

Earths GMagus 661

Chapter 661 - The Key

"Is that a frickin' regeneration?!" Roran shouted in disbelief, as he looked at the notification displaying the health of the Undead Dragon. He still couldn't believe that all the things the group had worked so hard for had been rendered completely meaningless.

Orion, who was currently healing Chumo and someone specialized in the path of restoration, shook his head at Roran's words and said, "No, it's not. A high-level regeneration spell will not heal that fast. It has to be a high-level instant heal or something similar to it."

Roran was entirely annoyed by this, while Emery was still trying his best to help Gerri on stopping the heavy bleeding in his shoulder, which now had no arm. The sight of him lying on the ground helplessly was pitiful, to say the least.

The skin of the acolyte known as Violet Flame was strikingly pale. His body was violently trembling as his eyes stared directly at Emery's, an unusual serious look was seen on his face.

"Em... Emery... I can feel it. I am dying... Don't let me die. Don't... I don't want to die!"

"..."

Emery couldn't hold himself from shaking his head wryly. He really couldn't tell if this friend of his was joking or actually being real. His motivation to bring Gerri back to his normal condition had increased exponentially, to make sure the other party stopped his incessant yapping as soon as possible.

"Emery! Roran! Let's work together!!"

Annara's high-pitched yet charming voice was heard from the side opposite of where they were at the moment. It seemed the arrogant girl had finally chosen to let her pride go and cooperate with them.

Upon hearing this, Gerri, who had regained some of his healthy complexion once more screamed pleadingly. It was as if he would die right there right now if no one paid attention to him.

"Emery, what about me? D-don't leave me?"

Orion quickly knocked the Violet Flame's head with his fist, while still keeping his focus in alternating his healing spell on both Chumo and Gerri.

"Let's go!!"

Roran quickly explained he believed there was some kind of limitation placed on the dragon's ability. Even though it could heal itself back to full, it should certainly have a limit of two or at most three times. Otherwise, this so-called bonus challenge won't make sense. It would be merely a joke designed to be impossible to clear.

While Orion stayed at the back doing his job of bringing Chumo back from the death's door and Gerri from his somewhat critical condition, the four individuals who still boasted some degree of fighting ability commenced their assault at the Undead Dragon.

Emery, Roran, Annara and Yunxiao, the four of them once again dashed towards the dragon, approaching from four different sides. Without any comprehensive nor detailed discussion, these four talented young individuals immediately went on and did their part. Annara was the one restricting its movements, Roran would be the one leading the attack and acting as the vanguard, while Emery and Yunxiao proceeded to launch their greatest offensive capability with their respective weapon of choice.

CLANK! CLANK! BAM! ROAR!

Various sounds rang out loudly in the air, creating a cacophonous yet strangely harmonious melody. As if it was the accompanying musician, the Undead Dragon also took part in this music creation session by unleashing similarly ear-deafening, rage-filled roars from time to time.

[Shadow Edge]

Now that Emery showcased his skill side by side with Yunxiao, who also discharged his own battle art skill, the quiet man seemed to have some level of acknowledgement toward him. This was evidenced by the nod the man gave when their eyes accidentally met.

The same thing also happened to Annara, who gradually became more and more surprised as she watched how the battle progressed. This grew even further when she finally recalled that Emery was still a rank 8 acolyte.

To be able to go on par with Yunxiao, who was a bonafide rank 9 acolyte with 7 pillars formed was truly an extraordinary feat. For a moment, she couldn't help but think that no wonder her senior brother and master paid so much attention to him.

Of course, Emery would not be able to do such a remarkable thing if it wasn't because of his double core and [Fey Transformation] that helped empower his attacks.

[52/100]

Seeing that they had reached where they were earlier, Roran quickly shouted. "Don't stop!! Don't let it have a chance to regain its health!!!"

However, right as he finished speaking those words, without the dragon roaring like before, its health had already returned to full, as if all the damage the group had done to it was simply an illusion.

The four people stopped in their tracks and looked at each other, where they could clearly see the dumbfounded expressions on their faces. They really had no idea as to what could possibly be the reason.

Neither of them felt any fluctuations in the surrounding spirit energy, which should happen when one cast a spell. This meant whatever the dragon used, it wasn't a spell.

"How could this be?!!" Roran shouted in disbelief, again. He was really confused by all of this.

"Do you have any other bright ideas, Harlight?" Annara asked sarcastically, as she continued to restrain the dragon. "If you don't have it, then you better think fast! I really can't hold on to this monster any longer!!!"

The Undead Dragon once again unleashed its roar that by this point Emery thought it must be its signature move. The roar, like its predecessor, generated a strong gust of wind and forced everyone to take several steps back.

"What else can we do?" asked Roran in the same sarcastic tone. "Just keep on attacking!! Let's see if we or it will fall first!"

Roran still held to his belief the dragon had limits in using whatever it was that brought its health back. Alas, the third time the group arrived at where they were before, the dragon's health once again returned to its original state.

"This is impossible!!"

Things turned to worst, as not just they were all tired and hurt. It had been such a long fight and everyone had already reached their limit long ago. Now, not only they were at their last breath, they also had no idea how to fight the dragon.

It was at this time that Gerri joined the four people in battling the dragon. Even though he had lost one of his arms, there was no trace of anxiety on his face. He arrived at Emery's side and then shouted what Chumo had told him to tell them.

"Chumo said the dragon always heals itself exactly one minutes after the first strike lands on it!"

"!!!"

Chumo has his [Eye of Raven] ability that could analyze the enemy, it appeared this really was the key to defeat the dragon.

Upon hearing this, Roran appeared to be laughing furiously.

"Why didn't I think of that?!! Great work!"

Everyone did a quick calculation in their heads and found that what Gerri had just said was true. They also finally realized what the challenge was all about. The headmaster must have put this last detail of the dragon to make sure only a group that could work together could pass the bonus level.

With the way it was, not even the strongest rank 9 acolyte could have the necessary firepower and attack rate to take down 100 of the dragon's health points in one minute's time.

However, everyone was stunned when they realized they might not have enough people with enough strength to make this feat achievable.

It was at this moment, a figure approached the group from behind Orion.

"Heal... me... I will... help!"

Apparently, the group had forgotten one person who was still alive, albeit briefly. Furthermore, this one particular person made everyone who was previously unsure become confident in their chances of completing this challenge.

After all, he was the strongest person in Group 7: the Titan's Bloodline holder, Sigurd.

The man had been resting and maintaining silence in the corner, where he had landed from the last hit of the dragon. He didn't originally plan to join the fight anymore, but when he reached the same conclusion as the others, he offered to help.

With this, Roran quickly led the discussion and told the group to be patient. Their success was nigh, so they shouldn't do anything risky.

Soon, it was decided that they would take their time distracting the dragon, allowing them to take turns to heal and prepare themselves for the decisive attempt.

Emery also quickly released his [Fey Transformation], because he would definitely need it later.

Few minutes later, after the group of 8 people were completely prepared, at the same time that the dragon roared once more, Roran immediately made the signal.

"Now!! Everyone, give everything you got!!"

Chapter 662 - Bombarded

Eight young figures were running, heading in the direction of a monstrous dragon emanating a terrifying aura. However, these people didn't seem to perceive it, because instead of stopping in their tracks, they increased their speed even further, as they got closer to the monstrosity.

The Undead Dragon quickly found itself being bombarded by numerous attacks: numerous spells, skills and techniques were thrown at it, as the group of eight acolytes mustered everything they had and unleashed the strongest assault they could possibly deliver.

The reason everyone acted as if they had completely descended into madness was because they had to kill the creature in under one minute. Otherwise, all of their efforts would be rendered meaningless by the dragon's abnormal regeneration.

Roran took the lead of the assault by brandishing the huge shield in his hand forward, while using [Shield Bash], focusing the dragon's attention onto himself.

Seeing that it had turned its head toward his direction, he immediately cast a spell that enchanted his sword, enveloping it in a luminous glow. Immediately after, he swung his sword repeatedly and so rapidly his hands became blurry, sending out successive slashes that managed to infuriate the dragon even more.

"Good one, Harlight!"

Gerri shouted excitedly, channeling all his spirit power on one hand while flying in the air, materializing the biggest [Pyroblast] he could make within his current level of control. Faint smoke could be seen appearing around his figure, showing the spell was hot enough to burn the water particle in the air.

On the other side, Sigurd, who had been healed by Orion, returned to his normal condition. He quickly picked up his ax embedded in the wall, before stomping on the ground and darting towards the dragon.

Eyes completely focused on the massive figure in front of him, the mighty Titan's Bloodline holder brought the axe high to the air and once again executed his special battle art [Soul Shaker].

CLANK! CLANK! CLANK!

Consecutive ear-deafening sounds were once again heard, as Sigurd's axe ferociously rotated under his command and struck the Undead Dragon mercilessly.

Sigurd's rampaging manner of attack was quickly followed by Yunxiao, who unleashed his powerful thunder spear again. The illusionary manifestation of the dragon visible on the tip of the spear coiled in the air, before landing on the Undead Dragon's right side, sending it sliding on the ground a few steps.

Even Annara decided to let go of her whip and focused on releasing a powerful offensive spell of her own. Few moments later, blazes of jet-black flame could be seen around her figure, as she cast [Hellfire], a tier 5 combination spell of darkness and fire element.

Emery was the last to enter the fray, as what he planned to 'gift' the dragon was something he had wholeheartedly prepared.

Approximately a dozen meters away from the Undead Dragon, neither too far nor too near, Emery closed his eyes, as he focused his concentration on rousing the spirit energy in his body and channeling as much of it as possible into the tier 4 sword in his hand.

A darkish glow slowly, but surely manifested on the sword, signifying the power accumulated within. It grew brighter and brighter, until Emery felt it finally reached the limit. The moment he did, he immediately shot at the dragon and swung the sword downwards.

[Shadow Edge]

BOOM!

A cloud of dust rose in the air, as the dark crescent-shaped slash hit the Undead Dragon squarely. Following it was the ear-piercing shriek of the dragon, informing them that the attack was effective.

Under the relentless attacks of the group, the Undead Dragon's health dropped as fast as an eagle swooping down for its prey. However, thirty seconds had passed but the group had barely reached the midpoint of the dragon's health.

[54/100]

"We won't succeed if we continue like this! Give it all you have!!" Roran shouted loudly, evidently desperate to beat this bonus level.

The young man had chosen to completely abandon defense, as he threw the shield in his hand at the dragon, while taking out a second sword. His figure immediately disappeared from sight, as he shot towards the dragon at twice his normal speed.

[Soulless Stream]

This was the sword skill that Emery considered to take, which would allow him to deliver 32 consecutive attacks in its later stage in a matter of seconds.

Lustrous glow of lights enveloped the two swords in Roran's hands, as he struck the Undead Dragon with it. It was apparent that the former had lost his usual calm and was currently giving his all, without caring of anything else.

"A little bit more!!!" Roran shouted irritatedly. They were so close to finally clearing the challenge, even he got quite agitated. They needed just a little bit more.

At the same time as Roran's persistent attacks, a figure jumped in. He moved around nimbly like a shadow, taking out two knives that faintly gleamed before striking the dragon's bare feet.

This figure was none other than Chumo. To everyone's surprise, the bone shard that had pierced through his body was still there but didn't seem to have any adverse effect on his actions. The young Asian was still able to skillfully launch his attacks, as if he didn't feel any pain at all.

Emery noticed his friend's body glowed slightly, which he immediately thought of as some kind of special spell that Orion cast on the latter to increase his strength.

It was obvious that everyone was doing their best to jointly attack the dragon, for the sake of bringing it down.

[40 seconds - 35/100]

[50 seconds - 17/100]

The situation forced Emery to once again the most powerful skill in his repertoire at the moment, [Shadow Edge]. His spirit force was gathered from every inch of his body and accumulated entirely into the tier 4 sword, before he unleashed the devastating attack at the dragon with the cost of the sword itself.

PRANG! Loud crisp sounds rang in the air as the tier 4 sword in Emery's hand shattered into pieces and scattered on the ground.

[57 seconds - 7/100]

[60 seconds - 2/100]

ROAR!!!

[100/100]

It was as if God had decided to press the stop button. The eight acolytes who ferociously attacked the Undead Dragon abruptly came into a stop. They were all utterly shocked, seeing such a close number even at their best efforts.

Especially to Roran, who took the failure extremely hard. To make matters worse, his decision to increase firepower at the expense of his shield and Annara, who discarded her whip that she used to restrain the Undead Dragon for the same reason, now put the young man in grave danger, as the dragon had turned its attention to him.

The dragon's massive claw crushed upon the Harlight protege, who seemed to be still in a dumbfounded state. This attack coming from it effortlessly destroyed the new tier 4 set armor the latter wore and sent him flat into the ground.

This time, Emery was unable to react fast enough. He could only watch as the young man turned his head toward him, seeing the last look the former had, before being smashed by the dragon's feet.

[Total number of acolytes: 7/692]

At the same time, in the corner of his eye, Emery saw Chumo fall to his knees, while the two knives in his hands weakly dropped to the ground. He immediately cast [Blink] and appeared where Chumo was, catching his body before it completely hit the hard ground.

It was at that moment that Emery finally saw the aftereffect the spell cast by Orion had over Chumo's condition.

Apparently, it was an adrenaline-type spell that would immediately put its user in critical state once its effect ended. It also didn't help that Chumo's body condition wasn't optimal when the spell was cast on him, resulting in even more severe consequences.

The Asian Prince looked at his dear friend with a faint smile on his face, "You can do it, Emery... finish this..." After saying those words, Chumo closed his eyes weakly and breathed his last.

[Your team Chumo has been eliminated from the game]

[Total number of acolytes : 6/692]

They were now two men short. Emery didn't even have a weapon on him. Not just that, the Undead Dragon was also busy running amok. It appeared there was no more hope for them to beat this challenge.

Annara, who was opposite where Emery was, shouted the obvious. "All is lost! We can't do it!"

Emery took a deep breath, ignoring the blasting sound of the dragon roar as well as Annara's incessant shouts. Roran's one last look was clear, he was obviously full of regret for being unable to defeat the dragon. Meanwhile, Chumo's last words, full of conviction that he would succeed, stir his blood.

Unfortunately, unlike the last Magus Games, Emery currently didn't have any other trump card that he kept. And without a weapon to use, his firm will alone would not allow him to kill the dragon.

However, it was at this moment that a thought suddenly appeared in his mind, a crazy one. Even so, it didn't take Emery long to be willing to bet it all on this idea of his.

Lifting his head, he confidently shouted, "Everyone, follow my signal!!!"

Chapter 663 - Final Moments

"Everyone, follow my lead!!!"

Such words were something unusual coming from an acolyte such as Emery.

He had no distinguished family name like the Harlight nor a prominent faction like the Nephilim behind him. He was merely a rank 8 acolyte hailing from a humble lower realm. However, when he shouted those words, everyone quickly followed along.

Gerri, who moved the fastest among the group, didn't need a reason to follow his friend. The Titan's Bloodline holder Sigurd and Orion joined because they were still grateful to the fact Emery had saved them before.

However, the same couldn't be exactly said to the other two people. Yunxiao did acknowledge the prowess and capability Emery had shown, but he couldn't make the decision as it lay under Annara's hands. After all, she was the leader of the team he was in.

The girl, however, unexpectedly smiled. To be precise, an amused expression could be seen on her face.

Glancing at Yunxiao's direction, she nodded and said, "Let's follow the savage acolyte!"

Recalling and filtering all the important details he gained from their previous attempt, Emery knew the one who could deal the most damage was Sigurd, who shaved 25 points off the dragon's health within that limited timeframe of 60 seconds.

This lead was followed by Annara and Yunxiao, who each dealt 15 points of damage. Adding Garri's firepower of 10 points, that is a total damage of 65 points.

Previously, Emery himself managed to deal the same damage as the two privileged acolytes - 15 points. On the other hand, the combined effort from Roran and Chumo contributed the remaining, which led to their earlier situation of lacking just a few points.

This time, with Roran and Chumo eliminated from the picture, the group or rather Emery was left to take care of the remaining 35 points. He wasn't sure if he could do it, but he had to be able to do it in order to beat this level.

Orion, who already stood next to him, opened his mouth. "Should I cast my divine spell on Sigurd?"

This suggestion was certainly the best option for their current situation. However, after deep contemplation, Emery shook his head and told Orion to cast it on him instead.

Even though he was puzzled by this, Orion still did as he was asked.

[Divine Art - Blessing and Cursed]

[Increasing the degree of spirit force and battle power significantly, at cost of one's health]

This was the spell that made Orycon so strong before and made the dying Chumo become the epitome of shadow at his last moment. Even so, this spell was also a literal double-edged sword.

The only reason Orion dared to wantonly cast this spell was because they were in a virtual arena, where every injury they received didn't have any adverse effect on their real body. If that wasn't the case, the former would certainly not even mention this spell, only using it in life-threatening moments.

Heaving a deep breath, Emery opened his eyes and a glint of determination could be seen on them. "Alright, let's do this."

Immediately after, Emery's body was enveloped by a glimmering veil of light, before a rapid deluge of energy arose within his body and flowed throughout, akin to an unstoppable flood.

He could even feel a sensation of pain as the seemingly rampaging spirit energy coursed through his body. Fortunately, the intensity it was going was still bearable to him.

The moment Orion started channeling the spell in him, Emery also instantly cast everything that could increase his prowess on himself. [Immortal Gate - stage 5], [Battle Roar], [Fey Transformation]; they were all activated as stacks of dazzling lights appeared and shrouded his body in their brilliance.

Emery could feel his body changing rapidly with power, that he himself needed to muster all the willpower he had to manage to barely contain it.

After going through five levels of Magus Game in a row and over an hour of intense battling the mythical dragon, even though the group had taken every possible window they could to recover, all these acolytes had evidently long since reached their breaking point and were only able to make one more attempt: the final attack with the aim of defeating this monster.

However, it was different for Emery, since he commanded a very proficient use of [Nature Grasp], his [Nature Blessing]'s effect had reached another level that allowed him to maintain the state of spirit energy in his spirit cores.

Hence, right now, while the other person's spirit core seemed to be dwindling or even on the verge of being depleted, Emery's two cores were filled with abundant spirit energy waiting to be unleashed.

In addition to the divine art Orion had cast upon him and understanding that this would be the final act, Emery swiftly mobilized every bit of focus he had and proceeded to create the strongest and most durable [Shadow Root] spell he had ever created toward the dragon.

Multiple dark-colored shadow roots as wide as trees quickly emerged from the ground underneath the Undead Dragon. It didn't take long for them to start encroaching upon the latter's body.

One, two, no, three dozens of them swirled around the Undead Dragon's four limbs and neck, effectively locking it in place like an exquisite statue.

"You still keeping such power!" Annara exclaimed in surprise as Emery's shadow root was much stronger than the fire whip she has been using before.

This would provide the group massive leeway to everyone, as they now just had to focus their attention to deal as much damage as they possibly could. This was also the signal that Emery meant, and fortunately, all of them immediately went into action.

"NOW! Let's go!!"

Everyone put their trust in Emery's plan as they immediately unleashed what left of their spirit energy without hesitation. They understood this was the last chance they got to defeat the dragon.

Just like their previous attempt, everyone was giving their all and putting extra effort to deal even one more point of damage. They tried to contribute as much as they could, but eventually, all was left on the hands of one guy.

As Annara once again cast her [Hellflame] spell, she didn't forget to carefully observe what Emery was doing as she was truly curious about what he was planning to do.

As soon as the group started their attack, Emery just stood there with his eyes closed as if everything had nothing to do with him. In reality, his thoughts literally went into overdrive. Not only did he have to maintain his control over his [Shadow Root] spell, part of his attention was also busy channeling his power into his sword.

'Wait... a sword?' Annara thought as she looked over at where Emery was again.

Hasn't his sword been destroyed? Did he have another one?

As soon as her eyes landed on the item in his hand, Annara suddenly burst out laughing.

"Hahahaha! I see now! How interesting."

Everyone was busy blasting all of their strongest attacks at the dragon, when they suddenly heard a huge laugh. Glancing with their heads, they saw Emery with a big smile on his face, he was happy as he finally succeeded with what he was trying to do.

Without further ado, he directed the overflowing power within his body into the object that he had picked up right after Chumo was eliminated and turned into specks of light.

It was long and sharp, with a resemblance to the armor-like bones the Undead Dragon had shed. That's right, it was the same dragon's bone shard that had sent Chumo out of the game.

The white-colored sharp item was a tier 5 equivalent material, something no acolyte could bring to the game.

With it, Emery planned to unleash his most powerful [Shadow Edge] ever. Thanks to the fact that it was a tier 5 item, he didn't have to worry that it wouldn't be able to withstand the seemingly endless stream of power he was injecting into it.

The same darkish glow appeared around the bone shard and disappeared as quickly, when Emery swung it downwards, discharging an unstoppable streak of sword energy.

Swish!

BOOM!

The crescent-shaped dark-colored slash rapidly flew in the air and struck the Undead Dragon on its chest, instantly taking 8 points of the dragon's health.

Some of the [Shadow Root] that was holding back the dragon were even cut off by the attack, but luckily Emery expected such a thing to happen, as he quickly brought more of them to bind it once again.

However, Emery was not done yet. He quickly cast [Shadow Edge] once more, taking advantage of the powerful state he was in right now. It didn't take long for another dark-colored slash to fly swiftly through the air and land on the Undead Dragon.

[20 seconds - 79/100]

[30 seconds - 53/100]

After 30 seconds had passed, all eyes were now basically fixated on Emery's figure. Only now did they realize how strong Emery's [Shadow Edge] was. Nevertheless, this level of power still seemed to be insufficient for the latter.

"No! Not enough! Have to be even stronger!" exclaimed Emery, while gritting his teeth.

The reason he said those words was because he knew he still couldn't bring out the full potential of the skill due to his unfamiliarity with the object he was using as an intermediary for his skill: the bone shard. This naturally made his two cores unable to truly exhibit their full potential.

[Shadow Edge]

BOOM! This time, 10 points of health were taken from the dragon with just one attack.

But unexpectedly, the bone shard in Emery's hand shattered into pieces and turned to dust after this one attack. Apparently, even a tier 5 item couldn't handle the domineering power that his [Shadow Edge] possessed.

[40 seconds - 35/100]

Not giving up, Emery's eyes quickly wandered around in search of a dragon bone shard of the same size. The moment he spotted what he wanted, the [Blink] spell that he had been preparing immediately activated, sending his figure to where it was.

Knowing there was no more time to channel and unleash his skill from distance, with such limitation, Emery decided to take the bone shard with him, as he cast [Blink] and reappeared close to the dragon.

[50 seconds - 20/100]

By this point, however, most of Emery's [Shadow Root] was already broken by the Undead Dragon's struggle. Hence, he continued to cast [Blink] as he dodged the retaliation the dragon did, while also channeling his spirit energy to the bone shard he just picked up.

Ten seconds remaining and Emery had finished putting all his remaining power he could muster to this last [Shadow Edge]. His figure disappeared just as the dragon's claw swept by and reappeared right next to its head.

BOOOOMMM!!! The Undead Dragon's head was sent blasting to the back by the [Shadow Edge] slamming directly on its temple. The bone shard in Emery's hand was completely destroyed upon unleashing such a devastating attack, but it was already done enough as the dragon had lost a whopping 12 points from that.

[55 seconds - 6/100]

"Argggghhh!! No! Not yet!!"

Everyone was unable to accept such a result, nor did Emery: they all immediately acted as if they were possessed, attacking the Undead Dragon despite their battered and exhausted state.

Without a weapon in hand, Emery could only do his next best thing. He shouted with the top of his lungs as he stirred the last remaining bits of spirit energy within his two cores and cast his strongest spell.

Wisps of energy materialized on his two hands, each forming a ball of energy. One was pitch-black, while the other was verdant-green. It was something he never knew he could do, until this point at least.

Immediately after, Emery cast [Blink] and appeared right at the dragon's head, before pushing the two spheres into its head. Upon contact, both spheres could be seen contracting for a moment before completely expanding and creating a massive explosion.

BOOOOOMMMMM!

Emery's body was blown back by the explosion, falling heavily to the ground. After that last attack, he felt his body lose all its strength. As if that wasn't enough, Orion's divine art that was cast at him also ended and gave Emery a wave of excruciating pain.

In the midst of his agony, Emery almost passed the notification that appeared in his mind.

[Congratulation - Undead Dragon has been successfully defeated]

[First game has concluded]

[Congratulation - Emery Ambrose, you have received the highest contribution points]

Chapter 664 - Points

The last thing Emery experienced before he returned was an unbearable pain that scorched him from within. It was the consequence for forcing the activation of his spell as well as the severe drawback originating from Orion's divine spell.

Afterwards, everything went dark and he was lost in that abyss until a notification came into his mind.

[Congratulation - Undead Dragon has been successfully defeated]

[First game has concluded]

[Congratulation for reaching highest contribution points]

The arrival of the notification certainly gave a sense of relief to Emery, who of course was nervous and worried whether he succeeded or not at the last moment. His heart was actually still racing with exhilaration that came from the adrenaline rush in the last moment of the fight.

Then suddenly, he was startled awake, as he heard someone screaming close to him.

"YEAH!! We won! We did it!! I got my arm back too!! This is amazing!!!"

Opening his eyes, Emery realized that he had returned to reality. At the moment, he was currently standing in the podium at the center of the Grand Assembly Hall.

He turned his head to the side and was welcomed by the sight of the excited Gerri, who was weirdly hugging his own hand.

Casting his gaze around, Emery suddenly realized there were actually ten podiums visible in the area, each with 10 people on top of it.

While he was trying to think about what this could possibly be all about, his thoughts were suddenly interrupted by a familiar loud voice. It was the host of the game, Magus Serena who spoke.

"Ladies and gentlemen, here are the top contributors of the bonus level from each of the ten groups! Let's give them all the long applause they deserve!!"

As if they were on cue, fireworks were shot to the air and exploded splendidly in the vast blue expanse. At the same time, boisterous cheers and applause rang out throughout the crowd congratulating the acolytes, who were standing on the podiums now.

Emery realized familiar faces on the one standing on the same podium at him, as for the others, he could see most of them were wearing the white uniforms that signified the privilege class.

The one who wore a black uniform like him could be counted with two hands.

The round of applause gradually subsided, until it eventually died off. People thought that it was finally over, when Magus Serene suddenly called on another announcement.

"Today, we have the chance to witness such an amazing fight, such an extraordinary display of will! And now, let us see it once again!"

To Emery's surprise, the images displayed on the screens floating throughout the Grand Assembly Hall were showing the final minutes of the Group 7's fight.

It was the highlight of the fight from the moment the bone dragon turned into an undead dragon.

The magnificent spells and skills, the narrow failure and the difficult victory they finally accomplished. Everything that happened in the virtual arena was being replayed on the screen.

After the replay finished airing, Magus Serene immediately opened her mouth again.

"You all have seen it all! This year, we have a total of 6.554 third year acolytes which were then separated into 712 teams. There were 132 of them who made it to level 5, while 86 teams managed to successfully clear said level and reached the bonus level!"

Magus Serene then came into a slight stop, as if the next thing she was about to say was something monumental. "Amazingly, out of 192 acolytes reaching bonus level, only six people from group 7 managed to complete the bonus level! How surprising! How amazing!"

"And therefore, let us all give them one more special round of applause! To group 7!!"

This announcement shocked Emery and the people around him. As they were trying to process what they had just heard, the podium they were standing on suddenly shook and rose to the air until it was located higher than the other podiums. Without many more words, they naturally became the center of attention of everyone in the Grand Assembly Hall.

Apparently, even the renowned prodigy of Dragon Bloodline, Zach, was unable to beat the Bone Dragon, as he was alone.

Emery turned his gaze to the people around him and immediately caught Roran looking at him. He then watched, as the Harlight protege put his hand on his chest and gave him a slight bow of gratitude.

The people around him were all excited, as they finally comprehend the fact they were the only one who managed to beat the Undead Dragon. One by one, Emery saw them looking in his direction and giving him some sort of acknowledgement for the last attack that he led, such as a slight bow, a smile, a nod and so on.

Gerri, Sigurd, Annara, Yunxiao, Orycon, Roran, Reyne, the two Nephilim, who were Armand's teammates, and himself; they were the 10 top contributors of the challenge.

Unfortunately, Chumo was not in the list, while Armand could be seen fuming more than ever.

The fact that Emery's group managed to defeat the Undead Dragon eclipsed such achievement and made Group 7 the most recognized among the ten groups.

Thousands of pairs of eyes focused their attention on Emery, which he of course felt in one way or another. They were all impressed that a young rank 8 acolyte hailing from the lower world was able to take part and create such an extraordinary feat.

"Hoho!! You all just realize now how special my friend Emery is!" said Gerri cheerfully, who had unknowingly stood next to Emery.

"Now acolytes, receive your rewards!!"

The next second, Emery watched dumbfoundedly, as multiple notifications came into his mind.

[Emery Ambrose]

[You are part of Team 88 of group 7]

[Personal points: 18.200]

[Team points: 22.230]

[Receiving 185.000 points for successfully completing 5 levels]

[Receiving 50.000 points for successfully defeating bone dragon]

[Receiving 50.000 points for successfully defeating undead dragon]

[Receiving 25.000 points for ranking in top 10]

[Receiving 25.000 points highest contribution at bonus level]

[Congratulation to successfully finish all challenges - bonus team points 25.000]

[Calculating total points...]

[Converting points into contribution points...]

[You received 400.430 contribution points]

Emery was both speechless and gobsmacked, as he saw the final amount of contribution points he received. Winning the third game of last year's Magus Game gave him a huge 70.000 points, but now he had received almost six times that number.

Coupled with the contribution points he previously had, the total contribution he now had was...

[493. 550 contribution points]

This was definitely a huge amount of contribution points, mind-boggling even. Emery felt like screaming loudly, because of the happiness he was feeling right now, but managed to calm himself down at the last moment.

He took a deep breath and lifted his head, to notice that Headmaster Delbrand was glancing in his direction from the VIP podium, before he gave his end of first game speech.

"First of all, congratulations to all of you acolytes. We all have seen some amazing and unexpected surprises today. Despite all the arduous challenges that lay ahead, even with limited capability at hand, we can still defeat and go through all of those as long as we stay together."

Headmaster Delbrand paused for a moment, as he looked at the podium, where Group 7's acolytes were.

"I gave a special tribute to Group 7, who had shown us that it was possible and presented us with hope! Let's once again put our fate in our friends as well as others who are currently at the frontline!!"

Once again, the crowds got into their feet and delivered another round of enthusiastic applause and cheers.. Following its end was the sign that the first Magus Game had finally ended.

Chapter 665 - Afterwards

The first game of Magus Game was finally over, following that, the podiums quickly returned to the way they originally were. The podium where Group 7 was also descended to the ground, joining the other top 10 acolytes of the remaining ten groups and the six thousand others, who were eliminated first.

"Emery!!"

Emery turned his head when he heard his name called. There, he saw his four friends rushing in his direction. Excitement and joy was apparent on their faces, as they approached and showered him with numerous congratulations.

Emery shook his head while smiling. "No, no... if it wasn't because of you all, I would definitely not have been able to make it. It was a team effort."

The gladiator champion was the first to grab him on the shoulder before proceeding to rock him back and forth as he said, "Hahahaha, who are you trying to kid? You are the real champ!!" Thrax was seen laughing heartily, as he continued to make Emery's eyes shake.

Chumo, on the other hand, only stood there without saying a word, while staring at his face. However, Emery could see that there were slight waters in the latter's eyes, as if he was trying to hold back the tears that were threatening to burst out.

Meanwhile, Julian appeared to be a little bit quieter than usual. Noticing this, Klea quickly grabbed his arm and basically dragged him to the others. The group then huddled together shoulder to shoulder.

"You guys are the best!! This is amazing!!"

With the 25.000 team bonus, everyone received roughly 100.000 contribution points, while Chumo, who essentially reached as far as Emery did, received around 250.000.

So, they could roughly guess how much contribution points Emery had, who was basically the champion of this first game received. Even so, none of them wished to know exactly how much he got, as they didn't want their heart to be attacked for no reason.

"If you are showing off, then you better buy each of us a high tier artifact with it!" Klea jokingly said, when he saw Emery was about to say his number.

"Guys, we should celebrate!!" The Thracian cut into the conversation passionately and Klea quickly said. "Tonight! At my place! Just like last year I will prepare everything!"

"Shouldn't we celebrate at Terra Palace instead?" commented Emery.

He certainly thought about inviting everyone who had helped them tremendously for this Magus Game to the celebratory party. Names began to appear on his mind, such as Magus Xion, Magus Silica and so on.

Unfortunately, Klea quickly disagreed with the idea. She also had Grand Magus Ororo to thank for, but for this moment, she insisted that they had to celebrate this monumental event between themselves.

She even glared at Emery as she said, "Remember, just us. None of your new privileged friends are invited!"

The group quickly agreed on how and where they should celebrate. Not long after, people started to come in their direction. All of them naturally came over to congratulate them, especially Emery, who shone the brightest in the game.

There were actually hundreds of people that approached Emery, people that he didn't know. They all came and tried to have a conversation with him, acting as if he was the most delicious cuisine in the world. At this moment, Emery felt a little taste of being popular and couldn't help but be overwhelmed by it.

On the other side of the spectrum, he also noticed many eyes that contained other feelings were keeping their attention on him, trying to hide various negative and nefarious intentions.

Later on, even some of the magus instructors came and delivered their congratulations. Emery's attention was caught by one particular magus, Magus Urix. This particular magus was being overly friendly, saying that from now on Emery would be his lucky charm. Which honestly scared him.

Emery only received the enthusiastic magus's words with a smile.

Things turned even crazier by the second with more people scrambling over to their location, that Emery and his friends knew they had to get out of this place. The group quickened their pace, as they made their way out of the Grand Assembly Hall.

Emery's eyes still roamed around, as the group escaped from the group of people chasing after them. There was actually one person he really wanted to see, but couldn't find. Left with no choice, he turned to his friends.

"Have any of you seen my master?"

The others who heard his question stopped for a moment, as their head looked around. "Hmmm, yeah, that's weird. Where is he?"

The group continued on their way through the crowd of people that packed the portal, trying to head to the elite 7 island, where their personal residences were at.

However, right after they entered and stepped out of the portal, three men were seen approaching in their direction. From the faint pressure the group could feel from them, all three were definitely magus-level figures.

"Emery Ambrose?" Asked one of them with a firm tone. "You are coming with us."

This quickly alarmed the group, especially Klea, who immediately stepped in front of Emery and opened her mouth.

"If I may ask, esteemed magus, what is this about?"

The man who spoke earlier briefly glanced at Klea and spoke, "Give way, acolyte. Don't you meddle in official business."

Thrax seemed to want to confront the three magus, but was quickly restrained by Julian. The latter looked at Klea, his gaze asking who these three people were, as she seemed to know their identity.

Klea then quickly whispered to the group that three magus in front of them, who were wearing unique and distinct black uniforms, were the known enforcer of the human alliance.

This made the other three worried about Emery. They wondered what kind of business these enforcers had with him. They looked around and tried to search for help, only to find none of the academy knights in the area dared to bother the three. Apparently, they did have authority here.

Understanding the situation, Emery quickly stepped past Klea and said, "I understand, I will come with you, Please lead the way."

Klea still had a concerned look on her face, but she knew there was nothing she could do. Still, it didn't stop her from saying a few things.

"You better return him!!" She shouted, "Preferably before dinner!!"

She and the others watched worriedly, as Emery went with the three magus, walking away from them.

Emery was quickly led and taken through several portals, surprisingly, toward another part of the academy that he had never seen before. It was a building located at the back of the academy palace. It was certainly much quieter compared to other places of the academy.

He looked around and noticed there weren't any knights standing on the long hallways and the gardens, which was odd considering the academy was protected by those people.

Things gradually became more and more strange, especially when he was led down to a basement area by the three magus, heading into a place that looked a little like a dungeon. This certainly made the already worried Emery become even more anxious. In fact, he was ready to cast his [Blink] spell to escape at any moment if he had to.

The four of them arrived before a large closed door. The magus who did all the talking earlier told him to enter. Even though Emery was still anxious, he resolved his determination and pushed the door open.

It was a dark room without any window in sight. There were only a few dimly lit candles placed around the room and a single chair oddly placed in the center of the room.

With his spirit reading, Emery sensed there were six figures inside the room. From their auras, he knew that all of them were at least magus level, with one aura being stronger than the other - definitely a grand magus.

Unfortunately, Emery couldn't recognize any of them.

The situation was apparently much more severe than he had thought.

"Emery Ambrose? Sit down."

Emery walked towards the chair hesitatingly, but in the end, he sat down as requested. As soon as he sat down, he only realized that a spell formation was drawn on the ground around the chair. He couldn't see it before, because the visibility in this room was very poor.

Before he could contemplate what this formation was for, it suddenly glowing and a notification appeared in his mind, answering it.

[Restriction spell has been placed]

Emery could suddenly feel his spirit force was restrained, just like when he returned to Earth but multiple times stronger. It's most likely he won't be able to cast any spell in such a condition.

His eyes focus on one figure that walked out of the shadow and said.

"Are you scared...? Well you should!"

Chapter 666 - Interrogation

Emery turn anxious when he saw that a restriction had been placed on him, and soon he started to struggle only to discover that he couldn't get up from the chair

His attention quickly was diverted when he noticed one of the six people in the room walking towards his direction.

The person who showed himself in the dim visibility of the room was a very thin male magus, wearing a similar enforcer uniform just like the ones that escorted him to this eerie room.

"Emery Ambrose," the thin man said, "Elite class 7, planet 1002 Earth, lower realm."

The man started to recite his profile and every bit of information that had relation to him, as if trying to explain to the other five people in the room what they were dealing with. Rather, this narrative seemed

to be aimed at the one standing further as Emery could clearly see how the thin man kept throwing glances at the person, the grand magus level figure.

"4 element affinities with a very low aptitude, dark core cultivation, and a savage wolf bloodline."

The last information was spoken with a different tone, one that Emery could distinguish clearly: disgust. Thanks to that, Emery quickly assumed that it was the prime reason as to why he was taken here.

"A young boy hailing from a lower realm, with a low aptitude and no future prospects to be a magus.. Still, despite all these shortcomings you have, you managed to display an impressive result at last year's Magus Game as well as this year's."

Emery tried hard to maintain his calm and continued to assess the situation he was in at the moment when he was suddenly slammed with a question.

"Emery Ambrose, answer me this... how much are you involved with the betrayal of the wolf bloodline?!" said the thin man in a loud voice, much to Emery's surprise.

However, upon hearing this question, the tension that Emery felt dissipated a bit as he felt relieved. This was because he knew he didn't have anything to do with the matter whatsoever. He didn't know anything about the issue until when he was notified that the Wolf Bloodline had defected to the enemy side.

Still, he was a bit worried if this situation would have something to do with Grand Magus Zenoia, as it could possibly reveal a few issues such as the existence of Khaos space on Earth or the fact that his master was in the middle of it.

The thin man seemed to have realized Emery's change of emotion as he glared at him and said, "You're definitely hiding something... you must know by now we are the enforcer, lying to us will only lead to unfortunate consequences... expulsion from the academy or worst"

Emery was irritated with the threat, but he still quickly schooled his expression and took a deep breath before opening his mouth, answering the question posed to him.

"I sincerely apologize for my earlier behavior, senior; I was thinking about something else. As for the answer to your question, I have to say that I have, in any way, no involvement at all. I don't know why they are betraying the magus alliance."

When Emery finished saying those things, he noticed that the symbols visible on the ground gave off a faint green glow. He didn't know what it was, but the thin man quickly wore an interesting expression on his face when he saw that green glow as well.

The thin man nodded his head and proceeded to open his mouth again. "Now tell me Emery, how often do you go to the Home of the Bloodline, Zodiac City?"

Emery then proceeded to explain, once when he was called to analyze and verify his bloodline, the second one when he was invited for the Wolf Bloodline's Rave Party.

After he finished saying that, the symbol marks on the ground started to glow red which naturally startled Emery. He wondered what had gone wrong when he suddenly recalled other instances where he visited Zodiac City.

"And, two more times to buy ingredients for my apothecary recipes."

The glow changed its color from red to green again; this made Emery realize what these symbols were for. They weren't just for sealing his power, but also able to act as a lie detector which would tell everyone whether he was telling the truth or not.

The thin man seemed to be amused by this.

"Why are you so nervous, Emery..? Just answer the question truthfully or else..."

Emery could no longer stop himself from rolling his eyes when he heard that. The magus in front of him had put him in such a situation and even threatened him, but was still asking why he was nervous.

Probably, it was supposed to be this thin magus who needed to be questioned whether he was still right in the head or not.

Nevertheless, Emery felt relief as he knew he had nothing to hide about this. However, the next question that the thin magus threw at him caught him off guard.

"Is it true that during the so-called Rave Party, you met the White Clan Chief, Beowlf and a dozen of the wolf bloodline's pack leaders?"

"Yes." Emery answered calmly. He had no reason to hide such matters, so he answered truthfully.

"Is it true that you met Patriarch Lucius privately in that said Rave?"

Emery showed a look of worry before he answered, this time hesitantly. "Yes.."

The thin man nodded his head at his answer. Then suddenly, his gaze turned sharp as he said,

"Now, Emery, answer this question honestly: Did Patriarch Lucius give you a note that you later gave to the infamous bloodline shop in Zodiac City known to be the front for the traitorous Serpent Bloodline?"

Emery was taken aback when he realized what the thin man was suggesting with his words. The note given by the patriarch was the Blood Moon Ritual that he used to create a pact with the Fey Sisters; it wasn't for Bob the Frog.

Thanks to this, Emery subconsciously said no which made the symbols glow red. Noticing this, he quickly said, "Yes."

Alas, the fleeting sight of red didn't manage to escape from the thin magus' eyes.

"What are you trying to hide, Emery?!"

At the moment, Emery was confused as to why the symbols glow red. He was about to explain his part of the story when the thin magus asked him a question once more.

"Did you or did you not know about the bloodline shop from the patriarch?!"

He actually did, but it was not because of the note. Instead, it was purely because Bob was the only one who knew how to make the Fey bloodline Serum.

"Yes, I did know about the shop's existence from the patriarch, but it was not for that reason! Stop, let me explain!!" shouted Emery when he saw the thin magus was about to throw another question that could possibly push him deeper to this quagmire of misunderstanding.

Fortunately, the other party was willing to listen. Without further ado, afraid that the thin magus would bombard him with another volley of questions, Emery narrated his part of the story from the beginning to the end; the whole time, the symbol marks on the group kept giving off green glow.

The thin man, however, said something that truly made Emery think the former had something wrong in his head. "The mark only tells others what you feel as the truth, thus not necessarily the real truth."

Without giving Emery a chance to ask what his earlier words meant, the man continued his monologue which further confused him.

"Lucius Cornivus, the Patriarch of the White Clan, your clan, was recently added as the number one wanted man for the magus alliance. Your brief interaction with him made you one of the witnesses that connected him with the Snake Bloodline."

This was definitely a preposterous allegation on his part, so Emery was quick to voice a disagreement.

"Emery Ambrose, then tell me; how can you prove that the item given was such a scroll and not a secret note directed to the Snake Bloodline. You have to give us a sound argument to convince us that you hadn't been involved in the middle of this.!"

Emery thought hard, trying to think of a way to prove his innocence. However, he noticed that everyone in the room seemed to be showing some faint movements, which he concluded that they were basically convinced that he was at fault.

At the moment, Emery only had the note to be his proof of innocence; the Fey Bloodline recipe he got from Bob the Frog, so he quickly showed it to them, to be precise, the thin man. Unexpectedly, the thin man showed a look of extreme surprise when he saw the contents of the note.

"This is a recipe of values! How can a lower realm acolyte like you can afford such expensive and rare ingredients? ..Tell me how much and how you were able to pay for such a recipe!"

Emery was stunned as he was reminded of a certain soft and warm touch on his lips, before a certain girl shoved the recipe into his hand for free and completely disappeared from him.

How could he possibly explain all that?

Explain that he got the recipe for free?

In the end, Emery decided to stay quiet for a while as he thought about what he should say.

Seeing how Emery reacted to the question, the thin magus turned visibly more excited as he blurted out more and more accusations.

"Admit it! Admit it now!!"

"It is a fact that you have secret conversation with Lucius Corvinus"

"It is a fact that he secretly gave you a note"

"It is a fact that you know about the bloodline shop from the patriarch"

"It is also a fact that you went to the bloodline shop and received this said note a day before the attack at the headquarters of the magus alliance, which you 'coincidentally' also attended!"

"This matter just became more and more suspicious!"

"What is your defense, Emery Ambrose!?"

Hearing the series of accusations leveled against him, Emery could only say, "It's all not true."

And once again, the floor glowed red; which led to the magus didn't seem to take Emery's answer seriously.

"Hahaha! How can a fact be not true!"

The thin magus turned his body around toward the others in the room.

"My colleagues, it's my belief that this new Savage Acolyte, Champion of Magus Game, is really a hidden talent... He is, in fact, a talented spy of the enemy! It was well documented that he was found in contact with the elves on his first year in Magus Academy, and since then, he has been having a remarkable improvement in his cultivation! I can't help but believe all his achievements were only possible because of the help he received from the enemy!"

"That's not true!!" Emery said, "Not true!!"

He could only utter such words, as he really couldn't think of anything else. Unexpectedly, the grand magus figure who was hidden in the shadow suddenly made a move and walked into the light.

It was apparently a female grand magus with short black hair, wearing a uniform Emery could not recognize its origin.

Casting her gaze at the thin magus, she said, "Don't be over-excited. This matter needed to be thoroughly investigated.? We don't have time for meaningless? goose chase."

The thin magus turned visibly pale and nodded in panic when he heard the female grand magus' words.

Ignoring the former, she turned her eyes at Emery and said,

"I however have a question... tell me acolyte...? how can a new wolf blood from a lower realm like you get an audience with the patriarch in the first place?"

Hearing the question, Emery quickly scoured inside his memory trying to find the answer. Moments later, he finally found it.

"It was the previous headmaster, Altus Dresden who told me about the patriarch."

The female grand magus had a slight smile on her face when she heard that.

"You will stay here until we make some confirmation."

Emery was not given a chance to say anything, as she immediately turned around and walked into the shadows again. The thin magus gave him one last look before following her.

Not long after, everyone in the room left one by one, leaving Emery alone in the chair still unable to get up.

Chapter 667 - Convicted

The minutes gradually turned into hours, until Emery eventually lost track of time. The lit candles scattered throughout the room were almost at their end, but he was still being confined in this dark room.

Even though he was still able to move his limbs around, the symbol marks visible on the ground had basically constrained him to the chair, denying any kind of changes from his current position in the room.

However, even if he was somehow able to escape the restrictions imposed on him, Emery definitely wouldn't leave the room before he was asked for fear that it would complicate things more than they already were.

All the accusations charged against his name were false, so he would definitely wait until his name was cleared. No matter how long the process would take, as he knew it was mostly due to a misunderstanding.

Emery's mind was pulled back to reality when he saw the door starting to open. He saw in front of him the three magus, who had escorted him earlier. The three of them didn't say anything, as they immediately approached him and released the restriction.

"Follow us now."

After stretching his body that had been sitting for too long, Emery immediately followed the three, who had walked out first.

"Can you at least tell me where we are going now?" Emery asked, when the three people didn't have any intention to talk with him.

One of them, the same person who spoke earlier, looked back without stopping his steps and said in an indifferent tone, "Just follow us."

"Okay.I." Emery said in low spirits. "Could you at least tell me if I'm convicted or acquitted?"

"No," answered the same magus, this time without turning his head.

Receiving such treatment, Emery couldn't help but wonder if these so-called enforcers were trained to be like this or he was just fortunate to get this particular bunch.

Realizing he wouldn't be able to glean anything, he decided to keep his mouth shut, while continuing to follow them.

The group of four quickly made their way out of the dungeon-like building. Several minutes passed, as Emery continued to follow the three magus. They walked through the hallways and onto the bridge; Emery finally realized where they were taking him.

It was a place that he had been before: the Headmaster Office.

The three magus stopped right at the door and gestured Emery to enter. After doing that, they immediately left.

Emery entered the room and was immediately greeted by three figures, who seemed to have been waiting for him. He recognized them all: Headmaster Delbrand, his master, Magus Xion, and the female grand magus he saw in the dark room before.

Looking at such a line-up, Emery couldn't help but ponder what was currently happening. He noticed how Magus Xion seemed to look a little anxious. When the headmaster called him over to stand in front of his table.

"Emery Ambrose, first of all I apologize for what you have just experienced." Headmaster Delbrand said apologetically.

"Here let me introduce you to her: Magistrate Kadek. She was the representative of the Magus Alliance stationed in the academy. She's here to help improve our security and make sure we're kept up to date."

"Headmaster, please tell me what is going on."

Headmaster Delbrand calmly explained that, with Emery being considered for inclusion in the privileged class, and added with the fact he had no clan behind him, extra security measures were needed to be put in place.

This was because the facilities and access of information provided to the privileged acolytes could not be given just based on talent: loyalty to the alliance was one the most important factors.

Magistrate Kadek turned her head to Emery and said,

"That's when we found some suspicious facts about you, fortunately some have already been confirmed and cleared."

Magistrate Kadek continued on her words, saying how Magus Xion filled in a few facts about his Earth caretaker petition, which was the reason he was at the Magus Alliance's headquarters.

His master also was there when Headmaster Altus mentioned Patriarch Lucius to Emery, this was also confirmed by Grand Magus Ororo, who was present at that time.

Of course, this testimony was not enough to dispel the suspicions that existed on Emery.

The real nail that convinced the Magistrate was when she heard words from Master Grom of the Apothecary Institute, who knew about Emery's possession of the recipe and the fact he worked on it diligently in his lab.

Emery was inwardly feeling grateful to those, who helped him as he continued to hear Magistrate Kadek's words.

"Does this mean I am cleared up?"

Unexpectedly, this one simple question seemed to bring silence to the three in front of him. This naturally made the already relieved Emery turn anxious once again.

"I am not getting into the privileged class, am I?" Emery said with a wry smile.

Headmaster Delbrand quickly responded, "No, of course...? you will. I have promised those and you have successfully lived up to my expectations. In fact you will start as a privileged acolyte as soon as possible."

Even though Emery was not that excited about being in the privileged class, he would still feel bitter if he got robbed of this opportunity. Again. After all, he literally went through flames to fulfill the expectations and won the game, both this year and last year.

"If that's the case, then why am I here?"

It was Magistrate Kadek who stepped up and answered the question, her gaze fixed on Emery.

"Emery Ambrose, with you pertinent in this matter between the Wolf and Serpent Bloodline, we the Magus Alliance would need your help for a simple matter."

Emery was startled when he heard the magus alliance wanted his help. "Help? What kind of help?"

"A mission. I will prepare its details first and inform you at a later date."

Emery could see his master's face turn pale at the Magistrate's words. Hence, he could quickly guess this so-called simple matter would actually not be simple and definitely dangerous.

Even so, he understood that not accepting such a mission probably wasn't an option as well.

It was at a moment like this that Emery knew he had to be smart. Thus, he took a deep breath, wore a smile on his face and opened his mouth.

"Magister... with respect, being an acolyte from such a lower realm, my time here in academy is very precious... of course, I would like to help, but...? surely the alliance will not send a young acolyte like me to the depth of dangers for nothing, right?"

Chapter 668 - Mission

Emery could clearly see the surprised look on his master's face when he heard him say those words. The slight smile that appeared after made Emery inwardly feel proud that he managed to say such things to these authoritative figures.

On the other hand, what he just said seemed to have made Magistrate Kadek displeased, judging by the expression on her face.

The same couldn't be said to the headmaster, as he surprisingly decided to back him up on this issue.

"I am sure the alliance will be generous in return for such help," Headmaster Delbrand said, while turning his gaze to the magistrate.

She glanced at the headmaster briefly before turning her eyes to look at Emery.

"You will be doing the alliance a big favor. Naturally it will be listed in your records. This deed will be very useful for many things... for example, the petition about the caretaker of your home world."

At first glance, the magistrate's words sounded like a bunch of empty promises with their 'favor' and 'records'.? On the other hand, this reward was indeed a huge one if it could really have some impact on the petition that literally affected the whole Earth's situation.

Looking at how Emery reacted, the magistrate let out a smile and instantly assumed Emery will accept the mission

"Alright then... When the ban on outworld travel from the academy will be lifted, we'll summon you again for the mission. For now, you have to keep this discussion strictly secret. You are not allowed to tell anyone."

After hearing that, Emery just nodded his head.

He then was excused to leave the room and return to prepare for the transition for the privilege class.

He gave respect to the three and walked towards the door. However, he suddenly thought of something and stopped his steps.

Emery turned around and said, "Magistrate, may I know how the White Fang Clan had been doing? Are they alright?"

The magistrate gave the question a thought and said.

"Most were placed under surveillance. There are some who are still at large and a few like you who have basically been cleared. If you worry about them, I can assure you that as long as the trial and investigation is still ongoing they will be treated fairly."

Emery was satisfied with the answer and left the place after giving another bow to the three.

After he left, Magus Xion who had been silent all this time finally opened his mouth.

"My apology, magistrate, but the Magus Alliance has thousands of magus level enforcers. So why are you recruiting such a young acolyte?"

Magistrate Kadek seemed to have no intention to say anything, but fortunately the headmaster decided to clear some of Magus Xion's doubts.

"I did not lie, the boy has a particular connection with the case, and not just with the missing Patriarch Lucius. There is one particular Serpent Bloodline contact that I would need him to meet: the boy will play a huge role to make the upcoming mission go smoothly."

Magus Xion looked dissatisfied with the explanation. He was about to speak again, when Magistrate Kadek interrupt him

"Magus Xion, I have to remind you that we are currently at a war and everyone in the human alliance is expected to contribute. Even a young talented acolyte will not be exempted from this."

Magus Xion was silenced by that statement. Glancing at him, Magistrate Kadek stood up from her seat and walked towards the door.

"Now that our business here is over, I will take my leave, as I still have many things to do."

Magus Xion still stayed in the room, as he was still inquiring to Headmaster Delbrand about this issue. The headmaster, however, was apparently firm in his decision.

"You are too overprotective of the boy, Xion. Rest assured, such a mission will only do good for his future progress."

Magus Xion seemed to still have something to say, but eventually he closed his mouth and nodded his head. Unfortunately for him, Headmaster Delbrand still hadn't finished his words.

"Instead of worrying about this, you should be more concerned about your issue with your master, Zenonia"

This left Magus Xion speechless. The headmaster didn't seem to notice this as he continued his words.

"I can't have the instructors, especially one of the heads of the institutes, to create drama, not now with our current situation. If this goes out of hand, I will definitely interfere."

"There's no need for that, headmaster. I will take care of it," Magus Xion said. "My master will soon come out of her seclusion. I will definitely make sure this problem goes away."

After saying that, Magus Xion gave his respect to the headmaster, before walking out of the room. The expression on his face clearly told onlookers he had much to worry about, but after taking a few steps, it suddenly turned to smile as he spoke to himself.

"I almost cannot believe it, Emery... You actually did it. Now, I don't have any more regrets."

The languid atmosphere his steps previously had changed, turning into one that of determination.

Emery, on the other hand, was seen rushing through the path, as he hurriedly made his way toward the portal that would send him to the elite 7 island. Fortunately, no more enforcers nor people in dark robes stopped him in his tracks this time around.

The reason he was in a hurry was because it was already dark and he was reminded about the celebration party that his friends were planning before.

Emery was anxious, as he went toward Klea's given residence with a spatial gate, only to find it empty. He was confused for a while, until he realized she had never used her residence before and always stayed in his. Hence, when she said her residence it must be actually his.

Realizing this, Emery quickly dashed in the direction of his own residence and was surprised to see the girl was already standing outside by herself in the night.

It was clear she had been waiting for him. Emery quickly walked towards her with an apologetic smile

"I'm sorry. I was detained for so long that it was already night when I was released. I came here as fast as I could!"

When the moonlight showed her face, Emery realized the girl seemed to be on the verge of crying, as he could see hints of tears in the corner of her eyes. But then, she instantly turned angry and told him to go inside where the others had been waiting.

Her actions once more made Emery feel unsettled.

Chapter 669 - Party!

As Emery entered the premise of the residence, his ears were immediately attracted by a loud commotion. Making his way in, he saw how Julian and Thrax were currently arguing about something in the living room, while Chumo was sitting on the sofa opposite of them enjoying himself with some drinks.

"Emery!! You're back!!" Thrax said loudly, when he noticed him entering the living room.

Emery couldn't help but let out a wry smile at this friend of his. The Thracian seemed to be half-drunk, as he could see his body swaying slightly left and right when he walked towards him.

Thrax quickly brought Emery to his side by grabbing him in the shoulder. The two then immediately walked towards Julian, or to be precise, Emery was dragged away by Thrax. Apparently, the former wanted his help in settling their argument about the game, which he found a bit silly.

Julian, however, didn't seem to want to continue entertaining the drunken champion's antics any longer. He ignored the babbling Thracian and looked at Emery while saying: "I told her already that you would definitely return in one piece. See, here you are!"

Julian emphasized the last part of his words while glancing at Klea who stood behind Emery.

The Thracian, in his drunk state, suddenly cut into the conversation. "Huh! If you were really so sure of what you just said, why have you planned to see the headmaster with Lord Izta's army tomorrow?!"

"That was just a backup plan! Don't you know we should always have a backup plan in our life?" Julian said those words as he glared at Thrax, as if the latter had divulged his family's secret. Then, he scoffed. "Forget it, I guess a barbarian like you will never understand!!"

Chumo, as the reigning champion of last year's drink competition, was apparently the only one who was still fully sober. Therefore, he would be the one to ask the question that everyone desperately wanted to know.

"So what really happened, Emery? Tell us. Why did the enforcers take you away earlier?"

The question quickly brought everyone to silence. Thrax immediately stopped his antics, while Julian fixed his attention at Emery. As for Klea, she was sitting a bit further from the group and looked like she didn't care, but she certainly listened attentively, as everyone saw her body slightly lean in their direction.

Under the four pairs of eyes that focused their attention on him, Emery began to talk about the interrogation he had just gone through. He talked about how he was brought into a dungeon-like room and bombarded with many questions regarding his involvement in the Wolf and Serpent Bloodline issue.

He narrated everything from the beginning to the end, but not about the mission, as he had promised to not tell a single other soul about it.

In the middle of his explanation, Klea suddenly turned her head and commented.

"I told you that snake girl would bring you nothing but trouble! Now you see it yourself!"

Emery could only let out a wry smile at her remarks.

Overall, the group was relieved he was being released and that his name was cleared from suspicion. Emery was about to say more, when a notification suddenly came out of nowhere to his mind.

[Emery Ambrose, congratulations on your acceptance in the privileged class]

The notification was followed by certain information about the time and place to go.

Julian and the others noticed how Emery suddenly stopped just as he was about to speak.

"What is it?" Chumo asked worriedly.

Emery returned to reality, turned to his friends and shook his head.

"It's nothing bad. I just got my invitation to the privileged class. Apparently, I will start the new class tomorrow."

The words brought another round of silence to everyone in the room. Obviously, it wasn't a bad piece of news; it was a very good one. However, it also meant that starting tomorrow they would no longer be in the same class.

Eventually, it was Thrax who broke the gloomy atmosphere.

"What are you bunch of sorry-ass people sulking about?! Stop putting on those looks and let's make a toast for our friend's success!"

Chumo quickly brought his glass to the air, following Thrax's initiative.

"That's right! Let's make a toast! To Emery! Earth's strongest acolyte!"

Klea followed suit by taking a glass of her own and raising it to the air as well. She looked Emery in the eye and said, "Hope you get what you were looking for in there!" After saying those words, she immediately drank down her drink.

There seemed to be another meaning in Klea's words, but Julian quickly cut in before Emery could ask.

"This is my toast for you, Emery!" He said as he drank down his drink. "Promise me you will show those arrogant privileged acolytes who you really are!"

"Here, here!!" Thrax butted in, with a glass of his own. "Cheers!!"

The five looked at one another and felt complete. Emery felt as if he could achieve anything in the world as long as these people were beside him. Naturally, there was also a twinge of fear that appeared as he hoped for this precious moment would never end.

It was at this moment the group suddenly sensed several figures approaching the residence. As a result, they separated away from the hugs and walked towards the window to see who these people were.

"Enemy?!" Julian blurted out, as his vigilance returned albeit foggily.

It took the group a few seconds before they realized who was coming. Following that was the sounds of multiple knocks on the door, which then followed by a bunch of people entering the residence and into the living room where the five of them were at.

"Sorry, we came late!!"

"Emery my friend! I heard that you finally entered the privileged class! Congrats!!!"

The ones who came were people that had some relation to Emery and the others; Gerri, Igor, Ivar, Okoye and even the quiet jade flash Aiko. It was basically Gerri's team, but Emery was surprised when he saw Orycon, the strongest of group seven, and Anas of the Kaleos were also present.

"Surely we must celebrate together, we did help you win the bonus stage!" Anas said, while showing off Orycon, who he forced to come.

"We brought food!!" Gerri said excitedly. "Let's celebrate!!"

Without even asking for permission, after throwing the bags filled with food on the table, the Violet Flame ran to the middle of the living room and passionately sang a song.

Klea was visibly confused, as she stared at this group of people. Later, she found that it was Chumo who spilled the beans and told these people about the party they were having.

"I was worried Emery couldn't come and we would be sulking... so..."

Chumo's flat, innocent face made Klea unable to say anything and decided to make the most out of it.

The atmosphere of the room started to turn strange when Okoye and even the indifferent Aiko started to join the fray and dance to the song Gerri was singing. The two big half blood goat bloodlines made the house tremble with the odd-looking jumping they did as they followed the beat.

Knowing it was inevitable, Earth's team could only join the craziness of the celebratory party. Things quickly turned wild and the party went on until the morning. Unlike last year, their rank 8 and 9 cultivation couldn't easily make them intoxicated and passed out from all the drinks they had.

When the morning light arrived and shared its brilliance, Emery groggily stood up from where he was lying. Even though the drinks he drank last night caused him a slight hangover, he still swiftly prepared to head towards his destination.

The others gathered outside of the residence, as they wanted to send away their Group 7's best acolyte, who went up to the privileged class.

"Don't be a stranger!!" Gerri shouted.

"Of course!!"

Emery glanced at his four friends one more time, before he created a spatial gate and left the residence.

Seeing that Emery was gone, everyone also started to leave the place, leaving only Klea who was still looking at the spot where Emery stood earlier.

Julian approached her from behind and said, "I understand how you feel.."

"How can you know how I feel!" Klea said emotionally, while turning her head around.

Julian wasn't angry that Klea was yelling at him.

"I know, because I feel exactly the same: the feeling of chasing something that seems only goes further and further away each day."

Hearing that, Klea turned silent for a moment and said with determination.

"No, I will definitely catch him."

"Good, I feel the same. The Harlights have formally accepted me into their clan. You will see Klea, I will definitely catch up."

Chapter 670 - Hyperion

Emery left the elite class island 7 with a new determination.

With the current situation Earth had with the Nephilims, the unsettling situation with Grand Magus Zenoia, and the recently added high-certainty life and death mission by the Magus Alliance that he would take part of; Emery had to get strong fast.

Emery made his way towards the Magus Academy's portal to reach his destination. As he exited the last portal, he saw a magus wearing a gray uniform who have been waiting for him.

"Emery Ambrose?" asked the magus in gray uniform when he saw Emery coming out of the portal.

In response, Emery nodded his head. Seeing that, the magus quickly gestured to follow him which he immediately obeyed. Apparently, he was the designated magus in charge of the transition.

The two of them proceeded to pass through another portal, but this time it transported him to another base-like construct that looked similar to the academy. To Emery's surprise, he could see a window showing a black sky with glittering stars scattered all over it.

It was at this moment that Emery realized that he was in what they called a spaceship.

"No," said the magus as if he knew what Emery was thinking at the moment. "We are not on a spaceship, but we are on a starbase."

Fortunately, the knowledge he had acquired in the elite class left him to look less surprised; though he couldn't do anything to the apparent excitement that showed on his face.

The excitement also stemmed from the fact that he could sense the majority of the people in the base were magus level, and as if that wasn't amazing enough, there were also many grand magus level auras throughout the place.

He could barely sense any acolyte-level figures, other than some of the miscellaneous staff and the guards patrolling around the area.

The magus in grey uniform proceeded to take him on a tour of the place and show him what was probably the most extraordinary sight he ever saw through a massive window that allowed him to see

the vast outer space. It was a massive, yellow planet with both its upper and lower atmosphere enveloped with a layer of white.

There were also thousands of objects covering the planets. At first, Emery thought those were a congregation of hundreds of asteroids orbiting around the planet, but on the second thorough look, he realized that it was actually a kind of metal construct.

Realizing that Emery seemed to have finally guessed what it was, the gray uniformed magus opened his mouth.

"That is the defensive system for the planet. Don't look down on its unassuming appearance. Being hit by a few of it, even a magus would not survive"

Emery couldn't hold himself from letting out a gasp of surprise that he quickly suppressed when he heard the magus' words.

Apart from the planet and the metal construct, another construct that caught Emery's eyes was the very long pipe-like structure that stretched from the yellow planet to the starbase he was currently in.

"Yes, that's where we are heading."

The gray uniformed magus then took Emery to what appeared to be a hangar with many spaceships seen around the size of a house. After the magus went through some kind of identification process, the door opened and the two quickly entered the ship.

Entering inside, Emery was immediately greeted by the sight of a very luxurious interior setting with comfortable seats that could accommodate eight people.

The door quickly closed after they entered and the ship swiftly moved, at high speed connected to a steel rail through the pipe-like structure towards the yellow planet.

Emery could see at least a few more ships flying behind and in front of him, some even heading the opposite way towards the starbase. This sight reminded him of the main road in Logress Kingdom's capital city where many caravans and horses passed, which shouldn't be a far-fetched comparison.

The gray uniformed magus explained to Emery that the planet they were going to had some kind of natural barrier that would hurt anyone flying through it, hence the means of transportation they were currently using was the most common way to in and out of the planet.

Exceptions naturally existed, for some individuals who had their own special ship that allowed them to enter and exit the planet undisturbed.

Again, Emery was overwhelmed when he saw what was waiting for him at the end of the pipe-like structure. It was a massive floating island twice the size of the academy and surrounded by some sort of cloudy gas.

[Planet - Hyperion]

[Class A - savage level 5]

Emery was surprised to know that the privileged class training center was situated on top of a savage planet. A planet that was given the status 'savage' meant that it still hadn't completely explored and that there were still some unknown or high level dangers around.

As soon as Emery arrived on the island, he suddenly realized that his body felt heavier; the sensation felt exactly the same as when he was under one of Lodos' spells, but much more subtle and inescapable.

Emery turned to the magus and asked if what he was experiencing right now was true and not just a hallucination on his part. The latter then explained that the planet had a stronger gravity than a normal planet.

Apparently, this was one of the reasons why the training center was situated on this planet as stronger gravity would force the body from its limitations and to adapt to it, which would gradually make the body stronger.

In addition, Emery also felt certain feelings that indirectly made him anxious. But no matter how hard he tried to find its origin, he couldn't find what it was. When he asked the magus about this, the latter just smiled and said that was also part of the effects created by the planet.

Finally, the two arrived at a grand lobby where Emery could see from the porthole several magus as well as others flying using a similar object to the flying rectangular objects he had used on the elite island.

There, he saw a female magus with long blue hair and silver-rimmed glasses over her nose.

"Emery Ambrose? The Savage Acolyte! You are finally here. Welcome!"

When the female magus approached Emery, the one who took the latter here quickly excused himself and left the two alone.

"Let me introduce myself. I am Magus Ramora, your escort and guide during your time here! Let's not waste anymore time.. You are coming with me now."