

Chapter 2231

The cow embarked on the journey with Zeke and his men and headed in the southeastern direction.

The cow was moving so slowly that Zeke eventually lost patience. He then enveloped the cow with his energy and flew the animal up in the air.

The cow was terrified. What happened? Why am I flying? How did he do it?

Is he a devil? Did I escape from a devil and fall into another devil's trap? Oh, God!

Soon, the cow led them to an old and deserted village in the mountains.

There was not a single person in sight on the streets even during the day.

The villagers were all sleeping in their respective houses.

Zeke looked around and noticed the village, like Durbaine, had also farmed the same type of beans. Clearly, Dullioud had used the same method to manipulate the villagers to grow those beans.

Zeke took a deep breath and sighed. I'm sure Dullioud has more bases like this in other parts of the world.

Dullioud must have turned all these villagers here into puppets and manipulated them to farm these beans for the organization.

But why? What purpose do these beans serve?

At this point, Zeke still had no clue how to get rid of the worms from the villagers' bodies.

Only the culprit could solve the problem. That's why I must crack down on Dullioud and get Cesar to give us the antidote.

Zeke looked at Rick and ordered, "Think of a way to lure Dullioud out."

Rick nodded, "All right. Please give me five minutes."

After studying the surroundings for a few seconds, Rick started scribbling some formulae on the ground.

Three minutes later, Rick looked to the east and said, "Great Marshal, based on my calculations. I deduce Dullioud's base is in

the eastern part of the village. More specifically, it should be at The Door of Life."

"Come on, let's go. I should be able to lure them out," he added.

Zeke and his men then walked toward The Door of Life.

The Door of Life was in fact a forest.

The trees and shrubs had all withered, and the forest was tannin-brown as it was entirely covered in dried leaves.

Not a single soul was there.

Rick took out a flute and said, "I'll try to summon them. Please be patient."

He then started playing a strange melody on the flute.

Seconds later, someone from a distance responded by playing a few airy notes on a flute.

Rick continued communicating with the mysterious figure with his flute.

Sole Wolf, who had been observing their

secret communication method for a while, was afraid that Rick would betray them. He went up and threatened the man, "You better don't trick us, Rick. I'll kill you right away if you sell us out."

Rick immediately defended himself, "Don't get me wrong, guys. I'm only doing this to get them to verify my identity. They will come and meet me soon."

All of a sudden, a few men bounced up from the leaf piles.

In a swift move, they surrounded Zeke and his men.

The leader of the bunch was bearded man.

The bearded man stared icily at Rick and asked, "Which group are you from? How come I've never seen you before?"

Rick immediately explained, "I'm from Durbaine, one of Dulliouid's bases."

The bearded man gave him a puzzled look. "Durbaine? I haven't heard of it before. What are you doing here?"

Rick answered, "Oh, I've come to introduce these friends to you."

He then pointed at Zeke and his men.

The bearded man got even more confused. "Friends? What f*cking nonsense are you talking about? Why do I need you to introduce your friends to me?"

Rick let out a dry laugh and said, "You wouldn't get a chance to befriend these people if I didn't introduce them to you. You should count yourself lucky."

If it were not for me, these people wouldn't even get a chance to see Great Marshal in his full glory. The hell with you!

The bearded man grew impatient. "Get straight to the point or get lost. Don't waste my time."

Rick glanced at Zeke and said, "I've done my part, Mr. Williams. I'll leave the rest to you now."

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Zeke nodded.

The bearded man shot Zeke a bewildered look before asking Rick, "Mr. Williams? Why do you call him Mr. Williams? Aren't you the leader?"

Rick replied; "Yes, but I'm the leader from the base in Durbaine. Mr. Williams is not from any of our bases."

What?

The bearded man felt he was about to burst from rage. "What do you mean? Don't tell me he's not from Dulllioud."

Rick responded with a nod and a serious look on his face. "You're right."

Damn it!

The bearded man flew into a howling rage. He drew out his weapon and pointed at Zeke. "Outsiders who try to mess with Dulllioud will have to die! Charge!"

Their battle cry echoed throughout the forest.

The bearded man and his subordinates surrounded Zeke and Sole Wolf and were ready to kill them.

Sole Wolf stamped his foot, and with a jolt of his body, he shot out an intense burst of energy.

The energy was so powerful that it prevented the opponents from advancing.

The bearded man and his subordinates were stunned.

What's happening? Why can't we move?

They could barely breathe as they felt an invisible rock was crushing them.

Sole Wolf smirked, "How are you feeling, boys?"

The bearded man looked at Sole Wolf in terror. "Y-You did this?"

Sole Wolf nodded. "That's right. I did that." The bearded man could not believe his eyes. "How did you do it? Are you a devil? YYou practice witchcraft?"

Rick stepped in and said, "Nope, but they sure are scarier than the devil. You better cooperate with them, or else you're going regret it."

To Rick, Great Marshal was even more frightening than the devil.

The bearded man gave Rick a puzzled look and began to wonder who these men were.

Who are these people? Why would that man from Durbaine describe them as "scarier than the devil"?

Zeke walked up to the bearded man and said. "I'm going to ask you a few questions, so you better come clean. If you dare to hide any truth from me, don't blame me for not showing you any mercy."

"My first question-how many bases does Dullioud have in Erudia? Does the organization have bases in other parts of the world too?"

"You. Answer me," Zeke pointed at the man standing at the corner and asked.

The man was a tough cookie to crack. He responded with a cold snort. "No idea!"

This man is looking for trouble!

Sole Wolf roared and released an energy punch at the man, pressing him to the ground alive.

A series of bone-cracking sounds ensued.

Zeke stared at another man. "Your turn."

"I don't know! I don't know anything!" The man exclaimed upon noticing how cruel Zeke's men were.

Zeke sneered, "Looks like you're tired of living too. Sole Wolf!"

When Sole Wolf was about to make his move, the man pleaded in between sobs, "All right! I'll tell you what I know. Please don't kill me. Please!"

Threatened by death, the man threw in the towel.

Zeke responded icily, "Speak."

The man said, "We're one of Dulllioud's temporary bases-code name One Zero Three. In other words, there are another one hundred and two temporary bases before us. But I've no idea if Dulllioud had set up more bases after us."

Upon hearing that, Zeke said, "Sorry, I'm not satisfied with your answer."

"Since Zeke is not happy with your answer, you have to pay with your life," Sole Wolf said.

"No! No! Please don't kill me!" The man cried and made his final plea. "You can ask our boss. I'm sure he knows the answer. Please spare my life!"

Without hesitation, Sole Wolf released an energy punch and took the man's life.

Sole Wolf knew the man was telling the truth, but he still thought the man deserved the death punishment for all the evil deeds Dulllioud had done.

Zeke's gaze then fell upon the bearded man. "Time for you to speak now."

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The bearded man swallowed the lump in his throat. "Dulllioud set up hundred and eight temporary bases like this. Hundred and eight villages are under their control. They enslaved the villagers to plant these beans."

Sint Zeke was surprised Dulllioud had control over so many villages, yet the local government was clueless about it. F**k!

Zeke asked, "Why are you planting these beans?"

The bearded man shook his head. "Our superiors ordered us to plant it as an experiment. If it succeeds, we'll send the beans nationwide for plantation. I don't know anything about the experiment nor the reason for it."

Huh? Dullioud even wants to send it to the entire nation for plantation? I can't imagine what calamity will strike Eurasia if this reaches the villages in Eurasia. Fortuna will surely collapse.

Fortuna will collapse... Those words made Zeke realize something.

Are the Dullioud targeting Fortuna? All this time, the Netherworld and Kush Clan were interested in Fortuna. Could it be the Netherworld or Ares behind Dullioud were out to destroy Fortuna?

Zeke imagined his speculation was highly likely.

He continued to question, "Who does Dullioud take command from?"

The bearded man answered, "Dullioud only listens to Dullioud Supreme. We don't take commands from anyone else."

Zeke inquired, "Were there any mysterious factions that approached Dullioud recently? I'm referring to factions that are powerful enough to oppress Dullioud."

The bearded man shook his head. "No. Who dares to oppress Dullioud?"

Zeke was slightly disappointed at his answer. The Netherworld and Kush Clan are too mysterious. Even if they controlled Dullioud Supreme, common Dulliouds like this bearded man wouldn't even know about it.

Zeke continued, "Do you know the whereabouts of the other temporary bases?"

The bearded man had an inkling of what Zeke was planning, so he quickly shook his head. "I don't know. We don't have any contact with each other."

Sole Wolf unleashed a more powerful blast of energy. At the end of the brunt, the bearded man had both his legs sunk into the soil. A crack echoed. Sole Wolf had broken his legs. "I'll give you another chance to answer me."

The bearded man shouted, "I know! I know where they are!"

Only then did Sole Wolf disperse his energy.

Zeke clapped his hands as he yelled, "Come out, everyone."

Swoosh!

A few lightning bolts flashed, revealing Tyler, Nameless, and Alfred, who had been secretly following them.

The bearded man and the rest were stunned. That's fast! They are as fast as lightning! What kind of f**king freak did we piss off?

Zeke demanded, "Bring the bearded man to search for the other temporary bases and destroy everything. Leave no one alive."

Dullioud had committed many atrocious crimes. Their deaths wouldn't be missed.

"Yes, Sir!" Tyler, Nameless, and Alfred chorused.

They stood up from having one knee on the ground and were about to take the bearded man away.

At that moment, Zeke stopped them. "Wait. I need him to restore the villagers' consciousness."

The bearded man instantly had his subordinate play the flute. The melody slowly restored the villagers' sanity.

However, Zeke still felt troubled.

The villagers had temporarily gained consciousness, but the cursed parasitic worm was still inside them. I don't know how to get them out.

It looks like I'll have to ask for help from the members of the White Muraco Clan. I hope they can help with this.

Sole Wolf called, "Zeke, what are you thinking? Let's go."

"Okay."

Zeke turned to leave when the cow suddenly mooed, reminding Zeke and Sole Wolf about him.

Zeke patted the cow's big head. "Cow, we wouldn't have found the base if it wasn't for you. I'll reward you, but I don't know how to remove your soul from the cow for now. Patiently wait for me here for a few days, and I'll inform the Cygnus Room. They should be able to help you with this."

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The cow dropped to the ground with a bowed head as a show of its gratitude for Zeke's promise.

Zeke and Sole Wolf finally got to leave.

On the way back to the pavilion, Sole Wolf started cautiously, "Zeke, there's something I'm not sure whether to tell you or not."

Zeke said, "It's fine. Just tell me."

Sole Wolf asked, "Say, since Cesar can switch the souls between a human and a cow, do you think he can switch a human soul with a pigeon's?"

Zeke flashed a smile at Sole Wolf. "You're finally using your brain."

Sole Wolf returned a sheepish smile. "I'll take it as a compliment."

Zeke sucked in a deep breath. "I had the same thought when I saw the cow. If that pigeon did have a human soul in it, then it would surely inform Dulliod Supreme about us. They'll be ready for us."

Sole Wolf explained, "I'm not afraid of Dulliod Supreme having their guards up. I'm more worried about them not coming."

Zeke assured, "Don't worry. Dulliod has always been arrogant. They'll come. I'm sure of it."

They reached the Vauxgan Pavilion shortly after. Nothing out of the ordinary occurred at the pavilion.

Killer Wolf saw Zeke return and went up to him. "Zeke, you're back. Is everything settled?"

Zeke nodded his head. "Yeah. Killer Wolf, is the Dulliod Supreme's troops not here yet?"

Killer Wolf shook his head. "I haven't found any traces of them."

Zeke took a seat calmly. "Let's wait then."

The wait lasted over a couple of hours, Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf were getting impatient at the endless waiting. They began to suspect Rick was lying.

Rick was terrified. These two will simply kill anyone in a bad mood.

He could only plead and promise them the Dullioud Supreme's troop would come.

The rain grew heavier all of a sudden.

From a distance away, dark clouds slowly moved in their direction. The dark cloud started to spread and blocked every bit of sunlight.

A deafening thunderclap pierced the dark sky, startling the birds to take flight frantically.

The dark sky paired with the birds taking flight was like a scene from an apocalyptic movie.

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf peered in the direction of the looming cloud.

They both caught a waft of crisis coming their way.

Zeke, resting with his eyes shut, snapped his eyes open suddenly.

Boom!

Another roaring thunderclap slashed through the sky. The flash of the bolt illuminated parts of the sky.

With a flicker of the bright light, they noticed a large shadow floating under the massive cumulonimbus cloud.

The large shadow flew steadily toward the Vauxgan Pavilion with the dark cloud as though they were one.

The gloomy cloud felt oppressive, like a dead weight that threatened to crush a city.

It was suffocating.

When the large shadow slowly drew closer, they realized it was a large wooden ship.

The wooden ship was old. Its surface was mottled and riddled with big holes. There wasn't any sails on the mast. They had been eroded. The entire ship was drifting with the wind at a thirty-degree angle.

The ship looked like it could crumble in on itself at any moment. It had the lifespan of a flickering candle.

There was no one on the ship. The negative energy surrounding the whole ship suited the eerie atmosphere.

Droplets of rain fell on the ship. The pitter platter was so loud that it made one's hairs stand.

As the ship approached the Vauxgan Pavilion, it began to slow down as though it knew there were people there and was waiting for them to get on board.

Rick explained, "This is the Dullioud Supreme's ship."

Sole Wolf glared at Rick. "Isn't Dullioud the largest criminal organization in Eurasia? Why is your ship in such disrepair? There isn't even a ghost there, yet you're telling me this is Dullioud Supreme's ship?"

Rick rebuked, "This is a secret. Legend had it that the Dullioud Supreme was cursed to never leave the ship, so he had been staying on it. We went on the ship to meet him on our previous meetings too."

Sole Wolf scoffed, "You better not be lying to me."

Zeke told Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf, "Let's go inside."

"Okay."

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf were popping their knuckles, preparing for a fight.

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Zeke, Sole Wolf, and Killer Wolf leaped onto the ship's deck over a few feet high.

Whoosh!

A cold blast of wind blew from the rundown cabin. It brought a strong fishy smell with it.

However, the trio ignored the abnormal occurrence and strode toward the cabin.

Meanwhile, Rick quickly rounded up his subordinates in the Vauxgan Pavilion the minute Zeke was out of sight. "This is our last chance to escape. We can't miss it."

A subordinate suggested, "Let's not run. Have you forgotten the few warriors in hiding that always protect the Great Marshal?"

Rick returned, "Rest assured. The Great Marshal had sent them away."

However, the subordinate was still hesitant. "He's the Great Marshal. Even if we do escape, he'll just catch us again. We'll be dead then."

maliciously. Rick looked at the ghost ship and grinned "No now knows for sure who will live or die. Until today, I have never seen a human walk out from the ghost ship alive."

His subordinates' eyes brightened with hope. "Is the ghost ship so scary?"

Rick nodded. "Of course. Let's go. I won't lie to you."

"Let's go then."

They began to leave but rebounded when they reached the pavilion's threshold as though a transparent barrier was blocking their exit.

What is this?

Their eyes were wide as they stared at the empty exit.

This is f**king insidious!

They got up and tried again but instead ran into the barrier again.

The subordinates all turned to Rick with horrified expressions.

Rick assured, "Let's not panic. Let me see what it is."

He cautiously reached his fingers out and felt a ball of cold and abnormally hard object.

The sensation struck him with despair. Without a doubt, this is the Great Marshal's doing. It's harder to escape from the Great Marshal than ascending to heaven.

A bitter smile tugged the corners of Rick's lips. "We were too naive to think the Great Marshal wouldn't be cautious of us. A solid air wall had blocked our exit. We can't leave."

The subordinates let out a resigned sigh.

One of them asked, "Have you ever wondered if we would starve to death here if the Great Marshal died on that ghost ship?"

They fell into a dead silence at the scenario. as looks of dread crossed their faces.

Yeah, this is valid.

Rick turned at the ghost ship and prayed, "Please don't die, Great Marshal."

Meanwhile, Zeke, Sole Wolf, and Killer Wolf got on the ship and entered the cabin

They first arrived at the berth.

It was dirty and messy, but they noticed traces of people having lived there.

They carefully passed the berths and into the dining area.

The dining area wasn't spacious. There were only two large tables there.

They were surprised to find half-eaten food, buns, plates, and cutleries scattered on the two tables.

It looked as if the sailors were met with an emergency and scuffled to escape, hence the unfinished meals.

What happened here?

The trio observed their surroundings and didn't notice any traces of a fight or bloodstains.

They continued deeper into the ship.

Passing through the dining area, they stopped at a door which led to a set of stairs descending to the lower floor.

The door was locked shut with a thick steel chain.

However, it was nothing but an antique decoration in Zeke's eyes. With a burst of energy, he crushed the chain into tiny pieces.

When the door opened, a blast of dust and rancid odor wafted toward them. The horrible combination caused Sole Wolf to choke, eliciting a string of coughs.

Downstairs was pitch black. It was so dark they couldn't see their fingers waving in front of them. The darkness was so thick it seemed like it was flowing.

Luckily, there were two torches on each side of the door. They started their descent after igniting the torches.

The lower floor was dark and damp. The musty smell was overwhelming. The area was spacious but was stacked with boxes. They estimated there were about at least a hundred over boxes there.

Sole Wolf shouted, "Dulliouid Supreme, I'm here. Come out and die."

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Sole Wolf's loud challenge echoed across the closed area.

However, he didn't get any response.

Sole Wolf shouted again, "Is the Dulliouid a bunch of wusses? Don't f**king make me on you." look down Us U

Yet, no one responded to his challenge.

Sole Wolf asked, "Zeke, I supposed the Dulliouid chickened out. Should we burn the entire ship?"

Instead of answering him, Zeke questioned, "Don't you guys think these boxes are weird?"

Sole Wolf replied, "What's weird about it? They are just normal boxes."

Killer Wolf explained, "That's not it. The musty smell came from these boxes. I can smell it. Besides, why would the Dulliouid have so many boxes on their ship?"

Sole Wolf guessed, "Maybe it's for supplies."

Killer Wolf refuted, "Dulliouid is a bunch of

bandits. They're not traders, so why would they need supplies?"

Sole Wolf's brows furrowed at Killer Wolf's reasoning, realizing there was something amiss with the boxes.

"Zeke, should we open them?" Sole Wolf inquired.

Zeke nodded. "Open them."

Killer Wolf unsheathed his sword, prepared to cut the boxes open.

Swoosh!

Suddenly, a dark figure glided above their heads. It was so fast that its speed pulled the air into wind and extinguished the torches.

The cabin fell into darkness.

What is that thing?

Zeke immediately unleashed his energy to get a sense of the mysterious figure.

He could sense a baby-sized creature fleeing toward the stern with all its might. However, he lost it soon after. The thing had disappeared from his senses.

Zeke's heart began to pound.

F**k! What is that thing? How can it conceal itself from my senses?

Zeke had no choice but to be more cautious.

He relighted the torches.

Sole Wolf looked in the direction of the stern. "Zeke, that thing feels strange. It can hide from my senses. Did you manage to get a feel of it?"

Zeke said, "It also hid from mine too."

Killer Wolf suggested, "Could it be a large rat?"

Sole Wolf rolled his eyes. "Have you ever seen a baby-sized rat? Whatever. Let's ignore it and continue."

Zeke agreed, "Let's continue."

That thing didn't dare to show itself, which meant its abilities weren't as strong as the three of us. We don't need to be scared of it.

When Killer Wolf was about to slash the box again, a creaking sound came from the stern. It sounded like the sole was breaking.

Then, a strange squeaky sound was heard.

They knew without a doubt that the little monster made the strange noise.

"Chase after it," Zeke ordered, and the three of them teleported to the stern.

They couldn't see anything other than a massive hole on the sole.

They guessed the little monster made the hole.

Sole Wolf peeked his head over the hole and observed it. "Zeke, there's another space down there." Zeke said, "Let's head down and have a look."

With a stomp of his foot, the sole underneath cracked and broke. The trio dropped directly into the space underneath.

The area below was much darker and damper than the above. It was also much wider and stacked with even more boxes.

Zeke released his energy again but couldn't sense the thing anywhere.

Sole Wolf yelled, "Dullioud Supreme, come on out. We can see you. If you continue to hide, I'll f**king blow this ship up."

The echo was his only reply.

Sole Wolf's patience had completely depleted. "Killer Wolf, I don't care about the Dullioud. I'm opening the boxes and see what's inside them."

"Zeke and I will cover you."

"All right."

Killer Wolf picked up his sword and slashed the box open.

Before they could peer inside the slashed box, something happened on the deck.

The little monster was making weird noises again with more urgency. It sounded like it was jumping about anxiously.

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The others turned around and finally saw the true face of the creature.

actually, it was It was a "child". At least, it resembled one. In half-monkey monster.

Its size was similar to a child's, including its limbs. However, its facial features resembled an ugly monkey.

TOS There was also a leaf sitting on top of its head.

It was wearing tattered clothes and was completely wet. Pus was leaking out of its wounds, making the trio extremely disgusted by the creature.

"What the f*ck is this thing?" Sole Wolf had goosebumps as he stared at the creature.

Killer Wolf replied, "This thing kind of looks like the legendary kappa. You're the knowledgeable one, Zeke. Do you think it's a kappa?"

Zeke took a deep breath. "That's just a legend. In reality, this is just a monster that underwent artificial body modification."

Sole Wolf suggested, "This looks like it has research value. How about we bring it back to the Cygnus Room for research?"

"Sure."

"Okay!"

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf rubbed their palms and walked toward the creature with the intention of capturing it.

Sensing danger coming its way, the creature edged out louder and jumped higher.

As it created more exaggerated movements, similar sounds could be heard from the containers inside the ship. The containers also started trembling, and their intensity increased as time passed.

Several hundred containers trembled at the same time, causing the entire ship to sway, as though it was going to collapse at any moment. The creatures' cries were deafening.

There were also sounds that resembled someone scratching their fingers on a wooden surface. Everyone felt a chill down their spine when they heard it.

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf watched a wooden board from a nearby box being torn away before an arm stretched out from within.

The arm looked as pale as a piece of paper. It was incredibly skinny too, so much so that one could see the outline of its bones. Its nails were really long.

The arm kept moving around and handily created a big hole in the box.

Then, the owner of the arm crawled out of the hole.

They didn't expect someone was kept inside the box, and so they wondered what that person looked like.

The thing that crawled out was as pale and skinny as its arm. All orifices on its head were bleeding and its facial features were all twisted. Its hair was so long that it covered half of its face.

It was naked too, so everyone could see just how deathly pale it was.

As it lay on the floor, it looked like a giant spider. Its bloody eyes were fixed on Killer Wolf, as though it was going to strike at any

Sole Wolf took in a deep breath. "Do you know what the hell this is, Killer Wolf?"

Killer Wolf shook his head. "I've never seen it before, though I don't think it's human."

"That's good. If I kill it, I won't feel guilty."

Roar!

The "spider man" growled and pounced toward Sole Wolf.

He subconsciously unleashed an energy attack.

Not only did it fail to stop the spider man, but it also didn't reduce the creature's speed.

In a blink of an eye, the creature arrived in front of him, launched its sharp claws toward him, and bit his neck with its deadly teeth.

Sh*t! His heart stopped for a second as he stretched out his palm and grabbed the spider man's head.

Bang!

After a muffled boom, the spider man's head exploded. The content of its brain was spilled out on the ground.

The spider man's claws managed to pierce into his arm.

With a slight movement from his arm, the spider man's body was sent flying away.

The corpse coincidentally landed on the previous creature, the kappa, causing it to fall and stop screaming.

When the screaming stopped, so did the shaking from the wooden containers.

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf exchanged an anxious glance. "D*mn it. Energy didn't harm them at all."

"Yeah, it seems like it's going to be a tough fight today,"

The kappa quickly recovered from its fall and leaped back up. Its cries became even louder, as though it was relaying an order.

The wooden containers shook violently once more.

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The kappa's cries got so loud that it was earpiercing in the end.

Crack! Crack!

Another spider man jumped out from a container.

It looked the same as the first one. Thin as bones, sharp teeth, long nails, messy hair, deathly pale body, and lying on the ground like a spider.

The ceiling broke apart before more spider men dropped down.

All of them surrounded the trio on all sides. The spider men were staring at them with their red eyes and murderous intent.

If they were normal people, they would've died from shock already.

Sole Wolf cursed, "Sh*t! Energy is no use against them, and taking them out with punches and kicks takes too much time."

Killer Wolf suggested, "Zeke, we'll hold off the spider men. You go out first, then we'll follow behind. Once we're out, we'll blow this ship is sky high so none of these things can get out."

Zeke shook his head. "No, we can't blow it up. A lot of the answers we're looking for are on this ship."

Sole Wolf replied, "Okay, then we won't blow it up. Well, it's been a while since I have had a real workout. These things will make for a good punching bag. I can take you all down with regular punches. No energy needed."

Zeke smiled. "There's no need to punch them to win."

Sole Wolf looked at him curiously. "Do you have an ace up your sleeve?"

Killer Wolf reminded, "Did you forget Zeke has something that's much more powerful than energy?"

Sole Wolf slapped his head. "Fortuna!"

"Correct," Zeke replied.

The kappa's voice grew louder.

Upon receiving their orders, the spider men immediately began attacking the trio. Zeke smirked. "Fortuna, activate!"

Roar!

After he unleashed a dragon's roar, Fortuna burst out from his abdomen and wrapped its body around the trio, effectively blocking the spider men's attacks.

It didn't even have to attack before the spider men backed away.

Fortuna was formed from the willpower of billions of Eurasians. Its power resembled that of a blazing star.

Since the spider men were creatures filled with negative energy, Fortuna was their bane because it was filled with overwhelming positive energy.

The spider men trembled as they swiftly retreated. Fear swirled in their eyes.

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf raised their thumbs. "That's awesome, Zeke!"

Even the kappa was afraid after Fortuna was out. Not only that, it kept crawling backward and preparing to escape.

At that moment, Fortuna returned to Zeke's body and vanished.

Zeke was speechless for a second before he quickly communicated with Fortuna in his mind. "Stop being lazy, Fortuna, and help me!"

Fortuna replied, "I can only be used once per day. Today's use has expired. Please try again tomorrow."

"Hey! Get out of here and help us! Don't embarrass me in front of my subordinates!"

"I'm going to sleep now. Don't disturb me."

A snore was then heard in Zeke's mind.

He was livid, but there was nothing he could do. He hadn't found an effective way to punish Fortuna yet. I'm the godd*mn Great Marshal, yet I can't do anything against this lazy worm. What a useless piece of crap.

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf weren't surprised as they already knew Fortuna was a lazy worm.

Without the help of Fortuna's power, the spider men began approaching the trio again.

The kappa cheered in joy and urged the spider men to attack.

Zeke stopped counting on Fortuna to help and uttered, "That kappa is the leader. We take it down, and the rest will scatter. Sole Wolf, you go and grab the kappa. Killer Wolf and I will cover you."

Sole Wolf replied, "Roger!"

"Let's move!"

The moment Sole Wolf lunged toward the kappa, the spider men immediately formed into a group to block his path. They used their sharp claws and teeth to fend him off.

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Zeke and Killer Wolf followed close behind Sole Wolf. Each of their punches and kicks was enough to take down a spider man.

However, it was very inefficient because there were too many spider men.

Each of the creatures was fearless, and they didn't experience pain. If Zeke took out one, two more would pop out.

It was like a pile of sand. Dug out one area, and sand from another area would fall through and fill it up again.

It was difficult for them to even advance.

Another plan was required.

Zeke suddenly stomped on the ground with his right leg. A stick from the ground flew into the air and landed in his hand.

He leaped and landed in the middle of the spider men crowd in front of Sole Wolf. When he landed, he killed two spider men.

Then, he started spinning the stick in his hand like a helicopter blade. Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

Spider men were sent flying away. Suddenly, an empty space was created around Zeke.

He shouted, "Step on the stick, Sole Wolf!"

"Got it!" Sole Wole exclaimed and jumped onto the stick.

Zeke ordered, "Seal off the kappa's right path."

"Understood." Sole Wolf understood it was very likely the kappa would run away if he tried to kill it because the creature could run very fast.

If Zeke asked him to seal the right path, it must mean Zeke had a plan.

Instead of thinking about unnecessary things, all Sole Wolf needed to do was to carry out Zeke's order.

Zeke swung his arm and used the stick to shoot Sole Wolf toward the path on the kappa's right side like a bullet.

When the kappa saw an enemy flying toward it, it panicked and ran.

Behind it was the shipboard, in front it was the battlefield, and to its right was Sole Wolf. Therefore, the only way out was left.

It didn't hesitate to escape through the left side.

Zeke predicted the creature would run toward the left, so right after he shot Sole Wolf out, he threw thirteen Ammo Needles in that direction. V

His calculation was correct as the silver needles landed on the escaping kappa accurately.

That actually made him a little surprised. I can't believe that kappa moved faster than my Ammo Needles. After all, I shot out the needles first before the kappa started running to the left.

Once the kappa was hit by the needles, it fell to the ground and began convulsing. It also screamed in agony.

Without a leader to organize them, the spider men stopped attacking and started shrieking in agony too.

The sound of the kappa and countless spider men shrieking together was incredibly eerie.

Thankfully, it didn't take long before the kappa stopped moving and breathing.

The spider men also suddenly lost their vigor and collapsed on the ground, as though they were dead.

Silence befell the area as the trio let out a long sigh of relief.'

Sole Wolf kicked a spider man and cursed, "Godd*mn it. What are these things?"

Killer Wolf replied, "Artificial monsters, I suppose."

"I know that. I'm just wondering who made these guys and for what."

Zeke took in a deep breath. "If my guess is right, these spider men used to be Dulliards."

The expression on Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf instantly darkened with worry.

"The Dulliards were incredibly powerful. I'm afraid they'll become even more annoying to deal with after turning into spider men."

"If I knew these spider men were modified Dulliards, I would've started killing them without hesitation."

Zeke commented, "There are only about two hundred of them here. It's definitely not all of them. It's impossible for us to know if the other Dulliards had been turned into spider men or not yet."

Sole Wolf added, "D*mn it. Rick definitely lied to us. If there are only two hundred Dulliards here, then this definitely isn't their headquarters.``

"Let's go. It's payback time."

Bang! Bang! Bang!

At that moment, a series of muffled knocking sound was heard.

Chapter 2240

The sudden banging sound was very creepy in an enclosed ship.

The trio swiftly quiet down as they exchanged a glance with each other.

Sole Wolf asked, "Were you knocked on the board?" the one who

Killer Wolf shook his head. "It's not me. Is it you?"

"It isn't me."

If it weren't either of them, then...

They turned to Zeke.

Zeke was staring at the floor. "It came from below."

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The moment he finished, even more knocking sounds were heard beneath them.

The frequency of the knocking increased as it kept on going.

Sole Wolf warned, "Be careful. Someone's below us. Maybe it's more spider men."

Crack!

The spot where the knocking sound was heard suddenly broke apart as a skinny arm burst through it.

Not only that, the river water started flooding in.

"Show yourself, monster!" Sole Wolf roared and tried to pull the owner of the arm up.

However, when he approached the arm, it withdrew.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

Even more banging sounds were heard from multiple spots, and it continued to increase until it covered the entire bottom floor of the ship.

Then, it was followed by the cracking sounds.

Moments later, another hole was made, causing more water to flood in.

Sole Wolf tried to drag out the owner of the arm to look at what it was, but those arms moved extremely fast.

Zeke managed to catch one, but the arm was swiftly cut off by its owner to survive.

More river water poured in. In an instant, the water level reached their knees.

They could feel the ship was sinking fast.

If the water level rose higher, and more enemies appeared below them to occupy them, they would be in quite the pickle.

Zeke ordered, "Run." The trio ignored the ship and escaped.

Thankfully, they didn't encounter any more enemies and successfully arrived on shore.

Once they did, the ship was already half submerged. It might go down completely at any moment.

A chill was running down Rick's spine.

He didn't know how strong they were, but he knew they were the only ones who could escape that hell hole alive. They didn't look injured at all. This group of people is even more terrifying than the ghost ship. F*ck me.

The ghost ship submerged completely pretty quickly. Then, a giant vortex appeared in the river.

A few of the spider men's corpses were flushed out of the ship and followed the current of the vortex. Not too long later, they also submerged into the vortex, as though someone was dragging them away.

Sole Wolf gulped. "There must be something at the bottom of the river."

Zeke nodded.

Killer Wolf asked, "Can it be the remaining Dulliards?"

Zeke informed, "You two, be prepared. We may need to conduct an underwater exploration."

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf nodded. "Understood."

Then Zeke turned to Rick. "But first, let us interrogate Rick. I bet this guy is hiding something from us."

It was as though a bomb exploded in Rick's head when Zeke lay his eyes on him. I'm doomed. If the Great Marshal and his buddies weren't killed on the ghost ship, then I'm the one getting killed now. I wish I could just slam my head on a wall until I die right now.

Zeke strode into Vauxgan Pavilion.

Rick's head was hanging so low that it was almost touching the ground. He didn't have the guts to stare at Zeke.

Zeke uttered coldly, "You have some balls to lie to us, Rick."

Rick quickly kneeled in front of him. "I didn't lie to you, Great Marshal. Even if I have ten guts, I still won't have it in me to lie. I'm innocent."

Sole Wolf exclaimed, "Cut the bullsh*t! You said this ghost ship is Dullioud's headquarters, so why didn't I see Dullioud Supreme? There is nothing but monsters on the d*mn ship!"

Chapter 2241

"If you ask me, I think you intentionally lured us into the ghost ship so those monsters can kill us," Sole Wolf accused.

Rick was dumbfounded. "Monsters? What monsters?"

Killer Wolf pulled out his sword and pointed at Rick's neck. "This guy's not being honest, Zeke. Maybe I should send him to an early grave."

Zeke nodded slightly to show his approval.

Rick hastily cried, "Don't kill me! I really wasn't lying! Dullioud Supreme is definitely inside the ghost ship! Oh yeah, there's definitely a small, hidden world inside the ghost ship. That's where Dullioud Supreme is hiding in. You guys just didn't notice."

"Stop, Killer Wolf!" Zeke yelled.

The "small, hidden world" caught his attention.

He asked, "What do you mean by 'small, hidden world'?"

Rick explained, "I always suspected that there's a pocket dimension inside the ghost ship. In other words, there's a barrier there. Dulliod Supreme and the Dulliod headquarters are definitely hiding inside that barrier. It's why you guys didn't notice it." '

"And what makes you think that?"

"I'll tell you the truth. Actually, the ship doesn't look like this. It's a new ship. Very majestic and grand. It was where the headquarters were located, and Dulliod Supreme never left the ship. However, some time ago, the ship sank to the bottom of the river for some reason. Thankfully, the ship sank slowly, so a lot of the Dulliods, including myself, made it out in time. We only realize Dulliod Supreme was still on the ship after we were out of it. We tried to save Dulliod Supreme of course, but it was too late. He and the ship had already completely submerged. As it sank, a massive vortex that lasted for an hour was formed. It was quite a terrifying scene. In any case, we didn't have the guts to save him with the vortex still around. All we could do was sit on the shore and waited for his corpse to float up. Then, something unimaginable happened. The ship suddenly surfaced from underwater, with Dulliod Supreme standing on the deck. He was alive! However, something was off about him. He was stiff and his eyes were unfocused, like a dead person. He wasn't dead, of course, because dead people can't speak or move. We thought that he was freezing, not dead. Afterward, he started giving us missions. He split us into two groups. I was part of the first group. We were led by Cesar to control different villages and make the farmers plant beans. The other group was further split into groups of two hundred people. They entered the ship in sequence to receive secret missions from Dulliod Supreme. I saw it clearly. Everyone who went in never came back out. There were a total of eight groups that had entered the ship, meaning one thousand and six hundred people vanished without a trace. I know there's no way the ship can accommodate that many people. The waterline didn't dip that low either. At most, there were about two hundred people inside. That's why I'm suspecting there might be another. dimension inside the ship. Dulliod Supreme and the other Dulliod must've entered another world."

Listening to Rick's explanation and having seen the situation inside the ghost ship had led Zeke to a conclusion. The Dulliods who went inside the ghost ship wer probably transformed into spider men by Dulliod Supreme. And then, through a special channel inside the ship, the spider men were sent to the bottom of the river. The spider men we saw earlier probably didn't manage to reach the bottom of the river in time. The biggest question right now is what exactly is at the bottom of the river. Why did Dulliod Supreme turn his people into spider men and sent them to the bottom? What is it that the spider men were protecting? What could possibly be valuable enough to warrant this kind of extreme sacrifice?

Chapter 2242

Zeke stared at the river. The flow of water was still pretty violent as the vortex was still there. His mind was brimming with questions.

He asked, "Do you know what's at the bottom of the river, Rick?"

Rick was confused. "What's at the bottom of the river? What can be at the bottom?"

"I'll tell you the truth. The ghost ship probably doesn't have a barrier inside. Those Dulliards were just sent to the bottom of the river by Dulliard Supreme."

"Sent to the bottom of the river? What do you mean?"

"It means exactly that. They're currently at the bottom of the river."

Color drained from Rick's face. "What? You're saying all the Dulliards drowned?"

Then he rejected his own line of questioning. "No, that's impossible. There's no way so many Dulliards drown at the same time. Besides, if that is the case,

there's no way I haven't seen even a body yet. The corpses should be floating on the surface."

Zeke explained, "I didn't say they drowned. I'm saying they're probably just living there through another method."

Rick and the others got even more confused. What the hell does he mean?

"So you're saying that the Dulliards are alive at the bottom of the river? How do they survive without air?" Rick pondered.

"They aren't humans anymore. They don't need air."

"Not humans... So you're saying they're monsters?"

"That's right!" Zeke nodded. "They're monsters."

Rick looked upset. "Are you messing with me?"

Seeing that he wasn't buying it, Zeke shot a glance at Sole Wolf.

Sole Wolf nodded and showed Rick a clip.

The footage was taken from their battle with the spider men in the ghost ship.

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf had a special status, which was why they always had a body camera on them.

Rick and the captives watched the footage with curiosity.

It only took a glance at the footage for the others to exclaim in fear.

"Oh my god! What the hell are those?"

"Are they humans? Spiders? They're clearly monsters!"

"Why are there monsters like these on the ship?"

"Look closely, these are all Dulliouds!"

"Wiggles, Tammy, Brewski... Why did they all turn into monsters? These monsters really are Dullioud's people!"

"D*mmit! God*mmit! What the hell is going on with the Dullioud's headquarters? Why did something like this happen?"

Dullioud's captives were all clamoring in shock.

Rick was the only one pretending to be calm since he was their leader. While there were a lot of intense emotions swirling in his heart, he still wanted to appear composed.

However, when a certain someone showed up on the footage, he couldn't stay calm any further.

"Dynamo... Oh, Dynamo, what... What happened to you? Why did you also turn into one of the monsters? B*stards! I'm going to kill the motherf*cker who turned you into this! I'm going to kill them!" He exploded into anger when he saw one of his dear friends in the footage.

His anger blinded him so much that he instinctively ran over to the river with the intention of seeking revenge.

However, he was pushed back by Zeke's materialized energy.

He uttered, "You think you can avenge them alone? Foolishness. You'll probably drown before you even find your enemy."

Rick gritted his teeth as a vein on his forehead popped out. "I'll kill those b*stards even if I'll die! Killing one of them is good, but I'll feel better if I kill two!"

Sole Wolf scoffed. "It's not that we look down on you. It's just that you simply aren't powerful enough to even get close to the people you're trying to kill."

"However." Zeke offered, "I can help you take your revenge!"

Rick's eyes sparkled with joy as he stared at him. "Okay, I... I beg you, please help me avenge my comrades!"

Chapter 2243

Zeke nodded. "Yes, I can help you take revenge, but you'll have to serve me!"

Rick agreed without hesitation. "Dullioud Supreme turned my comrades into monsters. He betrayed me first. In that case, I have no reason to remain loyal to him any longer. I solemnly swear to serve you from now on, Great Marshal. I'll do anything you want."

Zeke nodded. "I hope you'll remember your promise. Otherwise, I'll crush you into pieces!"

"I wouldn't dare."

"Killer Wolf, Sole Wolf, follow me to the bottom of the river."

"Roger!" both of them replied.

When they returned to the shore, the vortex was already gone.

The river had returned to a state of calmness, as though nothing had happened at all.

The trio exchanged a glance before jumping into the water and dove.

The river was icy cold, though it didn't bother them at all.

Zeke had reached Celestial Class, Sole Wolf Ultimate Class, and Killer Wolf King Class, which was halfway through Ultimate Class. Their bodies had exceeded the limits of the human body, which was why they were unbothered by the river's harsh conditions.

In fact, they could even hold their breaths for hours.

They used energy to propel them forward.

The river was so deep that they still couldn't see the bottom of it after diving for five or six minutes.

Suddenly, Zeke sensed something weird.

He used energy to communicate telepathically with Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf. "Killer Wolf, Sole Wolf, stop." Both of them immediately halted their movements. "What's wrong, Zeke?"

"Do you two sense something weird?"

They stayed silent and closed their eyes to focus on sensing any abnormalities.

They stayed silent and closed their eyes to focus on the sensing any abnormalities.

"This aura feels a little divine and ethereal. I've never felt this kind of aura before."

Zeke nodded. Be careful. There's something fishy about this.

Understood! they replied.

Their diving speed decreased as Zeke led them toward the origin of the aura.

They followed the traces of the aura for about three minutes before Zeke stopped subconsciously.

Something odd was going on ahead of them.

That special aura was getting thicker and thicker,

There were balls of light in front of them, blinding them.

With no other choice, Zeke used energy to feel what was in front.

That ball of light was revealed to be spherical. It was the origin of the weird aura. After his preliminary analysis, he determined it to be a small barrier. Who set up a barrier here? What's inside the barrier? Are Dulliod Supreme, "spider men", and the ghost ship swallowed by the vortex inside this barrier?

The barrier greatly piqued his interest.

He turned to Sole Wolf. "Sole Wolf, Killer. Wolf, split out. We're going to destroy this barrier from three directions."

"Understood!" they replied.

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf immediately split off and formed a triangle with Zeke. They were ready to attack the barrier. One was Celestial Class, one belonged to Ultimate Class, while the third was halfway through Ultimate Class. With the combined power of those three people, they could probably destroy their world, much less that tiny barrier.

They wound up their attacks and prepared to strike.

Zeke counted down. "Three, two..."

Just as he was about to say "one", Fortuna suddenly roared in his mind. "Stop! Stop right now!"

He furrowed his eyebrows and used energy to inform Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf. "Sole Wolf, Killer Wolf, stop!"

They promptly did as he asked and wondered, "What's wrong, Zeke?"

"There's a bit of problem. Give me a minute."

They nodded seriously.

Zeke then spoke to Fortuna in his mind. "What's wrong, Fortuna?"

Chapter 2244

Fortuna sounded firm. You are not allowed to break this barrier!

Zeke furrowed his eyebrows. Why not?

"I have a very strong feeling that there's something important inside. It's something that can increase my power."

Zeke was joyous to hear that. "You are directly tied to Eurasia's power. If your power increases, then Eurasia's power will no doubt improve as well! Now I'm curious what exactly can strengthen Eurasia's power."

Fortuna shook his head. "I don't know, but I bet it's something extraordinary. Also, the aura that made up this barrier is something beneficial to me as well. I suspect the aura is released by the object inside the barrier. I'm going to stay here and absorb the aura to strengthen my body."

Zeke pressed his finger on his chin. "It's likely that the spider men and Dullioud Supreme are hiding inside. Aren't you afraid that they'll attack you while you absorb the aura?"

Fortuna snorted. "They're no different from ants in front of me. It'll take more than a miracle for them to even hurt me."

Zeke sighed slightly. According to Rick's description, it's likely that there are a couple of thousand spider men inside this barrier. It's hard to tell what kind of evil scheme the crafty Dullioud Supreme is planning with the spider men. Honestly, I don't think it's a good idea to let Fortuna stay here, because it's possible that they can hurt him. Although, I can feel his determination flowing into my mind. I doubt I'll be able to make him cooperate, no matter how I persuade him.

He still gave it a shot though, and it failed. "Fine, I'll let you do what you want. You have to promise me to be careful, though. Remember, you represent not just yourself, but the entirety of Eurasia's fortune."

"I know."

"Feel free to stay as long as you need here to finish absorbing the aura. Once you're done, I'll break the barrier."

"Okay!"

Zeke then led Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf back to the shore.

They felt a little depressed because they still didn't know why Zeke had suddenly changed his mind and stopped investigating the barrier.

They couldn't hear his conversation with Fortuna.

In the end, Sole Wolf couldn't hold back anymore and asked, "What did that worm tell you, Zeke? Why did you change your mind?"

Zeke told them what Fortuna mentioned.

Killer Wolf was shocked. "As far as I know, the only thing in this world that can strengthen Fortuna is Eurasia's Dragon's Vein. Do you think that's what's hidden inside the barrier?"

Zeke shook his head. "Impossible. There's only one Dragon's Vein in Eurasia, and that's located on Mount Kush. It's protected by my master, Pietro. No way there's another Dragon's Vein. Although, you did make me think of a possibility."

Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf exchanged a glance before turning to Zeke with a glance before turning to Zeke with anticipation.

"There may be a unique substance down there that resembles a Dragon's Vein. If Fortuna cultivates it, perhaps it can be made into a new Dragon's Vein. My master did ask me to forge another Dragon's Vein. I bet the treasure hidden inside the barrier is something suitable for that goal."

The duo nodded in agreement. "I do think this is a great opportunity, Zeke."

"It's a shame that Fortuna isn't powerful enough right now. We still need to find more power for it."

The other two were slightly depressed because they knew it was indeed hard.

On the shores of Yellow Sand River, Rick and Dulliouud's captives were staring at the river anxiously from the gazebo.

It had been half an hour since the trio went underwater, yet they still hadn't seen anything happening yet. They couldn't help but be worried about the trio's fate.

Chapter 2245

"I think they may have drowned down there. We would've seen something happening otherwise."

"If they drown, then there's no way we can leave here, and we'll starve alive!"

"Don't give up. I'm not going to give up before I see their corpses."

"That's right. The surface looks calm, but maybe crazy stuff is actually happening underwater. Or perhaps they were pushed away by the current of the river and washed ashore somewhere else."

"Mhm, that is very likely."

They discussed and comforted each other with their speculations.

Just as the discussion was getting heated, bubbles appeared on the surface of the river. Moments later, three figures leaped out of the river and landed on the shore.

It was Zeke of course. Rick and the others were shocked. They stood and stared stiffly. It wasn't because they were surprised that Zeke and the other two were still alive.

It was because their clothes didn't look wet at all.

The fact that they were able to keep their clothes dry after swimming in the river for half an hour was physics-defying.

Rick gulped and muttered, "Say, do you guys think the Great Marshal is an immortal? Only an immortal can do something like that, right?"

The others nodded fervently. "I think that he's a terrific man since he's able to gain the title of Great Marshal at such a young age. Even if he's not an immortal, he's probably born from one."

"Yeah, that must be it."

"As the saying goes, people who stand near a lucky person will also get lucky. If we follow the Great Marshal, we may get lucky enough to become an immortal too."

"Even if being an immortal is impossible for us, we'll at least become above average if we can absorb the aura emanating from his body."

The others were glad that they followed the right person.

With a swing of his hand, Zeke dematerialized the Vauxgan Pavilion instantly.

Rick walked out and kneeled in front of him. "Greetings, Master."

Zeke nodded. "I'm giving you all a mission. If you succeed, you'll be rewarded. Fail, and you'll lose your head."

The others kneeled with Rick and assured, "Don't worry, Master. We'll do our best."

"Mhm. Keep an eye on this place. If you see anything weird going on, you must notify me immediately."

If they saw something odd, it meant Fortuna was in danger. That was why Zeke gave them that order, so he could come and save Fortuna at a moment's notice.

Rick nodded. "We'll follow your orders, Great Marshal."

Zeke nodded and stared at the river for a little longer before leaving with Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf,

They prepared to head to Linton Group's headquarters to meet with Lacey.

Zeke started to miss her. They hadn't seen each other for a while, after all.

When they were halfway there, his consciousness suddenly experienced turbulence.

It was an attempt by White Muraco Clan's Progenitor to resonate with his thoughts. In other words, the Progenitor was trying to give him "a call".

He was curious why the Progenitor from White Muraco Clan was calling him, so he replied immediately. "What's wrong?" His thoughts and the Progenitor's thoughts began flowing toward each other telepathically.

"Something has happened, Zeke. Something big!" the Progenitor roared hurriedly.

"Scram!" he yelled. "I am your master. Those who treat their master with insolence will be punished!"

"I don't have time to waste right now, Zeke. Just listen to me—"

Zeke didn't hesitate to whip White Muraco Clan's Progenitor telepathically.

The Progenitor exclaimed in pain and fury, "Listen to me, d*mmit! I really do have something important—"

Zeke whipped him again.

"Ahh! Master! Master! Please, stop it, Master," the Progenitor relented as it couldn't handle the pain any longer.

Zeke smiled. "That's more like it. Now, tell me what's going on."

Chapter 2246

White Muraco Clan's Progenitor panted as it spoke. "I can sense that the Holy Maiden of White Muraco Clan, Erwen, and Yazmin are in grave danger. You better go save them now."

Zeke's heart dropped. "What's going on? I thought they were both in White Muraco Clan? Why are they in danger?"

"They already left White Muraco Clan some time ago."

What? Zeke was flabbergasted to hear that.

"Why did they leave White Muraco Clan out of nowhere? I thought they had never left the clan before. Also, when did they leave? What kind of danger are they in?"

"Do you really have no idea why they left White Muraco Clan?"

Zeke smirked and sent out another whip.

"Ahh! I was wrong! I was wrong!" The Progenitor sounded pitiful.

"Tell me what's going on."

"I'll be honest, a mere half an hour after you left White Muraco Clan, Erwen took Yazmin and left as well. I think that's enough for you to know why they leave."

Zeke grew silent. They left to find me. What even is love? Why are people willing to die for it?

"So, what kind of danger are they in right now?" he asked.

The Progenitor shook its head. "That I don't know. I could only tell the Holy Maiden is in grave danger because we have a sort of master and servant relationship."

"Tell me where they are right now and I'll go save them."

"They're in Durbaine. They have been there for a couple of days."

Zeke had a bad feeling when he heard that. Durbaine is a really sensitive place. If they really went there, then their chances of survival are low. His expression darkened as he ordered, "Sole Wolf, Killer Wolf, let's go. We're Durbaine!"

we going to Durbaine? Aren't we going to meet Lacey?"

Zeke took a deep breath. "Erwen and Yazmin went to Durbaine. They are in danger right now."

Sole Wolf's expression darkened. "Why the hell did they leave White Muraco Clan? They're just giving more trouble to deal with. Let's go!"

"All right. Let's go and see if the two of them can kill trine worms."

They promptly rushed toward Durbaine.

Inside the woods near Durbaine, three figures were grinding herbs in secret.

They were Erwen, Yazmin, and the leader of White Muraco Clan, Andres.

Andres asked, "Erwen, Yazmin, are you two sure the thing inside Durbaine's villagers are trine worms? Don't get me wrong, it's not that I'm doubting you gals. It's just that trine worms are so rare nowadays that I can scarcely believe it."

Erwen replied seriously, "I swear on my life that those were indeed trine worms. While I never personally saw it before, the cursed parasitic worm inside the bodies of the villagers matches all the descriptions of trine worms in the ancient text."

He took in a deep breath and patted his forehead. "If trine worms have resurfaced, it's going to bring a disaster to Muraco Clan. We really need to exterminate all of it thoroughly this time."

She asked carefully, "Are you sure this will kill trine worms?"

A bitter smile appeared on his face. "I've never even seen one before. There's no way I'm sure this can kill trine worms. However, this is the only method recorded to do so in the ancient text. We have no choice but to believe that it will kill trine worms."

Chapter 2247

Fine.

Both Erwen and Yazmin could barely hide their disappointment. "Mr. Andres, do you mean if this solution doesn't work on the trine worms, we won't be able to exterminate them completely?"

Andres nodded. "Yes. Besides, so what if it does work on the trine worm? We can wipe out the trine worms in this village, but the culprit can still head to the next village to spread the trine worms. If we fail to arrest the culprit, we won't be able to get rid of them once and for all."

Erwen and Yazmin were stumped.

Taking a deep breath, Andres added, "Our last hope lies on Mr. Williams. I hope he can help us catch the culprit and get rid of the trine worms completely."

When he mentioned Zeke, Erwen and Yazmin blanched slightly.

Indeed, he was the only person who could solve their problem.

Where are you, Mr. Williams? We've looked around for you, but you remain nowhere to be seen. D*mn it, why is this world so huge?

As they were focused on grinding the herbs, they didn't notice a pair of shifty eyes observing them from some distance away.

The owner of the pair of eyes was a lecherous old man dressed in a black robe that lent him a menacing look.

His lips curved into a smug grin. "Ha! Do you want to kill my trine worms? Dream on! Since the young ladies are pretty, I shall spare their lives. Of course, they won't escape punishment." He laughed out loud arrogantly.

This was none other than the owner of the trine worms, Cesar Muraco of Dullioud!

Within several seconds, a hasty plan was put together in his devious mind.

He sneaked past Erwen and the other two before running all the way to Durbaine. There, he flipped his black robe over, and it turned into a priest's robe.

He then fished out a cane and put on a hat to complete his disguise.

May God bless you!

With a pleasant smile playing on his lips, he walked into the village.

Durbaine was completely isolated from the outside world and rarely had guests. As a priest had appeared out of nowhere, the villagers gathered and gossiped curiously.

"This is strange. Why did this old monk come to our remote village?"

"Shut up! If you know nothing, don't spout nonsense. He's not a monk. He's a priest!"

"Yes, yes, a priest. He looks really holy."

"Oh, I've encountered some strange incidents lately. Perhaps he can solve my problem."

"Oh, great idea. Let's ask him about it. I feel restless recently."

Cesar walked and scanned the villagers' curiously.

Gradually, his solemn expression turned into a fearful one.

In the end, his expression was scrunched up

in fear, and he spun on his heels to leave.

As he picked up the pace, he lamented, "Oh, dear. What even is this?"

Thump!

The villagers' hearts skipped a beat as a foreboding thought emerged in their minds.

Previously, they felt that something was off, and now the priest was acting strangely. There was obviously something amiss with their village.

Thus, the villagers stepped out to stop Cesar from leaving. "Sir, please stop!"

Cesar didn't bother slowing down. "I'm afraid I can't be of help. Please seek help from someone else."

As expected, something is amiss!

The villagers' expressions turned a shade darker.

The villagers blocked his exit hastily. "Sir, is something wrong with our village? Please enlighten us."

"Yes, saving lives is a meritorious deed. You can't leave us to die here."

Cesar shook his head and sighed. "I'm not refusing to help; I'm afraid I dare not interfere. It's a secret I can't divulge. If I interfere in your business, I'm afraid the heavens would punish me instead. I can't put my life at risk."

Huh? What the hell is he talking about?

Chapter 2248

The villagers' fear intensified instantly. The heavens would punish him? This is a serious matter!

They pleaded, "Sir, you're capable enough of helping us!"

"Recently, I have the feeling that something's amiss with our village. Looks like I was right."

"Sir, even if you don't sympathize with us, please consider helping our children."

"Sir, please take action. I'll get down on my knees."

With that said, the villagers went on their knees before Cesar.

Cesar pretended to give in and say, "All right. I'll help you."

He paused before asking, "Recently, have you been seeing things? Such as wills-o'the-wisp, or strangers floating around? You'll also hear things or hallucinate out of nowhere,"
Hearing that, the villagers grew agitated.

"Oh, that's true. Sir, you're really amazing! You got it all right!"

"My child has been telling me that a young girl wearing a red dress is lingering around our door. I ignored him, but now that I think of it..."

"Sir, I'll be honest with you. My body has been convulsing uncontrollably or doing strange actions, and I have no control over myself. I thought it was an illness. Oh, dear. Sir, it is fortunate that you came in time."

"Sir, my ancestors have been appearing in my dreams and chiding me for being unfilial. Is that related to what you said earlier?"

"Sir, please help us."

Cesar gave a curt nod. "Do you know why mystifying incidents have been happening in your village?" he inquired.

The villagers shook their heads profusely. "Sir, please enlighten us. We'd like to know the reason."

Cesar revealed. "It's simple. The heavens are unleashing its wrath on you, and those are signs that your village will be wiped out soon."

What?

The villagers jolted in fright.

"The wrath of the heavens? Why would the heavens punish us for no reason?"

"Sir, are you joking? We've never sinned! Why would the heavens punish us?"

"That's impossible. You must've gotten it wrong."

Cesar explained, "I've just checked earlier, and the results showed that the heavens are unleashing its wrath on you. The reason, though... Well, it's all your fault."

An elderly man with a white beard stepped out. "Sir, I'm the village chief, and my name is Don Smith. Please tell us what we did wrong to unleash the heavens' wrath. I shall make sure the culprit gets the punishment he deserves!"

Cesar said, "This is the entire village's responsibility, You were disloyal, unfaithful, and unfilial. That's why the heavens decide to unleash its wrath on you."

Don's brows snapped together. "Sir, have you gotten it wrong? I admit that there are a few unfilial young people in our village, but they are the minority. But you claimed that it's the entire village's responsibility. Well..."

"Yes, indeed. The whole village needs to be held responsible. I don't mean that you are unfilial to your living elders. You've been disloyal, unfaithful, and unfilial to your dead ancestors," Cesar announced solemnly.

Don was confused. "Our ancestors are dead. How could we treat them well? We visit their graves twice a month. Do they want us to visit them more frequently?"

Cesar shook his head. "Of course not. Let me ask you a question. Someone has dug your ancestors' graves and taken their bones to infuse them in liquor. Why didn't you stop the horrible act? In my opinion, the heavens' punishment isn't that serious. You deserve harsher punishment."

What?

The villagers blanched in horror.

Someone dug our ancestors' graves and took their bones to infuse them in liquor? Only beasts would do that!

Chapter 2249

Don's expression was as dark as thunder as he turned to face the villagers. "Who did that? Come forward right now. If you admit to your mistake, I'll make sure you die in one piece. If I find out who you are, I shall chop you into pieces and feed your body to the dogs!" he declared viciously.

The villagers stared at each other, but no one stepped out to admit to it.

Seeing that, Cesar spoke. "There's no need to question them, for it wasn't one of you who committed the heinous act."

Don immediately pleaded, "Sir, please let us know the culprit who disrespected our ancestors' graves. I'll do my best to avenge our ancestors!"

Cesar glanced in the direction of their ancestral graves. "You'll know when you see it for yourselves."

Comprehension dawned on Don. "Oh, how did that slip my mind? Sir, thanks for that."

He turned and gave his order. "Vicks, Fritz, attend to the priest. Everyone else, let's go to the graveyard. We shall avenge our ancestors."

"Let's go!" the villagers chorused.

They followed the village chief to their ancestral graves.

Their ancestral graves were located on the east side of the village in the woods.

Vicks and Fritz stayed behind to carry out Don's order. They said, "Sir, please come here."

The village chief told them to take care of Cesar, but he was in fact keeping an eye on Cesar so Cesar wouldn't get to leave.

Cesar wasn't about to stay.

He feigned calmness, but was actually scheming inside.

Nodding, he said, "All right. Please lead the way there."

Vicks and Fritz led him to the village chief's house.

When they turned around, Cesar snapped his fingers deftly to trigger the trine worms in their bodies.

When the trine worms came alive, Vicks and Fritz dropped to the ground, unconscious.

Actually, the mysterious incidents that befallen the village were all the trine worms' doing.

Cesar sneered, "Ha! Don't even think of keeping me here."

He turned and left.

Of course, he didn't really leave. Instead, he hid in a corner and observed the progress.

In the woods at the east of the village, Erwen, Yazmin, and Andres were busy grinding herbs when they heard footsteps approaching them.

Erwen looked up casually and promptly froze.

A crowd yelling menacing threats was approaching them swiftly.

The ground shook as they marched all the way here.

Yazmin gasped. "I think they are the villagers of Durbaine. Why are they here?"

Andres asked, "Yazmin, are you sure they are from Durbaine?"

"Of course!" Yazmin nodded profusely.

Andres flashed a smile. "Mm, that's great. Saves us the trouble of looking for them. The antidote is almost completed. We can ask them to take it."

Yazmin didn't share his sentiments. "Mr. Andres, don't you think it's strange that they appeared without warning? Will they trust us and take the antidote?"

Andres frowned and said carefully, "If we are honest to them, I believe they will trust us."

Erwen was already panicking. "Mr. Andres, this is bad. The villagers are armed with tools, and they seem upset. Obviously, they are out for blood. I think their target is us, so we should avoid them."

Andres squinted his eyes at the crowd before glancing at their surroundings. He let out a long sigh. "The terrain is complicated, and we're not familiar with this area. It's pretty hard to escape from them. Besides, if we flee the scene, won't that look as though we are guilty? We'll never get to clear our name if we do that," he explained.

Erwen and Yazmin bore fearful expressions, for they knew Andres was right.

They had no choice but to confront the villagers head-on.

Chapter 2250

Hopefully, the villagers would trust them even though they were strangers.

Andres stood before Erwen and Yazmin to protect them. "Girls, listen to me. I'll do my best to convince the villagers. If they refuse to listen to me, you should flee the scene immediately. Go as far as you can."

However, Erwen replied doggedly, "Mr. Andres, we must leave together. It doesn't matter if we fail to convince them. We still have our Life-Bound Worms, right?"

Yazmin chimed in, "Yes, before Erwen and I left the White Muraco Clan, we took many cursed parasitic worms with us. They are powerful creatures!"

They were still in the middle of the discussion when the villagers of Durbaine finally arrived.

Don ordered with a wave of his hand. "Everyone, surround them!"

The villagers rushed forward to surround Andres and the young ladies.

They glared at the three outsiders menacingly.

Andres immediately explained, "Everyone, please don't be afraid. We mean no harm. In fact, we're here to help you out."

Don shot Andres a glare and ignored him. He then strode to the herbs Andres and the other two were grinding earlier and studied them carefully.

Andres told him, "Everyone, this is the antidote that can save your lives."

Don didn't bother answering him and continued flipping through the herbs carefully.

Soon, he discovered a shard of bone among the herbs and grew agitated. "D*mn it! This is from a skull. You've indeed gone through our ancestors' graves and took their bones!" he declared.

His words only served to ignite the villagers' fury, and they hurled insults and curses in Andres' direction.

"F*ck, it was all their fault! We've been suffering because of them. They have to pay the price!"
"Chief, please give your orders. I can't wait to beat them up!"

"How dare they cause trouble in our territory? Do they have a death wish?"

Andres, Erwen, and Yazmin blanched in horror at the villagers' reaction.

It was the worst scenario that they could imagine.

They couldn't understand why the villagers were accusing them of trying to bring harm to the village. The village chief even confidently claimed that the bone fragment in the herbs was their ancestor's bone.

Andres explained hastily, "Everyone, this is a misunderstanding. You've got it wrong. This isn't a human bone. It's an oracle bone. We mean no harm, so please don't act recklessly."

Don sneered, "Ha! You're still making excuses, huh? Do you think we're fools? Fine! I shall give you a chance to prove to us that this is an oracle bone instead of a human bone! We'll believe you if you can prove yourselves."

Andres was stumped.

Human bones and oracle bones were both bones, and they didn't have any equipment to differentiate both.

Luckily, Erwen stepped out to say, "Calm down, everyone. I can prove it to you now!"

She paused to let that sink in before continuing, "As you know, human bones will create wills-o'-the-wisp in summer, for they can't withstand high temperature and can easily catch fire. Animal bones, on the other hand, can't catch fire easily. You can use fire to light up this bone

fragment. If it burns easily, it's a human bone. If it doesn't burn or takes a long time to catch fire, it is an animal bone."

Erwen had actually made that up to calm the villagers down.

Whether or not a bone burned easily would depend on its phosphorus content.

The older a bone was, the more phosphorus it contained, and vice versa.

The oracle bone they used had been around for a long time, so it wouldn't burn easily.

They could only hope that the villagers would buy their explanation.

Most of the villagers seemed to trust them, except for a few.

Someone asked carefully, "Chief, is that so?"

Don found himself in a predicament.

Chapter 2251

He had never heard about that, but he couldn't be honest to the villagers, could he?

To preserve his dignity, Don gave a curt nod. "Mm. I've heard that saying from the older generation. Let's try it."

With that, he fished a lighter out of his pocket and set fire to the bone.

Underneath everyone's watchful gazes, the bone turned black. It was practically burnt now, but it still didn't catch fire.

Andres and the ladies heaved a sigh of relief.

Don pocketed his lighter. "This isn't our ancestors' bone? Then why are you fiddling around our ancestors' graves?"

The villagers might've believed that Andres didn't take their ancestors' bone, but they refused to let the three outsiders leave without giving any explanation.

After all, Andres and the ladies' actions were too suspicious to be ignored.

Andres announced, "We're here to save your lives. Didn't you realize you've been acting strangely lately?"

Don nodded. "We've been feeling unwell recently. How do you know about that?"

"I shall be honest with you. Someone has used the Poisonous Worm Technique on you, and we know about the existence of this technique. It was pure coincidence that we discovered you've been infected by the cursed parasitic worm, so we decided to help you out," Andres said truthfully.

The villagers immediately erupted into an uproar.

"Cursed parasitic worm? What kind of worm is that?"

"A worm that can enter your body to eat your flesh and suck your blood!"

"What? There are worms inside me? Oh, f*ck. Get them out now!"

"Oh, dear. I'm going to puke...."

Don was flustered, too, A chill went down his spine as he asked, "Is that true? There are worms inside our body?"

"Of course," Andres responded "Why would we lie to you?" firmly.

"Can you help us get rid of the worms?" Don queried.

Andres sighed. "I'll do my best, but I can't guarantee the results."

Don nodded vehemently. "Please help us. Help our village."

Some distance away, Cesar witnessed the entire incident in a dark and secluded corner.

D*mn it! The villagers are foolish enough to trust Andres easily!

There was no way Cesar would allow them to trust Andres.

He shut his eyes and pondered briefly before coming out with an idea.

He pulled out a bell from his pocket and shook it gently.

Following the ringing sound, a few villagers of Durbaine froze momentarily. Their gazes had glazed over as they marched toward Andres stiffly.

They raised their tools up high, and their target was none other than Andres.

Andres yelled anxiously, "What are you doing? Please stop!"

Alas, the men paid no heed to his words and picked up their paces to charge at him.

Don's brows knitted together, for the men had taken action without his order. He was displeased by their behavior.

Coolly, he barked, "What are you doing? Are you trying to overstep my authority? Come back at once. Otherwise, I shall punish you in accordance with our village's rules!"

However, the villagers ignored him and soon arrived before Andres.

They raised their farming tools to hit Andres.

"Everyone, these are witches! They were the ones who brought misfortune to our village! Quick, we need to kill them!" they shouted.

Andres, Yazmin, and Erwen were shocked beyond words. Clearly, they would lose their lives here if they didn't retaliate.

Left with no choice, Andres had to release his cursed parasitic worms.

With lightning speed, the cursed parasitic worms crawled into the villagers through the openings of their bodies.

The controlled villagers screamed in agony and dropped their farming tools. They then collapsed to the ground and rolled around in pain.

The other villagers gaped in disbelief at the sight.

They couldn't believe that Andres could knock down a few muscular men just by using a few worms.

Chapter 2252

One villager under Cesar's control promptly shrieked angrily, "Everyone, they can control the worms to attack us! They are most probably the ones who ordered the worms to infect us!"

Another chimed in, "Yes, I agree with him. They are crying foul!"

"Everyone, we need to be more observant instead of falling to their tricks!"

"Chief, please give your orders so we can kill them now!"

Initially, Don wanted Andres to give an explanation. If Andres could provide a plausible explanation, he would continue trusting him.

Before he could tell the villagers to stay put, a strange tinkling noise popped up in his brain.

His mind went blank, and he lost his senses.

He yelled, "Everyone, kill them! Those who kill them will be rewarded handsomely!" Cesar had also gained control of Don!

The villagers remained skeptical. "Chief, they are too powerful. Didn't you see how they controlled the worms? We're no match for them!"

Without hesitation, Don took out a gun and pointed it at Andres.

Andres couldn't hide his shock. "Everyone, listen to me. We're here to help you! If something happens to us, you'll lose your lives for sure..."

Alas, Don wasn't in control of his own senses now. He promptly fired his gun.

Don's gun was a handmade gun he used to hunt, so it wasn't that lethal. He also failed to hit Don, but some fragments of the bullets landed on Andres' leg.

His leg was a bloody mess, and he lost his balance before tumbling to the ground.

Now that Andres was hurt, the villagers were no longer afraid. They charged toward Andres menacingly.

Andres and the young ladies were in grave danger.

At once, Andres barked, "Yazmin, Erwen, leave right now. You can't get captured by the villagers! If I don't return, you'll be in charge of the White Muraco Clan. The clan can't survive without you both!"

However, both ladies were determined. "Mr. Andres, don't waste time trying to persuade us to change our minds. We won't leave you alone to face these villagers. We're all in this together. Muracans are not afraid of death!"

"Leave right this instance!" Andres roared. "You shouldn't act rashly. The greater good takes priority!"

Nevertheless, Yazmin and Erwen paid no heed to him. They flanked him and declared, "You want to kill Mr. Andres? Over our dead bodies!"

Andres finally gave up on trying to persuade them. He joined in and fought alongside them.

"Erwen, Yazmin, I shall risk my life to protect you both!" he exclaimed. "Come on, fools. Let me show you how powerful my worms are!"

Both sides were about to have a showdown.

Erwen, Yazmin, and Andres launched their attacks by releasing their cursed parasitic worms.

Those who got attacked by the cursed parasitic worms would drop to the ground while wailing in pain. They would lose their ability to fight.

However, the villagers were in large numbers. After the first batch of villagers dropped to the ground, the rest would immediately charge forward.

The enemies kept coming, but they had limited cursed parasitic worms.

Soon, they were about to finish using the cursed parasitic worms in their possession.

They would be helpless without the cursed parasitic worms!

In the end, Andres had to protect Erwen and Yazmin by relying on his own strength. It was a sight beyond savage.

One villager dashed to Erwen and Yazmin before raising his hoe to hit Erwen's head.

Utterly shocked, Erwen closed her eyes in despair.

Shit, I'm doomed. There's no way out. I don't mind dying here, but my only regret is that I can't see Mr. Williams again before my death. Mr. Williams, we will never meet again. I hope we'll get to see each other in the next lifetime!

In the nick of time, a strong arm grabbed Erwen's waist.

What's going on?

Erwen's eyes snapped open in surprise, and she realized she was one hundred meters away from the scene.

What just happened? Why am I brought here? Did the owner of that arm bring me here? How could he be that swift?

She instantly lifted her head to find out who it was.

The sight of the familiar face nearly made her break out in tears of joy.

Oh, it's Mr. Williams! I can't believe it's him! He's the only person I want to see before I die! Did he appear when I needed him the most? Is this a dream? Dreams aren't this perfect, though.

Erwen pinched her own arm and yelped in pain. It isn't a dream! Tears streamed down her cheeks. "Mr. Williams! You're finally here! I'm not dreaming!"

Chapter 2253

Zeke gave a curt nod. "Yes, you're not dreaming. Are you all right, Erwen?"

"I'm fine!" Erwen wiped her tears away hastily and said, "Mr. Williams, please save Mr. Andres and Yazmin. They are in danger!"

Zeke gave "They are safe, so don't worry. her shoulder a reassuring pat.

At lightning speed, two figures zapped past the villagers and appeared before them.

They were none other than Sole Wolf and Killer Wolf, and they each held Yazmin and Andres in their arms.

Both were safe and sound.

Finally, Erwen could relax.

Yazmin and Andres were delighted to see Zeke.

Taking Zeke's hand, Yazmin said, "Are you real? Is this a dream? Erwen, hurry. Pinch me so I can see if it hurts."

Andres bit back his pain and went on his knees before Zeke.

"I am Andres Muraco, from White Muraco Clan. Greetings, Elder!"

Zeke bobbed his head. "Mm. Stand up. You must've suffered a lot."

Andres replied politely, "I'm just doing my job."

Zeke inquired, "Why are you here?"

Eurasia explained, "We discovered trine worms in this village. The existence of trine worms will bring doom to Eurasia. Thus, we came here to exterminate the trine worms."

Zeke took a deep breath. "I mean, why did you both leave the White Muraco Clan?"

Erwen and Yazmin hung their heads low. Erwen's face even flushed red.

They said nothing, but Zeke knew what they had in mind.

He said, "Forget it. We shall talk about that later. Do you have a plan to get rid of the trine worms?"

Andres responded, "There is only a way to get rid of the trine worms, and it was recorded in our ancient books. We're not sure if it will work. We wanted to experiment on the villagers, but they refused to play along!"

Zeke patted his shoulder. "Mm, it's all right. Leave them to me. You'll only have to focus on getting the antidote right."

"Got it!"

A hundred meters away, the villagers were dumbfounded as they stood rooted in their own spots.

A while ago, three figures appeared in a flash before Andres and the ladies disappeared from sight.

What happened? Did the three of them disappeared into thin air? That's so strange!

The villagers glanced around curiously.

Soon, Don spotted the trio standing a hundred meters away.

He barked angrily, "Everyone, look! Our enemies are there!"

"Kill them!"

The villagers dashed to them armed with
The villagers glanced around curiously.

Soon, Don spotted the trio standing a hundred meters away.

He barked angrily, "Everyone, look! Our enemies are there!"

"Kill them!"

The villagers dashed to them armed with their farming tools.

Don then ordered the villagers to surround them.

He belatedly realized that there were three more men around.

So the black figures were these men? Impossible. How could humans travel that swiftly?

Don shot Zeke a hostile glare. "I don't care who you are. You'd better get out instead of interfering in our business! Otherwise, I shall assume you're our enemy and destroy you entirely!" their farming tools.

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He belatedly realized that there were three more men around.

So the black figures were these men? Impossible. How could humans travel that swiftly?

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Chapter 2254

Get out?

Sole Wolf lifted his head and glowered at Don. "Who are you telling to get out?"

His domineering presence caused Don to do a double-take. The latter's heart started beating wildly.

Right this moment, Don felt as though he was a tiny mouse, and Sole Wolf was a ferocious cat that was preying on him.

However, he couldn't back down in front of the villagers.

Plucking his courage, he declared, "I said, you should know your place and get-"

Before he could finish, Sole Wolf took action.

He appeared in a flash before Don and gave the latter a tight slap.

Slap!

The slap was so loud and forceful that Don was sent flying a few hundred meters back. After that, Sole Wolf returned to his spot.

As he was too swift and moved at a speed that human eyes couldn't keep up with, the villagers, including Don himself, didn't see him taking action.

All they saw was Sole Wolf's body moving slightly, and then there was a loud slap before Don was sent flying.

After getting to his feet, Don covered his cheek and glanced around furiously. "Who the f*ck slapped me?"

The villagers were confused, for they had no idea who slapped him.

The most suspicious culprit was Sole Wolf. but everyone saw with their own eyes that he didn't move an inch.

As no one responded, Don jumped up angrily. "F*ck it! Since no one admits to it, I shall blame it all on you."

He ordered, "Everyone, kill the b*stards! Go!"

"Kill them!" the villagers roared and charged toward Zeke as though they had gone mad. Zeke gave a casual wave to release his energy. It formed an energy wall and blocked the path of the villagers.

The villagers hit the energy wall and toppled backward. No one could take a step further.

Erwen, Yazmin, and Andres took in the sight, utterly dumbfounded.

They couldn't see that wall, but the villagers' plight made them realize how powerful the invincible wall was.

Mr. Williams is amazing! He created an invincible wall just with a wave!

The expressions of the villagers of Durbaine turned ugly when they kept running into the wall.

The opponent they were up against was too strong, so they couldn't help but grow fearful.

They began to waver.

After realizing the huge gap between their strengths, Don was sensible enough to know that they weren't Zeke's match.

He was about to order the villagers to retreat when the mysterious bell tinkled in his head again.

His mind went blank when he heard it, and he lost his senses yet again.

Without knowing it, he yelled, "Everyone, charge ahead! Kill them! Don't retreat!"

However, the villagers of Durbaine were too frightened to step forward.

Don announced, "Go! I'll marry my daughter to the man who breaks past this wall!"

men's eyes lit up The young words. in delight at his

Don's daughter was known for her gorgeous looks and sweet voice. Despite being born in a remote village, she managed to graduate from a university.

Of course, those weren't important. Most importantly, she was the village chief's daughter.

Don only had one daughter, so he adored and treasured her greatly.

If I can become the village chief's son-in, I'll obviously end up as the next village chief!

The young men rushed forward to try to break through the invincible wall.

Alas, their strengths were no match for the energy wall.

A vortex of anger swirled inside Zeke.

Back then, he risked his life fighting with the monster and nearly died to save the villagers.

However, the villagers failed to recognize him even though the incident merely happened a while ago.

The fools don't deserve my sacrifice!

Zeke released another surge of energy.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The villagers were swept to the ground by the force. Those who were skinny were thrown several dozen meters away.

Chapter 2255

He's so strong and powerful!

The villagers finally understood that they would not be able to hurt him even a little no matter how hard they tried.

On the contrary, he could easily finish them off if they kept provoking him.

Zeke yelled at them, "Get lost!"

The powerful energy in his voice scared all of them, and they lost their fighting spirit.

An illusion had occurred in their minds. This is a devil in front of us!

The villagers gave up the idea of attacking Zeke and ran away.

They could finally gasp for air only when they arrived at their village.

A well-behaved little girl was about to run out of the village when she was stopped by a middle-aged woman.

"Nelly, where are you going?"

It was the same girl, Nelly, who had bumped into Zeke the other day, and she had invited him to her house.

Nelly stared at the forest toward the east of the village and said, "Great Marshal Zee is coming. I want to go and see him."

The middle-aged lady seemed a little angry. "Nelly, shut up. Don't talk rubbish. If you ever mention those words again, I will give you a beating."

Nelly felt very indignant. "Mommy, Great Marshal Zee is really there in the forest. I can hear his voice. He has told me that the next time he's here, he will drop by our house. I'm sure he is going to visit us. Just now, I heard Great Marshal Zee's voice, and he sounded very angry. Maybe he has lost his way and can't find our house."

Nelly's mom got furious. "If you spout any more rubbish, I'll really pinch your mouth. How can a Great Marshal lose his way!"

However, one of the villagers recalled something and asked the little girl, "Nelly, tell me. What did you hear Great Marshal Zee say?"

With a serious face, Nelly replied, "Just now, Great Marshal Zee told somebody to get lost, but I have no idea who he is talking to"

What?

When all the villagers heard that, they were dumbfounded.

The man who had just told them to get lost was a tall, thin, and strong man.

Yet, Nelly claimed it was the voice of the Great Marshal.

Does that mean that the tall and thin man is the Great Marshal himself?.

No, no, no. That's impossible.

The Great Marshal must be very busy with his official duties and the numerous duties of the state on a daily basis. There was no way he would come to a forsaken place.

Furthermore, it was impossible for Nelly to be able to recognize the Great Marshal's voice.

Although the villagers could see the slight resemblance between the tall, thin man and the painting of the Great Marshal, they felt that it was only a coincidence.

The villagers were trying very hard to convince themselves.

Nelly, on the other hand, still insisted on going to the forest to look for the Great Marshal.

"Mom, please let me go and find Great Marshal Zee. He must be lost. All of us have always worshiped Great Marshal Zee's painting, haven't we? Now that he is here in person, why aren't you welcoming him?"

Nelly's mom berated her, "Shut up! There's no such thing as a Great Marshal! You got it home! Come, let's go " With that, Nelly's mom dragged her along.

However, the village chief sensed the matter was much more than meets the eyes.

He immediately called out, "Nelly, stop right there!"

Nelly's mom quickly went over and apologized to Don, "Chief, Nelly is still young and doesn't know what she is talking about. Please forgive her!"

Don walked up to Nelly, got down on his knees, and asked warmly, "Nelly, tell me. How do you know that is Great Marshal Zee's voice?"

With her young and sweet voice, Nelly replied, "I have seen Great Marshal Zee before. Also, he promised to come to my house as my guest. I'm sure that's why he is here."

Don continued to probe patiently, "Oh, I see. When and where did you meet Great Marshal Zee?"

Nelly answered solemnly, "I saw him in the alley of the village only three days ago. There were also a few formidable-looking generals with Great Marshal Zee too."

Chapter 2256

Nelly added, "Oh dear. Great Marshal Zee said that this is a secret between the two of us, and I mustn't tell anyone. I wonder if he will blame me."

The villagers began to murmur among themselves.

"Lass, you're lying. This sounds completely absurd!"

"The Great Marshal is such an influential person. There's no way he will come to our village. Even if he does, it will be a massive event. But, we aren't aware of anything like that."

"I think you must have dreamed of the Great Marshal."

Nelly's mom felt very guilty and apologized to the villagers, "I'm so sorry. It's my fault. For not guiding her well. That's why she talks nonsense. When we go back, I will have a long talk with her."

"All right. Everyone, go back now. It's getting late."

The crowd began to disperse.

Nelly, on the other hand, was displeased. "But, I'm telling the truth. Why won't all of you believe me?"

"Hold on!" Don called out.

The villagers stopped in their tracks and eyed the village chief with curiosity. "What is it?"

Don took a deep breath before saying, "I feel that what Nelly says may be true."

The crowd could not help but burst out laughing.

"Chief, Nelly is still young, so we can understand if she is mistaken. But, you are so much older and wiser. How can you have such poor judgment?"

The village chief said, "Hear me out first. Firstly, this warrior does look very much like the Great Marshal in our mural, but that's understandable. However, both their auras are also very similar. Can there really be two such identical men in this world? Secondly, remember three days ago, when we woke up and saw strange happenings?"

The villagers nodded and started talking.

"Of course, we remember. Three days ago, when we woke up, many of us had strange injuries on our bodies. The injuries looked as if we have been overworking."

"The vegetables in our greenhouses seemed to have grown overnight, but it's not possible."

"Also, my dog actually died of starvation. But, the night before, I have given it sufficient food."

"Chief, can all these strange happenings have something to do with the Great Marshal?"

Don said, "To be honest, I have a strong suspicion that we have been sleeping for at least five to six days continuously during that period! That's why the dog died of starvation. It also explains why the vegetables have grown so much. During those days, we have been controlled by someone while working our guts off. That will explain the injuries on us. Throughout everything, we were completely unconscious. We are only rescued when the warrior, who is also the Great Marshal, appeared."

When the villagers heard that, their faces turned pale.

"Chief, you're joking, right?"

"That's right. Nobody can sleep for so many days in a row, and certainly not the entire village."

"Did you say we were being controlled by someone, and that person made us work? How can we not have realized that? Your theory has too many loopholes!"

Don smiled bitterly. "I also hope that my theory is wrong. But, if everything is true..."

The thought terrified Don.

Suddenly, Nelly said, "Chief, you're right. These days, all of you keep sleeping during the day and only go out to work at night. Furthermore, none of you drinks, eats, or talks. All of you ignore us too. Other than work, all you do is sleep. If Great Marshal Zee hadn't been feeding me, I would have died of hunger."

What!

Nelly's words hit them like a bolt of lightning!

All of them looked at Nelly with petrified looks in their eyes. "Nelly, w-what did you just say? These past few days, we have been doing nothing but work and sleep. We didn't even eat or drink?"

Nelly was frightened by the villagers' extreme reactions. She nodded her head fearfully. "Yes, that's right. I never lie."

Chapter 2257

Don immediately asked her, "Nelly, tell me. Other than these, what else have you noticed?"

Nelly pondered on the question and replied, "There's something else too. During the day, the sound of a flute can be heard. The moment the flute is being played, all of you will get up and act strangely."

The villagers exchanged nervous glances.

As far as they could vaguely remember, they had been hearing the strange sounds of the flute.

Can it be true?

Someone has controlled us using dark magic. At the crucial moment, the Great Marshal has come and saved us!

Can the warrior in the forest be the Great Marshal himself?

The Great Marshal was someone of a high and influential position. He was of a sacred status and not to be offended.

Most importantly, he was the savior of the entire village on more than one occasion.

Yet, they had treated him with enmity!

A wave of mixed feelings washed over them.

Don suddenly turned around and started jogging away.

The villagers shouted, "Chief, where are you going?"

"I'm going to find the Great Marshal and ask for his forgiveness!".

After a moment of hesitation, the villagers hurried after Don.

They knew that it was an unforgivable sin too. offend the Great Marshal, and as a punishment, their entire families would be wiped out.

If they could atone for their sins with their lives, they would do it willingly.

However, when they arrived at the forest, the Great Marshal was long gone,

Don ordered his men to search for him but to no avail.

The villagers looked at their chief in fear. "It looks like the Great Marshal has left. But, do you think he will send his troops to annihilate all of us?"

"Since we are the ones who have mistreated the Great Marshal, we deserve to die. But, the children are innocent. Let's hope that the Great Marshal will spare the children."

"Chief, why don't we go personally and ask for forgiveness? We can ask for leniency. At least, we can beg the Great Marshal to let the children off."

Don said, "Don't worry. The Great Marshal won't do anything to us."

Why not?

The villagers looked at Don weirdly. They could not understand why he was so sure about that.

Don explained, "If you have been bitten by an ant, are you going to look for that particular ant for revenge?"

The villagers were speechless.

That's right. In the eyes of the Great Marshal, we are nothing but ants.

Why will the Great Marshal waste another minute on us?

Don waved his hand and said, "All right. Time to go back."

However, after a while, the villagers realized that they had another problem. "Chief, it's still not safe for us."

"Now, we are sure that the warrior is indeed the Great Marshal. That also means that the group of people who were with the Great Marshal were right."

"There are worms in our bodies. In the whole world, they are the only ones who can save us. What should we do now? I'm sure they are angry with us and won't help us now."

Don responded, "It's our fault. We should have seized the opportunity."

However, the villagers were unhappy. "How can this be our fault? It's all because of the old priest."

"It's true. He was the one who poisoned our minds. That was why we didn't believe the Great Marshal and his group. In fact, we nearly had a falling out with the Great Marshal!"

"We have to sentence the old priest to death!"

"That's right. Let's go and find that old priest. D*mn it! I'm going to kill that old b*stard!"

"Let's get moving and keep your eyes open. Don't let the old priest get away."

The villagers rushed to Don's house like a tidal wave. Before that, Don had arranged for two villagers to stay back to attend to the old priest.

By the time they got to the village chief's house, they found the two attendants of the old priest lying near the door, unconscious.

Chapter 2258

Don's face darkened as he ran over to wake up the two villagers. "Damn it! Wake up! Stop sleeping."

Opening their eyes groggily, the two villagers asked simultaneously, "Where is this place? Why does my head hurt so much?"

"Tell me, where is the priest?" Don asked grimly. "I ordered you to keep an eye on him. Don't tell me you've let him go!"

At the mention of the priest, the two villagers remembered what had happened with a jolt and exclaimed, "Damn it! We've been assaulted by the priest!"

"To think that we welcomed him kindly. How can he attack us from behind? If I catch him, I will be sure to rip him apart!"

Clenching his fists, Don ordered, "Start looking for him now! Even if it means combing through the whole village, we must find him!"

One of the villagers said, "Chief, shall we beat the priest to death when we find him? That scumbag is too much!"

Shaking his head vigorously, Don replied, No, you must not! We still need him alive!

"He's the one who caused us to misunderstand the Great Marshal and his companions. Let's hand over the priest to the Great Marshal and let him decide what to do with him. Then, we might have a chance at redemption!"

All right!

The villagers immediately formed groups and started searching for the priest.

Meanwhile, Cesar, the "priest", had already fled the scene.

The moment Zeke showed up and demonstrated his extraordinary powers, Cesar knew it was all over for him. Knowing that it was impossible for him to make a comeback, he had no choice but to flee.

After running for a long distance, he finally stopped to gasp for air.

"Where the f*ck did that b*stard come from? Why is he so strong and hard to deal with? I'm not a match for him!"

The more Cesar thought about it, the more he felt angry and aggrieved.

Not only did Zeke disrupt his plans, he also intended to kill his trine worm.

Since the trine worms were Caesar's last hope of surviving, he couldn't allow them to be destroyed without going down a fight.

Biting his lip determinedly, he muttered to himself, "Looks like I have to ask Master for help if I want to defeat them."

Whipping out his phone, he made a call.

When the call was connected, Cesar greeted, "Hello, Master!"

A hoarse voice could be heard over the phone. "What's the matter?"

It was none other than Daemonium from the Netherworld!

Apparently, Cesar's master was Daemonium.

Cesar hurriedly replied, "I'm sorry, Master. I'm afraid our plan has been ruined..."

You useless scumbag!

Furious, Daemonium bellowed, "You can't do anything right, can you? What use do I

Have you?"

"It's all my fault, Master, it's all my fault! Please have mercy on me!" Terrified, Cesar knelt on the ground.

"I'll deal with you after this," Daemonium spat angrily. "Now tell me what exactly happened!"

Cesar began warily, "Everything has been going according to our plan smoothly until someone disrupted it!"

"A mysterious person woke the villagers up and ruined the beans that were planted. He even gathered two other women and a man to kill the trine worms in the villagers'. bodies! They are too strong and powerful! I'm no match for them!"

"Do you know their names?" Daemonium asked.

Cesar shook his head. "I don't know."

Daemonium scoffed, "How dare you brag that your trine worms are undefeatable when you can't even deal with a bunch of insignificant people? You're ridiculous!"

After a brief pause, he ordered, "Meet me at Vauxgan Pavilion as fast as you can. Once I settle everything here, I'll finish off the warriors with you."

Okay, great!

Cesar was delighted to hear that because he knew how powerful Daemonium was. He had the power to gather the clouds and build a storm with a flip of his hand.

With such a god-like master, Cesar was confident that they could destroy their opponent.

Chapter 2259

It was drizzling on the shores of the Yellow Sand River.

At Vauxgan Pavilion, Rick and his subordinates were patrolling along the banks of the Yellow Sand River and keeping a lookout for any movement in the waters.

If anything happened, Rick would follow Zeke's instructions and report the situation to him.

Not far away, a figure was hiding in a bush of reeds.

It was none other than Daemonium.

Holding this breath in his hideout, he managed to conceal his presence thoroughly.

Therefore, even when Rick and the others were very close by, they failed to detect his presence.

To Daemonium, Rick and the others were just like ants on the ground. He could easily kill them if he wanted to, but he didn't show himself recklessly because he sensed Zeke's presence in the air.

Daemonium was unsure whether Zeke was around or if it was a trap.

Besides, sensing an unknown yet strong presence at the bottom of the river, he became apprehensive.

Previously, Daemonium discovered an important treasure at the bottom of the river.

The treasure's importance to him was so significant that he ordered Cesar to transform some of the Dulliards into spider men. After that, he sent them underwater to guard the treasure.

As Daemonium sensed the strong presence from underwater, he realized that the person must be aiming for the treasure too.

However, he didn't dare to reveal himself without knowing the identity of the person.

What should I do now? What should I do now?

Daemonium was frustrated about what to do next when he suddenly sensed a familiar presence approaching him at top speed.

It was none other than the presence of his new subordinate, Cesar, the Dulliard sorcerer.

lit Upon seeing Cesar, Daemonium's eyes up as an idea crossed his mind.

Morphing into a flash of lightning, he left his hideout and ran toward Cesar's position.

While Rick and the others were still unaware of Daemonium's presence, Daemonium and Cesar met.

Upon Daemonium's arrival, Cesar hastily knelt before him. "Greetings, Master."

Daemonium nodded. "You may rise. You're just in time. I need you to do something for me."

Cesar replied, "It is my honor to serve you, Master."

Daemonium began, "There's a few people patrolling around Vauxgan Pavilion. I need you to pretend that you're a passerby and check on the situation there."

Cesar nodded. "All right. I'll go right now."

Daemonium was afraid that Zeke would ambush him if he went to check on the situation personally. If Zeke was around, Daemonium would be attacked the moment he showed himself.

Daemonium brought Cesar near Vauxgan Pavilion.

When Cesar took a closer look at Rick and the others, he was instantly enraged. "Damn it! Why am I bumping into them again? No wonder they weren't at Durbaine. Looks like they have been here all the time!"

Cesar's reaction caught Daemonium by surprise. "Why? Do you know them?"

Cesar nodded and replied, "Yes, I know who they are. They are the Dulliouids. I sent them to stand guard at Durbaine. When the situation at Durbaine became out of hand, they fled here instead."

Daemonium frowned. They Dulliouids? are the

With Zeke's presence stronger than ever and Rick's patrol, Daemonium couldn't help but suspect that the few people from Dulliouid had betrayed him and pledged loyalty to Zeke!

"You! Go ahead and sound them out," Daemonium ordered.

Cesar replied, "Don't worry. Since they ruined our plan, I will not let them off easily!"

As Cesar approached Rick and the others. menacingly, he yelled, "Rick Baker! How dare you come here without my permission?"

Rick and the others looked in the direction of the sound. When they saw Cesar, they fumed in rage.

F*ck! This is the scumbag that got Dulliouid into trouble!

Ever since their families, friends, and colleagues turned into monsters and sank into the river, all they wanted to do was to avenge their loved ones.

However, they couldn't find their enemy.

Now that the enemy showed up, they had no reason not to begin their revenge,

Chapter 2260

Rick and the others sped up and charged toward Cesar.

However, having grown used to subordinates rushing forward to kneel before him and greet him respectfully in Dulllioud, Cesar didn't realize that something was wrong.

He thought Rick and the others were running toward him because they wanted to kneel before him and greet him.

When they almost reached him, Cesar scolded, "How dare you leave without my permission and come to Durbaine? Kneel before me right now! I shall teach you a lesson today..."

Before Cesar could finish, Rick punched him in the face with his enormous fist.

Bang!

A tooth fell out of Cesar's mouth as he stumbled and fell backwards.

Afterward, Rick and the others pinned Cesar to the ground and punched him.

Cesar was dumbstruck because he never expected Rick to have the nerves to hit him.

After a few seconds, the sharp pain from the beating drew him back to reality.

"You scumbags! Rick Baker! You must be out of your mind!" Cesar bellowed madly like a beast. "Get out of my way or you will regret this! Such disrespect will land you with a death sentence! F*ck! Stop hitting. my face!"

Instead of stopping, Rick and the others kicked and punched Cesar harder.

"You want us to get out of your way? In your dreams! I'll beat you to death today!"

"Let's not count the number of times you've bullied me and my friend back in Dulllioud just because the Dulllioud Supreme trusts you. How can you do such a horrible thing to Dulllioud?"

"If I don't kill you today, I won't be doing their poor souls justice!"

In just a few minutes, Cesar was nearly beaten to death. The pain was unbearable.

If Daemonium still didn't help him, he

would be beaten to death soon enough.

Since Cesar was on the brink of death, he couldn't care less if he exposed Daemonium's presence. "Help, Master! Help me..."

As Daemonium still needed Cesar to do his bidding, he would not turn a blind eye to his plea.

However, he would not risk showing himself in case Zeke was preparing to ambush him nearby.

At the instant Daemonium released his energy, a shock wave similar to an explosion rippled through the air, sending Rick and the others flying.

After landing on the ground, they rolled for a few meters before coming to a stop.

When they finally came to a stop, their bodies had been covered with blood.

Although the pain was unbearable, they were more terrified by the fact that there was a warrior attacking from the dark.

Judging from the attacker's moves, which were exactly the same as Zeke's, the attacker was possibly a warrior at the same level as him.

As the murderous aura in the area became stronger, Rick exchanged glances with his friends because they knew they were in the type of situation that Zeke would want to be notified of immediately.

Without hesitation, Rick took out a stick from his pocket and prepared to snap it in half.

When Daemonium saw the stick in Rick's hands from his hideout, his eyes lit up in realization.

Sensing Zeke's energy on the stick, he guessed that the stick was used by Rick to communicate with Zeke.

Once the stick was snapped into half, Zeke would be able to detect the rippling energy coming from the stick and rush to their aid.

It meant that Zeke wasn't on the spot!

Since he wasn't present, things were easier for Daemonium.

With just a vague wave, Daemonium channeled enough energy to pull the stick out of Rick's hands.

Rick immediately turned pale because the stick was their trump card. Now that the stick was in Daemonium's hands, they were likely to be dead in a few minutes.

Enduring the excruciating pain all over his body, Rick lunged at Daemonium and tried to snatch the stick back.

However, Daemonium used his energy to hold Rick back. With a plop, Rick fell to his knees before Daemonium.

Chapter 2261

Rick couldn't even raise his head.

The other Dulliards were also pulled toward Daemonium and forced to kneel before him by his energy.

Cesar charged toward them and beat them up. "F*ck you! How dare you rebel against us? I'll kill you!"

Then, turning to Daemonium, Cesar said, "Don't worry about these animals, Master. I will execute them personally."

Despite facing death, Rick remained dignified. "You'd better live up to your words, Muraco. If anyone of us is alive, we'll come after you!"

How dare you talk back to me when you're going to die?

Just as Cesar whipped out his dagger and prepared to slit Rick's throat, he was held back by Daemonium's energy.

Unable to move, Cesar glanced at Daemonium warily and asked, "Master, what..."
Daemonium berated, "You're not killing them without my orders!"

Despite feeling indignant, Cesar suppressed his anger and nodded obediently.

Master must have his reasons for sparing their lives.

Daemonium began coldly, "According to the previous rules, anyone that opposes me will face death! However, I can spare your lives if you answer me truthfully. Why does Zeke order you to stay here? What does he want you to do?"

Rick and the others stared at Daemonium in shock. How does he know that we're here on Zeke's orders?

However, they had already made up their mind to pledge their loyalty to the Great Marshal. Unwilling to betray the Great Marshal, they stayed silent.

"One more thing," Daemonium continued, "What is beneath the river waters? Does Zeke have anything to do with it?"

Rick and the others remained silent.

Angered by their response, Daemonium sneered, "Since you would rather die than answer my questions, I'll do as you wish!"

With that said, he grabbed a Dullioud by the head and squeezed him. Following a loud cracking sound, the Dullioud's head was crushed, leaving a mess of blood on the ground.

The other Dulliouds went pale.

Even Cesar's heart skipped a beat at the horrifying sight.

Daemonium is so cruel! He crushed a man's skull with his bare hand!

Glaring at another Dullioud. Daemonium said, "I'll give you another chance. Tell me, and I will spare you from the same fate."

Fearless and determined, the Dullioud retorted, "We've sworn to follow the Great Marshal and never betray him. Keep dreaming if you think you can get any information from us!"

Rolling his eyes impatiently, Daemonium simply crushed the Dullioud's skull and killed him.

"You!" Daemonium pointed at another Dullioud.

"You're next!"

"I'll never tell!"

The next Dullioud refused without thinking.

In fact, the reason for their determination was not that they were loyal to Zeke.

More importantly, they were worried that Zeke would take revenge on their families if they betrayed him.

To them, it was a better deal to sacrifice themselves in exchange for their families' safety.

Running out of patience, Daemonium yelled, "If you still refuse to say, I'll kill all of you, and I'll make sure that you won't have an easy death! I'll torture you slowly!"

Seeing that Rick and the others refused to

surrender even if it meant death, Daemonium was about to strike when Cesar suddenly interrupted, "Master, why not you let me try something? I might be able to get information out of them."

Daemonium narrowed his eyes at Cesar. "Even I can't make them say a word. How do you think you could?"

Cesar hurriedly replied, "Master, my trine worms are the most suitable for interrogation."

Out of all of his tactics, Cesar was most proud of his trine worms. However, ever since Daemonium insulted the trine worms, Cesar had been unhappy about it.

Now that he had the chance to prove the trine worms' ability, he wouldn't miss it.

After pondering for a while, Daemonium finally nodded. "All right. I'll let you try."

Rick and the others tensed up as they knew what the trine worms were capable of.

Once the trine worms entered their bodies, they would become Cesar's puppets and do his bidding.

Chapter 2262

Rick and the others resisted right away.

"You scumbag! If you use the trine worm on us, I will kill you and your family!"

"Go ahead and kill us if that's what you want! Don't you try your nasty tricks on us! Man up!"

"Even if that means I have to kill myself, I won't allow your evil plans to happen!"

With that said, they prepared to commit suicide.

However, Daemonium would not allow them to die right away. After suppressing them with his energy, they couldn't move again.

Meanwhile, Cesar released the trine worms. Similar to the seven-spot ladybird, the trine worm had an attractive appearance but was fatally toxic.

As the trine worms flew into the nostrils and ears of Rick and the others, their gaze became empty.

Cesar smiled at Daemonium pleasantly. "You can interrogate them now, Master."

Daemonium asked, "Are you sure they will speak the truth?"

Cesar nodded firmly. "Of course. If you don't believe me, you can start by asking them."

Daemonium turned to Rick and began, "What is your real name? Where are you from?"

Rick replied in a trance, "My real name is Joshua Baker. I am from Salinsburgh."

"What is the thing that you regret the most in your life?" Daemonium asked again.

Rick replied, "Having an affair with the Dulliod Supreme's wife."

Cesar burst into laughter. "Holy sh*t! I knew that woman has been faking her innocence all along! To think she had an affair with Baker!"

Daemonium nodded in approval. If Rick told him about his affair with the Dulliod Supreme's wife, it meant that the trine worm was indeed capable of making people tell the truth.

"Your trine worms have indeed lived up to their name," Daemonium praised.

Delighted, Cesar smiled happily. "Thank you, Master."

"Who ordered you to patrol here?" Daemonium continued questioning Rick.

"It was Zeke's orders," Rick replied.

"What did Zeke ask you to do here?" Daemonium continued.

"He wanted us to keep an eye on the river. If anything happens, we have to notify him in time. He gave us a piece of stick and asked us to break it into half so that he can sense it and arrive in time."

Daemonium continued asking, "Does that mean there is something in the river? What did Zeke want you to keep an eye on?" Rick shook his head. "I don't know, but I heard them mentioning something about a dragon."

A dragon?

Daemonium was confused.

Moments later, his eyes shone with realization.

He exclaimed agitatedly, "Dragon! Fortuna has the form of a dragon! Could it be Zeke's Fortuna? Has Zeke's Fortuna left his body and gone underwater in this river?"

"It must be it, it must be it," Daemonium muttered to himself in excitement. "Fortuna must have been attracted to something in the boundaries!"

Daemonium had been wanting to get his hands on Fortuna for a long time because of its immense power.

However, he didn't have the chance because Fortuna had been hidden inside Zeke's body.

Now that Fortuna was out of Zeke's body and was left alone beneath the river, it was his chance to get Fortuna.

There was no way he could keep his cool.

I will do anything and everything as long as I can get Fortuna!

Daemonium made a vow in his heart.

However, Fortuna was too strong for him alone to absorb.

After pondering carefully, Daemonium remembered the Fourth Branch of Netherworld.

I guess I have to depend on the Fourth Branch of Netherworld for help.

At the thought of it, Daemonium immediately ordered Cesar, "Keep an eye on the situation here and continue patrolling with Rick and the others. If you notice anything, report it to me at once. I need to leave to settle something, but I'll be back as soon as I can!"

Chapter 2263

However, Cesar was worried. "Master, what if a strong enemy attacks..."

Daemonium hissed, "If you have to die guarding this place, so be it! I will not be responsible if anything happens to you!"

As Cesar didn't dare to defy Daemonium's orders, he agreed. fear and trepidation.

After Daemonium left, Cesar regretted showing him his trine worms.

If he hadn't shown his trine worms, Deamonium wouldn't know that Fortuna was hidden underwater in the rivers. Then, he wouldn't have to risk his life guarding the river.

Now that Cesar was ordered to guard the river, he didn't dare defy Daemonium because he had signed a deal with him. If he betrayed Daemonium or defied his orders, he could be easily killed by Daemonium.

I brought this upon myself!

In the end, Cesar had no choice but to patrol the river with Rick and the remaining others.

Rick and the others were now under Cesar's control like a puppeteer with his puppets. He could make them do whatever he wanted.

In the meantime, Zeke, Andres, and Erwen found a secluded area to continue experimenting with the antidote for the trine worms.

After altering and improving the prescriptions recorded in the ancient. manual, Zeke concocted the antidote personally.

It took him four hours to figure out the right composition of the antidote.

However, they still needed to try the antidote on someone to know if it worked.

They had to get an infected person to try the antidote.

Zeke glanced at Sole Wolf and ordered, "Get me an infected villager from Durbaine."

Sole Wolf gave Zeke a thumbs-up. "You're so forgiving, Zeke. If I were treated by the villagers the way they treated you, I wouldn't have bothered myself to help them."

Zeke sighed. A few years ago, he would have punished the Durbaine villagers for offending him, at the very least.

However, after having Nelly, he couldn't bear the thought of the kids in Durbaine dying from hunger once their parents died.

Hence, he decided to rescue the villagers of Durbaine instead of retaliating against them.

When Sole Wolf left once the concoction of the antidote was completed, Erwen and Yazmin finally had the time to talk to Zeke.

While Erwen was shy to speak, Yazmin started chatting with Zeke.

"Where have you been these days, Mr. Williams? We can't find you anywhere!"

Zeke replied, "If you need to find me next time, just go to Linton Group. Linton Group has many branches in each of the major cities in the country."

Linton Group?

Erwen and Yazmin stared at Zeke confusedly because they didn't understand why they would find Zeke in the Linton Group.

Zeke replied, "Linton Group is owned by my wife. Since I have a position in the company, you can contact me through Linton Group."

Yazmin pursed her lips.

You're so dumb, Mr. Williams. How can you not notice Erwen's feelings for you and suggest that she go to your wife's company? Even if she does go, she will be so jealous.

Although Erwen was jealous when Zeke mentioned his wife, she remained calm on the surface.

She walked to Zeke and tugged gently on his shirt.

Zeke looked at Erwen confusedly. "What is it, Erwen?"

As Erwen took out a needle and threads from her pocket, she replied, "Your shirt is torn. Let me fix it."

Zeke hesitated, but he didn't say anything else.

He knew Erwen was interested in him, but he wasn't going to betray Lacey.

She's just sewing my shirt. That's what a friend will do.

Having learned embroidery at a young age, Erwen was proficient in sewing. Her stitches were as even and intricate as the ones that came from sewing machines.