

Earths GMagus 931

Chapter 931 - Calamity

"Primordial Wisp? Is that what lies in the restriction zone?" Roran asked Emery back.

Emery was silent when he saw Roran's reaction. Apparently, even the Harlight Prince himself did not know the real cause of the Calamity. This, after all, was still a test from the Magus Academy. There must be some level of secrets being hidden and only known to the higher-ups.

"Yes, I believe it is." Emery said with a hint of affirmation. "Do you know anything about it?"

Hearing the question, Roran nodded his head. Seeing the inquisitive gaze Emery had, he then explained that according to what he knew, a Primordial Wisp was one out of a dozen possible scenarios that would lead to a Calamity stage.

"It's one of the most common causes actually, comparable to technological meltdown and evolutionary mutations," Roran said in a casual manner. Emery was completely speechless hearing how casual he said those words.

Noticing his reaction, the Harlight Prince merely smiled. He then explained that a Primordial Wisp was a source of pure power, which when integrated into a planet would accelerate the evolution of all living things on said planet.

If explained in a simple comparison, it was like planting a precious seed in the soil that made the area where it was planted much more fertile over time.

The seed would simply benefit the place where it was planted. However, once in a few millennia, the seed would bloom and the blossom could then lead to a Calamity like the one the natives of the Andora planet were facing right now.

After hearing that, Emery was completely flummoxed and speechless. It took him quite a while before he managed to utter a word. "The Primordial Wisp is the culprit causing this?"

As if not believing what he had just asked, Emery turned his head towards the sacred mountain plains. He couldn't wrap his head around the fact that an existence akin to Gaia was the source of such madness.

Not just Emery, Julian was also surprised by the unexpected revelation. Roran quickly noticed their rather odd reaction, "What's wrong? Did I say something wrong, or did I miss something?"

The Harlight Prince received no response as the two of them were in deep thought.

The news was so shocking Emery needed to learn more about it. He had thought about keeping Gaia's existence a secret from Roran, but then he knew information about Gaia on his planet wasn't really a secret. At least not for someone like Roran.

Roran, with his status and the resources at his disposal, should be able to easily get the information if he wanted to. Therefore, it should be in Earth's best interest to just directly tell him. Emery just had to make sure he didn't spill a single hint of Khaos' existence.

"What? You have one on your planet?" Roran asked, surprised. However, the surprise on his face only lasted a moment, before he opened his mouth again. "You're worried that something like this will happen to your planet, right?"

Seeing Emery's nod and Julian's anxiety, Roran was silent for a moment before saying, "Well... This event happens once every few thousand years and it might not even happen at all. So my advice is not to worry too much about it"

Roran's reply, unfortunately, was not enough to calm the restlessness Emery was currently feeling. He would certainly not let go without asking for more details, as it involved the safety of his home planet.

"What caused it? The Calamity, I mean."

Roran took a deep breath and thought for a moment before saying, "It can vary actually. It can be completely natural or even intentional by the Primordial Wisp itself. But the most common cause is the work of man."

"What do you mean by that? Like what exactly?" Emery asked seriously, a peculiar glint flashed across his eyes.

Alas, he saw the Harlight Prince shake his head. "I really can't say. It's a lifeform afterall, hence each is unique... But it's obvious, isn't it? A Primordial Wisp possesses a tremendous amount of power, thus it is only natural that many would covet it and find ways to have such existence for themselves."

Roran paused for a moment, glanced at Emery and Julian, before slowly saying "Well... usually, it is the caretaker assigned to said planet that has the right on it."

As soon as he heard the word 'caretaker', Emery quickly glanced at Julian and saw he was doing the same. Without saying anything to each other, their minds came to one conclusion and a name.

Nephilim. AL L NOVEL full.com

Emery suddenly remembered about a certain time during the harvest festival, when a certain Nephilim magus came to take 9 out of 10 Heavenly Fruit produced by the Gaia tree. He recalled how at that time even the Abbot and King Fjolnir couldn't do anything about it.

His recollection was cut short as Roran continued to speak.

"If it's really a Primordial Wisp out there on the Sacred Mountain, that means there's probably a lot of fortuitous encounters to be found there. No wonder it was designated as a restricted zone." The Harlight Prince said as his gaze fixed on the north. "I'm sure Commander Raynor and his men are harvesting those fortunes right now."

At this moment, Emery remembered how the white-haired local who previously called him a thief.

"What about the natives? Shouldn't they have a say in this matter? I mean, isn't it technically theirs?"

Upon hearing that, Roran shifted his gaze and looked at Emery with a smile while saying, "Aa... of course, the natives indeed have the first right over it. However, they have lost that right when they are deemed unable to survive without the help of the Magus Alliance."

Hearing such words, Emery inwardly heaved a deep sigh.

As Lord Izta once said, the lower realms were merely a source of talent and resources for the Magus Alliance. A massive and vast pasture, simply put.

If they were talented enough, the alliance would leave them alone; but if not, they would take claim of the resources for themselves. After all, the Magus Alliance was currently at war against the elves.

Yet, what bothered and still lingered in his mind was the idea that Gaia could possibly be the source of such destruction and - arguably - do such a thing of her own volition.

Thinking of this, Emery quickly became anxious. Considering how Gaia was behaving strangely and the vision of destruction he had seen, it suddenly worried him that something disastrous would happen in the near future.

Emery once again looked towards North and thought he might find some answer if he knew what's happening on this planet.

Chapter 932 - Mass Evacuation

After having most of his questions answered, Emery said his goodbye and proceeded to move all the survivors who were already gathered on the Eastern base to the main base.

With the number of survivors that the Eastern forwarding base has managed to gather, Emery sadly has to split them into two groups. All the women, children, and the old would go to the main base through his portal, while the strong men would go by foot escorted by Roran's squad.

Meanwhile, Julian would stay at the Eastern base for another day, waiting for the last bit of incoming survivors.

[Day seven has passed.]

[Personal Points Ranking]

[Rank 7 - 581,224 points]

[Squad Points Ranking]

[Rank 31 - 1,632,091 points]

[Survivors: 9,017,113]

[Time left: 2 days 23 hours 55 minutes]

[Acolyte casualties: 22]

By the time the seventh day arrived, Emery had returned to the North forwarding base. Upon his arrival at the location, he found that nearly 400,000 more survivors had gathered in the settlement with most of the acolytes having returned as planned.

The three groups of 6 seemed to have been waiting for him, with Klea swiftly pounced at him the moment she saw him. It was obvious that she was delighted to see him again.

"Aaahhh I am smelly aren't I?... I really could use a shower.. It was such a dirty place, those nests."

"Me too!" Annara chimed in, and the two found a place inside the settlement to clean up.

Among them, there was also Arcana who had been waiting in irritation. At this time, the kid-looking acolyte had only managed to reach half of his targeted number of points and thus couldn't wait to receive Emery's get-go order to clear the shrine which had obviously been crowded with Abyss creatures.

"Commander, The shrine is ready... Let's clean it up! Let me do it.. please!"

Per Emery's instruction, Arcana had trapped tens of thousands of Abyss creatures inside the peculiar Abyss nest, and with the fact that there was not much time left before the end of the mid-test, Emery finally instructed all acolytes who still needed more points to enter the shrine with Arcana while those who already had sufficient points to continue taking care of the survivors.

As for Emery, as soon as he was done instructing them, he went ahead and once again took a rest to ease his mental exhaustion. At the same time, he also made use of the opportunity to refill his depleted Spirit Pool.

The constant, non-stop channeling of the space magic took a toll on him, but fortunately, it also helped him push the boundaries of undertaking the darkness element, specifically the Law of Space.

When he was done, once again Emery proceeded to use [Spatial Gate] to continue his task of transporting the remaining survivors.

This time, however, he stumbled across a horde of Abyss creatures on the second opening of his Spatial Gate. The unexpected horde of Abyss creatures caught Emery and the survivors off guard, and thus chaos struck.

Tens of thousands of survivors who had just crossed the portal were screaming in panic, hundreds of them who were holding projectile weapons started to open fire at the incoming creatures.

Tratatata Tratatata Tarattata

With the chaos happening, Emery couldn't afford to close the Spatial Gate as people turned and ran back towards the portal, trying to return to safety's embrace. This only made the situation worse and made both Emery's hands occupied keeping the Spatial Gate open.

Fortunately this time, Emery had his 6 team members helping him.

A dozen shadow figures stood in the front line shooting arrows, while a red-haired girl created a wall of dark flames. At the same time, two fierce figures dashed into the ocean of Abyss creatures, one with a golden glaive and another with a huge ax.

It took a moment for Atlas and Klea to join the fray and unleashed their powerful spells that burn and blast the incoming creature to the point of leaving a massive crater on the yellow plains

And thus, the six of them swiftly annihilated all the hordes of Abyss creatures that came at them with ease. Thanks for their help, he could focus on channeling his [Spatial Gate], making the delivery of the remaining survivors much safer and faster.

Now that Emery has unsummoned all of his [Mineralized Warriors], with a larger Spirit Pool he could use, Emery was able to create an even bigger portal, allowing more people to go through in less time.

Within the next day, Emery moved around from the north base, back to the east, and then to the west again.

On the ninth day, Emery and his platoon 3 had gathered a total of 2.5 million people within the main base. There were reports of dozens of settlements that refused to evacuate, but the platoon still managed to get the number of survivors that they were aiming for.

As he looked at the overcrowded outpost and compared it with the number of survivors still left on the data, Emery hoped that the other platoons managed to save as many survivors as he and his platoon did, if perhaps not more.

"We are looking at 250,000 extra points in front of us," Annara said in astonishment as she looked at the number. To tell the truth, she did not expect that platoon 3 would be able to achieve such a thing, but here they were.

"The success rate was higher than expected," the half-machine acolyte shortly remarked. "81%."

As of this moment, most of the acolytes in their platoon were still busy handling the incoming survivors. Even so, most of them were elated by the result they managed to achieve.

Now, they only needed to wait another day and a half to finally pass their mid-test.

[Personal Points Ranking]

[Rank 15 - 589,771 points]

[Squad Points Ranking]

[Rank 31 - 1,781,022 points]

[Survivors: 8,662,018]

[Time left: 1 day 12 hours 12 minutes]

[Acolyte casualties: 26]

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Since Emery had not done anything apart from moving as many survivors as he could as fast as possible these last two days, his personal points ranking had fallen a few ranks. Such a result was to be expected, and if he were to be honest, he was not really that concerned about it at this point.

However, before Emery could appreciate the fruit of their labor, he suddenly felt a strange, overwhelming aura violently rushing from the north. Almost immediately after, the rush of aura was followed by heavy tremors that shook a large area of the ground he and his friends were standing on.

The aura was felt by all the other acolytes, and made Roran and Julian who had arrived at the base immediately approach him.

"Roran, do you know what this is?" Emery quickly asked the Harlight prince, but Roran shook his head with a doubtful expression.

A few minutes later, Emery received messages from Trish who was still on the frontline with her squad.

[Commander, there are an increasing number of Abyss creature hordes moving across the western plains]

Not even quite finished reporting the message to the other, a similar message came from Anas and also Rayne who were currently in the east and in the north respectively.

It was safe to say that the previous tremors brought the hordes out and just increased the dangerous level of the mid test a few folds.

"We need to fasten the evacuation and prepare for battle!" Emery quickly said

However, at the same time, Emery received a message on his device.

[You are being called upon for an Urgent mission to the restricted area. Will you accept?]

Chapter 933 - Mission

[You are being called upon for an Urgent mission to the restricted area. Will you accept?]

Emery reflexively turned to look at the expressions of the people around him and quickly realized that only the privileged acolytes received such a message.

Under normal circumstances, Emery would easily decide to accept such a mission, especially given how curious he was about the Primordial Wisp he would find in the restricted area.

However, the massive tremor that happened earlier and the tremendous aura that even now still lingered in his body made him reconsider his choice. The fact that two unusual events occurred at the same time as the horde of Abyss creatures grew in number naturally worried him.

Uncertain, Emery looked at Julian and Roran for opinion, "You two received the mission, right? What do you two think we should do?"

The Harlight Prince quickly gave his thoughts. "This message specifically adds the word Urgent to it, and this can't help but worry me. For the same reason, I believe that whatever it was, it happened beyond the academy's prediction, So if I can choose freely whether to accept or not, I'd rather not go and just focus on the task at hand."

Emery nodded at Roran's words because he could see the sense in them. However, Julian had a different opinion.

"I think the growing abyss hordes has a lot to do with what's going on in the restricted area, and the way I see it, the Commander needs an extra hand to assist him complete the task. Moreover, I believe it might become a problem for everyone if the Commander is to fail, hence we should send some to help"

Emery also nodded his head at Julian's words. Both inputs were useful to him in determining the choice they would make. Furthermore, as a commander himself Emery had to be decisive.

"Alright, I decided that we should at least send some of us," said Emery before turning to Julian. "I plan to go there myself; so Julian, will you stay here and take care of the survivors in my stead?"

Julian didn't seem to need time to think as he immediately nodded in agreement.

"I will also stay here and help him," said Roran calmly. He then glanced at Lyndell who was standing beside him and said, "You might need her help so take her with you just in case."

The blonde woman who always stood quietly next to Roran was surely Harlight's special bodyguard. She is number 32 in the privilege ranking and said to be specialist in healing, definitely someone important to have on a dangerous mission. Emery quickly accepts to the point of appreciating Roran to let her join.

Emery then saw that Annara, Atlas and Sigurd - all three - would join him. He naturally welcomed them with open arms because they were, after all, the upper tier of the privileged class.

With five people already on the team including himself, Emery felt that many people was enough and swiftly sent a message to the other captains, asking them to stay and help the survivors. This decision was accepted by everyone, except for one person - the one known as the Egyptian Queen.

"Huh! This is not fair, I want to join too!" Klea clearly expressed her dissatisfaction while looking at those who were going with a displeased expression on her face. Annara responded with her signature wicked smile.

Meanwhile, Emery could only smile helplessly when he heard her words. He felt bad that she had to be left behind, but at the same time, he actually felt rather glad that Klea wouldn't be joining.

Something about this mission had been worrying him quite a bit and even now he still couldn't shake off that particular feeling. Therefore, it would be best if Klea didn't tag along.

Emery was about to accept the mission when he suddenly received a message from a certain someone.

[Commander, I want to join too! Pick me up, I am deep under the shrine!]

From its content, it was clear that the message came from none other than Arcana who was currently still busy killing all trapped Abyss creatures in the shrine. Unfortunately for him, Emery had absolutely no intention to personally pick him up so deep within the Abyss nest.

But then, a thought suddenly popped into his mind, that he might need Arcana special ability. Eventually, the sudden thought succeeded in persuading him to let the child-looking acolyte come along.

Emery and the other 5 then accept the mission with their devices and a meeting location was given.

Hence, Emery cast the [Spatial Gate] and went to retrieve Arcana before proceeding to move towards the north side of the continent along with the other four people.

Along the way, his Spirit Reading found tens of thousands of Abyss creatures roaming the plains in large size hordes, and the closer they got to the north the bigger the hordes of Abyss creatures they encountered became.

"If all those hordes head to the base, I'm not really sure if they can defend it.."

At this moment, Emery suddenly regretted a little that he had brought all the strongest people with him. Alas, now that they had gone this far, there was no turning back. He could only hope that the task within the restricted area could be completed quickly.

After a dozen [Spatial Gate], the group of six finally arrived at the outskirts of the Sacred Mountain.

Looking at the majestic mountains with their peaks soaring above the clouds, Emery couldn't help but be blown away by the spectacle.

However, soon, as they approached the Sacred Mountain, Emery gradually found it more difficult to pinpoint the space with his Spirit Reading. As a result, the difficulty of casting [Spatial Gate] and the risk of failure increased exponentially, he even find it hard to simply sense things.

"There is a high fluctuation of energy within the air around these mountains" said the half machine acolyte after checking with his sensor.

Hence, Emery told the others to continue their journey on their orbiters, flying in the sky towards the mountain ranges with Arcana's eyes' ability on standby to help sense any unexpected trouble.

Half an hour later, Arcana finally found the energy signature of the Magus Alliance's group. The most prominent were obviously Commander Raynor's peak Full Moon Magus and two of his Crescent magus assistants. Along with the three of them, there were also around three dozen saint-level fighters and one striking figure, one of the strongest privilege acolyte - Zach Talon.

These people were standing on top of a sea of abyss creature corpses, and from the look of it, they just finished fighting a huge battle.

Chapter 934 - Gathered up

The holder of the Dragon bloodline, Zach, was standing in the midst of countless abyss corpses in silence with his sword pierced deep into the ground. His lonesome back, coupled with the scene of carnage around him created an indescribable atmosphere.

Sensing someone's arrival, Zach only glanced at Emery for a second before shifting his gaze back and closing his eyes once again.

On the other hand, the Commander of the Magus Alliance's group approached Emery and the others when he noticed their arrival. However, a look of disappointment appeared on the bulky, bearded man's face as soon as he realized how many of them there were.

"There are only six of you?"

Emery was unfazed by the rude reaction and just calmly replied, "Unfortunately yes, Commander. The others were unable to leave their post because they needed to protect the gathered survivors. But if you really need more people, I can-"

"Don't bother!" Raynor interrupted, not giving Emery a chance to finish his words. "We don't have any more time to wait for them. Their presence probably wouldn't make much of a difference anyway."

After saying those words, Commander Raynor turned and walked towards his two assistants, ignoring Emery who was standing there with a calm expression.

The two assistants both possessed the cultivation of Crescent Moon magus.

The woman with silver hair that cascaded down her back was called Bellain and was the one who came with Emery's platoon when they descended on this planet. As for the other person - who was a tall, skinny man with dark skin - there wasn't much Emery knew about the other party other than his name, Kenneth.

Since their first meeting inside the transport ship, Commander Raynor had clearly shown his dissatisfaction about the Magus Academy intervention and involvement in this mission. From the attitude just showed, it seemed he was still annoyed with it.

Annara, who was standing a step behind Emery, whispered words, a warning.

"We have to be careful, most magus would not speak like this to a privilege acolyte. There's something strange here."

Emery didn't say anything. He just nodded and put Annara's warning in his mind.

About one and a half hours later, other people started to arrive at the gathering spot. The ones Emery recognized were Vida Themari, the Bird of Prey, who had come together with the possessor of Tiger bloodline Rofos Tigerson.

There were three more people who arrived later on. Although they came from Platoon 2, which Zach was the leader of, these people didn't seem to have any intention of working together with the latter. They, for some reason, kept their distance from the Dragon bloodline's protege.

Emery realized his [Spatial Gate] spell should be the fastest means of transportation to come to this place.

With the way the acolytes from Platoon 2 acted around Zach and the fact that the Dragon bloodline was already here by the time he and his group arrived, Emery suspected Zach might have been spending his time hunting the Abyss creatures in the area near the Sacred Mountain, or even been following Commander Raynor's team from the start.

In the sea of corpses in the surrounding area, Emery could see there were more stage 2 Abyss creatures than stage 1. Situated near the source of this Calamity - the Sacred Mountain - it was only normal for the Abyss creatures to be much stronger than the ones Emery found along the way.

This was also probably the reason why Zach was able to maintain his first rank in the personal ranking that he had maintained from the beginning until now.

Soon after, a big group of people arrived at the gathering spot; this time, they appeared with grandeur. Eight privileged acolytes came together on top of a flying golden disk led by one female figure Emery quickly recognized - Jinkan Nephilim.

However, to Emery's surprise, there were no other Nephilim with her. Instead, there was a combination of platoon one and Zach's platoon's two acolytes who had come with her.

Emery couldn't imagine what had happened between the two platoons in the past nine days to result in this spectacle.

On the other hand, this was probably the reason why the Nephlims were able to dominate half of the top five group points ranking.

Seeing the situation and indescribable atmosphere, Emery was just glad he wasn't involved in the middle of them.

When Jinkan arrived, the previously haughty Commander Raynor showed a completely different kind of attitude towards her. Apparently, the man was not that bold and stupid to mess with the descendant of one of the twelve biggest factions of the universe.

On the other hand, Jinkan gave off a certain aura that was somewhat suppressive, even as she spoke to Commander Raynor politely. "My apologies, Commander. I was wondering if we could wait for Eesho for a bit. He's currently occupied by something, but will definitely arrive soon enough."

Emery could see how Commander Raynor's expression changed. He was obviously conflicted by the female Nephilim's request. But eventually, the man decided to go along with her wish.

After that, Jinkan turned her head to where Emery was and gave a sharp gaze as well as a faint smile, before walking toward him. In response, Emery simply raised his eyebrows.

"I can see you did well for the past nine days." The female Nephilim said, starting the conversation. She then glanced at the five people standing behind Emery, before opening her mouth again, "I didn't expect you to be the leader type either, how unexpected... you can even control this little one."

The one Jinkan pointed out was of course none other than Arcana. The kid-looking seemed to become angry at her words but did not dare to voice out his anger either against the powerful faction.

Emery stared at the blonde hair Nephilim and said calmly, "What do you want?"

Hearing the question, the girl surprisingly chuckled for a while. "Hahaha, if I did have something I wanted from you... I would have already taken it." She was silent for a second before saying, "For now, let's hope we can help each other."

After saying that, she turned around and walked back to her own group, leaving Emery confused as to what she meant by her last words.

Moments later, instead of seeing Eesho arrive at the gathering spot, a strong tremor once again occurred and violently shook the mountainous area they were currently in.

Commander Raynor turned to those who were present and said, "Another wave is coming! Prepare to fight!"

Chapter 935 - Approaching

It didn't take long for Emery and the others to see a destructive scene as the Abyss creatures came rushing from several caves hidden beneath the mountains. A few even burst out of the ground - Crawlers, Lurkers, and Roaches.

They were numbered in tens of thousands as they rapidly headed towards the group like an unstoppable wave.

On the other hand, the three dozen saint fighters dressed in dark uniforms brought out their melee weapons. Swords, spears, axes, and so on made their appearances as their wielder separated themselves into groups of six and shot swiftly in six different directions.

Seeing how orderly and synergized these people moved, Emery had to admit that, although they merely possessed saint-level cultivation and were no match against him in one-on-one fights, they were indeed veteran fighters.

They cast simple, rudimentary body enhancement spells onto themselves, and all of a sudden a group of effective killing machines made their appearance on the board. In a matter of minutes, hundreds of Abyss creatures had breathed their last.

In the meantime, Commander Raynor just stood in the center while his assistants went into action.

Magus Bellaine cast a Tier 5 spell [Wind Blade], creating heaps of crescent winds that sliced through the Abyss creatures as quickly as chopping vegetables. On the other hand, the side where Magus Kenneth was at was extremely vibrant, as his [Lightning wave] summoned darts of lightning and roaring thunder, wreaking havoc among the creatures.

In seconds, the previously calm mountain atmosphere turned into a scene of chaos as fierce battles raged on across the mountains and the Abyss creatures relentlessly burst forth from the ground.

Spllaatt!! Splaatt!!

All of the twenty privileged acolytes present swiftly followed the Magus Alliance's team into battle, unleashing a myriad of spells to their surroundings that were swarmed with countless Abyss creatures. Rocks, plants, and ices stopped the bloodthirsty advance, while fiery explosions and deafening blasts turned the creatures into ashes.

Not wanting to be left out of the party, Emery swiftly cast a spell from his repertoire that was very appropriate for this occasion.

[Ash Blast]

A cloud of dark ash suddenly appeared in the area where Emery was. It swiftly engulfed the Abyss creatures rushing towards Emery, but the only fate awaiting for them was a merciless slaughter. As the ash cloud subsided, an annihilation scene unfolded where dead bodies were scattered everywhere and not a single corpse managed to remain intact.

A few minutes later, when another wave of the Abyss creatures came, finally higher stage creatures made their appearances. They broke out and shook the ground upon their arrival, causing some of the acolytes and saint-level fighters to lose their balance and stumble to the ground.

Dozens of stage 4 Abyss creatures, the hulking Ravagers, emerged from the ground and started shooting poisonous spit from their mouths. In response, several defensive spells, walls and barriers were erected as protection.

"Stage 4?! Me! I want it! Give them to me!" shouted Arcana as he immediately used his third eye ability and successfully enchanted one of the stage 4 Ravagers, making it shoot its poisonous spit towards its brethren instead.

Seeing this, the kid-looking acolyte laughed maniacally. "Hahaha! Kill them all, my minion!!"

Alas, the laughter only lasted for more than a few seconds as Arcana's enchanted Abyss creature was suddenly split in half by a sword. As its two separated bodies fell helplessly to the ground, Zach's figure was seen standing right behind it with his hand clenching the bloodstained sword.

Splaatt!!

"NO!!!" Arcana's hysterical scream resounded clearly in the air. Unfortunately for him, Zach completely ignored his scream and just continued killing the Abyss creatures that were nearby.

A few minutes later, even though the group continued to kill the Abyss creatures relentlessly, the valley was almost completely filled with crawling Abyss creatures. It was at this time that Atlas' figure could be seen shooting up into the sky before he unleashed his fire and thunder combined spell [Flare Tempest] onto the ground below, sending out a storm of extreme obliteration that instantly killed a large number of Abyss creatures.

The aftermath of the spell was so astounding that it temporarily distracted everyone's attention without exception. The bright flash produced by the spell shot high into the sky and could be seen from a distance.

Suddenly, a figure was seen approaching rapidly from the distant sky. A man standing on a golden disc slowly descended from the sky, seemingly oblivious to the chaos unfolding on the ground. He was the one Jinkan had been waiting for, Eesho Nephilim.

The man clasped his hand together creating some kind of a hand sign and Emery saw a blazing light emerging before turning into several powerful rays that turned everything in its path into dust.

[Sun Beam]

The rays of light wreaked havoc amidst the horde of Abyss creatures, so destructive that it managed to kill more Abyss creatures than Atlas had just killed in a matter of seconds. Moreover, dozens of deep ditches were made in the ground as a result.

The fierce battle continued for a few more minutes until finally the tremor stopped and no more Abyss creatures emerged from the ground. The battle finally ended and out of all fifty or so people who participated in the battle, only three were injured by the stage 4 Abyss creature's poisonous spit.

"Now that everyone is here, listen up!" said Commander Raynor in a loud voice.

The commander gave a brief explanation of what kind of existence they would be facing in the upcoming mission, and specific instructions for the acolytes to follow certain rules during the fight.

"Our mission is the successful retrieval of the lifeform. If you dare to mess this up, I will not hesitate to fail you or kill you if I have to."

After finishing his briefing, Commander Raynor immediately flew into the sky and made his way towards a certain direction. His two assistants followed right behind him and seeing this, the others swiftly followed suit.

As they went deeper into the Sacred Mountain and got closer to their objective, Emery could feel a much stronger aura of familiarity, making him sure where he was heading to.

A few minutes later, the group arrived at one of the largest mountains, and from its peak, they could see a huge crater that was about three miles wide.

Without further ado, led by Commander Raynor himself, the group started descending into the large hole deep into the ground. When they reached inside, they found that an even bigger open space existed.

There was no lava or any source of fire whatsoever, but Emery saw traces of trees and plants in the surrounding area that had recently been turned into ashes.

The object that immediately attracted his eyes was no other than the huge gray tree that stood in the center of this space. This tree must have been the same Tree of light in his vision. The previous majestic tree was no more, but even though it appeared to have completely dried up, it still exuded a powerful aura.

From afar, Emery recognized a creature he had seen before - the stage 5 Abyss creature Chrysalis. There were four of them, lying around the dead-looking tree and motionless.

Seeing this, Commander Raynor turned and said, "All of you spread out as planned, at least 100 meters away from that tree."

It didn't take long for the three dozen saint-level figures and 20 privileged acolytes scattered into six groups and surrounded the place. Meanwhile, Commander Raynor accompanied by his two assistants and, surprisingly, one Zach Talon approached the dead-looking tree.

As they got closer to the tree, Emery who was partially paying attention to them could surprisingly hear a faint whisper in his ear.

It said, "Go away..."

Chapter 936 - Circling

The group was separated into 6 sides, all of them circling the dead-looking tree 100 meters away.

None were allowed to cross that line under Commander Reynor's orders, with the exception of his two assistants and Zach Talon.

As they were separated into 6 groups, Emery split his companions in two. He would be with Annara and Arcana, while the other group would be Atlas, Sigurd and Lyndell. Each group was accompanied by a total of six saint fighters.

All the 36 saint fighters and 20 privileged acolytes were on their position and ready to guard against any incoming threat, which most likely would emerge from the dozens of caves around the crater.

While the groups were getting ready for their task, Emery's attention was focused on something else. The grey tree that solely stood at the center attracted him so much that he was unable to pull his gaze away from it.

Emery stared at the dried ash gray tree. The more he kept looking at it, the more he felt conflicted.

He could sense a certain emotion coming from it.

Despair... Hopelessness... All of it came directly into his mind.

He swore he could hear a whisper in his ear as if echoing from it.

"Go... away...."

The sound of the whisper caught him off guard. To be sure, Emery turned to Annara and asked if she heard something just now, yet the young lady replied she hadn't heard anything at all.

After hearing the answer and finding the whispers were indeed very real, he felt compelled to go ahead and approach the tree even more.

However, he would not do it, or rather, could not. Not only was he strictly forbidden from doing it, he also wouldn't know what would happen if he did. Worse, he might ruin the whole mission by doing it.

Now that everyone was already in place, Commander Raynor, followed by his assistants and Zach, walked towards the tree. As soon as he got close to the tree's vicinity, the four stage 5 Abyss creature Chrysalis woke up from their slumber.

"Let quickly be done with it," Commander Raynor said, giving a sign to Zach and his two assistants. Immediately after, the three of them dashed towards the cocoon creatures with each facing one.

Shriieekkk!

The two magus quickly casted their respective elemental spells and attacked the cocoon Abyss creatures, progressing quickly to the point where they eventually cast powerful tier 6 spells in succession.

Magus Bellaine with her [Wind Blade] was able to inflict a wound even deeper than Emery's most powerful slash, while Magus Kenneth took out two short metal poles that enhanced his lighting attack and electrocuted the other Chrysalis.

The cocoon Abyss creatures, on the other hand, started to shoot sharp thin threads toward their opponents. However, the two magus showed how experienced they were, as they were able to cut off the sharp threads with their weapons and evade those they couldn't block.

On one side of the battle, Zach was already in his Dragon Transformation, as a result of this he appeared to have an easier time and better form compared to the two magus.

He delivered a triple strike with his large sword, causing the Chrysalis to shriek in pain. Then, he put his palm on the creature's body, which resulted in the creature being engulfed in flame.

In a span of time that was less than 10 seconds, the poor creature had been given a beating of its lifetime. Its body then started to glow as it cast its healing ability in an effort to regenerate from the powerful attacks that Zach had just delivered.

Commander Raynor, on the opposite side, just walked casually toward the last creature. He approached the Abyss creature in a nonchalant manner. When the Chrysalis let out a loud cry and shot its thread, he didn't even try to dodge out of the way to avoid being hit by them.

Emery knew first hand how strong those threads were, especially considering the fact that hundreds of them wrapped the magus into a human-size cocoon. So it was normal for him to be puzzled as to why Commander Raynor didn't dodge. The man didn't even try.

The cocoon Commander Raynor was wrapped in was gradually pulled into the creature's mouth.

However, as it opened its maw and showed its dozen fangs, everyone was startled by the appearance of a slight glow that emanated from the Commander. The next instant, under the shocked eyes of Emery, the latter clenched his muscles and broke apart the strong threads like tearing up papers.

Unexpectedly, Commander Raynor had undergone a transformation, physically turning into a golden figure with its two arms grew to be twice as large. Before the Chrysalis could do anything, he grabbed the creature's mouth and splitted it apart in two.

Splllaaaattttt!

Because of the severity of the wound, the creature couldn't regenerate properly, and Emery saw a familiar tiny butterfly come out and fly away from the creature's body. However, it seemed Commander Raynor had expected it as he pulled out a crystal ball and managed to pull the flying creature inside with just a slight gesture.

It was trapped inside and was unable to phase out from it.

What the Commander did next was throwing the crystal away and immediately after, it was caught by his assistant, Magus Bellaine.

Afterward, the Magus Commander continued to make his way to the tree, evidently undisturbed by anything.

Shrriiiiieeeeekkkk!!!

Another loud shrieking sound could be heard as Commander Raynor's hand touched the tree. The next instant, a strong tremor once again shook the ground beneath, as if the earth itself responded to the action.

It was twice stronger than before, as it became significantly more intense, it also quickly followed by rumbling and chirping sound that came from the dozens of the caves surrounding the craters.

"Finally time to get more points!" Annara said as she pulled out her two ebony whips and was ready for battle.

The girl's prediction was spot on, as an enormous horde of creatures immediately rushed out from the caves. There were approximately tens of thousands of creatures which surrounded the group from all sides in the area.

Everyone was ready for their position, and right before these hordes were about to draw near, Emery saw the Commander stabbed his arm into the tree. In a matter of seconds, Emery was abruptly able to sense a more powerful aura emanating from the tree. The previous despair-filled whispers had turned into rage.

It was at this same instant he heard the whisper recur in his head for the second time.

"You will... regret this..."

Chapter 937 - Surrounded

An earth-shattering tremor occurred, the ground rumbled and roared loudly as if an apocalypse had descended in that very instant. This catastrophic event was then quickly overtaken by a sea of Abyss creatures. There seemed to be more Abyss creatures than all they had seen in total to date.

"Incoming! Raise the barrier!" Magus Kenneth quickly shouted.

Upon receiving the orders, the saint-level fighters swiftly took out a metal rod about three meters long from their spatial ring and plunged them deep into the ground. Each of them was on the six sides. Immediately a transparent energy barrier appeared forming into a hexagon-shaped wall behind them.

"Do not be careless! We all still need to protect the Rod or the barrier will collapse," said one of the saint-level fighters, when he noticed that some of the privileged acolytes were lowering their guard.

With the existence of the barrier wall, they only needed to heed a simple strategy of containing the Abyss creatures, while also protecting the Rods. All acolytes gladly followed orders, except for Emery, who still had his gaze fixed on the dead-looking tree.

The raging whispers still went on and eventually crashed into his brain in the form of deafening shrieks. Emery felt extremely anxious, as if there was some great peril lurking somewhere near. When he saw what Commander Raynor was doing, his instincts screamed at him, as the latter stabbed and drove his hand into the tree.

"Heeiii! Emery! What are you doing?! They are coming!"

Emery was kicked out of his reverie by a voice calling his name. He shifted his gaze to beyond the protective wall and saw the Abyss creatures were only a dozen meters away. Even Annara was already screaming in a slight hoarse voice, her hand left a blur, as her burning whip lashed around, decapitating and slashing all the Abyss creatures nearby.

Arcana, on the other hand, ran behind the six saint fighters, saying an excuse that he was, apparently, not 'specialized' in such battle situations.

To temporarily fill in the gap that appeared because of Arcana's abrupt escape, Emery first cast his powerful offensive spell [Ash Blast] to thin up the incoming horde of Abyss creatures.

After that, he cast [Jade Root] to create some degree of obstruction to make it harder for the hordes of Abyss creatures to get close, making it easier for the saint fighters and the other acolytes to finish them off.

Since he absolutely had no idea how long this siege situation they were in would last, Emery decided to take out his Savage Blade and join the battlefield where the saint fighters were busy fighting. This way, he would be able to conserve his Spirit Pool for any emergency that might come up unexpectedly.

Splaattt! spllaattt!

Next to Emery's group, Sigurd and Atlas teamed up flawlessly against the waves of Abyss creatures, with the latter firing relentless destructive spells from high above the sky, providing much-needed protection to the former, who was fighting with his axe on the ground at risk of being overwhelmed by numbers.

All the fighters on the six sides of the protective barrier were fighting fiercely against the seemingly endless Abyss creatures. However, with every minute that passed, not only were more and more Abyss creatures arriving, but they were also increasing in quality. Stage 1 Abyss creatures were gradually being replaced by stage 2 and stage 3 Abyss creatures flowing out of the caves non-stop.

"It's raining with points! This is great!" Annara shouted as she activated her bloodline and transformed into her bat form, causing her skin to turn pale and her eyes bloody red.

Emery, however, took no notice of her words, his mind was still on what was happening in the center.

Zach had managed to kill the Chrysalis by cutting the stage 5 Abyss creature's body into pieces. Meanwhile, the female magus dashed towards the creature - a glowing butterfly. By now, there were only two Chrysalis left and, seeing how they fared against their opponents, neither of them would last long.

With Zach already freed from his opponent, he quickly helped the other two magus kill the stage 5 Abyss creatures.

Thanks to that, the two stage 5 Abyss creatures fell under the Dragon Blood Executioner's blade in a matter of minutes. Naturally, every glowing butterfly that came out of the Chrysalis' corpses went into the crystal ball in Magus Bellaine's hand.

With each death of the stage 5 Abyss creature, Emery could clearly hear the shrieks of pain coming from the grey tree. In fact, it grew to the point where he finally couldn't handle it any longer.

"What do you want me to do?" Emery screamed inwardly, in agony.

It seemed he could only hear these whispers, but whoever spoke to him was unable to hear him back or was too angry to listen. Emery rubbed his forehead in frustration as he really didn't know what to do.

The fierce battle continued for a few more minutes. As time went on, the tremors grew more intense. It was at this moment that Arcana suddenly shouted.

"In the air! More coming from the air, everyone!"

As if spellbound, everyone lifted their heads following Arcana's words. When Emery looked up, he realized the sky was already filled with dark clouds. The figures of many creatures could be vaguely seen

among the clouds. Moments later, he saw thousands of stage 2 Abyss creature Flyers coming crashing down on them.

If that wasn't bad enough, hundreds of new kinds of Abyss creatures among the hordes of Flyers. Emery's eyes constricted as the scan results appeared before his eyes.

[Reavers]

[Battle power 80]

[Abyss Creature stage 3]

The arrival of thousands of Abyss creatures attacking from above became the last straw that broke the camel's back. The protective barrier had lost its use, forcing several acolytes to fly into the air in order to deal with the new arrivals.

In the meantime, Zach and the two magus swiftly surrounded the grey tree. Three of them were the last defense for the Magus Commander, who seemed to be in some sort of trance after stabbing his hand into the tree.

More and more Abyss creatures came charging and the group was gradually getting overwhelmed by the horde. Emery saw several saint fighters begin to fall at the hands of the Abyss creatures, seriously injured or worse, dead.

Lyndell began to move and do what she was most capable of, healing those who were injured. The same could also be said of Emery, as he cast one of his healing-type spells, [Rejuvenating Mushroom].

Unfortunately, their actions didn't seem to have much of an impact. There were simply too many Abyss creatures to deal with.

Out of the 6 sides, other than Emery's two groups, only the Nephilim side seemed unaffected by the hordes, even the half blood group Vida Themari and Rofos Tigerson were overwhelmed.

Crackkkk!

"We lost one of the Rods!"

"They are spilling in!"

Zach took action toward the hordes marching to the center. This time he cast his devastating spell [Mega Flare]. Emery only felt a piercing light in his eyes for a moment, before hundreds if not thousands of Abyss creatures were killed, leaving only ashes behind.

It was at this moment that Emery finally felt a change of emotion in the whispers within the tree. Which was followed by the Magus Commander successfully pulling an object out of the tree.

It was a white wooden staff with a large golden pearl attached on top of it that shone bright and emitted a powerful light element spirit force.

"We have successfully retrieved it!" Shouted the commander raising the object high in the air

Chapter 938 - Changing

The moment he came to knowledge about the existence of Primordial Wisp on this planet, Emery knew that the Magus Commander had come to retrieve it personally; however, he just didn't expect that it would be taking the form of a wooden staff.

The staff appeared to be a high tier artifact, but within a glance, he was able to tell that it contained the essence of the Primordial Wisp, either in its entirety or in part.

As soon as the staff was pulled out from the tree, Emery saw a crack instantly appearing in the grey tree. In just a few brief moments, the crack widened considerably, and then soon after that, the trunk split in two.

In the moments leading up to that point, there was a wailing sound that was quickly followed by another strong tremor.

The crack seen on the tree continued to extend downwards and proceeded to break the stone beneath the tree. It split the ground and there was another unexpected scene as sharp blade-like claws suddenly came out from the ground.

"What is this now?!" said Commander Raynor, eyeing the claws warily.

It was at this precise moment that a humongous dark creature emerged from beneath the ground, making a loud shrieking voice that shook the eardrums of those who heard it.

Shrrriieekkkk!!

The creature was measured around five meters in width, and it was covered in dark hard skin. It had what appeared to be two large pincer mouths and was equipped with several scythes arms on its sides.

The creature came charging at Commander Reynor with its pincer mouth opened wide, yet the Magus Commander threw a powerful punch that packed such strong momentum.

Baamm!!!!

The blow was so powerful that the air seemed to ripple for a moment, it was able to disorient the creature and cause it to temporarily stagger for a split second. On the other hand, as a consequence of this, the ground started to rumble even more violently, and it turned out that the creature was much bigger than everyone had anticipated.

To everyone's surprise, the creature slowly revealed its entire body. It kept rising from the ground, meters and meters long with not several, but dozens of scythe-like arms attached to it along its length. It was the very personification of monstrosity.

[Terror Centipede]

[Abyss Creature Stage 6]

[Battle Power: 495]

The giant Abyss creature had finally shown its complete form. It had to be at least a hundred meters in length, and given that each pair of its legs were essentially blades, there must have been at least hundreds of deadly weapons on each side of it.

Unlike any of the other Abyss creatures he had come across previously, Commander Reynor finally became anxious when he saw the humongous creature. Seeing the attack that aimed for his life, he immediately put the wooden staff on his back and quickly grabbed the two charging pincers.

There was a sudden outburst of power that emanated from within the Magus Commander as his body was once again covered with golden light.

"Arrgggggg!!!"

Commander Raynor groaned as he was barely able to hold the creature in his grasp with just his two bare hands. Fortunately, he still has Zach and his two assistants by his side. Seeing the commander was in predicament, they immediately moved and started to deliver attacks on the Abyss creature's body.

The emergence of the monstrous creature brought a surprise to everyone around. Its existence also brought about another precarious situation, as it seemed to throw all the surrounding Abyss creatures into a frenzy

The whole situation quickly escalated for the worse, turning chaotic and dangerous.

A massive horde of Abyss creatures charged at Emery and the others with amplified ferocity. Tens of thousands rushing from all directions, thousands coming from the sky, and one particularly monstrous Abyss creature in the center.

Each and everyone, saint fighters and acolytes were occupied with dozens of Abyss creatures. The number started to exceed what the group could effectively manage, and as a consequence of this, a number of saint fighters started to fall one by one.

"The second Rod is destroyed!!!"

"Hold the line!!! Hold the line!!!"

The atmosphere started to become bleak, filled with painful screams and miserable shouts echoing through the air. It has become out of control.

With nothing but Abyss creatures around, Emery decided to let go and took drastic measures as he started to cast offensive spells indiscriminately, blasting all the creatures around him into smithereens.

[Ash Blast] [Dark Seeds]

Bamm!! Baaamm!!

When his surroundings were devoid of Abyss creatures thanks to his earlier rampage, Emery quickly dashed toward Annara to form a more effective result. As he stood back to back with the red-haired girl, Emery asked,

"Is this how retrieving the Wisp is supposed to be? Is this normal!?"

Annara shouted, "How would I know!! You are asking the wrong person!"

Soon enough another shout was heard

"The third Rod has been destroyed!!!"

By this time, the defensive lines were no longer in existence. As the situation had completely turned into chaos and some individuals had been eliminated from the battlefield, everyone was no longer thinking about maintaining formation or defensive lines, all that remained was just one intention of eliminating as many Abyss creatures as possible in order to survive.

In the center, Zach was still fiercely striking at the giant Abyss creature's back over and over again. Even though there were certainly several cracks created, yet no matter how hard he tried, it was not enough to really stop the creatures.

At this point, the Magus Commander went on to use his special battle art skill [Divine Might]. The skill took effect and caused his muscle to begin to swell with an extreme amount of strength in addition to his body once again glowing.

Craaacckkk!!!

As he had been burst with extra power, Commander Raynor was able to break apart the two pincers just by using his bare hands. However, the creature appeared to have its own special attacks as well, and just in the blink of an eye, its many scythes suddenly elongated and crushed the Commander's body from behind.

It was fortunate that the Commander was protected by his golden metallic armor, thus the Abyss creature's attack only gave light wounds to the man.

"Aargggg!!! You damned insect!!!" Commander Raynor cursed, gritting his teeth in pain.

The Magus Commander became enraged by the injury he received, and he took a step closer to the creature. This time, he uses his best battle art skill [Power Geyser]. Successive hard punches landed upon the Abyss creature and cracked open its head, making dark blood pour out profusely.

It appeared that Commander Raynor only needed to do a few more attacks in order to finally kill the creature. However, right at this precise moment Emery suddenly felt a bad premonition.

"Something is changing...!"

The previous raging whisper of the wisp suddenly turned into one intent that was centered on the wooden staff that was on the commander's back.

Following that, the wooden staff suddenly deformed and grew out, instantly entangling the commander back.

"What!! Argh!!!"

It grew rapidly into his neck and chest, then just in a matter of seconds, it grew all over his body, and with it, the previous multiple scythes had finally been able to pierce the magus body.

"Commander!!!" shouted the two magus assistants.

However, before they could do anything about it, a bright light shone from the ball of golden pearls of the staff. It was emanating energy that was nothing Emery ever felt before

"Cosmic power!!!" shouted Annara.

The bright energy blasted out, gushing a mist that covered the whole crater, and a moment later a peculiar explosion seemed to occur in the atmosphere, followed by an overwhelming surge of spirit force all around him.

Even with his limited knowledge, Emery knows that this is certainly not normal and was already beyond the extent of the mission.

As he had predicted, suddenly an information came from the device into his mind.

[Warning - Calamity stage increases to level 3]

[Mission updated - retreat and stay alive until help arrives]

Chapter 939 - Observation

In the Magus Academy, there was a special, enclosed room that seemingly had no access to the outside world. There were no windows or doors in sight, but that didn't seem to bother the dozens of people in uniforms.

A massive cube was floating in the center of the room, each side emitting bright light split into several screens, each with different moving images.

All the people inside the room stared at the screens with paramount seriousness.

Each was focused on their personal screens. Some were taking notes, others were tasked to keep an eye and notify others when they saw something relevant.

Right in the middle of the circular room, five people stood close together, their cloaks and uniforms indicating they were of a higher rank. Then, behind those five, two people stood. One was a woman, who had a glass artifact in one of her eyes, and a middle-aged man with grey hair. The man would occasionally react to the reports, indicating he was the one in charge.

"Let me see the whole data once again."

"Yes, headmaster." The woman said.

Right as the words left her mouth, the cube's light shifted a bit, and a much larger screen appeared alongside the soft glow of the contraption.

[Mystara - 8217 - Day 10]

[Total points: 227,898,942]

[Platoon 1: 101,494,474]

[Platoon 2: 66,631,927]

[Platoon 3: 59,772,541]

[Acolytes passed: 273/300]

[Acolytes eliminated: 22]

[Arrakis - 2189 - Day 8]

[Total points: 179,119,863]

[Platoon 1: 73,087,465]

[Platoon 2: 63,864,321]

[Platoon 3: 42,168,077]

[Acolytes passed: 233/300]

[Acolytes eliminated: 18]

[Andora - 6210 - Day 9]

[Total points: 191,294,693]

[Platoon 1: 80,561,663]

[Platoon 2: 42,971,037]

[Platoon 3: 67,761,993]

[Acolytes passed: 246/303]

[Acolytes eliminated: 27]

The gray-haired man was none other than Delbrand, the Magus Academy's headmaster.

For the last 9 days, he had been staying in this secure room. He had even forgotten sleep and any other need, as he was unable to keep his eyes and mind off the screen. After all, this was the first live test in a long time in the history of the Magus Academy.

The people standing in front of him started to pass some notable happenings on each planet to the headmaster, starting from the urgent one.

"The acolytes assigned to Arrakis Desert have some problems with the native sandworms creature. They have spotted colossal-sized sandworm, how should we proceed?"

Delbrand checked the notes and replied, "Tell the acolytes to retreat and send the sandworm's locations to the commander in charge."

"Yes, Headmaster," the man retreated and fiddled with the cube in front of him

Another one came and gave the next report.

"Headmaster, an increased abyss creature activity has been detected on Andora planet. However, the commander in charge said he can handle this matter himself."

Headmaster Delbrand's expression turned a bit sour. This was news he didn't like to hear, as such activity normally would lead to unpredictable results. He would rather not involve the student with the

magus alliance task. However, for this kind of situation, it was standard procedure to send some reinforcements for the team in charge.

"Create an urgent message requesting optional participation for the privileged class."

"Yes, Headmaster."

After making sure both of the notifications were properly prepared, Delbrand proceeded to look at the next report.

"The acolytes assigned to finish the test on Mystara are wrapping up their mission faster than expected. The first platoon has managed to clean up the root of the mutation. The holder of the top rank is still Oliver the Sword Saint, who has just crossed the 1 million points threshold."

Hearing the news made Delbrand heave a sigh of relief. After all, one out of three planets appeared to have successfully finished their mission. That left two more planets to worry about and two more days of supervising this special Magus Academy event.

Looking at the data once again, the millions of points racked up by the acolytes were proof they were successful in this mission. However, his main concern was still the number of acolytes who got eliminated.

He spent a lot of effort creating a safety measures by developing the new combat armor. However, in a real combat situation, nothing was 100% guaranteed.

The armor could indeed increase the survival rate of the acolytes by automatically teleporting them to a base station in outer space just outside the planet. However help may not arrive in time, or they may be dead before anything could be done. It was proven that out of the 67 reported incidents, 10 acolytes were too late to be saved.

He still believed such a test was definitely something necessary for this generation, hence he could do nothing except hope that nothing bad would happen in the next 2 days.

Unfortunately, just hours after, he realized fate was not on his side. One of the men in uniform reported on urgent data from Andora planet.

"Headmaster, the energy scale emitted by the planet has suddenly increased tremendously."

The headmaster quickly turned to look at the cube confirming the data.

"Get me eyes on the ground!"

A screen beamed from the cube and showed an image from one of the combat suits of the acolytes stationed near the energy shift event. His eyes almost bulged out of his face when he saw the glowing wooden staff taken from inside a massive tree.

This situation quickly surprised him and Delbrand suddenly turned emotional.

"Why is there an artifact inside the tree?! Why have we not been notified about this?"

Having an artifact inside such a sacred tree would be something bad for the primordial lifeform and, from the look of it, the commander in charge knew about this.

This new information added with the emergence of a stage 6 Abyss creature quickly made the headmaster decide to send an urgent message.

"Send a priority message: Warning to all acolytes in Andora, retreat and wait for reinforcements!"

"Yes, headmaster."

At the same time, the headmaster saw the rapid increase in energy scale and was forced to update the calamity level of the planet to level 3

This Level 3 was something that should be dealt with by multiple magus at the peak stage or a grand magus. It was definitely unsuitable for the academy's acolytes.

Not willing to take any chances Delbrand added an extra order.

"Send out the standby magus reinforcements as a backup right away!!"

"Yes, Headmaster!"

Chapter 940 - Decision

[Warning - Calamity stage increased to level 3]

[Mission updated - Retreat and stay alive until help arrives]

The sudden announcement that suggested a catastrophe caught Emery and the others off guard. Nevertheless, it only took Annara a few moments to read and grasp the message, before proceeding to shout at Emery.

"Fight or flight?!"

Emery heard the red-haired girl's words, but with the fog of mist covering their sight and with the threat of the Abyss creatures still lingering, it would be unwise for him to move recklessly.

At the moment, he could only see clearly about two to three meters in front of him. Furthermore, just like before, his Spirit Reading was not really reliable, making him hard to sense anything beyond the fog.

With this Emery cast the next best thing to help him sense his surroundings.

[Mineralized Warrior]

In just a few seconds, twenty Mineralized soldiers emerged from the ground with stone swords in their hands. Not only that, but Emery also created ten Type 2 Mineralized Warriors - the wolves to increase the summons fighting power. The thirty summons went ahead and protected them from all directions, working in unison to restrain the incoming Abyss creatures.

Emery then shouted, "Atlas! Arcana!" He hoped his shout would reach both of them, so they would understand his intention to regroup by following the direction of his voice.

Thankfully, it didn't take long for Atlas, followed by Sigurd and Lyndell, to appear in his field of vision. However, Emery didn't see any saint fighters coming along with them. Naturally, he asked Atlas and the latter told him neither of them were willing to follow him.

Emery sighed when he heard that, as it most likely meant those saint fighters were determined to risk their life holding back the Abyss creatures.

On the other hand, Arcana arrived and surprisingly brought four saint fighters with him. Emery didn't know how the kid-looking acolyte convinced them seeing that Atlas's group was unable to bring any.

But then, once Emery took a closer look at these knights and realized the four of them looked dazed - a familiar sight as Arcana had used his ability to bewitch them into following him.

"Seriously?" Emery asked, his brows furrowed.

With an innocent expression on his face, Arcana asked back. "Why? Is something wrong? I still need their protection. Besides, I'm sure they will thank me later for saving their lives."

Hearing such an answer, Emery decided not to bother with Arcana's antics for now and focused on fighting the Abyss creatures that were still coming incessantly. With his Savage Blade in hand, he cut down every Abyss creature charging towards him.

Spllaattt! Spllaatt!

Next to him, Sigurd the Titan bloodline swung the huge ax in his hand, violently slicing through the air and the Abyss creatures alike with his overwhelming strength. Coupled with Emery's Mineralized Warriors and the four saint fighters fighting alongside on the frontline, not a single Abyss creature managed to get close to them.

Even so, there were still dozens of hordes of Abyss creatures attacking from all directions beyond the mist. The earth-shattering tremor, deafening chirps and screams, and disturbing screams continued non-stop.

A minute later, everyone simultaneously turned their heads in one particular direction as they suddenly felt a powerful aura sweeping over them from that direction. Given the position they were in, Emery guessed the aura was coming from the central area where Commander Raynor, his two assistants, and Zach were currently.

This phenomenon was quickly followed by something else. Emery watched as the mist that obstructed their view and blocked his Spirit Reading gradually dissipated. When the fog was finally completely gone, the group was stunned by the sight that greeted them.

A huge, shadowy figure loomed over the area in the middle. Despite being 100 meters away from him, Emery could clearly feel the immense pressure the creature was giving off.

He was shocked to see the previous black creature had turned all golden. His eyes were then drawn to its pincers, where the figure of Magus Kenneth could be seen. The man seemed to be struggling with all his might to break free, but his body was eventually cut in half and thrown away like trash.

It was such a horrible and terrifying sight to see a magus figure die so easily

Shrrrrriieekkkk!

[Royal Centipede]

[Abyss Creature Stage 7]

[Battle Power: Undefined]

It was so powerful that the scanner couldn't get its power. Beside its new golden body, Emery noticed that the hundreds of scythe-like arms were three times longer than before, around five meters long each. However, what shocked him the most was the object in the area just under its head - a glowing golden orb.

It didn't take a genius to realize the Primordial Wisp had merged with the creature, making it to become the strongest Abyss creature on the planet. And now, it would rampage in rage.

Emery quickly shifted his gaze to the area around the creature and saw that Zach and Magus Bellaine were still alive. They were even still throwing attacks at the creature. On the other hand, Commander Raynor's fate was unknown, the man's figure was nowhere to be seen.

As for the saint fighters, except for the ones standing close to him and the Nephilim's group, all of them had been overrun by the horde of Abyss creatures and breathed their last in this place.

Now that Emery had figured out and analyzed the situation, he quickly made the most appropriate decision.

"Retreat!"

In the same beat, everyone quickly took out their orbiters. However, at this moment two figures made their move faster than their group.

Rofos the Tiger bloodline was seen on the wall, trying to get out of the crater by climbing up with his arms that had transformed into claws. Meanwhile, Vida who spreaded her pair of dark blue wings shot into the air. Her body then revolved, turning into a tornado that cut through all the flying Abyss creatures in her path.

Vida's actions were a good opportunity for Emery and the others to retreat from this place, as she had cleared most of the dangers in the sky. However, just as they were on their orbiters and about to take off, the Royal Centipede suddenly let out a loud shriek into the air.

To Emery and the others' complete horror, they saw Vida and dozens of other creatures which were in her vicinity suddenly stop moving, as if time had stopped moving for them, before finally falling from the sky.

"Psyche attack!" Arcana exclaimed

Emery saw the Royal Centipede shooting towards the falling Vida, its pincers wide open ready to make her body like Magus Kenneth.

"Everyone, attack! Use your ranged attacks!"

The first to heed his order was Atlas, who fired his [Tempest Flare] at the creature. A storm of tremendous explosion capable of mass annihilation swept through the air towards the incoming Royal Centipede.

Gritting her teeth, Annara followed suit and swiftly cast her [Hellflame], unleashing a massive wave of scorching black flames upon the creature. Lyndell also took action, sending a five-meter long beam of light - [Divine Arrow] - towards the Abyss creature.

BOOM! BOOM!

The spells struck the Royal Centipede's body successfully, causing clouds of black smoke to appear and shroud its body. In the next second, the smoke parted ways - revealing the unscathed form of the Abyss creature.

Meanwhile, the Dragon bloodline Zach was jumping on the Royal Centipede's back. He lifted his sword high into the air and smashed it down violently, making a loud crisp sound. Alas, it did nothing to stop the creature.

At this point, nothing seemed to be able to stop the Abyss creature from killing the fallen Bird of Prey.

Emery himself contributed his part, firing spells while using the orbiter to catch the falling Vida. There were only tens of meters between them, but because of the spatial distortion that existed in this place, he couldn't rely on his [Blink]. He used the [Slipstream] spell and [fey transformation] for the extra boost of speed but he still couldn't reach her in time.

The image of Vida's body being torn in half appeared in everyone's mind when suddenly, at the last moment, a figure pushed her body away.

Emery witnessed, at close range, how the Tiger Bloodline Rofos pushed Vida's body out of the way, leaving himself caught by Royal Centipede's pincers; unfortunately, the courageous half-blood was torn to pieces mercilessly. Blood spurted in the sky, dyeing it red before what was left of him was instantly teleported away.

At that moment, as Emery witnessed the bloodbath done by the enormous creature towering above him, Emery was once again shocked to find that right beneath the glowing orb, there was a figure of a man embedded into the creature's body.

It was The Magus Commander, forced to become part of the creature itself.

It opened his eyes and said in such a strange voice,

"None of you will be leaving this place!"