

Earths GMagus 1051

Chapter 1051 The Deep

Emery had spent three days on the floating island. Out of all the three ingredients he needed to collect, only the tier 5 ones were left; another 200 grams, about 20 portions.

During these three days, the Chizpur brothers collected almost twice the tier 3 plants amount he asked them to gather. Emery was pleasantly surprised at first, but he soon became worried that they might get reprimanded for taking too much.

Because of this, he quickly told them to stop and allowed them to enter the deep level of the planet with him instead.

[Spirit Force: 1540]

Looking at his current spirit force, Emery was fairly sure that he needed just a little bit more to fix his [Undefined] pillar. Hence, faced with such an opportunity, he was committed not to leave this place until he had devoured enough.

With new determination, the group once again entered the deep level.

"Don't make a sound. If you do, all of you can go back inside my spatial space," Emery said in a low voice while motioning for the little creatures to stay quiet. Or perhaps, it would be even better if they could stay underground.

There were two other legendary beasts could be found in the deep level area, and the group spotted both of them as they walked through the illuminated caves.

One of them was a tiger-like beast with fiery fur, and the other was a flying bat with a dozen eyes.

[Fithera]

[Legendary Beast - Level 50]

[Battle Power - 320]

[Hundred Sights]

[Legendary Beast - Level 45]

[Battle Power - 290]

Just by looking at their levels and battle power, Emery could tell that these legendary beasts would be a hassle to deal with. Moreover, they were fire and lighting-based creatures, which Emery couldn't devour.

It wasn't worth the risk, energy, and time.

Fortunately, the burrowing skill of the five Chizpur brothers allowed Emery to see more in the caves. Thanks to this, he was able to spot the Golden Moss and the Tree Giants without spending too much time.

"Now!!"

With the element of surprise and precise coordination, Emery was able to quickly find the glowing light hidden within the Tree Giants. At the same time, the Chizpur brothers provided him extra defense with their protection spell, allowing him to focus more on his offense.

One... two... four... six...

After swiftly defeating six more of those gigantic creatures, Emery was finally able to gather all the Golden Moss he needed. However...

[Spirit Force: 1545]

He was still five points of spirit force away from his target.

After deliberating for just a few moments, Emery decided to continue his venture. He had already gone this far, and going back when he was just a step away from his goal...

He was really unwilling to do such a thing.

...

The group had continued walking deeper while defeating more Tree Giants for a while, and in front of them now were multiple cracks glowing with different colors on the ground.

Emery looked at them. Interestingly, although it was rather faint, he could feel powerful spirit energy emanating from them.

Behind him, Klea also silently looked at the cracks. She couldn't quite pinpoint why, but those cracks gave her a strange feeling.

With his vigilance raised and the others right behind him, Emery carefully walked forward to check where those cracks led.

Not long after following the cracks, Emery noticed a layer of mist similar to the gas he found outside the island in front of them. Not only that, but it seemed that even the area around them was covered in a much thinner layer of it.

Deeper in the mist, a large hole that seemed to be the center of the strange cracks was emitting a faint glow. From where he was standing, he could feel an immensely powerful spirit energy from the hole.

The energy was the same as he previously felt from the cracks, but this time, it was much denser.

Considering the three levels of layers he had been traveling through, Emery assumed that they had to be around 10 miles deep. It was no wonder that they were so close to the source of the gas mist.

Emery tried to peer into the hole, but it was so much more densely covered in the mist to the point he actually couldn't see anything. As he focused to see what was there, distant whispers began to caress his ears.

Soft, soft voices...

He couldn't understand what they were saying even with his spirit reading and the system translator attached to his palm, but he could feel...

They were calling him, beckoning him...

"Emery!" Klea abruptly pulled him backward, jolting him out of his reverie. "What happened to you!?"

The voices vanished. Not a trace of them remained in his ears as if everything he just heard was an illusion.

However, he could still feel something calling him, tempting him to come closer.

Emery was about to reassure the worried girl when all of a sudden, a figure he recognized swiftly dashed toward where the two of them were.

With a serious expression on her face, Magus Shena landed between Emery and the hole veiled in gray mist. "Step back! Don't get any closer!"

Emery was a bit startled when he saw the magus's reaction and sudden appearance, but he still obediently moved back a few steps with Klea.

The dragon bloodline's magus expression relaxed a little when she saw this, but it was only after they went further away from the hole that she began explaining to them.

Deep within the Hyperion still lied the remains of the celestial being that formed the planet. Even if Emery had access to enter the core level of the planet, only those at the magus level or higher could withstand the powerful aura.

"Do you still have a lot to collect?" the magus suddenly asked.

"Just a few more."

Apparently, the fact Emery almost enter the core area, worried the magus. Because of this, she ended up staying close to watch over him, helping him kill more of the Tree Giants in the process.

[Spirit Force: 1550]

With Magus Shena's help, Emery managed to swiftly devour 8 more Tree Giants and thus finally maximize his spirit force to reach another bottleneck. At the same time, he also managed to get 10 extra portions, so it was about time for him to leave the island.

He initially thought about immediately delivering the herbs to the tempering stations, but

Considering the strange feeling within his dark core, he decided to take care of his cracking pillar first.

Chapter 1052 Devour

Ever since they left the floating island and returned to the spirit cave, Emery had been sitting in his cultivation room. Not moving, in the lotus position.

Not too far from Emery, a figure of a beautiful girl was seen observing him intently.

Similarly, Klea had also been standing guard in the room, watching for any mishaps because she knew the hardships and risks of what Emery was trying to do. Repairing a broken pillar was something that wasn't simple to handle. One mistake, and everything could crumble down.

From what she had researched, failure could bring about a huge setback in one's cultivation, or worse, lose the opportunity to advance to the magus realm forever. Her worry increased when she recalled that Emery's pillar was not the ordinary kind of pillar at all.

It was the variation one, the [Devour] pillar. Still, even though she was worried sick, there was actually nothing Klea could do. She could only place her hope on her man's ability and the fact that Magus Heorgar knew what was best for Emery and his future.

In the end, due to her worry, the girl approached closer and ended up sitting opposite of him. A small distance of one meter separated them two. Because it looked like it was going to take a long time, she quietly went on with her own cultivation.

As the two of them delved into a bottomless abyss called cultivation, outside time passed by like a flash. Before long, a day passed. Then, five days. Eventually, ten days had passed before a sign of movement was detected in the cultivation room.

Emery spent the last 10 days cultivating the foreign energy that had been filling up his broken [Devour] pillar. The deed was anything but easy. His entire body had been drenched in his own sweat while his breath ragged like a dog all these time. However, a smile bloomed on his face because he knew today was the time.

The foreign energy within his body had all gathered and reached its peak, and it was time for him to release it.

In that instant, his dark core trembled while his nature core swiftly followed suit moments later. Emery, whose consciousness fixed on what was going on within his body, could see beams of brilliant light coming out from the Devour pillar.

Following the appearance of light, the cracks that were visible everywhere on the surface of the pillar gradually closed, leaving a flawless surface without any blemish. Excitement grew within Emery as he watched the pillar gradually refine to perfection.

The moment the last crack seen on the pillar disappeared, Emery felt a deluge of powerful energy rushed out causing ripples in his dark core.

[Pillar formed - Devour]

[Spirit force has increased exponentially]

It was as if a full dam had finally burst, the energy that was previously kept was released all together. Following right after was the sight of Emery's spirit force rising at the speed of a falling meteor.

[1560...]

[1570...]

[1580...]

[1590...]

Emery had his share of experience of having a surge of energy. Many, in fact. However, this time felt different. Extremely so.

He had expected pain wrecking in his core. But this time, it wasn't just his core that experienced pain, but also the entire nerve systems of his body. It was like a massive flood that destroyed the ecosystem.

Moreover, the rapid and tremendous increase of spirit force apparently caused a reaction with his blood, and Emery knew precisely what was coming next...

The urge.

In the past, Magus Heorgar had repeatedly warned him about the savage nature of the Devour pillar, and this was definitely what the man meant by it. The urge to consume anything and everything.

With much difficulty, Emery mustered the energy he had to open his mouth.

"Klea... leave..."

At first, the girl was happy to see that Emery had opened her eyes. But she quickly became anxious hearing his words.

"W-why?" She asked with apparent worry. "What happened? What can I do?!"

Again, gritting his teeth since the urge began to go out of his control, Emery said, "The urge... GO!"

The next moment, without his consent or command, Emery's body began to transform to his Fey form.

"Urrghhhhhh!!"

The sudden event quickly alarmed the girl in front of him. "No... I'm not leaving. There's no way I'll leave you when you need help, Emery."

After saying those words, Klea's quickly cast her Tier 4 healing magic [Restoration] on Emery's body. When she saw that it seemed to have no effect, she quickly switched to the new spell she recently learnt, a Tier 5 healing spell [Body and Mind].

It was a spell she learnt after the mid-test event that left her helpless when Emery was unconscious.

The spell was supposed to help calm the mind of those who were affected by mental attacks in physical or mental form. Surprisingly, it managed to make Emery, who had been growling ever since, slowly calmed down.

"This is working!" Klea said excitedly.

Unfortunately, the effect seemed to only be effective for a while before Emery's body suddenly turned bigger. His figure started to hunch while dark fur began to appear not only on his hands, but all over his body as well.

"W-what... going on... Emery." Klea was terrified to see Emery's body transforming without his control.

Mustering the leftover energy he had after resisting the urge from taking over him completely, Emery rotated his finger, trying to cast a spatial gate, but he wasn't able to.

Emery grounded his teeth and said what he wanted to tell her. Due to his transformation, the word came out half roaring.

"GOOOOO!!!"

Instead of heeding his words, Klea still stood her ground and cast [Ice Prison]. Pillars of ice quickly rose from the ground, shackling Emery's body with extreme cold. However, it didn't take long for cracks to appear everywhere.

It was at this moment that five small figures burst into the room where Klea and Emery were. As if knowing their creator's chaotic state, Twik and the 5 Chizpur brothers came at an opportune time and quickly cast their protective spell to stop Emery. Unfortunately, their efforts were in vain.

Seeing that the plant creatures could be in danger, Klea quickly shouted, "Run!"

Before they could escape, however, the ice shackles Emery's body shattered apart. From within, a huge beast with jet black fur walked out. The beast had two long blades in its arms, its sharp fangs bared ready to ravage anything in its path.

Seeing the beast turning its attention on Twik and the 5 Chizpur brothers, Klea quickly shouted, "Emery, stop!"

The beast was about to attack when suddenly a wind blew inside the cave with an appearance of a figure in front of Klea.

"You all get back!"

The new arrival was Magus Shena who appeared in her dragon form. She looked at the transformed Emery and said, "This is a side effect from forming the devouring pillar. I have seen this before."

"Then, what should we do?" Klea asked anxiously.

The female magus didn't answer the question. She just took out her crystal spear, her eyes fixed on the beast. The sight immediately made Klea worry as a bad feeling welled up within her.

"What are you doing?"

Before Klea could realize it, the magus's hand was empty and the spear had pierced through the beast's chest. A deafening roar shook the entire spirit cave.

ROAAARRRRR!!!

"Come fight me!" Magus Shena said before her figure shot out of the cave, whereupon the dark beast immediately chased after. Worried about Emery, Klea also quickly chased after the two of them.

What greeted Klea upon stepping out of the cave was the devastating sight that resulted from the fierce battle between the unbridled Night Wolf and the female Dragon magus. Powerful attacks occurred between the two, causing the beautiful scenery of the island to be shattered.

Having summoned her thunderbird, Klea watched the fight from above with a worried expression on her face.

Chapter 1053 Wolf Beast VS Azure Dragon

Klea had never seen this form of Emery before.

It had the same size and familiarity as the Night Wolf.

However, instead of just his hands turning sharp and his limbs covered in jet black fur, his entire body turned to that of a wolf. Emery currently looked really similar as to when he used his second form of his previous fey transformation, but with a much stronger aura and six long, blade-like claws on his hands.

HOOWWLLL—!!

As its howl echoed through the air, the beast's figure shot forward at unprecedented speed. Seeing the three meter tall monster charging towards her like a meteor, the female magus quickly stepped aside.

The crazed Emery dashed past her as a result, crashing directly into a huge boulder. The boulder pieces were falling onto the beast's body like rain.

From the speed and strength it had just shown, Klea could clearly tell that the current Emery had higher battle power compared to his usual Night Wolf transformation.

On the other hand, while Magus Shena might only be a Rank 6 Legendary bloodline – not a Rank 8 Mythical such as Emery, the bloodline and cultivation level she possessed were Dragon and Full Moon magus realm. As such, she was the only one who could deal with Emery at the moment.

Magus Shena was the possessor of one of the famous Azure Dragon bloodlines [Tide Wyrn], which was shown from the sparkling blue scales that cover her skin and the two pairs of azure wings on her back.

Staring at the transformed Emery who was currently growling, the female magus said, "Let's see how strong you really are!"

Brandishing the crystal spear in her hand, Magus Shena disappeared from where she was standing. Her figure blurred as she attacked Emery.

The air was torn apart by the powerful swing of her spear that was aimed at her opponent's torso. However, thanks to its extraordinary beast instinct, the wolf was able to block the attack with its blade claws.

CLANK!!

A loud sharp sound resounded through the air as spears and claws clashed against each other. The beast tried to counterattack, swiping its other free claw at the female magus. Seeing that, Magus Shena quickly spun the shaft of the spear she was holding, using the other end to parry the incoming attack.

CLANK!! CLANK!!

Dozens of attacks were exchanged between the two in the span of seconds, and Magus Shena was surprised to find that she was unable to overpower the wolf with her five hundred plus battle power.

The wolf beast might not have high enough battle power to overpower its opponent, but its erratic and ferocious attacks force the female magus to fall within its own tempo, gradually causing her to be overwhelmed.

Upon realizing this, Magus Shena chuckled and looked at the crazed Emery in awe.

"Hahaha! Mythical bloodline sure is different!"

Swiisshhhh— Splat!!

Knowing that the status quo could not continue, she quickly tried to wrestle the flow of the battle from the beast by establishing her own tempo. At the same time, she also observed the beast's movements, trying to discern a pattern from them.

Thanks to her swift measures, it only took Magus Shena five minutes before she could figure out most of the gist of the erratic movement the beast displayed. It growled as it suddenly found itself on its hind legs, but there was nothing it could do when the female magus started landing a few scratches on its body.

As time went on, the Magus gradually got used to the beast's attacks. After adapting to its erratic movements, the beast's attacks were no better than children randomly throwing punches and kicks.

More and more wounds began to appear on its body, but they swiftly disappeared as the wolf's monstrous regeneration factor kicked in. The blood that spurted out from the wound splashed the ground red. Despite that, the two continued to fight each other.

Klea, who was watching the fight from above, became anxious when she saw the bloody spectacle. As if knowing what she was thinking, the female mage spoke in a nonchalant tone, her hands still fending off the beast's attack.

"Don't worry, little lass! He just needs to unleash his urge. Those wounds will help him come to his senses faster!" As if proving her points, Magus Shena waved her crystal spear at Emery.

Spllaatt! Spllaattt! Spllatt!

Several more wounds were made, bringing the tally to the dozens; but at this moment, the wolf suddenly went berserk.

HOWWLLLL—!!!

Much to Magus Shena's surprise, powerful spirit energy rapidly gathered in the beast's chest. Before she could wonder what it wanted to do, the wolf howled once more and following right after was a destructive energy blast that shot out from its open mouth.

Although caught off guard, the female magus swiftly cast a protection spell, a Tier 6 light element spell [Arcane Protection].

A blue glass-like screen appeared in front of Magus Shena, stopping the explosion from reaching her by changing its trajectory. It managed to fend off the attack, destroying a nearby hill and creating an eye-catching mark on the ground.

"Magical beast indeed!" Magus Shena said, her face turned slightly pale.

Following right after the blast was the sight of the wolf charging in, and thanks to the female mage busy handling the energy blast, it managed to land a blow on the latter's shoulder. Its sharp claws broke the scales and tore through the flesh.

"Argghh!!"

The female magus immediately retaliated, launching a powerful roundhouse kick that sent the beast flying. While it crashed through the trees in the distance, she quickly cast a healing spell on her injured shoulder.

"Note to self, it's a mistake to play around with a devouring creature."

Knowing the mistake she had made, the female magus decided to not play around anymore. Flapping her wings that had unfurled wide, her figure flew into the sky and began chanting a Tier 7 water spell.

[Draconic Reservoir]

A few moments later, large body of water – a tsunami conjured of spirit energy swept the landscape and surged towards the beast from three sides. Engulfed without being able to do anything about it, the beast found itself tossed back and forth in the giant body of water.

From sky above, Klea realized that the main nature of the spell was actually to trap the wolf inside the water. It was a powerful water-based control spell that also tormented anyone trapped in it.

The beast repeatedly opens and closes its mouth, screaming and howling in pain. But after a few minutes, both Magus Shena and Klea realized that the waves of spirit energy in the body of water weakened while the beast got stronger with each passing moment.

"This... no way—"

A shocked expression appeared on the female magus' face when she saw the beast sucked the water into its mouth. It only managed to swallow a limited amount at a time, but each time it finished it became a little stronger.

"He can devour spells!! Hahahaha!!" the magus turned even more amused by the sight.

Knowing that it couldn't trap the beast anymore, Magus Shena stop the spell. Instead, she swiftly cast the ones that buffed her, increasing her battle power, defensive ability, and speed before once again dashing off to fight the beast head-on.

This time, she planned to fight passively to slowly tire her opponent out, while being careful not to get hit by the blade claws that could devour her power. While fending off the attacks that the beast ferociously threw at her, a thought came to her mind.

"No wonder the King is so interested in this young wolf."

Chapter 1054 Clock

It was certainly an amazing and terrifying spectacle for Klea to see Emery able to last that long against one of the strongest magus.

The fight, from start to finish, could only be described as savage and barbaric.

In his wolf form, Emery, who had lost control thanks to the bloodthirsty urge that took over, charged at Magus Shena with monstrous power. Taking advantage of his [Undecaying Body] which kept healing his wounds, the wolf basically threw caution into the air and just continued attacking the female magus despite the futility of such actions.

After more than two hours of fighting, hundreds of cuts, and bruises, finally, the Night Wolf no longer had the capability to stand up. Kneeling on the ground shattered by their battle, Emery's body slowly regressed to its human form before taking a sit-in lotus position.

Seeing that, Klea quickly ordered her thunderbird to descend. She was about to approach Emery to check his condition when the magus stopped her from doing so.

"Don't worry about him. He's fine, just exhausted. But just in case, keep your distance from him for a while."

Klea had only been paying attention to Emery throughout the fight since she was very worried about him. Hence, it was only now when they were close that she realized that the Full Moon mage was actually panting heavily, tired from the battle.

Noticing Klea's eyes on her, Magus Shena smirked and decided to tease the little girl.

"Pretty interesting boy you have there!" She said with a knowing smile and one eyebrow raised.

Seeing the girl's cheek blush slightly, the female magus laughed boisterously.

Magus Shena then reverted to her human form and decided to stay with Klea, watching over the young wolf, as she was worried that the boy would go on another rampage when he woke up. It shouldn't be, but there was no harm in being too careful.

Emery, despite losing control of his body, was aware who his urge was fighting against. Just like last time, he could remember everything he did.

It was definitely a powerful transformation. Unfortunately, the ability the Beast form showed was all intuitive and he has no control off. He wasn't sure he could repeat what he did consciously.

But then thinking about how he almost hurt Klea just now, he would rather not use it at all until he can control it.

Now that his body had calmed down, Emery once again focused his concentration on his two cores and the new grayish devour pillar.

There was certainly an interconnection between his devour pillar and his bloodline and as he finally calmed down, the previously dark core that had been beating like crazy has slowly returned to normal.

At that moment, Emery noticed that his nature core was actively supporting the dark core and the harmonious process lasted for around one hour before Emery could finally feel that the newly formed Devour pillar was affecting the entire Darkness Foundation.

His previously pitch-black foundation turned slightly grayish as there was a synergy between his devour pillar and Khaos energy that has been dominating the dark core. Fortunately, both were complimenting each other, a matching pair.

Before long Emery felt a surge of power circulating within. Another tendril-like flare was formed on top of the Darkness Foundation – another darkness pillar.

[Eleventh pillar was formed - Darkness]

Emery felt the devour pillar has helped increase his dark core to another level.

Now that Emery's dark core had undergone a huge boost, the state of equilibrium it had with the nature core was, once again, on the verge of collapse. Therefore, just as before, Emery swiftly willed for his Dao Divine Technique and with its help, directed the excess flow of spirit energy into his nature core in order to fulfill the energy needed to form the subsequent Nature pillar.

When the excess spirit energy flowed into his Nature Foundation, the element that was on the top among the others – which was the Plant element – swiftly reacted. Hence a few minutes later, another tendril-like energy emerged from the nature core and established itself on the foundation.

[Twelfth pillar was formed - Plant Element]

[Spirit force has increased exponentially]

[Spirit force: 1610]

[Acolyte Rank 9 - Mid Stage - 12 pillars formed]

[Earth Spirit - 2 pillars]

[Plant Spirit - 2 pillars]

[Water Spirit - 1 pillar]

[Light Spirit - 1 pillar]

[Darkness spirit - 5 pillars]

[Devour spirit - 1 pillar]

With this upgrade, Emery realized that he had successfully reached the peak of rank 9 mid-stage, one more stop to advance into the high stage.

When all the excess spirit energy had finally been absorbed, the two cores once again formed perfect balance with each other. The circulation between the two spirit cores he had had never been as efficient as it was now, and Emery had never felt better about his dark core. However, he couldn't really say the same with the blood circulation within his body.

The last transformation seemed to have created an incident, especially within his heart – the tool of which pumps blood throughout his body. Emery opened his eyes, stood up, and tried to stretch his body to relieve the odd sensation. However, the feeling was still there.

Unfortunately, Emery had no further chance to find out what was wrong, as Klea had jumped at him. He quickly caught her body and seeing her worried look, quickly said,

"I'm sorry. I almost hurt you."

Klea shook her head and didn't say anything, only her hands that wrapped around his waist drew tighter. It was at this moment that Magus Shena walked over to the two and spoke something that caught Emery's attention.

"I can sense changes in your heart rhythm.."

Seeing that the female magus seemed to know more, Emery attentively listened as she told him about the urge that many savage-ish bloodlines possessed.

"Think of it as a clock. At your current level, you need to let go of your urge maybe once a month lest you lose control. However, as you grow stronger, it will also grow with you. There will be times where it will be days before the bloodlust dissipates, only a few could actually control it"

Hearing such words, Emery heaved a long sigh. The things Magus Shena told him now matched with what Magus Heorgar had told him, and hearing this unexpected information, Klea grasped his arm even tighter.

"Don't worry, Emery. I know you will eventually control it."

Gently squeezing her hand, Emery smiled saying, "Thank you, Klea."

Thinking about ways, Emery suddenly remembered about his harvesting job. It had been more than two weeks since the dwarf master gave him the task and hope he wasn't too late.

Chapter 1055 Great Dwarf

Emery went to the tempering facility to deliver the ingredients he had painstakingly gathered. He told Klea to stay put in the spirit cave to practice since this was a simple matter, but when she heard where he was going, the girl insisted on coming along.

Together with Magus Shena, the three of them arrived at the facility. The moment they entered the building, they were immediately greeted by the same scene they had seen the previous time – a sea of people pacing about with their business.

Knowing who Emery was and what his purpose was for him to come, the staff at the reception didn't stop Emery and immediately let him enter the inner area without a single question.

The group of three walked across the long hallway where dozens of large cauldrons could be seen on either side. Each and everyone of them were occupied by acolytes or magus, both of which were busy tempering their bodies to pay attention to their surroundings.

Facing this kind of spectacle for the first time, Klea's eyes shone as she cast her gaze all over the place.

"Wow... this place sure is interesting, Emery.." She said offhandedly, full of curiosity.

Klea, after all, did have a great deal of passion and a keen interest in knowledge, in general. Therefore, this kind of fascinating encounter couldn't help but tickle her thirst for new knowledge.

Smiling at Klea's oozing curiosity, Emery made his way towards Master Dulin's private workshop. When he entered the workshop, he could clearly see how the dwarf master's sour expression was replaced by a smile as soon as the latter saw his face.

"You're here, Emery!?" Abandoning what he was doing, Master Dulin quickly approached the group, a nervous but hopeful expression showing on his face. "Did... did you get it..?"

"Yes, master. I did," said Emery as he took out the bulk of the materials he had gathered from his Spatial Space, placing them on the large table in the workshop.

The dwarf master's face grew increasingly brighter as he saw so many ingredients laid out on the table. When the last batch of materials came out of Emery's Spatial Space, a massive bright smile could be seen on the man's face.

"Yes yes yes. Very good. You have been gone for almost 3 weeks, it must be hard for you... I was worried that you didn't get— I mean, I was worried for your safety."

Hearing Master Dulin's words, Emery was silent for a moment. Unlike what the former thought, he actually only spent four days harvesting all of these. However, just as he was about to correct the dwarf master, Klea suddenly opened her mouth.

"You're right, Master Dulin. It was really hard for Emery." Glancing briefly at Emery with a concerned look, she continued, "He got a lot of injuries while trying to harvest all of this for you, master. Those monsters are just too dangerous."

Hearing Klea's words, Emery was inwardly confused. But seeing the secret signal she gave, he decided to go with the flow for the time being.

"And who is this young lady?" asked Master Dulin to Emery as he turned towards Klea.

"Let me introduce you to her, master. This is one of my close friends from Earth."

Once again, Emery's choice of words succeeded in making Klea annoyed. Emery noticed that and was about to say more when the girl suddenly walked up to the dwarf master saying,

"Master, I came here because I have heard about your distinguished name.. All the amazing work you have done... the great achievements you accomplished.. Master, I am a fan of your work."

Emery's mouth was wide open when he heard what Klea just said. He was shocked, dumbfounded even, that she could spout such embarrassing words. But then, to his complete surprise, the dwarf master seemed happy hearing such blatant flattery.

Seeing the positive reaction, Klea swiftly added, "After hearing that you are in dire need of these ingredients, I immediately decided to help Emery harvest them. All so that you can get them faster. But... the process is really not easy, master."

Emery was stunned speechless seeing how Klea could easily attach herself onto the dwarf master, making the latter feel bad yet at the same time erase the sense of distance between the two of them – becoming friendly.

In the end, Klea 'accidentally' mentioned how helpful would be if there was reimbursement for doing such a job, and being taken by her tempo, the dwarf master willingly gave Emery a large sum of spirit stones for his efforts.

[3000 x Knotgrass - 90,000]

[200 x Borage Mushroom - 40,000]

[50 x Nux Myristica - 25,000]

Emery's mouth had yet to close, as he dumbfoundedly stared at the fact that he was now 155,000 spirit stones richer than just a moment ago.

Seeing firsthand what had happened, Magus Shena let out a low chuckle and whispered, "It's rare to see a dwarf handing out their spirit stones so willingly. Your girl is truly talented," to which Emery only smiled wryly in response.

After that, Master Dulin gave Emery another list of ingredients to harvest from a different island – the batch he needed to hand over for next month. Naturally, Emery accepted it to keep his promise.

While Emery thought his business here was over, Klea didn't seem to think so. She approached the dwarf master once again and said, "Master, do you really have the heart to send an acolyte to such a dangerous place again?"

Hearing Klea's words, Emery quickly tried to stop her. He, after all, looked forward to devouring more beasts during the task.

"You don't have to mind her words, master. I'm willing to do it, don't worry."

Master Dulin nodded his head, seemingly unfazed by Klea's actions. "I'm not worried. After all, you have a great magus to help you with the task." He said dryly, his eyes glancing at Magus Shena.

The female magus gave a small smile at Klea before turning to the dwarf master and saying, "I'm sorry to disappoint you, Master Dulin. I am only here to protect them, hunting beasts is not part of my responsibility."

Klea quickly followed, with such a concerned look on her face, she looked at the dwarf master and said, "She is right, master. My heart aches when I recall how badly injured Emery was before. If only he had a stronger body... I'm sure the task would have been completed easier, and faster."

Hearing her words, Emery suddenly felt as if he was being struck by lightning. A shudder ran down his spine, especially when he noticed Klea secretly had her wicked smile on. As expected, she grabbed the dwarf master's arm and said what she had planned from the start.

"Master Dulin, with your greatness.. I am sure you can boost your harvester's physique once more, can't you? If you do...I'm sure Emery will do his job better."

Chapter 1056: Tempering

"Even if I agree, the young man can't have his body tempered right now. We are sort of fully booked at the moment, all the cauldrons are being used," said the dwarf master in a dry tone. But in Emery's eyes, it was as if the former was sorry that he couldn't meet Klea's expectations.

Still not willing to give up, Klea tried to change the direction she approached the matter. "Well, of course not right now, master. I mean, I am sure a great facility like yours is always full all year round."

She then chuckled, before suddenly turning serious saying, "Maybe... later on today..? I'm sure that you, the master of this facility, have full say in whose turn it is to be tempered.."

Klea's words seemed half effective this time as a contemplation look appeared on Master Dulin's face. Alas, while the dwarf master was still considering the matter, the girl already expressed her gratitude and said, "Since it's settled, maybe we can start by checking Emery's condition first.. There is no point if he can't be helped ..do you agree master?"

Dazed by the Egyptian Queen's unrelenting efforts, the dwarf master could only absentmindedly nod his head. "..Er, yes of course."

The dwarf master then called for one of his staff and quickly installed the equipment needed for a full, comprehensive check-up that would inspect every nook and cranny of one's body from top to bottom.

Under Klea's persuasive eyes and encouragement, Emery stepped onto the equipment and waited while the machine did its job. Before long, a list of information about his physique appeared on the translucent screen in front of him.

[Skin - 75% - good]

[Flesh - 76% - good]

[Muscle - 83% - superior]

[Organs - 81% - superior]

[Veins - 80% - superior]

The dwarf master opened his mouth when he saw the data. "There has actually been an average increase of five percent since your last check-up."

Emery explained that the most likely thing that caused this to happen was when his bloodline was upgraded. On the other hand, the dwarf master found the changes amusing but he didn't elaborate further.

Now that the results of Emery's body examination were out, it was time for important news.

Unfortunately for Emery, Master Dulin believed that his physique was already at the peak of its physical condition. The dwarf master reasoned that even with a month's worth of upgrade, he would at most experience another average increase of five percent across the board.

Before Emery could answer, Klea said.

"We'll take it!"

Taking no notice of Emery's stunned gaze, Klea swiftly helped make a suitable schedule for him to undergo the tempering. A week every month until the end of the academy year – that would put Emery's physique to its maximum physical tempering.

Then, they were presented with a list of types of tempering, with a corresponding price tag.

[Elemental Body Tempering - 2.000 contribution points]

[Alchemical Body Tempering - 5.000 contribution points]

[Heavenly Body Tempering - 10.000 contribution points]

Once again, Klea beat Emery from speaking. "Only the best for Emery – the Heavenly Body one!" She said excitedly.

"Very well," said Master Dulin dryly. "For 7 days, That will be 70,000 contribution points."

"Of course, master." Emery was ready to pay with spirit stones when Klea once again opened her mouth.

"Master..." the dwarf master turned his head hearing her voice. "There must be a privileged acolyte discount, right?"

"Ah, yes.. It's a ten percent discount.. No, I mean twenty..."

"What about an employee discount..? I mean, he's currently working for you, master."

"Ahh, of course... that will be ... er ...thirty percent."

"That's great, master!" replied Klea cheerfully. "But... isn't Emery your brother's disciple? That makes you his respectable master too."

Turning his face away from her, the dwarf master raised his hand. "Forty.. Forty is the maximum... can't go any higher."

Worried that the girl would be able to think of something else, Master Dulin went ahead and quickly prepared everything, ensuring a cauldron was open for Emery's tempering procedure. Though beforehand, he made sure to tell Emery to sign a contract that stated the facility won't be held accountable for anything that happened to Emery post-procedure.

Thanks to the dwarf master's efforts, Emery was able to enter a body-tempering cauldron that day, and would stay for seven days there.

Seeing that he was already in the procedure, Master Dulin heaved a sigh of relief thinking that it was finally all over. Unfortunately for the dwarf master, the girl's smile clearly meant she wasn't done yet.

"Master... What about me..? I really like to be the subject of your greatness too..."

In response, the dwarf master said, "Actually, this facility is only for privileged acolytes or esteemed magus, so I'm afraid..."

Upon hearing that, Klea's expression suddenly turned to that of great sorrow. "...Is that so? I understand, master... I thought you are the master of this facility.. But... I understand..." The faint sound of sobbing could be heard from her.

Sweating bullets, the dwarf master seemed to fall into contemplation. "Er... Yes.. I am the master.. I guess, yeah. Because you're helping to obtain those precious ingredients for me, I think I could make an exception."

Seeing the dwarf being played under Klea's hands, Magus Shena excused herself and left the workshop. As soon as the workshop doors closed and she was in the distance, loud boisterous laughter resounded down the long hallway.

With this, both Emery and Klea spent their next 7 days tempering their body inside the boiling cauldron. Their bodies were both submerged in black liquid – the dwarf master's secret blend of ingredients, and tempered by the cauldron heat and the medicinal properties.

The process was certainly not a relaxing hot bath. To refine the body, one needed to endure the excruciating pain caused by the skin and muscles being strengthened. It was an entire seven days of hellish experience, but each day Emery was comforted from his pain with notifications popping up.

[Battle power increased by one]

Even though it was indeed as the dwarf master said, that tempering didn't give Emery as much benefit as the first time around, every added battle power point was still very beneficial to him. Hence he persevered.

When the seven days period finally passed, the two of them examined their physique together.

[Emery Ambrose]

[Battle power: 250 (256)]

[Skin - 75%(77%) - good]

[Flesh - 76% (79%) - good]

[Muscle - 83%(84%) - superior]

[Organs - 81% (83%) - superior]

[Veins - 80% (81%) - superior]

[Kleopatra]

[Battle power: 70 (92)]

[Skin - 42%(58%) - average]

[Flesh - 36% (55%) - average]

[Muscle - 41%(59%) - average]

[Organs - 43% (63%) - average]

[Veins - 40% (62%) - average]

When Klea came out of her cauldron, the girl's skin glistened beautifully under the light. She had received a total of thirty percent improvement in her overall physical quality, and so it was not surprising that the girl felt much stronger than before.

"Thank you, Master Dulin," said Klea sincerely. In fact, she was so happy that she hugged the dwarf master and gave a kiss on the latter's forehead.

Now that their business was over, the couple walked out of the tempering facility with renewed vigor and made their way back to the spirit cave.

When they arrived, Emery was confused to see Klea suddenly giggling by herself.

"What's wrong, Klea?" He asked worriedly.

Not immediately answering, the girl took out a bottle of liquid, and as she gave it to Emery, saying, "This is the main reason I get myself a tempering as well."

When Emery opened the bottle and smelled the liquid inside, he quickly realized what it was. He looked at the girl with a surprised look, which made the girl giggle once more. The liquid was actually Master Dulin's Heavenly Body Tempering potion.

Turning his eyes, Emery looked at the girl's cheeky smile with a mixed feeling.

Chapter 1057 Recreate

When he realized that the bottle containing black liquid was Master Dulin's secret body tempering potion, Emery was stunned speechless. For a moment, he was at a loss for words.

The girl was so excited by her feat and said, "I know you have that fragmentation spell, and with your talent, I'm sure that soon enough you will be able to recreate the recipe.."

Seeing the girl's apparent enthusiasm, Emery was reluctant to say what he really felt. But in the end, he decided to just honestly say what was in his mind.

"Klea..this is great. It truly is... But...I can't do it." Seeing the girl's enthusiasm subside as fast as a winter fire, he heaved a sigh. "I am sorry...but this is wrong. I can't do this..."

The girl was stunned for a second. It seemed that in her excitement she momentarily forgot what kind of person Emery was, and it was only now hearing his words that she finally came to her senses. Realizing her mistake, she quickly opened her mouth.

"Emery... listen... I understand if you think this is wrong... but think about what this would mean... not just for you... I mean.. imagine how strong Thrax would be if he got a privilege like this.. you remember how Julian can beat him in the last sparring, right?.. and Chumo!"

Emery didn't say anything. He just heaved another deep sigh and seeing that Klea continued her explanation slowly.

"Emery, I hate to say this but we need this.. Think how Earth will be if you mass produce this... think about the duel... the calamity!."

What Klea said was true. In the past, Master Dulin had personally told him that most, if not all humans on Earth possessed very low genetics. Hence the same reason as to why the body tempering art was so beneficial for Emery the first time around. But deep within, Emery vehemently rejected the idea. It was wrong.

He could easily reject the idea, but looking at the face of the girl standing in front of him, words of rejection seemed to be stuck in his throat. In the end, Emery heaved another deep sigh, rubbed his temple, and said, "..Give me some time to think about it."

The answer was unsatisfactory for Klea, but she restrained her emotion as she said "If I can do what you can do, Emery... I will definitely do it without hesitation. You are talented, Emery, and we need you.. Please reconsider."

Seeing Emery was silent, Klea stared at him for a few seconds before going back to her training. As she left him alone, Emery turned his eyes to the bottle on the table as his mind fell into deep contemplation.

He tried to justify it with how he tried to recreate the wolf booster last time, but it seems the fact that the potion was stolen and it was indeed a secret potion, bothered him.

It wasn't wrong to say that he wanted what Klea wanted. Indeed, he desired it. However, he knew that if he couldn't put his entire heart into the matter, he wouldn't be able to recreate the potion.

When the next morning arrived, Klea came over to him once more, her expression looked troubled as she said, "I'm sorry, Emery. I truly do. But it's been bothering my mind all night... I... I don't know.. Have you thought—"

Emery interrupted her words. Taking and holding her hands in his, a complicated expression on his face as he said, "I'm sorry Klea. I know that we need this, very much so... but I don't think this is the way.."

Klea's face changed and she seemed to want to say something. But before she could do so, Emery held her hand tighter because he wasn't done yet.

"So I decided that I would make my own tempering potion."

Klea was shook, surprised by the unexpected declaration. But then, a troubled look appeared on her face as she expressed what she thought with mixed feelings.

"Emery, even if I don't know much about apothecary, I know that this is not something simple.. Otherwise, it won't be restricted and given access only to a select few."

Emery heaved a sigh as he also knew what she said was true. Still, he gathered his will and said, "Like you said before, I am a talented person, am I not? Don't worry, I can do it. No, I will definitely make it."

Looking at her clear concern over his confidence, Emery took out two pieces of notes and handed them to her. When she received and looked at them, Klea didn't know what to say.

"This.. this..."

The two notes were those of their harvesting task. One was they had finished while the other was the one they would have to gather for next month.

"I contemplated your advice and decided to be smart about it. Stealing recipes outright is wrong, but these notes are the main ingredients used to make one. Most importantly, they were given to me willingly." Pausing for a moment, Emery said with conviction. "I believe that given time I can use them as reference for my own body tempering potion recipe."

Such words spoken by Emery with great determination instantly stunned Klea.

She picked up the bottle of black liquid on the table and cast a spell to burn it into thin air before saying, "You are a fool – a massive one, but... this is why I love you."

Before Emery could say anything, the girl leaned forward and kissed him. Their lips remained connected for a while until she broke away and said,

"Remember this.. I don't want the cheap kind. I only accept the same or better quality one, you hear me?"

Emery smiled wryly in response to such words. Even if he disassembled the original recipe, it would be very hard to recreate the same quality one. Now, he needed to make a better one to satisfy the person standing before him.

However, he knew better than to say no now. Hence, Emery simply nodded and said,

"I'll do my very best."

The girl was visibly happy, "That's my man," and gave a kiss once more.

Unfortunately for the lovebirds, their passion for each other was suddenly interrupted by a message that entered Emery's privileged class bracelet. Seeing the untimely timing, Klea couldn't help but squint her eyes at Emery.

"Let's hope the message isn't from another girl. Otherwise..."

Klea tugged at Emery's arm, and when she saw the name that popped on the bracelet, an annoyed expression appeared on her face.

"Hah.. it seems that one of your lovers misses you."

Emery chuckled nervously hearing such words. "What lover..? It can't be.." He quickly checked the message.

[Emery are you dead?! It's been 2 months since the mid-test and we are wondering if you will ever try to fight your way into the top 5?. Tomorrow is the monthly arena. Drop by and come see us fight. - Annara and Mister Cyborg]

Chapter 1058 Challenge

"So... are you going to see your new friend or will you go to compete as well?" asked Klea in a teasing tone as soon as she read the message.

Her eyes slowly narrowed when there was no immediate response from the other side, but fortunately, Emery only needed a second to think of an answer and say it with determination.

"I will go to compete."

Since returning to Hyperion planet, Emery had been waiting for the time he would be able to challenge the top 10 privileged acolytes. And now that he had just made another breakthrough in his cultivation, coupled with the recent body tempering, he had no reason not to go.

Moreover, it was as if both his body and mind wanted to fight, to release the pent-up frustration they had accumulated throughout the past few days.

With that thought in mind, Emery accessed his privilege bracelet to see the privilege ranking data.

[Emery Ambrose]

[Privileged acolyte member ID: 83192008]

[Privilege Ranking - Rank 9]

[Test Ranking - Rank 5]

With his current ranking, Emery was able to forcefully challenge four names whose ranking was below his test rank. The only thing he needed to do was choose a name, and because tomorrow would be the day of the monthly arena, the ones who were chosen were forced to come otherwise they would lose their rank to him.

[Rank 5 - Shatter Cross]

[Rank 6 - Anzi Tamasi]

[Rank 7 - Jai Strider]

[Rank 8 - Tyler Haze]

"Which one do you want to challenge?"

Hearing Klea's question, Emery looked at the list of four names and fell into contemplation. Then, when he thought about the strength of Zetto the Titan bloodline who was ranked 11th and Zach who was ranked 4th, he couldn't help but say his inner feelings.

"I want to fight all of them. One by one."

A gasping sound rang out from the side. "That's my man..." Klea said "Unfortunately, you can't do that."

Klea reminded Emery that not only could he send out one challenge at a time, these acolytes were the top 10 acolytes of the privileged class, meaning they were comparable if not stronger than himself. Challenging them in one go not only would put him at a great disadvantage but would also bring him unnecessary harm.

To put it simply, what Emery had just said was pure recklessness.

Therefore, Emery's best way to deal with this matter was to send the challenge to the rank 8 Tyler Haze and fight him tomorrow in the arena. As for the others, they should be challenged at another time.

Hearing Klea's reasonable proposal, Emery nodded in agreement and once again accessed his bracelet, sending the challenge as discussed.

[You have challenged Rank 8 - Tyler Haze]

Unexpectedly, just a minute after Emery sent his challenge, the answer from the other side arrived.

[Tyler Haze - Rank 8 has accepted your challenge]

"That's it. All settled," said Emery in a casual manner.

Klea however asked with a smile "So what are you going to do now?"

Emery was slightly confused by her question and asked in return. "What's wrong? Do you need something?"

Klea chuckled and said, "No silly. What I mean is you!. Tomorrow you are going to fight one of the geniuses of the Magus Alliance. Aren't you going to prepare something to ensure your victory?"

Emery scratched his cheek as he fell into thought. "Well... there's not much I can do in one day. Or.. should I rest instead?"

Hearing such an answer, Klea turned irritated saying, "Huh! This is why you couldn't beat that dragon Zach, silly! Give me an hour... Meanwhile, You can go to rest if you want!"

After saying those words, Klea took out an apple-sized dark cube from her spatial ring; it looked similar to the one provided in the academy residence. Ignoring Emery who was puzzled by her fiery reply, she was busy accessing some information.

An hour later, Emery was once again acknowledged by Klea, who proceeded to show him some visuals. Although he was still confused by her actions, Emery obediently saw what was shown to him.

"This is the person you will be fighting tomorrow!" Klea said, to which Emery finally came to a realization.

[Tyler Haze]

[Battle power: 185]

[Spirit force: 1000]

[Wind Spirit: 5 Pillar]

[Ice Spirit: 4 Pillar]

[Remark: Dual dagger Master, specialized in body enhancer spell]

There were also a few notes on the person's historical battle.

Seeing the data, Emery was surprised and asked, "How did you get this?"

When Klea saw the look of utter astonishment on her boyfriend's face, she slightly puffed out her chest and explained. "I compiled this from many sources such as news, forums, gossip and other similar things. With so many references used for cross-checking, this data should be fairly accurate."

She added that with more time, she would even be able to figure out the exact type of spells his opponent had and use as well as identify their weaknesses.

Emery was inwardly bedazzled by how brilliant the girl in front of him was. After all, for those who came from the lower world, most of these things were something that was not easy to follow.

Unaware of Emery's thoughts about her, Klea continued.

"Now that you know he's someone who wields dual daggers, I think you should spend the next few hours training with the combat puppets."

She then gave Emery the schedule for the day that she had just prepared for him, from weapons training to lessons on the wind and ice elements she had an affinity for. All in order to prepare Emery for tomorrow's fight.

Emery couldn't help but think that this was the real way to handle a duel, something that he had never really done before. Therefore, he felt very grateful to Klea who was clearly trying hard to help him in this matter.

Seeing Emery's facial expression, Klea smiled and said, "Don't worry, Emery. With me by your side, you don't even have to worry about that dragon boy anymore. I will make sure you become the number one acolyte!"

Emery was certainly happy hearing her say the word with such confidence. However, a piece of memory surfaced in Emery's mind.

Those same words were said by that person and made him think about her.

"What's the matter, Emery?" the girl asked, noticing his changing expression.

"Hmm, nothing." Shaking his head, he said, "Let's start the training."

Emery quickly emptied his mind and focused his attention on the girl in front of him, following her training schedule to the tee.

The next day, he came to the arena prepared.

Chapter 1059 Arena

When Emery arrived at the Hyperion Center Arena, he was surprised to find a place that seemed to be packed with more spectators than usual. It was still only half full, but there were definitely more people than at the start of the year.

Emery was accompanied by the two people he had been with for the past few days – Klea and Magus Shena. Their appearances, especially the latter, caused many pairs of eyes to turn in their direction.

Ignoring the muttering and discussion going on around them, Emery cast his gaze to find someone.

It didn't take long for him to find the person he was looking for because the other party waved their hand at him. Without further ado, he walked over to the section of the arena where a female figure could be seen sitting while the magus decided to watch somewhere else.

"Here! Come here!" called Annara rather loudly, waving her hand in the air.

Looking at the couple, the red-haired Bat bloodline had a mischievous smile on her face as she looked at Emery. "No wonder there's no news about you.. I see what you've been busy doing these past few days." She said, throwing a cheeky grin at Klea.

Klea stepped forward and glared at the red-haired girl saying, "What's your deal? Can't find a man for yourself?" She scoffed. "Stop teasing mine!"

Hearing such words, Annara only chuckled before saying, "Calm down, girl. Come, sit here with me."

Emery couldn't help but smile wryly at the interaction between the two, especially when he realized he was being stared at by the top privileged class acolytes sitting around them.

Those he recognized from these people were the half-machine acolyte Atlas and the Demon Nunchaku Dyoo, the latter of whom were staring at him with a somewhat fierce gaze.

Emery couldn't help but wonder what was the reason for the hostility the latter directed at him. He was pretty sure that he didn't do anything unbecoming towards the young man.

Unfortunately, he didn't have a chance to ponder it because Annara suddenly shouted, her finger pointing at the arena.

"There, your Harlight friend is entering the arena."

Just like before, the monthly arena started with those with the lowest rank. Therefore there was actually still time before Emery's name was called to the arena.

Right now, Roran was in the arena battling an acolyte who was twice his size. The opponent was definitely someone with exceptional battle power seeing how the Harlight protégé kept getting pushed around.

Alas, battle power alone was less than adequate to defeat Roran.

With the latter's cautious and steady fighting style coupled with a light energy sword, despite being overwhelmed, he managed to stay on his ground while at the same time gradually exhausting his opponent's condition. In the end, victory landed in the hands of the Harlight Faction Prince.

It shouldn't be a fight that drained his strength, yet Roran didn't try to fight anymore to increase his ranking. Therefore he stopped at the rank of the person he had just defeated – Rank 75.

Her eyes staring at Roran who was walking down from the arena, Klea opened her mouth. "He's a tricky one, isn't he?" to which Annara answered, "Yes.. He's very cautious but .. too boring"

After Roran's fight, there were several other fights that took place since everyone was trying to climb up the leaderboard and gain more resources. The one Emery recognized that caught his eye was the fight between YunXiao and Xiao Ling.

As the two of them practiced a similar discipline that was Dragon style, with the difference being one wielded a spear and a water element acolyte while the other wielded a one-edge sword and an ice element acolyte, Emery was quite curious as to what would happen if they clashed.

The fight between the two was quite an extraordinary spectacle, with multiple dragon-shaped aura attacks manifesting and clashing against one another. Powerful gusts of wind rocked the entire arena as they battled it out.

Xiao Ling tried her best, but in the end, YunXiao was able to defend his Rank 44.

After a few more fights, a familiar name was called by the referee in the arena.

"Annara Vermont"

The red-haired girl stood up from her seat and Emery cheered her on. "Good luck, Annara."

She replied with a smile before saying, "I wonder which one you will support more between the two of us, a real half-blood or someone like me."

At first, Emery was confused as to what the red-haired girl meant. However, he quickly understood when he saw the opponent she was facing. Annara had challenged another half-blood Vida Themari for Rank 26 the latter had.

It was quite a surprising revelation for Emery as he remembered that Annara was in the 40-ish rank two months ago. It seemed that the red-haired girl had been working hard since their separation.

The moment the referee announced the start, the two quickly used their bloodline transformation. But compared to the bird of prey Vida's transformation that appeared to be full-scale armor with a pair of razor-sharp wings on her back, Annara's transformation only consisted of her skin turning pale and eyes turning blood red. She was underwhelming, to say the least.

Seeing the stark difference between the two, Klea couldn't help but say, "She... her bloodline, the girl doesn't depend much on her bloodline isn't she?"

Emery nodded his head. He knew because Annara had told him in the past that she was born in a family with less line of bloodline and more humans making some complex situations for her.

When Emery explained Annara's situation to Klea, Dyoo who was sitting nearby interjected into the conversation. "Did she tell you that? I didn't realize you two were that close. There are not many who know about this in the academy."

After hearing the Demon Nunchaku's words, Klea turned to Emery, not saying anything. A dark smile was on her face as she quietly pinched Emery hard on his thigh, causing his body to tremble for a moment.

The fight between Annara and Vida lasted quite a while. Like a tug of war, the flow switched hands many times throughout the fight. It was to the point that even Emery himself wasn't sure who would win.

At the last minute, when Annara looked cornered and on the verge of losing, Emery could have sworn that the red-haired girl glanced at him before suddenly making a sudden attack with a secret weapon, which was the catalyst of Vida's defeat.

Even though she was quite injured from the fight, the red-haired girl seemed to refuse to go to the medical center. Instead, he walked back to where she had been sitting earlier.

"Annara, you should go to the medical center. Your wound looks pretty bad," Emery said in a concerned tone, to which she replied, "You have pretty decent healing spells, right? You can help me instead."

Turning to Klea with a smile, Annara said, "Of course, if your girlfriend is fine with it."

Klea quickly stood up from her seat. There was neither anger nor irritation on her face as she approached the red-haired girl. In fact, she lowered her body slightly and began to heal the wounds herself.

Annara simply chuckled at her actions. Afterward, she turned to the half-machine acolyte who had been silent ever since and said, "Besides, I can't miss seeing what is coming next."

As if responding to her words, the next name to be called was the half-machine acolyte's name – Atlas III. As for the one he would be fighting against, it was Zetto and their fight will contest the 11th rank which was just two ranks below Emery.

Knowing it was finally his turn, Atlas calmly stood up from his seat and walked toward the arena.

Chapter 1060 Upgrade

The fight between Atlas against Zetto began swiftly.

"ARGHHH!!"

The Titan bloodline possessor whose body was twice as large as Atlas raised the two battle axes in his hands into the air and shouted a battle cry before charging forward, creating a powerful tremor that shook the arena.

Seeing such a move from Zetto, Emery noticed Atlas' feet seemed to be slightly opened up before a bright light appeared. What followed right after was the sight of the half-machine acolyte disappearing, as he dodged the Titan's charge with lightning-like speed.

His opponent of course wouldn't let him escape so easily.

Knowing his initial attack missed, Zetto swiftly used his technique to chase after the half-machine acolyte. A stomp on the arena floor, and his figure shot towards where the latter reappeared.

Atlas however was able to escape the follow-up attacks, quite easily in fact. The Titan didn't manage to touch, much less injure him. The half-machine acolyte clearly displayed his superiority in speed over his opponent.

After knowing his opponent's speed was inferior to his, Atlas finally started his assault. He began firing destructive energy orbs from his palms continuously. Almost all of the orbs hit, forcing the titan to use his special battle arts.

[Berserker Fury]

Wisps of smoke came out of the Titan's body as he unleashed his inner fury. Brandishing the two battle axes, his form streaked across the arena and appeared right before his opponent. Atlas felt his vision darken as a huge ax descended upon him with such force that it cleaved through the air.

If that wasn't bad enough, his calculations told him that he wouldn't be able to escape this attack with speed alone. Rather, he couldn't escape even if he wanted to because it was already too late.

Atlas quickly fortified his footing and raised both his hands up in a parry motion. At the same time, a certain part of both his elbows was slightly opened up and the same bright light that his legs had emitted earlier appeared. The next second, the ax strike connected.

CLLANKKKK!!!

Shockingly, Atlas managed to block Zetto's powerful attack with the high-tier metal that built within his arm. He was even able to push the ax back.

Taking advantage of the opening he had created, Atlas swiftly dashed in and threw a punch with powerful force.

BOOM!!!

The Titan's feet skidded across the ground as he was pushed back a few steps.

Emery was impressed by how Atlas managed to receive and also deliver such a blow as he knew personally how powerful Titan's attacks were.

Annara who sat next to him opened her mouth when she saw his expression. "Impressed, aren't you? Atlas has done a few more upgrades to his body since midtest"

She explained how Atlas spent all the contribution points he had on upgrading his body with Tier 5 metals. The half-machine acolyte also managed to integrate his core into his elbows and legs more efficiently, allowing his lightning and fire element to provide a powerful boost to his hand-to-hand combat, not just ranged attacks.

Klea joined the conversation by saying, "It must have been a painful and gruesome upgrade."

Annara nodded slightly, then looked towards Emery and said, "It's all because of you, you know."

Emery was taken aback by those unexpected words. He was at a loss for words for a moment before asking why.

"Do you really not know or pretend to not know? You, a lower realm nobody, able to rise to where you are now.." Turning her eyes to the arena, the red-haired girl continued, "It... inspired him."

Upon hearing that, Diyoo chuckled. "Hahaha.. Sounds like a familiar story," laughing at Annara.

"Shut up you Dyoo!" The red-haired girl cursed.

On the other hand, Klea was smiling and said, "I know that feeling.." Glancing at the stunned Emery, she continued, "He does have that kind of influence on people."

The fight lasted for another hour, causing everyone who knew Atlas to be surprised. They came expecting that the half-machine acolyte would use his usual tactic of long-range attack while taking advantage of his agility.

However, Atlas chose to exclusively fight in close combat. While doing so, he also demonstrated what could only be described as a true integration between technology and magic.

Facing the ingenuity of the half-machine acolyte, the Titan bloodline finally admit defeat.

"Atlas won!"

Emery as well as the people in the arena cheered for Atlas' victory over Zeeto.

However, it seemed that Atlas had not finished yet as he was still standing in the arena. Apparently, he came prepared as one figure was ready to challenge him next and it was someone Emery knew well. The child-looking acolyte, Arcana.

Stepping to the arena, Arcana wore his haughty expression like always. Especially when he saw Atlas' current condition, which could be said to be heavily damaged from all of the Titan's attacks earlier.

Atlas was given a ten-minute break by the referee, but he didn't seem interested in prolonging his stay here as he quickly signaled to start the fight. After confirming once again to the half-machine acolyte, the referee immediately announced the start of the duel.

The duel between the two was unexpectedly a short one, as Arcana's strongest weapon [Eye of Mistra] couldn't affect Atlas' mind. His computerized brain possessed major, if not absolute, resistance to mind-type attacks. This fact quickly made Arcana lose his arrogant expression and turn pale, and in the end he lost his Rank 10 to the half-machine acolyte.

The crowd cheered again as they saw a new name on the top 10 ranking, Atlas III.

Atlas, however, didn't immediately leave after the referee announced his win. He was still standing in the arena. His glance focused on a figure that was currently sitting in the corner of the arena. A certain golden-haired young man. Eeshoo Nephilim.

There was an unspoken message when the two eyes met. After that, Atlas turned around and walked out of the arena. Returning to where Emery and the others were, he sat on the seat behind Emery and whispered, "You are next."

Emery smiled and said calmly, "Chase me up then," before standing up from his seat.

Annara quickly turn excited "Aaa, you are fighting too! We got another interesting show to see!"

On cue, the referee called Emery's name. Then, his opponent's name was also called.

[Rank 8 - Tyler Haze]

The man who arrived at the arena and stood before him had long white hair, a thin body, and pale skin, making him look more like a girl than a boy. However, the gaze he gave was sharp like a dagger.

"Fight starts!"

