

Witch Monastery #Chapter 201: Theresa—One Versus Two - Read Witch Monastery Chapter 201: Theresa—One Versus Two

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No matter how much Ilarode wracked his brains, he could never have guessed that Theresa was a witch born from a cluster of nearly transparent and intricate optical instruments; she was not a human spellcaster at all, and all radiant damage was completely ineffective against her!

Just like Sephera is immune to all toxins, and Ekta is immune to all flames, she too is immune to all radiant damage!

So this time, Ilarode's spellcasting hadn't harmed her at all—on the contrary, it awakened her senses to the true source of danger!

Sensing the aggressor's position, Theresa's brows furrowed as she turned to look, and in an instant realized who was targeting her.

It was a druid clad in a colorful feathered bird robe, his spellcasting abilities so formidable that even Theresa felt a hint of threat. Watching the opponent's spellcasting motions, she immediately determined his identity.

Nidalee's father, leader of the Mountaineer tribe, the only Archdruid in these mountains: Ilarode!

Troublesome...

But not impossible to handle!

Normally, under these circumstances, asking Theresa to simultaneously hold off a creature of the elements with a challenge rating possibly equal to her own, and defend against the harassment of a max-level spellcaster, would be impossible for anyone.

But this elemental creature was at a disadvantageous location for it and could not attack her in the sky.

And the max-level spellcaster was still just a druid—a Circle of the Land druid skilled in maintaining natural balance, but not especially adept at true combat.

That changes everything about this battle.

She had already firmly anchored the Earth Dragon's hatred. As long as she avoided being caught by a sand-formed giant hand, she considered her mission complete.

Thus, she could now focus even more attention on her duel with Ilarode!

For witches, the disadvantage is that their spell list isn't broad, and it's difficult to learn spells outside their specialty; however, their greatest advantage is an enormous mana pool!

So instead of clashing with Ilarode in some complicated spell duel—he was, after all, a max-level Archdruid, with countless tricks she couldn't predict—her job was to unleash continuous pressure with her vast mana, overwhelming him with absolute firepower and forcing him to spend all his energy defending!

So next, she pivoted and unleashed a torrent of guiding bolts at Ilarode. And perhaps because he had no intention to fight to the death with her, Ilarode fell into a completely defensive stance, desperately shielding himself instead of attacking back.

This resulted in a bizarre spectacle: Theresa, like a massive living beacon, soared in the sky, dragging the Earth Dragon back and forth like a leashed beast while simultaneously bombarding Ilarode from afar with overwhelming magical firepower. From a distance, it almost looked like she was fighting—and pressing—both of them at once!

After his eyes adjusted from the blinding light, Charles saw exactly this scene. Even though he'd long known Theresa's true might, now that he saw her in real combat, in the real world, he could not help but feel awestruck.

An archwitch—truly the thickest thigh in the game's early-to-mid phase...

As he was thinking this, Nidalee also glanced that way. She faintly sensed that the one dueling Theresa was none other than her own father.

A storm of emotions churned in her heart. She had done everything to avoid this day, but fate brought it all the same.

Fortunately, at this moment, because of the distance, she did not need to confront her father face-to-face.

At the same time, she had already found an appropriate scapegoat for this father-daughter conflict.

Torun—this is all your fault!

She silently cursed that toad who dreamt of courting a swan. Then Nidalee patted Charles on the shoulder: "Let's go, Priest, let's pull the Earth Dragon's attention this way!"

"Got it!" Charles replied, falling in step with her, weaving through the chaos of the small town and circling around to the side.

"Let's start drawing its attention from here, Master," Nidalee suddenly said. With Anno not present, her address immediately reverted to her usual habit. "The trap we set up is just ahead—a deep pit. We'll start from here, pull its aggro this way, and once we've got it, we run around to the far side."

As she spoke, she raised her hand, tracing a circle with her fingertip to indicate the route, and pointed out the most critical turn.

"Understood."

Charles nodded, then turned to gaze at the distant Earth Dragon, eyes narrowing, "Can you really throw your spear that far?"

Nidalee thought for a moment, drew a light crossbow from her back, and said, "Actually, I could just use arrows. The power is limited though, and it probably won't really hurt it."

After all, this was a colossal element creature. It didn't need Stoneskin—its hide alone was solid rock. Ordinary weapons couldn't hope to hurt it—you needed magic.

Charles had wanted to save his spell slots, but seeing Nidalee's pitiful light crossbow, he sighed quietly: "Never mind, let me boost your power."

He placed his hand over hers: "Elemental Weapon!"

Elemental Weapon.

This time, he chose thunder.

Thunder is, essentially, vibration—a force with particular effects against Earth elementals: it breaks apart those rock-like scales on the Earth Dragon's hide, dealing extra harm.

Not only that, the sheer noise was enough to attract the Earth Dragon's attention for sure.

"All right." No time to fret about dwindling spell slots, Charles drew his hand back, face set. "Let's begin!"

Even as he spoke, Nidalee raised her light crossbow, let fly a magically-empowered bolt, and Charles began his incantation, launching four thick Eldritch Blasts in quick succession—

The magical beams reached slightly faster than the crossbow bolt, striking the Earth Dragon and kicking up clouds of stony dust, but to a creature that size, the hits meant little.

But Nidalee's enchanted arrow landed, and there was a thunderous explosion!

BOOM—!

The shockwave was so fierce that even the ground underfoot trembled. Truthfully, the attack probably wasn't as powerful as a single Eldritch Blast from Charles, but "thunder," by its nature, carried immense force!

Instantly, the Earth Dragon's attention whipped around. Its massive head turned, crimson eyes fixing on Nidalee and Charles. With a guttural roar, it lumbered into a full charge!

Each of its four legs was over a meter thick; the whole body must weigh hundreds of tons. When it moved, the ground shook as if hundreds of elephants were stampeding!

Dust boiled into the air, the earth shaking madly. Charles was astonished—he hadn't thought the effect would be quite so dramatic.

But of course—this wasn't a game; you didn't need to hit a specific damage threshold to draw aggro.

Just make enough noise—that was enough!

"Well done, Nidalee!" he called in admiration, giving her a playful pat on the butt. "Lead the way, let's run for it!"

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Chapter 202: Chapter 202: Purified Earth Dragon

Nidalee retrieved her light crossbow, turned, and with a single leap, her body shifted into leopard form. She dashed into the woods ahead, sprinting at full speed on all fours.

Charles followed in her wake. Under the effect of the "Longstrider" spell, he managed to keep pace with Nidalee's leopard form. He wasn't sure exactly where the edge of the trap was, so he simply kept to the route Nidalee took, running at a breakneck pace.

Behind them, the Earth Dragon thundered after them with unbridled fury. Despite its massive size and somewhat sluggish movements, its overall speed was still formidable. It crashed into the woods, snapping through trees that stood over ten meters tall, which from a distance fell one after another like dominoes.

With such a terrifying behemoth on their heels, Charles naturally ran for his life. Yet, as he ran, some old sensation returned to him: back in the days of the South Harbor District slums, he'd run like this, desperately fleeing from the crazed Ruth, "Longstrider" cast on himself, racing through the alleys for dear life...

But he was no longer that person. He no longer felt his heart and lungs threatening to explode after only a few paces.

Nor did he fear that being caught meant certain death—he was more than capable of protecting himself now, with plenty of means to deal with such a foe.

He could keep running like this as long as he needed!

The thunderous chase, the tremors underfoot, the snapping of trees all behind him—these sounds filled him with a subtle exhilaration and delight. He seemed to merge with the earth itself; as long as his feet struck ground, his strength felt inexhaustible.

But this state came and went swiftly. Ahead, Nidalee suddenly called, "Master, we're here!"

Charles snapped back to attention, finding himself opposite the pit trap Hattie had prepared. Hattie stood there, a little pale—setting up this trap had clearly cost her considerable effort.

He glanced back—it was a natural pit, roughly thirty or forty meters across. In summertime it was probably a pool, but now the bottom was parched and bare.

Currently, the pit was filled with vines, indistinguishable on first glance from a heap of tangled weeds. True, on a closer look, the difference would be obvious, but Charles was certain that an enraged Earth Dragon wasn't going to care for a second glance!

He looked back along the path. Sure enough, the beast had taken the direct approach, charging straight at them as it barreled forward.

Over five meters tall and hundreds of tons in weight, this massive behemoth radiated a terrifying sense of oppression. Yet Charles and Nidalee showed no panic—instead, faint smiles appeared at the corners of their mouths.

Because in the very next moment, this massive creature's foot landed on nothing—

"Rooaar—!"

A muffled roar rumbled from its throat. Having charged so fast, it had no chance of stopping itself. Its entire upper body tumbled into the pit, head plunging into the mass of vines!

Endless vines began to writhe as if alive, frantically winding around the Earth Dragon's four limbs. These were Nidalee's traps, enchanted vines strong enough for a single strand to restrain an elephant!

Unfortunately, this beast was an Earth Dragon, its strength far beyond that.

Riiip—

It thrashed its limbs, still not recalling its refined command over Earth Elementals. But even by brute force alone, it could rip apart the vines with ease!

Yet the team never intended to restrain such a powerful Earth Dragon with merely vines. Their true goal was just to hold it in place long enough to activate their real trap!

Whoosh—

The soil churned, and then hundreds of inky-black tentacles burst up from below!

Hattie had prepared this pit most meticulously; hundreds of terrifying magical tentacles now sprang up, lashing around the Earth Dragon's limbs, tail, neck, and jaws—immediately immobilizing it!

The trap worked brilliantly for a moment, but Hattie suddenly grew even paler.

"Master!" she called, "Please calm it quickly—I can't hold much longer!"

Charles took a deep breath—though he needed no reminder. The Earth Dragon might be maddened, but as a creature of the elements, once it realized brute force wouldn't free it, it would surely begin to cast and command Earth Elementals against them!

These tentacles wouldn't restrain the Earth Dragon for long; he had to restore its senses immediately!

"Nidalee, send me up!"

He called, and Nidalee immediately chanted an incantation. New vines burst from the ground—not toward the Earth Dragon, but to wrap around Charles!

Charles offered no resistance. He spread his arms, allowing the vine to seize him, then, with a powerful heave, flung him skyward—

Whoosh—

His body arced through the air and crashed onto the Earth Dragon's back, rolling several times before coming to a dazed, spinning halt. Its scales were as hard as stone—impacting them was even rougher than tumbling over rocks!

Luckily, with Eldritch Mind, a flash of clarity remained even at that dizzying moment. Although battered and bruised, Charles managed to clutch a jutting stone scale, stopping his roll.

Thankfully, the Earth Dragon's armored hide meant it hardly noticed the new weight on its back. The monstrous elemental, still raging, strained fiercely against the tentacles' bonds.

Charles seized the chance, gripping tight to a stone spine, and chanted softly, "Purified!"

Buzz—

White radiance began seeping into the Earth Dragon's body, driving back the madness and pollution in its soul.

Simultaneously, the raging Earth Dragon began to command every Earth Elemental around it!

Buzz—

The soil nearby rapidly turned to sand, the pit filling with quicksand in moments. The binding vines withered and died, Hattie's summoned tentacles swept away in a tide of sand—dissolving in seconds!

"Master!"

Seeing the great dragon break free, Hattie cried out in alarm. She frantically attempted to cast again, summoning new tentacles to bind the beast, but each new wave was shredded by the rushing sands the instant they appeared—lasting barely a second!

Not only that—the pit's rim began to collapse and sink, earth and stone sliding inwards. Hattie had to pull back to avoid falling into the quicksand herself.

Nidalee was equally desperate. Her vines lasted even less time against the deadly sands; faced with such a terror, she could do little but look to her own survival.

Both spellcasters were useless now; they could only watch as the Earth Dragon rolled in the quicksand like a monstrous crocodile, thrashing in a deadly spin!

Charles clung to its back as it turned, getting buried in soil!

"Woo—!"

Eyes closed, mouth tight shut, Charles pressed himself flat against the Earth Dragon's back as sand poured in from every side. The churning sands scraped his skin raw; the backs of his hands and his neck were left burning!

He dared not move—the sand had completely enveloped him, and even a small slip would fill his body with quicksand.

He couldn't even speak the incantation for Shield, fearing that opening his mouth would immediately flood him with sand!

He could only endure—!

Hold on!

Hold on, and you win!

The purified white light had engulfed the entire body of the Earth Dragon.

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