

Earths GMagus 1021

Chapter 1021 Bloodline Army

"Let's go take the boat instead," said the Dragon bloodline female magus.

Thanks to the status and authority she had as a Full Moon magus, Shena easily acquired one of the boats Zodiac City possessed, and before long, the trio found themselves sailing along the coast heading towards their destination.

"Set sail! Full speed ahead!"

In reality, the group would actually reach their destination faster if they flew using orbiters or went with Emery's [Spatial Gate]. However, the female magus insisted that they should use a boat as their means of transportation.

When faced with Emery's confusion, Shena replied in a matter-of-fact tone. "As your guide, it's only to be expected for me to try and give you the best possible experience?"

A smile could be seen on the female magus' face as the boat they were traveling in moved along the water, moving up and down as the waves against it. It seemed that she was really enjoying the fact they were currently at sea – being a water magus all that.

"I completely agree" Klea said as she took a relaxed position on the deck. Her hands were on her head while her legs were stretched to the maximum as her body lay on a lounge, enjoying the warmth of the sun and the breeze caressing his body.

The Zodiac City Barracks was located on the outskirts, about two hundred miles away from the city. Much to Emery's surprise, the place was actually a compound as big as the city itself, with tens of thousand warriors living – all half-blood.

With Shena walking in front of the two as they made their way to the barracks, every guard they came across immediately stopped in their tracks upon seeing them before continuing to bow respectfully.

While responding to the greeting given, the female magus gave a brief summary of information about the place and the people to the two people she was escorting. It turned out that the barracks were separated into three complexes, according to their respective uses and occupants.

The first complex, which was located at the outermost area of the compound, was for trainees who were sent from many half-blood planets. There were twenty thousand of them came for training, all had aspirations to join the ranks. Alas, each year only around 20% of them would be accepted as Zodiac City warriors.

The second complex, which was located between the first and third complexes, was for the official warriors of the Zodiac City. There were a total of twenty thousand of them on standby in the barracks while more than fifty thousand were out in the fields carrying out various missions. These warriors all had the minimum strength of a rank 7 warrior and rank 2 bloodline.

Last but not least, the third complex was reserved for the elites of Zodiac City warriors and located in the deepest area of the barracks. A total of two thousand people were on standby, ready to be assigned

to dangerous and high-risk missions. They all, at least, rank 8 or saint-level warriors; there were also acolytes amongst their ranks.

Hearing the numbers, Emery couldn't help but ask a question. "Why does the king need so many? Doesn't the alliance have an army? If so, then what is the difference between these soldiers and the Magus Alliance's?"

As if she had expected the question, the female magus swiftly began to explain.

"In addition to continuously sending manpower to the frontlines where the war is raging, there are more than 2,000 half-blood planets in our universe and 80% of them are lower realm worlds that require various forms of assistance and protection, which is where Zodiac City came into picture. The main reason being the fact most of the half-bloods didn't get along well with the humans and vice versa, hence most such missions were delegated to Zodiac City."

Emery nodded his head in agreement. The half-bloods, after all, indeed possessed stronger physical qualities. But thanks to that, they received persecution and prejudice from humans who were the majority race. It also didn't help that most half-bloods had a pretty hard time controlling their emotions, hence conflict with humans of different cultures and past animosities were bound to ensue if left unchecked.

The three of them walked deeper into the barracks, and Emery was fascinated to see the half-blood warriors who possessed distinct bodily features such as feathers, horns, and scales, training together in an orderly manner. Most low-rank bloodlines generally have similar features when they transform, hence they are easier to distinguish from high-rank bloodlines.

A moment after they visited the third complex, Emery realized something. He noticed how the warriors in the second complex were training in groups with those who have the same bloodline as them, while the elites were mixed into one squad and trained together. At this realization, he couldn't help but wonder the reason so he asked the female magus.

"Oh, that? It's nothing complex really. The warriors are basically soldiers, hence they were classified based on their position."

Shena began to go into rounds of explanation.

The Goat, Boat, and Turtle bloodlines which were known to have higher endurance than other bloodlines were trained as first line defenders in tactics, abilities and skills to make the most of their innate traits.

On the same note, the Tiger and Wolf bloodlines which possessed unmatched ferocity and physique were ideal for melee attackers whereas the Bird and Bat bloodlines born with higher perception were the epitome of ranged fighters.

As for why elites were trained differently, it was because the types of missions they carried out were generally broad and dangerous so versatility was required in them. In order to truly become elites, in addition to extraordinary strength and ability, they needed to understand the characteristics of other bloodlines and find ways to combine strengths and weaknesses. This quality was exactly what set them apart from warriors.

Emery put all the information to note in his mind, Emery himself never really knew the characteristics of the other bloodline, probably it's a good idea to spend a few days training with these half blood warriors.

Finally, the group arrived at the command center located in the middle of the barracks. It was a large fortress-like building, filled with a dozen resident magus trainers. As for the position of the barrack commander, it was rotated among the 12 Flag Bearers of Zodiac City.

This year, the Wolf, the Goat, and the Bird bloodline were in charge, hence when they stepped inside the conference room they saw three out of the 12 Flag Bearers, all peak stage magus. One of them was the person Emery was looking for.

"Chief Heorgar!"

The man was in the middle of a discussion with the other two Flag Bearers, but as soon as he saw Emery he quickly excused himself.

The demon wolf was actually quite surprised by Emery's arrival, in addition to the Dragon bloodline female magus' presence beside him. However, he did not linger on the matter now that his junior was here already.

Remembering the two people he was with earlier, Heorgar briefly introduced the other two Flag Bearers.

The Bird-bloodline Flag Bearer named Toyami was a very distinctive man with his extremely thin build and pale white skin. But despite his frail appearance, Emery could sense that the other party was a peak Full Moon magus.

As for the Goat-bloodline Flag Bearer, name Brava was a middle-aged woman with a haughty expression on her face. What immediately caught Emery's eyes from her features was the two swivel horns on her head.

"I will first take my leave since my junior is here visiting me," said Heorgar to the two.

Without even waiting for a response, the demon wolf brought Emery and the other two outside the conference room.

Realizing how close Emery was with the magus, Klea put on her best behavior and said, "Hello, Senior Heorgar. My name is Klea nice to meet you"

Heorgar glanced at the Egyptian Queen, then looked towards Emery saying, "You're quite popular, aren't you? What happened to the other two girls?"

Chapter 1022 Hunt

Emery decided to cut the talking short for obvious reasons. Without the slightest hesitation, he quickly stated what he was here for to the demon wolf.

"Senior Heorgar, I heard that you comprehend the Law of Devour... I think I am too" Standing with his back straight, Emery ask. "Can you please guide me?"

The demon wolf didn't immediately respond and remained quiet for a while. It looked like he wasn't surprised by Emery's sudden request. Rather, it seemed as if he had expected it. But then, his expression looked as if he had just heard a piece of terrible news.

Putting his hand on Emery's shoulder, Heorgar was silent for a moment before saying, "Don't worry. I will help you."

Although he was happy that his request was accepted, Emery couldn't help but wonder about the expression Heorgar had before agreeing.

Now that the matter was determined, the demon wolf then proceeded to take a few days of leave from his duty, before taking Emery away with him. In the meantime, realizing it will be a wolf thing, Klea and Shena would return to Zodiac City and wait there.

Contrary to Emery's expectations, the demon wolf did not take him to other planets. Instead, they entered the dense forest located just outside the barracks and made their way into its depths.

"Follow me." Heorgar said before he activated his transformation ability, turning into a pitch-black wolf. In the next instant, his form shot into the dense line of trees.

Seeing that the man had dashed away, Emery quickly used [Night Transformation] and followed him into the forest. The grass and bushes swayed as the two of them made their way through the woodland.

Emery tried his best not to be left behind by the wolf chieftain as the latter continued to run. Somehow, the two hours of running after the man felt refreshing to him. However, Heorgar did not take him just for a stroll.

HOWLLL—

The demon wolf suddenly stopped in his tracks, turned towards Emery, and said, "Can you sense it? Up there over the hill."

While in wolf form, Emery's five senses were greatly enhanced, becoming more sensitive. Hence, he didn't even need to use Spirit Reading to tell that there was a powerful beast on the hill the demon wolf pointed to.

In an even tone, the wolf chieftain said, "Let me see you devour that beast."

Having somehow expecting this kind of test, Emery nodded his head readily and swiftly dashed towards the hill. A few seconds later, he arrived and found his target. A scary-looking bear 5 meters tall with red-brown fur.

[Mutated Red Bear]

[Magical Beast - level 85]

[Battle power - 180]

Groooooowllll—

It immediately growled when it saw Emery. It was a monstrous creature that would certainly terrorize any normal human who saw it. Unfortunately, this time it was faced against Emery. He didn't even feel

the slightest bit of fear facing the bear, as he had already gotten used to fighting creatures of this level when he was previously stranded on the mysterious planet.

The monster swiftly charged towards Emery, every step it took caused the ground to shake. It rushed at breakneck speed, bulldozing through the dozens of trees in its path without a shred of care.

Seeing that, Emery calmly used his innate skill in response.

[Blade Claw]

As sharp claws popped out of his knuckles, Emery moved his body to the side, dodging the lunge at just the right time. He then pounced on the bear's exposed back and thrust his claws into the back of its neck, before continuing to use [Spirit Devour].

ROOAAAARRRR—

As Emery felt energy flowing into his body through his claws, the bear began to shake its body frantically. It even crashed into trees in an attempt to get him off its back. Alas, its struggle was doomed to be in vain as Emery drove his claws deeper, not letting go.

The creature continued to move around chaotically, howling in despair as it slowly and clearly felt its life slipping away. Alas, there was nothing it could do to change its fate apart from roaring its frustration, but even that would soon be a privilege as it kept getting weaker as time went on and Emery devoured more.

Two minutes later, the bear's roar of despair disappeared and its body finally fell, lying half-dead on the ground.

As if he had been present from the start, Heorgar appeared as soon as the bear fell and approached Emery. Looking at the claws the latter had between his knuckles, the wolf chieftain whistled.

"Having a blade on your knuckle sure is convenient. Anyway, sit down and let me check what you've done."

While Emery sitting in the lotus position, he saw Heorgar turn to his second transformation, just like him, tattoos appear from his body and his skin turns dark red. A moment after the tattoo itself came out of the chief's body and like a tentacle, it swirled around Emery's body.

Emery then can feel his spirit channel tremble and the spirit energy he just took from the beast, who was still floating around his spirit core was pulled away from him.

Magus Heorgar slowly speak

"Following the energy you just devour from the beast, I now know how it was channeled to your spirit core"

Emery now can feel that his spirit core turn trembled and the magus said "Just Relax"

"I have seen the said pillar, I see it's a mess..." The magus stop for a second and said "I am gonna fix it now, do not resist!"

The word certainly worries him, but before he could say anything he can tell the demon wolf was already starting, and Emery felt a sudden excruciating pain in his spirit core specifically coming from the pillar.

Strangely he felt a scorching heat, fire elements burning inside of him pulled out of him gradually and a notification came into his mind

[Spirit force decreases]

[Spirit force decreases]

It was like a leaking dam, his spirit force flowing out of him.

"Calm down!" the magus said remind him not to resist

The truth was he was very anxious that things only turn to worst, Emery followed the magus until the pain slowly receded and his spirit core turned to calm once again. The whole process took about an hour but Emery felt as if a day had passed.

Now that The magus was finished he slowly pulled his grasp off him, Emery can see the powerful magus in front of him appear to worn out as well, he looks toward his stat and sees his spirit force was down quite a lot

[Spirit force: 1545 (1522)]

When he checked on his dark core, toward the pillar, unfortunately, the crack was still there but there was no more glowing red at all on the crack all were gray.

"What's going on Senior?"

Chapter 1023 Law of Devour

The demon magus sat down next to him and began to explain.

"There are actually a few of us, the wolves bloodlines who have the potential for the Law of Devouring. We are, after all, savage beasts."

The magus then proceeded to explain the similarities between his demon wolf and Emery's night wolf, which allowed him to successfully probe his core.

"Just now, I found a large number of the fire element within it. I believe one of your first devoured targets was a fire magus."

Although the magus didn't phrase it as a question and sounded completely sure, Emery still nodded to confirm his words. The first time he turned into a fey warlock and learned the new skill, he did, in fact, devour the warden of the Ouroboros prison, who was a fire magus.

"All right, Junior, listen carefully. The first rule of devouring: Do not devour any element that you have no proficiency in."

Under Emery's focused gaze, the magus began to explain that this was one of the main reasons that his pillar was cracked; he had forced fire energy into his core. What the magus just did to him was take out the fire energy that had seeped into his devouring pillar.

"As you have no proficiency in it, to absorb it will be so damn difficult, even i ind it hard to just throw the energy away"

After listening to the magus's explanation and noticing how exhausted the magus clearly seemed because of it, Emery quickly showed his deep gratitude.

"Wait... i am not finished yet," the magus interrupted him.

With the magus explanation., Emery understood that the pillar was still nor fixed. Apart from how the missing reddish glow, everything else was still the same.

His pillar status still showed that it was [Undefined].

"Please, Senior, if you know a way to fix it..."

"Yes, I do know of a way. However..." The magus paused to look at him with a very serious gaze, "Before that, I need you to know exactly what you will be learning here."

The magus first thoroughly explained the danger of having multiple elements.

"In my opinion, as you already have a few element proficiency, It will probably be best if you simply allow the problematic pillar to stay the way it is and sacrifice it when you make your magus breakthrough."

Emery had previously heard from Sage Fuxi about the complications that could happen as a result of having multiple elements amd he was ready with the consequences of it

Seeing the magus warn him about this matter and his complicated expression as he spoke to him about the Law of Devouring, he couldn't help but wonder what it was that was causing the magus to hesitate to teach him.

"Senior, with my multiple elements, wouldn't it mean it be more beneficial for me? I mean I will have more flexibility in devouring more types of energy.. can you please tell me what really is the main disadvantages of it?"

The magus heaved a sigh and continued.

"The Law of Devouring is a savage law. It is very difficult to control. If left unchecked, it could very well kill someone dear to you and even consume your rationality and your life."

The magus once again had a complicated expression on his face as he fell silent for a few moments. Follow current novels on Freewebnovel.com.

The silence and the way he spoke about it made Emery believe that the magus personally had hurt someone close to him because of the Law of Devouring.

Emery pondered his words for a brief moment before asking the magus.

"Senior... please explain further?"

The magus looked into Emery's eyes and said

"Alright, to explain, first you need to know this... the second rule of devouring: Do not devour what is beyond your capability. It can, and will greatly mess up your core."

The magus afterward stood up and walked toward the bear carcass. While Emery was looking at the magus with confusion and curiosity, the magus pierced one of his claws into the dead bear's brain to take out a piece of yellow spirit stone and began explaining.

"Emery, keep in mind that as an acolyte, you are advised only to devour non-human beings. Most beasts have their spirit energy coagulate into a spirit stone inside their body. Because of this, you can actually devour only about one-third of the spirit energy, making them much safer for an acolyte like you to target."

The magus then explained, that when he get better, he could start targeting human, and even higher beings. When successfully devour the spirit energy and absorb it. It could immensely help improve his spirit force faster and develop his proficiency in the Law of Devouring.

This definitely the main reason why people learned the law.

Turning serious again, the magus continued.

"However, The more often you devour... the deeper your understanding of the Law of Devouring, the more you will thirst to devour. You will once again find it difficult to restrain the wolves' savage urge, and without your realization, you will be tempted... and if you lose control, you will seek to hunt humans and devour their cores."

Emery was stunned to hear the answer.

As someone who had experienced losing control multiple times, he knew very well just how dangerous it was to be unable to resist those urges. Since he balanced his bloodline, he had been able to continuously control his urges with ease.

To think that he would have to go through such a thing yet again... Emery couldn't help but worry.

The magus glanced at Emery, who seemed to be thinking back to his experiences.

"Now that you know, do you still want to learn it?"

The magus's question caused Emery to fall silent. His senior's warning wasn't something he could nor should take lightly. Even the peak full moon demon wolf was troubled with the issue, how would he fare against it?

He subconsciously furrowed his brows.

The magus only waited for Emery's answer in silence, but he noticed everything. What Emery was fearing, he knew how it felt perfectly well.

However, at that moment, Emery's mind shifted to the duel that would be held in 20 years. Furthermore, his home Earth would be faced with a calamity in 50 years. For this, he needed all the advantages he could get to become stronger.

Emery's answer became clear.

'Yes, Senior... I am sure, Please teach me. I have to learn it.'

Seeing Emery's determination, the magus nodded and said "Alright then, first I will teach you how to fix that broken pillar first"

Chapter 1024 Absorption

Howllllll!

A loud, intense shockwave shook the area as the deafening sound reverberated in the air. It rapidly spread and the forest almost stirred awake with noises as a half-man and half-wolf figure ran through the dense foliage at blinding speeds. It was pursuing a black cat-like creature with fur almost as dark as the void itself.

The cat moved fast, and even in his current form, it took Emery quite an effort to keep up with the 2-meters creature with 3 sharp tails. Each of its tails whipped around wildly as it ran, destroying the ground, the trees, and everything around it.

[Omlarcat]

[Magical Beast - level 85]

[Battle power - 195]

Even from the beginning, Emery knew that the beast possessed a speed almost similar to himself, making the task of catching up to it difficult, especially when he started from behind. Even so, he didn't give up and continued to give chase, and gradually his effort paid off. With each minute that passed, he managed to get a few meters closer and closer.

"Just a little bit more!"

However, right as his claws were about to rip the creature apart, his senses tingled, telling him that three creatures were approaching him from different directions. At this moment, Emery finally realized that the beast was not running around aimlessly.

"It's a trap! Whoa, what an intelligent creature."

As soon as he stopped, the black cat that he was chasing quickly turned around and hissed, before charging back at him to form an encirclement with the other three creatures he sensed approaching closer. Within seconds, he was quickly surrounded.

Emery considered the idea of transforming into his [Twilight Form] and started using magic to defeat the creature. But in the end, he shelved the thought away as he had promised himself to only hunt with his blade claws today.

"What are you waiting for? Come here!"

The four high-level magical creatures specializing in speed ate the taunt and charged in at the same time. Having prepared for the attack, Emery tried his best to dodge and counter, using his speed and footwork to try and gain the advantage against his adversaries.

Unfortunately, his opponents were similarly fast as him and numbers worked against him in the end, as the claws, fangs, and three sharp tails of the creatures kept on bombarding him from multiple sides.

Splatt! Splatt!

A stabbing pain assaulted Emery's body every time the beasts' attacks landed on his body, but despite the pain he still managed to hold his ground and deliver counterattacks.

Knowing that he would only be exhausted to death if things kept going this manner, Emery decided to focus his attack on one of them. Ignoring the three other creatures and letting their attacks land, he dashed forward, tackled the one he was targeting, and thrust his claws into its abdomen.

Raaarrrrr!!!

The black cat roared in pain as its body was pierced, causing the grass and bushes to shake. It kept on struggling while Emery was using [Spirit Devour]. He could feel energy flowing into him gradually.

AARGGHH!!

Emery took a deep breath and pushed the creature onto a nearby massive rock, while he used the blade on his other hand to pierce its neck, immediately ending the cat's life. He then swiftly turned around and violently tossed the dead corpse to the ground, keeping his eyes on the three as he braced himself for the second round.

With the huge rock behind him, Emery was able to have a much easier time fighting against the three remaining creatures. This time around, he decided to run a suicidal tactic by sacrificing his body for an opportunity to catch or deal a fatal blow on his opponents.

Even though his opponents were fast and had dealt quite a number of wounds on his body, Emery was actually still fine since his [Undecaying Flesh] was doing its job of healing his body. On the other hand, his opponents would only have to make one mistake and allow Emery to get a hold of them to spell their doom.

[Spirit Devour]

A living being was bound to make a mistake, hence it didn't take long for the creature to be caught by Emery and die. And with only two opponents he had to face, Emery took advantage of the opportunity and killed another one.

Seeing its kin being murdered mercilessly, the third and last one instantly turned around and was ready to flee, only for it to be captured by dark green roots that had suddenly shot from the ground.

[Jade Root]

Slowly approaching the struggling black cat, Emery crouched and chuckled darkly. "Heh, I'm sorry, but I'm too tired to play chase with you again."

The creature possessed an overwhelming speed enough to give it an advantage in most fights, but in exchange, it had comparatively little when it came to strength. Emery waved his hand, controlling the roots to move closer before stabbing his claw into the half-dead creature and ended its miserable life.

[Spirit Devour]

All the bodies of the creatures that Emery devoured became emaciated and worn, as if they had aged. The sight was not pretty, but Emery had forced himself to get used to it. After all, this is what devouring is all about.

It took him a few minutes, but eventually he was done devouring all the creatures. After throwing the last creature's body into the bushes, he sat cross-legged in a lotus form and used the new skill taught to him by the magus.

[Spirit Absorption]

That was the one missing skill Emery had never had before. So far, he decided to practice using it more.

Devouring is a subset of skills that is all about taking the opponent's energy for the user, but still, he needed another set of skills, in order to help him slowly consume the spirit's energy and make it easier to enter his cores. [Spirit Absorption] was such a skill.

He kept on the position for at least another few minutes while absorbing the spirit mist floating around the cores and all around him. As the energy started to thin out, Emery received a notification.

[Spirit force has increased]

"Great another point increase."

Seeing the notification in front of his eyes filled him with relief. It showed him that his hard work wasn't in vain.

For the last 5 days, Emery was busy practicing devouring and absorbing, and he managed to regain 6 points of his spirit force.

[Spirit force:1525 (1526)]

However, even with that, the pillar he had was still cracking. There was no significant change from five days ago.

A moment after he was busy pondering, Emery heard rustling from the trees on the left. He casually turned to look and saw his chief, Magus Heorgar, was approaching him.

"That is a good fight, savage indeed... However, your claw technique was so bad," Heorgar praised in a serious tone, but he shook his head at the end.

"Yes senior, I will train with it more soon," Emery replied, attempting to ease his mentor's thoughts.

However, Heorgar waved his hand and simply ignored the remark. "What matters here is that you have mastered the absorption technique."

In the past few days, Magus Heorgar had been observing Emery closely and helping him with new techniques, teaching him to control his urges while devouring the creatures and how to absorb the resultant energy safely. It only took 5 days of diligent training for Emery to master it, which honestly surprised the magus.

Emery stayed silent, but the truth was he found the concept of [Spirit Absorption] familiar. It was similar to his previous technique, [Nature's Grasp], hence he was able to learn it quickly.

He then salvaged two yellow spirit stones from the creature, and the magus picked up the fattest cat on his back like it was nothing.

"And this one will be for dinner," he said casually.

Before long, they started a fire, right as the sun started to give way to a pleasant, cool evening. They both enjoyed their dinner of simple roasted meat.

For a few minutes, a peaceful silence reigned between them, but then, Heorgar broke the silence and said, "Alright, Junior... I think it's high time for us to end this training."

Chapter 1025 Family

The demon wolf bit off a huge chunk of the grilled cat meat in his hand and talked in a casual tone. "You are doing great, Emery. But at the rate we're moving at, it will be a few weeks before your pillar is fixed, and unfortunately, I can't leave the barracks for too long. I am sorry."

"Don't worry at all, Senior. You have done a lot, and I am very grateful for your assistance these few days."

Seeing the look on Emery's face, Heorgar nodded his head slightly. The magus then talked about how the king had been recruiting more and more warriors for Zodiac City, that's why he has to return.

"Well... I feel that this Flag Bearer position makes me neglect my duties in the White Fang Clan." After saying those words, the demon wolf heaved a heavy sigh.

Hearing such words, Emery slightly moved his body forward. He was interested to know more about the White Fang Clan's condition after the last mission.

"I heard that Chief Beowlf has retired," said Emery, in the most careful tone he could.

To his surprise, the demon wolf chuckled lightly before saying, "Did you also think so? That old man has fooled me. His injury is actually not as bad as we think..."

Emery was surprised by the unexpected yet welcomed revelation, and asked, "Then, what does he do now?"

The magus adjusted his voice to a low tone and said, "I believe that he's still looking for clues about the patriarch's disappearance in secret."

A startled look appeared on Emery's face hearing that. "Why... I mean, I'm sure Zodiac City or the Alliance have sent a team to complete that matter, so wh—"

Once again, the magus spoke in a lower tone.

"I will only tell you this, Emery. I think all these rebel conspiracies are not over yet. It's been almost four years, but no one really knows the fate of the patriarch and your old headmaster..."

Emery doesn't know how to respond to such an issue. He, after all, only had minimum knowledge about the things happening within the massive Magus Alliance.

The magus, however, chuckled again and said, "Or... The old man Beowlf just so fucking hate this Flag Bearer job, so he throws it to me and leaves on an adventure... Now that I put it that way, it actually makes some sense." Chuckling, he continued, "So fucking genius... To think I train hundreds of years to beat him... and get his job..."

While Emery was dumbfounded by the monologue the man had just had, the next words that came out of the man's mouth shocked him so much that it instantly brought him out of reverie and back to reality.

"So how about it, junior? Are you interested in the job?"

"What?! Err.. I mean, what do you mean, senior? I don't quite get it."

The demon wolf spat out the meat in his mouth to the bonfire and said, "You have the potential of Rank 8 Wolf bloodline; do you know how rare that is? Besides, you are still very young. So I believe unless you are dead, sooner or later you will take this job off my hands."

Emery was startled by the words, waving his hands frantically, he quickly said, "No, senior.. I mean... there are still many pack leaders who are much senior and capable than me, so—"

"Hahahaha!"

A boisterous laugh rang out in the air, as Emery stared dumbly at the magus..

"Chill, junior. Chill," the man's laughter turned into a chuckle. "I am not talking tomorrow, maybe in a hundred or two hundred years in the future." But then, he suddenly glanced at Emery seriously and said, "I sort of know of your circumstances. What I am saying is.. Do what you need to do for your home. But in the end, we are your blood family... your pack... think about it"

After saying those words, the magus didn't say anything else. Their conversation ended on that note and the two of them had some quick rest to relieve their light fatigue. At the first sunlight of the day, they both ran back towards the barracks. Upon arriving, Heorgar said some words of advice and encouragement to Emery before eventually leaving for his duty.

Not wasting any time, as soon as they separated, Emery cast [Spatial Gate] in succession, using it to return to Zodiac City. He only spent about a few minutes until he finally found himself standing in front of his villa in Zodiac City.

When he entered the villa, his attention was immediately attracted by a melodious hum. Following the formless trail, Emery quickly found the Egyptian Queen, currently having a relaxing hot bath. A platter of delicious-looking fruits and drinks could be seen on the side of the bathtub, but Emery's eyes lay elsewhere.

"Ahh, you're finally back.. Come join me..."

Klea said those words coquettishly while making waves in the bathtub against her body. Emery subconsciously gulped, and when he finally realized what he had done, he quickly threw his face to the side.

Even though they were already a couple, Emery still felt embarrassed to be this open with the girl. He was about to turn down the offer and let the girl finish her bath, but the next words the girl spoke instantly stopped him from doing so.

"You know... you did leave me here... 5 days... by myself..." Placing her head lazily on the edge of the tub, drops of water dripping from her wet hair, Klea gaze at Emery and said "I've been... Lonely"

It was an attack. One so direct, that made Emery helplessly join the bath

...

"Ohh... son of donkey... Emery, you stink.."

His five days of continuous savage activity apparently saved Emery from the maw of a predator, ...but only for about 10 minutes before the girl was once again all over him.

Having a naked goddess kissing his neck as if it was candy swiftly made a certain part of his body stimulated to its utmost potential. Latching her body onto his as a snake would, Klea leered at Emery before her cherry lips approached his right ear and whispered, "I'm thinking that we will be doing a lot of training afterward. So... two or three days of fun is not much to ask, isn't it?"

"...erm.. Yes.. sure.."

...

In the end, the couple spent an entire week together before Emery had to force himself out of the villa. He planned to return to Hyperion, and just like what Julian said, being in the top ranking of the privileged class leaderboard, he could actually bring Klea with him.

"Are you sure you want to come with me? I'm worried that I will be busy doing things and eventually leave you alone, you know."

"No no.." Shaking her head, Klea pointed her finger at him and said with a cheeky smile, "You will not slack AND will allocate time for me; I will make sure of that."

However, hearing such words only made Emery more reluctant to bring her. He worried that he would be complacent. "Klea... we only have four months left. We...really can't afford to waste our remaining time."

"What do you mean by wasting time?" the Egyptian Queen pouted. "The sage told me to make sure we both understand the [Hexagram Technique] together."

Emery was silenced by those words, embarrassed to think differently, and decided not to question anymore. But when they were about to leave, to his surprise, Magus Shena stated that she was currently available and willing to accompany him back to Hyperion.

Facing Emery's confusion, the female magus smiled.

"I am, after all, one of the elite magus, you know. I can come and leave Hyperion as I wish."

Chapter 1026 Top Rank

Just like before, Emery once again returned to the Hyperion planet by going through the space station.

As Klea and Magus Shena were with him this time around, the group had to go through a mandatory security check, alongside some standard registration procedure for both of the two newcomers before they were allowed to enter the planet.

The group entered the round metallic construct that shuttled across the rail, transporting them down the long bridge at breakneck speed.

Emery was staring at the planet below him from above, while thinking about the best way to spend his last 4 months in the Magus Academy. Countless thoughts and ideas crossed in his mind.

Given what the upcoming future had in store for him, he would naturally have to make the most of his time here to increase his strength as much as possible.

A few minutes later, the construct the group were in finally arrived at the Hyperion center. This time the magus guide, Ramona, was already formally waiting for him with a smile when Emery stepped out of the construct.

As Emery actually came without prior announcement, the magus must have rushed coming here when he was checking in the station above. It was such a contrasting treatment to when they first met 7 months ago.

"Welcome back to Hyperion center. Is there anything I can do for you?" The female magus welcomed him with a wide smile.

She then saw Emery's two companions behind him and welcomed the two politely as well. Emery could clearly see that Magus Ramona was especially surprised when she saw Magus Shena was following them.

As usual, to satisfy his curiosity, the first thing Emery did after arriving was checking his strength at the testing chamber. Right as he entered, an interface appeared in front of his eyes, and he quickly chose one of the things written within.

[Physical Test]

Compared to the last time he was here, Emery had improved and gained 12 points of battle power. It wasn't a big difference, but that was not his only improvement. This time, he had managed to get one big upgrade.

[Immortal Gate - stage 6]

[Battle power increased by 64]

Not only that, he had 70 battle power from [Night Transformation] and 15 points from [Battle Howl], granting him a staggering total of 399 battle power with all of them activated. Thanks to the skills, it was much easier for him to clear the test.

[You have cleared all 10 levels of the physical test]

[Your physical score is undefined - Rank 5]

Unfortunately, even with that, Emery still got the same rank by default who actually cleared all 10 levels first among them. Hence, he would never know whether he was a match in terms of battle power compared to the other 4 above him.

"Way to go, Emery!" Klea cheered passionately from afar, as she watched Emery crush all the incoming projectiles with simple strikes.

[Spirit Test]

Even though Emery had managed to ace the physical test, the mental test was a whole different matter altogether. The last time he tested, he was still only a rank 8 acolyte with a 1,000 spirit force limit. This time, however, Emery had successfully broken through to rank 9, and he has 500 more points of spirit force with 10 pillars formed.

With that, all of the first 10 levels suddenly became much simpler to pass through. As he did the test with little to no pressure.

[You have cleared all 10 levels of the mental test]

[Your mental score is undefined - Rank 7]

[Calculating your new ranking from physical and mental score...]

[Congratulations! Your final test rank is 5th]

"Yes, you did great, Emery!" Klea cheered again. With her bright smile, she looked way more ecstatic than Emery did when he saw his own score. Facing her rather enthusiastic cheers, Emery could only shyly smile.

Magus Ramona was also speechless when she saw the new ranking. Her eyes widened. Under her breath, she muttered, "That rank 5, it's because the test was unable to measure both his mental and physical strength, this means he could have an even higher rank... Gosh! This is amazing!"

Without even breaking a sweat, Emery walked out of the tube. Then, he read the data on his stats carefully.

[Emery Ambrose]

[Privileged acolyte member ID: 83192008]

[Average stat comparison]

[Battle power: 250 (399) SSS]

[Strength: 218 (390)]

[Agility: 259 (382)]

[Endurance: 273 (425)]

[Spirit force: 1526 - SS]

[Spirit Power: SS]

[Spirit Control: S]

[Spirit Pool: SSS]

[Acolyte Rank 9 - Mid Stage - 10 pillars formed]

[Earth Spirit - 2 pilar]

[Plant Spirit - 1 pillar]

[Water Spirit - 1 pillar]

[Light Spirit - 1 pillar]

[Darkness spirit - 4 pillars]

[Undefined spirit - 1 pillar]

After double-checking his own stats, Emery couldn't help but glance at the rankings projected on the nearby screen. His eyes automatically darted to the top 10 rankers listed on top.

[Olivier Arkland - Rank 1]

[Maninder Nieves - Rank 2]

[Eeshoo Nephilim - Rank 3]

[Zach Talon - Rank 4]

[Shatter Cross- Rank 5]

[Anzi Tamasi - Rank 6]

[Jai Strider- Rank 7]

[Tyler Haze - Rank 8]

[Emery Ambrose - Rank 9]

[Arcana - Rank 10]

It appeared that just like before, Arcana was strong enough to hold all the other privileged acolytes from entering the ranks of the top 10. In other words, the ranking was secured firmly in the past two months.

As his gaze looked up and down etching the names written into his mind, he couldn't wait for the time to finally fight them all. Emery felt scorching heat rise from his heart as the urge to fight threatened to burst from within. These people must have an extraordinary specialty that could help him get stronger, a milestone he needs to reach before his graduation.

8 in 4 months' time, hopefully, that will be sufficient time for him.

Emery couldn't help to think what kind of figure both Olivier and Maninder were, being stronger than Zach and Eesso. He quickly heaved a sigh and calmed himself even if he can't win against them, at least he needs to give them a try. But for now,

"Tyler Haze... you will be next."

Before leaving the center, Emery went and collected his two monthly rewards, receiving a total of 70 [Spirit Foundation Pill]. After that, he headed towards where all the spirit caves were located.

"We are heading to your home, aren't we?" Klea asked with a cheeky smile. The hidden yet undisguised meaning of her words was clear.

"Yes, we are," Emery answered.

Hearing the affirmative answer, the Egyptian girl smiled gleefully as she quickly followed behind Emery's orbiter.

Chapter 1027 Home

The group of three traveled for two hours at full speed, before they finally arrived at the island where Emery's spirit cave was. As they slowed to a stop near the entrance and jumped down the orbiter, the Dragon bloodline magus immediately threw her gaze around, looking up and down near the area before nodding in approval.

"Not a bad choice at all. I can feel the rich concentration of nature spirit energy here, and some subtle clusters of light spirit energy as well." She said in an appreciative tone, which couldn't help but make a smile appear on Emery's lips.

Emery swiftly led them inside, slightly excited to introduce his cultivation abode. He showed the many rooms inside and the small pond he cultivated, then he brought the two women to his plant garden before bringing out all the plant creatures he had nurtured.

"Ku.. ku.. Kuang Kuang..."

As they came out of the Spatial Gate, Twik and the five Chubby Chizpur cheered knowing they were now at home. Noticing that they were absorbed in their own world, Emery quickly called on them.

"You all, show your respects and greet my two friends."

Hearing the word 'friend', Klea was about to narrow her eyes ominously, but fortunately for a certain person, upon seeing the group of cute creatures, her entire demeanor changed as her eyes lit up. In an instant, she had forgotten her budding outburst.

It didn't take long for Klea to make herself feel at home. She took out many kinds of stuff from her storage ring and placed them in Emery's spirit cave. Before long, the cave received an entire interior change.

"Not as comfy as the villa, but now I get what everyone says about the planet is of rich spirit energy."

Emery then looked towards the female magus and said, "I hope this palace is decent enough for you, Senior."

Hearing such words, Magus Shena smiled before saying, "Don't worry, I will certainly not disturb you both. I will find a place somewhere around this island. If you need me for anything, just call me using this stone."

The magus threw a pitch-black stone at Emery. It was an item called [Communication Stone], a two way communication tool that could send simple messages with just a thought from a thousand miles away.

Seeing Emery's dazed look, Shena spoke again. "Call me anytime if you need me, I will be around."

After saying those words, the female magus immediately turned around and left the cave.

Seeing the back of the other party getting further away, Emery fell into thought. The fact that such a powerful magus was willing to stay around for his sake both made him feel honored and a little pressured.

The king of Zodiac City must have put a lot of hope in Emery for the former to send her to accompany him.

Thinking about this, Emery then realized that it was actually not just King Alduin. Before the king, there were Chief Heorgar, Lord Izta, Sage Fuxi, and his friends. Then, he suddenly thought about his dear, first ever master, Magus Xion.

"I will definitely get stronger," muttered Emery as he silently clenched his fist.

The plan Emery had formulated was to spend a period of time and train the [Hexagram Technique] with Klea to further advance his understanding of [Dao Divine Technique].

However, when he saw how the girl was happily playing around with Twik and the Chizpur brothers, Emery decided to put aside the idea for the moment and started the training he could do on his own.

He arrived at his usual position, closed his eyes, and proceeded to calm his mind by emptying his thoughts, as he subsequently used [Nature Grasp] to bask himself in the spirit energy of the spirit cave.

Emery had been spending quite a bit of time training [Spirit Devour], which allowed him to fill the darkness side of his core with beast spirits he devoured. This time, he comforted the nature side of his core with the abundant spirit energy of the spirit cave, while starting to consolidate what he had accomplished and gained from the mid-test.

There were three spells that were still unfamiliar to him because they had just been recently obtained; Primal Flora, Void Mist, and Dao Matter. Then, there was also the powerful spell [Plant Mastery - Fusion] which he didn't know if he could still perform with Twik, and [Rebirth] which he didn't even know where to start.

In fact, Emery still hadn't even mastered [Mineralized Warrior] and [Aegis Void] spells.

Hence, without further ado, Emery gathered his concentration and tried to refresh his memory on each of the spells that were etched in his mind. With that as the base, he then tried to remember the feeling when casting each of them.

As he did so, at the same time Emery's [Nature Grasp] quickly got to work, guiding and propelling the surrounding nature spirit energy into his spirit core. The surge of spirit energy carried a comfortable sensation of warmth, and Emery subconsciously entered a trance.

A few hours later, Emery woke up from his trance with a sudden notification.

[Spirit force has increased]

[Spirit force: 1526 (1527)]

Emery was surprised because this time he hadn't even consumed a [Spirit Foundation Pill] but already received one in mere a few hours.

At this moment, Emery felt that he could grasp the nature energy around him faster and his understanding of the nature element had deepened. He exhaled a breath and smiled, as his mind recalled that his trip to Andora had brought one major upgrade to his constitution.

[Spirit Aptitude : S]

It was no wonder that he had been feeling much lighter than usual. With his S aptitude, Emery now had no more handicap when compared to his other peers in this place. Simply put, there was no more reason for him to be left behind.

Emery opened his eyes and saw Klea, sitting in the lotus position right in front of him with her eyes closed. For a moment, he couldn't help but be mesmerized by her beauty.

Feeling a gaze fixed on her, the girl opened her eyes and saw Emery staring at her. A faint smile appeared on her face as she said, "Would you like to train together now? How about sword practice?"

Thinking that it was a good time to relax his muscles, Emery stood up and said, "Let's go do that."

The two of them walked out of the cave together. With the Communication Stone in hand, Emery contacted the female magus.

Chapter 1028 Sparring

A few minutes later, Emery and Klea had gone further from the cave and arrived at a wide open plain, with some rotting wood and dry leaves that made a rustling sound every time they walked. Not long after their arrival, the Dragon bloodline magus appeared in front of them.

"What do you need, acolytes?" She casually asked.

Emery turned to look at the magus and said.

"Senior, please spar against us," he said politely.

"Certainly," the female magus answered without hesitation.

Receiving the positive answer, Emery reached for his Spatial Space and took out his Tier 5 [Savage Sword], while Klea took out a Tier 4 blade with gold hilt and a handle made of beautiful leather. The blade was given to her from Lord Izta's armory.

Immediately after, the two took their stance and prepared themselves.

"We're done preparing, magus. We can start now."

"Alright, I will try to restrain my strenght to match yours"

Shena's hands started to glow, and she took out a long white trident glowing in a brilliant light. She prepared her stance soon after, and the dull sound of metal colliding on the ground pierced the quiet plain.

The sparring started as the figures of the three of them disappeared from where they stood..

Emery and Klea's main objective was to practice their [Hexagram Technique]. It was a complicated formation created to not only help their respective combat techniques but also to help them understand the secret to achieve the state of equilibrium between multiple different elements.

Clank clank

Clank! Clank!

Emery and Klea attacked together, cooperating with one another to create an opportunity for themselves. The two put on a good fight. Unfortunately, their opponent was a Peak Full Moon magus possessing a Dragon bloodline.

The first fact alone was enough to show how strong she was generally compared to her peers, while the second fact allowed her to consider herself one of the strongest magus out there, whose power level lies just below a Grand Magus figure.

Hence even though the two tried their hardest, they were unable to reach the magus, let alone leave a scratch on her. The two of them started gasping for breath, but the other party still had a relaxed smile on her face. It was as if they did not do anything at all.

Instead of feeling discouraged, however, Emery took the sky-high difficulty as a challenge he wanted to conquer. In some way, he currently could be said to be facing one of the strongest magus, and thus, she could be a good benchmark for his strength.

Her strength was also a standard that he had to achieve because theoretically, if he really could defeat Magus Shena in a fight, then his victory against the Kronos fighters was a given.

Clankk!!

"Second Sets." Klea shouted, as she began to get into a certain stance.

With her words, the variations of attacks Emery and Klea launched at the female magus just became harder to deal with.

If previously one of them attacked from the left while the other from the right, this time Klea's attacks came from a direction that caused the magus to lose sight of Emery's and vice versa. Instead of a simple pincer or combination attacks, the two of them began to move and attack while creating opportunities for their partner.

Swissshhh—

[Heroic Strike]

A gleam flashed in Emery's sword as he swung it downwards, almost taking a cut on the female magus' back. Alas, the tip of the sword was still an inch away from doing so, and Shena seemed to know that as well as she calmly dodged the attack.

"Weird steps..." She commented. "Almost got me there. But no no.. Not that easy."

"Third Sets." Emery, this time, added.

The two suddenly seemed to change position, this time not only was the variations multiplied by six, the techniques Emery and Klea exhibited started to manifest the essence of Dao itself. Faint yet discernible dao rhymes appeared around their bodies.

[Hexagram Technique] had 6 sets of sixty-four variations. Hence the third sets already employed one-hundred ninety-two variations.

Not only were their movements confusing to the eye, there also significant changes within their styles. Both the two moved at different tempos, one slow and one fast, yet when they struck, they turned to the opposite.

Clank! Clankk!!

Even though she was caught off guard in the beginning, Shena's spear still managed to block and parry the attacks the two relentlessly threw at her.

But then, soon enough the female magus became puzzled. At the moment, the only reason she was winning was thanks to her overwhelming battle power, while in terms of fighting skill, the two combination techniques were able to exceed hers.

The fight went on for more than an hour. Even though Emery and Klea were still unable to land a scratch on the magus, they weren't dispirited because they both felt that they were finally able to master the third stage together.

It wasn't easy at all to remember all the steps and to keep in the formation together.

If this continued and their [Hexagram Technique] advanced, they might even be able to corner and defeat the magus.

Unfortunately, reality proceeded to shatter their delusions, as the magus' movements suddenly changed. Much to the two's complete shock, Shena suddenly was able to follow the steps and finally broke the formations.

CLAAANNKKK!!!

Emery fell to the ground on his knee, as Shena's spear struck his shoulder hard. With Emery taken down, Klea lost her support and thus she was quickly suppressed by the female magus moments later.

Not willing to end things in this note, Emery quickly got to his feet again and said resolutely.

"Again!"

The three had a dozen more matches, but the result was still the same. Shena stood there with her spear in hand. She looked normal as if nothing had happened, while the two people she had just fought with were gasping for air.

The female magus approached the two and smiled. "you two have an interesting technique indeed," said the magus before continuing. "Unfortunately, you two are not compatible."

Hearing that was enough for Klea to react. She shouted, "What do you mean not compatible?"

Shena glanced at Klea with a smirk and said, "Well, your sword skill is at a novice level at best, while Emery's is almost at master level. As a result, your sword strikes don't rhyme together... I don't need to understand your steps, but knowing the weaker link made me easily break it"

The magus' comment was playful, but it sounded sharp enough and straight to the point.

The magus looked toward Emery and said, "It's either you lower your skill to her level or she catches up to you, you know which is the way to get stronger" She then added "The girl needs to increase her proficiency in sword fighting first. That is if she wants to continue practicing this technique."

Chapter 1029 Combat Skill

With the recent mention by Shena about improving her swordsmanship proficiency, both Emery and Klea agreed to work this matter together. They then made their way to the Hyperion center, wanting to use the training facility there. In the meantime, the female magus was still following them.

The three of them entered a particular room that had many arena-like fields with wooden puppets standing in the center. Those were the objectives of Emery and Klea arriving here.

[Combat Puppet]

These wooden puppets were the result of the entire Magus Alliance's ingenuity in passing down weapon combat skills. They were just like the ones available in the Combat Institute's training ground and Lord Izta's castle.

However, the ones that were present in this Hyperion facility were all the black ones – the advanced combat puppets that could be used as training and sparring partners all the way until level 9.

The main reason they came here was for Klea to improve her proficiency in swordsmanship, she has been training with the puppet on staff weapon before, now she has to learn sword form level one. Hence without further ado the girl chose the sword and stood opposite of the wooden puppet.

Of course, Emery did not just come to accompany and watch her training. He was itching to once again challenge the wooden puppet, and finding out where his strength stood at the moment.

He walked to the arena next to the one Klea chose and accessed the panel on the side.

This time, instead of choosing a sword like he usually did, Emery scrolled past the option and went on a search for one particular weapon category listed in the list.

[Choose your weapon]

"Hand to hand"

[Choose the type of hand-to-hand]

[Fist, Leg]

Emery's eyes quickly swept across the panel as he glanced at every skill visible on the panel. Surprisingly, there were many different types of weapons that fist could use, while the legs involve different kinds of boots.

Amongst the weapons the fist could use, there were a few options; gloves, knuckles, claws, bracers, gauntlets. Emery picked the claws and chose the one most similar to his own claws, one with long blades.

"I choose Fist."

[Combat puppet level one [Fist] level one is ready, Enter the Arena]

Knowing that these puppets would adapt to his strength, in order to ensure maximum training efficiency, Emery took out everything he had. [Immortal Gate], [Night Transformation], [Battle Howl]; all three activated in succession before finally Emery's [Blade Claw] made its appearance.

The moment he took one step forward, the countdown started to move.

[3...]

The combat puppet began moving, transitioning into a fighting stance.

[2...]

Long blades just like what Emery had came out of its wooden knuckle.

[1...]

Being so excited, Emery couldn't hold himself back. His figure shot towards the puppet at breakneck speed, swinging his claws with all the strength he could muster. The air seemed to be ripped apart as the sharp tip of the claws approached the puppet rapidly.

Swwwishhhh—

Unfortunately for Emery, the combat puppet wouldn't just let the attack land so easily. It swiftly swung its claw hand as well, and the two claws swiftly clashed against each other.

CLANK— CRAAACCKKKK!!

Much to Emery's surprise, the claws of the wooden puppet shattered apart when it came into contact with his, and still retaining much force, his claws advanced further and penetrated through the puppet.

One blow, and the fight was over with broken parts of the combat puppet scattered on the arena.

Seeing this spectacle, Magus Shena laughed boisterously. "Hahaha, you are simply too strong for those puppets. Remember that this is about improving your techniques, not overwhelming with strength."

Emery was a little embarrassed hearing the other party's words. If he didn't remember wrong, it was mentioned that Terra Castle could only afford three black puppets as training tools for the whole army because each of these puppets were very expensive.

Turning his eyes to the broken remains scattered on the ground, Emery could only hope that the alliance wouldn't charge him.

In the end, Emery left the arena where the broken puppet was and walked to another arena. After selecting the weapon and skills the puppet would use, this time Emery only used [Fey Transformation].

With that, this time the black puppet wasn't destroyed in one exchange. It managed to match Emery's strength, and the two quickly began to engage in a fight with each other.

The techniques and movements the level one combat puppet displayed was pretty basic, hence Emery could defeat it easily without breaking a sweat.

[Combat puppet level one has been defeated]

Emery waited for the reward to come. However, because he had already received the battle power reward from the sword, this time Emery received no increase to his battle power and only obtained the skill reward.

[Received claw technique level 1.]

Emery used the level 1 claw technique he had just learnt to defeat the level two combat puppet. It then rewarded him with a level 2 claw technique, which he used to defeat the next level combat puppet. The same sequence basically repeated.

[Combat puppet level 4 has been defeated]

Emery was quite surprised when he defeated the level five combat puppet. He didn't expect that he could go as far as level six in his first attempt. Thanks to the battles with the combat puppet earlier, by this time Emery had learned claw techniques from basic to advanced.

As for the fight with the level six combat puppet, Emery's progress wasn't as smooth as his previous one. It took him several hours of continuous loss before he finally grasped the level 5 claw technique and emerged victorious.

[Combat puppet level 5 has been defeated]

[Received claw technique level 5.]

At this point, Having so much hard time fighting level 5, Emery knew that he needed to train and have proper understanding of the level 5 claw technique before attempting to fight the combat puppet level 6. Therefore he decided to take a break and see how Klea progressed with her swordsmanship training.

When he arrived at the arena where she was, Emery saw that the girl had passed the level six combat puppet. However, the girl's natural talent apparently lost its potency at level 7, and at this point she needed to work hard in order to pass through.

Seeing the intense sword fight, Emery threw away his thoughts to rest. He accessed the panel once again, and this time he chose the sword option. The eyes of the combat puppet quickly lit up, and this time he was faced with the strongest level the black puppet could offer.

[Combat puppet level nine [Sword] level nine is ready, Enter the Arena]

Emery was excited by the prospect of fighting such an opponent. Returning to his human form, he took out his Savage Sword before stepping into the arena.

"Let's start!"

Chapter 1030 Sword Expert

[Combat puppet level 9]

Emery gripped his sword tightly as his body assumed its usual fighting stance, prepared to fight the available maximum level of the wooden puppet.

As he took his fighting stance, the puppet had taken its move. It leapt high into the air, brandishing its sword downward, it was apparent that it was preparing to slam down for a powerful strike.

Clank!!

It was the highest level, so of course, the strike the puppet launched was as fast and strong as if it was using a battle art. Still, Emery managed to parry the attack perfectly.

The combat puppet used a movement technique and strike steps that was not inferior to the [Weeping Phantom], but as soon as the sword was swung down upon Emery, he still managed to dodge the strike perfectly.

The same sight kept on happening for the next half a dozen attacks. Emery moved seamlessly while dodged, parried, and blocked all the attacks from the puppet with his own weapon. From his expression, he seemed to be able to do all that without much problems.

But in fact, for the first few seconds of the training, Emery was feeling very confused. He still remembered how just some time ago, he felt level 8 was far too difficult to beat. But apparently his growth was too fast, as now not even level 9 could catch up to him in terms of technique and strength.

Since his training with the grandmaster Magus Atika back in Ouroboros, Emery's skills in sword fighting have advanced extensively, and now his mastery over the sword has gone to such a terrifying degree.

Thanks to refining the basics of all attacks and defenses, now Emery was able to easily predict the trajectory of the wooden puppet's attacks.

Realizing that not even the level 9 puppet was able to keep up with him, Emery decided to end the fight quickly. He didn't even need to use his [36 Divine Technique], as he only used simple basic attacks such as slash, strike, and thrust. Within a few moments, he had managed to disable the wooden puppet.

[Congratulation, the level 9 combat puppet was defeated]

[Received 5 battle power]

[You have completed all levels in the art of sword, you are now an official Sword Expert]

[You may receive one battle art of your choice as reward]

Emery had almost forgotten about such a reward. A permanent battle power and a battle art skill definitely a great reward.

Without further ado, he walked towards a nearby panel and looked through the list of sword techniques which he could choose from.

Emery skimmed through the standard technique list and proceeded to swiftly ignore all the techniques listed in there before going straight towards the one mattered to him – the advanced techniques.

[Advanced Weapon Technique]

[Dual - Soulless Stream]

A series of combo attacks that build up its momentum to deliver an unstoppable attack to the opponent. Consisting of four stages which also depict the degree of mastery: 4 strikes, 8 strikes, 16 strikes, and 32 strikes

[Sword - Sonic Leap]

A charge-type skill that allows the users to charge toward the enemy at up to three times the user's normal speed.

[Sword - Hellraiser]

A charge-type skill that builds up into a powerful arc-shaped slash that cuts through everything in its path.

[Sword - Omega Strike]

A charge-type skill that builds up into one powerful downward devastating strike.

Emery had seen the first two skills in the past when he defeated the level 8 combat puppet, so he set them aside for them. As for the new ones; [Hellraiser] was the skill used by Zach during their duel. Having been on the receiving end of the skill, he knew very well how powerful it was when utilized correctly.

Out of the 4 options he had, Emery had no plan to take up dual-wielding again, so the first [Soulless Stream] was immediately disqualified from his mind. Thus it brought him to a choice between a fast thrust attack [Sonic Leap], a powerful area slash attack [Hellraiser], or one powerful strike [Omega Strike].

To be able to quickly move toward and strike the enemy, [Sonic Leap] sounded amazing to possess. However, Emery already had his [Blink] which already did the most important feature of the skill.

As for [Hellraiser], it might have worked wonders in the hands of the Dragon bloodline protege who wielded a greatsword which allowed him to create as big arc slash as possible. But it won't be as effective for his normal sword.

Thus Emery landed on the only option and finally chose to take up [Omega Strike], thinking that it could be a good replacement for his [Heroic Strike] who hadn't been that effective anymore with his current power level.

The skill was quickly embedded in his mind but unlike the normal skill, it would take him some time to master it.

After Emery learned the skill and walked out of the arena, Magus Shena approached him.

"As I said before, your sword skill is already at master level. You should go ahead and take the sword master level exam so you can get the official title and reward."

Emery had heard once before that the reward would be a skill that could help any swordsman to achieve their sword aura, so of course, he was pretty much interested. Seeing the gleam in his eyes, Magus Shena added,

"I will check for you later whether there will be another qualification exam, and I will inform you right away if there is any."

"Yes, thank you, senior," Emery added gratefully.

Now that his own training was done, he went to watch how Klea's training with the sword was going.

From afar, he could see that sweat had dampened her face and body. She was really struggling, even at level 7, and even after struggling hard, she still failed the test.

Realizing that Emery was watching, the girl took a moment to rest and walked over to him.

"Wahh sword is not easy at all Emery... I feel so untalented." She pouted and whined in a cute manner.

Hearing this, Emery could only let out a wry smile.

The girl had almost zero basics in the sword. She had only been using it here and there a few times and never had real training. As for Emery, in spite of the years of childhood sword training with his father, subsequently the sword training with Magus Xion, only after 3 years could he finally defeat the level 7 combat puppet.

The fact that she was able to reach level 7 despite all those shortcomings clearly displayed her overwhelming talent. Hence Emery couldn't help but feel an inexplicable sense of dilemma when he heard Klea's words.

"Just take your time, Klea. I am sure you will advance soon enough." He then added, "In fact, I can teach you a thing or two about it."

For her, there was certainly nothing that sounded better than getting a private lesson from Emery.

"Yes, i'd love that"