Starlight had been denied.
And as I felt the sheer magnitude of the energy Snow had gathered—
I knew.
Things were about to get serious.
" The Second Sword: Sky Cutter "

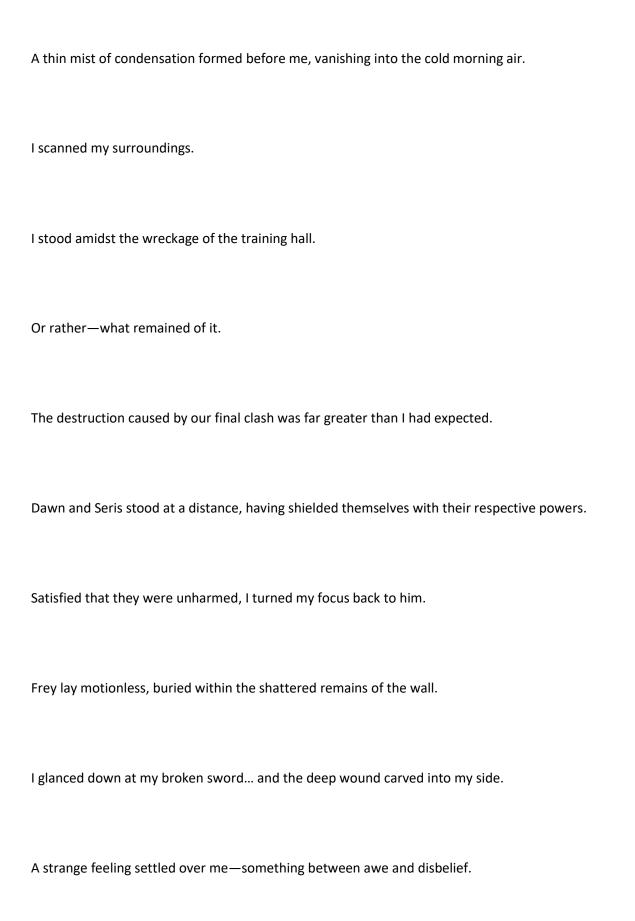
As he was consumed by his ethereal power, I cast a glance at my own sword
At that moment, the serpent tattoo on my hand burned fiercely, demanding release.
I'm sorry, my friend but not this time.
This is something I have to do myself.
Ignoring Balerion's call, I closed my eyes.
Darkness enveloped me, and a thick black mist coiled around my body.
What I was about to unleash was one of the strongest techniques of the Ten Thousand Steps of Shadow.
At my current level, using this technique was reckless—perhaps even suicidal.
But I had no choice.
Judging by the sheer power my opponent had displayed, I had to push beyond my limits.

Snow was strong.
Far too strong.
And that left me uneasy.
He wasn't supposed to be this powerful at this point in the story
Which meant that something had already changed.
But now wasn't the time to dwell on that.
I let myself sink into the abyss, my eyes burning with an intense violet glow.
Snow activated Void Step, launching an attack infused with the full force of Star Aura.
I didn't hesitate.



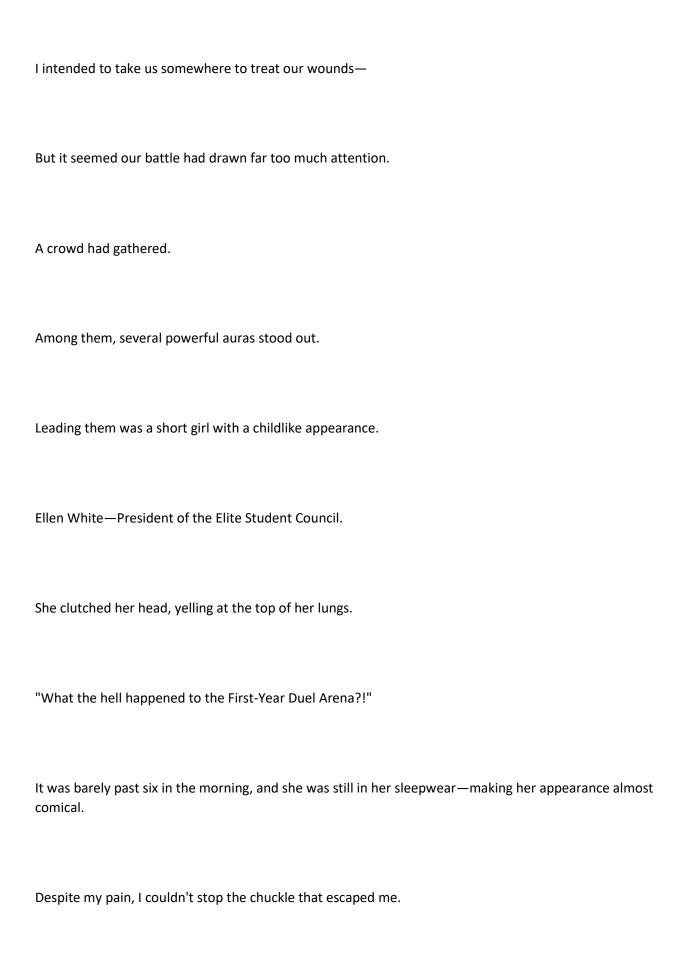
This was a battle.
A real one.
He was the greatest obstacle in my path—the one I had to overcome if I wanted to return to my world.
And so, without realizing it, I gave it everything.
This technique was deadly. Even Dawn and Seris knew that.
Seris tried to intervene, summoning a massive wall of ice between us.
But our swords cleaved through it like a hot knife slicing through butter.
And in the end—
Our blades met.
A deafening explosion erupted, obliterating the entire training hall.

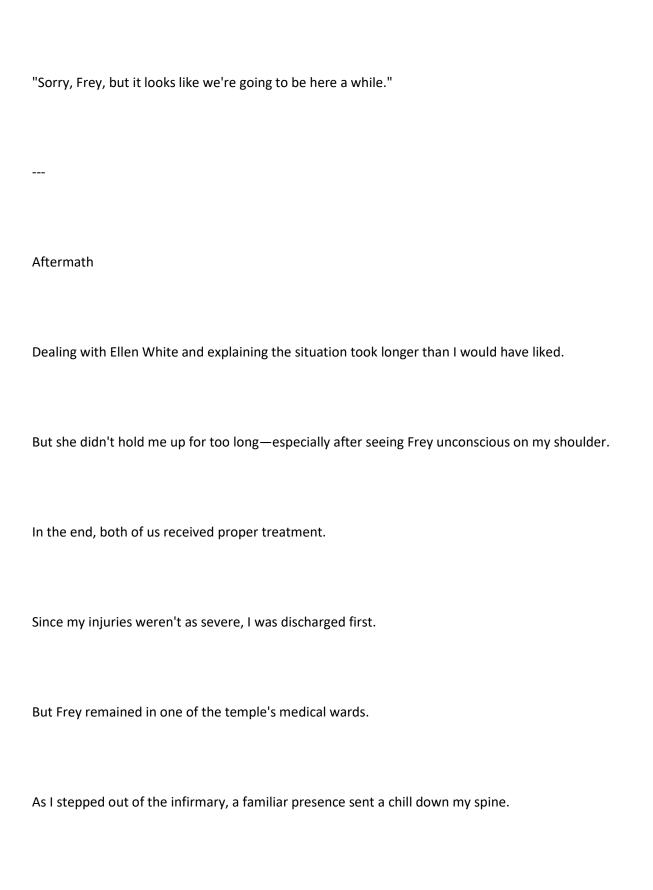
I watched as my sword shattered into dust.
Darkness consumed me.
"I lost."
-Snow Lionheart Pov-
I let out a slow breath, exhaling the air trapped in my lungs.



Even though I hadn't fought with my full elemental arsenal,
I had still given this battle everything.
And yet—
He had kept up with me.
No.
He had pushed me this far.
He wasn't a third or fourth-year student.
He was my age.
"Not bad Frey Starlight."
"Joining the temple wasn't a mistake after all."

Pressing a hand against my bleeding wound, I made my way toward him.	
When I reached him, it was obvious—his condition was far worse than mine.	
But what surprised me most was that most of his injuries	
Weren't even from my attacks.	
They were self-inflicted.	
I couldn't help but laugh.	
"Damn that hurts."	
Ignoring the searing pain in my side, I hoisted Frey onto my shoulder.	
"Come on this isn't where you fall."	









Aegon walked past me, heading toward the infirmary.
A frown formed on my face as I watched him enter.
Without thinking, I asked—
"Where are you going?"
Without even glancing back, he let out a soft laugh.
"Visiting a friend."
"A friend?"
Was he talking about Frey Starlight?
I sighed and turned away.



Frey Starlight had lost.