

《Unlimited Power – The Arcane Path (COMPLETED)》

Chapter 76

"... Do you really think that you can trust him?" Amanda asked with a serious expression.'

"I'm here thanks to him; I used his method for transporting spies

" Leon answered.'

"How did you convince him that he could trust you?" Amanda asked.'

"I cleared the dungeons his soldiers didn't manage to clear

and I gave him a few pointers in how to do the same

" Leon said. "Putting that aside... why William would give Hector such armor?"

"I don't know

Hector doesn't know either

" Amanda said. "Hector never talked with him directly

but one day William just gave him the armor

and he said that he wanted to negotiate with him in the near future. I trust Hector

Leon. In the last four years

everything he did was to keep the survivors here safe."

"I will trust your judgment... well

let's forget about this conversation for the time being

" Leon said.'

"Why? I also want to help you and make our nations become allies." Amanda declared.'

"Just leave it to me

all right

" Leon said. "If something happens or if I fail

I don't want you end up suffering the consequence of my actions."

'In the end

Amanda understood why Leon wanted to do that alone. She had a life now

a family

and he didn't want to see her losing that again. After that

they had lunch together

and eventually

Hector joined them

but he didn't come alone. A blue-eyed

blondie woman was with him

her hair was relatively short

and she wore glasses. For some reason

she also looked kind of familiar. Leon didn't know why

but Hector was grinning from ear to ear

and that alone was enough to make Leon feel the urge to punch him.'

"Hey

Leon. Did you remember Sasha?" Hector asked. "She is one of the survivors who escaped with us."

"Sasha... Sasha... Ah

your neighbor Sasha." Leon recalled the memories of the times he went to Hector's house. "We went to the same middle school and high school

right? I can't believe someone who knows the old you decided to work with you... anyway

stop grinning you are creeping me out."

"... Hello

it has been a long time." Sasha offered a handshake while smiling wryly. "I'm thankful for your remembering about me."

"Mmm? Yeah

sure." Leon accepted the handshake and tilted his head in confusion.'

'Leon had few memories of Sasha

even though they went to the same schools for years

she was a shy girl so that he couldn't recall himself ever talking with her.'

"Leon... did you know? Back in the day

Sasha had a crush on you." Hector grinned even more.'

"Captain..." Sasha lowered her head to hide her embarrassment.'

"Is that so? She certainly has discerning eyes." Leon smiled. "Anyway

stop grinning

or I will give you another marriage present."

"... What did you give to him?" Amanda asked while frowning.'

"A punch

what else would I give him?" Leon asked. "By the way

do you want something in particular?"

"I want to see you two getting along like the old days..." Amanda sighed. "I also want to recover the lost time... but I guess that is asking too much."

"It isn't... I cannot make you any promises regarding this guy

" Leon looked at Hector and frowned. "But I plan to take it easy for one week... after that

I will do the things I have to do."

"Which are?" Hector asked.'

"It is none of your business

" Leon answered.'

"Please

get along..." Amanda sighed again. "Leon

can you teach them how to use mana manually?"

"If you want to

I don't mind

like I said

I will take It easy for a few days

" Leon answered.'

"I really don't have that much free time..." Hector said.'

"It is okay if you follow Leon's instructions you can learn almost instantly

" Amanda grinned. "In fact

I already learned Earth Manipulation."

'Hector and Sasha looked quite dubious of that

but after lunch

when they went to the garden

after five minutes

both of them were controlling small spheres of earth

and their mouths were wide open.'

"Well

that is certainly surprising

" Hector furrowed his eyebrows. "But it is not a spell per se."

"To learn new spells

you have to make the system recognize the spell

" Leon explained. "Certain criteria need to be met... I'm not entirely sure

but to learn spells that shoot small projectiles

you have to create and shot them in less than 0.2 seconds."

"Are you fine teaching us that?" Hector asked. "Knowledge is a power you know; you could make a fortune by selling this information."

"Do you think I'm that pesky?" Leon frowned. " I'm not going to stay here forever

so I would rather increase my sister's arsenal while training her. If you guys share this information with other people

I won't mind

if more lives can be saved by using magic

then that is fine by me."

"It will take a long time to master this type of magic..." Sasha stared at the earth's sphere floating in front of her.'

"But

it is fine

right?" Amanda asked. "It is not dangerous to practice

and the more we practice

the more points we will get. Leon said that he mastered this in a few months."

"Yeah

but there is much more to learn

" Leon explained. "It is possible

but I didn't learn any spell using Earth Manipulation alone."

"... What do you mean?" Hector frowned.'

'When Leon explained to them about transformation and creating magic

finally

they understood why despite being a mage

Leon spent so many years on the island. Despite that

learning from a teacher was much easier than learning alone. So

they were certain that in a month or two they would be able to learn spells...
they couldn't be more wrong.'

Chapter 77

'The next morning

after eating his breakfast

Leon was spoon-feeding Maya while Amanda was doing the dishes. It had
been a long time since he had done that

so he couldn't help doing awkwardly while smiling wryly. Despite her uncle's
clumsiness

Maya wasn't bothered by it.'

'Leon still remembered

Amanda was just like her daughter. A quiet kid who rarely made a fuss about anything. Despite being a total stranger

Maya didn't feel scared of Leon. She was also very smart

Amanda just taught her a few times

and she already called Leon 'uncle'. It was a weird feeling

but Leon didn't dislike it.'

"I'm going to help the survivors for a while

" Amanda declared and picked her green bow. "Can you look after Maya for a while."

"Sure

but who usually looks after her?" Leon said.'

"Sasha. Although she is strong

I'm the best archer in the city." Amanda said boastfully. "Every morning I hunt those Eye-balls before they have the chance to attack us... I did that yesterday

but..."

"I see... I wanted to teach you more how to use your mana

but I guess you can't just retreat from the front lines for a long time." Leon said. "Be careful

all right?"

"Got it." Amanda smiled.'

"By the way

where are they?" Leon asked.'

"Hector and Sasha will spend the day teaching the other survivors how to learn Earth Manipulation

" Amanda answered. "Don't worry; he will say that he just learned by chance. There is a plan about building walls around the city

so

if everyone learns that

eventually

we will be able to protect this city with more ease."

'After that

Amanda left. Although she survived without his help for four years

Leon wanted to spend the week teaching her. After so many years away

he had no right to declare that he would protect her

but at least he could help her in that regard. Although not all that much

Amanda had the potential to learn magic quite easily. Since her bow was a magic weapon that shot Wind Arrows

her mana

intelligence

recovery

and control were quite high

and Leon wanted to make good use of that while he stays with her. He wanted to stay with her for more time

but he couldn't exactly leave the emperor of Japan waiting. Besides

he wanted to discover who was behind the dungeon breaks.'

'Leon took Maya to the garden and started to play with her

by playing he just created a water ball and move it away while Maya was trying to chase it. Even though Leon wanted to take it easy for a few days

he ended up practicing a new spell. He started to practice how to make an Ice Arrow

but Maya's stamina ended before he completed the spell.'

'The climate in that region wasn't exactly easy for a small child

but since the wind was quite nice

Leon created an umbrella made of earth to protect Maya

who was sleeping in his arms from the light of the sun. After that

he resumed his task of learning a new spell and just before noon...'

'Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Ice Arrow.'

'You obtained 01 status points.'

'Mana: 15'

'Leon remembered that he wanted to learn an Area of Effect skill

but he couldn't do that in his sister's home

much less when Maya was with him. Using his sister's targets

Leon leveled up that skill a few times until Amanda returned alongside Hector and Sasha. It looked like they treated Sasha as part of the family. Considering that they fought together to survive for years

that wasn't so strange.'

""To think that everyone would learn so fast..." Hector frowned. "Maybe I'm a genius teacher.""

""Yeah

right..." Leon frowned. "By the way

do you guys have a market here?""

"Yes

we have

" Hector answered. "Do you want to buy something? Do you have coins? I can help you with that.'

"There is no need

" Leon shook his head. "I'm not looking for anything in particular; I just want to see if there is something interesting there."

"Interesting... like what?" Hector frowned.'

"Like a teleportation tome

have you seen one?" Leon asked.'

"Hahaha

that is funny... as if someone would sell that

" Hector said.'

"Shall we all go together?" Amanda asked. "It has been a while since I have been there."

"No

I will go alone

" Leon said.'

"Mmm

alright then." Amanda showed a bit of disappointment.'

"Leon... aren't you a bit too cold?" Hector asked.'

"Mind your own business..." Leon said. "For the time being

I don't want anyone seeing us together. Don't ask why."

'Hector couldn't help but sigh

Leon was keeping too many secrets. Although he had some reasons for doing that

Hector felt quite troubled by it. It would take a while before Leon could see him as a family... Regardless

after receiving directions from them

Leon headed to the market. It looked like Las Vegas have one hundred thousand survivors

among them

five thousand were soldiers who would fight against monsters day in and day out. Despite that

Leon didn't find anything better than his equipment.'

"I don't want anything in particular... perhaps an amulet like the Ancient Frozen Dire Wolf's Soul would be nice

but if those dropped

I guess the higher-ups of this country would keep those to themselves."

'It looked like Amanda's bow

and Hector's spear were magic weapons. However

those weapons weren't leagues above the weapons being sold at the market. At least that confirmed that Hector wasn't making use of his position to obtain an advantage over other survivors.'

'Leon hadn't seen Amanda in years

but she grew up to become a smart woman. It was a bit surprising

but even Hector changed and became a decent person. Leon frowned when he thought that his current self treated the old Hector like a scumbag

but since he was his best friend in the past... his past self wasn't supposed to be someone so respectable...'

Chapter 78

'The next day

Leon was quite restless. As expected

he couldn't just spend the week in his sister's house without doing anything. Although he looked after Maya the previous day

he needed to do something more... violent. He wanted to fight against the monsters and decrease Amanda's workload. All in all

he still wanted to protect his sister from the shadows.'

"Is there any dungeon nearby that is causing trouble?" Leon asked.'

"There is... but why do you ask?" Hector frowned. "Didn't you say you would take it easy for a while?"

"That was my intention

but I'm bored

" Leon said. "I can't relax knowing that someone is causing those dungeon breaks."

"How can you say that?" Hector asked

looking a little offended. "How can you say that you are bored while looking at such a cute angel. Look

feel the cuteness of those cheeks... this is heaven!"

'Hector was hugging his daughter and gently pressing his cheek against hers. The image of a doting parent... it was funny

but it only made Leon felt like punching him. Meanwhile

Amanda and Sasha could only smile wryly. Speaking of which

it seemed that Sasha also joined them for breakfast from time to time.'

"Well

I don't mind if you want to help

" Hector showed a serious expression

" But you are not from here

I don't know why

but you don't want to be seen with us

right? The dungeons are under my control

to enter them

I would have to accompany

or you would have to show a document with my signature."

'Leon sighed

in the end

he couldn't help directly. Although plenty of soldiers and survivors visited Hector and Amanda

he always made sure not to be seen while there were visitors nearby. A few survivors saw Leon walking with Hector on the first day

but eventually

that image would disappear from their minds. In the end

Leon spent the nights of that week teaching Amanda

Hector

and Sasha how to manipulate earth

water

wind

and fire. During the mornings

he played with Maya

and in the afternoon

he trained by himself in the garden.'

'Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Earth Arrow.'

'You obtained 01 status points.'

'Mana: 18'

'Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Wind Arrow.'

'You obtained 01 status points.'

'Mana: 12'

'Learning how to create projectiles with other shapes would take a while

so Leon decided to level up his new skills to strengthen them as much as possible and also to obtain a few free status points. Since he wasn't moving all that much

he decided to practice his Swordsmanship. Creating steel swords would make the skill level up faster

but Leon decided to make his body used to it. In case he ran out of mana in some situation

he would have to protect himself.'

'On the seventh night that Leon stayed in his sister's house

Leon decided to leave

but before that

he decided to say goodbye at the dinner table. It was the perfect chance because that night

Sasha wasn't eating with them.'

""I'm going to leave the city tonight

" Leon declared. "Thank you for letting me stay here for a while."

"Already? You barely stayed here a week." Amanda said

showing a sad face.'

"Sorry

but I must hurry

" Leon said. "Time is of the essence..."

'Amanda hugged Leon

and he kissed her forehead. She knew what her brother was planning to do and couldn't help but think that was too much work for a single person to do alone.'

"... I don't know what you are going to do

but I wish you luck." Hector said after a long sigh.'

"Thanks... if something you don't hear anything about me again or if you hear by the mouth of someone suspicious

don't do anything

" Leon warned. "Just act like you don't know me. Although some people saw us together

they probably will forget about thanks to the fact that you taught everyone Earth Manipulation."

"Now you are making me worry... what the hell are you going to do?" Hector frowned. "Do you need the help of someone reliable and trustworthy? I bet Sasha wouldn't hesitate to go with you."

"No

there is no need

" Leon said.'

"Dude

get a clue..." Hector sighed.'

"What are you implying that she still likes me?" Leon chuckled. "She didn't see me in eight years

and she barely knows me. If she is feeling something in just nostalgia of seeing an old crush after a long time

soon she will forget about this."

"You are so dense..." Hector sighed again.'

"Well

if you are right

it wouldn't work out in the end

" Leon said. "She is beautiful

but I have no feelings for her. Rather

I don't have time for that kind of relationship."

'Now that someone brought up the topic

Leon noticed that he had no feelings for Yuki either. He said that to Makoto as a joke... while thinking about that

Leon also noticed that he wasn't like that in the past. Even during high school

he had a few crushes

that he knew nothing about it. The island changed him in many aspects

that was obvious since he showed no interest in someone with lingering feelings for him.'

"If you send her to go with me

who will look after Maya while Amanda fights?" Leon asked.'

"Well... there are plenty of people who could..." Hector hesitated.'

"You said there is no one more trustworthy than her

so she must stay here

" Leon said. "I can protect myself; you just have to worry about protecting Amanda and Maya. If something happens to them..."

"Got it." Hector nodded

showing a stern expression.'

'In the end

Leon and Hector shook their hands. He protected them in the last years

so there was no one more reliable than him in that aspect. After patting Amanda's head and saying goodbye to Maya

who was sleeping

Leon left Las Vegas in the middle of the night.'

Chapter 79

'Along the past week

Leon learned a lot of things from Amanda. Mainly about the situation of the Allied Forces of the North-America. It looked like the bigger the country

the more dungeons it would be. Japan had around thirty dungeons

but the Allied Forces of the North-America had more than one hundred dungeons across its territory. Unfortunately

there weren't nearly enough survivor cities or camps to watch those dungeons. So

the number of monsters appearing in the world was increasing with every passing minute.'

'However

it was not like more than one hundred types of monsters were crawling in the territory. Not a single person knew why

but there are several golem's dungeons

frozen dire wolves' dungeon

slimes' dungeons... and so on. Another weird thing was the fact that those dungeons connected to different parts of the monsters' world.'

'Usually

the number of monsters and dungeons would determine the number of materials

weapons

and tomes a nation could obtain

but that wasn't the case to the Allied Forces of the North-America. Due to the hydrogen bombs

millions of people died... so

despite having a much larger territory

the Allied Forces of the North-America only had three times more survivors. To make matters worse

no one had discovered yet who used the nukes.'

'Regardless

even though the survivors who once were citizens of Mexico

Canada

and the U.S.A. didn't live in the same regions. The survivors managed to recover from the hands of the monsters in several cities. Those were Montreal

Winnipeg

and Vancouver in the North.'

'In the South

survivors recovered Mexico City and Monterrey. In the former territory of his home country

survivors managed to recover Las Vegas

San Francisco

Houston

Chicago

Miami

Atlanta

and New York... which were the representatives of the three former countries lived and worked. Leon headed there.'

'Leon could fly quite fast

but the number of monsters he met along the way didn't let him fly at the speed he wanted. Besides

he had to be careful of dragons. Although the earth dragon boss probably had the same power of an ordinary dragon

the second type could fly and

in a battle in the skies

wasn't all that good for Leon.'

"I want to teleport..."

'Leon could only pray that someday he will obtain that power. In any case

Leon saw nothing but destruction along the way. He felt depressed seeing his homeland like that

but at least he didn't feel scared because he didn't see any dragons... and that was weird.'

"Amanda said that on the first days when the monsters appeared

they could see dozen of dragons every day

but then their attacks decreased... but why?"

'Although it was something good

the doubt never was. By working together

a group of twenty survivors could kill an ordinary dragon

but the danger was still there. When that kind of battle usually happens

only by sheer luck

no one dies.'

"Well then... how should I act?"

'Leon's first target was William

the guy who gave the light-blue armor to Hector. Considering that he was one of the most important figures of the Allied Forces of the North-America

the chances of him being involved with the death of Makoto's son were pretty high. Two other men

after all

were controlling the spies of those three nations.'

'Regardless

Leon couldn't just invade headquarters and demand answers. The suspects were influential people

so he had to play his hand right

or he could die or be arrested... in the worst-case scenario he would die

and someone would discover that his brother-in-law was the leader of the survivors in Las Vegas.'

"Appearing out of nowhere and saving the day is too suspicious... I guess I will start from below."

'It would be time-consuming

but Leon would have the best chances to avoid suspicious if he disguises himself as a regular survivor who decided to move to another city. Usually

it would be too suspicious if a newcomer suddenly attracts the attention of the higher-ups

but Leon something that could change suspicions in curiosity

and that was magic.'

"Let's see... my friends and I decided to move from Chicago to New York

but then we got ambushed by a horde of monsters. I just survived because I suddenly learn how to use Earth Manipulation... I guess that kind of background should be enough."

'Leon would have to hide his sword

armor

and cape somewhere outside New York. He also couldn't show his amulet

but he could hide it in his clothes. He would mainly use Earth Manipulation to increase his fame and draw William's attention

and then in case something happens

he would use ice magic to get rid of anyone troublesome.'

'Two days later

Leon arrived in New York...'

'Health: 75 +Mana: 1630 +Stamina: 70 +Strength: 66 +Dexterity: 10 +Speed: 42 +Intelligence: 267 +Endurance: 84 +Control: 113 +Mentality: 97 +Luck: 01 +Recovery: 570 +Willpower: 75 +Coins: 455682Status: 00'

'Skill ListActive Skills: Strong Arms Lv 11

Throw Lv 9

Analysis Lv 4

Bash Lv 1

Dash Lv 19

Mana Transfusion Lv 9'

'Earth Manipulation Lv 57

Water Manipulation Lv 33

Wind Manipulation Lv 30

Concentrated Shot Lv 1

Fire Manipulation Lv 30

Earth Transformation Lv 34

Water Transformation Lv 24

Wind Transformation Lv 29

Fire Transformation Lv 28

Earth Creation Lv 37

Water Creation Lv 33

Wind Creation Lv 26

Fire Creation Lv 32'

'Freeze Lance Lv 7

Water Bullet Lv 7

Ice Bullet Lv 7

Wind Bullet Lv 7

Fire Bullet Lv 22

Earth Bullet Lv 7

Mana Reinforcement Lv 31

Lightning Lv 20

Magma Spear Lv 33

Fire Arrow Lv 17

Ice Pillar Lv 9

Hail Lv 20

Ice Arrow Lv 11

Earth Arrow Lv 11

Wind Arrow Lv 11

Passive Skills: Fear Resistance Lv 9

Underwater Resistance Lv 19

Alchemy Lv 51

Wind Resistance Lv 04

Ice Resistance Lv 11

Curse Resistance Lv 20

Pain Resistance Lv 17

Fire Resistance Lv 22

Poison Resistance Lv 33'

'Mental Fortitude Lv 18

Perception Lv 10

Rage Lv3

Accuracy Lv 32'

'Craft Lv 53

Farming Lv 7

Archery Lv 6

Cook Lv 38

Martial Arts Lv 1

Spearmanship Lv 51

Staffmanship Lv 4

Meditation Lv 51

Trap Creation Lv 7

Blacksmith Lv 42

Swim Lv 21

Swordmanship Lv 12'

Chapter 80

'After hiding his equipment with the exception of his amulet

Leon started to walk toward the city. Dragons had destroyed the bridges

but it looked like someone repaired them with earth magic. It looked like Leon soon would find some mages like himself. Regardless

the only way to enter the city was by air or by crossing the bridges. Surprising the number of people leaving and entering the city wasn't small.'

'Considering that he would say that he crossed the whole distance on foot

Leon destroyed his improvised cape a little bit and dirtied it with water and earth

and he also dirtied the amulet. The number of soldiers protecting the bridges wasn't small

even though the number of travelers was also relatively high

they were inspecting and examining almost everyone.'

"Good... they can't use magic to access the survivors' abilities."

'Although Leon knew Analysis and that skill could inspect magic weapons and a few other things

it didn't work on humans. He was hoping to learn that eventually

but Leon's hands were full

trying to absorb the mana of the slime's core.'

'When Leon got inspected

the soldiers didn't do anything in particular

after confirming that he had no big weapons with him

they lowered their guards.'

"What is your name? Where are you from? What do you intend to do in New York." A random soldier who was wielding an ax asked.'

"My name is Leonard; I'm from Chicago

" Leon said. "Some friends and I hoped to find better jobs here

but then we got attacked by a horde of monsters... I'm the sole survivor."

"You don't look like someone who recently fought for your life." The soldier frowned. "Where is your weapon? How did you escape?"

"I lost my weapon in the battle..." Leon slowly approached the soldier and whispered. "I learned magic by accident and blinded the monsters."

'Another thing that Leon learned from his sister was the fact that those who learned how to use magic were also hiding their knowledge there as well.'

'Leon didn't know if Makoto knew about how one could learn magic alone

but it was hard to believe that he didn't. The motives... there were plenty. Although Ren got mad when he discovered that Leon could only see Makoto as someone prudent

if there are too few people with power

the humans can't survive

but then if there are too many people who have power

monsters wouldn't destroy humanity. Humanity would destroy itself...'

'Things wouldn't probably get so complicated in Las Vegas since even ordinary citizens were ready to fight when Leon threatened Hector

but it was hard to believe that everywhere else would be the same.'

'Regardless

when the soldier heard that

he looked at Leon suspiciously and then gave the order to another soldier to take Leon to the city. He imagined that he would take prisoner

but the soldier didn't do anything. It even opened the door of a car they would use.'

""That is weird... did I make a mistake already?""

'Leon had planned to make his skills famous little by little until he draws William's attention

but it looked like that happened a little too soon. In the end

Leon was taken to a brand new building. It looked like it had been made by earth magic

so it wasn't tall like a skyscraper

but it was like forty meters tall.'

'Several soldiers were entering and leaving the building

after crossing the gate

Leon and the soldier walked toward one of the receptionists of the building.'

"His name is Leonard

and he can be tested

" The soldier said. "Is there someone available right now?"

"Yes

I'm going to call one of the examiners." The receptionist said.'

"Wait here." The soldier said to Leon and then left the building.'

'By the look of things

it didn't look like Leon was in trouble. Surprisingly

the receptionist used a telephone to call the examiner. It was the first time he had seen one after his return

Leon didn't have even seen one in Makoto's house either.'

'While Leon was waiting

he checked the situation in New York. As expected

ninety-nine percent of the buildings disappeared. At least the survivors managed to get rid of the rubble and built new buildings

the shape was relatively uniform and simple

but it was the best that a few mages could do using magic alone.'

'Since humans didn't have time to worry about the appearance of their new buildings

the interior of that building was also quite rough. Everything was simple and basically made of earth

so it didn't provide much comfort.'

'The man who would examine Leon was a thin

black-headed man who wore thick glasses. Leon imagined that a muscular man like a military would examine him

but considering his magic would be examined

he thought a little too much.'

"Are you the one who is going to be tested?" The thin man asked. "Come with me."

'Leon arrived on a floor which had only four rooms

but those rooms were quite large. Surprisingly

the walls were made of glass

and in each of those rooms

some type of weather was being emulated. One room had a lot of sand

other had a lot of water

the third one was empty

but the wind was strong

the last one looked like a sauna without the steam.'

"What kind of magic can you use?" The thin man asked.'

"Earth Manipulation

" Leon answered.'

"Then

go to the first room and show me what you can do." The thin man said.'

'Leon entered the room while thinking of what he should do. It looked like he was in a job interview. Considering that many buildings were made of earth magic

it looked like according to the results of his test

he could end up building houses

or he could end up becoming a soldier. The chances of him meeting William while building house was small

so in the end... he decided to show off. Creating a bullet made of sand

he broke the bulletproof glass.'