

## Earths GMagus 301

### Chapter 301: Back Again

The moment Emery opened his eyes, he found himself lying on a lush grass bed, facing the blue majestic sky. Hearing the birds chirping and seeing verdant leaves falling slowly to the ground. He could not help but let out a faint smile. It was a familiar yet unfamiliar sight, one that was far different from all the marvel of the Academy.

Slowly getting up into a sitting position, Emery stretched his body and felt the gentle breeze caressing his skin all over.

"I have returned, haven't I?" murmured Emery, as his eyes wandered around, trying to find out where he was currently.

Emery took a deep breath, enjoyed the gentle sunlight, admiring the beautiful nature and smelling the fragrant grass. He said to himself with a smile, "I am home."

He gradually got up to his feet and finally realized he was standing just next to a horse trail.

It had been three months, but he could quickly recognize this was the exact spot where he chased the cart that took Morgana away. Remembering that, Emery subconsciously clenched his fist.

He began to scour through his memories, trying to recall what had happened at that time.

The last time before he left, Emery just received a quest from one of the three guardians of Lionhart Kingdom, Sir Badgemagus to eradicate the Crimson Fang bandit that had been plundering and wreaking havoc in the kingdom territory.

Right after the bandit group was routed, the situation turned ugly as Emery ended up killing the old knight and his men. Afterwards, he went ahead and chased the cart that took Morgana before eventually arriving at this spot.

Things had begun coming back to Emery. The last three months, the Magus Games and all the intrigue of the Magus Universe really occupied his mind. He finally knew the big picture outside planet Earth and indirectly felt burdened by it.

But now that he had returned, Emery had to keep all those problems aside for three years. After all, there was nothing he could do right now, except improving himself as quickly as possible.

Emery knew he had to start making plans for the next three years, however, before he did so, he had to do something first. He began checking the surrounding area to find the two objects that should have come together with him.

One was the leather bag where his old potions and Moon Dagger were stored, while the other was the unassuming special storage box.

Emery carefully opened the box he spent his hard-earned money for. He heaved a sigh of relief when he saw the items inside were still in good conditions. The small black sphere that was the Void Crystal, the Bloodmoon ritual parchment and the tiny little seed; all of them looked the same as the last time he had seen them.

Much to Emery's surprise, not long after he opened the box, the steel box suddenly began to disintegrate into ashes. He was startled and quickly took out all the items before putting them carefully on his old-looking leather bag.

The next thing he had to do was checking his current stats and, most importantly, the severity of the restriction.

Emery focused his mind into the symbol in his palm and the familiar, to be expected notification immediately materialized on top of it.

[Restriction spell has been placed]

[Emery Ambrose]

[Battle Power : 47 (32)]

[Spirit Force : 193 (118)]

[Plant Spirit – Mid-Foundation]

[Water Spirit – Mid-Foundation]

[Earth Spirit – Mid-Foundation]

[Spirit Core of Darkness – Stage 4]

[Fey Bloodline – Rank 3]

[Acolyte Rank: 7]

Emery was quite speechless as he saw the restriction placed on him. Seeing his power decreased for more than one-third was definitely not a pleasant feeling, not at all.

Fortunately, it seemed there were no changes in his cultivation realm. It was apparent the restriction did not change anything about his realm, but only sealed and weakened the power he had.

However, Emery's main concern with this restriction were his spells. Even though it still mentioned he was a Rank 7 acolyte, his spirit force was suppressed to below 150 points, below the requirement for casting Tier 4 spells.

This meant Emery would not be able to cast any Tier 4 spell during his time on Earth, which honestly left a bad taste in his mouth.

To be sure, he went ahead and tried to cast both of his Tier 4 spells, [Dark Matter] and [Jade Skin]. And, as expected, the result completely dissatisfied Emery.

For [Jade Skin], he only managed to make his body covered with the Tier 3 spell [Granite Skin], as it could not transform into the [Jade Skin] spell. As for the [Dark Matter], Emery did not even see a speck of darkness energy materialize above his palm. The spell simply could not form.

Other than those two spells, it appeared all the other spells in his repertoire were still functional, even though they were less powerful than the one he previously casted back at the Academy.

Emery released a long sigh thinking about his current 'pitiful' situation. But then, he remembered that compared to his previous self who could only cast Tier 1 spells, he was far more powerful right now. He was also more skillful in swordsmanship, not forgetting his impressive battle art skill [Immortal Gate].

Emery believes with his current strength, he would not find many threats that could defeat him other than Granny or the High Priestess Lady of the Lake.

Either way, he believed he still had the Dragon, Killgragah as a way to further increase his strength.

"This void crystal is so expensive, I won't let him take it without giving anything in return!"

Now Emery left with his plan. He had three objectives he wanted to complete. The first was to find Morgana, the second was Killgraga and the third was to find Fantumar, the noble who was responsible for the death of his father.

Looking at the horse trails that were splitting to two opposite paths, his choices were heading to where the cart that took Morgana or the other path to return to Venta City.

Unfortunately, Emery had no knowledge about where the cart was going other than the fact that it was heading out of Lionhart Kingdom. The only clue he had was the name of the knight who took Morgana. Sir Keane, Badgemagus's right-hand man.

Therefore, the best choice of action for him right now was to head back to the other path, returning to Venta town. He could go ask for some updated information from Luna Quintin in Venta town, as there was a high possibility that, with Sir Keane surviving, he could be the most wanted criminal for killing one of the three guardians of Lioness Kingdom.

Thinking about how many things were currently on his plate, Emery could not help but curse, "Damn... so many problems to solve..."

When Emery looked back to the two paths, he suddenly became confused. He did not know which one was going north or south. It appeared he was lost.

While Emery was trying to figure out which path was heading to Venta town, his attention was suddenly attracted by a loud sound. It was the sound of horses running through the muddy path.

With his enhanced senses, he could estimate there were at least five horses and from afar, Emery could see they were not simple villagers. In fact, all five people riding the horses looked like fighters or even marauders.

Seeing the incoming group, which probably had a hostile aim, Emery had no intention to hide. Actually, he inwardly thought their timing could not be better. He truly needed something to vent his frustration off and it delivered itself to his hand.

## **Chapter 302: Restrain**

Hiieekkk!!

Horse screeching sound resounded in the air as five horses stopped a few meters in front of Emery, who was scrutinizing them closely.

"Well, well, well... What do we have here?" said one of the people on the horses.

Another one exclaimed, "Wow, from your clothes, I am sure you are a noble or something. Do you have some coins to spare for the poor us?" He finished with a cruel smile.

Before Emery could respond, one more man said, "What do you think, boy? Give up your coins or lose your life here."

Emery scratched his head in bewilderment, thinking this robbery fiasco could not be any more cliché. He threw his gaze across these people and calmly responded, "Just to be sure... You guys are trying to rob me right now, right?"

Upon hearing Emery's questions, the five men looked at each other briefly before exploding into laughter. "Hell... we find ourselves an idiot, boys!"

One of them put on what they thought to be an intimidating face and threatened Emery, "Kid! You should be afraid. We are not your everyday robber, we are the Crimson Fang Marauders!"

Emery clasped his hands together, "Aah! I see... I assume you guys are part of the marauder who ran away from the battle 3 months ago."

The five men turned upset when they heard the mockery in Emery's words, "You are mocking us, kid! We are notorious enough to cause the wrath of a thousand knights that the kingdom has sent to kill us!"

Emery could not hold his laugh as he heard the marauders' words. Seeing the marauder's serious face claiming there were a thousand knights on that day truly became the joke of the day for him.

"More like 30 knights... plus citizens of Venta. Haha, Not even 100 people and they routed your gang in just 10 minutes."

The rough-looking marauders first became shocked when they heard Emery's comment, but it quickly turned to rage.

"How do you know that, kid?!!"

Upon hearing the question, Emery smiled and answered with confidence, "How do I know? Simple. I was there."

The man who stood beside the speaking man nudged him and whispered, "Brother... Come to think again. I think this kid looks kind of familiar..."

Alas, the enraged marauder did not care about his companion's words, he drew his sword out of its sheath and shouted loudly, "There goes your life, kid!"

However, before the horse the man was on could move even one step, multiple darkish roots abruptly emerged from the ground and swiftly inched towards all five riders.

The five marauders were shocked when they saw the roots immobilizing their horses and began wrapping on their hands and feets, immobilizing them as well.

"Brother! He's that wizar- ARGH!"

Without even a sliver chance of resisting, all five marauders were simultaneously caught and bounded by the roots. They crawled all over their bodies and faces, making them unable to speak.

Immediately after, the five were helplessly being flung off their horses and pummeled to the ground by Emery's [Shadow Binding Root] spell, their bodies firmly stuck on the grass. Emery could hear all of them mumbling something, but he did not care.

He then controlled one of the roots to take all the belongings of the marauders and gathered them before him. Five bags were placed in front of him and Emery squatted down to check what was inside. As he rummaged through the bags, he began picking up what he liked.

"Coin... coin... Oh, a sword! Nice!" murmured Emery as he went through the bags' content.

"Ropes could be useful... I'll take them too."

"What's with this stale bread...?"

"A rock?"

The marauders could only helplessly watch as Emery chose what he liked and put it in his bag. Their victim turned into the robber. It was kinda ironic to see.

As he looted the marauders, his mind wandered to the time when he ran away scared shitless seeing these marauders. But now, he only needs to lift a finger to defeat them. The thought of that strangely brought a smile on Emery's face.

After a while, Emery finally stopped and turned his gaze towards the bound marauders, or at least that was what they thought. They then realized Emery was looking past them, more precisely, the horses.

"Well, thank you very much for the horses."

Emery walked past the marauders and climbed onto one of the horses. Looking at the five struggling men, he asked, "Which way is Venta City?"

The traumatized marauders were too scared to lie to what they now thought as the incarnation of the devil. They immediately gestured through their body, pointing towards a path.

Looking at the one they pointed, Emery turned to them and asked, "Thank you."

As Emery was about to leave, the five started making a ruckus, struggling, mumbling, muttering incomprehensible words. Hoping for Emery to release them.

Seeing that, instead of doing exactly what they wanted, Emery raised his hand and all the roots that bound their body contracted, tying them even harder.

"You all lowlifes actually deserve to die."

Emery thought about how these people are not just common thieves, they are a band of murderers, it slightly comes to his mind to kill these people, but he needs to have more restrained on his power. He cannot just kill around people because he can.

"I will give you all a chance to live. If your luck is good, some kind hearted travelers will probably save you. But if not, then you all know what is coming. Either you all starve to death or die killed by wild beasts"

Upon hearing that, the five marauders panicked and tried their best to break free, but to no avail.

As for Emery, he paid them no further heed and went for a ride towards Venta City.

Crossing through the familiar path, Emery reminisced about the time he ran as fast as he could, chasing the cart that took Morgana. Remembering the last look he saw from her, he subconsciously gritted his teeth. He was distressed by his inability to save her at that time.

Emery continued his journey, spending nearly half a day on top of the horse. Fortunately, he managed to arrive in the bustling, crowded trading hub town before the night arrived.

Even though the sky was almost completely covered by darkness, the streets of the town were still full of traffic. People came in and out of the town with bags and carts, creating a lively spectacle.

Emery got off his horse and took the reins as he led it across the main street. The first place he headed the moment he arrived was actually the pig pie vendor, which brought him the memory of his first time coming to the town.

The moment he took a bite of the familiar pie, Emery once again recalled Morgana, the person he had previously shared it with. Remembering the smile she showed to him at that time caused Emery to let out a sad smile.

"I really hope you are safe."

Emery gave a long sigh and headed towards the Quintin mansion.

### **Chapter 303: Friend**

The sun had started to dip to the edge of the west, painting the skies in beautiful red and orange shades. Emery stood in front of the massive gates leading to the Quintin Family Estate and peered inside from in-between the gaps.

He saw that a crowd had gathered, each carrying torches, while shouting in contempt. It appeared they did not come as guests.

Emery decided to use his [Hide in Shadows] spell and walked closer. He took each step carefully, ensuring the grass did not seem disturbed as he walked.

Luna Quintin, the beautiful woman with curly blonde hair, stood in front of the enraged crowd. Next to her, Kastan stood still, his stance vigilant and his face devoid of expression.

As usual, each word from the woman dripped charm and charisma. She commanded attention with her every gesture.

Beyond that superficial charm, however, Emery could see she had somehow fallen into a predicament.

"We are the Quintins and our oath will never allow us to break our word. I assure you, all losses you have suffered will be paid in full. As stated by the contract, you will have your money returned by the end of this week."

Some of the crowd walked leisurely out of the estate, each grinning with satisfaction. Others stayed still in need of assurance.

Luna did not seem to be dejected or angry, she merely attended and listened to the crowd's plight. With time, the crowd fully dispersed, each accepting Luna's words.

After the crowd was finally gone, Emery emerged from the darkness concealing his form.

The sudden appearance of someone at night made the guards stand ready, their hands holding the handle of the swords nested in their scabbards. Kastan narrowed his eyes and prepared to strike.

Emery walked closer, allowing his face to be illuminated under the light of the torches.

"Master Merlin, it's you." Kastan greeted.

Hearing Merlin's name, Luna smiled in excitement, approached him with joyful steps and said.

"Merlin, finally you have returned."

"Hi, Luna. It's nice to see you again, too." Emery replied.

"Come... Come inside, Master Merlin. Let us have dinner together."

Luna escorted Emery to the luxurious dining room with the long table and ordered one of her servants to fetch some food for them. They returned with trays of meat and vegetables, each with their own divine aroma blending together.

Even though they had interacted a few times, the way Luna treated him still felt unusual.

They sat across each other and Emery diffused the silence by asking.

"How is your father, Luna? Is he getting better?"

"Yes, he is, Merlin. Thank you for asking. He returned back to health thanks to your help. We will always be indebted to you." Luna said solemnly.

In response, Emery gave her a slight frown.

"Luna, Not everything has to be considered a debt... I thought we were friends already."

"Ah, right..." Luna looked away from him. "I am sorry, Merlin... Yes, you are right, we are friends, but..." Luna looked back at him and gave him a wide, teasing smile. "As a friend, it seems I know nothing about you, Merlin. You really are an enigma."

Emery calmly replied, "Well... What do you want to know?". Emery took a bite of roasted meat and bit a little piece.

Hearing Emery's response, Luna got excited.

"Ok... From the way you carry yourself and your actions. I know you must be a noble, or at least related to one. However, no matter how many times I checked your name, there is no noble with the name 'Merlin' in the Lioness Kingdom."

Emery took another bite of his food and said. "Maybe I am a noble from another kingdom... Have you considered that?"

"Really?" Luna stared at him in curiosity. "Are you...?"

Emery stared at her for a moment and shook his head. "No. I am a Lioness citizen indeed."

Emery seemed less worried about showing his identity than before... he had no idea why, but since his return to Earth, he felt more confident than before.

Perhaps, seeing things like battles between powerful magus, a dragon half-blood fighter and a battlestar-class ship being blown to pieces made him less afraid of the current world he's facing now.

But he still wasn't ready to reveal everything about himself to the woman in front of him. The woman he considered as a 'friend'.

"That's it? No explanation?... Merlin, are you trying to be mysterious?"

Emery only gave a toothy grin as his answer and continued eating.

"Hahaha, I can understand. Then, I won't pry again" Luna smiled.

"Thank you, Luna." Emery replied and returned the smile.

Luna called for a servant to pour some wine in her glass, stared at the sloshing purple liquid for a bit and took a sip before asking.

"So, Merlin... What brings you here? Let me guess... Does this have anything to do with the death of Sir Bagdemagus?"

Hearing her word, Emery placed his cutlery on the table and replied.

"Yes, in fact, it is. Please, tell me what you know about it." Emery said.

"The rumor spread was that the knight Anvil was killed by the remnants of the Crimson Fang marauders, but from my sources, I knew the old knight was killed by what appeared to be a wild animal. However, what was strange was the lack of investigation being carried afterward. The death of such an important figure quieted down in just a few weeks, with no visible effort being made in the investigation... Isn't it strange?"

Emery agreed, it was strange. Sir Keane had escaped, the people behind the old knight would also have known Emery's involvement with his death... The more he thought about it, the more he believed they already knew about him, so there was neither need for investigation nor the need to make big news out of it. The people responsible must be planning something for him

"So, does anyone know who killed him? Any suspects?" Emery asked.



Luna shook her head. "No, the investigation was closed already and the official sources say his death was caused by a wild animal, but..." Luna grinned again. "Though I have no proof, I personally think.... it was you Merlin... you were the one who killed him, didn't you, Merlin?"

Emery returned the grin with a mischievous smile on his own.

"What if I say I did?"

### **Chapter 304: Quintin's Proposal**

Sir Bagdemagus, the Knight of Anvil and one of the three well-known guardians of the Lioness Kingdom. In short, he was one of the three most influential knights to exist in this kingdom.

The old knight not only possessed power and influence, he was also a respected figure known for his ferocity while defending the kingdom's territory. Were it not for his involvement with the death of Emery's father, probably Emery himself would follow the man.

At the moment Emery was interested in what Luna Quintin would think if she knew that he did kill the famous knight.

"What if I did?" Emery asked with a serious tone.

Luna's grin did not disappear, she simply nodded and asked. "Well, I am sure you had your own reasons, Merlin. I had no personal quarrel with the old knight, nor did I have any good relationship with him. So, I have no particular interest in his death. But you Merlin, you are my friend. Honestly, If you are involved with the knight's death, then it involves me as well. Tell me if you are in trouble and I will assist you however I can."

Emery was stunned into silence. He was quite surprised by her answer.

The thought, to tell the truth, did cross Emery's mind. Although Emery knew from her glance, the smart woman already knew the answer to the question. But Emery had no plan to explain more details about it as for her to know further means he has to tell her everything about him.

At least not at the moment where there are still too many unknowns.

"Thank you, Luna" Emery gave her a small, genuine smile "and... unfortunately, yes I am involved, but at the moment I can't share too much information about it. Hope you understand"

"I see... but I hope if it gets more problematic, you will tell me and let me help you."

"Actually I do need your help about this matter"

Hearing this offer, Emery didn't hesitate to ask Luna to find out the whereabouts of the silver knight named Keane. By finding the knight, Emery hoped he could find more clues about this matter and also news about Morgana.

Afterward, continuing to take bites of the food, Emery asked Luna about the incident that had happened right outside her estate.

"Ah... That, yeah. It was that pig Fantumar!. That's the result of one of his plots."

Fantumar yet again. The name really annoyed Emery at this point, as the greedy noble and his family seemed to crop up everywhere to cause problems, and especially for him this noble was the one responsible for his father's death.

"Yeah, Merlin. basically after we found out the bastard did really poison my father, the Quintins' faced a few more difficulties with our business"

Luna then explained about the Quintins' business and how its strength lies within their connections with other countries outside of Briton. Thanks to this network, they always had a way to find better products with more competitive prices, leaving their main challenge to delivering products without any harm coming to them. In order to offset the costs of this, the Quintins had to expand their services, so they offered a service to deliver the products of other merchants as well.

The mutually beneficial relationship between the Quintins and the other merchants continued undisturbed for a few years, until the second highest ranking noble of Lioness Kingdom decided to cause trouble, disturbing the Quintins' distribution network.

"Yeah, he used his power to cause trouble during distribution, now even competitors have started to make trouble with us, and friends start to lose trust. This leads to what you saw earlier. Thanks to that, we suffered many losses." Luna sighed.

"What can I do to help?"

Hearing Emery respond suddenly made the woman's eyes shine in excitement.

"Actually, your involvement would be very helpful, Merlin. The man used a lot of manpower for his dirty deeds. With such a great fighter and magician on my side, I'm sure these people would think twice before causing trouble again"

Emery did wish to help, However, right as he was about to accept, he hesitated. "What kind of things do you need me to do?"

"About that... Even though I said I needed more manpower, I know you must be very busy right now... I was thinking about appointing you as... the benefactor of the family. With a wizard such as you as our benefactor, I am sure it will go a long way... What do you think, Merlin? Can you accept my request?" Luna asked. Though her expression still seemed confident, Emery was able to see her gaze waver for a second.

Emery was honestly honored by the offer. One of the biggest merchants in the kingdom wanted him to be their benefactor.

Luna's seriousness tempted him to say yes. But, yet again, the words died in his mouth and doubts crept up on his mind again.

"Luna, one thing you must know, by doing this you don't just have my help and support, but you will also be the target of my enemies. Aren't you afraid of that?"

Emery was probably strong enough to protect himself, but he was not sure he could say the same for Luna

Luna's smile did not falter. She looked at him in the eyes and replied.

"So, you agree?"

The wicked smile made Emery lost his words. Probably he worries too much about this. Emery decided to accept the offer.

"Wonderful! Welcome to the family, Master Merlin."

Looking at the smart women in front of him, Emery honestly thought this could be a start of a wonderful, lifelong partnership between them.

They ate dinner in silence, but their mood had considerably improved. Afterward, Luna showed Emery to the previous guest house for him to spend the night. Luna also ordered several attendants and guards for Emery in case he needed anything.

Before leaving, Luna stared with half-lidded eyes at Emery before flashing another wicked smile. Emery found her usual smile always hid something, be it sinister or merely playful, right under the charm. But this time, it was clear she was planning something.

"Actually Merlin, I shouldn't have asked you to be my benefactor... I kinda regret it," Luna sighed and winked at him.

Emery stared at her with a puzzled expression. "What do you mean, Luna...?"

"I mean... Why did I ask you to be our benefactor, when I could ask you to marry me instead?"

"..."

Emery turned speechless. All his words died in his mouth and right then and there.

"Hahaha master Merlin, of course I'm just kidding, Besides, I am probably too old for your taste, right?" Luna let out a small laugh. "Don't look so disappointed, I am sure you will have your chances with a lot of pretty women." Luna winked.

Emery racked his brain, trying to find a good response for her, but nothing came to mind

"Haha, Good night Merlin." Luna stepped out and peeked out before leaving. "Think about my proposal, will you?"

"... Good Night, Luna."

Emery entered the guest room with a long sigh. He really wished he could learn how to understand women better.

Being inside the same guest house reminded him of Morgana. He seemed impatient to hear news about her. But he knew Luna would need a few days at least to get any news. Therefore tomorrow he plans to go to the Forbidden Forest.

He held the slight hope Morgana had escaped and returned back to the forest with her brethren. He also thought of visiting the High Priestess in order to ask more about the history of the Chrutin. Perhaps, it would shed some light on his current situation and give him a hint on how to solve his problems.

And most importantly Emery had a dragon to visit.

### Chapter 305: Where is she?

The next morning, Emery was woken up from his sound sleep by a piercing light. When he opened his eyes, he was greeted by a shiny, greenish spirit bird that had evidently entered his room through the open window. It was hovering on top of his laying body before it slowly dispersed into specks of light.

Immediately after, the symbol on his hand glowed as a panel emerged from it.

[Emery, how is your first day of return? Did you miss me already? Remember, don't you dare pursue a new girl without my permission! If you do so... ehheh... You can imagine what will happen when I find out. Anyway, I am currently following your advice. So, wish me good luck!]

Emery, who was still in a half-asleep state, subconsciously let out a faint smile when he read the message that was filled with the personality of that person. Magic truly was a wonderful thing. He wished he had a spell that could do a similar thing. Unfortunately, that was not the case.

After rubbing his eyes to wake himself up, Emery got off the bed and took a refreshing bath. He then put on new clothes, one of the many that were prepared by the Quintins before he walked out of the guesthouse.

"You are leaving already, Master Merlin?"

The one asking the question was Kastan, the head guard of the Quintins, who was coincidentally on his walk around the area. From the man, Emery found out Luna was apparently away for some business. Therefore, he proceeded to leave a message he would be going into the forbidden forest.

Upon hearing Emery's words, Kastan slightly bowed his head, "Of course, Master Merlin. I will make sure your message reaches the lady."

Emery wanted to say he would return tonight, but he quickly stopped himself as he was actually not sure about it. He could be held out by the whole crutin villagers because of Morgana, or even worse he might get locked inside the Khaos once again.

He frankly couldn't say anything was certain as anything literally could happen.

An hour later, Emery finally reached the outskirts of the forest.

Sitting on top of the horse and looking at the paths in front of him, Emery was trying to remember which of them would take him to the Felanion Village, as the last thing he wanted to happen was him getting lost inside the forest.

After a while, Emery finally chose the path, albeit hesitantly. Along the way, his mind was completely occupied. He was thinking of the best way to explain to the Crutins about his situation, without telling them about the Magic Academy's recall.

The closer he got to the village, the more worried he became.

The moment he reached the outskirts of the village, Emery suddenly saw three figures coming from the direction of the village, approaching him quickly. Looking at them, he did not need even a second glance to tell who they were.

"Brother Emery!! You are back?!"

A cute high-pitched voice was heard, coming from Glita, the youngest of the group, a white-haired little girl, whose hair was tied into twintails. The twins, Lelith and Lilith, were beside her, as they approached Emery. They were three of the five Fey sisters.

The little girl stopped in front of Emery, looked to the left, right and behind with a curious expression. She then asked, "Where is Sister Morgana?"

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Realizing what Emery said was logical, Lilith quickly nodded her head, "Of course, brother."

The four of them then made their way to the village. Men, women and kids, everyone came out of their houses to welcome Emery. However, he only nodded his head at them as a response.

At the moment, Emery could not think about anything else than to talk about Morgana's situation to the High Priestess or Chief Brennus.

The Fey sisters took Emery to Chief Brennus' hut and, after waiting for a moment, he was called inside.

Emery knew it was his responsibility to tell the truth about what happened to Morgana. Hence, he immediately cut the chase after a simple pleasantry and narrated the entire story. He told him about the battle with the Crimson Fang, the fight with the old knights and the cart that took Morgana away.

Strangely, Throughout the time Emery talked, the old chief didn't say or ask anything. The silence the man showed only made Emery even more worried.

Emery was about to ask the chief when the man suddenly took a long sigh, causing him to quickly retract the words on the tip of his tongue.

"Actually Emery, normally I would not be worried about this matter, as the High Priestess is all-knowing. But the thing is, the High Priestess has been secluding herself in the shrine for a month now."

Hearing the revelation that the High Priestess wasn't present, Emery was stunned, "What's happening, chief?"

"That's the problem, Emery. I also don't know." answered Chief Brennus. "This has never happened before. In my 50 years as the village chief, this is the first time."

Things seemed to be more worrying for Emery.

"But don't worry, Emery. I will try and visit the High Priestess again. She did mention your name before, but no one knows where you were at that time. I am sure she would like to see you, if I tell her you are here."

"For now, I hope you return to your hut and wait for her call."

Emery nodded his head, "Yes, chief. I will. Thank you."

Not long after he returned to his hut, Emery realized there were people gathered outside looking for him. They were the four Fey sisters and also a few of the Akavi warriors. Among them, he could see Cavvi, the strongest among the warriors.

Looking at the inquisitive expression everyone had, Emery knew he could not hide this anymore. Thus, he told them about what had happened.

Emery could clearly see the sisters were very worried, especially Tyra, the oldest of them. However, it was Cavvi who could not accept the situation and became angry.

"Did you say this happened three months ago?! What the hell!!! Where have you been in the last three months you bastard!!!"

### **Chapter 306: Responsibility**

[Restriction Spell activated. You are not allowed to say any information regarding the academy to those who are not part of it.]

As Emery thought, as soon as he had the intention to speak about it, the same force that took him away for three months reacted. The notification filled his mind's eye and not even a word came out of his mouth.

Ah well, it's worth a try. Emery thought, while staring at Cavvi.

His silence was taken as hesitation and Cavvi became even more enraged as his question was not answered. He walked closer to Emery, each step kicking dust around as if to show his rage.

Tyra, the oldest of the fey sisters, tried to restrain him. "Cavvi, stop it! Look, I trust Emery, I'm sure he will say something if he could."

"I know! I demand to know what it is!" Cavvi roared.

Cavvi continued walking towards Emery, stopped in front of him and grabbed the collar of Emery's clothes with both hands.

"I thought you were part of us! Tell us, why do you stand by and let it happen?!"

Emery merely stared at Cavvi, unable to utter even one word. He wished his gaze was enough to at least convey that without any words.

Emery's silence only made Cavvi even more furious.

"Aaaarrggghhhh!"

Cavvi, the bald, muscular guy grabbed Emery's shoulders with both hands and said

"You! Tell me now, or else!" Cavvi screamed, lumbered towards him and raised his fist. The fey sisters followed him, screaming for him to stop.

Meanwhile, Emery did not react. He stayed silent.

Baamm!

One heavy punch hit the side of Emery's face, causing the corner of his lip to bleed

Baamm!

Another hit to his stomach and Emery could feel a little bile beginning to rise in the back of his throat.

Perhaps fueled by anger, the punch sure felt strong. Even though Emery's battle power had increased quite a lot due to his time in the academy, he could still feel Cavvi's punch. However, it was not enough to actually hurt him.

Baamm! Baamm!

Another two punches to the face and Emery's cheek started to swell a little. But he accepted, he didn't move and fully accepted every bit of Cavvi's rage.

He accepted full responsibility for what happened to Morgana. Even though he did tell Morgana not to follow him to the fight, but in the end, her safety was his responsibility. He had failed.

Emery understood Cavvi's rage.

Cavvi was close to Morgana and Emery knew of the guy's unrequited crush. He decided to let Cavvi hit him as much as he wanted.

Some time had passed and Cavvi continued punching him. But the crowd slowly realized Emery didn't really get hurt that much even after several powerful punches. In fact, from the bruises and blood seeping from Cavvi's fingers, the muscular man was also appeared to be hurting as well.

Three months ago, everyone remembered how Cavvi beat the ever-living daylights out of Emery, though it happened in a mockery of their acceptance ritual. They still remembered how Emery was thrown around before managing to finally defeat Cavvi with the power of his fey wolf transformation.

In the span of three months, Emery had managed to become such a different person.

Cavvi raised his bloodied fist and tried to throw another punch. This time, Emery grabbed his fist, staining his own hand with Cavvi's blood.

"That will be enough, Cavvi. I will find her. That, I promise you." Emery said, his voice steady.

Cavvi's anger burned even hotter. He walked away towards one of the Akavi Warriors and took their blade. The blade glinted under the light of the sun.

He approached Emery with the blade raised high, about to slash him down with it. Though Emery still did not react, a shout from somewhere in the crowd stopped him.

"Stop this madness at once!"

Everyone turned to look at the source of the voice and saw Chief Brenus walking towards Emery. Everyone in the crowd parted to make way for him.

"Emery, the High Priestess has agreed to see you. Please, come with me to the shrine."

The crowd parted even wider, letting Chief Brennus lead Emery towards the direction of the shrine.

A small patch of dense forest separated the shrine and the village. Though the path was short and the sun shone bright above, the leaves shielded the ground from the sun, filling the place with shadows and making the glowing mushrooms dotting the place look even starker with their blue glow. Perhaps, this perpetual darkness was why they called this place the Evernight Forest.

The shrine was covered in glowing roots and a blue, clean river, creating a magical image. He passed the small bridge made of roots before finally arriving in front of the huge, majestic tree.

The magnificent view and the aura of authority it spread made Emery want to kneel and worship the mystical tree.

Just like the first time they met, the High Priestess Nimue wore a beautiful dress made of leaves; she stood there, waiting for him under the tree just like before. As for the bear, it appeared to be lying down near the roots of the tree, unmoving.

Though the priestess looked as beautiful as ever, her expression gave away the fact that she was troubled by something.

But as soon as Emery came to see her, she smiled and said. "I... I can't believe it... Your progress in the last three months is amazing."

Emery was shocked. With just one glance, the priestess had seen through him.

"Gaia told me you are special, but I did not realize what she meant... This is good, very good..."

Emery bowed on one knee and spoke. "Dear High Priestess, I have returned to you only to bring concerning news."

Nimue stared at him and tilted her head, wordlessly asking what he meant. After a few seconds, she realized what Emery meant and gave him a smile. "Emery, if you are worrying about Morgana, perish the thought. She is currently under the blessing of Gaia, there's no need for your concern"

"!!!"

It was such surprising news for him. Emery feels part of his burden lifted hearing what the High Priestess said. But then he?reminded of the last time he saw Morgana. The cage that holds the girl and the people who captured her, Emery once again feels doubt about her safety.

"High Priestess, I beg you." Emery kneeled even lower. "If you have any information about her, please tell me."

### **Chapter 307: Vision**

Emery was reminded of the time when he first came to the shrine. Back then, before even meeting him, the Priestess had already discerned his name from her visions. It was likely the High Priestess had the ability to know about what happened to Morgana.



Was the Lady of The Lake someone the academy would call a Diviner? A magus which specialized in the path of divinity. A path of spirit magic which allowed the user to take a glimpse of the future.

As if the High Priestess was able to hear the unspoken question, she gave Emery a small smile as an answer.

"Emery, when you reach my level, you too will be able to feel the existence of your brethren. Remember, no matter how far we are separated, we will always be connected as one family."

Then, Emery remembered the High Priestess was also supposed to be one of the few remaining heirs to the extinct fey wolf bloodline. From his time at the academy, he knew the bloodlines had a strong unique connection with each of their family members.

A part of Emery wanted to ask how evolved she currently was, but his main concern still was Morgana's safety.

"Priestess, please tell me, what happened to Morgana?"

Emery couldn't calm himself down. Though he was glad to know Morgana was fine, he still did not get the answer he sought from coming here.

Nimue closed her eyes and hundreds of light particles dispersed from the trees and floated around her. Emery watched as the particles danced in tune with the wind and weaved through the shadowy tendrils shielding the forest, before gracefully shifting and entering the High Priestess's body.

Right after all the light particles disappeared, the High Priestess opened her eyes, smiled and slowly told Emery. "Morgana, the girl is currently in Logress Kingdom and she... she is fine. Gaia's blessing shines upon her and she is on the right path."

The high priestess closed her eyes one more time and said,

"Emery... I must forbid you to find her, in time your paths will intertwine again by the will of Gaia."

Emery was reluctant to accept, as she had been on his conscience for a while now, but at least, the assurance of Morgana's safety lifted some of the weight off his shoulder.

The high priest continued, this time in a more serious tone than before.

"As for you Emery... you have your own path... a much bigger one..."

The High Priestess approached Emery slowly and spoke.

"It's time... come... follow me"

She grabbed his arm and took him step by step closer to the massive tree. Now that he was closer, the tree looked even bigger than before, dwarfing even the trees growing all around them.

Each root was the size of his arm and the trunk could easily be wider than a house.

As Emery got close, the huge brown bear, Artio, the guardian of Gaia, awakened. It slowly turned around facing him, it's large eyes yet again seemingly staring through him, through the illusion of calm Emery tried to project and pierce his very soul.

"Now, Emery, concentrate on your spirit power. Touch the tree and tell me what you see."

Slowly, Emery moved his hand closer and let the tip of his fingers touch the tree. As soon as he felt the smooth bark under his hand, a bright light engulfed his vision and everything turned white.

When the light subsided, Emery found himself still in the area of the shrine, except this time he was a few steps further. The place was empty and the High Priestess wasn't there.

Through the foliage of the tree, Emery could see rolling grey clouds covering the sky.

The clouds gathered into one, inky black mass connected with thunder jumping back and forth. With a thunderous roar, a flash of lightning descended down, blasting the top of the tree and igniting it. A wild flame quickly burned the tree throughout all its leaves and branches.

Strangely the sight of the burning tree brought horror and fear to him. Screams echoed in the distance following the burning tree. Hundreds, thousands of different voices came from the flames, mixing with the far-away voices and making Emery's head start to throb,

"This is another of those illusion... but why does it seem so real?"

The flames dispersed away, leaving the tree to crumble into a pile of fine ashes before him. The tree was a symbol of hope and it crumbling into ashes sent a pang of persistent despair in Emery's heart.

For a few seconds, everything went quiet, until Emery heard hundreds of voices echoing all around him.

"Find it..."

"Find it..."

"Find.. find what?!" Emery asked to the empty place, hoping someone would hear.

A bright light came from behind him and Emery turned around to see a towering stone had appeared. The stone stood almost as tall as a small mountain.

Emery walked closer and saw that the stone was not glowing, but something on top it did. He tried to see past the bright light, to see what it actually was.

The object was a dazzling, shiny sword thrust inside a stone. The sword's handle was embroidered with gems with a crystal body and the blade was engraved with some kind of weird writings. It gave a powerful majestic aura that made people want to worship it.

A normal sword would have shattered or bent when thrust into a rock like that, but the weapon seemed to defy all logic, staying intact and sharp despite all that.

"Wield it..."

"Wield it..."

Emery raised his hand, trying to grab the sword as the voice instructed. But he heard a loud, screeching sound from all around and he saw he was already surrounded by black clouds so tall they reached the sky. The clouds moved in waves emerging toward him destroying everything who stood in between

Emery suddenly woke up with a jolt, and his trembling hand, removed from the tree's bark.

The experience felt so real, sounded so real, to the point he forgot it was merely an illusion of what may come to pass. Sweat drenched his entire body and a trail of tears lined his cheeks.

Emery turned around and saw the High Priestess' concerned face.

"Did you see it, Emery? Tell me, what did you see?"

"High Priestess, I..." Emery hesitated.

"I think.... I saw death... destruction... and what is that sword I am seeing?"

### **Chapter 308: Sword of Destiny**

From the burning tree, the shining sword up to the shadow of destruction. Emery recounted as much details as he could to the High Priestess.

He asked the High Priestess with a hopeful tone and inquiring gaze, "What could this possibly mean, High Priestess?"

The High Priestess did not answer right away, which was unusual. Instead, she turned to the side and walked toward the tree. She put her hand on it, slowly trailing her finger on its trunk.

Few moments later, she turned back to Emery and calmly said, "Emery, it is my path as the High Priestess to interpret the will of Gaia and ensure it comes to pass. But the truth is, for the last few weeks, Gaia has been... different."

Upon hearing that, Emery's expression changed. He could not imagine what kind of reasons could make Gaia change. The High Priestess then continued her words.

"The things you saw... They also came to me. In fact, they've been repeating for a few times already and it's really concerning... and then, today your presence came to my vision."

She looked at Emery and asked,

"Who are you really, Emery?"

Emery truly did not know how to answer the unexpected question thrown at him.

Seeing Emery was silent, the High Priestess continued, "You... you really are a mystery... I can't see where you have been for the past few months. And when you came back, you have become much more powerful than before."

The High Priestess stared at Emery directly in the eye and said, "I do not like what I can not see through, but I will trust Gaia's judgment on you. With her giving the vision to you, it can only mean that you were chosen by her."

"Chosen? Chosen to do what, my Lady...?" asked Emery, as he was confused by it.

The High Priestess was silent for a moment, thinking if she should tell him what she thought. In the end, she decided to do so,

"This is what I interpret, Emery. The burning of Gaia can only mean a disaster is coming and the path of salvation will be the Sword of Destiny, the Caliburn."

Seeing Emery was still wearing a confused expression, she added, "The seven kingdoms have a different name for it, it's the Sword of Divine, the Excalibur."

Upon hearing the Excalibur, a thoughtful expression appeared on Emery's face. He had heard it being mentioned by his father. Apparently, the sword was the sacred sword of the Knights of the Divine Order. The sword of Kings. However, he never actually saw the sword before, he remembered his father seemed to be secretive about it as well.

"Actually, Emery. The sword was given by us to the kings of men as our Pact of Friendship."

"Friendship?" This information baffled him, as what actually happened was the exact opposite of that word.

"Emery, you have so much to learn... The story between us and the seven kingdoms, that is."

"Please, High Priestess. Tell me." asked Emery humbly.

The High Priestess noticed the eagerness and interest in Emery's gaze.

"The history of us, the Fey before they started calling us the Crutin, was spanned centuries ago, longer than 1000 years."

The High Priestess told the story of the Fey, where for a long time the ancestors of Fey were respected and worshipped in the land as gods.

However, as the time went by and humanity began flourishing across the land hundreds of years ago, the Fey decided to hand over the task of becoming the Protector of the Land to the kingdoms of men. Therefore, the Sword of Destiny was bestowed, to give them the necessary power to do the task.

"After the handover, the Fey decided to dedicate themselves to the service of Gaia, the Earth Mother. We lived in the forest and secluded ourselves from the outside world. It was only after the incident related to my sister that we began to be known by the kingdoms once again."

As the High Priestess did not tell the story in detail, Emery could only speculate what the kingdoms had done afterward. Knowing entirely well the nature of humans, he could understand what they could have done.

Emery looked at the High Priestess and with a firm gaze he said, "Tell me, my Lady. What can- no... What should I do?"

Surprisingly, the High Priestess seemed to be troubled with the question.

"Honestly, this is exactly the question I have been asking Gaia for the past month, Emery. But Gaia only gave me the same vision, the one I told you about. At first, I thought Morgana's unique situation would lead me to the answer. But after you returned, I sensed another path was at play."

Upon hearing that, Emery began to think of a possible solution.

Recalling the story of Excalibur, Emery knew the divine sword must be located in the capital of the Logress Kingdom itself. The City of Camelot.

"Should I just go to Logress and bring the sword here?" Emery blurted out the idea that appeared in his mind.

It might have sounded outrageous at first glance, as there was no way a young boy would be able to breach the capital city and take the protected sword away from the royal palace, from hundreds of royal knights. However, Emery did not joke about this, because he was confident in his current strength.

The High Priestess seemed to read his mind as she gave him a faint smile.

"Do you believe in Destiny, Emery?"

Stunned by the sudden, abrupt question that was completely unrelated to the current topic at hand, Emery was not sure on what to say.

"I... I don't know, my Lady."

As if she had expected his answer, the High Priestess' smile grew wider as she said, "The Sword of Destiny can only be wielded by those who are destined, and for this I am sure." the High Priestess added the last part, when she noticed the unusual expression on Emery's face.

"In short, you can not just take the sword, Emery. You must earn it."

An incredulous expression appeared on Emery's face.

"And, how am I supposed to do that... my Lady?" Emery was confused. Didn't the High Priestess just call him the Chosen, wasn't that close enough with the Destined one? At least for him, they were basically the same thing, with different wording.

"On that, I really don't know the answer, Emery. But I believe Gaia's blessing will guide you along your journey."

When he heard the all-knowing High Priestess did not have a clue on how, Emery released a long, deep sigh. It was clear this would be another difficult task in his list, one he had to complete.

Even so, Emery was still grateful the conversation with the High Priestess had cleared most of the confusion and questions he had. Now, it was his part to do the rest.

When he was about to leave, the High Priestess surprisingly told him another piece of information.

"Emery, I wasn't sure about this, but I believe the disaster mentioned might have something to do with my sister, Meave. I can feel her power becoming stronger every day. Unfortunately, she is currently hidden in the far north, out of my reach. So if you have any information regarding her, please tell me."

Emery nodded, he himself liked to know more about this matter.

He gave the High Priestess another respect before leaving the shrine with another weight on his shoulder. Even so, the prospect of getting a famous sword really excited him.

Emery was sure the sword must be a high tier artifact. The important question was what tier it would be.

### **Chapter 309: Stone Formation**

Fortunately, Chief Brennus was kind enough to explain what the High Priestess said about Morgana to the inquisitive villagers.

Even though there were still some faces who blatantly showed their disdain and contempt toward him, especially Cavvi and his warriors. Emery simply thought those people were just being protective of the village, which was what being an Akavi warrior was all about. Therefore, he understood.

But at the moment, Emery didn't have the capacity to care about everyone's feelings, except for the Fey sisters. Morgana's closest relatives.

Emery took the time to meet the sisters, told them what happened in detail and expressed his regret.

"Brother, don't worry. Of course we can understand. The Lady of the Lake is all-knowing. We are sure all of this is for the best."

Emery was quite surprised, as he could see the sisters had dispelled all of their previous worries in an instant. They just disappeared like smoke. Seeing this made Emery wish he could accept the situation easily like them as well. Alas, that was not the case.

While they were all chatting in the hall, Emery experienced something that made his eyebrows subconsciously twitch. Glita, the youngest among the Fey sisters, couldn't seem to stop sniffing all over him.

"Brother, you smell much nicer than before." murmured Glita, as she continued sniffing him.

Even though embarrassed, Emery was certainly happy to receive a compliment. In fact, he could also vaguely feel there was a stronger connection between them than before.

With his limited knowledge of the bloodline, Emery could only assume this was probably because of the increase in his Fey Bloodline level. It was a common occurrence for higher level genes to give a positive effect to the lower ones, especially within the same family.

Being with the Fey sisters made Emery wish he could start on his bloodline gene experiments. But at the moment, he didn't really know where to start. He would need a good lab and proper ingredients before he could start.

"Don't rush, Emery. All in due time.., Yeah, all in due time." Emery said to himself inwardly.

"Brother, I got a great idea!" exclaimed Glita in her usual cheerful tone, bringing Emery out of his thoughts.

"What is it, Glita?"

"Here's the idea! With Sister Morgana somehow occupied, what do you think about picking one of us to accompany you now?"

Emery was surprised, seeing the girl sincerely wish to help him out. Even more when he saw that the other three sisters Lilith, Lelith and Tyra appeared to be in agreement with the idea.

The three suddenly argued among themselves. Tyra said she, as the oldest, would be the best choice to help Emery, while the twins argue between each other. Meanwhile, Glita was smiling cheekily seeing the result of her idea.

"Which one will you choose, brother?"

Emery personally was troubled with the idea. He was really worried, his experience with Morgana was truly something he did not wish to repeat.

Seeing the hopeful gaze in their eyes, Emery rapidly shook his head and hand,

"No, no, no. No. I kind of have some personal matters to take care of at the moment. So, no. I'm sorry."

The decision instantly made the whole four displeased, but Emery was really firm with his decision.

Emery really felt he just successfully dodged a fast arrow. However, he did not lie to them. He did in fact have a personal matter he really needed to attend to.

...

When the dark veil arrived and covered the sky, Emery left the village and headed towards his other destination.

The place of power, where Kilgraga and Khaos resided.

After a run through the dense woods, Emery finally reached the familiar hill with many stone structures seen on it. He stood there, on top of the hill, in the middle of the stone formation. He could not believe himself he somewhat missed the dragon.

With a massive grin plastered on his face, Emery casually said, "Yo Dragon! I am back!"

He waited and waited, until several seconds passed, but there was still no answer. Hence, Emery repeated the action again, this time, with a respectful tone.

"I have returned and finished the task you asked for."

...

Still no answer, not even a faint one.

Emery remembered the way the dragon used to like how he spoke. He proceeded to speak in a loud voice, "Oooh supreme being Killgraga, your humble subject has returned. Please grace me with your majestic presence and guide me on what to do next."

Emery waited in suspense for a few minutes, but still no answer. He began to worry something had happened, something wrong.

He began to dive into his mind, searching about what the dragon's last words to him were.

One thing he remembered was to bring Granny and kill her at the place of power. That's a definite way said by the dragon. But it really wasn't something he could do at the moment.

Hence, it must have something to do with the formation that Killgrarah told him to get.

Emery had bought and learned the basic skill formation [Universal Formation Pattern] back at the Academy. This should be the solution, but he really did not know where to start. To put it simply, he got the theory but his practical experience was nonexistent.

Sighing deeply, Emery decided to do what a rookie would do. He began walking around the formation and checking each of the stones, one by one.

There were a dozen large-size stones and twenty plus medium-size stones around the hill. At first glance, Emery noticed they were arranged in a unique manner, which couldn't possibly be by chance.

He then remembered Killgraga did say the formation was broken. Hence, Emery began to study the stones' placement, as he tried to find some kind of pattern in them.

It took him a few hours of exhausting, diligent, cross referencing the pattern he analyzed from the stones with the one in the database before he could find something that was slightly similar.

[Earth Runes formation]

[A formation that allow the channelling of the profound power within the Earth]

"Hah! Finally!"

Emery was delighted to have finally found the correct formation. He began to compare the current state of the formation to what it should be and found at least one of the three stones was placed in the wrong place.

Subsequently, he discovered the formation had half a dozen stones missing or needed to be replaced.

This formation used the particular blue stones as a catalyst to channel its power.

It meant he would have to complete the formation using the same stones. And that was the problem, he could not find any of them on sight.

-

Without him realizing it, the sun apparently already showed itself on the horizon. Left with no solution, Emery returned to the village and asked for help from the chief.

The similar stones were located on the other side of the forest, but unfortunately, the stones were very heavy. Even Emery with his current battle power found it too hard to carry one.

Chief Brennus ordered some of his men to help but it took a few men just to carry one of the medium size blue stones and there's a matter of one large stone that none strong enough to carry.

Fortunately Emery was able to cast a spell he had for a while but never used.

[Stone Golem - Rank 3 Earth spell]

Emery was excited seeing the golem slowly being created out of the big blue stone. Now Emery only needed to channel the spell to make the blue stone walk all the way to the other side of the forest.



He never used the spell as his dark core made his earth spells weak. He knew the current stone golem was probably only good for simple movements but with his problem right now, the spell became very handy for him.

It took Emery another whole day to finally transport the necessary amount of stones from the other side of the forest to the hill. This made him wonder how the ancient people who built the formation the first time managed to do so before.

The night once again graced the area with its presence and Emery finally completed the formation with all the stones placed where they should be.

Lastly, he only needed to create the runes using another catalyst. His blood, just like how Killgrara told him before. After several marks on each of the stones, Emery could tell the formation had finally been fixed.

All the runes he drew were glowing and became proof of his success.

He was about to recheck them one more time when he suddenly heard a familiar sound.

"You have succeeded, kid."

### **Chapter 310: Killgrahah**

Emery would never forget this rumbling voice.

"Killgrahah!!"

Emery shouted as he looked around, trying to find the source of the voice.

The moment Emery called the dragon's name, a black shadowy thin line appeared in front of him, Then, it slowly widened itself until it formed into some kind of a door.

Looking at the 'door' in front of him, Emery felt apprehension yet also excitement.

"You have succeeded, kid. You may visit Khaos once more."

Upon hearing that, Emery took a deep breath. The last time he went inside, he got a lot of benefits but he was also trapped for almost six month.

Emery threw out all of his doubts about the place and stepped forward, entering the shadowy door.

The sensation of going in and out of a portal had become a common thing for Emery, but entering the Khaos had an entirely different feeling. The moment he went inside the Khaos space, he? could clearly feel the rich spirit aura.

Probably because Emery had advanced the level of his Dark core, he could somehow perceive the energy much better. For a moment, he was so intoxicated? that he stood motionless in front of the 'door' which slowly disappeared out of existence.

Emery began walking through the narrow hallway until he reached a big, massive room where he couldn't see the ceiling. Astounded for a brief moment by it, he proceeded to throw his gaze around, looking for the figure he came here for.

"I am here." said Killgragah, as he moved out of the darkness. At the same time, several dark flames appeared and lit up the entire room.

Seeing the colossal form of Killgragah, Emery took a respectful gait and said, "My respect to you supreme being."

Emery felt it was time for him to be smarter with his words. Even though the attempt was mediocre at best, he had to do whatever it took to obtain more leverage on the dragon.

"Aaahhh... You are no longer a kid, aren't you...?" said Killgragah, when he saw how Emery acted. "Come... come closer." added the dragon, with a loud rumbling on his voice.

Emery stepped forward while checking around him. The room was still the same as previously, the dragon was still bound by chains in front of him. A large door that previously could not be opened also in its previous location and the window that showed the sight to the outside in the left wall. Everything appeared to be the same.

While Emery was doing his 'inspection', the dragon's snake-like head moved around and stared at him closely, from different angles.

"Let me see what you are now..."

After the dragon said its thoughts, a wave of energy bursted out of the dragon and made its way to Emery, entering his body at such speed, he didn't have the time to react.

Emery's feet left the ground as his body floated into the air, borne by the energy Killgragah discharged. At the same time, Emery felt his mind was being loaded with energy that it almost shattered apart.

When the transference stopped, Emery opened his eyes only to find he was back in the illusionary space. The faceless man was standing several meters in front of him.

Emery felt as if his mind was being probed and his stats came to mind.

"These restrictions are really annoying, aren't they?" commented the dragon as it saw Emery's stats. "But I have to say, with a B aptitude, your progress is not bad, not bad at all. There is probably hope for you, after all."

Emery smiled a little when he heard that, as he rarely heard a compliment coming from the dragon.

Next, Emery suddenly felt as if the events that had happened the past 3 months were coming back at him. Just like the previous time where Killgragah probed his childhood, this time, Emery knew the dragon was trying to probe his memory again.

Passing through the memory of Emery winning the Magus Game, Killgragah laughed loudly, "Hahaha... Impressive achievement in such a useless game..."

Emery let out a I-knew-it sigh when he heard the dragon's mocking session had once again begun.

"Such a childish game... Humans... Phuii..." said Killgragah, as he perused his memories. "If it's not a life and death fight, then all those competitions don't mean a single thing. Only in the face of death will a person's real identity be shown. Don't you think so?"

Emery had to admit there was actually some wisdom from the dragon's words.

...

Emery was thinking and planning his future plans when the dragon suddenly got excited.

"Aaaah! She found you. No wonder you improved so much..."

Hearing that, Emery wondered who the dragon meant, "Who do you mean- Wait... Is it... her?"

A figure who helped Emery in his cultivation, a female and the one who 'found' him; there were none other than Grand magus Zenoia.

Killgragah laughed at the rhetorical question that Emery asked him, "Hahaha... Who else?"

Because the faceless man had no expression, Emery couldn't tell if the dragon was smiling or smirking. Recalling the words of Killgragah that indicated he knew Grandmaster Zenoia, Emery asked, "Do you know her? Please tell me what you know about her. Who is she?"

"Hehehe... You don't need to know... not now at least."

"I will tell you when you are ready."

Emery frowned when he saw the dragon refusing to answer his question. Starting from the High Priestess to this dragon, why did these mighty figures like to talk in riddles? Their demeanor truly brought a headache to him.

"I see you are doing really well there. I see you also got the item I asked. Very good."

After he said that, Emery could feel the probing finally stopped. At the same time, he returned back to the massive room, facing the dragon.

"Now show me the item."

Emery took out the Void Crystal from the bag and showed it in his hand.

He then felt a force that wanted to take the crystal away, but he held it tight as if he wasn't willing to give the dragon.

Emery's questionable action made the dragon confused. At that moment, Emery decided to say his piece.

"Killgragah, with all due respect, it was very hard for me to get this. Honestly, you didn't really give me much information. Your quest is not easy at all... I even needed to figure out a way to fix the stone formation by myself. Therefore, I hope to be rewarded handsomely for this."

Emery thought Killgragah would be angry or offended by his words, but instead of doing those things, the dragon laughed.

"Hahaha. kid... The whole thing was a test. If you couldn't even do those small things, then you wouldn't deserve to be the master of Khaos"

Emery frowns hearing about another freaking test. He hated it, did the dragon really try to get this item which was worth a fortune from him for free?

As if knowing Emery thinking, the dragon continue with something that startle him

"Anyway... that crystal you got kid... it was never for me or Khaos. It's prepare for you, kid."