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吾命騎士

The Legend of Sun Knight

6

不死巫妖下

The Legend of Sun Knight

(吾命騎士)

Volume 06

The Undying Lich (Part Two)

Yu Wo

(御我)

Story Description:

The Sun Knight is a man who has shining golden hair, sky blue eyes, a compassionate nature, and a brilliant smile. He is the spokesperson for the God of Light, the captain of the Twelve Holy Knights, and (some say) the man closest to perfection. Beneath the veneer of the Sun Knight, however, lies a very different sort of character...

Original Story can be found here: [Link](#)

Volume 6: The Undying Lich, Part II

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I am a knight. To be precise, I am the Church of the God of Light's Sun Knight.

To be the Sun Knight is to have shining golden hair, sky blue eyes, a compassionate nature, and a brilliant smile.

To forever wear a smile as he says, "The benevolent God of Light will forgive your sins" – that is the life a Sun Knight.



The Demon King is about to appear on earth; the situation is very serious, it's really very serious!

However, there's one thing even more serious, and that is...

A hot babe confessed to me!

Oh, benevolent God of Light!

Please grant me your blessings, so that the matter with the Demon King can be successfully resolved by...my companions, after which I can go back to my room with a hot babe in my arms!

Prologue: A Safeguard

A few more days remained until the ceremony to pass on the title of Judgment Knight. Lesus was not the least bit nervous about it. He had already been practicing in the Judge's Complex for several years and often helped Teacher with his paperwork. One could say that he had already performed all the duties expected of the Judgment Knight.

Truth be told, over the past two years Teacher had already been giving him most of the work to do.

Lesus believed that he was capable of the Judgment Knight's duties, so he felt that the upcoming inheritance ceremony was merely a formality.

Although he would become the Judgment Knight in a few days, he was still deferential to the current Judgment Knight, who was his teacher. Presently, he bowed his head slightly and waited humbly for Teacher's instructions.

At this moment, the 37th generation Judgment Knight, Chasel, was looking at his only student Lesus.

No matter what criteria one used, character, swordsmanship, or handling documents, Lesus was a rare, remarkable, and talented person. As a teacher, he could not help feeling proud for teaching such a student.

In a few days the student would take over the title from the teacher. Although Chasel knew that Lesus could handle things very well, as his teacher he could not help but want to remind him of a few things.

"Child, when you first started practicing in the Judge's Complex, Teacher once asked you what you thought the duty of the Judgment Knight was. Do you still remember your reply from then?"

"To punish sinners." Lesus remembered quite clearly. At that time, Teacher had only smiled and had not given any commentary on his answer, but he had vaguely felt that Teacher was not satisfied with it.

Chasel smiled and said, "Now you have been practicing in the Judge's Complex for many years. In a few days, Teacher is going to pass the

position of Judgment Knight to you, so Teacher would like to ask once more, what do you think the duty of the Judgment Knight is?”

Lesus knew that the official answer was to ensure that the people abided by the God of Light’s laws, but he felt that this was not the answer Teacher wanted. Everyone who had read the code of the Judgment Knight knew this answer. Since he was the future Judgment Knight, of course he had read the code immediately. Teacher would not ask him meaningless questions.

Among the things the Judgment Knight had to do were managing the Judge’s Complex, being a figure of severity to intimidate people who harbored unlawful thoughts, helping the Sun Knight, leading half of the Twelve Holy Knights... What answer covered these duties better than “to ensure that the people abided by the God of Light’s laws?”

“Chasel!”

The current and soon-to-be Judgment Knights were both taken aback for a moment. Then, they realized that the one calling was the Sun Knight, Neo Sun.

Lesus quickly bowed to the Sun Knight.

Neo only nodded in return, then went straight to the point and requested, “Chasel, lend me your student for a while.”

“You want to borrow Lesus?” Chasel asked, puzzled, “What do you want him for?”

“If I said to play, would you lend him to me?”

Chasel raised an eyebrow.

Neo hastily said, “Just joking. There are some things I need to explain to him, involving Grisia.”

Chasel nodded and asked, “Will it take long?”

“No, no, ten minutes should be enough!”

“Okay,” Chasel said simply, “Then I’ll go and settle some matters first, and I’ll be back in about ten minutes.”

Neo wrinkled his brow, murmuring, "What matter can be settled in ten minutes... Ah! It can't be that you want to go to the toilet?"

Chasel only shot him a glare, then left without replying.

Something regarding Grisia? Could it be about Grisia's true colors being inelegant? Lesus secretly guessed that maybe the Sun Knight had not realized that he had already been well aware of Grisia's true colors for quite some time.

Neo turned around, and without restraint asked, "Child, let me ask you, the relationship between you and my student is not bad, right?"

Lesus was stunned for a moment, and then frowned as he answered, "The Sun Knight and the Judgment Knight have always been incompatible..."

Neo impatiently interrupted him, asking, "For the past few years, were you the person who climbed the walls in the middle of the night to help him buy blueberry pie? Answer me honestly!"

"...Yes." Lesus had to admit.

"Then I'll ask you again, if you were given the chance to choose someone other than Grisia to be the Sun Knight, would you replace him?"

Lesus was shocked. He couldn't understand why Neo wanted to ask this question, since in a few days it would be the inheritance ceremony... It can't be that Grisia has committed some big mistake serious enough to have him replaced? But he hadn't heard of anything big that had happened recently.

He didn't know how he should answer.

Neo tried listing possible candidates, "What about Vice-Captain Adair? He is quite capable, and has quite good swordsmanship."

Adair and Grisia? With a comparison in mind, Lesus could now evaluate clearly and without hesitation replied, "I wouldn't exchange them."

"Why?" Neo was quite curious and asked, "Adair should be able to help you out more, right?"

“If it’s handling official documents, maybe.” Lesus could not deny it, but he continued with more emphasis, “But those documents, Storm can also help me manage them, and my vice-captain Vidar can also help me. Even if Adair is not the Sun Knight, he can also handle them. But ‘some things’ only Grisia as the Sun Knight can deal with. I think this point, Knight-Captain Sun, would be clearer to you than to me. All these years, it seems that Grisia has helped you handle a lot of things that ‘cannot be recorded.’”

“Heh heh,” Neo chuckled awkwardly and inquired, “He told you?”

Lesus shook his head, answering, “Grisia hasn’t said much, but I understand how he does things, so it is easy to discern which things he has meddled in.”

Neo smiled a bit and said, “It’s true that my student has certain means, but this reason is not enough for me to let him stay.”

He really wants to replace Grisia? Lesus was even more alarmed. Even though he did not believe that Neo was serious about replacing Grisia, Neo did not look like he was joking either.

Neo grinned as he said, “To convince me not to replace him, you need to have a very good reason.”

Lesus was shaken, and hurriedly asked, “If I don’t manage to convince you...”

“Then I’ll replace him!” Neo replied without hesitating.

The color drained from Lesus’s face as he exclaimed, “Please at least tell me, why do you want to replace Grisia? Although Grisia’s true colors are not like those of the Sun Knight in the legends, he has always been serious about acting out the Sun Knight’s image properly and does the Sun Knight’s duties properly too...”

Without waiting for him to finish speaking, Neo interrupted him again, asking, “Oh? Isn’t the Sun Knight’s duty to gather believers? Grisia has not yet assumed office, so how can he have gathered believers?”

“The code of the Sun Knight does indeed state ‘gathering believers,’ but I

believe it is not just that. Instead, what the Sun Knight really gathers is the people's confidence! Maybe Grisia's swordsmanship is very bad, and he often does things using underhanded methods, but he truly allows us all to believe that as long as he is here, no matter how desperate the situation may be, we do not need to lose hope!"

Because Neo had not given any explanation before talking about replacing Grisia, Lesus was a bit irate. With anger in his voice, he said, "Going by this basis, I feel Grisia has done even better than you, sir!"

When he had finished speaking, Neo laughed loudly.

"Very good!"

What was very good? Lesus did not understand. He originally thought that Neo would be livid when he heard the last sentence.

Neo smiled as he said, "Since you acknowledge Grisia as the Sun Knight and you don't want to replace him, make every effort you can to help him remain in the seat of the Sun Knight!"

Lesus was astonished and became even more confused. It goes without saying that Grisia is the next generation Sun Knight. Where else could he go?

At that moment, Neo wiped the smile off his face and brought back the stern expression from before, saying, "Child, I'm sorry. Truthfully, I never had any intention of replacing Grisia. It's just that you are the successors, the next generation of the Twelve Holy Knights, and I will need to leave the Holy Temple soon. There is something that can only be passed to you, but before I pass it on, I want to know whether you are willing to take responsibility for this matter."

Now Lesus understood, and he queried, "Is it a matter concerning Grisia?"

Neo nodded and started to speak, "Yes. Listen well. Actually, Grisia is..."

Not long after Lesus started listening to Neo talk, his eyes went wide and he was completely bewildered by the time Neo finished.

When he was done talking, Neo paused for a while to allow Lesus to digest his words. Then he continued, "I can pass this on only to you. Afterwards, whatever you wish to do, including letting Grisia know or not, is all up to you to decide."

Hearing this, Lesus wrinkled his brow. To tell or not to tell Grisia was going to be rather hard to decide.

When Neo saw his heavy expression, he mistook it for second thoughts and could not help but whisper, "This is a heavy burden to bear. If you want to go back on your words, then do so now. If you break your promise in the future, it will only hurt Grisia even more!"

"Knight-Captain Sun, you can ask my teacher whether his only student has ever regretted anything." Lesus said calmly and resolutely, "I have never gone back on my promises, whether it was a decision made in the past or whether it concerns people I have acknowledged."

*

Grisia, I've got a question... Actually, I shouldn't be asking this question, but do you believe the God of Light really exists?

Ah? What are you saying, Lesus? Even if that old man, the God of Light, hasn't appeared for a few hundred years, that's not to say that He doesn't exist!

You believe He exists? But the God of Light has never appeared, and so-called miracles have only existed inside legends. Why are you able to believe that He really exists?

You don't look like the sort of person to believe in faith, so I thought you wouldn't believe, and as for me... I am incapable of believing that the God of Light truly exists, that there are miracles in this world, even if I am the future Judgment Knight.

Lesus, there have always been miracles...

It's true that there are miracles, but they are all only in legends.

You're wrong! Lesus, think. To win a throne, humans have never stopped

fighting. But the Twelve Holy Knights, this system of twelve people, has unexpectedly continued for more than thirty generations!

The Sun Knight among them has amazingly never died during his term in office. This means that every generation of the Judgment Knight has never killed the Sun Knight for the sake of power... No, in actual fact, it should be said that the rest of the eleven holy knights have all never harbored any thoughts of seizing power.

In this world, could there be any miracle more inconceivable than us, the Twelve Holy Knights?

There have always been miracles; we are the miracles!

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Chasel walked into the Judge's Complex. Even though Neo had said that he only required ten minutes, he still returned a lot later in case Neo had not finished explaining the matter.

At this moment, there was only Lesus alone in the Judge's Complex, and Neo had already disappeared.

Lesus had his back to him and was looking at the symbol of the God of Light on the wall.

Chasel walked a few steps closer, waiting for Lesus to turn around and bow. But unexpectedly, his student didn't turn around to see who had come. This made him feel rather uncertain, as with Lesus's level of alertness, there was no way that he had not noticed that someone was there.

Just when Chasel was about to speak, Lesus started talking first.

"Teacher, I've thought it through. If the Sun Knight is the people's support and leader..."

Lesus looked at the symbol of the God of Light on the wall, clenched his fists, and spoke forcefully with every word resounding with determination, "Then the duty of the Judgment Knight is to protect!"

Chasel was confused before he realized that Lesus was answering the

question he had asked earlier. He questioned uncertainly, “Protect? Protect what?”

Although he had asked the question, Chasel did not actually have a correct answer in mind. In contrast, he had hoped that the student he had taught would be able to give him a satisfactory answer.

Lesus turned around with an incomparable resoluteness in his eyes, as if making a promise, and with every word powerful and sonorous, said, “The Sun Knight leads the people forward, while the Judgment Knight will protect his road forward and not let anything obstruct it!”

After listening, Chasel was silent for a while before he laughed dryly and said, “I really don’t know whether Neo can teach children better than me or not. I’ve been teaching you for ten years, whereas you’ve only been conversing with him for ten minutes, but it looks like in those ten minutes, you have grown more than in the ten years I have been teaching you.”

When he heard that, Lesus panicked and quickly said, “Teacher, there’s no such thing. I’m very grateful for your teachings...”

“Haha!” Chasel disrupted his student’s panic with his laughter. Then he drew the Divine Judgment Sword from his waist and raised it before his student, declaring in a low voice, “Child, are you ready to take from my hand the Divine Judgment Sword, and use it to protect your path?”

Lesus looked at the Divine Judgment Sword before his eyes. He reached out and took the Divine Judgment Sword from his teacher’s hands.

“Yes!”

Chapter 1: The First Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "Take Care of Daily Tasks that have Piled up like a Mountain"

I pushed open the doors to the meeting room, and like always I made my greeting first. In other words, I spouted some nonsense praising the God of Light.

“The resplendent light that has always broken through the darkness brings a morning full of hope. To be able to spend this beautiful morning communicating with my holy knight brothers, and enthusiastically conversing about the God of Light’s benevolence truly gives Sun incomparable joy...”

The more I talked, the more I felt that something was not quite right. When I opened the doors just now, everyone had turned their heads and looked at me dazedly. So be it, but after looking dazed, to my surprise, a look of panic spread across their faces... Even if it has truly been a long time since I attended a meeting, surely there is no need to welcome me back with such expressions of alarm?

“Why is it you?!” Metal shouted very frantically.

...Has it really been such a long time since I attended a meeting?

“Sun! It’s disastrous!” Storm, flustered, stood up and reported, “It’s already been ten minutes past the start of the meeting, but Knight-Captain Judgment hasn’t arrived yet!”

I was stunned, and only then did I notice that Judgment’s seat was strangely empty. Knight-Captain Judgment, who has never been late, never been absent, never procrastinated with documents, and who is the continuous receiver of the lifetime full-attendance award, is shockingly not here for the meeting?

Don’t tell me he has secretly run off to do something again?

I immediately shouted, “Follow me!”

In a flash, everyone wiped off their frantic expressions, stood up uniformly, and followed me to leave the meeting room.

We walked briskly in a line to the entrance of the Holy Temple. I shot Storm a meaningful glance. He instantly jumped out and headed towards the two holy knights guarding the entrance, yelling, "Have you seen Knight-Captain Judgment heading anywhere?"

"Knight-Captain Judgment heading somewhere?" The holy knight guards blankly responded, "We have not seen Knight-Captain Judgment today."

I threw another meaningful glance at Blaze, and he too jumped out roaring, "Are you sure? You absolutely can't lie to us!"

The two guards jumped in surprise, and after exchanging a look, they nodded resolutely.

If Judgment has not gone to the meeting and has not gone out, then where is he right now?

At this moment, Roland spoke up doubtfully, "Could Knight-Captain Judgment have forgotten that there is a meeting today, so he already went to the Judge's Complex?"

This... if it was in the past, I would certainly have said it was not possible, Knight-Captain Judgment would definitely not forget to attend a meeting!

But right now, Judgment was truly absent for the meeting, so all hypotheses would have to be treated as possibilities.

"Let us go see." At once, I turned around and advanced towards the Judge's Complex, of course with the ten knight-captains following behind me.

Along the way, we attracted countless astonished looks, so much so that some holy knights had also followed us unconsciously. Thus, this grand line of people arrived at the doors of the Judge's Complex.

Just when I was about to use a meaningful glance, Metal could not wait

any longer and kicked open the gates of the Judge's Complex with a foot. Then, he charged in bellowing, "Knight-Captain Judgment! Where are you, sir?"

After Metal charged in, we followed him and walked in. Inside, the holy knight in the middle of interrogating and the criminal being interrogated were both stunned. They looked at Metal who was rushing around madly, then turned back and looked at us blankly.

The criminal shrieked loudly, "I only flirted with a woman. Surely this crime isn't serious enough to have the Twelve Holy Knights interrogating me together?"

I looked around, left and right, and did not see Judgment. However, this did not mean that he was not here. There were many rooms in the Judge's Complex, so looking around like this would only allow us to see the outermost interrogation hall.

Even if Judgment were to personally interrogate the convict, he would usually do so in the main interrogation hall, but one could not eliminate the possibility of him suddenly deciding to change to a different interrogation room... He has already been absent at the meeting today, so anything is possible, right?

I did not see Knight-Captain Judgment, but I saw Vice-Captain Judgment. I yelled out, "Radar!"

"Knight-Captain Sun, I am Vidar." Vidar grudgingly walked over.

I beckoned him over with my finger, and with a suspicious expression, he came closer. I whispered into his ear, "Where is Knight-Captain Judgment?"

"Today, Knight-Captain Judgment needed to attend a meeting with the other knight-captains. He will only come to the Judge's Complex in the afternoon..."

Halfway through his report, he looked bewilderedly behind me. All of the knight-captains were here. Only Judgment Knight was missing.

I softly said, "Knight-Captain Judgment didn't come to the meeting, but

he also didn't leave the Holy Temple. We're currently searching for him."

"Captain didn't go to the meeting?"

Vidar looked extremely alarmed. I felt that even if he were to hear news about the Holy Temple collapsing the next minute, he would not show more alarm than this. This expression of dismay was enough to confirm the fact that Lesus Judgment was also not in the Judge's Complex.

After I nodded, Vidar hurriedly said, "But Captain didn't come to the Judge's Complex either! H-have you looked in his room?"

His room? I was stunned for a moment. I had actually not thought of that place.

At this point, Metal ran back into the main hall anxiously and with a cry that could seemingly make the heavens collapse and the earth split, shouted, "Knight-Captain Judgment is not in the interrogation rooms either. Where did he go? It can't be that a-again..."

I interrupted him, "First, let's check Knight-Captain Judgment's room."

Metal blanked out, and then nodded before returning to the ranks. Once again, this party set out on the journey to find Judgment. This journey only lasted for a minute before we arrived at our destination.

I walked to Judgment's room and knocked on his door. Only three minutes passed before Metal charged forward, looking as if he was going to kick the door open to enter, but I blocked him. I sensed that there was indeed someone in the room, and he was about to open the door.

The door opened slightly, and through the narrow slit, half of Judgment's face could be seen. He frowned as he looked at me, asking, "Sun? Is something the matter?"

"You're asking what's the matter? The time of the meeting has already passed. You didn't come, so everyone has been looking for you everywhere!"

As I yelled, I pulled the door wide open so that everyone else could see him too. But then, when the door opened, I unexpectedly saw that

Judgment was only wearing his undergarments.

I was a bit astonished. Surely this guy was not...

“The meeting time has already passed?” Judgment’s expression looked even more astounded than mine. After asking for the time, he wrinkled his brow, saying, “I’m sorry, I overslept. Let me put on my clothes first.”

When he finished talking, he shut the door, leaving the eleven of us looking at each other in dismay.

This fellow was actually still sleeping? It is already so late, yet Lesus Judgment was actually still sleeping? He can actually oversleep?

“And here I was thinking that only Sun would do such things!” Earth exclaimed incredulously.

That’s right... wait! I protested loudly, “Hey, I was present at the meeting today!”

Earth praised me, “Yes! You were so well-behaved today, how rare! Just as unbelievable as Judgment oversleeping.”

Even though this did not sound like a compliment at all, considering that these words came from Earth’s mouth, such a level of ill-will could maybe truly count as a compliment!

The doors opened again, and having put on his clothes, Judgment came out dressed in pitch black from head to toe. Even though he was the Judgment Knight who had been acting cool for ten years, when he saw eleven pairs of eyes staring at him, he still could not refrain from showing an embarrassed expression. He apologized once more, “I’m really very sorry.”

Straight away, Metal shouted, “Don’t worry, Knight-Captain Judgment. No one blames you!”

Indeed, no one would blame Judgment. Regarding the issue of Judgment oversleeping, everyone was only excessively frightened to the point that their brains stopped working. So currently, a vacant look appeared on everyone’s faces, making it seem like the ones who had just woken up

were them rather than Judgment.

“You...” Why did you oversleep?

I had just spoken when Judgment glared at me, so I could only swallow the remaining words.

He gave a straight-forward command, “Now we hold the meeting.”

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In the meeting room, I sat shoulder to shoulder with Judgment at the head of the long table. On the two sides of the table sat the “good warm-hearted” faction and the “cruel, cold-hearted” faction.

The moment Judgment sat down, he flipped through his documents continuously. Even though he had broken the principles of “not being late” and “not being absent” today, he still kept the principle of “not procrastinating with documents.”

As he flipped through them, he said, “The case of the lich breaking into Leaf Bud City has damaged the Church’s reputation quite significantly. Many of the Church’s branches have delivered reports of the masses being in a state of anxiety. They have asked for instructions on how to respond.”

Indeed, this has happened. However, because the reputation of the Church of the God of Light has recently fallen a bit, the countenance of the king towards the Church of the God of Light has improved quite a bit, and he has even been unusually loose with giving money. For this reason, the Pope has been who knows how happy, and he has even tried hard to encourage me to go to the streets and take liberties with the women and the good and innocent families, so as to let the Church’s reputation drop even further.

After Judgment finished speaking, he looked straight at me, and I promptly replied with a brilliant smile. He coldly said, “Knight-Captain Sun, undead creatures are under your jurisdiction. Aren’t you going to report on it?”

At this moment, without any change in expression, Storm pushed a

document in front of me. With a smile, I opened the document to the last page, signed and stamped it, then pushed the document back to Storm.

I smiled as I responded to everyone, “Under the watchfulness of the light, darkness has already vanished without a trace. The masses have no need to be alarmed.”

Metal unhappily said, “You should at least flip through it a bit. Can’t you at least pretend to read a few pages?”

Is that necessary? In any case, the reports that I write would never be better than Storm’s... but then, this report could also be written by Adair, hmm, or maybe it could have been written by Roland!

Even though Metal said this, it was simply because he needed to have a poisonous tongue once in a while. In fact, everyone was already used to me not writing the reports. If the day came that I took out a report I had personally written, the degree of everyone’s alarm would probably be the same as that of today when Judgment did not come for the meeting.

Used to this, Judgment nodded, looked around at everyone, and asked, “Are there any urgent matters to report first this week?”

Moon raised his hand. When Judgment’s gaze moved upon him, he started reporting, “Soon, a major criminal is going to be sent here to Leaf Bud City under escort from a local church. However, the local church has heard that someone is going to break the prisoner out of jail, so they’ve sent a letter to request for assistance.”

“What kind of major criminal?”

“It is said that the son of a local city lord collaborated with a group of bandits and for a long time, bullied the local population and committed serious crimes like injury to others, thievery, killing, raping, and so on. However, the city lord apparently wanted to cover up his son’s shortcomings, so the local church had to spend an extremely long time gathering the proof, and even had to wait until the opposite side was caught in the act, to capture them and bring them to justice. Only under the circumstances of being caught red-handed was the city lord unable to defend his son any further.”

This matter did not sound easy to handle. I observed Judgment, and as expected, he was frowning so much it seemed like his brows could squish a fly dead.

Who is Judgment planning to dispatch? I was a bit curious. Although this case was difficult, it wasn't that difficult... Even though the identity of the perpetrator as the city lord's son made the situation a bit complicated, since the local church had already arrested him it was likely that they had already settled the situation, and there was enough evidence to convict the criminal.

Now, as long as a vice-captain was dispatched to warn the opposite party not to try in vain to break him out of jail, it should be sufficient.

Judgment looked at Roland and commanded him, "Knight-Captain Hell, take your vice-captain and two platoon members to assist them."

Roland was startled, but promptly nodded. "Yes."

I was also startled, but immediately understood Judgment's intention. Roland had assumed the position of the Hell Knight for slightly more than a year, but till today had not gone out on any missions. It was necessary to allow him to familiarize himself on how to conduct an assignment, and since he would also bring along his vice-captain, there probably wouldn't be any problems.

Judgment asked again, "Is there anything else?"

Everyone shook their heads and passed their documents, arranged according to their different specialties, to Judgment's hands and my... subordinate sitting beside me, Storm.

But this was not yet the end of the meeting. After handing over the documents, some of them looked at me instead.

I smiled as I asked, "Do my fellow brothers have any matters to report to Sun?"

Storm was the first to fiercely utter, "Silent Eagle is still refusing to leave and has stolen many of my admirers. There are rumors that the members in his fan club already number more than a hundred!"

I pondered for a short time. No matter what, Silent Eagle was the leader of another cathedral, and in addition we had previously placed him under house arrest, yet now wanted to chase him away without any reason. Since it was like this...

I chuckled as I replied, "Does Brother Storm need to be so agitated? Since Silent Eagle is not willing to leave, we should uphold the God of Light's teachings to pardon him and permit his prolonged stay. However, under the guise of this forgiveness, a tithe is to be collected. Otherwise, how will others be convinced?"

When I finished speaking, everyone hurriedly asked Storm, "What does he mean?"

With his eyes shining, Storm chuckled, "Hehe," then said, "Collect rent! However much we can collect, we will collect. However long he wants to stay, we'll let him stay! It's truly a marvelous idea. The Pope will definitely be very happy."

Everyone loudly cheered "Oh oh," and Earth further gave me a thumbs-up, saying in admiration, "As expected of Sun. Even if we don't get rid of him, we must make him lose some face!"

Although I know that you, Earth, are truly trying to praise me, it's better if you shut up!

Stone raised his hand and spoke, "His Highness requests for your presence at the palace. He wants a full report on this past incident with the lich. Even though I've actually already gone to make a report, His Highness apparently wants to 'conveniently' discuss with you the official marriage at the end of the year between the princess and Elijah."

"Wait!" I was astonished, even forgetting my elegance, and retorted, "How does their marriage concern me?"

"Their marriage is none of your business." Stone nodded, but continued speaking, "However, the congratulatory wedding gift the Church will give is your business. Furthermore, it appears that Elijah has made a request of the king for you to be his best man."

The congratulatory gift... Can it be that the king wants a bracelet of rose beads with healing powers? I was silent for a while, before resignedly saying, "Since it is so, Sun will go there. Brother Stone, Brother Storm, in two days, you two will follow me."

"Yes." Both of them nodded.

After that, everyone had a never-ending pile of matters to report. It made me feel that I really should not have obediently come for today's meeting. If I had known that there would be so many matters, I would have overslept as well!

Earth coldly said, "The former Knight-Captain Sun has been searching everywhere for the Twelve Holy Knights to spar and drink with him. In the past few days, if we weren't knocked-out from the fighting, then it would be from drinking. How much longer will this situation continue?"

When Earth finished talking, all the holy knights (other than Judgment) glared at me together.

Even though I did not want to touch any matters concerning Teacher, under the glare of ten pairs of eyes, I could only answer, "Sun will settle it soon."

When they heard this, everyone rolled their eyes. Having been associated with me for ten years, everyone was quite clear that my "soon" probably meant that I'd put it off until there was time.

Leaf subsequently said, "There are three newborns for you to name, two boys and one girl."

On reflex, I chose, "[Judge, Absenplum, Meetin.](#)"

Judgment stared at me coldly, and I quickly turned my head so I would not look at him. But with this turn of the head, I saw Roland debating whether or not to raise his hand, looking very hesitant. I took the initiative and asked, "Knight-Captain Hell, do you have anything to report?"

Only then did Roland open his mouth and ask, "Pink wants me to ask you, where is this month's strawberry shaved ice?"

S***, I forgot! I hurriedly turned to ask, “Brother Ice, may I ask if the strawberry shaved ice is undergoing preparations?”

Ice nodded and replied, “The strawberry syrup is already done. Whenever you want to deliver it, I will shave the ice, and it’ll be ready.”

I heaved a sigh of relief. Fortunately, Ice has a good memory and remembered the job I had assigned him. A Pink who does not have strawberry shaved ice to eat is not an easy person to deal with.

“Do my brothers have any more matters to report?” If there is nothing more, we can adjourn the meeting! After having such a long meeting, I am very hungry!

Storm instantly said, “I do! The tailor inquires, for the gold trimming of your new uniform do you wish to use resplendent gold or deep gold?”

Cloud said dispiritedly, “The Pope wants you to invite Aldrizzt to the Church of the God of Light for a stay. If you don’t, he’ll dock your salary.”

Stone said, “The princess privately warns that if on the wedding day, you dress up too handsomely and steal her husband’s presence, she will never be done with you!”

Blaze said, “Elijah invites you this weekend to drink with him... Eh! I meant for a chat!”

“Also...”

“In addition...”

“Moreover...”

“...”

I really should not have come to the meeting today!

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It was not easy to adjourn the meeting... Actually, the moment I had an opportunity to interrupt, I quickly dispersed the meeting. If not, there would be no end to the reports, and it took so long that Judgment and Storm even started correcting documents during the meeting!

After the meeting adjourned, I called out to Ice and Roland, and the three of us headed to Ice's room to get the strawberry shaved ice.

Probably due to my sour expression, Ice started explaining, "It's been a long time since you attended a meeting, so everyone amassed a lot of things to report."

"It has not been that long!"

"You haven't come to the weekly conference for about..." Ice pondered for a while, then continued, "two months."

"Since when has it been that long!"

"It has." Beside me, Roland nodded, affirming Ice's words, "Two months exactly."

I obediently shut my mouth. It was meaningless to dispute matters with these two overly serious fellows; they simply did not know how to say things like "it hasn't been that long" to give me an easy way out of this situation. Nevertheless, at the very least they were better than having Earth here. Earth would most likely say, "Eh? Since succeeding the Twelve Holy Knights, have you ever come to a meeting?"

After entering Ice's room, Roland and I waited for him to make strawberry shaved ice, and not long after ate some super sweet blueberry shaved ice while waiting. As Roland ate, he looked remorseful. From the beginning to the end, he has always been troubled by his wasting food.

To let him feel a little less remorse, I took the opportunity when Ice was busy making shaved ice to subtly scoop a pile of shaved ice from Roland's bowl into mine.

Just as we were about finished eating, Ice also finished. He carefully packaged twenty bowls of strawberry shaved ice, and then passed them to Roland. Following that, he handed over a small pouch with the sun symbol embroidered on it. Naturally, the chocolate inside was already replenished.

Ice spoke to me, "Sun, the strawberry season is ending soon, and thereafter, strawberries cannot be purchased. So, I want to take advantage of this time to make more strawberry syrup, to avoid not being able to

make strawberry shaved ice in the future. However, I do not have enough money to buy a large quantity of strawberries.”

Oh I see. The strawberry syrup required to make twenty bowls of shaved ice was not an insignificant amount. I nodded and replied, “I will find the Pope and discuss setting aside a bit of the funds for you.”

Only, I did not know whether or not the Pope would be willing to give the money. If he is not willing, then we will have to... think of a way to extract money from the princess’ congratulatory wedding gift!

Carrying the shaved ice, and in passing requesting two slices of blueberry pie from Ice, we started out towards Pink’s house.

Along the way, after finishing both slices of blueberry pie, I turned to ask Roland, “In two more days you’ll be setting off on a mission with Tyre. You should be getting along quite well with him by now, right?”

“It’s Tyler.” Roland was a bit unhappy as he corrected me. It looks like their relationship is not bad.

He even went further and emphasized, “Tyler is a good person. He has helped me a lot.”

I nodded and asked, “Have you taken off the Dragon’s Saint Brigandine in front of him before?”

“I have. I have shed the disguise in front of the whole Hell Knight Platoon because they wanted to know what I looked like to avoid having someone feigning to be me.” Having said that, he looked anxiously at me, asking, “Will allowing them to know my appearance result in any danger?”

“It won’t! You should let them know your appearance.” When I finished speaking, Roland’s worried expression relaxed a lot. Seeing this, I further asked, “Then does Tyler know that you’re a death knight?”

“There could be some things about me that he is suspicious about, but he didn’t question much.” Roland was rather vexed as he said, “I keep on forgetting to pretend to drink water, eat food, or do things like going to the toilet.”

“In a few years time, maybe you should find an opportunity to let him know.”

“What?” Roland jumped in shock and cried out in alarm, “How can I...”

I interrupted him, hastily explaining, “Tyre is, after all, your vice-captain. He has substituted for the Hell Knight in his affairs for three years already, and yet in a few short months accepted you as his captain, and in addition, is loyal and devoted to you. He has the right to know the truth!” I paused for a moment before asking, “Furthermore, the feeling of having something concealed from you is unpleasant, isn’t it?”

Though the person previously hiding something from him was myself, so I really did not have any right to criticize him.

Roland was startled for a moment before falling silent. I patted his shoulder, comforting him, “Don’t worry, even if you’re going to reveal it, now is not the time. You can tell him after several more years! When that time comes, I’m sure that Tyre will definitely be able to accept your... identity.”

Roland merely laughed bitterly, with an expression that appeared as if he still would not want to tell him. Nevertheless, this matter did not need to be rushed. Even if Roland told him after a few years, it would not be too late, so I did not pursue the topic further.

“Does Pink live very far away now?” I was a bit worried that the strawberry shaved ice would melt. If she lived too far, then I needed to secretly use a bit of magic to ensure the shaved ice would not turn into a drink.

“It’s only the street next to the Church.”

“That close?” I was astonished. Are you kidding me? A lich is living right beside the Church of the God of Light? If this were to be circulated, the Church of the God of Light’s reputation would probably plummet even more than if I took liberties with women, dressed slovenly without caring about my appearance, and drank heavily!

Roland nodded, chuckling, “She said it is more convenient to live a bit

closer. If you make any big messes, she will be able to arrive faster to see the commotion.”

A lich who only loves to watch a commotion... I rolled my eyes. At this moment, Roland suddenly stopped walking and said, “We’ve arrived.”

I lifted up my head, and then looked uncomprehendingly at the house in front of us.

Roland had walked forward two steps before he realized that I had not moved. He turned around and asked, “Sun, aren’t you coming in?”

“Going in?” I said expressionlessly, “Roland, this is a doll shop. Are you sure you didn’t make a mistake?”

“There is no mistake.” Roland said, then pushed open the door of the doll shop and entered.

Seeing this, I could only follow him and enter as well...

“It’s the Sun Knight! Hey, it’s the Sun Knight!”

I put on the standard Sun Knight smile, originally intending to say some nonsense about the God of Light’s blessings, but when I pushed open the door, numerous little kids were screaming loudly. They threw down the various dolls in their hands and then charged towards me with a great force like an earthquake, akin to the assault of a platoon!

Confronted with this army attack, my smile momentarily froze on my face. Almost immediately, two children clambered up both my legs, a horde of children seized the corner of my clothes, another mass of children tightly grabbed onto my fingers... These shackles of a crowd of children are even more frightening than the Chains of Darkness!

At the sight of this, Roland promptly said, “Sun, I’ll hand the shaved ice over to Pink first to avoid the ice melting.”

I scooped up a child, and using his chubby face to cover mine, glared fiercely at Roland. But he was not the least bit scared, and when the children clutched my blond hair and would not let go, he even laughed out loud. Damn him!

After Roland went in, I looked around while being the children's toy. Everywhere in this doll shop were small-sized tables, chairs, beds, and so on, and of course it was unavoidably full of dolls. It sure was a very cute place.

Other than the children, even the mothers who had brought the kids looked very delighted, and the shop assistant... orc? I froze.

At the counter stood a fellow as large as a horse and covered in fur. Is this an orc of some kind? Just now, because the shop was full of furry dolls, with plenty of monster-shaped toys, I had mistaken the orcs as dolls.

One, two, three... There are actually three orcs! This has turned troublesome!

I was just about to draw out my sword when I realized that the chains of children had not even let my sword escape. They had gripped onto the hilt and the scabbard so tightly, I was afraid I would injure them if I drew out my sword. What to do... Oh right! I can call Roland.

“Big doll, big doll!”

Just when I was about to open my mouth, the children suddenly charged towards an orc. I was shocked!

The orc chuckled, scooped the children up, and started to play a game of throwing and catching. It truly was a sight of harmony between orcs and humans... If only it was not a man-eating orc, with drool seemingly hanging from the corner of its mouth, I would feel a little better.

A lich opening a doll shop, orcs being the shop assistants inside... Pink, your shop should have been opened in hell. It would be more proper to let things like ghosts browse your shop, right?

Complaints aside, I still relaxed a lot. Most likely the orcs were not dangerous. At least for now.

“You're so well-received indeed.”

Of course! The Sun Knight is synonymous with elegance, amiableness, laughter, tolerance, forgiveness and so on... Who does not love the Sun

Knight? Even criminals all love to see me!

Pink walked out from within, carrying a bowl of shaved ice in her hands. Following behind her, Roland walked out as well.

When I saw her, I was momentarily stunned. She wore a set of maid clothes, her skirt flaring out like a dome. And as her preference, her clothes were mostly pink in color. In addition, she wore a lace headband on top of her head, and a pair of garters below adorned her long legs. Her whole appearance was truly tempting people to commit crimes!

However, so long as I remember that the beauty in front of me is actually a corpse, the only crime left that I want to commit is wiping her out.

Pink bent down, purposely made an adorable expression, and told the children, "Everyone is crowding around Brother Sun and no one is paying any attention to Brother Hell. He's so pitiful!"

The children stared blankly at Pink.

Pink giggled as she said, "Has everyone forgotten Brother Hell? Last time, together with Big Wolf, Second Wolf and Third Wolf, he played a game of knight-fighting-the-demon-king for everyone to watch?"

"Oh oh oh!" The children yelled loudly, then like the tide receding, flowed from my side to imprison Roland.

Facing the army of children, Roland seemed to be able to cope easily as if experienced already. He effortlessly placed a child on his shoulder, then scooped up two others, and lastly could even use his feet to toy with the other children... I mean to play with the other children.

Pink beckoned me, saying, "Follow me to the back!"

Although following an attractive lady wearing a maid outfit to a backroom under the gazes of a crowd of mothers seemed not to be the sort of thing that the Sun Knight should do... The Pope has been enthusiastically encouraging me to go and play with ladies, so this should also be counted as work, right?

Walking behind Pink, I vaguely felt a sense of passing through some magic, but when I hesitated, I saw that Pink was already nonchalantly half-lying on a recliner.

At this point, I noticed that this place was exactly the same as the first house Pink had stayed in, with all the decorations still the same. Only the cleaning corpse seemed different.

The magic is probably to prevent unwanted people from breaking in? Since I did not feel anything weird, I left it alone and asked straightforwardly, “Why did you open a doll shop?”

Pink shrugged her shoulders, and curled up in the recliner. Without caring that she was no longer a child but a long-legged beauty, she even dared to fold up her legs on the chair, and exposed her small knickers beneath her skirt to the open air!

Pink pouted as she spoke. “Because I love dolls!”

I love to eat dessert, but I would never open a dessert shop! I rolled my eyes, scolding her, “Aren’t you afraid to be discovered by the holy knights? What if they enter the shop? The shop keepers are even orcs!”

“I’m not afraid. My abilities of disguise are fairly high. As long as it is not one of the Twelve Holy Knights, no one will notice! Also, how many holy knights will enter a doll shop?”

Two: Roland and I.

When I think about it, maybe there really is no danger. Who would believe that inside a doll shop is a lich and three orcs in hiding? Even those mothers think that the orcs are people dressed in doll costumes.

“You don’t have any plans for those children, right?” I looked suspiciously at Pink.

Pink rolled her eyes at me and grumpily replied, “If I wanted to do anything sneaky, would I set up shop in the street neighboring the Church of the God of Light? Even though you aren’t much like a Sun Knight, the Judgment Knight is not an herbivore!”

“What do you mean not like the Sun Knight? Up to now, people regard me as the Sun Knight closest to the Sun Knight in the legends!”

Pink replied peevishly, “What Sun of the Sun in the legends... Are you saying some kind of tongue twister? I’m just going to ignore you. If I don’t eat the shaved ice now, it will melt.” When she finished talking, she began to earnestly eat her strawberry shaved ice.

I sat down habitually on the short chair that I had always sat on and watched her consume two bowls of shaved ice. Then, I called out, “Pink.”

“Hmm?” Pink was currently licking the strawberry syrup on the spoon. After replying, she suddenly warned me, “Don’t think that I will share my strawberry shaved ice with you!”

“Who cares? I just ate blueberry shaved ice!”

“Then why did you interrupt me? Can’t you see I’m busy eating shaved ice?”

“I’ve got something to ask you.” I took a few deep breaths and asked, “What’s going on with the various things that have happened recently?”

Pink tilted her head and asked in reply, “Do you wish to know the secrets of the Cathedral of the Shadow God?”

“Not really...”

“Then why do you still ask?”

I was a little speechless. Furthermore, it felt like I was in a dilemma. If I knew the secrets of the Cathedral of the Shadow God, then it would be hard to extricate myself in the future; but if I did not know the secrets, then I’d forever be unable to solve the problem.

After hesitating for a while, I sincerely confessed, “Then regarding Scarlet. I, I put her...”

“Scarlet has nothing to do with me.” Pink rushed to say, “If you destroy her, I will be even happier!”

I was stunned and asked, “You have a competitive relationship with her?”

“Something like that.”

I thought it over, and then warily asked, “Not long ago, I remember that you said you had a concern in Leaf Bud City, so you had to return. Is that concern related to your competition with her? Scarlet didn’t do anything to him, right?”

Pink put down the bowl of shaved ice with a thud, and glaring at me, said loudly, “My concern is hidden very well, so there’s no need for you to worry. But if you’re thinking of disturbing him, then we’ll become adversaries!”

Upon seeing Pink’s anger, I hastily said, “I would do no such thing! You should know that I wouldn’t hurt others lightly.”

Pink thought for a moment, and then reluctantly nodded her head. Following that, she took another bowl of shaved ice from the cleaning corpse and continued to eat.

Even though Pink had not answered me, I still picked up some information from the conversation. Pink’s concern was in fact a “person” and seemingly had not been harmed by Scarlet. The most important piece of information was... Pink’s concern was apparently not me.

I frowned as I pondered over what kind of question would not anger Pink, and after thinking for a while, I raised another query. “Silent Eagle gave me a warning earlier. He said that soon someone will arrive at Leaf Bud City, and they may be thinking of harming me.”

Pink cocked her head to the side and said, “Sun, there is no need to ask me about such matters. Soon, everything will be clear to you. It should only take a few days!”

I froze and hastily asked, “Why?”

Pink merely giggled, then rapidly gulped down her strawberry shaved ice, and did not answer my question at all.

Seeing this, I decided that I’d discuss it again in a few days. In any case, in a few days, if there was still a whole pile of questions remaining, then it would not be too late to find Pink again to interrogate her. In any case,

Pink was now living in the adjacent street, so it would not even take ten minutes to walk over here.

“I’ll ask one last question.”

“You certainly have a lot of questions!” Pink replied irritably.

Even though she did not consent, I still could not resist and asked, “What material are your knickers made from? Why are its properties totally different from your other clothing?”

“Oh, it’s sewn from the hair of corpses.”

... If I had known earlier, I would not have asked.

*

After bidding goodbye to Pink and snatching Roland away from the crowd of children, which caused them to cry, which provoked and offended their crowd of mothers, which caused the reputation of the Church to plummet several hundred points, the two of us left Pink’s new house and set out to return to the Church.

“Thank you.”

The moment we left the doll shop, Roland gave me his heartfelt gratitude. He had already been played with by the children until his clothing was in a mess. If there had been any further delay, he might have lost his clothing altogether.

We had only just stepped into the Church when Storm, bearing a smile and dark eye circles, headed straight for us. He threw a large stack of documents into Roland’s arms, announced that he was now off duty, and disappeared in the blink of an eye.

Roland gave me a forced smile, saying, “I’ll return to my room to look at the documents.”

I nodded, replying, “May the sacred holy light of the God of Light help you to yield twice the result with half the effort!”

As Roland walked away, I heard him murmuring to himself, “But I am a death knight, so won’t the holy light only slow down my working speed?”

I looked outside to gauge the time of day, which was colored by the setting sun. Usually around this time, I would always be waiting for a certain someone to finish work... Come to think of it, with the massive amount of things happening recently, I think it has been a long time since I have waited for that person to get off work. If I do not go now, maybe my good friend, who is not a friend, will really stop putting up with me.

I picked up a basin of clear water, a hand towel and two stools, and then proceeded to the toilet in the Judge's Complex.

After placing the stools on the floor that was as clean and bright as a mirror, I sat down on a stool, and breathing in the lemon fragrance that filled the whole room, began to daydream while waiting for him.

Since long ago, almost no one used this toilet. However, it was always kept clean and tidy... I think the janitor for the toilet must have long discovered that the Judgment Knight always rushes into this toilet after his work ends.

Most holy knights must have discovered it too. If not, how come no one comes here to use such a clean toilet?

I had been daydreaming for only a few minutes when all of a sudden, a mass of black shadows flashed past and leaned on the sink to vomit profusely. Even though I said "vomit," most of it was actually the sound of retching while being unable to throw up anything.

After vomiting for so many years, a person who vomits every day would have long since learned to do things the smart way. At present, before interrogating criminals, he practically would not eat anything, generally only drinking milk or honeyed water to fill his stomach.

After a period of time, as usual, he finished puking. I patted his shoulder and passed the clean water and hand towel to him. He took them, then sat down on the stool and started to use the water and towel to neaten his appearance.

Although his appearance was not actually that messy, to Lesus Judgment, this was probably quite messy indeed.

Lesus has always loved being immaculate. Ever since he started practicing in the Judge's Complex, the level of cleanliness in the Judge's Complex had been increasing with each passing day, until even the convicts were very clean... It was rumored that if they were not clean, the Ice Knight would spray them with a stream of water until a layer of their skin came off. Only then would they be dragged to Knight-Captain Judgment for interrogation.

However, as a result of his love for cleanliness, Lesus's vomiting sickness would never be cured. This was because the tortured criminals could not do anything about cleanliness, so foaming at the mouth, pieces of flesh and blood flying about, and even incontinence were common occurrences.

Having a soft heart in addition to a love for cleanliness... Truly, Lesus really is not suited for being the Judgment Knight. Even though he is very good at it.

Lesus glanced at me and asked, "What are you thinking about? Why are you looking at me blankly?"

It's not like I can say that I was thinking you really are not suited to be the Judgment Knight, right? I shrugged my shoulders and said, "I was thinking that, unexpectedly, Lesus Judgment overslept today, so I wonder if he is keeping any secrets? For instance, things like sneaking out last night to investigate something."

"You think too much." Lesus said indifferently, "I merely had a dream."

While Lesus talked, I observed his expression closely, but since I did not see anything, I could only treat it as that.

"Was it a nightmare?"

Lesus hesitated and said, "I wouldn't consider it a nightmare. It was just a memory."

I waited for Lesus to continue talking, but he did not continue, apparently not intending to explain what sort of recollection it was. But then at today's meeting, his expression had not differed from his normal expression, so there probably wasn't anything wrong.

After dismissing the notion to continue asking, I looked left and right, and finally stared at Lesus, mournfully asking, “Judgment, where is your prepared dessert?”

Lesus wiped his mouth as he shook his head, saying, “You haven’t come here for a long time, so no one was eating the desserts I prepared. I stopped preparing them since I ended up having to finish them myself.”

Although I felt mournful, Lesus’s tone felt even more so. I understood why. The desserts he usually prepared were really sweet, the kind that tasted like a whole chunk of sugar piled together, and with him not liking sweet things, it must have been very painful for him to take care of it.

Since there were no desserts, I had no choice but to take out the small sun embroidered bag of chocolates to eat.

“Metal complained to me again that Knight-Captain Sun threw aside his work without care and went out to sneak around, this time even bringing along Knight-Captain Hell with him, which was simply too outrageous. He was also worrying, that should you lead Knight-Captain Hell astray, it would be disastrous.”

“What!” I rolled my eyes and complained loudly, “I went out to do my job. I’m always wrongly accused! I’m really busy, alright?! Early in the morning I was busy looking for you, then I was busy looking for strawberry shaved ice, and finally I was busy looking for Pink. I was busy non-stop!”

Lesus chuckled, smiling while he shook his head, “If you let Storm hear what you just said, he’ll probably send you flying with a kick. Anyway, what did you hear anything from the lich?”

“Nothing.”

He asked somewhat suspiciously, “Really?”

“Really! The current me wouldn’t hide anything from anyone!” I emphasized, “Pink only said that everything will become clear in a few days’ time, but I don’t know what she means by that.”

Once I finished speaking, Lesus frowned, but this expression did not

really seem like doubt. Instead it was more like... distress?

But in the next moment, Lesus regained his usual stiff smile, saying, "Since that's the case, let's discuss this again in a few days' time. There's no hurry."

"Exactly what I was thinking."

I nodded and proceeded to stuff several pieces of chocolate into my mouth. At this point, Lesus finished tidying himself, took out a book from within his robe, and quietly read.

Just like in the past, after exchanging the main events of the week, I would eat dessert and he would read his book. During busier times, he would take out documents to correct, while I would still eat dessert... but I'm not being lazy! Usually when I am busy, I would be running around outside, so I would have no way to come to the Judge's Complex's toilet to chat with Lesus.

After eating half the bag of chocolates, I gave a big stretch and sighed contentedly, "A quiet life is so good!"

"Indeed it is." Lesus nodded in agreement.

"I just don't know how long 'til Teacher will leave! And everyone is too much. They clearly know that I'm most fearful of Teacher, but they still reported to me that he is refusing to leave. Do they think that I can chase him away? I'm not so tired of living that I'd seek death!"

Lesus smiled as he shook his head and asked, "Do you need me to ask my teacher to come visit the Holy Temple? He lives nearby."

"Yes, yes!"

Right away my eyes gleamed. How could I forget this ace? Teacher Neo was not afraid of the sky nor the ground; the only person who could frighten him was the previous Knight-Captain Judgment, Chasel. I hastily said, "Of course! Ask him right away to spend the night! Then my Teacher will definitely run away the next day."

Lesus raised his brows, doubtfully asking, "I wonder, after we retire, will

you also run away the moment you see me?”

“Why would I?” I instantly denied it solemnly, “When I see you, I surely will not run. Instead, I will...”

“Will frantically pester me and order me to help you buy blueberry pie!” After he said that, Lesus rolled his eyes at me.

“Heh heh,” I smiled. Lesus is so useful, he would do anything from running errands to helping me beat up a dog. In addition, his swordsmanship is good, so after retirement he will unquestionably have food to eat! So why would I run when I see him? When I see him, of course I will immediately pester him!

“I really can’t do anything about you, but can’t you eat some different flavors? I’ve bought so many blueberry pies that there are rumors out there that the Judgment Knight loves eating blueberry pies.”

I reasoned, “But only that shop’s blueberry pie is so popular that I need to send you to buy it! The moment everyone sees you they’ll behave well and give way to you, so there’s absolutely no need to queue up.”

“Careful that you don’t eat so much dessert that you grow fat.” Lesus said flatly, “I heard that the older one is, the easier it is to grow fat... Your expression seems to say that you’re already fatter?”

“... A few days ago when making my new uniforms, the tailor taking measurements said that my waist had grown one and a half inches more.”

“One and a half inches? That much?” He was a bit startled. Then, he frowned as he said, “You really eat too much dessert. After today, you’re only allowed to eat one portion, and I will ask Ice to put less sugar in your dessert.”

“No, no, no!” I yelled hysterically, “I can eat less dinner, but you better not touch my dessert!”

“No way, not eating dinner but eating dessert instead will be bad for your body.” Lesus stood up. The stiff smile on his face had disappeared, replaced by the ruthless face of the Judgment Knight that does not tolerate disobedience.

I fiercely stood up and angrily said, "I was very honest and told you I had become fatter! Since I was so honest, how can you punish me by taking away my dessert! This is not a fair sentence! I object!"

Jesus said dismissively, "This isn't a sentencing, just a suggestion. As the Judgment Knight, I have no power to sentence the Sun Knight to anything."

No power? Then who locked me up previously? Don't tell me it was another Judgment Knight with power?

"It's just that, perhaps my Teacher will not have time these days to spend the night at the Holy Temple."

"..."

"In contrast, if the previous Knight-Captain Sun finds out that although his student is younger than him by twenty years he has a waist measuring two inches more than him, perhaps he'll plan to spend the night at the Holy Temple."

"Your suggestion is not bad. I've decided it's better to eat less dessert."

Jesus nodded, and the stiff smile reappeared on his face, but I was only thinking about using my fist to wipe off his smile... On second thought, I better forget it, as it is rather embarrassing to throw a punch and hit empty space.

"Only eating blueberry shaved ice and chocolate the whole day means I'm famished. I'm going to eat 'dinner'!"

I purposely emphasized dinner, and having finished speaking, I turned to leave, fuming.

"Sun."

I had only walked a few paces when Judgment called out to stop me. Then, he wordlessly stretched out his hand toward me.

I silently looked at his hand, and he also looked at me silently. Even though he had not said a word, I knew the meaning behind his outstretched hand... Why the heck am I being his tapeworm at this time?

After staring at each other for a while, I quietly walked up to him and reluctantly handed over the small sun embroidered bag filled with super sweet chocolate, and then I watched with wide eyes as the pure white bag was swallowed up by the pitch-black robes.

If I had known earlier this would happen, I would not have waited for Judgment to end work today! Boo hoo hoo, my small bag... After I retire, I'll definitely run away when I see Lesus!

Chapter 2: The Second Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "Train One's Body"

Stone and I waited for Storm at the Holy Temple's great hall before leaving together for the palace to see the king.

We didn't know why Storm was late. Normally, I would be the late one. Then again, Storm wasn't Judgment, so his being late wasn't a rare event. There wasn't a need to make a fuss.

Good. Since he hasn't arrived yet, and next to me was the easiest person to talk to, Stone, I put on my radiant smile and asked him, "Brother Stone, do you happen to have any of Brother Ice's sweets?"

Stone nodded and took out a small bag. If the Stone Knight's emblem wasn't on it, I would have thought it was mine and snatched it right out of Stone's hands.

So we have entered the era where everyone has their own bag? And there are even different emblems sewn on each bag, so there'd be no worries if someone lost theirs. Ice, you really are a great wi... father!

As Stone handed me a few chocolates, I quickly snatched them, threw a piece into my mouth, then immediately spat it out... Bitter, it was bitter, it was really bitter!

It was so bitter my face crumpled, it was so bitter it reached my heart, it was so bitter that even smiling at the scum of the earth everyday felt sweeter... It is way too bitter!

Stone, who was standing to the side, helpfully gave me a flask of water. I drank the whole flask of water before being able to roar, "What the hell was that?!"

"99% pure cocoa chocolate."

To hell with whatever percentage it is! "Is this even for human consumption? Are you trying to poison me... No! Are you trying to kill me

with its bitterness?” I roared.

“Shh! Sun, elegance! The guard at the entrance is looking.”

Elegance my as... The guard really is looking. I quickly pasted on a smile and spoke, “Brother Stone, Sun is truly terrified, as Sun is unaware of when his actions fell short of the expectations of the God of Light, causing Brother Stone such bitterness and grievance, but if it wouldn’t cause any further pain, may Brother Stone explain so as to allow Sun to understand his failings?”

Stone smiled forcefully and explained, “Knight-Captain Judgment doesn’t like sweet things, so Knight-Captain Ice would specially make these sweets that aren’t sweet for him.”

Can they still be called sweets if they aren’t sweet? Bitter sweets shouldn’t exist anywhere in this world! I kept on smiling, but my voice dropped at least three octaves, “Brother Stone also eats these ‘sweets’?”

“No, they are way too bitter, I couldn’t possibly eat them.” Stone replied honestly.

With my eyes narrowed dangerously, Stone immediately confessed everything. “Knight-Captain Judgment said you’re on a diet. So to prevent you from sneaking off with sweets, he replaced my chocolates with the bitter kind yesterday. He also told me to say, ‘If you don’t want to suffer the bitter consequences again, then don’t eat somebody else’s sweets.’ ”

Lesus Judgment! I’ll remember this! I’ll, I’ll... I can’t do anything to you.

When I measured myself this morning, the circumference of my waist had actually increased by zero point three inches! I normally buckle my belt on the third hole, but now I’m on the last... If this goes on, I’ll have to make another hole in my belt!

“Bear with it for now! Captain Judgment is doing it for your own good. Your face is already beginning to look like a baby’s, and if this goes on, [you’ll become Sun-faced!](#)” Even though you’re the Sun Knight, it wouldn’t be too good if you became Sun-faced.” Stone patted my back to comfort me and then said, “It’s about time, should we go look for Storm?”

Sun-faced! I hurriedly touched my face... Phew! It's still oval-shaped and has not turned into a circular Sun-face. To prevent myself from becoming Sun-faced, it looks like I'll have to stop eating sweets. I dejectedly replied, "Okay, let's look for Storm."

*

The most common place you'll find Storm is in his room, so that was the first place we went.

I knocked on the door but discovered that the door wasn't even closed. It opened with one knock, so I directly pushed it open and went in. The moment we went in, we saw Storm lying on the bed with his hands on his chest as if he were in the middle of buttoning his clothes... but his eyes were closed.

Stone's face became grave as he asked, "Sun, do you think he was taking off his clothes and fell asleep halfway last night, or was putting on his clothes and fell asleep halfway this morning?"

"That's not important!"

"Ah... Do you still want to bring Storm along? I think it'd be a bit cruel to wake him up right now."

"Is anyone else free lately?"

Stone thought for a while and replied, "Everybody's been busy lately."

"Then, let's go by ourselves." I had no choice. It'd be too cruel to wake up somebody who fell asleep changing clothes! Even I couldn't do it.

"Hm? Sun, I-I'm getting up."

Turning around, I could see Storm's eyes only a quarter open, and he was trying his best to lift himself up with his elbows.

I extended my hand to close Storm's eyes— one second, two seconds, three seconds... When I took my hand away, he was already asleep again.

"It's pretty difficult to be tired to this extent," Stone muttered.

I lifted Storm's leg which was hanging off the bed, placed it back on top,

helped him take off his unnecessary clothing, and covered him with the blankets. After leaving the room, I wrote a note on the door saying, “Storm in deep sleep, all trespassers will be struck down with lightning by the God of Light – Sun.”

Stone asked surprisingly, “Sun, why are you suddenly so nice to Storm?”

I placed my hand on Stone’s shoulder and said seriously, “Brother Stone, please think about it, if Brother Storm doesn’t get enough rest and dies from overwork as a result, how are we going to deal with all the documents in the coming sixteen years?”

Stone thought about it, and then added on the door, “And will be cut into pieces by my broadsword.”

*

When we arrived at the palace, we were immediately welcomed by Elijah, who looked like he came specially to meet us.

Upon seeing him, Stone began to poke at Elijah, “So Elijah, you can’t wait for the wedding, huh?”

Elijah blinked and then grimaced, “I’m afraid the wedding is going to be postponed.”

We were taken aback upon hearing this, and Stone immediately asked, “What happened?”

Elijah shook his head. “Let’s not talk about that for now. Sun Knight, Stone Knight, please follow me quickly. His Majesty has been waiting for some time.”

Waiting for some time? Stone and I looked at each other, doubt written on both our faces. We shouldn’t be past the agreed time yet.

Elijah was in such a hurry that he turned around and left immediately after he finished speaking. Stone and I could only hurry after him. When we reached the audience hall, we found that the king wasn’t the only person waiting. Even Silent Eagle from the Cathedral of the Shadow God was present, and he hadn’t come alone. Beside him were around twenty

dark knights and ten people wearing robes, the kind that priests might wear. Could they be shadowpriests?

His Majesty couldn't be wanting the Cathedral of the Shadow God to give a wedding gift too, could he?

Although courtesy demanded the Cathedral of the Shadow God to present a wedding gift, they normally wouldn't give very much anyway. After all, the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound has long held the light in high esteem. Within the kingdom, forget even mentioning establishing a division of the Cathedral of the Shadow God— not even a single believer could be recruited. So, to the Cathedral of the Shadow God, the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound was of absolutely no use to them. Things like wedding presents didn't need to be too extravagant.

Apart from Silent Eagle's group, there were also two entire rows of people whose faces and apparel were all very unfamiliar, so they probably didn't belong to the palace.

"They have the Kingdom of Kissinger's emblem on them," Stone said quietly.

I nodded. The Cathedral of the Shadow God and the Kingdom of Kissinger have both sent so many people here at the same time, not to mention His Majesty's face looks really terrible! I doubt this has anything to do with the wedding, so what exactly is happening?

At this point, the younger knight-confidant next to the king took two steps forward, but His Majesty actually raised his hand to stop him, and then he looked directly at me... Wait! Why are you staring at me? I hadn't done anything lately, right?

His Majesty personally spoke, "Sun Knight, the Kingdom of Kissinger has sent a messenger bearing news. They say that the Demon King is about to be born in Leaf Bud City."

I stared blankly. Awaitsun had also spoken about this before, but I didn't think that they'd tell the king too. Aren't they afraid that their spokesperson will be surrounded by the army? The Demon King is not exactly a popular representative of the gods.

“They also want us to put forth our best effort assisting the birth of the Demon King.”

After saying this, His Majesty looked like he was about to explode, and I completely understood his feelings. If somebody told me that the Demon King was about to be born in the Holy Temple, and also wanted me to help it happen with my best effort, I’d throw them into the Judge’s Complex and tell Knight-Captain Judgment to service him well.

I pondered for a while before replying, “Since Silent Eagle is here, it would be wise to ask him to inform us of more detail. Sun believes that if the dark knights’ leader dares to stand upon the God of Light’s territory and speak of the birth of the Demon King, there must be a good reason.”

Hearing this, the king frowned, but remained collected, and then glanced at his knight-confidant by his side.

The knight-confidant quickly shouted, “Silent Eagle of the Cathedral of the Shadow God, you better start explaining the situation in detail!”

Silent Eagle revealed a puzzled look and asked, “Your Majesty, the truth about the Demon King is a hidden secret passed down through the royal family of each kingdom from generation to generation, so how is Your Majesty unaware of the truth?”

Passed down to every generation, but the last generation... The king was silent and I was too, but we were probably both thinking the same thing— We’ll have to send somebody to strangle the former king later!

I’ve heard that the former fat pig king had always been a person worth strangling since he was young. Luckily, he had one merit— cowardice! Not only was he afraid of his mother and his wife, he was even scared of his son!

Even though he was personally a mess, he had a competent mother, and then he married a competent wife who gave birth to a competent son.

When he was young, his mother helped deal with the kingdom’s politics. And since he was scared of his mother, he never dared to go too far. After his mother passed away, the queen took on the role and started managing

the kingdom, and once she grew older and later passed away as well, there was still the son to take over!

However, the prince still had the status of “son” at the time and didn’t dare punish his father too much, so the fat pig king’s situation was allowed to worsen. Still, the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound was held together in such a way over the years. Apart from the treasury becoming empty and the royal family gaining a low reputation, the kingdom wasn’t too greatly affected.

But evidently the king and I underestimated his father’s dangerousness... He was even capable of forgetting to tell his son the secret passed down through generations of the royal family! We really can’t face our ancestors if we don’t strangle him to death!

Right now, I only saw Silent Eagle’s puzzlement, the knight-confidant at a loss, and the king with a poker face, but if you looked carefully you could see the corners of his mouth twitching. He might be assassinating his father tonight.

In order to stop the awkward situation from continuing, I spoke, “Sir Silent Eagle, Sun believes that His Majesty wishes you to explain to Sun. Due to Sun being unaware of these events, as only His Majesty is aware of the secret passed down through each generation of the royal family, could you please explain to Sun in finer detail, so as to allow Sun to understand the situation’s origin?”

Hearing this, the king furrowed his brow, but color returned to his face and he glanced at the knight-confidant next to him.

The knight-confidant quickly shouted, “Silent Eagle of the Cathedral of the Shadow God, start explaining!”

Awaitsun turned his head to look at me and answered, “Yes s... No problem.”

Like hell it is! Luckily, you managed to change your speech partway. If the head of the Cathedral of the Shadow God were to speak so respectfully to me in front of the king, I’ll strangle you to death on the spot!

Unexpectedly, once Silent Eagle opened his mouth, what he spoke of was a distant myth.

A long time ago, in the age when the gods were competing for followers to establish their faith, they found that the holy element attracted more followers than the dark element, and people appeared to prefer the nature of the light. And so, they all used a large amount of the holy element. This included the God of Light, the God of War, and other gods that no longer exist.

However, the power of the gods upset the balance of the world's elements.

Due to excessive use of the holy element, the dark element began flowing and gathering, slowly forming places such as lands of darkness.

Grass no longer grew in places that became lands of darkness. Instead, these places produced endless undead creatures.

These lands of darkness were only a warning; when the dark element collected to a critical point, the world would begin to be swallowed by darkness.

The lands of darkness grew larger and larger, the continent was overrun by undead creatures, living creatures were forced to migrate again and again, and land that could support life continued to decrease.

Faced with the collapse of the world, the gods knew that they could change this only by discontinuing the use of the holy element, but some gods, such as the God of Light of the holy element, were simply unable to use the dark element. However, even the gods that were able to use the dark element refused to give up the holy element and use the dark element, as it would undoubtedly cause a heavy loss of followers.

When things were about to get completely out of hand, the Shadow God decided to clean up the mess because he was a god who was almost completely of the dark element. His forte made it easier for him to solve the problem compared to the other gods.

He decided to create a "vessel," a vessel which would specialize in

absorbing the dark element, allowing the vessel to absorb the excess dark element. The vessel would first restore balance to the world, and then slowly use up the entirety of the dark element.

In order to absorb and use up the dark element, the vessel's power was so great that it went against the gods' contract. However, the world was imbalanced and near collapse, and only the Shadow God's vessel could save the world, so the gods turned a blind eye to the breach of contract by the Shadow God.

Although the gods did not stop the Shadow God, the people became afraid. Most of them didn't understand what was happening, and they were scared of the dark element that was constantly gathering. They even blamed the existence of the lands of darkness on the Shadow God, believing that the Shadow God wanted to create a weapon to destroy the world.

People gathered and started waging a series of wars against the Shadow God.

In the chaos of war, the vessel that was finally nearly completed was broken into three pieces, and so the Shadow God left in anger.

This continued until the world began to collapse. A few people who knew the truth implored the Shadow God for forgiveness and salvation. In the end, the Shadow God helped after all.

He tore off a fragment of himself and split it into three, each of which became a guide, to find the three pieces of the vessel and recreate the vessel, thus saving the world.

After finishing the myth, Silent Eagle explained further, "The people who entreated the Shadow God became the founders of the Cathedral of the Shadow God, as well as the first dark knights and shadowpriests, and the vessel is the representative of the Cathedral of the Shadow God, the Demon King."

"You mean the gods almost destroyed the world, while the Demon King actually saved it?"

Silent Eagle stared coldly at the knight and said, “If the Demon King only brought disaster, do you think that the Cathedral of the Shadow God could have survived for so long? Due to the geography, over half the disaster brought by the Demon King is inflicted on the Kingdom of Kissinger, but they have always kept their faith in the Shadow God and supported the existence of the Cathedral of the Shadow God. Would the citizens of the Kingdom of Kissinger naturally enjoy disaster?”

To the side, the people from the Kingdom of Kissinger also stared coldly at the knight, their demeanor also proving that Silent Eagle wasn't spouting nonsense, surprising the knight-confidant, who was at a loss for words.

Silent Eagle turned his head to face the king and loudly said, “When the world begins to be swallowed by lands of darkness, due to the geography, the Kingdom of Kissinger will be the first to become a kingdom of death. This is why the Kingdom of Kissinger is willing to endure the disaster brought by the Demon King, as well as the reason they have believed in the Cathedral of the Shadow God for so long. But, Your Majesty, you should not rejoice either, for when the Kingdom of Kissinger becomes a complete kingdom of death, the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound and the Kingdom of Moon Orchid will, at the very least, have already transformed halfway into kingdoms of death!”

His tone was heavy when he said this, and a “Disrespectful” from the knight-confidant was stopped halfway by the king.

Silent Eagle half kneeled, and although it was a posture of requisition, his tone was by no means compromising.

“Your Majesty, for the sake of the world, the Demon King must emerge! The Kingdom of Kissinger will use all of their power to ensure that the Demon King is born. In addition, the Cathedral has already sent a messenger to the Kingdom of Moon Orchid, and the Queen of Moon Orchid has also stated that she will fully support the birth of the Demon King.”

Hearing this, the king's face was as dark as the bottom of a pot, and he

sat supporting his forehead, due to what was most likely a headache, and then his line of sight fell upon my face. His brow wrinkled, most likely an indication that he wanted to inquire further.

I thought for a while and opened my mouth to ask, “If I may be so bold, Sir Silent Eagle, how will the Demon King be born?”

Silent Eagle turned his head to look at me and explained, “The vessel was originally broken into three pieces. As a result, there will be three Demon King candidates. They will fight under the leadership of the guides, and the winner will absorb all three pieces, thus becoming the new vessel, the Demon King.”

At this moment, Stone shouted, “But why do you have to do the fighting in Leaf Bud City? The population of Leaf Bud City is high, and Leaf Bud City is the capital of the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound. No matter what, you shouldn’t have chosen this place!”

Silent Eagle only weakly replied, “I am very sorry, but the location is not determined by us. We only located the place and have come to notify you to conduct preparations in order to minimize damage.”

He paused, and said in a low voice, “In the past, in order to prevent the birth of the Demon King from getting too complicated, we would refrain from publicly announcing the location of the Demon King’s birth. However, this time we learned that the location would be Leaf Bud City. The Cathedral and the king of my kingdom discussed this matter over and over, finally deciding to inform your kingdom, so that your kingdom may make preparations to prevent massive damage and harm.”

After the king stayed silent for a while, he turned his head to speak with the older knight-confidant next to him, who moved forward to announce, “Because the messengers from the Kingdom of Kissinger have come a long way, today’s discussion shall end here so as to allow them to rest. The discussion shall be continued another day.”

Anyone who heard this could obviously tell it was an excuse to disperse the meeting. The king immediately stood up and turned around to leave. Servants led Silent Eagle and the messengers from the Kingdom of

Kissinger away to rest.

I was originally planning to gather up the Twelve Holy Knights to tell them about the Demon King and discuss some strategies with Judgment. However, Elijah came up to me and said, “Sun Knight, please follow me to the study. His Majesty wishes to see you there.”

“Very well,” I answered and turned to Stone to say, “Stone, help me ask Silent Eagle for a time and place to meet. Make it within these next few days, the sooner the better.”

Stone nodded, “Understood.”

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I followed Elijah to the king’s study, but he didn’t come in with me. He only said a greeting, and then closed the door to the study.

The only person in the study was the king, who had already changed into lighter clothes and wasn’t even bothering to wear his crown. He was standing in front of a tall window that stretched from the ceiling to the floor, looking outward. The scenery outside the window was very nice, the view encompassing most of Leaf Bud City.

I walked forward until I was three steps away from the king and opened my mouth to say, “Your Majesty, Sun has come at your summons.”

The king remained silent, but I didn’t say anything more, only waiting quietly for him to speak.

“Sun Knight... If what Silent Eagle said is true, do you think I should evacuate the citizens of Leaf Bud City?” Not waiting for my answer, he continued to mumble to himself, “But the population of Leaf Bud City is high, how would we evacuate? And to where do we evacuate? With everybody gone, the capital will become a dead city, in which case wouldn’t the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound already count as a kingdom of death?”

After saying this, he turned around and stared at me. The king’s face looked a bit different. He should be younger than my teacher, but he appeared to be much older, and the wrinkles between his brows were

deep. He perhaps scowled like this often.

“I thought I could allow the citizens to live peacefully, but now they are only left with the two choices of dying or becoming nomads. Sun Knight, tell me. Which choice should I choose?”

Seeing the king’s face full of grief and remorse, I immediately kneeled down, raised my head to the king, and said, “Your Majesty, you truly are a king that can give the citizens of the Kingdom of Forgotten a peaceful life! Please believe that Sun will do his utmost and won’t allow the citizens of Leaf Bud City to be inflicted with a shred of harm!”

The king looked at me, his face slowly regaining color, and said, “Hearing that you will do your best puts me at peace, although your methods are a bit absurd... Cough! No matter what, you have always been able to resolve many problems. As early as ten years ago, Neo already conceded this point. The situation this time is serious. If you need anything, tell me directly. Apart from my life, there isn’t anything I can’t give you.”

The final few lines, the king spoke them a bit jokingly.

Although the royal family and the Church normally had quite a few disagreements, not to mention that I had also caused the previous king to step down, and then intervened between the princess and Son of the War God’s marriage... But when it came to dangerous times, the king still decided to trust me.

If you were to claim that the previous pig king had any accomplishments, it would be giving birth to a good king!

After thinking for a while, I immediately made a request, “Your Majesty, Sun humbly requests of you to temporarily hand the command of the royal knights to Sun.”

The king nodded and said, “No problem. How about this, I will also make Elijah your direct subordinate. Recently, his reputation within the royal knights has been very good. With him around, it will be easier for you to mobilize them.”

He truly is the king, to be this thorough. The royal knights truly might not be accepting of me being temporarily in command, but with Elijah around, I could save myself a lot of trouble. I nodded, and requested again, “And please also give the evacuation decision to Sun.”

After speaking, I waited for a while, but the king didn’t give me an answer. He only smiled at me, but I truly didn’t know what I had said wrong.

“Grisia.”

The king suddenly said my name, but I wasn’t too surprised, since I had only been the Sun Knight for four years. To the king, “Sun Knight” more or less, in all likelihood, still meant my teacher Neo.

“Yes, crown prince... I mean, Your Majesty.”

When I finished speaking, I immediately made an expression of fear from saying something wrong. The king laughed with a “Ha” and brusquely said, “Checkmating me in return and still feigning ignorance! You are much more successful at being the Sun Knight than Neo was.”

I smiled, but I still said, “With the God of Light as the witness, how could Sun dare to checkmate the king? Even more so Sun wouldn’t dare to compete with Teacher Neo.”

The king rolled his eyes at me, and that made me remember days from long ago.

In the past, Teacher often brought me to the palace for afternoon tea, which was why I would often see the prince, who was always busy and in a hurry. Still, he would at least appear one or two times out of three to tea.

Teacher often directly called the prince “Archie,” and sometimes he would even shorten it to “Arch.” The prince who was called “Arch” would return the favor and call Teacher “Nee-nee.”

They would always start debating within three sentences. By the tenth sentence, they would start arguing, and around the twentieth, the prince would drink his black tea in a huff, and then say he needed to go work.

When leaving, he would purposely ruffle my hair as a rebellious demonstration against my teacher, and then Teacher would pinch the princess's cheeks as revenge. Those two were so childish that I wanted to roll my eyes at them.

“Although it wasn't for a long time, I still watched you grow up, especially because Neo would complain about you all day and night. I've heard so much about you that I could recite everything smoothly. Do you know what Neo's most common complaint was?”

I honestly admitted, “My sword skills.”

“That was a common complaint.” The king laughed and continued, “But, his most common complaint was that you were unfathomably considerate. Often, when he only delayed for a bit, he would find that you had already solved the problem.”

Teacher, your delays often lasted from ten days to half a month, all the way until danger was already licking at your feet, and then you would finally deal with it... And by dealing with it, half of the time, you would still dump it on me! Of course I would rather prefer dealing with the problems right from the start while they could still be dealt with easily!

But, what is the king bringing up Teacher for? Weren't we talking about the birth of the Demon King?

I used a puzzled expression to look at the king, who lightly said with a smile, “Although my father wasn't a good king and isn't even a good person, he is a good father, which was why I couldn't bear to force him to abdicate even when he has not been suited for the throne for a long time.”

It really has been a long time, since the fat pig king had already been incompetent from the day he became king!

“Also, the situation regarding my sister and Elijah can be said to be resolved satisfactorily.”

After saying this, the king walked closer and spoke quietly next to my ear, “Since there wasn't any damage caused, and I also received a good assistant, the matter concerning the Church 'once' sending a spy in, I'll let

that pass.”

“...” As matters stood, pretending would be useless, so I could only brace myself and say, “Sun thanks Your Majesty for being so magnanimous.”

“I have finally managed to get you, who would rather face death than admit anything, to admit this one thing!” After speaking, the king laughed loudly. He laughed for a long time before he regained his composure.

The king spoke in a commanding tone, “Following this, you will have Elijah reporting to me regularly. I will decide if evacuation is necessary. If evacuation is truly necessary, the king of the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound will order the evacuation himself, forcing the citizens to leave Leaf Bud City. No one is allowed to disobey!”

I was stunned for a moment and quickly spoke, “But...”

The king interrupted me sternly, “Sun Knight, remember! The one responsible for Leaf Bud City is the king of the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound, not you!”

Startled, I quickly lowered my head and replied affirmatively.

Suddenly, the king placed his hand on my head and while ruffling my hair, said, “We will each do what we can! Really, I will ensure that the preparations for evacuating are done well. I won’t ever allow the citizens to have nowhere to go to. Which is why you shouldn’t sacrifice yourself to do your job well. Neo hated this the most about you. His hatred for it was even higher than being called ‘Nee-nee.’ ”

Your Majesty...

“Understood!”

After I left the study, I planned to go back to the Holy Temple, not only to discuss the Demon King with Judgment, but also to ask Stone what time he had helped me arrange... But when I exited the palace, I immediately saw Stone and Silent Eagle.

They quietly stood to the side, without conversing, clearly waiting for me.

When I walked over, Silent Eagle smiled and said, “Sun Knight, rather than choosing a date and ending up having clashing dates, why not let us talk immediately! I want to discuss with you... the cooperation between the Cathedral of the Shadow God and the Church of the God of Light. I hope that both sides can patrol together. With the protection and healing of the holy knights, as well as my side’s powerful offense, patrolling together can create a good result.”

After saying this, he went back to being silent and simply smiled at me.

I turned to speak to Stone, “Knight-Captain Stone, you should have a lot of work. Go back to the Church first! Remember to tell Knight-Captain Judgment about the Demon King.”

Stone furrowed his brow but still said, “Understood.”

Luckily the person here was Stone, who has always been easy to get along with and who doesn’t like to trouble people. If it were anybody else, they might not allow me to be alone with Silent Eagle, in case I would try to hide something from them.

After Stone left, Silent Eagle and I also began to leave the palace. No one usually hung around the palace, so there wasn’t anybody near us, which was why I spoke directly to him, “Sir Silent Eagle, if you have anything to say, say it! Don’t speak about team patrols anymore. I will send my vice-captain to speak with you about that later.”

Smiling, Silent Eagle replied, “Call me Awaitsun. You gave me this name, sir, and I am already used to using it. Even Alice has switched to calling me Awaitsun instead of Eagle.”

“You’re actually happy with this name?” I said unhappily, “Have you forgotten that this name is a reminder for you to wait for my revenge?”

Silent Eagle laughed lightly, “Of course I remember, but this name cannot be any more appropriate. I really have been waiting for you this entire time, sir.”

Waiting for me? For what... This fellow’s words are always unclear and he always speaks halfway! If he weren’t Silent Eagle, one of the leaders of

the Cathedral of the Shadow God, and if I weren't currently wearing the Sun Knight uniform, preventing me from doing anything that doesn't match the image of the Sun Knight, I would have exacted my revenge right now!

Unable to take revenge, I could only coldly say, "Your Shadow God truly is a god belonging to the attribute of darkness. He has already decided to save the world, yet the three Demon King candidates must first slaughter each other."

"The Shadow God doesn't intend to have the Demon King candidates kill each other."

Awaitsun hurriedly clarified, "Actually, the guides were originally sent to choose the most suitable Demon King candidate out of the three together. It's just that due to the passing of time, God's fragments have been in this world for too long. The guides are no longer impartial, always believing that the one they have found is the most appropriate, just like how a mother would always think that their child is the best, even if they commit heinous crimes. Which is why in the end, only through killing can they become the Demon King."

I remained silent, not knowing how to react, but the next second I realized that my hand was on my chest without my knowledge. Underneath the clothing there was a hard object—the necklace with a lich sealed inside of it.

"Now, it is instead up to the Cathedral of the Shadow God to choose the most suitable person and help them become the Demon King. But because of this, the three guides no longer have any affection for the Cathedral of the Shadow God. They would never reveal the identities of the candidates to the Cathedral of the Shadow God." He stopped, then with a smile, said, "Generally, it would be so, but there is always the possibility of an exception."

He stopped in his tracks, turned to look at me, and smiled. "I will help you, sir."

I clenched my fists and opened them. Words were already near my

mouth, but I swallowed them back down. Although I already had a premonition of the truth, as long as I hadn't heard a completely definite statement, I could continue to trick myself into thinking it was all a misunderstanding, that I was wrong, the truth couldn't be like that...

“Sir Silent Eagle's hand of friendship has brought warmth to Sun, though Sun does not currently need Sir Eagle's friendship, but Sun has still taken it to heart.”

Evidently, Awaitsun sensed rejection from my “Sun Knight's speech”—or maybe he simply didn't understand what I had just said—either way, he fell silent before saying, “If any threats appear, I will send someone to warn you, but my people may not be able to sense all of the dangers, so please pay attention to your own safety. If you require any assistance, please do not hold back, I am yours to command. Thus, Awaitsun now bids farewell.”

It appeared that Awaitsun was going back to the palace, which was why he turned around to walk back the way we came. As he walked by me he stopped for a moment, and in a low voice, imparted, “The Demon King is powerful to the extent of breaching the contract of the gods. Even when currently split into three, the power is still terrifying. Therefore, please be prepared. The others might not be against becoming the world's strongest, the Demon King.”

After speaking, Awaitsun began to walk again, but it wasn't until his footsteps became distant that I woke up from my daze and began to walk towards the Holy Temple. But I had hardly traveled a few steps when a person suddenly jumped down from the roof of a building by my side.

The jump scared me, and I was extending one hand and even readying a Shield of Earth, when the other party called out to me.

“Sun, it's me.”

Stone? After recognizing him, I recalled how he had jumped down from the roof. I suddenly felt shivers down my spine, and although I opened my mouth a few times, I didn't know what to say, so in the end I blurted out uselessly, “You didn't return to the Church?”

“Yeah.”

I fell silent, and then asked, “You purposely pretended to leave, then eavesdropped on the roof?”

He even had the distance grasped well. Normally, my sensing can only go upwards with a radius of three meters above me and about ten meters in front of me, so just now I was completely unable to sense anyone on the roof.

Stone hesitated, then nodded.

I took a few breaths, clenched my teeth, and asked, “The conversation just now... You understood all of it?”

He nodded and answered, “Comparing it with past events, I think I understand about eighty to ninety percent if not a hundred.”

“Then are you...” Scared of me?

The last three words, I couldn't say them. What if he said he was scared? No, with Stone's personality, he probably wouldn't say anything that would hurt someone that much. At most, it would be “A little bit” or, “I don't know,” that kind of neutral answer right?

In the end, the words I blurted out changed, “Do you plan to go back and tell the others? Can you give me a few days?”

But Stone replied, “I won't say anything.”

Surprised, I asked hurriedly, “You're not going to tell anyone? Then what were you eavesdropping for?”

He quickly explained, “I wasn't trying to eavesdrop. I was just worried you would go back to your old habit of doing something dangerous by yourself. Your bad record isn't only just a few years long.”

So that's how it is. Stone really isn't someone who would eavesdrop. Eavesdropping is more along the lines of something Metal would do!

I hesitated, “But, you wouldn't be able to hide anything from Judgment, right?”

After all, the Stone Knight was still the direct subordinate of the Judgment Knight. Although my relationship with Stone wasn't bad, it probably wasn't better than his relationship with Judgment. On top of that, the situation this time was truly too serious.

"I definitely won't tell!" Stone stubbornly said, much to my surprise, "I believe that everybody would prefer to hear the truth directly from you, not indirectly from what I heard here, which is why I definitely won't tell! Even Knight-Captain Judgment won't hear a single word from my mouth!"

I remained silent for a while before saying, "Stone."

"What?"

"You're really stubborn."

Stone stared blankly, and then immediately denied, "Nonsense! I'm not stubborn at all!"

Hah! I laughed, "No no, you're really stubborn."

"I'm not stubborn!"

"Very stubborn."

"I'm definitely not a stubborn person! Tell me, which part of me is stubborn!"

Seeing Stone on the brink of going crazy, I changed the subject, "We should return to the Holy Temple. We need to tell everybody about the Demon King quickly."

"Don't go! Tell me! How am I stubborn, how?"

"Time to go back to the Holy Temple!"

I turned and left, completely ignoring Stone's clamoring behind me.

Whose fault is it for eavesdropping and then saying he would never leak anything? With his stubbornness, even if I angered him, he definitely wouldn't talk about my conversation with Silent Eagle.

Which is why I will definitely exact dire revenge on him for eavesdropping!

“Sun! Stop now and tell me!”

Chapter 3: The Third Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "Follow the Instructions of Your Teacher"

Once Stone and I approached the entrance of the Holy Temple, I vaguely sensed that something was not quite right, and couldn't help but walk slower and slower. Despite this, Stone was walking even slower than I. Obviously he had also realized that something was amiss.

The main entrance of the Church of the God of Light usually had people bustling in and out. There were those who came to pray, those who came to report a case, those who came to look at the handsome holy knights or pretty clerics... In other words, there were always all sorts of people, but there was never no one around at all!

However, right then the Church's entrance was even quieter than the palace doors. If it wasn't for the fact that both of the buildings on either side of it were unscathed by damage, I might have thought that this place had already been wiped out by one of the demon king candidates.

Stone blurted, "Damn your teacher..."

I was stunned and then asked in suspicion, "Brother Stone, why the profanity?"

Stone was speechless for a while. Helplessly, he said, "I was saying, 'Damn, your teacher.' The former Knight-Captain Sun Neo is standing at the entrance of the Holy Temple."

Teacher? In a hurry, I extended the range of my sensing. Sure enough, I saw my teacher. He was standing in the middle of the main entrance of the Church of the God of Light. With a sword hanging by his waist and both his arms folded over his chest, he had an awe-inspiring presence from head to toe, scaring the holy knight guards at the two sides so much that their eyes were wide open and their bodies stiff, the spitting image of two unmoving statues.

Usually, when my teacher acted in this kind of manner, it was when he was preparing to go teach someone a lesson... I haven't done anything wrong recently, right?

Stone swallowed and said, "Sun, I suddenly remember that I have urgent business..."

"Even if it's a life-or-death matter, you're not allowed to go!" I replied brutally. Once I said that, Stone could only show a distressed expression.

Although I really wanted to walk slower, my teacher seemed to have already seen me. If I were to dare take my time walking over to him, he might just directly give me a slash from his blade.

Stone and I were practically jogging over to my teacher, but my teacher still impatiently complained, "You finally came back. I've been looking for you for a long time! If it wasn't for Lesus, who told me that you went to the palace, I almost wanted to have Aldrizzt bomb down a wall to lure you out."

If I knew that earlier on, I would have come back later and let Aldrizzt be the first dark elf in history to bomb the Church of the God of Light. It would also make the Pope dislike him a bit because of the repair fees for the wall, and then perhaps he won't seek him out all the time to study dark magic.

However, since my teacher's retirement, it seemed that even his elegance had been retired along with him. Nowadays, he didn't look like the elegant Sun Knight at all. To say that he was the warlike Son of the God of War would seem to have more credibility in comparison.

"Teacher, may I enquire as to why you are looking for your student?"

I tried my best to adjust my speech to be between being elegant and inelegant. Elegant, because at the side, there were still the holy knight guards, and I had to maintain my elegant Sun Knight image in front of them. Inelegant, as right now my teacher seemed to not be in the mood for rubbish. If I didn't want to be beaten up and laid out flat on the floor inelegantly, it would be best for my speech to not be too convoluted.

“The land of darkness that we purified last time has started to produce mass amounts of undead creatures again. I’m going to go deal with them,” explained my teacher in simple terms. Then in a commanding tone he said, “Grisia, lend me ten clerics and ten holy knights who specialize in holy magic.”

I was at a loss for a while, and then hurriedly said, “Teacher, you have already retired. For this kind of matter, just let me dispatch some people, and it will be...”

My teacher impatiently waved at me to shut up and said, “This has nothing to do with being retired! I broke the seal over there, and now that something has happened, how could I ignore it? Just lend me the manpower. Aldrizzt and I will go over and settle the problem.”

I fell silent for a moment, before I nodded my head and replied, “Okay.”

At this moment, Aldrizzt and the Pope walked out of the main entrance and at their backs were ten clerics and ten holy knights. The holy knights were mostly platoon members from the “good, warm-hearted” faction. I believe that my teacher wanted to use them to make up for his deficiency in holy magic.

I was not sure whether it was because I wasn’t smiling, but as soon as the Pope saw me, he had an alert expression as he said, “I did tell Neo to report to you, and didn’t agree to let him take away our holy knights without permission.”

If Teacher wants to use our holy knights, is there any way I could say no? I quickly turned my head to my teacher to explain, “If my teacher wants to use our holy knights, of course there’s no problem! Before, I was only worried that the Pope would dispatch the holy knights to do dangerous things, so I would always tell him to report to me...”

However, once I finished speaking, my teacher immediately smacked me on the top of my head with his fist, even reprimanding me, “What exactly are you treating a holy knight as, a delicate thing to protect? They are holy knights. If you don’t dispatch them to do dangerous stuff, then who is going to do the work?”

“Sometimes His Holiness the Pope really does not know how to cherish the holy knights.” Before, he even wanted to kill Hell and bury him once and for all!

The Pope opened his mouth, but then shut his mouth again immediately, not saying a single word.

Instead, it was my teacher who frowned and said to me, “When I come back, I’ll thoroughly work with you to deal with this personality of yours!” When he was done speaking, he turned toward Aldrizzt, asking, “Is there any news of late about the situation there?”

Aldrizzt shook his head and said, “No, the distance between here and there is extremely far, so news doesn’t travel that fast. However, this also means that it would be best for us to move faster, since by the time the news has traveled to us here, whatever happened would probably have already happened a while ago.”

Teacher furrowed his brows and gave an “hmm” sound. Then he told me, “Grisia, Aldrizzt and I will go, but we’ll be back quickly.”

Be back quickly... This trip to and fro should take, at the very least, a month, right? This is not even including the time that my teacher would take to clear out the undead creatures. Should I explain the matter about the Demon King to my teacher? If he knew about the Demon King, might my teacher perhaps not leave?

“Grisia?”

I immediately gave a smile as I said, “Teacher, please take care.”

Letting my teacher leave Leaf Bud City is also good! He has already retired, and I really shouldn’t continue to make him worry about too many things. Especially since my teacher has already lost his right hand for my sake. What he has done is already more than enough.

My teacher nodded his head. He only said a couple more words, “I’m going,” and following that, he walked past me. This was Neo Sun. His way of doing things was always brisk, and he would never hem and haw.

I turned around and looked at the back of my teacher about to leave. I

couldn't help but let a shout escape my mouth. "Teacher!"

My teacher turned around, asking in incomprehension, "What?"

Don't go, I don't know what I should do.

I forced a smile and said, "If you can't settle it, don't force yourself and overdo things. Remember to come back and ask for help."

My teacher instantly gave me a hard whack on my head, and growled, "Don't think that I won't be able to hit you just because I only have my left hand remaining! I'm rushed for time, so just this is enough for now. Wait until I come back. I'll give you a ruthless thrashing then!"

Done with his words, he walked down the staircase of the Holy Temple. At that moment, there were already a few others leading horses there. Just loading their luggage onto the horses took quite a bit of time for this team of more than twenty people.

My teacher had an extremely impatient expression on his face. If it wasn't for Aldrizt, who was at his side trying his best to distract him, he would perhaps have already yelled loudly, "Everyone, get on your horses and go!" and then in the situation where more than twenty people didn't have their luggage, they would live off the wilderness for the whole journey until they reached their destination.

I stood at the entrance, until my teacher and the others' figures completely disappeared.

"Sun? Are you okay?" Stone frowned as he asked.

I turned towards Stone, and with a faint smile, replied, "Sun is fine, naturally. He is merely overwhelmed with feelings of reluctance to part ways with his teacher. However, now is not the time to feel sentimental. Brother Stone, the both of us have to go tell the other brothers about the Demon King. Please go and gather the Twelve Holy Knight brothers under Knight-Captain Judgment, and request for them to bring along their vice-captains. Gather at the conference room."

"Okay."

In front of the Twelve Holy Knights, I talked about the issue of the Demon King in full detail.

Once I finished, everyone's eyes turned wide, and they had looks of disbelief on their faces.

Judgment had on an even deeper frown as he said, "Are you completely sure that what Silent Eagle said was the truth?"

"Silent Eagle himself is living in the palace and seems to have no intention of leaving. After what happened today, I believe that His Majesty the King would also not let him leave easily. I doubt that the Cathedral of the Shadow God would use their own leader to play a joke on us. If the Kingdom of Kissinger wanted to pick a fight, they wouldn't leave their envoy Silent Eagle and the shadowpriests here, especially not while they are being strictly monitored by our kingdom. For them, this is definitely not a good thing."

I looked at Judgment and said truthfully, "Other than what Silent Eagle has said, I cannot find any other logical explanation. Therefore, I can only temporarily treat it as real. No matter what, we will make preparations first. In this time period, His Majesty the King will likely ask for verification with the previous King and with the Queen of the Kingdom of Moon Orchid. If both of their replies are the same, then I will believe that it is the truth."

"What you say is right," said Judgment, in full agreement.

I looked toward everyone, and all of them seemed to have already calmed down... That was fast! I originally thought that everyone would at least raise a racket, one after another, for ten minutes before we could officially start to discuss what to do. Just hearing that there was a possibility that we would have to evacuate everyone from Leaf Bud City instantly made my brain feel numb and my heart cold. I was completely at a loss as to where I should start on this, and my entire being felt filled with panic.

"Because the situation is very grave this time, I have to request everyone

to hand over all of their platoon members to me to plan this as a whole.”

After saying that, I paused for a few seconds. Seeing that no one seemed to have any intention to object, I looked toward Adair and gave a string of orders.

“Adair, I am going to entrust all of the vice-captains and platoon members to you. You are then to look to Silent Eagle and Elijah for manpower and split them into groups of combined forces. Each group needs to have at least one vice-captain. The patrolling within the city will be handed over to you to take charge of. You will be granted full authority over this. If the citizens ask why the number of people patrolling has increased, find ways and excuses to get away with it.”

“Yes,” replied Adair extremely seriously.

I didn't feel reassured though, so I briefed him again. “Be extra careful. The demon king candidates may look no different from an ordinary person. If you meet one, immediately send someone back to report. If the other party is harboring malicious intentions, then make your first priority protecting the civilians and retreating. Don't ever battle against them directly.”

Adair nodded his head and shouted loudly, “Yes, Captain.”

Blaze protested in a loud voice, “The vice-captains and platoon members all have stuff to do, but what are all we captains going to do?”

I turned toward the Twelve Holy Knights and commanded, “In this time frame, all of the Twelve Holy Knights are to stay in the Holy Temple every day and be on standby. Other than what you guys usually do, we are also to take over the previous duties and workload of the vice-captains. Also, we are to carry our weapons along with us, and be prepared to move out immediately.

“The vice-captains' main mission is only to protect the civilians. If we really have to evacuate, their mission will be to escort the civilians out of the town.”

I surveyed the Twelve Holy Knights and said, “If we really have to fight

against the demon king candidates, only us captains are allowed to fight them. Even if the others have to evacuate Leaf Bud City, we have to stay behind in the Holy Temple and take care of things. Any problems?”

“None,” the Twelve Holy Knights all replied firmly.

To send all the vice-captains away was to prepare for any eventualities. Just in case a captain was to die, they could be directly substituted with their vice-captain when the danger was over. This way, the Holy Temple could resume its regular operations in the shortest time period.

However, I didn't intend to announce this in front of everyone at the moment. I was going to wait a while, then inform all of the Twelve Holy Knights as well as Adair and Vidar. I would even write an official document addressed to the both of them, for if the Twelve Holy Knights were to all perish in battle, the two of them would still require my signed document to be able to immediately declare all of the vice-captains to take the place of the Twelve Holy Knights.

Just in case, this is only just in case. I sincerely believed that things wouldn't regress to such a terrible state.

“I have a small question!”

Storm raised his hand. I was not sure whether it was the effect of having his fill of sleep, but his smile was especially radiant.

I nodded my head in his direction. With a smile, he then asked, “May I ask if Adair's usual duties and workload will also be taken over by his Captain?”

“ ... ”

*

The next day, Elijah came to report to me, and even passed on the king's message.

The king had gone to look for his father and ask for clarification about the so-called secret of the royal family that was passed down from generation to generation. However, the fat pig of a king actually didn't

remember a single bit of it. Thankfully, the knight who was responsible for taking care of him since he was young still remembered this secret.

The secret of the royal family that had been passed on from generation to generation wasn't passed on from the previous king, but from a knight instead – this fact made the current king so angry that he almost wanted to kill his father.

However, Elijah told me, in the end the king only deducted his father's allowance for half a year. Tch!

Moreover, without a doubt, the contents of the secret seemed to have little difference with that of the legend, so it proved that Silent Eagle was indeed not lying.

After a few more days, the Kingdom of Moon Orchid also sent their envoy.

Their previous generation was obviously a lot more useful. The envoy stated that the Queen of the Kingdom of Moon Orchid and the Monastery of the God of War both support that the Demon King must be born, and they are willing to provide all the assistance they could give.

The Monastery of the God of War had also sent along an entire platoon of warriors, but the Son of the God of War unexpectedly didn't come over. Now that I think about it, there is only one Son of the God of War, so they probably don't dare to send him over to clash forces with the Demon King.

The Kingdom of Kissinger, the Cathedral of the Shadow God, the Kingdom of Moon Orchid, and the Monastery of the God of War had all agreed to lend us their assistance. This would greatly decrease the difficulty of evacuating the city. The king was already drafting up the evacuation plan, and if anything happened, perhaps he might choose to evacuate with no hesitation. At least, that was what Elijah said.

As matters stood, it was practically one hundred percent confirmed that Silent Eagle had indeed told the truth. The demon king candidates would engage each other in a fight in Leaf Bud City, and we were not only not allowed to chase them away, but we also had to help the Demon King be born.

The Demon King's strength was so large that it violated the Contract of the Gods, and even if you split it into three, it was still a frightening force... Was it really that formidable? So strong that even the Church of the God of Light and the royal knights would be unable to control the situation?

Right now, His Majesty the King is probably racking his brains as to whether or not to evacuate the citizens.

Even if there were other kingdoms lending their assistance, evacuating the whole city was still not going to be an easy task. Among them, how many citizens would rather die than leave?

Unless they saw the unbridled destruction done by the demon king candidates with their own eyes, most of them would be unwilling to leave. After all, right now Leaf Bud City looked very calm and peaceful, and to ask them to leave their comfortable homes to go live a vagabond's lifestyle, how could it be that simple?

However, if we wait until the demon king candidates have started their battle to evacuate, I fear that it'll be too late. By that time, it is possible that we might already be suffering fairly heavy casualties.

Even if we mobilized the entire army to evacuate the citizens by force, it would still be impossible to clear out the whole population of Leaf Bud City. We would still need a large number of royal knights guarding the palace, and we couldn't leave the streets empty without anyone patrolling, not to mention how many people the Church of the God of Light would need to keep behind...

"Sun, Sun!"

"Sun, what are you doing?"

I was disoriented for a moment, and then regained my senses. I only stared blankly at the person calling to me. It was actually Storm.

"Huh? What?"

"What?" Astonishment was written all over his face as Storm asked, "Y-You... How are your words so easy to understand?"

I stared blankly for a while. Not understanding what he was talking about, I asked in return, “Why wouldn’t they be?”

“‘Why wouldn’t they be?’ This is not a private location. Normally, your words should be full of ‘God of Light,’ ‘radiant sunshine,’ ‘brotherly friendship’ and the like... Wait a minute!” Storm suddenly stopped talking, and his expression changed greatly. He snatched away a stack of papers that was in front of me, and while trembling, he said, “Th-This is a document? Y-You actually... You are actually looking through documents!”

Oh? So I was actually looking through documents?

Storm was flipping through the documents wildly as he shrieked, “Oh my goodness! How is this possible? You even drew red lines, circled the main points, and wrote a few short yet efficient ways of dealing with the matter... Y-Y-You really are correcting documents! And you even wrote it this well? Compared to the stuff you wrote in the confinement chamber that was full of ‘Under the God of Light’s illumination, we should show forgiveness...’ that absolutely no one could understand and hence caused me to have to translate it once again, this is much better by a hundred times!”

I’m only casually looking through it right now while thinking about stuff. Last time when I was being confined, I didn’t have anything else to do, so I was actually looking through the documents with matchless seriousness! In the end casually looking through it is better than looking through it seriously... If you give me a blow like this, be careful ’cause I’ll look through the documents with extreme concentration in the future!

Suddenly, Leaf grabbed my shoulders and shook me fervently. He shouted worriedly, “Sun, what’s wrong with you?”

At the side, Blaze was also worried as he said, “Is it that he overdid the diet?”

Earth shook his head and said, “I just knew it’d be problematic if he doesn’t eat desserts, since he’s practically addicted to eating them! Now that you want him to stop abruptly, how is that possible? See, now he’s starting to show Dessert Withdrawal Syndrome!”

Is there really such a sickness? I felt a little suspicious.

Blaze shouted in an anxious tone, “Then I’ll go right away to look for Ice for desserts!”

“Wait a minute!” Storm suddenly shouted. “If you want to give him desserts to eat, wait until he’s finished looking through the documents! Otherwise, I’ll make you guys look through these documents!”

Once Storm finished speaking, he hurriedly shoved the whole stack of documents back in front of me. I was dazed for a few moments, and then lowered my head to continue going through the documents.

“... I was wrong, you guys hurry and go find Ice for desserts. Sun is simply broken beyond repair!”

Blaze and Leaf instantly rushed out of the room, while Earth gave a sigh, and idly said, “It’s one thing after another. The Demon King is coming, Sun is broken. This time it really is the end of the world!”

As I’ve said, if I were to take out a piece of document that I wrote myself, everyone would definitely be so alarmed, it would be as if Judgment didn’t come to a meeting. However, I had no choice but to correct my own documents because Adair was so busy that he almost didn’t have enough free time to even come back to the Holy Temple to sleep, so I really couldn’t throw the documents to him anymore.

I really didn’t want to discover that my multi-purpose vice-captain had actually worked himself to death while I still had sixteen more years to go in the position of Sun Knight!

I stood up and then shoved all of the documents in my hands into Storm’s hands.

Storm was stunned, and Earth, who was at the side, immediately gave a shout of realization, “So you were trying to hoodwink us into giving you dessert and hence—”

I interrupted his words, “I’m done looking through these.”

Earth’s mouth hung wide open, and Storm’s jaw nearly dropped to his

chest. The two of them stared blankly at me. I briefed them very simply, “I’m going out to see how the patrols are going. If there are any new documents that require reading, just place them directly in my room.”

Once I finished saying that, the two of them instantly went from being slack faced to becoming two stone statues, such that even if you waved a hand in front of their eyes, there would still be no reaction.

“Sun!” Leaf and Blaze came running back, and were making a big fuss as they shouted, “Ice refused to give us any desserts, but Cloud said that his desserts haven’t been switched to the bitter ones. Quick! Here are two slices of sweet strawberry cake...”

“I’m not hungry. You guys can eat it.”

After speaking, I walked past the Leaf and Blaze statues, and returned to my room to take an essential item for going out, my cloak.

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With my cloak draped over me, I sat at the side of the fountain in the courtyard. There weren’t many civilians nearby, but instead there were a few knights and warriors who would come and go occasionally while on their patrols.

These patrol squads were really doing their part conscientiously. From the time I stepped out of the Holy Temple, I hadn’t even walked down a single street before I had been stopped for questioning at least ten times. In the end, I could only drag a patrol squad along to escort me to the courtyard, or else I probably wouldn’t have reached my destination even by nightfall!

Who knew that just as I left the squad escorting me and turned to walk into the courtyard, I would immediately be surrounded by another bunch of knights and warriors? They had fierce expressions on their faces and an imposing manner. They looked almost as though they really wanted to skip the process of questioning, and directly drag me off to a corner, surround me, and beat me up.

I pulled off the hood of my cloak expressionlessly, turning all of them

into more statues, and then I walked to the edge of the fountain and sat down.

If I didn't know the reason for this, I might have thought that what I had draped over my body was human skin and not a cloak, and that was why I had been questioned the entire way. However, I really didn't have the right to grumble about it. After all, the root reason as to why I would be questioned the whole way here was because I had instructed Adair to raise the tension inside the city. This way the nervous atmosphere brought about by the soldiers treating everyone as a possible suspect would bring about uneasiness among the masses, which was advantageous for evacuating.

"K-Knight-Captain Sun, I'm sincerely sorry about this." The patrolling holy knight walked over and said nervously, "W-We momentarily mistook you for a suspect. It was really not intentional..."

My lips pulled into a smile and I said, "For my holy knight brother to be so dedicated to his guard duties, Sun is deeply gratified. Please do not feel any apprehension for Sun's presence here, for Sun merely wishes to reflect at this place. Please do not hesitate to carry out your duties, dear brother."

The holy knight nodded his head frantically and said yes, and then he returned back to his patrol squad. However, the warrior in the group muttered, "Reflect? You can just obediently stay at the Holy Temple to reflect, why would you come here..."

However, the two holy knights in the group immediately grabbed him and even covered his mouth tightly. They left the courtyard, half-dragging the warrior out.

I maintained my smile as I bid that group farewell and also remembered that warrior's face. Did he think that I really wanted to come here to reflect? If I could, I would also want to stay in the Holy Temple and be a church hermit!

It was true that Adair had always done things without missing any details. Under his lead, not to mention a person, even a mouse could be found—so long as that mouse had a distinctive feature that was a bit

different from other mice.

However, the candidates for the Demon King were completely without any distinguishing features. Even if there were ten Adairs, he still wouldn't be able to find them! Thus, I could only put Adair in charge of protecting the civilians. As for the matter of looking for the Demon King, I could only do it myself. I only hoped that the Demon King's elemental composition was not too much like a normal person's. Otherwise, not even my sensing would be able to find him.

Inside the Church of the God of Light, all the various elements were all too strong, which was not good for sensing. Hence, I could only obediently come out to the courtyard to "reflect on" stuff.

I "reflected on" this and that, and started to "reflect" from the courtyard in all directions, not even overlooking the palace that was full of the dark element. In the palace, there were indeed a few people who had very strong dark element. However, when you counted them, the numbers were still less than the total number of dark knights and shadowpriests.

On the streets, there were also quite a few people whose dark elements were also on the high side, however, around them were the presence of people whose element composition were inclined towards the holy element. They should be the dark knights that Adair had arranged to be included in the patrol squads.

There doesn't seem to be anyone who is especially suspicious...Wait a minute!

I abruptly stood up, and my hand gripped the Divine Sun Sword that was by my waist. The Divine Sun Sword provided endless holy light to me. Three steps in front of me stood two people with especially strong dark element... The Demon King and the lich?

"Sun Knight, good to meet you." The other party actually had a faint smile on and even greeted me very courteously.

His greeting startled me a little, but afterward I realized that this person's style of clothing was rather similar to Silent Eagle's, except that his was not as elaborate. Could he be a dark knight?

Other than this guy who I suspected to be a dark knight, there was also a girl behind him. The girl's dark element was also alarmingly high. A guy and a girl together instantly made me think of the demon king candidate and the lich mentor, so these two were simply suspicious to the max!

However, the girl's clothing seemed to be the robes of a shadowpriest.

A dark knight and a shadowpriest? Though these two people still seemed to be a bit suspicious, there were still patrol squads coming to and fro around us. Even if this guy really was the Demon King, he wouldn't have so little common sense as to cut down the Sun Knight in broad daylight before the public, would he?

I broke into a smile befitting that of a Sun Knight and said, "Under the light's illumination, Sun wishes everyone well. May I enquire of this sir as to who you are? Please forgive Sun for being simply ignorant and unable to remember this sir."

He said in a hurry, "There is no need to say that, sir. Yours truly is Stephen Anastas, a dark knight. I have seen you once in the palace, but of course you would not remember me, for at that time there were twenty dark knights there."

Twenty? Then he means the time when the palace found out the truth about the Demon King. This fellow called Stephen Anastas really is a dark knight.

Really, if there's nothing going on, why go running about with a shadowpriest! It had scared me so badly that I had broken out in cold sweat and had been nearly about to unsheathe my sword to cut someone down!

...Fine, I admit that I was going to use the Divine Sun Sword to gather a large amount of holy light, and then attack them with holy light until they died, which had not even the slightest relation to the words "cut someone down."

At this moment, the shadowpriest standing at the back frantically tugged at Stephen's clothes. Stephen looked a bit helpless, and he stepped aside to reveal the shadowpriest behind him. Afterward, he introduced to me,

“This is my sister Charlotte. Because we had lived in Leaf Bud City when we were both young, she has been worshipping you ever since ... Actually, I too feel that you are very composed and have an extraordinarily elegant and easygoing temperament.” Saying this, he even laughed foolishly, looking a little embarrassed.

Silent Eagle obeys my every word; a shadowpriest worships me; a dark knight feels that I'm easygoing and elegant... Are you kidding me?! I am the Sun Knight! All you people from the Cathedral of the Shadow God, from the top to the bottom, worship me? What's going on? Since all of you worship me so much, then you should have entered the Church of the God of Light instead! Or, I might as well create a Church of the Sun Knight, and let all of you guys jump ship?!

“I see. My gratitude for the kindness that you two shower upon Sun. Sun is simply undeserving of your praise.”

While making modest remarks with my mouth, I took the chance to size up the shadowpriest. She hid behind her older brother a little shyly, only daring to reveal half of her face to look at me. However, this didn't stop me from looking at her.

Using sensing, I could still “see” her completely. Though she was a shadowpriest, she looked like a normal girl. With her youth and shy expression that covered her whole face, she looked not the least bit like a powerful shadowpriest.

The only thing that was unique was probably how she had a head of short hair that extended to only a few centimeters past her ears. It was rare for me to see a girl with hair this short.

Once I finished speaking, Charlotte suddenly poked her head out, and then agitatedly shouted, “Y-You're definitely deserving of it!”

Seems like she really does worship me. However, the person whom these two were actually worshipping was probably not me. That's because Charlotte looked to be around the same age as me, and Stephen was probably even older than me by a few years. Thus, the Sun Knight that the two of them had seen when they were young definitely couldn't have been

me, but rather, my teacher.

However, to normal folk, the Sun Knight is the leader of the Twelve Holy Knights, with golden hair, blue eyes, pale skin, as well as an ever present smile. Whether it was the thirty-seventh generation or the thirty-eighth generation made no difference at all. Who knew, perhaps they didn't even notice that the Sun Knight had changed.

Hence, I didn't explain much, but only continued to speak words that a Sun Knight should say, "Thank you for your kindness."

"Y-You really don't remember me?" Charlotte looked a little disappointed.

I only gave a gentle smile in return. The person that you worship isn't me, so how could I possibly remember? No matter what it was, I believe that my teacher also couldn't have possibly remembered, for he doesn't have a memory as good as mine.

Stephen promptly reprimanded, "Charlotte, that was something that happened so long ago. The Sun Knight can't possibly remember it, so don't make things difficult for him."

Charlotte lowered her head and looked even more disappointed. In an extremely small voice, she said, "The blueberry lollipop that you gave me back then was very delicious."

...Eh?

"Sun has given you a blueberry lollipop before?" I asked, a little shocked. "Was it me and not my teacher? The Sun Knight at the time should have been my teacher."

Charlotte was so agitated that she completely jumped out from behind Stephen's back and even clenched her hands tightly into fists, exclaiming, "Of course it was you! Though at the time you hadn't become the Sun Knight yet, I felt that you were even more radiant than the Sun Knight! You are more like the Sun Knight than he was. You are the one who is the Sun Knight!"

Unexpectedly, it really was me! I started trying my best to recall, but no

matter how I tried, I couldn't remember Charlotte. That's strange. I can even remember Roland who I met more than ten years ago, so it makes no sense that I can't remember someone I met after I had become the young Sun Knight.

I apologized full of sincerity, "I'm truly sorry, but Sun really does not remember."

This time, Charlotte didn't give a disappointed look again, but only said, "Never mind..." Yet once she finished, she had on a look like she wanted to say something but was holding herself back.

I found it a little funny and said, "Why would you not speak your mind? Could it be that Sun is overly serious, and hence you feel that it is hard to communicate with him?"

"No, no way! Although your words are a little hard to understand... Eh! I meant to say, to say... Anyway, you're a good person who isn't hard to communicate with in the least bit!"

Charlotte was so anxious that she almost couldn't even say her words clearly.

I spoke in understanding, "Then it must be that Sun has a fierce appearance, and it has hence frightened you."

Charlotte immediately refuted in a loud voice, "That's not it. You're super handsome!"

So. Awesome!

There are quite a few people who say that I'm handsome, but to hear it from a shadowpriest's mouth was especially exhilarating! The Cathedral of the Shadow God has Silent Eagle overseeing it, and that guy is so handsome that he can elicit great indignation from both men and gods. However, now there was actually a shadowpriest who said that I was handsome. That meant that I was truly very handsome. Who knew, maybe in certain women's eyes, I actually wouldn't lose to Awaitsun?

Perhaps Charlotte is exactly someone who feels that I am even more handsome than Awaitsun?

“Actually...” Charlotte was a little embarrassed as she asked, “D-do you still have that kind of blueberry lollipop? Could you give me another one? I have always missed the taste of that lollipop, so even if I have to buy it from you, it doesn’t matter!”

...Don’t tell me that you claimed that I was super handsome for the sake of a blueberry lollipop?

“Y-You can’t?” She started getting nervous.

“Sun has always bought them from the same dessert shop...” I described the location of that dessert shop to Charlotte in detail. If she wants to eat it, she should go buy it herself! That store always has a long queue, and without Judgment Knight to open up a path, I don’t know how long you would have to queue to buy something.

After hearing the location, Charlotte still looked like she had something to say but didn’t dare to do so. However, this time she didn’t falter for long, before Stephen started frantically saying, “Sister, break time is over. We should return to the squad for patrolling, otherwise the squad members would be unhappy.”

After Stephen spoke, he instantly addressed me politely as well, “Thank you for being willing to converse with us.”

I gave a slight smile as a reply.

Charlotte followed Stephen and left reluctantly, even looking back at me a few times midway... No matter how many times you look at me, I’m not going to help you queue up and buy blueberry lollipops!

After the two of them had left, I thought for a moment. In the end, I decided to still make a trip to the palace, intending to confirm Stephen and Charlotte’s identity with Awaitsun personally.

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“Stephen?” Awaitsun seemed a little shocked as he asked, “Why would you ask about him, sir?”

I told him about what had happened, and afterwards, I observed

Awaitsun's expression carefully.

He nodded his head and said, "I remember now. Stephen did indeed say that he used to live in Leaf Bud City."

"He really is a dark knight, no question about it?" I wanted to verify it once more. That's because I really couldn't remember anything regarding Charlotte, and it's not easy for my super-strong memory to forget about someone, so I was a little suspicious of what the two siblings had said.

After I finished speaking, Awaitsun started laughing. He nodded his head, saying, "If I were you, Stephen would pretty much be Adair."

I was stunned. I really didn't expect Stephen to be such an important figure.

Awaitsun continued, "The two siblings are both very outstanding. Charlotte is even the Cathedral of the Shadow God's youngest shadowpriest in history."

Hearing that, I was a little embarrassed and said, "I was too paranoid."

"No!" Awaitsun instead shook his head, saying, "Your paranoia is not misplaced, for anyone has the possibility to be the demon king candidate."

Hearing that, I frowned, asking, "There really isn't any method to figure out the demon king candidates?"

Awaitsun shook his head and sighed. "Only the guides can do that, and even then, they can only distinguish the fragment that they initially found."

So, even Scarlet can't help me figure out who the other demon king candidates are? I was originally intending on possibly negotiating with Scarlet if I had no other choice, but now it seemed like it wasn't necessary.

"In the past, you only needed to locate the place where dark element gathered abnormally, or you could just pay attention to a few major events and that would be enough. The candidates hold great power, so it is usually very easy for them to be part of attention-grabbing major events. However, things are getting more and more difficult, for the guides have

also gotten smarter. Now, they would locate the candidates while they were still young and teach them how to control their power. And then, they would use various methods to hide them among the people.”

Awaitsun confessed, “The Cathedral of the Shadow God has been looking for this generation’s demon king candidates for twenty whole years but has yet to have any leads. I’m afraid that before the fight officially starts, we will continue to be unable to uncover the other two candidates.”

I was a little shocked as I asked, “You knew when the demon king candidates would appear?”

Awaitsun nodded his head and replied, “We only need to calculate the rate at which the lands of darkness are expanding, then we can roughly know whether the demon king candidates have been born. Moreover, the calculated age that we have for the candidates would not be off by more than five years. The period of time for when the candidates would start their duels is even more accurate, for the difference wouldn’t be more than a month.”

“You’re that accurate?” I simply didn’t dare to believe it. Calculating the surface area of the lands of darkness for the entire continent is definitely not an easy task. An inaccuracy of five years is still considered reasonable, but a difference of only a month is really too unimaginable!

Awaitsun looked at me, and with a bitter smile he said, “That’s because to the side of the Cathedral of the Shadow God is a land of darkness. The time when the land of darkness has expanded to the Cathedral’s back garden would be the time when the candidates should start their duels. Even if they do not wish to duel, we also have to force them to do so. Otherwise, in less than half a year, the Cathedral of the Shadow God will be entirely swallowed by the land of darkness.”

I see. When the Demon King is not around, Silent Eagle is the head of the Cathedral of the Shadow God. Once the Demon King is present, he immediately turns into a lackey; however, becoming a lackey is still better than the having the entire Cathedral of the Shadow God disappear. If the

Cathedral of the Shadow God were to disappear, what use is there in just having the title of the head of the Cathedral of the Shadow God?

No wonder Awaitsun is willing to even become a lackey for the sake of the Demon King to be born. I shook my head, saying, "You people really shouldn't have built the Cathedral next to a land of darkness."

Awaitsun unexpectedly gave a smile, saying, "Whether it is the Cathedral of the Shadow God or Silent Eagle, our reason for existing is to stop the lands of darkness from swallowing the world. Hence, only by building the Cathedral at a place where it will be destroyed first would the later generations not dare to slack off."

Hearing that, I finally understood the Cathedral of the Shadow God's thoughtful good intentions, and apologized at once. "You are right, I'm very sorry."

"Make no mention of it."

Finished speaking, it was about time for me to take my leave. Though I really wanted to leave, Awaitsun had on a look as though he wanted to speak his mind but was hesitating... He should really go become siblings with Charlotte with how both of them keep on halting their words!

"If you have anything to say, just go ahead and speak," I said in a straightforward manner. "We don't have so much time that we can stand here and play guessing games with each other!"

"You are right, sir." Awaitsun nodded his head, and then continued, "I want to send Alice back to the Kingdom of Moon Orchid, but she refuses to go. That proud wife of mine said that she's going to bear her children in the Cathedral of the Shadow God and told me to do my job properly, so as to not let the land of darkness swallow my own wife."

Are these words really from the princess who was such a coward that she fainted from fright because of me last time? Then I really have underestimated her.

"Sun Knight, although the birth of the Demon King can save the world from destruction, a terrifying Demon King can also destroy half the

world.” Awaitsun looked at me, and on his face was a smile of gratitude as he said, “I do not know what kind of people the other candidates are, but I am very happy that the only candidate that I managed to get in touch with is someone who would not destroy half the world.”

Chapter 4: The Fourth Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "Birds of a Feather"

When I was appointed as Silent Eagle, the Cathedral had already searched for many years for the demon king candidates. I had long understood that I would become the Demon King's subordinate in the future.

For the common people, the moment the Demon King is born, the calamity subsides. However, for the Cathedral of the Shadow God, it is the true beginning of everything.

The Cathedral needs to ensure that the Demon King uses up all of the dark element appropriately. We obey the Demon King's orders. We are saddled with the notoriety of being the Demon King's minions. We supervise the Demon King when he employs the dark element accumulated in his body, while reducing the damage to a minimum.

The Silent Eagle never marries. The reason is simply because his wife and children would become the Demon King's hostages. This would affect the duty of a Silent Eagle guiding the Demon King. However, I was madly in love and married Alice. Now my wife, my children, my compatriots, and everything I care about are in the Cathedral of the Shadow God. I do not want them to be engulfed by the land of darkness; neither do I want them to be harmed by the Demon King.

I do not have the means to find other candidates before the battle. Therefore I can only depend upon the one I already know about.

Fortunately, he is better than what I expected. He does not want to destroy half the world. He would not harm my wife and children. Better yet, he treasures his underlings. He would not rashly send them on suicide missions, nor would he kill them with his own hands.

Don't you think so, sir?

*

Damn Awaitsun...

I knew it. As the leader of the Cathedral, there was no possible way he would worship the person who defeated him.

He must have long known that I was amenable to coaxing but not coercion. Therefore, not only did he act humbly, he helped me constantly. He even seized the chance to explain all the hardships endured by the Cathedral of the Shadow God, not forgetting to mention his wife and friends who stayed in the Cathedral. Adding on to that, he told me of the possible, dire aftermath of the Demon King destroying half the world. All this talk was making me cave.

Worst of all, everything he said was the truth... Awaitsun, you really are a despicable and shameless bastard!

Compared to the ample reason that a lot of human lives would be affected, my only point against this argument was that I wanted to be the Sun Knight... I just want to be Sun Knight!

*

A few days had passed since the talk with Awaitsun. During those following few days, I went to the plaza almost every day to sense for other demon king candidates. If I could find them quickly, perhaps there would be suitable demon king candidates.

I met Stephen and Charlotte a few times during this period. They seemed to enjoy chatting with me. Even though this was a very rare phenomenon... Usually, everyone would leave immediately when I started talking, especially Storm. He would always say that he preferred winking a hundred times to listening to me speak for even a minute.

However, I went to the plaza to sense, not to chat!

After meeting with them a few times, I could only change my location. I went everywhere to do my sensing, but I could not find any suspicious people.

Today, it was already dusk when I returned to the Church of the God of Light. After a whole day of walking and endlessly using my sensing ability to look at the entirety of Leaf Bud City, I was truly quite exhausted. I planned to take a nap in my room and search for the candidates again around midnight. Maybe the other demon king candidates preferred to move about during the late night.

When I was heading to my room, I saw Stone rushing towards me in a hurry. Before I could question him, he spoke hurriedly and softly, “Sun, where have you been? During today’s meeting everyone asked Judgment about your whereabouts. He said in a frosty manner, ‘How would I know? Ever since I banned Knight-Captain Sun from eating desserts, he has not visited me. Maybe he only ever came to me for desserts in the first place. He will appear when he can eat desserts again.’ ”

Whoa! Unknowingly I haven’t visited Judgment for some time now. Sounds like he is pissed.

Since it was currently dusk, I could wait for him in the restroom. I told Stone, “I’ll go find Judgment.”

“...Recently, your words are truly clear and concise.”

Normally, you would complain that I am very long-winded. Now, when I am not long-winded, you complain that I am clear and concise? I rolled my eyes and asked Stone, “No good?”

Stone scratched his face and replied, “Not to say it’s no good, I’m just not used to it.”

I rolled my eyes at him and went to fetch a basin of clear water, a handkerchief, and stools.

My timing seemed to be a little late. As I walked into the restroom, Judgment was already inside. He was nearly done freshening up. If I had come slightly later, he might have already left.

When Judgment raised his head and saw me, he seemed a bit surprised. However, he immediately regained his composure and said emotionlessly, “There are desserts in the basket.”

He prepared desserts? Don't tell me it's the severely bitter kind of 'dessert' again? I shook my head and said, "I'm not hungry." Then, I passed a stool to Judgment accordingly.

Once seated, I immediately explained the recent events so Judgment would not be angry with me. "Recently, I've only gone around sensing whether demon king candidates have arrived in Leaf Bud City. I'm definitely not slacking off or hiding anything from you."

Judgment did not say a word. He simply stared at my face. After interrogating criminals in the Judge's Complex for ten years, he could easily determine whether the criminal was guilty or innocent simply by looking at their facial expressions. Therefore, I did not even dare lift an eyebrow, afraid that I would be struck by the word— guilty!

Be that as it may, he asked a question completely unrelated to my whereabouts, "Sun, what have you eaten today?"

I replied immediately, "I haven't sneaked by any desserts!"

He frowned and questioned persistently, "Then, what have you eaten?"

Hearing this question, I was confused. Nevertheless, Judgment was determined to get an answer, so I started to ponder. However, I could not recall what I ate no matter how hard I thought about it. In the end, I could only give up and say frankly, "I don't remember."

"That is because you did not eat anything at all!" Judgment hardened his face and said unhappily, "You barely come to the dining hall nowadays. I had originally thought that you were secretly eating desserts, so you weren't hungry. However, I found out that no one gave you any. Tell me honestly, how many days has it been since you had a proper meal? I wanted you to lose weight by reducing your intake of dessert, not by fasting!"

I replied promptly, "I'm not fasting! I just don't feel hungry."

Judgment abruptly gazed at my waist. I followed his gaze and looked at my waist too. There was nothing special about my waist...Wait! The buckle on my belt is fastened on the third hole from the end? I thought the

buckle was previously fastened on the last hole?

“Perhaps you cannot see color, but we have all noticed that your face has gotten paler and paler. You barely even talk now.”

“I rarely speak anyway.” Whenever I talk, I need to praise the God of Light, so I never liked speaking much. Everyone should already know that.

“These past few days you have spoken even less than usual.” Judgment emphasized, “Storm said that recently your words are so clear and concise that everyone understands them. This makes him tremble in fear, not knowing what is wrong with you!”

Writing paperwork too well is abnormal, speaking clearly is also abnormal. How come everyone prefers me to never correct paperwork and always give long-winded speeches with contents that are very hard to decipher?

“You seem to be acting differently ever since the trip to the palace. However, Stone who had accompanied you there insists that he has no idea what’s going on. No one believes him, regardless.” Judgment added plainly, “I think, if you still refuse to tell us what’s going on, we’re this close to going and experimenting on Stone’s degree of stubbornness.”

Oh no, I’m also pretty curious as to how stubborn Stone can be...

“Sun.”

When I heard the call, I gave Judgment a puzzled look.

Judgment said with a solemn face, “If you let me continue speaking to myself and do not give me a single reply, I would also love to experiment on your degree of muteness!”

“I’m talking!” I replied promptly, “I’ll tell you anything you want me to tell you!”

Judgment remained silent for a while and asked, “What’s going on?”

“Nothing. I can’t find any demon king candidates. The atmosphere in the city has been tense, so I feel anxious.” I was a little guilty and didn’t know if I could somehow deceive Judgment.

“You’re lying!”

I panicked. It was as if my head was smacked by the word— guilty! The next sentence might be, “Guards! Drag him out to hang.”

In the midst of my internal chaos, Judgment said calmly, “Aren’t you the one who plotted the tense atmosphere in the city? It must be to prepare for the evacuation of the citizens. Since you are the one behind this, it is impossible for you to be anxious because of it.”

As expected, I couldn’t trick Judgment. I don’t know how many times I’ve experienced this same thing throughout my life. Even though I didn’t believe in giving up, and so continued to challenge him again and again, I always failed miserably. Unless Judgment personally refused to know what happened, he could guess practically anything.

However, could I consider this my first victory? It was impossible for Judgment to know the truth... Even I found out about it only recently, so there is no way he could know about it!

“You still refuse to speak up?” Judgment’s expression was similar to when he was about to give out a death sentence.

I kept quiet for a while and said, “Then, tell me about Metal’s true self first, and I’ll tell you what happened.”

This time Judgment went quiet, so I mimicked him and continued to remain silent.

After a long moment of silence, he said in a simple manner, “Metal looks up to me.”

“I know, but isn’t there more to it?” I was not the least bit surprised. What person who isn’t blind can’t see that Metal looks up to Judgment? No, I can see that even though I am blind!

He fell silent once again.

I lowered my voice, “See? Even you have some secrets. So why can’t I—”

Judgment interrupted, “He likes to be beaten.”

“...What did you say?”

Judgment revealed an expression indicating he was willing to risk it all. Never had I seen this expression on his face before. He said promptly, “Moon and I are close to Metal. That is because I am an expert in instruments of torture, while Moon’s weapon is a whip, so he can whip him.”

“He whips him?” My mind wandered to a very naughty place. Don’t tell me they drip hot candle wax on him too?

Judgment tried to regain his composure, but his face still carried an awkward expression. He continued with the details, “Our holy light ability is not strong, so we cannot heal serious wounds. The wounds inflicted by the whip are shallow, so they are easier to heal.”

That’s because Moon held back. If he was serious, he could break a leg with one stroke... However, that is not the main point! I could hardly believe what I was hearing. “Metal really likes to be beaten? Is it really true? Are you fooling me? How come there are people who enjoy getting beaten?”

Judgment said faintly, “Do you think I would bluff about something like ‘Metal likes to be beaten, so I always hit him’?”

I denied it, “No, I think you would rather die than lie about this.”

Judgment nodded and agreed immediately with this statement.

So Metal likes to be beaten... Why haven’t they told me this earlier? With my holy light magic, I can beat him until he is at the brink of meeting the God of Light. Then, I can heal him instantly, followed by another beating. I can alternate between healings and beatings... Beating him at least five to ten times a day would not be a problem!

Besides that, I need to smile every day, bless the God of Light in every sentence and apply a facial mask every week... I feel the urge to beat someone up all the time!

“Sun.”

“Yes?” I answered absentmindedly. In my heart, I wondered if I should challenge Metal later. I want to bash up someone, and he likes to get

bashed up. We can practically be a perfect match... yuck! Who wants to be a perfect match with a man, doing the beating and getting beaten?

“It’s your turn to speak.”

I froze. But to think that Judgment carried the feeling of “better off dead” when he revealed his secret, should I also have the feeling of “if I die, so be it” while saying mine?

“Judgment, hypothetically... Uh...!” I paused momentarily, and then emphasized again, “Just hypothetically!”

Judgment said in a clear-cut manner, “Alright, this is just a hypothesis.”

I hesitated, then I said in one breath, “If I were to say I am the Demon King, what would you do?”

Once I spoke, I regretted asking. Why bother raising a hypothetical question? Who is Lesus Judgment? Don’t tell me he would be so easily deceived just because I laugh and say words like, “I’m kidding! Scared you!”

No matter what, at least I had managed to tell him. Although I had vaguely guessed this long ago, I did not dare face the truth. Although I had spoken, I did not even dare to sense Judgment’s expression.

“You are not the Demon King.” Judgment said calmly, “You are just one of the demon king candidates.”

“...When did you find out about that?”

After a long moment of silence, I finally squeezed out a sentence. Just now, didn’t he mention that Stone refused to say anything? Maybe Judgment lied to me again. Maybe, everyone had actually managed to break Stone’s stubbornness and make him talk?

Judgment said, so calmly that I felt like punching him, “A few days before we assumed the positions of the Twelve Holy Knights.”

“...”

He continued in a casual manner, “Your teacher Neo told me. He said he would retire soon, so he should let me know about this.”

I kept quiet for a while and said softly, "He wanted you to monitor me?"

Judgment shook his head and replied, "He said Scarlet may come for you. He wanted me to inform him immediately upon seeing her so that he could come back and destroy the lich. And also, to keep her away from you by any means. "

Teacher... I felt ashamed. From the start, Teacher knew that I was a demon king candidate? However, not only did he not replace me, he even tried to protect me, but I suspected that he requested Judgment to monitor me... I deserve to die!

With a guilty conscience, I bowed my head and apologized, "Sorry."

With a sigh, Judgment said helplessly, "If I knew that you would find out about this sooner or later, I should have told you earlier. Then, I wouldn't have stirred up so much trouble."

I was stunned. Then, I immediately linked events together and exclaimed, "Is this the thing you were hiding from me before?"

"Yes." Judgment nodded and said solemnly, "After learning of this four years ago, I decided to wait until something happened before I told you. But I did not expect the first incident to be your disappearance. After that incident, I was afraid that you would over think things, so I did not want to tell you."

Over think things? Subsequently, I remembered the black-haired me. Is that my demon king state? After my hair turned black, I even toyed with Ice and Blaze's lives, just for the sake of having fun. So that is what I would turn into after I become the Demon King?

Wait, that said, don't tell me...

"Sun!" Judgment suddenly grabbed my shoulder and growled, "I worried that you would do this. That is why I refused to tell you. Just as I expected, what are you thinking now?"

"I..." I found it hard to speak. However, I needed to make sure of some things, so I asked reluctantly, "Judgement, tell me frankly, was the black-haired me the person who killed you back then?"

Startled, Judgment growled back immediately, “Of course not! I knew you would over think things, but I never expected it to be to this extent!”

I shouted back. “Otherwise, why wouldn’t you tell me why you went out in the middle of the night? Is it me who asked you out and...” “Killed you?”

“That’s not it, listen to me!” Judgment explained hastily, “That time, your teacher and I split up to find Scarlet’s hideout. We wanted to strike her down before you found her. That way, you would never know that you were a demon king candidate. That’s all there is to it! The person who killed me was indeed a young girl and a few death knights.”

“Death knights can’t kill you.” I still didn’t buy it.

“With the young girl around they could,” Judgment explained in detail. “She must have used some psychic magic to attack me. However, back then I did not know that it was psychic magic. I just felt my hands and feet grow heavy, and I could not combat her successfully. That afternoon, when I was looking for Scarlet, death knights ambushed me, but I barely managed to escape. During the night, I planned to look for your teacher and describe the incident. Sadly, I met Scarlet on the way there. I lost a lot of blood in the afternoon so my condition was not ideal. Therefore, I could not escape.”

I got it. If it was psychic magic, it was indeed difficult for Judgment to withstand the attack. I tried to recall what had happened that day. When Judgment was resurrected, nothing seemed abnormal. If I was the one who had slaughtered him, the first thing he said when he saw me wouldn’t have been to ask what price I had paid for a complete resurrection.

I do not think I’m the person who killed Judgment. It wasn’t me...Thankfully.

I expressed my acceptance of this by giving Judgment a nod. Only then did he relax, and he even said gently, “Sun, you don’t need to worry. You are just one of the candidates. As long as you refuse, no one can make the Sun Knight become the Demon King!”

I smiled bitterly. Helplessly, I said, “But the Cathedral of the Shadow God has chosen me.”

Judgment frowned. He asked, "What do you mean by that?"

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I repeated everything Silent Eagle said in full detail. After everything was out, I felt a sense of relief. Even though I still did not dare tell the others, at least Judgement knew about this. The funny thing was he did not look the least bit surprised, just as if the Sun Knight being the Demon King was as trivial as the Sun Knight being an alcoholic. This made me feel much more at ease.

"What do you think I should do?" I smiled bitterly, "The birth of the Demon King is inevitable, and the Cathedral of the Shadow God has chosen me..."

"We definitely cannot lose our Sun Knight either!"

I was astonished. This sentence did not come from Judgment. It came from several people... However, the following event was so shocking that my mind went blank.

Earth came out from the last cubicle of the toilets and washed his hands at the basin calmly. Finally he leisurely sat between Judgment and me.

I asked blankly, "What are you doing here?"

"What?" Earth pretended to be surprised. He looked around and said, "Isn't this a restroom? Of course I came here to go to the toilet! What else would I do? Come here to eat desserts?"

Will you die if you say one sentence without insulting me?

"Can we come out now?"

"It should be alright now?"

"It's so cramped! My hands are stuck. The outermost person should go out first!"

"The outermost person? We are already squeezed together, who is the outermost person?"

"Save me..."

A lot of voices came from the last cubicle of the toilets. Even calls for help!

Once again, Earth leisurely headed towards that cubicle. Then, he put his hand in and pulled forcefully. An out of shape Storm was pulled out, followed by a messy Moon, and then a flattened Leaf... After adding Earth into the equation, a total of ten holy knights came out of the tiny cubicle!

How did ten huge men squeeze into that cubicle?

“Why did you all... You all squeezed into one cubicle?” I immediately knew the answer after I asked. Only the last cubicle was not in my sensing range.

They did not even have time to reply to my question. They were too busy returning their misshapen bodies back to normal.

Awhile later, when they looked like they were almost back in shape, Metal shouted distressingly, “Captain Judgment, how can you reveal my secret in front of everybody!”

“Erm, I’m really sorry.” Judgment apologized awkwardly.

Everyone in the “good, warm-hearted” faction peeked at Metal with strange expressions. However, the “cruel, cool-hearted” faction did not seem surprised at all. Looks like they’ve known about Metal’s strange hobby for some time.

Metal continued to look at Judgment with a distressed face. At that moment, Judgment suddenly grabbed the whip on Moon’s waist and without uttering a single word, he whipped Metal randomly.

Just by listening to the piercing sound of the whip, I felt the pain. But Judgment was relentless. Even Metal falling to the ground and begging aloud, “Knight-Captain Judgement, don’t...” did not stop him.

As I watched, I was frightened and did not know how to react. The only thing I could do was observe the “good, warm-hearted” faction. Everyone was panicking. Then, I observed the “cruel, cold-hearted” faction. Their expressions did not change, and Stone was even smiling meekly!

Metal's back was beaten until it was badly mutilated. Should I stop Judgment from beating him?

Metal cried, "...don't stop! It feels so good~"

Damn!

This is extremely disgusting.

I felt goosebumps rise all over my body and tried to restrain myself from giving him a few kicks. Moon, Stone, and Ice, on the other hand, rushed forward and without saying a word, started giving Metal random kicks.

Only Roland from the "cruel, cold-hearted" faction did not kick him, but he seemed hesitant. It looked like he wondered whether he should follow the crowd and kick Metal. However, he could not bring himself to do such a thing.

By this time, Judgment finally stopped. He walked towards me and passed me the whip. He said, "I know you've wanted to interrogate criminals for a long time. I'll pass this job to you from now on." After he finished talking, he even revealed a relieved expression.

While crawling out from the legs of the crowd, Metal wailed, "I refuse! Captain Judgment, I only want to be beaten by you!"

Judgment lowered his head and replied to Metal, "Really? But Sun's healing magic is magnificent. He can beat you until you are badly injured, even to the brink of death. Then, he can heal you instantly and continue beating you. Beating you up to five times a day would not be a problem. Besides, I do not like to beat you. However, Sun wants to beat someone up every single moment. If you want to get beaten, you can seek him out anytime. Most likely he will not refuse."

You know me too well...

Metal was stunned. Then he turned and looked hesitantly at me, followed by a lustful look at the whip in my hand. He is truly disgusting! I couldn't help but raise the whip...

"Hey!"

Earth held his right leg and hopped several times. Then he roared at me, “Why did you hit me?”

I replied quickly, “That was just an accident!”

Sadly, Earth ferociously stared at me with an expression of complete distrust. Then, he performed healing on his injured leg.

I walked in front of Metal. Hopefully I won't miss at such a close range? Thus I gave three whips in one go...

“Ouch!”

Leaf held his chest. His face showed signs of wanting to cry.

“Argh!”

Stone suddenly crossed his legs. His hands were protecting his “precious area.” The pain had even warped his face.

“ ... ”

Cloud suddenly appeared. He covered half his face and squatted on the floor. There were some weeping sounds coming from him.

Earth roared, “Hey, what is your problem! You even manage to hit Cloud, but you can't even hit Metal? You are totally doing it on purpose!”

How could I miss every lash? I wanted to cry but no tears came, this really was not on purpose! I could swear to the God of Light!

“Attack me, quick!” Metal grasped the sides of my trousers. He looked so detestable that I felt like beating him to death!

“Wait, don't attack! We are the ones suffering!” Everyone else's expression changed. Earth summoned a shield. Only after making sure that the whip would not reach him did he relax and watch the commotion.

“Attack!”

“Don't attack!”

I looked from person to person. One side yelled attack while the other screamed stop. One side grabbed the edge of my trousers with an expression so detestable that I felt like beating him to death, the other side

bore an expression so hideous that it made me feel like punching his face... I roared, "Shut up!"

The moment the words left me, my body ejected a large amount of lightning targeted everywhere. The entire restroom was filled with lightning; there was no place to hide. Even though Earth summoned a shield, he could only protect his front. He could not block the lightning from his sides and back.

Since I felt like beating one side to death and punching the face of the other side, I should just attack both sides at the same time!

Seeing the detestable and hideous expressions all turn into non-stop trembling, I felt a sense of satisfaction. Especially after seeing Earth tremble the most, I felt extremely satisfied.

"The Sun Knight using Lightning is a-against the law. The lightning even avoided Judgment. You surely did it o-on purpose..." Earth spoke while twitching.

I did not dare to swear to the God of Light this time around.

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Two men sat on stools, ten men sat on the floor. Twelve men formed a circle.

This scene may sound common, but when the twelve men were all in formal knight attire and the background was a restroom, it felt a little unusual. Besides that, it was also unhygienic.

Fortunately, no one had dared to use this restroom for ten years. It was also sparkling clean, so it could pass even as a dining hall with no problem!

Judgment pondered for a while and said, "So the top priority now is to identify the other demon king candidates. Only then can Sun avoid becoming the Demon King."

"Mmmh. Mmmh!" I ate blueberry cake while responding inarticulately. I don't know why, but I felt extremely hungry after electrocuting everyone.

So I rushed to eat the desserts in the basket.

Inside the basket were all blueberry-flavored desserts. There was even a blueberry lollipop. Did Charlotte buy a lollipop yet? Probably not?

That dessert shop always had a queue from the street to the back alley. Charlotte also needed to patrol as well, so she probably didn't have time to line up.

I went ahead and put the lollipop in my pocket. I could give it to Charlotte whenever I saw her. Since I currently had a basket full of blueberry desserts to eat, I did not need to fight over a lollipop with her.

“Bastard Sun... You have been a demon king since the beginning; you can't run away from it!” Earth spat out black smoke. His hair was permed from his natural waviness to an afro.

Everyone else actually nodded!

I rapidly swallowed the cake in my mouth and protested loudly, “That small a current can't even hurt you! At most it should only make you a little numb, I think? Don't tell me everyone is so narrow-minded?”

“Yup, the tingling sensation is so comfy. But the current was too small, make sure to use a bigger one next time...” Metal grabbed the edge of my pants. Both of his eyes shone brightly.

Kaboom!

I immediately sent him a lightning bolt stacked with another lightning bolt, stacked with another one... I don't know how many times I stacked the lightning magic.

“Stop fooling around.” Judgment sighed, and with a helpless tone he said, “Let's settle the main issue first. Sun, heal Metal.”

I immediately cast an Intermediate Heal. Next I stuffed some blueberry cookies in my mouth. Only then did I start to be serious. The others followed accordingly. Even Metal did not dare to pull on my trousers.

“We still need to have a talk with Silent Eagle.” After Judgment finished his sentence, he asked me, “Did you tell him you do not want to be the

Demon King?”

“No...”

After hearing my reply, Judgment was obviously unsatisfied. He said disapprovingly, “Why didn’t you clearly tell Silent Eagle that you do not wish to be the Demon King?”

“I...”

Even though I only managed to speak one word I was already too embarrassed to continue. However, Judgment waited patiently for me to continue. Everyone was staring at me as well so I did not have a chance to escape. I had to continue honestly, “I have always avoided the fact that I am a demon king candidate. Silent Eagle knew that, so he never directly mentioned that I am one of the demon king candidates.”

Judgment frowned and asked, “Why avoid it? You are not someone who avoids problems. Avoiding it cannot solve the problem. You know that more clearly than anyone else.”

His tone almost sounded like an accusation. This irritated me. I retorted agitatedly, “If I admit that I am a demon king candidate, then doesn’t it mean that I can’t be the Sun Knight any longer? People won’t accept a Sun Knight who is an evil Demon King! Why can’t I avoid such a serious matter for a while?”

“You are just a candidate. It doesn’t mean that you will become the Demon King,” Judgment highlighted calmly.

“Sun, don’t be angry.” Leaf said hastily, “After listening to the truth about the Demon King, we all know that the Demon King is not evil at all. Maybe the first Demon King was evil, so everyone just assumed it? Just like us Twelve Holy Knights...”

“I don’t think so,” I immediately refuted. “Don’t forget what the black-haired me did!”

Once my sentence was out, Judgment frowned. Leaf did not refute it, he just took a quick look at Blaze and Ice. I suddenly felt a faint prick in my heart.

When everyone fell silent, Stone said suddenly, “Did you guys forget something?”

Everyone turned and looked at him. Nevertheless, he stared at me and emphasized, “Sun, at that time you had amnesia! You had amnesia, yet possessed formidable power. Furthermore, while you were unclear on what was going on around you, incidents happened one after another. Even if you turned into a real demon king and destroyed everything around you, it would have been reasonable. However, the worst thing you did was only leaving them to die.”

“He did not leave us to die.”

After Stone finished his sentence, Ice suddenly spoke, “At that time, Sun actually wanted to save us. He was just provoked by Blaze, so he resentfully refused to save him. Nevertheless, if Blaze had been willing to apologize, I think Sun would still have saved him.”

I did not expect the victim, Ice, to be on my side. But I felt guilty and spoke softly, “How do you know I would have saved you? I’m not even sure myself.”

Blaze suddenly cried, “Still, in the end you used Chains of Darkness to tie up the dragon! Even though you got on my nerves, you saved both Ice and me. You did not leave us to perish!”

I looked at Ice and Blaze. Both of them gave me a firm look. The prick in my heart abruptly disappeared.

“Sun, you are baffled because you are the one involved in this matter,” Judgment asked, “If today the demon king candidate was not you, but one of the other Twelve Holy Knights... Let me be the example. Let’s say I am a demon king candidate, what would you do?”

I thought for a while and said, “I would ask you whether you wanted to be the Demon King.” If you do, I will fully assist you to become the Demon King.

Judgment shook his head and answered, “But I do not wish to be the Demon King.”

This time I did not even need to think. I immediately replied, “Then, of course I would fully assist you in continuing your duty as Judgment Knight!”

Judgment sighed and said, “However the birth of the Demon King is inevitable, or else the world will be destroyed.”

I said promptly, “There are other candidates! We can interrogate Awaitsun for a method that will not harm you but allows other candidates to be the Demon King. Then, I will tell him directly that Church of the God of Light will never forsake our Judgment Knight. If he wishes for the Demon King to be born, he better tell me what to do!”

“What if there is no other way?” Judgment stared at me and smiled bitterly, “The world will be destroyed soon, yet I stubbornly refused to be the Demon King. I only want to be Judgment Knight. Am I too selfish?”

“What are you talking about?” I immediately stood up and roared, “You decided to be Judgment Knight more than ten years ago. Besides, you’re earnestly fulfilling your duty as Judgment Knight. No one can force you to leave this position!”

Judgment smiled faintly and replied, “Indeed, no one can force me. But how can I just let the world be destroyed before my eyes?”

Looking at his defeated expression, I was furious. I grabbed his shoulders and roared, “If this world must force a person to unwillingly take a role he refused, then it might as well be destroyed!”

Judgment just stared at me. His bitter smile disappeared long ago. He merely looked at me wryly... Oh damn! I was too into it. The demon king candidate isn’t even Judgment, it’s me!

I added promptly, “I am saying that if you are the demon king candidate, I would probably say it in this manner!”

Judgment continued to smile at me. The others laughed quietly as well, even making my face heat up. Damn!

Stone suddenly asked, “Sun, do you want to be the Demon King?”

“I-I definitely don’t want to be.” I said inarticulately, “But... But how can a person who could be the Demon King continue to be a Sun Knight...”

Stone laughed suddenly. He asked purposely, “I wonder who just said that as long as Judgment refused to be the Demon King he could continue as the Judgment Knight?”

Even though I said so myself, things were not that simple. I paused for a moment and spoke my deepest concern.

“If there is another way, then why do the demon king candidates kill each other? So, the chance of there being another method is extremely slim. What if, except for killing the other candidates, there is no other way to become the Demon King; then what should we do? If I don’t want to be Demon King, I can only be killed, or else this world will be destroyed because there is no Demon King.”

“Is that so?” Stone actually pondered for a moment and said, “If this world must force a person to unwillingly take a role he refused, then we might as well let it be destroyed. Don’t you agree? Knight-Captain Sun.”

I was speechless. I could only look around at the Twelve Holy Knights. However, no one even planned to refute Stone.

What’s the matter with all of you? The world will be destroyed! Don’t tell me that out of all of the Twelve Holy Knights, there’s not a single normal person who wants to save the world?

“You, you are all willing to risk the destruction of the world to let me continue as the Sun Knight?”

“It is all your fault!” Metal screeched, “If one of us were to be the demon king candidate, you would not let us become the Demon King. Now, since the candidate is you, we have no choice! We cannot just let you become the Demon King! Anyway, you should just obediently fulfil your duty as Sun Knight, and beat me up five times a day!”

Kaboom!

After using Lightning, I withdrew my hand. If even Metal, who I am the most unfamiliar with, said so, the others would likely support me in

continuing as Sun Knight, right? Although my eyes were on the slightly burnt Metal, I unconsciously used my sensing ability to see the others' expressions...

“You don't need to peek at our expressions!” Storm said lazily, “I still need to go through a lot of paperwork. Please wrap things up fast, so I can go back and look through the paperwork. Therefore, let us just raise our hands and vote! Those who agree that Sun should not retire from his duty as Sun Knight until he reaches the age of forty, raise your hand.”

I was shocked. Eleven hands were raised. No one even hesitated...

My eyes suddenly become watery. I shouted immediately, “How do you know that I am peeking?”

I just asked casually to prevent my eyes from becoming even more watery. However, everyone started happily talking at once.

“It's very simple! As long as you suddenly stiffen up, with your face slightly facing down and your eyes somewhat squinting, then you are definitely peeking!”

“If you are walking, as long as your pace starts to slow down and you walk in a tilted direction, then you are definitely peeking!”

“If you are eating, then you will keep digging at the same spot. You wouldn't notice even when you reach the base of the plate.”

“Right, right!”

My god, so there are as many as [twelve tapeworms](#) in my stomach?

Chapter 5: The Fifth Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "A Hero Cannot Easily Escape a Beauty's Charms"

As long as you want to be the Sun Knight, there's nothing we can do but support you with all our might!

The moment I woke up the next morning, I headed straight to the palace, so excited that my feet seemed like they had wings.

Since I know that everyone else is willing to let me continue being the Sun Knight, the most important matter right now is, of course, to force Awaitsun to tell me a method that will allow one of the other candidates to become the Demon King and also allow me to preserve my own life.

First, I will use Chains of Darkness to wrap Awaitsun in a cocoon. Then, I will use Lightning to electrocute him until he convulses on the floor. There's no way he won't tell me... But then again, if he is the same as Metal and grabs my pant leg, saying that it is very enjoyable, I really would not know what to do.

That shouldn't happen right... Ah, but then again!

Thinking back, not only did I use his wife to threaten him, I even severely injured him. Then, unexpectedly, he begged me to choose a name for him in a terribly respectful manner and, in the end, even chose me to be the Demon King!

As expected, the world is ending soon. Look at how many people who love getting beaten up are showing up out of nowhere.

Maybe I can use his wife to threaten him? But Princess Alice is at the Cathedral of the Shadow God, and the distance is really a bit far...

"Sun Knight!"

I stopped and only then discovered that Charlotte was hurriedly running over. Like always, she had a recognizable head of short hair and was dressed in shadowpriest robes. Apparently, the attire was causing the

surrounding people to keep their distance. The citizens of the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound were still subconsciously rejecting anything with dark element involved.

She ran with small steps towards me and asked me straight out, “Why aren’t you coming to the plaza anymore?”

“Sun has been very busy with work recently and was unable to take time off to go to the plaza.” This statement was, of course, nonsense. I deliberately did not go to the plaza in order to avoid her and Stephen.

“Oh. Is that so? Then, will you come in the future?” I didn’t know if Charlotte believed me, and I truly did not know why she looked so depressed.

“Sun cannot confirm.” Once I answered, she seemed even more depressed.

Oh, right!

I dug around in my pockets and as expected, came across a blueberry lollipop. I quickly passed it to her and said, “This is for you.”

She was startled for a moment, but when she noticed the lollipop in my hand, she suddenly burst into a smile. Her whole person abruptly changed from a pitch-black shadowpriest to a youthful and cute girl. The sight made my heart skip a few beats.

Even though I could not tell the difference between beauty and ugliness, the smile that suddenly burst out made me feel that she was fairly cute.

Charlotte reached out and took the lollipop, blissfully saying, “You’re so nice. I like you even more!”

L-Like me even more... Eh! Could it be that I’m being confessed to?

“Are you free right now?” While my mind was blank, Charlotte said something that shocked me even more, “I’ll treat you to lunch.”

A single lollipop earned me an entire meal, the person accompanying me to lunch is even a cute girl, and this cute girl just said that she likes me! Oh God of Light! No matter how I see it, this is simply a profitable

deal! It'll be a huge loss to refuse... However, I must go and confront Awaitsun immediately. I simply can't accept!

With feelings of pain for losing such a good deal, I had to say, "Sun is deeply thankful for your invitation, but currently has important matters to attend to. Hence, Sun is unable to accept and truly feels very sorry."

Charlotte froze and quickly asked again, "Then what about tomorrow? Lunch or dinner are both fine!"

It's so rare to have ladies wanting to go out with me, and to be as persistent as this! In the twenty-four years I've been alive, I've finally received this sort of treatment! However, the other demon king candidates could appear at any moment, so now was not the time to be going out with ladies.

Could it be that it is because I definitely have to refuse it that such a rare opportunity appeared? Oh God of Light, you are really too cruel!

"Please believe that Sun truly wishes to accept your invitation, but cannot help the recent work matters." When I finished speaking, Charlotte revealed an expression like she was about to cry, which made me feel a bit reluctant to leave. I quickly added on, "I will request my fellow holy knights to pass some blueberry lollipops to you. Please forgive Sun, but Sun must bid you goodbye for now."

Charlotte grabbed onto my right hand with both of hers, looking as if she was not going to let me go, even stubbornly shouting, "I don't want lollipops, what I want is you!"

This sort of confession was really a bit too stimulating, and this was even the first time a girl had announced in public that she wanted me. Are all shadowpriests as straightforward as this?

The people around us stopped their work, some secretly glancing, others openly staring, and many even muffled their laughter.

I attempted to take back my hand, but Charlotte wouldn't release me even if she died.

The elegant and smiling Sun Knight would never use strength to shrug

off a lady, so I could only whisper, "Please release me."

However, Charlotte shook her head furiously.

What should I do? Teacher has never taught me how to elegantly shake off a lady when she has clutched on to you and will not let go. I wonder if the Sun Knight can call for help when he is seized by a lady... There should be platoons patrolling in the vicinity that can come to save me, right?

Just when I was sensing the whereabouts of the nearest platoon, Charlotte suddenly reached out to touch my face. I jumped in shock, and she quietly said, "Sun Knight, why do I feel that you never look at me?"

When I heard this, I quickly looked toward her eyes and tried very hard to "look" at her. But when I was truly focused on looking at her, a large amount of dark element gathered around her eyes. Such a concentration of dark element could probably even be seen with the naked eye. Why did she want her eyes to turn black?

Just as I wanted to ask her, I realized that I couldn't move at all. The darkness in her eyes continued to grow. Even after turning her whole body black, it continued to expand outwards, turning the whole world into a mass of darkness... Before I lost consciousness, a wild but seemingly logical idea ran through my brain.

It seems that no one has ever said... that the Demon King cannot be a female.

It should be called the Demon Queen!

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"Didn't I tell you many times not to mess around? And what happened? You actually captured and dragged back the Sun Knight! Is this not called messing around?"

"Well sorry! B-but I didn't want to let him go!"

"Sigh, you really are... Never mind, it's too late to let him go now anyways. Oh right, what happened to his hair?"

"I don't know either. After he fainted, it suddenly turned white."

So noisy... I slowly opened my eyes and felt a bit dizzy. I was not sure about my current situation, so I could only quickly increase the strength of my sensing ability. What I saw first was Charlotte and Stephen.

Stephen was in a state of explosive anger, while Charlotte hung her head as if she were a child getting scolded.

I tried to move, but to my surprise, I discovered that I was tied up and the thing binding me was very familiar. It's actually Chains of Darkness! Don't tell me this is retribution? I was just thinking about using Chains of Darkness to wrap Awaitsun in to a cocoon, and now I'm the one tied up by them!

Luckily, I wasn't tied up as severely as a cocoon; only my wrists and ankles were bound. To me, this level of restraint was no different from having no bindings. I never use my fists and legs to attack my enemies.

At that moment, Stephen apparently realized I was awake. He turned around to look at me. "Sun Knight, please do not try to use your holy light. In this room, only Charlotte and I can gather the elements."

Only then did I realize the holy light that always surrounded me had disappeared without a trace. At the same time, my attempt to disperse the Chains of Darkness had also failed.

He continued his warning, "Also, please do not escape. Even though Charlotte only bound your hands and feet, if you leave your bed, no matter whether it was by accident or falling down on purpose, the death knights in the corners will come over and put you back on the bed. I'll have to remind you, death knights are undead creatures and don't know how to put things down gently."

Unable to gather elements, no holy light, my hands and legs tied up, and death knights in the corners guarding me. Sure enough, it was a thousand-times-unfailing imprisonment method.

"You are a dark knight and a shadowpriest. Why does the Cathedral of the Shadow God wish to capture me?" I deliberately asked in this manner. Although I already knew approximately what was going on, I wanted to hear the opposition explain it themselves. Perhaps he might leak out even

more information.

Sure enough, Stephen shook his head and said, “This has no connection to the Cathedral of the Shadow God. Sun Knight, being who you are, you should know the truth about the Demon King, right? Then, you should know who we are.”

A demon king candidate and her lich guide. So it turns out that the Demon King does not always have to be male, and the lich does not always have to be a little girl, huh?

I guess that had to be true. A lich uses other people’s corpses. It really does not have to be a little girl’s corpse. Pink had switched to using an adult female corpse later on, after all.

It was just that initially both Pink and Scarlet had used little girls’ corpses, which led me to mistakenly believe that the third lich would definitely be a little girl as well.

Unexpectedly, the lich was actually a grown man while the demon king candidate was a female. The two of them also had the identity of a dark knight and a shadowpriest, and even Awaitsun had said that Stephen was his right-hand man!

Was Awaitsun also tricked or was it only me who was tricked all along?

Can it be that the Demon King that Awaitsun has chosen is Charlotte? That it was only to gain my trust that he said he had chosen me, so he could then seize the chance to get rid of me... That’s not right! If Awaitsun was tricking me, then I probably would not have had the opportunity to open my eyes at all and would have been killed much earlier on. When I reason it out like this, then most likely Awaitsun has also been tricked.

Hiding the Demon King in the Cathedral of the Shadow God... It’s truly a magnificent idea, probably falling just a bit short of the idea of the Sun Knight being the Demon King. It’s hard to blame the Cathedral of the Shadow God for searching for twenty years without finding even half a candidate. Most likely, they had never thought to look in their own Cathedral or the Church of the God of Light.

Don't tell me the last candidate is hiding in the Monastery of the God of War? I didn't know whether to laugh or to cry.

"Why have you captured me?" I was a bit puzzled. Since they haven't discovered that I'm a candidate, then what have they captured me for?

Stephen sighed deeply and said, "Because my candidate, from the time she was a little girl, fell in love with you at first sight and was always thinking about you. Now, after going through all that trouble to see you, you were so busy that you didn't have time to talk with her more, so she simply kidnapped you to spend time together. "

Stunned, I looked at Charlotte. Is it really because she loves me that she brought me here?

When she saw me looking at her, Charlotte immediately walked over to the bedside. While she stroked my hair, she asked, "Why has your hair suddenly turned white?"

Oh no, I have actually been found out... But then, compared with the severity of having been kidnapped, the color of my hair being discovered was not that bad anymore.

"The color turning white is a repercussion of using Resurrection. I normally gather the elements to make my hair color remain golden. Naturally, after I fainted I wouldn't be able to gather the elements, and now I obviously can't gather the elements either," I said using a sarcastic tone.

"Is that so? It's too bad that your golden hair turned white... But that doesn't matter; it's just as nice to look at." She rested by the bed and curled my hair around her finger. She even stared directly at my eyes, only about ten centimeters away from me.

"I always feel that I'm never in your eyes. I feel so angry... From now on, you are not allowed to turn a blind eye to me ever again."

But, even if Teacher were standing in front of me, I would also turn a blind eye to him! To want a blind man to look at you is really too much!

"Charlotte, you knocked me out in public and carried me off. It's not

possible that no one saw it,” I said calmly. “As long as you release me, I can pretend that this never happened. After all, the Demon King must be born, is that not so?”

However, Stephen coldly said, “You don’t have to worry. Charlotte has already blown that street into a trench. The people who saw it have all turned into people who have disappeared.”

For a period of time, I couldn’t react. It took me some time before I was able to comprehend the meaning of that sentence. Just to get rid of the evidence, she actually destroyed an entire street...That’s a lot of lives! I snarled angrily, “What did you say? What in the world did you do? You actually dared to do something like this! Are you crazy-Oomph!”

Stephen waved his hand and a Chain of Darkness materialized over my mouth.

“Stephen, what are you doing?”

Charlotte had only begun to object when Stephen grabbed her shoulders, sincerely and earnestly saying, “Charlotte, listen to me first. You must definitely become the Demon King.”

“I don’t want to!” Charlotte struggled out from his grasp and yelled agitatedly, “I told you a long time ago, I don’t want anything. I only want the Sun Knight! Now that I have him, there’s simply no need to become the Demon King.”

But Stephen yelled even more agitatedly, “Charlotte! The person you’ve captured is the Sun Knight! Don’t tell me you think the Church of the God of Light will treat it as though the Sun Knight voluntarily left his home and simply not search for him. Even if we killed all the witnesses, the Twelve Holy Knights will not give up their search just like that!

“In addition, the Sun Knight is very strong! Unless you’re thinking about locking him in here forever and even using chains to firmly restrain him so he can’t move at all, you must become the Demon King and gain more power! That is the only way you could ensure that he won’t escape from your side!”

Charlotte said uncertainly, “But he... He shouldn’t be very strong, right? When I caught him, it wasn’t very hard.”

I rolled my eyes.

Stephen shook his head. “If it wasn’t for him not being on guard against you and you suddenly turning difficult, maybe you would have been unable to capture him at all! Don’t underestimate the leader of a church.”

That’s right, that’s right! Hey, in any case I am the Sun Knight. If it wasn’t because you used that confession to cause me to become so happy and surprised that I dropped my guard, I wouldn’t have fallen so easily into your trap!

When she heard Stephen’s words, Charlotte turned and looked silently at me with an expression as if she was struggling. After a while, she abruptly asked me, “Your eyes are open so wide. Do you want to say something?”

After she said this, the chains over my mouth disappeared. The moment I could speak I instantly said, “Let me go.”

Following that, the chains reappeared over my mouth. If I had known this earlier, I wouldn’t have been so straightforward. I would have first used some honeyed words to deceive her a bit! However, for the past twenty-four years, there had never been anyone that could make me use honeyed words. Now for me to flatter her on the spot, it was simply even harder than praising Knight-Captain Earth!

Her face fell, and she unhappily said, “Looks like you really want to run away.”

What nonsense. What captured person wouldn’t want to run away?

“Okay then,” Charlotte turned to Stephen, “Looks like you were right. For the sake of retaining him, I will work hard to become the Demon King!”

Stephen looked overjoyed, while I felt like I had sunk into a deep abyss. Charlotte even turned around to stroke my hair and add salt on my wounds, “Although I’ll be busy becoming the Demon King, you don’t have to worry. I’ll come see you every day!”

Please don't come see me. I'll be nervous about whether or not you've discovered that I'm one of the candidates and have decided to come and get rid of me.

"I will get rid of the other two candidates soon, so be patient for a while."

Don't be so hasty. I don't want to die yet!

It may have been because my expression was too unpleasant, but Charlotte snorted and turned to face Stephen, asking a bit suspiciously, "So long as I become the Demon King, I'll have a way to make the Sun Knight remain by my side forever, right? You really aren't deceiving me this time?"

"Deceive you? Everything I do is so that you won't be killed off by the other candidates!" Stephen looked almost hysterical as he shouted, "So long as you become the Demon King, I will immediately help you prepare an ancient castle so that you can imprison the captured princess in it for a lifetime! Is this okay with you?"

"..."

"... I meant the captured Sun Knight," Stephen bowed his head in apology, "Sorry. I'm too used to it. The captives of the previous generations of demon kings were all princesses."

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I waited until Charlotte was reluctantly dragged off by Stephen and heaved a big sigh of relief. As long as I was not killed immediately, it was not a problem.

Speaking in other people's heads was now an expert skill of mine; moreover, I was also the head of the Twelve Holy Knights. As long as I called for help, why would I be afraid that no one would come to save me?

I shouldn't waste any more time. It would be better to summon the Twelve Holy Knights right away in case Charlotte or anyone else accidentally discovered that I was one of the demon king candidates and rushed in to first rape me, then kill me. I would be very welcoming to the defiling, but I didn't wish to die just yet.

I extended my senses a bit more and discovered death knights in two corners of the room.

The demeanor of these death knights was a bit too serious, which made me feel a bit doubtful. These death knights that came later did not seem as strong as Roland, but were a lot more obedient than him. However, death knights ought not to be obedient undead creatures.

I carefully stretched my senses towards the two death knights. Their clothing had been carefully chosen. They each wore a suit of armor and had dull expressions, looking similar to knights on sentry duty. Except that, at the very least, the knights on sentry duty would blink, whereas these two were as alive as two decorated suits of armor, not moving at all. If it weren't for the heads poking out, I'm afraid I would have thought that there was no one at all beneath the armor.

"Hey!" I attempted a call.

One of the death knights walked over, bowed his head to look at me, and asked, "Do you wish to use the toilet, eat something, turn over, or call Mistress Charlotte?"

I was startled at first, then tentatively said, "I want to leave."

However, the death knight did not move at all. I yelled a few times, but it was useless. I could only switch to one of the options he had said and test them out. "I want to turn over."

Following that, he actually helped me turn over. I'd never heard that death knights could be used this way! If I asked Roland to take me to the restroom, he would probably cut me up into pieces then flush me down the toilet.

After he finished turning me over, the death knight returned to the corner to continue sentry duty. There wasn't the slightest change in his expression at all, as if it were perfectly normal for a magnificent death knight to act as a nurse!

What happened to this batch of death knights? I should go and ask Pink some other day, but right now calling for help was more important.

I extended my senses towards the street that had been blown up. The Twelve Holy Knights would definitely be at the site, and I also wanted to know the situation of the wounded and dead.

The place was truly as Stephen had said. The original road was now a long trench. Those people who had been standing to the side, secretly laughing at us when Charlotte had captured me, were probably already...

Although the street was already in ruins, there were a lot of people moving about, most of them knights and holy knights. They were probably cleaning up the scene, and there were also some carrying weapons, standing guard. There were also a lot of clerics to one side, but other than praying over the corpses, the clerics had nothing else they could do. There were no wounded, only a pile of broken limbs and rotting flesh.

Knight-Captain Judgment was standing in the midst of the holy knights on guard duty, and his expression looked utterly terrifying. The moment I saw him my mind turned blank, and I temporarily stopped my sensing in case I scared myself to death.

I don't know how much determination I had to muster before I dared to sense his face again. This wasn't because I was a coward. Even Vidar, who stood beside Judgment, didn't dare look directly at his superior!

After thinking for a while, this matter couldn't be blamed on me, right? Only then did I decide to call Judgment.

Judgment.

I attempted to call him. Judgment immediately went rigid and, unexpectedly, he started berating me. However, my sensing ability could not hear sounds, and I also did not how to read lips, so I quickly spoke in Judgment's head.

Judgment, I cannot hear what you are saying, and don't shout so loudly.

I have been captured by people. If they know that I can use sensing, then I'm dead for sure.

Judgment instantly shut his mouth. To the shock of the surrounding people, he taciturnly said a few words and everyone immediately turned

away, continued to do their own thing, and didn't even dare glance at him.

After Judgment gave a few sentences of instruction to Vidar, he walked by himself to a corner where there was nobody around. Then, he drew out his Divine Judgment Sword and used the tip to write words on the ground. It really was just like Judgment to immediately think of a method for communication.

I carefully sensed what he was writing.

Didn't you go to find Silent Eagle? Was it he who captured you? Does this explosion have any connection to you?

I quickly related the whole situation to him and told him my whereabouts so he could come and rescue me.

The more Judgment heard, the more he frowned. Looking at his expression, it seemed like the feeling of wanting to punch me was much stronger than the feeling of wanting to rescue me. But, in the end, he still nodded and wrote on the ground.

Don't do anything, and don't attempt to do anything!

We will come to rescue you, but, from now on, every hour you must say something to let me know you are safe.

When I heard Judgment say that, I relaxed.

After promising him, I didn't use my sensing ability again. Each hour, I must contact him via telepathy. Even for me, that was somewhat difficult. If I misused my sensing ability and ended up unable to contact him for one of the hours, after Judgment rescued me, he might follow it up by personally killing me.

With nothing to do and feeling a bit hungry, I called the death knight over to get me some food to eat. However, he didn't carelessly throw some bread over. Instead, he walked to a counter, took out a heap of ingredients, and started cooking. Not only was there bread with thick fruit jam slathered on it and rich soup with steam rising from it, there was even a large slice of grilled beef. And, since my hands were tied, the death knight even fed me!

I don't have to do anything, there is good food to eat, and even someone to feed me! Receiving this treatment is almost better than being the Sun Knight! I began to ponder if I should tell Judgment there was no need to hurry and save me...

After eating, about an hour had already passed. When I mentally spoke to Judgment, I also asked if there was anywhere he needed me to sense. He seemed quite busy. He merely wrote "Nothing" and emphasized again, "You are not allowed to do anything." Then, he didn't pay any more attention to me.

After contacting him, I continued to daydream. When it really got too boring, I called the death knight to help me turn over. Other than feeling a bit sleepy and not being able to sleep in case I missed the next time of communication, there wasn't anything else to be picky about. Now was truly a time of comfort and idleness!

I felt a bit of a need to go to the toilet. It'll be okay to call the death knight... hold on! I was suddenly shocked awake.

The death knight will take me to the toilet? Isn't it a bit too disgusting to be taken to the toilet by a grown man?

Ah! Both my hands are tied. Don't tell me the death knight must also help me pull down my trousers? If it's e-excretion, does that mean he... would also help me wipe my butt?

Crap!

Judgment, hurry and come rescue me!

Chapter 6: The Sixth Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "The Hero Saves the Beauty"

The last time I used my sensing ability to contact him, Judgment told me he had already inquired and learned that Stephen and Charlotte had been sent out on patrol and would not be back before midnight, so he had decided to bring Metal along to come rescue me.

Legend says that the first generation Metal Knight was a thief before he became one of the Twelve Holy Knights and left behind many devious techniques to the following generations of Metal Knights. Therefore, to carry out this sort of secret rescue activity, it is definitely ideal to bring Metal along!

Although I felt that directly seeking Awaitsun's cooperation would be more convenient, Judgment still decided it was better to be careful and not to trust anyone else. He and Metal even vaulted over the wall to secretly enter the palace instead of walking in openly.

With Metal around, infiltration was, as expected, not a difficult matter. He led the way through many unusual places, such as beams, storerooms, and drains. Also, it seemed he was very familiar with the secret pathways of the palace... These secret pathways might as well have been open corridors!

Not long after, they arrived outside the room where I was being held.

Judgment, there are two death knights inside the room. Their individual positions are the northeast and southwest corners of the room.

After I finished warning Judgment, about ten seconds passed, and then the door flew open with a bang.

The two of them charged into the room, their actions precise and agile. Judgment raised his sword to face one of the death knights, while Metal held his two knives to face the other... But right after that, the two of them

didn't begin their duels. Instead, they turned around to survey the whole room.

Actually turning your back to a death knight? Even if the death knight is standing still, turning your back to him is way too dangerous!

Incredulous, Metal asked, "Captain Judgment, what is going on? Isn't this the place?"

Judgment frowned deeply and surveyed his surroundings... His line of sight swept over me, but he seemed not to notice that I was lying there at all. How can this be? I'm right here!

His following actions made me even more astonished. Judgment actually stood in front of me and lifted his sword to carve words on the wall:

Sun, where are you? Does this room have a hidden chamber?

I shouted "Judgment!" but he didn't react in the slightest, as if he hadn't heard me at all.

I'm right in front of you! I can see you and can hear you two talking!

Judgment frowned even more deeply and said to Metal beside him, "Break everything that can possibly hide a person."

Metal nodded, then, without restraint, the two of them started wrecking the room. The wardrobe and nightstand were hacked into pieces, and the bed was chopped up and overturned. After all of the furniture was destroyed, Metal even started digging at the walls and the floor.

We really aren't in the same place... Just now, Judgment undoubtedly chopped up and overturned the bed. His sword even slashed across my waist, giving me a huge shock. However, the sword passed directly through my body and didn't hurt me at all. The bed underneath me was also as unharmed as before.

Even though the two rooms looked the same, they apparently weren't... The wrecked wardrobe and the still intact wardrobe were superimposed together. It looked like a new wardrobe had been placed on top of the wrecked wardrobe, an extremely strange sight.

“Who dares to be so impudent here... Judgment Knight?”

A good number of knights stood at the doorway, and the person in the middle, raging furiously, was Silent Eagle Awaitsun. At first, his face was full of anger, but when he discovered it was Judgment Knight, his face immediately became one of shock, and it was as if he didn't know what he should do.

Compared to Awaitsun's fluster and Metal's guilt, Judgment was certainly a master of acting cool for ten years and then some. His cold face didn't reveal any emotions, and he didn't have a single bit of intention of leaving the room. He acted as if this was his room, and the person who had gone to the wrong place was Awaitsun.

“Huh? Why is everyone crowded around my room? Is something wrong?”

This voice is... Stephen appeared in the doorway of the room, startling me. He seemed to glance at me, although I wasn't sure if it just my imagination.

He questioned Awaitsun, surprised, “Captain Eagle, has something happened?”

Awaitsun opened his mouth, but didn't say even half a sentence. Most likely, he simply did not know how to answer.

Judgment calmly said, “I received intelligence that someone was harboring a criminal in here, so I came over to investigate.”

Awaitsun was stunned and frowned. Although he didn't quite believe his words, he didn't refute them either, merely asking, “Did you find the criminal?”

“No.” Judgment said flatly, “Metal, let's go.”

To my surprise, Metal replied “Yes.” The two of them were actually going to leave the room. I was stunned and immediately started panicking.

Wait, Judgment don't go!

Judgment looked back, still frowning. Even though things were very

difficult for him, I couldn't let him go. Stephen knew that he had entered the room. Most likely, Stephen wouldn't believe the excuse about harboring criminals. Now that he knew I had a way to contact the outside world, although I didn't know what he would do after Judgment left, he definitely wouldn't do nothing!

Since Charlotte isn't here, will Stephen take this opportunity to kill me?

Stephen smiled as he spoke to Judgment. "If the Judgment Knight still has doubts, why not search again to be thorough?"

I was extremely nervous, afraid that Judgment would say "no need." Instead, Judgment said dismissively, "Actually, I don't need to do a thorough search, but I must ask you to accompany me back to the Holy Temple. Moreover, you people have a shadowpriest named Charlotte, right? I'll have to ask you to tell Metal of her whereabouts, so that he can take some people to go look for her."

Could the intention of these words be... I get it!

I understand your intention now!

Judgment placed his right hand behind his waist, his forefinger and middle finger bending, like a person nodding his head. I laughed aloud.

At this moment, Awaitsun was finally a little angry. He glared at Judgment and growled, "What is the meaning of this?"

Awaitsun, this is Sun. Follow what Judgment said and then go with him to the Holy Temple. He will tell you everything.

Awaitsun's eyes widened, but he is truly the leader of a church. Other than his eyes widening, he didn't have any other reactions.

Judgment also relieved him of his embarrassment in a timely manner, saying, "I know you are very angry and shocked, but please do not be. Maybe I have received false intelligence, but regardless of the situation, it is better to be careful. Wouldn't you agree?"

Awaitsun was silent for a while before replying, "It is as you have said."

While the two of them were exchanging pleasantries and at the same

time talking rubbish, I started searching for Charlotte's presence and immediately found her in a room not far away. However, instead of telling Metal, I directly told Judgment and insisted on him taking Awaitsun and a large group of dark knights to go capture her together.

Charlotte is truly very strong, and she has a habit of doing things a bit willfully and rashly. I could not possibly rely on the hope that she would not kill Metal Knight due to not wanting to offend the Church of the God of Light. After all, she could even kidnap the Sun Knight off the streets!

Subsequently, Judgment and Metal took Awaitsun, Stephen, and Charlotte back to the Church of the God of Light.

Right from the start, at being taken away, Charlotte's expression was one of extreme unhappiness. Thus, I repeatedly instructed Judgment to take particular caution and to definitely find Roland and Earth to watch Charlotte together. In addition, if possible, it would be even better to find some more of the Twelve Holy Knights.

Judgment's and Roland's strength combined was very strong, and adding on the Shield of Earth would also ensure that the two of them would not get hurt. It should be absolutely safe.

Since there was no way to find me, Judgment simply took Stephen and Charlotte away. This way, my whereabouts could be forced out, and it would also prevent them from hurting me. This was what he intended to do.

Although there was temporarily no way to escape from here, there was at least a hope of leaving. I finally felt a lot more relaxed.

At this moment, a death knight walked up to my side. I looked at him suspiciously. I hadn't called him. Why had he come over on his own? Could it be that Stephen even set it up so that at certain times the death knight would come and remind me about things like sleeping?

The death knight looked down and showed an expression that seemed like a smile yet not a smile, saying, "Looks like the secrets of the Twelve Holy Knights are greater than what I imagined! Luckily, I hid you in a space that I created and didn't let you get rescued. If not, I don't know how

much trouble Charlotte would have made. But then, Sun Knight, do you believe that by letting the Judgment Knight detain Charlotte and me, I would not be able to do anything to you?”

I was stunned and asked in reply, “Stephen?”

“It is I.” The death knight chuckled, his expression really similar to Stephen’s.

I deliberately frowned and used a bit of a doubtful tone to say, “I don’t know what you’re talking about.”

Stephen coldly laughed, saying, “Sun Knight, your prowess at acting dumb is astonishing. That has a bit of a discrepancy with your public image.”

“I really don’t understand what you mean,” I said with great emphasis. “If Knight-Captain Judgment did anything, then surely that is the result of his investigation. Please do not underestimate Knight-Captain Judgment’s abilities!”

Currently, I could only fake it to the end and speak highly of Judgment’s strength to make it so that Stephen would not dare to act recklessly.

Stephen frowned and was silent, but then he stretched out his hands and seemed to recite a small incantation. Suddenly, the bed under me shattered into pieces. However, I didn’t fall onto the ground. Instead, my whole body floated in the air.

“What are you planning to do?”

The moment the words left my mouth, the Chains of Darkness on my hands and feet suddenly started extending and wrapped around me like a vine. Even though it was not wrapped as densely as a cocoon, I’m afraid the level of firmness of those chains of darkness was higher than my carelessly wrapped cocoons.

Lastly, with a sudden great spin, and before I could gasp in shock, my whole body was in an upright position. But like before, neither of my legs could touch the ground. Right in front of me was Stephen, whose body had changed to that of a death knight.

Against Stephen's rapid series of actions, I had no way of resisting at all. Even though I was dying to gather elements, even recklessly trying to gather the dark element wasn't a single bit of use. I could only yell, terrified, "What are you going to do?"

Stephen sneered as he chuckled, saying, "Don't be a fool. Only if you were a demon king candidate would you be able to manipulate the dark element here."

What? But I'm certainly a demon king candidate! Why can't I manipulate... Oh right! Startled, I bowed my head and bit the chain on my neck.

After the situation with Scarlet, the Pope had taken away Eternal Tranquility to modify it. Now, not only did it have Scarlet sealed inside of it, it would also prevent dark element from entering my body. With it on my body, my competency at manipulating the dark element would fall significantly.

If I don't have it, maybe I can gather the dark element... But then, under the circumstances of only being able to move my neck and my mouth, getting rid of the chain is simply too hard!

Crack!

Startled, I looked down towards the source of the noise and discovered my legs had unexpectedly been frozen. Also, the ice continued to creep upwards, in a moment reaching my knees, and, with no hint of stopping, continued upwards.

I started panicking. He wouldn't turn me into an ice sculpture just for Charlotte to be able to continue "possessing" me, right?

Stephen raised his head and looked at me, saying, "It doesn't matter if you're in the know or not. In any case, please sleep deeply for a while. When Charlotte becomes the demon king, she will personally come to rescue you. But if Charlotte fails, then you will forever be a sleeping beauty... Ah! I almost forgot you're a male! In any case, wait for Demon King Charlotte to welcome you! Hahaha!"

I hastily shouted, "Wait a minute! I'm the leader of the Holy Temple! I can help her become the Demon King!"

However, Stephen snorted, saying, "Save it, I would never trust you."

Watching the ice rapidly freeze upwards, I couldn't think of any other excuses. I sensed for Judgment, thinking of telling him what was happening, but the ice crystals had already reached my neck. I was so alarmed that I had only enough time to use my sensing ability to yell loudly, "Judgment!"

Then, the entire world froze over.

*

Crack!

...A sound? What kind of sound is this? Very faint. Rather like the sound of shattering. As if... As if... Oh right, the sound of glass or ice splintering.

The scene started to appear in my blurry mind. After habitually using my sensing ability as a substitute for my sight, when I wake up every morning, I automatically use my sensing ability, which is similar to a person dazedly opening their eyes as they wake up.

The first thing I saw was a crack extending before my eyes... But how can there be a crack in front of my eyes? Doubtful, I followed the crack as a path to sense outwards. At the opening of the crack appeared an object with the shape of a sharp sword. However, it was also unlike any other sword. A sword shouldn't have such a high concentration of holy element... Wait a minute, my Divine Sun Sword would have it!

The Divine Sun Sword had created a crack in front of me.

This sentence abruptly made me fully conscious, and I explosively expanded my sensing ability in one breath. My body was entirely encased by ice, the thickness of the ice being about two meters. The Divine Sun Sword was pierced into the ice, its position roughly in front of my right eye. Although it had not pierced deeply, only about ten centimeters, the crack it had created went right before my eyes. Even though the tail end of the crack was only as thin as hair, it was enough to wake me up.

Beside the ice crystal was an alarmingly large concentrated amount of dark element. This mass of dark element was vaguely in the shape of a person... Hold on, this face is seemingly a female's and a short-haired one too. Charlotte?

Alongside Charlotte was another person, only his dark element was not as strong as hers, so I momentarily had not sensed this person's presence. Charlotte, with such strong dark element, was beside him, so differentiating the facial features of a person with the same type of dark element was really not easy. However, I could still faintly see that he should be Stephen, make no mistake about it.

Even more strange was how the three of us were floating in the sky.

I continued expanding my senses outwards and discovered that we were actually in the sky above the plaza of Leaf Bud City. What is the current situation now?

"Release Sun!" ... Blaze's roar?

It would make sense that Blaze wouldn't be flying in the middle of the sky, so I hurriedly extended my sensing ability towards the ground, and as expected, found Blaze on the ground with the other Twelve Holy Knights and... filling up the whole plaza were an amount of undead creatures as large as an army!

What's happening? Could it be that I was asleep for a very long time? How has Leaf Bud City become such a sight?

With so many questions, I could only continue to sense the current situation.

Judgment stood at the forefront of the Twelve Holy Knights, incessantly swinging his sword to hack and kill the undead creatures. He was not draped in the black robes he normally wore. Instead, he wore a set of entirely black but more close-fitting clothes, probably for ease of movement. They were the clothes he normally wore underneath his robes.

The others were not far from him. The formation everyone stood in was approximately a rhombus, with their backs facing the heart of the

rhombus. This was one of the Twelve Holy Knights' fighting formations, a formation taken when surrounded by enemies.

The Pope stood at heart of the rhombus, but that is actually my position. The Sun Knight should stand at the middle, responsible for using holy light to support his team. However, at the moment, I was trapped in the sky, unable to move.

At least, I should use the Wings of God spell to help everyone.

Although the Pope also knows the Wings of God spell, he would be unable to cast a very strong one on twelve people at the same time. In addition, after casting it, I'm afraid he would be unable to cast an additional Light Shield on everyone.

Wait! Looking at the amount of holy light surrounding everyone's bodies, the Pope hasn't cast Light Shield on any of the Twelve Holy Knights. Why?

I carefully observed the Pope and discovered he was looking in my direction... No, the person he was looking at was Charlotte! His expression was extremely alert. Now I understood. He needed to save his strength until the necessary time came to use it to oppose Charlotte and Stephen.

Although the army of undead creatures didn't look strong, and everyone was able to cope with them skillfully and easily, there was still Charlotte and Stephen, gazing like tigers watching their prey. The two of them did nothing at all, worrying me a bit whether they had any schemes.

I called out to Judgment.

Judgment.

Suddenly, Judgment froze, but he was still in the middle of battle. The brief split-second halt caused an additional three sword wounds. Oh no! I quickly gathered holy light and cast an Advanced Heal on him, though I abruptly remembered I couldn't gather elements... The holy light enveloped Judgment's body, healing the blade wounds on him.

I can gather elements now!

In the split second of understanding, I immediately started gathering a large amount of holy light and cast Light Shield on each of the Twelve Holy Knights. After that, I strengthened the Wings of God spell that the Pope had cast, allowing their movements to be even faster and swifter.

Everyone was startled, and their bodies were sliced by a good number of blades. Luckily, there was Light Shield to block them, and no one received any serious injuries. Everyone quickly continued to fight, on one hand continuously sneaking a glance at me, on the other hand hacking the undead creatures into pieces.

Charlotte and Stephen apparently also discovered something was wrong. Stephen even spun around and grabbed hold of the hilt of the Divine Sun Sword, but immediately pulled back and roared.

His right hand should be medium cooked now. What an idiot! As an undying lich, he actually dared to touch the Divine Sun Sword! If he had held onto it for a few more seconds, I'm afraid his whole body would have been cooked by the Divine Sun Sword!

Stephen shouted, "Charlotte, get rid of this divine sword. I want to repair the seal."

"Has he really woken up? Was it him who made those holy knights stronger?"

Charlotte turned around to ask again and again, her expression actually becoming very joyous! This made Stephen's expression even uglier. Only when he used a stern tone to once more request for Charlotte to remove the sword did she reluctantly move forward to grab the Divine Sun Sword, and she was not burned. Evidently, the Divine Sun Sword does not treat demon kings as enemies.

Luckily, Charlotte's strength was apparently as bad as mine. Hence, even though the sword was only pierced ten centimeters into the ice, she still couldn't pull it out. Only after shaking and kicking for a long while did the Divine Sun Sword loosen a bit.

"Can't I use magic to knock it out?" Charlotte was starting to get a little angry.

Stephen instantly rejected, “No way. If an even greater crack is formed, it could allow him to take the opportunity to escape. Can’t you see that just a small crack enables him to gather a whole mass of holy light?”

Charlotte impatiently said, “But I cannot pull it out! Repulsive Judgment Knight! Why did he launch the sword onto the seal? What would he do if Sun Knight was harmed?”

Taking advantage of Charlotte and Stephen being troubled and frustrated by the Divine Sun Sword, I furtively gathered a mass of wind blades and then blasted them at the ice along with Charlotte and Stephen. It was a pity that Charlotte seemed to be protected by very strong dark element and was not harmed at all. In contrast to her, Stephen’s cooked arm was directly chopped off and was devoured by the mass of undead creatures.

But most importantly, the ice didn’t even have a tiny scratch on it. I really don’t know how Judgment managed to shoot the Divine Sun Sword into the ice. What should I do now? I can’t be trapped in the ice here forever, waiting for everyone else to come rescue me!

Bastard! I’m definitely not a princess! I don’t need to wait for knights to come rescue me.

“Why are there wind blades?” Charlotte asked, stunned. “Is there a mage?”

“There shouldn’t be. The whole city has been mostly evacuated. There are only some knights from the Church of the God of Light and the palace left.” Stephen frowned as he pondered, and then he abruptly turned to look at me, roaring with a furious expression, “Is this your doing?”

“How can it be?” Charlotte refuted on my behalf. “He is the Sun Knight, not a mage!”

But Stephen continued to glare at me, absolutely not believing that those wind blades had nothing to do with me... I’ll count you as clever!

Acting like a spoiled child, Charlotte said, “Stephen, let’s just leave! If I exert all my strength, breaking the seal the clerics placed outside won’t be

difficult. We don't have to be trapped in this plaza and continue wasting time with them!"

"No! If you use up too much strength, your weakness may be taken advantage of by the other candidates!"

Upon hearing this, I finally realized that Charlotte and Stephen were floating in the middle of the sky doing nothing not because they couldn't get away, but because they didn't wish to battle it out with the Twelve Holy Knights head on and waste their strength. Hence, the two could only float in the air, making the undead army fight against the Twelve Holy Knights.

"What should we do now, then? You said to use the undead creatures because the Twelve Holy Knights would realize it would be difficult and retreat, but it's already been a day of fighting, and they look like they are not the least bit tired!" As Charlotte talked, she forcefully kicked the Divine Sun Sword, hurting my heart so much that I wanted to kick her a few times as well, to take revenge for the Divine Sun Sword!

"This..." Stephen used an appeasing tone to say, "Charlotte, how about returning the Sun Knight back to the Church of the God of Light for now! When you become the Demon King, you can have whatever knight you want!"

In my heart, I frantically approved. That's the way you should do it! So long as a person has a bit of common sense, he will pick this solution...

"I don't want that!" Charlotte actually yelled, furious. "I only want the Sun Knight! He is the only thing I will never let go!"

...Regrettably, one shouldn't talk about common sense with a girl who goes so crazy over love that she won't even acknowledge her elder! I pity Stephen as a guide. He really has it tough, just because the demon king has fallen in love with the Sun Knight.

Dis...t-tract... them.

I was startled. Just now, there seemed to be someone talking in my head, but who was present that could use this sort of ability? Could it be that Pink was in the proximity?

I'm... Pope...

It's the Pope? My attention shifted to him, and I saw him frantically indicating himself and then pointing at Judgment, and lastly he put both hands by his sides and flapped frantically, the action akin to an old hen that could not fly.

Could this mean he wants to bring Judgment to fly over and rescue me? To think that he even knows psychic magic and the Spell of Flight. Just how many skills does the Pope know? Although my capabilities are not small either, now I know it has to do with me being a demon king candidate.

You want to bring Judgment to fly over and rescue me, so you want me to pull Charlotte's and Stephen's attentions away?

Right!

The Pope's expression looked like he had heaved a huge sigh of relief. After replying to him, I thought about how I should pull Stephen's attention away. As for Charlotte, her eyes can see only me, so with this huge ice sculpture of me here, there was no need to use other things to distract her at all.

Oh right! Apparently Stephen has been very worried that there might be other candidates hiding by the sidelines watching the commotion, so I'll just let his wish come true.

I started gathering a large amount of dark element, although this was a bit hard... The crack in the ice seal was too small, and with the Divine Sun Sword, an object swathed with light all over, stuck in at the top thereby creating a large canceling effect, it was not easy to call the dark element over. Also, there was a lot that was being sucked up by Charlotte.

The Demon King was no doubt a vessel for storing dark element. Even if one were only a mere candidate, they would naturally attract dark element. If I wasn't the Sun Knight, an occupation that was also a vessel for holy element, I probably wouldn't be able to suppress the innate tendency of attracting dark element.

Stephen, abruptly alert, asked, “Charlotte, are you gathering dark element?”

With her entire face in an indescribable expression, Charlotte replied, “Me? I’m not. Why would I need to go out of my way to gather it? The dark element in my body can already blow up this entire plaza.”

At this moment, Stephen’s remaining arm suddenly caught on fire and in the blink of an eye, his whole arm was burning like a torch. His astonished expression made me want to laugh. Luckily, I was entirely frozen. Don’t talk about laughing, even moving an eyelash is impossible.

Following that, the roof of a nearby building also ignited with Hell’s Fire. The intensity of this fire was a lot fiercer. Even Stephen, who was busy putting out the flames on his arm, couldn’t help looking up and staring blankly at the house on fire.

Two Hell’s Fire spells totally exhausted the dark element I had painfully gathered. Under a situation with Charlotte and Stephen on alert, I’m afraid there would be no way to gather dark element once more without causing them to begin to suspect me.

Pope, Judgment, you better hurry up and come! Better not miss this chance. I can’t create it a second time!

I was just about to sense how their progress was going when a body suddenly slammed into the ice, producing a loud noise that shocked me. Luckily, the ice was extremely hard and didn’t move the slightest bit.

I also clearly saw that the “body” that struck the ice crystal was actually Knight-Captain Judgment himself. With one hand, he held onto the top edge of the ice. With his other hand, he held the Divine Sun Sword and twisted it with all his strength. The nonstop sound of the cracking and breaking of the ice entered my ears.

Finally, he slashed the Divine Sun Sword sideways, slicing off a huge chunk of ice. I took the opportunity to bring in a large amount of wind element from the shattered spot, and then I released wind blades from within the ice, destroying half of the top.

Now, at long last, I could open one eye and half of my mouth.

“Cover yer face an grub un me tightly.” I muttered out of the side of my mouth to Judgment.

Judgment raised an eyebrow, but still gripped my shoulder with one hand and covered his face with the other... He really was a tapeworm in my stomach. Even like this he could understand!

Just when I was thinking of using wind blades to thoroughly blast open this ice that was nearly ineffective by now, I heard Charlotte's shriek. “You're not allowed to take away the Sun Knight!”

Following the explosion of the shriek, the dark element in Charlotte's body also exploded. The never-ending expansion of dark element seemingly engulfed her in a split second, then multiplied as it grew, turning into an immense, continuously expanding sphere. We were trapped in the middle of this sphere that was so concentrated it could suffocate a person.

All of a sudden, Judgment forcefully kicked at the ice. The ice, with me inside, was kicked so hard we flew out of the sphere. At the same time, he used the momentum to fly backwards. Following that, due to the huge mass of concentrated dark element in the middle separating us, I couldn't see what happened to him.

In front of my eyes, the giant sphere suddenly exploded, and dense dark element swept directly towards me...

Chapter 7: The Seventh Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "When the King Meets the Demon King"

Ugh, my head hurts... Crap! Where are Judgment and the Pope?

I immediately shot up and realized that I was lying in the midst of the wreckage of a building. However, in front of me was air instead of the ground. Looking out, I could see all of Leaf Bud City. Looks like I got blown away by the impact of the explosion and crashed into a tall building.

I hurriedly used my sensing ability to see how everyone was doing.

In the plaza, everyone was down for the count but was still moving. It seemed that no one was in danger of dying. Only Earth's holy element was so low that there was nearly nothing left. He was sprawled on the ground, practically unable to get up; however, that was probably because he had used the Shield of Earth to protect everyone. Since he was no longer losing holy element, he would probably be fine.

Judgment and the Pope got thrown a bit further. I searched anxiously for some time until I spied them by the edge of the plaza.

Judgment had fallen on the ground and was using one arm to support himself while the other arm was drooping limply on the ground. He looked severely wounded. However, beside him, the Pope looked safe and sound and was desperately casting healing spells on him. It looks like the both of them should be alright.

No one was in mortal peril, and the undead army that had attacked them was mostly piles of ashes now. Also, the biggest threat, Charlotte, had her dark element greatly diminished and was looking around, as if she was anxiously searching for something... or someone, probably me, who had been sent flying.

Stephen had a terrible expression, but the two of them looked as if they

had no plans to personally attack the Twelve Holy Knights. I felt myself relax a bit.

“Ugh...”

What was that sound? I was surprised and only then did I realize that there seemed to be someone underneath the rubble beside me. I quickly lifted the wreckage and found someone I never thought I would find there...

“Y-Your Majesty!”

Advanced Heal!

I reflexively threw an Advanced Heal at the king and hurriedly started chanting the incantation for Ultimate Heal. But, I suddenly remembered that I gave the king a bracelet of rose beads, so I grabbed his hand. The rose beads were on his wrist, as I expected, and I immediately crushed the only Ultimate Heal rose bead.

Under a wave of light, the king slowly opened his eyes, but I was still worried out of my mind because the rubble on and beneath the king was all stained with a large amount of blood!

I finished casting Ultimate Heal and threw in another Advanced Heal before I stopped. However, if he had already lost too much blood, then no amount of healing spells would make a difference. Healing spells can't replenish lost blood!

“Your Majesty!” I asked anxiously, “How do you feel?”

The king's eyes were opened, but he didn't seem to be conscious of his surroundings. Not knowing whether he had heard me, I was so worried that I shouted “Your Majesty” many times.

“...Grisia?” The king snapped to attention and asked me with bright eyes, “Where did you run off to?”

Dear God of Light, please don't let this be his life flashing before his eyes!

“I...”

I didn't even finish speaking before the king sighed and murmured, "Neo rarely requests anything from me. He only told me to take better care of you, but you are so... You were just walking to the palace, yet you can pull a disappearing act from that! How can I take care of you like that? I could not find Neo to contact him either. You lot, teacher and student, are exactly the same! It is vexing."

The king rattled on, but I didn't dare interrupt him in fear that, when he stopped talking, he would close his eyes and go straight to the God of Light.

The king looked at me questioningly and asked, "What happened? The Judgment Knight only told me about your disappearance. He suspected that a shadowpriest was involved in this case."

I dropped my head in embarrassment and said, "That shadowpriest is one of the demon king candidates. I-I was captured by her. I'm sorry..."

I originally vowed to the king that I would solve things, but I ended up captured without solving anything. I am too embarrassed to face the king.

"The enemy is in the dark while we are in the light. It goes without saying that defending against that would be difficult. What are you sorry for?" The king turned to comfort me instead and anxiously asked, "How are things in the plaza right now?"

I shouted, "Your Majesty, don't worry about that! Tell me first, how are you feeling at the moment?"

"Me? I feel exhausted..."

Hearing the king's words, my heart went cold. Is his life really flashing before him...

He muttered, "After you disappeared, I ordered Leaf Bud City to be fully evacuated, but many refused to leave. The royal knights and the holy knights had to force them out."

I replied quickly, "Of course. When you force people to leave their familiar homes, they will complain."

He stopped talking for a bit and then softly said, “But I can’t forget their eyes... They looked like they hated me so much, like they were all screaming ‘You are the king. Why didn’t you protect this city?’”

“Please do not speak this way. You made that decision because you were trying to protect the people of Leaf Bud City.”

Despite my words, the king still looked sad, sighing and murmuring, “How long will this demon king war persist? We can currently still rely on food storages and foreign aid to sustain the citizens of Leaf Bud City, but if the time drags on, I fear we won’t be able to continue at this rate. The people won’t be satisfied living in temporary residences for a long period of time either...”

The king frowned as he pondered. I scrutinized his face carefully. Some time had already passed and he had yet to suddenly collapse and go see the God of Light. It seems this was not him having his life flash before him. I relaxed, but I still could not resist advising him, “Your Majesty, do not worry too much. You should take a good rest.”

The king stated unhappily, “How can I not worry? If I don’t hurry up and think of a way to settle the people, what use would the citizens have for a king like me? Grisia, even though you are the head of the Church of the God of Light and are not all that responsible for the people of Leaf Bud City, nevertheless, the people have donated a lot of money to the Church. You too should hurry up and think of a way to help!”

A way to help? I thought about it. The fastest way I can think of now is to use the fact that Charlotte likes me to kill her off and eliminate a candidate, so as to finish things earlier...

“Forget it, I am only troubling you. Regarding the matter of the Demon King, the only responsibility of the Sun Knight is to send forces to attack him, right?” The king smiled, but no happiness was shown in that smile.

“The one responsible for Leaf Bud City is the king of the Kingdom of Forgotten Sound, not you!”

The king clearly knew that this was a difficult and thankless job, but he didn’t run from it. Instead, he wanted to shoulder the burden alone. In

comparison, I kept running away from the responsibilities I should assume.

Judgment is right, and so is His Majesty, the king. I am a demon king candidate! I can't deny it anymore. This is my responsibility. I can't run away anymore! I have to finish this quickly or more damage is going to occur!

Noises came from outside. Most of them were nervous shouts, "Your Majesty...Your Majesty! Are you alright? Over here... Hurry! Lift these rocks quickly!"

The king smiled faintly at me, saying, "I will be fine. Go to the plaza. You are probably very worried about the situation over there."

I nodded and begged him, "Your Majesty, Leaf Bud City is still too dangerous, please retreat! Sun will do his best to make sure this battle ends quickly!"

"How can a king leave his own kingdom?" The king shook his head, saying, "Just try your best. If you really can't do it, don't sacrifice yourself; Nee-nee will get mad and when he's mad, he's scarier than the Demon King! Haha... cough, cough!"

"Your Majesty!" I hurriedly patted his back to help calm his breathing. A clear, happy female voice rang out, "Found you."

Without having to turn, I already saw Charlotte floating in the air. She looked very happy with a big smile on her face that was as cute as ever. But, that smiling face only brought anger to me now!

I growled, "Why did you set off such a large explosion for no reason? You almost killed His Majesty, the king!"

"The king?" Charlotte muttered uncaringly, "If that kind of thing dies, then just pick another one! Sun Knight, come with me quickly! Stephen has been nagging at me to leave this place soon in case other demon king candidates take the opportunity to attack me."

Just pick another one? Anger abruptly exploded inside my chest. I turned

to her and roared, "His Majesty is the best king ever! None can replace him!"

"Really? But he looks so weak, and he's ugly." Charlotte frowned as she sized up the king. Soon after, she turned her attention back to me and said, "You are still so much better looking! Sun Knight, if you don't leave with me now, I will kill this king, and, oh yeah, the holy knights in the plaza as well."

"You-you!" I was so angry that I nearly could not speak.

Charlotte snapped her fingers, and a bolt of dark element shot out from her hand, flying straight towards the king. I didn't expect her to actually do what she said. In a panic, I could only let out an explosion of holy element to block the attack.

"Come with me quietly, or else I will kill him, knock you unconscious, and then take you away!" Charlotte's tone had now turned threatening.

I was stunned. Knock me out and take me away again? There are still a lot of things I have to do, and I just promised the king a second time that I will take care of the Demon King matter quickly. How can I get knocked unconscious again!

The king yelled, "Over here, get in quickly! The enemy is here!"

Seeing Charlotte purse her lips unhappily, I instantly moved quietly and placed the king fully behind me. Thereafter, I said to her, "Let me speak with His Majesty alone, and then I will go with you."

Charlotte's face fell. Obviously, she did not want to do as I said. I continued, "Go over to the Twelve Holy Knights and wait for me there. I would definitely not abandon them."

She hesitated and asked suspiciously, "If I let you finish speaking with him, will you really go with me?"

I smiled faintly and answered, "I will definitely go find you, and won't leave you again this time."

Charlotte was stunned. She lowered her head slightly, actually looking a

little shy. I couldn't tell whether or not she was blushing. She murmured, "Okay, I will wait for you over there! Come quickly!"

Seeing her turn and fly away, the smile on my face vanished in a flash. Heh! At least, when you are still alive, I won't leave you!

Behind me, the king asked confusedly, "Grisia, what's going on?"

I didn't turn, and only spoke words of comfort, "Please do not worry, Your Majesty. This case will be resolved soon." At the same time, I also found who I was looking for and sent him a message.

Judgment, go to the dessert store alone and wait for me there.

"Your Majesty... Sun Knight?"

The knights outside finally moved the rocks away to reveal a hole the size of a human's head. Elijah stuck his head in from this hole and shouted worriedly for His Majesty at first. But when he saw me, he yelled in astonishment.

I didn't answer him. Instead, I took a few steps and jumped off the tall building, channelling wind element to fly me to the dessert store.

The dessert store was not far. After a few glides, I landed in front of the store. This place was always bustling with people. No matter if it was day or night, there would always be people queuing up to buy sweets. The line was usually so long that I had to ask Judgment to buy sweets for me, causing the Judgment Knight whose reputation was already very bad to gain another "likes to cut in line" charge during this generation.

But now, the door of the desserts store was firmly shut. The delicious aroma of sweets that usually filled the air was gone without a trace, and moreover, there was not a single person outside the store.

I hesitated but still reached up and took Eternal Tranquility off my neck. Then, holding it in my hands, I leaned against the door to wait for him to arrive.

After a few moments, Judgment appeared and was holding my Divine Sun Sword in his hands. He quickly strode towards me, not at all looking

as if he had been so injured just now that he could not get up.

I didn't speak a single word and just held out my hand to give him Eternal Tranquility. As expected, Judgment was Judgment; this sudden action did not surprise him. He looked calm, but did not reach out to take the necklace. He only asked, "Why?"

"You saw Charlotte too," I explained. "She can't be controlled and doesn't care about others. We can't let her become the Demon King!"

Judgment frowned and said, "But, the other candidate might not be better. What if he's worse than Charlotte?"

I said insistently, "We will think of something else when that time comes! Even if the other candidate is worse than Charlotte, we can't let her become the Demon King. She doesn't care about anything at all. Just now, she even wanted to use the king as a shooting target. Having this kind of person as the Demon King is too dangerous!"

Judgment raised his eyebrows, saying, "Doesn't she care about you? Before we started fighting, she mentioned it a lot while arguing with Earth. She doesn't know that you are one of the candidates, right?"

Mentioned it a lot... Now, Earth is going to use this to bug me for who knows how many years.

Frustrated, I shook my head, "She doesn't know. She probably wouldn't care anyway; Charlotte doesn't want to be the Demon King at all. She looks as if she wouldn't care if the world got destroyed as long as she can have me wrapped up to take home."

"That is very dangerous indeed," Judgment frowned. "So, what do you plan to do?"

I resolutely stated, "I want to defeat her as a fellow demon king candidate."

Judgment's eyebrows didn't relax. After a period of silence, he asked, "But are you sure you can win?"

"She's stronger than me," I admitted. "She's better at gathering elements,

and she specializes in dark magic because she is a shadowpriest. Her dark magic is probably much better than my mess of magic learned from various sources. The only thing I can best her at is my sensing ability.”

“Don’t tell me you want to use your sensing ability to defeat her?” Judgment scoffed, “If you hope Silent Eagle will aid you, I’ll tell you this first: he already declined to join the fight. He said that he cannot interfere directly. The best he can do is to give a little help secretly, because they don’t know yet who will become the Demon King in the end. If the Cathedral of the Shadow God participated directly in the battle, but the candidate they supported lost in the end, it would greatly harm them in the future. So, even if you fight Charlotte as a demon king candidate, he will not help you attack her.”

I said immediately, “I never placed any hopes on him! But I can count on all of you to help me, right? Judgment, my hand has been raised so long that it’s sore! Take the necklace already!”

Judgment smiled faintly and said, “Put the necklace back on. Even if you only help to cast support magic, we will help you defeat Charlotte.”

I said calmly, “If I kill the demon king candidate as the Sun Knight, then what would I tell the king and the rulers of the other countries? They have made thorough preparations, even evacuating Leaf Bud City for the demon king candidates to fight. It was not to watch the Church of the God of Light crusade against the demon king candidates.”

Judgment hesitated. His expression wavered a little, but he still refused to take the necklace. He asked, “Are there no other options? You can disguise yourself, make them think you are the demon king...”

I interrupted, “Impossible! The holy element surrounding me is too strong. It will be utterly impossible to trick Stephen and Charlotte. Unless you want to tell His Majesty that the Sun Knight is one of the demon king candidates, take the necklace now. We already don’t have much time left to waste!”

“But when your hair turns black...” Judgment hesitated mid-sentence.

I replied quickly, “You made the black-haired me take the Divine Sun

Sword last time, so you can do it this time too! Once we have taken care of Charlotte, you can give me the Divine Sun Sword, and then I'll put Eternal Tranquility back on. Won't I then return to having a head of shining, golden hair?"

Judgment hesitated and asked, "What if you don't want to take the Divine Sun Sword?"

"You don't have to care if I want it or not. Just give it to me by force!"

"Okay, you're the one who said it!" Judgment finally grabbed the necklace.

"Take the Divine Sun Sword further away; it will hinder me when I draw in the dark element."

Finished talking, I closed my eyes and started focusing on drawing the dark element into my body and slowly forcing the holy element out. This process was not hard; it was even quite easy and pleasant, and didn't require much time.

It didn't take longer than half a minute. I laughed and asked, "What color is my hair?"

"Black. Sun, open your eyes. Don't keep them closed."

Judgment's words made me think of a matter I had puzzled over for some time. I didn't just open my eyes; I also walked closer to him and stared at him directly in the eyes. Then, I asked, "Tell me, what do my eyes look like?"

"All black, even the whites of your eyes." Judgment hesitated and then said, "Just like Charlotte's."

Even the whites of my eyes are black? So the answer is this: I am an utter freak. It's just that Judgment doesn't seem surprised, probably because Charlotte also has eyes like these!

"No! I'm wrong. Your eyes are not the same as hers," Judgment suddenly said. "Your eyes are not pure black; they have a bit of golden light in them like a starry sky... They're astonishing!"

Golden light that I have but Charlotte does not? Could it be because I am the Sun knight?

“Sun,” Judgment abruptly called out to me.

“Hm?” I turned to look at Judgment. He did not continue talking, but instead stared at me, making me feel a bit puzzled. However, his expression became more and more relaxed, and at last he sighed in relief, saying, “You don’t feel any different. Looks like I was being too wary.”

“Of course you’re thinking too much. I don’t feel like I’ve changed at all...” Leaving my sentence hanging, I looked towards the plaza. Frowning, I said, “Damn, Charlotte is starting to get impatient. That woman is no different from a crazy hag. It will be disastrous if she starts going crazy again. The others are still in the plaza.”

I reached up to untie my hair and messed it up to cover half my face. Following that, I took off my coat and ripped the sleeves off the short sleeve shirt I wore inside. Lastly, I ripped the coat into shreds and bounded the strips to my boots and pants.

Judgment blinked, and then asked, “What are you doing?”

While tailoring my clothes, I answered offhandedly, “I can’t let them figure out that this is the Sun Knight uniform, right? All finished! Judgment, I’m going there first. You can walk over slowly yourself!”

“What?” Judgment was stunned, and then hurriedly said, “Wait...”

I floated up and laughed at him, saying, “Weren’t you pretty injured in the explosion just now? Even though you’ve already been healed, there might be some after effects. So don’t bother about the rest of the matter, just leave it to me and the others and pass me the divine sword afterwards!”

Having finished speaking, I flew away before he could answer.

A workaholic like Judgment would never say, “Okay. I will just rest here and wait until things are settled before heading over.” So I ignored him and let him walk to the plaza slowly. It counts as a form of resting anyway!

It feels especially great to fly high in the air!

The blowing wind feels refreshing, and seeing Leaf Bud City from a bird's eye view is nice too. And, there is no one here, so I don't have to force smiles. I can even do triple somersaults here if I wanted to!

The only inconvenience was my hair flying all around my face. It occasionally brushed against my eyes and stung them. In the end, I simply closed my eyes. I did not need to open them anyway.

It was soothing in the air, but as I slowly approached the plaza, I suddenly saw a very annoying blot.

Charlotte.

Chapter 8: The Eighth Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "Notorious"

While I flew in the direction of Charlotte, I gathered dark element. When I flew to a spot about ten meters away from her, I waved my hand and shot out the dark element in the form of blades.

Charlotte had seen me already. After I started my attack, her lips even turned upwards in a wisp of a smile. It was not until the dark blades flew in front of her that she unhurriedly raised her hand. A semi-translucent black shroud suddenly appeared. The dark blades struck the shroud, producing a tremendous noise.

However, other than the frightening noise, the dark blades didn't cause any other harm. Even that black shroud was intact without a scratch on it. Unexpectedly, this shroud and the Shield of Earth were quite different, yet produced the same effect. It was just that the Shield of Earth used holy light, while this shield used dark element.

"The other candidate? You finally came out!" Charlotte said calmly, despite the danger present. "I've already made so much noise and you guys still didn't want to come out. I even thought that the other two candidates were simply scaredy-cats!"

...This goddamn woman!

"A crazy hag is a crazy hag; you've caused this large an uproar. Are you afraid people don't know you're crazy?" I deliberately lowered my voice when I replied, and took the opportunity while talking to sense the situation at the scene, especially Stephen's whereabouts. He's actually not by Charlotte's side?

First, I saw the Twelve Holy Knights over at the plaza. Even though they weren't far from Charlotte, they were merely sitting or standing and not taking any action against her.

They were approximately split into two groups of people; one group was vigilant and holding their weapons while the rest had their eyes closed and

were recuperating. The people resting were more or less the holy knights with extremely low holy element. For example, there was Earth, whose holy element was practically entirely depleted, but it was thanks to him that no one received serious injuries.

Let me say this first, don't lift your heads together to look at me. I am Sun, the black-haired one.

Everyone was startled. Some people's eyes grew wide, others almost jumped up, but because their responses were different, and they didn't turn to look at me together, it didn't look abrupt at all. It shouldn't have attracted Charlotte's attention.

I want to use the identity of a demon king candidate to finish Charlotte off. You guys can use saving the Sun Knight as a reason to help me! Oh right, I told Judgment to walk over by himself. Just now he received fairly severe injuries, so letting him take a walk to rest is good.

When I finished speaking, everyone showed different expressions. Some ducked their heads to laugh secretly, some seemed to laugh yet not laugh, and Earth and Metal even rolled their eyes at me.

Agitated and furious, Charlotte yelled, "Your hair is dishevelled, your clothes are even tattered and torn! You seem more like a lunatic!"

Other than shouting, she also released a large amount of dark element to attack, but the attack she released was completely shot down by an arrow from below. Distracted, she looked down and growled, "What are you guys doing? This is a battle between candidates. This has nothing to do with you guys!"

Below, Leaf's expression was very serious, and he had his bow raised, but there were no actual arrows nocked on the bow. Instead, there was holy element in the shape of an arrow.

I don't know how many people have gone wild with joy as if they won whenever Leaf used up his arrows... I'm not saying won the fight, I'm saying "won the escape" from the Leaf Knight, but in the next second, their bottoms would always be pierced with numerous holy light arrows.

Although using holy light to attack things outside of undead creatures isn't very effective, compressing it into the shape of an arrow was enough to puncture a normal person's bottom.

After Leaf becomes a genuinely scary person, focusing only on aiming and shooting, he is basically not too willing to open his mouth to talk, so it was left to Stone and Storm to jump out. The two of them chimed in unison.

Stone first growled, "You've actually dared to abduct Knight-Captain Sun, wreak havoc on Leaf Bud City, and summon undead creatures of the darkness. Don't tell me you still hope that the Church of the God of Light will treat you with compassion?"

"Although love is very mighty, it's a pity that forced love is not mighty at all! Our Knight-Captain Sun does not have the least bit of interest in you." Storm lazily said, "You not only abducted him once before, but now you want to forcefully take him away again. How can we let you become the Demon King? Don't you think so?"

"You guys should recognize your own circumstances! It's only because of the Sun Knight that I haven't killed you yet." Charlotte yelled angrily, "Also, every demon king candidate is good at using the dark element; he would definitely summon undead creatures too! You idiots!"

Stone and Storm glanced at each other. Stone said rather helplessly, "She's not wrong in saying that."

Metal shrieked loudly, "At least surely he would not be interested in Knight-Captain Sun!"

"That's actually true. At least we can save our Knight-Captain Sun." Storm lifted up his head and spoke to me, "How about we make a deal? If you swear not to summon undead creatures, do your best to not wreck Leaf Bud City, and most importantly not to abduct the Sun Knight, then the Twelve Holy Knights will support you in becoming the Demon King, how about it?"

Who would want to abduct his own self? But then, it was just like Storm, who is good at diplomacy, to say things that are half true yet half false,

and even going as far as to know to collaborate with me in front of everyone in order to dispel the others' suspicions.

Although it seemed like only Charlotte, the Twelve Holy Knights, and I were currently present at the plaza, that wasn't so. Hiding not far away and secretly watching were a lot of people, and the fellows from the Cathedral of the Shadow God were especially numerous, giving off a really unpleasant feeling!

"Deal!" I loudly agreed.

"Wait a minute!"

Who knew where Stephen popped out from, but he even vociferously reprimanded everyone. "You shameless holy knights are thinking of besieging a weak lady?"

Weak lady... I said incredulously, "If I haven't remembered wrongly, she just blew up a plaza. If she is a weak lady, then don't tell me that those holy knights below are five year old babies?" When I finished speaking, I counted that I received ten annoyed looks.

"No one should interfere in a battle between demon king candidates!" Stephen agitatedly and furiously roared, "Even a lich wouldn't interfere when the candidates begin their confrontation! Didn't your lich tell you?"

When he finished speaking, he was silent for a while before asking, "Where is your lich?"

"Discarded," I replied lightly.

"Discarded?" Stephen was astonished.

At this moment, Charlotte interrupted to ask, "Stephen, where is the Sun Knight?"

"You're still thinking about the Sun Knight? I can't find him!" Stephen turned his head back and shouted, "Who asked you to believe his words? You thought he would truly come over obediently to let you carry him away?"

However, Charlotte used an even louder yell to reply, "He's the Sun

Knight. It's impossible for him to trick people!"

I really did come. It's you, yourself, that hasn't recognized me. You can't blame me for this.

Stephen's face was an expression of helplessness. If the two of us weren't in a state of hostility, I would really want to go up to pat his back and say some words of comfort.

"Leave the Twelve Holy Knights to me. Focus on fighting with him. After you finish fighting, you can then search for the Sun Knight again. The holy element on his body is so strong it won't be too hard to locate him. Remember! After you win the fight, you can lock your sweetheart in an ancient castle to love for a lifetime. However, if you lose the fight, you won't even have a life... Ah!"

Midway through speaking, Stephen suddenly let out a roar of pain, a sound unlike that of a living person. There were five holy light arrows piercing his body—on the vital points of his head, neck, heart, liver, and lower body respectively. If he had originally been a living person, he would now already be so dead that he could not die again.

Stephen lifted his head, half of his face covered with blood and brains. Luckily, I was unable to see colors. If not, then the entirely red and white, yet still moving, head would be really quite disgusting. His eyes grew so wide that they almost split open, and he growled, "You despicable holy knights, actually ambushing me..."

While he was still talking, Leaf fired a volley of arrows that hid the sky and covered the ground. Faced with the holy light arrows that were specially used to deal with undead creatures, Stephen had to dodge. Even if liches weren't afraid of dying, to receive those arrows head on, I'm afraid that that body of his would definitely be scrapped.

"Knight-Captain Leaf has had his bow raised for over five minutes," Metal mocked loudly. "How can that be considered an ambush?"

A human shadow actually leapt up from below into the sky, sending a powerful kick towards Stephen's back and causing him to momentarily plummet down like a shooting star.

The human shadow that had leapt up was Storm. The Storm Knight's weapon is a set of leg armor, as his main fighting style also used his legs. Although being kicked once sounds a lot less menacing than being slashed with a blade, the legs of a Storm Knight are legs that can break a normal person in half!

Even though Stephen was not a normal person, from the sound he had made, he had probably not received it too well.

Storm couldn't actually fly, so he began to drop. While he dropped, he also accelerated due to gravity and stepped on Stephen's back, causing the sound of Stephen's landing to be almost no different from an explosion. A large section of the plaza even sunk in.

Although in theory the Twelve Holy Knights should act just and honorably, the Storm Knight is the spokesperson for freedom. Doing some ambushing is also one of his displays of freedom. So it didn't actually matter, but if the others did it, it might...

Everyone, no matter whether it was the Storm Knight, or the supposedly honest and sincere Earth Knight, or even the compassionate Leaf Knight, they all charged up to uncaringly stomp on Stephen, and even cursed as they trampled him.

"Like we'd let you capture Sun! Just try to grab him again!"

"You caused so much trouble and hardship for us, making us evacuate the people!"

"The normal workload is already more than enough. Don't increase my blood pressure too!"

Even though I understood everyone's grudges very clearly, they shouldn't actually stomp so hard! There is a crowd of people watching secretly to the side. Everyone must take into consideration their image! Earth, even if you trample on people, can you not show such a malevolent expression? Leaf, you're a person who is compassionate both outwardly and inwardly, but now your manner of pummeling him with the bow makes me feel like hereafter it is better not to carelessly bully you...

Finally, it took Stephen flying up into the sky in one breath before he could evade the group of knights' trampling attacks. Even though he looked battered and exhausted, he didn't seem to have received any serious injuries. Everyone had surrounded him to beat him up again and again, but they hadn't actually used their weapons to attack. No matter what, the Twelve Holy Knights were not the sinister ones...

“Ah!”

Suddenly, a sword pierced through Stephen's chest, and it wasn't a normal sword, but the Divine Sun Sword! The distinctive shriek of an undead creature penetrated the skies. Despite that his left hand would be wounded, he resolutely pulled the Divine Sun Sword out. However, a large portion of his chest was already eroded, and the remnants of the holy light still continued to corrode his body.

It's truly a pity. If I were holding the sword, I could have completely destroyed his body!

Everyone looked towards the direction from which the Divine Sun Sword had been launched from. Knight-Captain Judgment stood at the edge of the plaza, his right hand wielding the Divine Judgment Sword, his left hand conversely raised up in the air, looking like he had just used it.

There was no doubt about it. The person who had ambushed Stephen was him. Now that was a proper sneak attack!

In any case, the Judgment Knight has criminal charges from wilfully slaughtering the innocent to cutting in line when buying desserts. He is absolutely notorious. That's why no matter what bad thing he does it is not strange at all!

Everyone really is... I couldn't control my laughter. I laughed louder and louder, becoming happier and happier. “Hahaha!”

“Stephen!”

Charlotte flew to Stephen's side, stretched out her hand and gathered a large ball of dark element which she poured into Stephen's body. The latter's wounds were immediately enveloped in dark element, which

stopped the corrosion.

Charlotte turned her head, the dark element in both her eyes burning like flames. She shouted irately, “You actually dared to do this to Stephen, while all along he was restraining me from killing all of you, stopping me from utterly turning this place into a dead city! And this is how you repay him?”

Stephen struggled for a few moments, and then shouted, “Charlotte, your dark element is entangling me. Hurry up and release me. Let me deal with the Twelve Holy Knights...”

But Charlotte yelled at him, “Follow behind me to control the death knights. You don’t have to bother about anything else!”

Then, she turned to glare at me, saying, “Let’s battle then! Even though I don’t wish to become the Demon King at all, you don’t wish to either, right? Too bad we both have a reason in which we must become the Demon King at all costs.”

I asked, puzzled, “You like the Sun Knight, right? Why not consider having a normal relationship with him? It’s not guaranteed that he would reject you. But you are choosing take him away by force. Doing so would only earn you his hatred.”

“I know.” Charlotte laughed as she spoke, “Do you believe that the Sun Knight can be together with a demon king candidate? Even if he doesn’t currently know my identity, later on the other two candidates will eventually find me, and even kill me!”

Her smile was not cute, but it gave me a sad yet beautiful feeling. What a laugh, I shouldn’t be able to differentiate between beauty and ugliness at all.

“I’ve finished speaking. What’s your reason?”

I was silent for a while, then said, “I...”

Charlotte suddenly appeared in front of my eyes. Teleportation, damn it!

“I don’t care about your reason.”

She smiled as she threw a punch. Of course, the fist of a priestess isn't very menacing, but the massive dark blade gathered on her fist was very deadly. I took a step back and at the same time used Shrouds of Darkness to block her. However, the shrouds I used were chopped into pieces by a single strike. I could only produce more Shrouds of Darkness to defend against her attack.

As Charlotte attacked, she laughed, "You aren't skilled at using dark spells, are you? Although I don't know why, you're dead for sure!"

Following the utterance of the three words "dead for sure," about thirty dark blades exploded out. All I could do was spread out ten or more shrouds of darkness to block them, but they were all destroyed along with many of the dark blades. Even though my Shrouds of Darkness had been completely exhausted, there were still about ten dark blades left.

I tried my hardest to dodge those dark blades, but because of that I couldn't attend to Charlotte's sudden attack, so the front of my chest was still slashed by a dark blade in her hand. Although I instantly retaliated, the shrouds of darkness surrounding her were much stronger, and only after blocking all of my attacks did they shatter into pieces.

Suddenly, she withdrew. After raising a shroud of darkness, she frowned as she looked down at the dark blade in her hand. The edge of the dark blade was no longer smooth, but had been corroded and was jagged.

Even though my body was currently filled with dark element, due to the many years my blood had been immersed in holy element, its ability to counter the dark element had apparently not changed. I hoped she wouldn't become suspicious.

I sneaked a glance at the situation below, having some misgivings about why no one had helped me out. Even though no one can fly, at least Leaf could have shot some arrows to help me, right?

With this glance, I realized that below was practically a chaotic battle. It seemed that everyone was battling one person against three death knights. Even though the strengths of those death knights were not on par the strength of the Twelve Holy Knights, those death knights weren't afraid of

getting injured at all. Even if their hands or legs were snapped off, they would be able to continue fighting. They could only be disposed of by chopping off their head or being wounded so badly they couldn't move, so this made it quite strenuous for everyone to deal with them.

“How can there be so many?” I cried out in alarm.

With some pride, Charlotte said, “I improved on the ceremony for the summoning of death knights. As long as it is a complete corpse, it can become a death knight. In these five years, I have created enough for an army! Although their strength is very far from that of a genuine death knight, the large number of them is quite troublesome too, right?”

An army? Can you please clarify on that? The size of an army can be huge or tiny! If the army is on the scale of a kingdom's, then you might as well directly conquer the world. Why do you even need to vie for the demon king position?

“Also, don't expect that those clerics out there will come to help. Earlier on, Stephen sent a group of death knights over. Just now that teenage pope has already run over to help!”

So that was the case. No wonder I hadn't seen the Pope for a while. It turned out he had gone to save the clerics under him.

“The dark element in your body has suddenly increased. Are you finally getting serious?”

I looked at her, and coldly said, “Withdraw those death knights, and I'll stop collaborating with the Twelve Holy Knights. Let only the two of us fight!”

Charlotte asked curiously, “You're worried for the Twelve Holy Knights? Why?”

“Are you going to withdraw them or not?” I asked impatiently.

She snorted as she replied, “You think I'll believe your words? If you want me to withdraw those death knights, then defeat me!”

“...Alright!”

I gathered a large amount of dark element. The element spread across the skies, gradually covering the whole sky.

“You’re serious now?” Charlotte’s voice was filled with excitement, “Now we’re talking!”

She flew back some distance, apparently wanting to leave the range of the gathered dark element, but I continued expanding the dark element. Although this would greatly increase the strain on my body, this was the only way I could beat her—using my sensing ability.

In this kind of concentrated dark element, visibility will become poor. Even though she should be able to use the sensing ability too, to instantly use it as a substitute for vision is unlikely to be a simple matter.

However, I am an eye-opened blind person. If I don’t want to be unable to see, I can only frantically use my sensing ability. In a single day, I have to use my sensing ability for at least ten or more hours. Unless the other candidates are also blind, then there is definitely no one whose sensing ability is stronger than mine!

Charlotte shouted angrily, “Stop fooling around! Do you believe that this will render me unable to attack you? The dark element in our bodies is so concentrated, it simply cannot be hidden!

“Stop playing tricks with me!” She roared and released a large attack at the same time.

As I avoided the attacks, I slowly expelled the dark element in my body and continued to dye the sky black. The Divine Sun Sword was not far below me, and borrowing its strength, it wasn’t too hard to expel most of the dark element from my body. Along with the decrease of dark element in my body, Charlotte’s attacks also decreased in accuracy.

At this moment, I whispered, “Dragon’s Saint Brigandine, in the name of the descendants of Dragons, I command thee, activate!”

Upon finishing the recitation, my body was wrapped up tightly in a leotard.

My lord, your servant is not good for aerial battles, and suggests you

descend to the ground to carry out the battle.

“Shut up, I want to ask you a few things.”

Yes.

Charlotte’s attack completely lost its accuracy, and only then was I able to focus on various arrangements. However, I hadn’t carried it out for long when suddenly a dark blade shot directly towards me. I was startled, and since my body didn’t have much dark element to use Shrouds of Darkness, I could only hastily dodge this dark blade.

At that moment, Charlotte suddenly appeared in front of my eyes.

I clearly sensed she was still far away... She also expelled the dark element in her body? And actually sneakily made a substitute to muddle my sensing ability.

“I’ve caught you.” Charlotte showed a sweet smile, and laughed, “You know how to deceive me. Did you think I wouldn’t know how to do it too? This trick is no use against me... Ahhh!”

Our surroundings lit up with countless sparks. Lightning shot out in all directions, attacking Charlotte and me without distinction.

Chapter 9: The Ninth Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "The Wrong Choice"

Ha!

I smiled, even though the lightning caused my smile to become a bit twitchy. Not only did I gather dark element to obscure her vision, I also gathered a large amount of water element, except I kept it all by my side.

Charlotte may be a lot more powerful than me in using dark magic, but she definitely didn't learn magic haphazardly and constantly misused it at every opportunity like me!

The air around me was filled with water element. Now, I only needed a bit of electricity. By this time, even Charlotte wouldn't be able to block the pervasive electricity with her Shrouds of Darkness! Although the spread of lightning wasn't exactly strong, to priests, who only trained their magic and not their endurance, this amount of electricity would be enough to stun her for a few seconds.

As for me, I am a holy knight, who has the best endurance. This small amount of electricity is as comfortable as a massage!

I flew to Charlotte's side. The Shrouds of Darkness that she always had surrounding her were still there. However, due to the dispersion of dark element from her body, the Shrouds of Darkness were much weaker than before. I only needed to strike one with an ice bolt and the shroud was destroyed.

When the Shrouds of Darkness shattered, Charlotte's eyes snapped open with shock. Although I immediately went for her with the dagger in my hands, she was able to dodge my attack in time. Because of this, the dagger was only able to scratch the tip of her neck. Without delay, she flung out an enormous amount of dark element, causing me to be pushed back several meters by the explosion, sustaining even more injuries than Charlotte.

In disbelief, Charlotte asked, “Water element, lightning, and a dagger? You...You actually abandoned using the Demon King’s most powerful dark element and chose to use these petty tricks? What are you thinking?”

The cut on her neck had already stopped bleeding. The wound I made sure was shallow. But it didn’t matter. I didn’t exchange my blood with Dragon’s Saint Brigandine for a mere dagger.

“Huh?” Her body suddenly swayed. She stared at me with a terrified expression, shouting, “What did you do?”

It seemed that whenever Charlotte yelled, attacks followed. However, her attacks right then were not aimed properly. Thus, I could dodge them all with little effort.

Luckily I didn’t guess wrong. Dragon’s Saint Brigandine really is a wonderfully equipped assassin’s garment that is able to provide anything I want. Not only does it have daggers, it also has poison! In addition, there are twenty poisons to choose from. Of course, I chose the poison that, even if it were unable to kill her in one shot, would still be able to paralyze her instantly. Otherwise, the first person to fall into the depths of hell might be me!

I summoned more water element and then proceeded to continuously cast layer upon layer of ice shackles to restrain Charlotte. Not only did she not resist, she nearly fell. Luckily, the ice shackles were there to support her; otherwise she definitely would have broken many bones from the fall. Although, regardless of whether she broke bones or not, the aftermath still would have been the same.

This poison sure is powerful. No wonder the Dragon’s Saint Brigandine said that the price was 500 ml of blood.

By this time, Charlotte looked as if all the energy in her body had drained out. Her entire body was limp against the ice shackles that held her. Her eyes were beginning to cloud over as tears built up in the corners of her eyes. She murmured, “S-Sun Knight....”

“ ... ”

I stopped intentionally lowering my tone of voice, and said, “Charlotte, it is me.”

She was dumbstruck. I flew before her, took off my mask, and pushed my loose and messy hair behind my ears to allow her to see my face clearly.

“Sun Knight... So that’s how it is.” Unexpectedly, she wasn’t furious, nor did she blame me for deceiving her. Instead, she said longingly, “You really came this time.”

This time?

“Have... have you really forgotten me, or are you just pretending?”

“I really don’t remember.” I shook my head. No matter how much I tried to recall, I didn’t have the faintest impression.

“How can that be...? When I was little, I would unconsciously gather dark element, which led to me often being called a cursed girl. That day, I was being bullied again by other kids and you happened to pass by and stepped in to save me. However, your swordsmanship really sucked, haha! We ended up getting beaten up together instead.”

Huh? That really does sound a lot like me.

“But when the kids left, you immediately healed our injuries. We played together for the whole day, and you even gave me a lollipop at the end. You told me that you would become the Sun Knight in the future and when that happened, you’d take me as your wife and see if anyone still dared to call me a cursed girl.”

I blurted out, “That is impossible. You must have the wrong person. If something like that happened, I definitely wouldn’t forget it.”

However, it didn’t seem like she heard me. She kept mumbling to herself, “You said that you had to follow your teacher that night to find your big sister, and that you would look for me again the next day. But no matter how long I waited, you never came.”

I was stunned. It was that same day? I remember my teacher saying that

after I fainted, I woke up not remembering anything. Could it be that I had even forgot about meeting Charlotte?

Cough, Cough...

Charlotte suddenly started coughing incessantly and kept coughing out blood. She gasped twice, and murmured, "Po-Pocket, lollipop..."

I reached into the pocket on her robe. The blueberry lollipop inside had already shattered into small pieces. I picked the largest piece, and then put it in Charlotte's mouth. At the same time, I cast healing magic on her. Although holy magic for detoxification existed, I wasn't able to cast it in my present state.

She smiled, "So sweet! Sun Knight, the question you asked me before... If I really chose to have a relationship with you, would you have fallen in love with me?"

I was stupefied for a moment. Then, I honestly replied, "Maybe I would. I once thought you were really cute."

"Ha! Luckily I didn't do that. How can the Sun Knight possibly fall in love with the Demon King? If you fell in love with me, you would definitely be in a lot of pain, right? That's why I had to capture you and imprison you in a castle. Then, I would have twelve kids with you, and we would name them after the Twelve Holy Knights. You would probably be very angry, and argue with me every day... Ha!"

She chuckled. Her smiling face was really cute. Then, she never spoke again after that.

I gently touched her face for the first and last time. I quietly said, "It's unfortunate that you made the wrong choice. Even if I were to fall in love with the Demon King, I would have been able to devise a plan to solve everything."

Suddenly, something floated out of the center of Charlotte's forehead. I couldn't really say what it was exactly. If I had to describe it, I would say it was similar to a gem fragment. Then, that gem fragment suddenly rushed towards me. Although I moved my head to the side in time, the fragment

still turned and flew into my forehead.

I hurriedly reached up to rub my forehead but wasn't able to feel anything. Even when I used my sensing ability, there was only my brain inside my head. There was nothing else.

Could that have been a fragment of the vessel?

“Charlotte!”

Stephen rushed over and immediately froze when he saw Charlotte. He looked at her blankly for a while, then extended his hand and unexpectedly, used Hell's Fire to burn her corpse.

I froze for a moment, but didn't stop him. The two of us silently watched her corpse burn to ashes.

Stephen turned his head to look at me, saying, “The Sun Knight. Ha! It's truly a great disguise. Although my plan wasn't bad either, it's too bad I was a step too late. Charlotte had already seen you and even wanted you no matter what. The only thing in her head was to go back to Leaf Bud City to find the Sun Knight as soon as possible!”

“But I really don't remember her.” I tried my best to remember, but I just couldn't remember anything related to Charlotte.

Stephen furrowed his eyebrows, asking, “Did your lich seal your memory?”

“No.”

“Is it Pink or Scarlet? How could she not be by your side when the demon king candidates are battling it out?”

“It's Scarlet. I sealed her.”

“I'll overlook that you killed the girl who loved you, but you didn't even let your lich get away. You really are suitable to be the Demon King!” After he finished his sarcastic remarks, he sighed and muttered, “I knew from the very beginning that Charlotte wasn't suitable and had no desire to be the Demon King, but how could I possibly just watch her get killed by the other candidates? Did you know? If you were to become the Demon King, I

would have to listen to your orders. I would have to follow you, the one who killed my precious child! I curse you to die by the other candidate's hands, you despicable bastard!"

With his reminder, I suddenly remembered something important. I asked, "Is there any way not to kill the other candidate, but still allow the Demon King to be born?"

Stephen blanked out for a moment, then burst into laughter as he said, "Yes, of course there is! But are you willing to let go of power that belittles everything? Or did you want Charlotte, who loved you, to sacrifice her power? Let me tell you, she would not have given it up. Only power could ensure that you would stay by her side forever."

I know, that's why I definitely couldn't let her acquire this power. I don't have the slightest wish to be imprisoned in a castle forever either.

"Everyone wants to control others, but no one wants to be controlled. Therefore, there is no one who could possibly refuse the powers of the Demon King! Once you become the Demon King, your power won't only be three times stronger. You would be stronger than what you are now by tenfold! By that time, nothing and nobody would be able to prevent you from doing whatever you want to do. Even if you were to face the armies of a country, you still wouldn't lose! You could control everything!"

"How is it? It sounds better than what you thought, right?" Stephen asked, smiling widely. "Even if you were to have found out about this method beforehand, would you really be willing to give this power up?"

I was silent for a moment, and then said, "I don't want to control everything. I only want to protect the people who are important to me."

"There are many people who are important to you, right?" Stephen said softly. "Then your reason for becoming the Demon King is a lot more sufficient than Charlotte's. The people Charlotte wanted to protect were only you and herself, and yet even with the powers of a demon king candidate, she still couldn't do it. But you, how many people do you want to protect?"

A lot... I clenched my fists, thinking about Leaf, Judgment, Teacher losing

his hand, and even His Majesty the king. Even though I have the powers of a demon king candidate, they were still hurt or had even died!

“Kill me.”

I was shocked. I looked at Stephen uncomprehendingly.

“I will return with a woman’s corpse.” Stephen smiled faintly and said, “My real name is [Corpse Phen](#). Corpse meaning dead body, and Phen as in phenethyl alcohol which is used in perfumes. The dark knight Stephen only belongs to Charlotte. He is not yours, nor the other candidate’s subordinate.”

Corpse Phen? Why are all the names of these liches so weird? I said, “Okay, but you have to tell me something. Is there a special meaning behind your names?”

Corpse Phen nodded without a care and said, “With [Corpse Claret](#), the first corpse he possessed died from excessive blood loss. His body was dyed scarlet from top to bottom with blood. As for [Pink Corpse](#), he used a body that was killed by inhaling poisonous gas. Thus, it had pink skin. The body I possessed was a rich lady that died from being poisoned. Even when she was dead, her body still retained a large amount of perfume.”

So they are all ‘Corpses’ huh? I nodded and waved my hand, turning Corpse Phen into a torch of Hell’s Fire. But right after, I suddenly thought of another question. Quickly, I asked, “Do you all especially like to use the corpses of little girls? Why is that?”

“Don’t you know?” The burning Corpse Phen said while smiling, “The Shadow God most frequently uses the image of a little girl...”

His words broke in the middle as his entire body suddenly crumbled into ashes.

Oh! So it’s because the Shadow God likes to pretend to be a little girl? I thought the Shadow God was supposed to wear a black robe and look extremely sinister.

Within the ashes, a small orb of dark element slowly rose up. I reached out my hand to grab the orb of dark element.

“Scarlet is inside my necklace.” Holding onto the lich’s soul, I explained to him, “After finding out the truth, I feel that I have wronged her a bit. Therefore, I don’t want to leave her inside the necklace by herself. I might as well just send you in to be with her.”

The soul struggled desperately but was unable to tear itself away from my hand.

I seem to have become stronger than before. Is it because of that fragment from Charlotte that shot into my head?

I tried gathering dark element. It really has become much easier than before.

My sensing ability seemed to have become stronger too. Even though I was under such a thick and dense covering of dark element, I was still able to clearly see everyone’s positions and even the small and subtle changes in their expressions. They were holding up their weapons and looking very surprised because the death knights in the square had all collapsed to the ground.

Charlotte and Stephen had been vanquished, so the death knights shouldn’t stand up ever again.

This feeling is fantastic!

I happily flew towards everyone. Everyone raised their heads to look towards the sky, but obviously they weren’t able to see anything as the dark element that I had gathered hadn’t been dispelled yet! I didn’t plan to dispel it anytime soon either, as there was still a whole bunch of people hiding at the side watching sneakily.

Heh! I’ll show them sooner or later, especially Awaitsun!

Everyone furrowed their eyebrows, looking at the sky. I flew to the area above them and dispelled part of the element to allow them to see me. Once they saw me, they stopped frowning.

The moment I descended, Judgment walked towards me, asking, “Solved?”

I nodded, asking, "Where is the Eternal Tranquility?"

Judgment went blank, then hurriedly took the necklace off his neck and handed it over to me. After I took Eternal Tranquility, he seemed to breathe a sigh of relief.

I forced Corpse Phen's soul into the necklace. Although I didn't know whether Corpse Phen and Corpse Claret got along or not, even if they weren't on good terms, arguing would still be better than living in there alone.

I stretched out my hand to give the necklace back to Judgment, but he suddenly tensed before immediately relaxing again.

He took the necklace and, at the same time, pulled the Divine Sun Sword out. Smiling, he said, "I had forgotten. I was supposed to pass the Divine Sun Sword to you first, wait until you absorbed holy element and your hair turned gold, and only after that should you put the necklace back on. That was the correct procedure, right?"

I didn't accept the divine sword. I merely shook my head, saying, "Judgment, I've thought things through. I will become the Demon King,"

Judgment was stunned. Then, he started bellowing, "Everyone, draw your weapons! Surround him! The target is Knight-Captain Sun!"

Everyone reflexively took out their weapons and moved into formation... Once they came to their senses and realized that the one they were surrounding was me, everyone froze. They lowered the weapons in their hands and awkwardly looked at Judgment and me.

"Everyone, listen to me!"

I calmly surveyed them, explaining, "Silent Eagle once told me that the birth of the Demon King could save the world. However, a terrifying Demon King could also decimate half of the entire world. If I hand over the position of the Demon King to the other person, and if he ignores the law and commits outrageous crimes, the Church of the God of Light would have to deploy troops to fend against him. When the time comes, we would be forced to fight him, and it's highly likely that people will die!"

“Don’t put down your weapons!” Judgment warned. “Sun told me that even if he didn’t want to receive the Divine Sun Sword, I should still shove the divine sword into his hands!”

When they heard this, everyone gripped their weapons tighter and their expressions looked much more resolute.

“I was being too selfish then!” I shouted, “Think about it! If I become the Demon King, not only would I be able to save the world, you also wouldn’t have to be worried whether the Demon King would go to extremes... You guys can believe in me, right? I, as the Demon King, wouldn’t kill the innocent nor destroy the world. I would be the nicest Demon King! I can promise, all of you, Leaf Bud City, and everyone else would not be hurt!”

Everyone’s expressions wavered, and the strength they used to hold their weapons also weakened.

I looked at Judgment. I said resolutely, “Judgment... Lesus, I want to become the Demon King. I don’t want to put it like this, but being the Demon King gives me more freedom than being the Sun Knight. I feel extremely happy. In addition, if I were to do this, it would be a good thing for everyone, even for the whole world. Thus, there is no reason for me to keep refusing to be the Demon King.”

Judgment was still expressionless.

I sincerely begged, “Judgment... no, Lesus. As the Judgment Knight, you should know what is best. Therefore, let me become the Demon King.”

He remained silent for a moment, and then suddenly said, “I don’t care.”

Alarmed, I hurriedly asked, “What?”

Lesus suddenly showed an extremely furious expression. He shouted angrily, “I don’t care what reasons you have, what excuses you give, whether you are happy or unhappy, what you want to do or don’t want to do! I’m not staying in the position of the Judgment Knight because of happiness either. Since you’ve already chosen to be the Sun Knight, then no matter whether you are going through happiness or pain, you must carry out the responsibilities of the Sun Knight. You have to shoulder your

light around the Sun Knight!”

It was so painful that I was unable to focus my sensing ability. Under the situation that I couldn't see, I could only scream, “Let go of me... Ah!”

Jesus pushed the blade down further.

“Believe in me.” I could hear Jesus' voice continuing, “And believe in our Knight-Captain Sun!”

The holy light exuding from the Divine Sun Sword was extremely hot, making the entire wound feel like it was burning. I was in so much pain that sweat started to pour from me, and it became impossible for me to sense what everyone was doing. However, I could begin to feel that there was holy light surrounding my body. The holy light was even flowing into me through my wound, causing the dark element to flow out.

The process was so painful that it felt as if my whole body was set on fire. I could only continuously beg for everyone to stop.

“Jesus, stop!”

“Blaze, help me! Leaf, it hurts...”

“Roland! Don't listen to Jesus, I'm the head of the Holy Temple!”

“Ah...”

*

The dark element had completely dispersed from my body and my body was filled with holy light once more. I wonder, what color my hair is now? Is it black or white? It shouldn't be golden, since I didn't envelop my hair with holy light.

After the dark element was driven out, that burning feeling disappeared as well. Although the Divine Sun Sword was still pierced through my body, I didn't feel that burning sensation anymore. This bit of pain was still within the boundaries of being bearable. No matter what you say, I am still a holy knight, which has the best endurance!

I lazily said, “Judgment, although it doesn't hurt as much anymore, you should still pull the sword out. Otherwise, I won't be able to heal my

wound.”

Judgment lowered his head to look at me, and then pulled out Eternal Tranquility to tie around my neck. However, he still didn't extract the Divine Sun Sword from my body. His expression seemed extremely wary, as his eyebrows were so furrowed he could probably squish a mosquito to death with them.

“I knew there would come a day when I would be bashed up by you and still have to say ‘I'm sorry, I was wrong.’” I paused, and then said. “I'm sorry, I was wrong. And thank you for not letting me go.”

Judgment was rather startled. It was only then that he pulled the sword out. It was so painful I nearly screamed. Couldn't you have done it more gently?

However, the next moment I really did want to scream. Judgment, he, he threw away the sword and actually collapsed onto my shoulder with his head lowered... He... He isn't crying, right?!

He didn't make any sound at all. He only rested his forehead on my shoulder and used his black hair that hung down to cover his face. However, his hair couldn't block my sensing ability. I could still see his expression... and the small amount of water element in the corners of his eyes.

He spoke so softly that I was the only one who could hear him. “Sun, I didn't know if what I did was right or wrong. If you were to still insist on leaving after I pierced the sword through...”

I immediately interrupted, “You didn't do anything wrong! Lesus Judgment is always right. For the past decade or so, when were you ever wrong?”

He smiled and said, “Doing one thing wrong allowed you to acquire three favors from me. Even up to this day, I have not returned them all. How could I possibly dare to do something wrong again?”

Judgment stood up. There was no more water element in the corners of his eyes. He returned to the usual cold and cool face of the Judgment

Knight and reached out his hand to pull me up. But he was too rough, causing my wound to reopen. I bent over, curling up with the pain. I couldn't even talk for what seemed like an eternity.

"Sun!" Leaf ran to my side and quickly casted healing magic on my wound.

Leaf's healing magic wasn't sufficient, but following him were a few others who cast healing magic as well. In the blink of an eye, my injuries were nearly fully healed.

The moment I straightened up, everyone started scolding me. Earth was the first to start yelling. "You went missing for over a month, so I thought you were dead already. I even dug a grave for you!"

"So you saw a beautiful girl and let down your guard?" Storm said coldly.

Stone sighed, "When your vice-captain heard that you were missing, he fainted on the spot. I don't even remember how long it took to convince him before he was willing to take everyone and evacuate."

"You left everything for us to do! You sure got to sleep well!"

"You have to read documents for a whole year as punishment!"

"You're not allowed to eat sweets for three years!"

"Might as well just imprison him for sixteen years. Just imprison him until he retires!"

Seeing that it seemed like everyone still wanted to continue shouting at me, and the punishments were getting more and more out of hand, I quickly tried to divert everyone's attention. I shouted, "Still saying all that? You guys saw how I was shouting so miserably, and you still didn't save me!"

Everyone was stunned for a moment. Storm was the first to shrug his shoulders and say, "It's because you didn't relay your orders seriously, but Judgment was really serious!"

"I know, right! He wasn't even serious when he called out the order, and he blames it on us?"

Ah, I almost forgot that everyone has this mysterious sense of judgment.

I turned to look at Roland, the only one that didn't have that sense of judgment. Feeling resentful, I criticized him, "Roland, you actually didn't help me this time!"

"Huh?" Roland jumped in fright. Then, he smiled as he said, "It's because you didn't give a serious order."

What? Even Roland can tell when I'm seriously relaying an order and when I'm not now? How can they tell?

I immediately asked, "How exactly can you tell the difference?"

Stone shook his head, saying, "We can't tell you. Otherwise, you would definitely pretend to be serious in the future."

"Exactly!" Storm agreed loudly. "Everyone, vow to the God of Light that you will keep this secret until Sun retires!"

Everyone shouted in unison, "We vow to the God of Light!"

Chapter 10: The Tenth Week of Annihilating an Undying Lich: "Demon King"

“After you went missing, we searched everywhere for you and also sent someone to alert the king. He immediately gave the evacuation order. The next month was like hell. While we were busy searching for you, we also had to evacuate the entirety of Leaf Bud City.”

“Also, we had to take care of the matter with Charlotte and Stephen. We had no evidence at all to accuse the two of them of being the Demon King and a lich. Silent Eagle was also skeptical about the claim.”

“The Pope said there were traces of spatial overlap in Stephen’s room, not that we understood what a spatial overlap was... Anyway, the point is he said he had a way to find you!”

“However we were worried that citizens might get injured in a head-on clash, so we waited until the evacuation was finished to make our move. The plan was for the Pope to get you out while we stalled Charlotte and Stephen. But they found out halfway through and snatched you back, so we ended up fighting in the plaza.”

The Twelve Holy Knights sat in the meeting room. Everyone was talking over each other to report the happenings of the past month.

I was still trying to wrap my head around the fact that a whole month had already passed. I had practically only closed and then opened my eyes, and in the end, not only was a whole month gone, so much had happened too.

Leaf said with a smile, “Thank goodness for Knight-Captain Hell’s presence. That dark magic of Charlotte’s was truly frighteningly powerful. If Hell hadn’t been present, there was no way we could have stalled them.”

I turned to face Roland. The latter was at a bit of a loss about what to do, and he frantically said, “It was nothing. It was all thanks to everyone

working together.”

Seeing him in a fluster was truly quite funny. Despite his embarrassment, he could not help the smile that tugged at the corners of his mouth. It looks like Roland should be quite happy being the Hell Knight...

Sun, good job!

I was startled but immediately realized this was probably Pink using psychic magic to communicate with me.

However, you probably don't want to be the Demon King, right? Hehe, I have a way to let you not be the Demon King yet not have to die! Are you surprised? If you don't want to be the Demon King, come and find me!

I knew it! I rolled my eyes. That wretch Pink, she was clearly watching the excitement from the sidelines and taking advantage of the situation. Without an ounce of effort, her demon king candidate could actually become the Demon King. It was so easy that it was ridiculous!

I locked onto Pink's location, and then responded.

Isn't it too dangerous for me to go find you by myself? If your candidate wants to kill me later, I can't win against the both of you alone.

Hmph! If I wanted to kill you, you would have died a hundred times already.

She was right. If Pink had wanted to kill me, she definitely had many opportunities to do so.

Bring Roland along, then. It should be enough to have a death lord with you, right? But you can't bring anyone other than that. I'm worried that you'll kill my candidate too!

All right.

Then come here! Oh, right, remember to bring my strawberry shaved ice.

Just after I finished my negotiations with Pink, I regained awareness of my surroundings to find everyone staring at me.. I quickly explained to everyone, “Just now, I was communicating with the last lich using psychic

magic. We have come to an agreement. She knows how to let the other candidate become the Demon King without taking my life. So right now I have to pay her a visit to take care of things once and for all.”

“Is it Pink?” Judgment frowned as he said, “Are you sure she’s not lying to you? Is there really such a method?”

I nodded, saying, “I’ve confirmed it with Stephen. There really is a method. Pink also understands me well and knows that I don’t want to be the Demon King. Since I’m already willing to give up the demon king position to her candidate, she should have no reason to clash with me.”

Judgment was still worried and said, “I’m coming with you.”

I replied, somewhat reluctantly, “Pink said I’m only allowed to take Roland along, in case I wanted to kill her candidate.”

Roland then added, “Pink won’t cause trouble. She has helped us many times before.”

Judgment thought for a bit, and then gave a nod as he said, “Then you two be careful.”

I stood up, told Ice that I was going to his room to pick up the strawberry syrup, and then called for Roland. The two of us went to leave the meeting room together. Before leaving, I turned and said, “When I come back later, this Demon King case will be completely resolved. In order to save time and let the citizens of Leaf Bud City return home sooner, everyone, remember to continue the meeting and finish discussing all the follow-up work. No need to wait for me to return before discussing it!”

One after another, everyone rolled their eyes at me.

“Don’t try to make excuses for being lazy and wanting to skip the meeting!” Earth snapped, “Also, when have we ever waited for you before starting a meeting? By the time you arrive, we’d already be finished with the meeting! Hurry and scam now!”

*

Roland and I arrived at the doll shop. There wasn’t a single person inside

the shop. Even the beastmen had vanished without a trace. Then again, this was to be expected. If there were still people in here after the whole city had been emptied, it might attract attention from the royal knights or the holy knights.

As we entered the backroom together, we were greeted by the sight of Pink perched on her chair, seated in the same manner of having her small knickers exposed to the open air. She went straight to the point and asked, “My shaved ice?”

Annoyed, I chucked the whole bag of strawberry shaved ice at her. She immediately took one out and began to scarf it down.

“Where’s your candidate?” I was put off by the fact that I saw no one else besides Pink and said, “Is there really a need to be so mysterious? You should know that I only want to be the Sun Knight, and that I have absolutely no interest in fighting over the demon king position with your candidate, right?”

“I know that!” Pink ate several mouthfuls of shaved ice before shrugging and saying, “But the Cathedral of the Shadow God definitely won’t let my candidate become the Demon King.”

What...Guh! A stab of pain shot through my shoulder. Out of reflex, I dropped down and rolled away to reduce the damage to a minimum.

Somebody stabbed me from behind? But Roland is standing behind me. He couldn’t have been defeated already? I snapped my head up, only to see Roland with his sword raised. From the sword, blood dripped nonstop. The blood even carried holy element. It’s my blood!

Lost as to what was going on, my only thought was to protect myself first by casting the Shield of Earth, but...

Pink giggled as she said, “You cannot gather elements here.”

This phrase sure sounds familiar, and I’m afraid the reason why is the same. In here, only demon king candidates can gather dark element!

I immediately reached up to take off the Eternal Tranquility, but I could not remove the necklace from my neck because it was secured there by

black threads. Furthermore, those black threads were actually emerging from underneath my shirt, but the only thing there was...

“Dragon’s Saint Brigandine had been slightly modified by me!” Pink mentioned nonchalantly, “It does recognize you as its master, but while in this room, it’ll only listen to me!”

On the front of my chest, there now grew many thread-like substances from the surface of the dragon-shaped insignia. They stretched all the way to my neck and secured Eternal Tranquility tightly there. Even though these thread-like substances felt just like the bodysuit fabric, I was unable to tear them off no matter what I did.

I could only give up on this pointless endeavor and cautiously turn my attention to Roland and Pink. I asked, “Roland, just what are you doing? Were you the one who stabbed me?”

“Sun, you’re really stupid when it comes to certain matters!” Pink smiled as she said, “Do you really not understand, or are you purposely refusing to understand?”

Roland being accidentally turned into a death knight...

The incredibly complicated process detailed in A Complete Guide to Necromancy Spells for making death knights...

The day I lost my memories when I ordered Adair to dispatch someone to trail Roland...

The ‘concern’ Pink had to take care of in Leaf Bud City...

Bitterly, I opened my mouth and asked, “Roland is the last demon king candidate? What exactly happened on that day I lost my memories?”

Pink shrugged and said, “Scarlet somehow managed to break through the seal that the Pope and Neo made together with the Divine Sun Sword. She not only found you but also told you the truth. In the end, you were so angry that you tried to ambush me using the Divine Sun Sword. However, I had always had a magic circle that prevents elemental gathering cast on my house, so you got thrashed by me instead.

“I originally wanted to kill you then, but to save you, Scarlet forcefully broke my magic circle from the outside and sent you away with teleportation. However, in doing so she took heavy damage. Not only did her new body get destroyed, even her soul was affected.

“Thankfully, I managed to use psychic magic to seal your memories in the moment before you were teleported away. But that dealt me a lot of damage too! If you had not fainted and dropped the Divine Sun Sword from your hands, I probably wouldn’t have been able to do it.”

I stared at her but did not know what to say. Pink still looked like the same old Pink, but I was struck with the sudden realization that, perhaps I had never truly understood her these past ten years!

Pink sighed, and then said, “Such a shame! Sun, I actually truly like you a lot, really I do! Compared to the dense Roland, your personality is much more interesting. It’s only too bad that my child is Roland and not you. For his sake, I can only ask you to die.”

Just then, Roland suddenly rushed forward, followed closely by a slash of his sword. I could not even see his movements, never mind trying to dodge them. I felt a chilling breeze on my neck and quickly took a few steps back. When I touched my neck, I felt a patch of moist wetness.

I immediately pressed onto my neck tightly, but the blood continued to flow with no hope of stopping. This wound added to the previous one on my shoulder was causing major blood loss. I began to feel dizzy; then my legs gave out and my entire body collapsed to the ground.

“Why? I agreed to give up the position... Could it be that that method doesn’t even exist?”

Pink shrugged, saying, “Sure it does! However, that method needs to take place at the altar in the Cathedral of the Shadow God, and those people at the Cathedral of the Shadow God definitely won’t let my Roland become the Demon King. You see, there’s always a limit to how much chaos a living person can cause, but nobody can tell just what kinds of things an undead creature would do.”

So you were lying to me? You planned to kill me from the start? I could

not comprehend this and asked, “Why wait until now to strike? You have had many chances to make your move.”

“There actually weren’t many chances. I didn’t find out that you were actually also one of the demon king candidates until much later. Though I still had opportunities to kill you, it felt like it’d be a bit of a shame. I wasn’t even sure if Roland could win against the other candidate! Also, if the Cathedral of the Shadow God found out that Roland was a death knight during their battle, it was very likely that they’d lend a hand to the other candidate.”

Pink rationalized in a tone that was so detached it was cruel. “It was much too risky to battle the other candidate; however, it’s much easier to kill you. You’d even let Roland stand behind you with his sword raised, giving him your complete trust.”

Roland... I looked toward him. His face held no expression. He just stared at me with his head lowered.

Seeing me lying on the ground, bleeding nonstop, yet you can remain expressionless? Could it be that I’ve never truly understood you either? Roland!

“Even though the Cathedral won’t accept undead creatures as the Demon King, I still had to let Roland turn into a death knight.” Pink grumbled, “Never again do I want to see my child get killed by an expedition after exhausting the dark element that they absorbed! As long as he becomes a death knight, the Demon King’s powers will surely allow him to evolve into the highest level of the undead— a death monarch! Then, even if he uses up all of his dark element and is no longer the Demon King, there’d be no need to worry about him being killed by others.”

Roland’s death was single-handedly orchestrated by Pink? Despite the dizziness that was setting in, I still wanted to get to the bottom of all this. I could not believe that everything about Roland was faked this whole time. Impossible! I stared at him, and asked, “Was-Wasn’t it the king who tortured you to death?”

Instead of Roland answering me, Pink was the one who opened her mouth and replied, “Do you really think that fat pig of a king has the patience and methods to slowly torture someone to death for three months? It was only under my hypnosis that he gained the patience and learned the torture methods.”

The true culprit for Roland’s torturous death was Pink? There was no way Roland could have known, or else he wouldn’t have held a grudge against the king as a death knight. However, Roland has not said anything after hearing Pink’s words, so could it be that he already knew? He knew, yet he is not afraid of her?

I don’t understand, just what is going on? Roland, do you really want to kill me, for the sake of becoming the Demon King?

Pink said, “At first, to prevent Roland from killing him and then passing on, I thought I had to put in a lot of effort into protecting that pig. But in the end, Roland’s obsession was to become the Sun Knight. That saved me a lot of trouble. However, you saved me even more trouble, by going as far as getting Roland to become the Hell Knight. That disguise is actually pretty good, so I’ll forgive you for stealing the Sun Knight position from Roland back then!”

Roland... I looked toward him. He still had no expression at all. Also, for some unknown reason, even though his appearance was still human, his eyes had turned into twin orbs of flame. I could not even tell if he was looking at me or not.

Roland, look at me! I’m Grisia. Do you really want to kill me?

“You don’t need to stare at him,” Pink squatted down and murmured. “You don’t really care for him anyways. He is a death knight, you know. Do you really think that death didn’t affect him at all? He is pained by his identity as an undead creature, but you had no idea, so he could only come to me to speak of his fears.

“He told me, ‘Everyone around him was so lively, he was like a walking tombstone. He could not understand at all why others felt excitement, sadness, or even happiness.’ I can actually understand; he is already dead

after all. Is there anything more serious and emotional than death? So of course he can't get stirred up, though he did try really hard to act out different emotions."

"..."

Pink walked back and perched on her chair again. Then, she mumbled as she ate more strawberry shaved ice, "It's just too bad that I'll never get to eat the strawberry shaved ice that your Ice Knight makes again."

Cold, it's freezing cold... "Kill me."

"No way!" Pink refused immediately, "The fewer wounds on the corpse, the more durable the undead creature made from it will be. You shouldn't have forgotten that your body after your death belongs to me, right? To avoid making another wound, you should just bleed and bleed until you die."

"I am... the Sun Knight." I said, trembling, "I will not d-die so easily."

"Oh?" Pink smiled around a bite of shaved ice, saying, "Even the Sun Knight will die when all his blood has flowed away, right? I'm not in a rush. You can take your time dying!"

No! Don't let me await death! Please, I beg of you... Roland... Kill me!

Kill me, I'm begging you...

...

"Wow, the Sun Knight is really something. I've already finished the shaved ice, and you're still not dead... Roland, what are you doing?"

Ugh!

Extra: Sixth Shared Rule of the Twelve Holy Knights: “We Can Never Lose the Sun Knight”

“The task on hand now is to report to the king.” Lesus Judgment turned to Aivis and said, “Stone, when Sun returns, go with him to the palace.”

“Understood,” Aivis immediately nodded.

Even though Vival’s chin was raised in a prideful manner, he wore a worried expression on his face and said, “We also have to quickly inform the personnel from the Church of the God of Light who have retreated. I am truly worried for Sun’s vice-captain. Not only has Adair been overworked, now he has to worry excessively for his captain. He looks like he’s going to drop dead at any moment! If we inform them too late, then Sun probably won’t even have a vice-captain anymore.”

“No, no, no,” Ceo wailed. “Adair can’t drop dead! If he dies, then I can’t live either!”

“More like you will flee the Holy Temple in the dead of night...”

Elmairy suddenly exclaimed, “Everyone, look out the window!”

Everyone instantly fell silent and turned to look out the window one after another. Storm clouds suddenly gathered outside and the whole sky darkened. The dark clouds gradually formed a huge whirlpool, as if it would suck the entire sky into its midst.

Lesus stood up, frowning. A spot of anxiety appeared in his heart but he ignored it, because no one would feel happy if they saw the sky changing to that kind of weather. “Anxiety” was probably still considered a calm way to react to the situation.

Everyone started to talk. “Is the Demon King being born?”

Feeling uneasy, Elmairy asked, “It should be the other candidate, shouldn’t it? Sun couldn’t have become the Demon King right?”

“He wouldn’t dare! Unless he wants to be skewered by Judgment with the Divine Sun Sword!” Earth laughed loudly. “Even if Sun became the Demon King, he would still be terrified of Captain Judgment!”

Everyone either laughed or chuckled.

Looking at the laughing group, Lesus Judgment knew they were joking, but he still gave a serious thought to whether or not his actions were too out of line. The Judgment Knight should obey the commands of the Sun Knight, not scare the Sun Knight to death.

But if Sun were not scared of him, then there really would be no way of knowing what measures Sun would take to solve things. There had to be someone there to occasionally “remind” him not to go way over the top. As the Sun Knight’s subordinate and yet also a source of fear, being the Judgment Knight was certainly proving to be quite challenging. Lesus sighed helplessly.

“Captain Judgment, what do you think?” Elmairy asked worriedly.

Lesus surveyed his comrades and only then did he discover that even though everyone was still making teasing remarks with their mouths, the expressions on their faces were all those of worry; even Earth’s grin looked a little forced.

I have to calm everyone’s nerves first. He said lightly, “It seems about time, so Knight-Captain Sun is probably handing the position of the Demon King over to the other candidate now. We have to hurry up and get on with our meeting. We must let the citizens of Leaf Bud City return and settle back down peacefully at the earliest possible time.”

Seeing Knight-Captain Judgment’s calm attitude, everyone nodded and relaxed significantly.

At that moment, the whirlpool outside gradually weakened and then disappeared. Everyone’s mind calmed down even more. They thought, This case is finally over.

Just when the meeting was about to continue, an unexpected guest suddenly appeared above the conference table. His strong dark element

made everyone draw their weapons before they saw who it was, and they were almost about to attack...

“Wait! It’s Knight-Captain Hell,” Lesus called out. He recognized the person who had arrived. Even though he noticed Roland looked a little different, it would not do to attack a comrade, so he quickly yelled out to stop everyone.

Ashen white body, vein tattoos of black fire, claw-tipped dragon wings... but now there were three pairs of wings and they seemed even larger than before!

The three pairs of wings were presently tucked behind Roland’s back, but the dragon claws at the top of the wings almost struck the ceiling. If they opened, the meeting room probably wouldn’t even be able to contain those three pairs of wings.

Lesus frowned, but in the next second he saw that Roland was carrying someone in his arms, someone with snow white hair... Unless he was unconscious, that person would never allow his hair to stay white. He quickly asked, “What happened to Knight-Captain Sun?”

At that moment, Roland actually loosened his hold and let the person in his arms drop. The person fell onto the table, his white hair spilling across the surface.

Judgment was stupefied. Elmairy was the first to exclaim, “Hell, why did you drop him? Sun will get hurt!”

Roland lowered his head slightly, but no one knew what his pair of flaming eyes were looking at. He answered quietly, “That would be impossible.”

Lesus felt something was wrong. He was dropped like that, but Grisia didn’t have the slightest reaction? Could he really be unconscious? Setting aside his questions for Roland, he directly reached out to brush away Grisia’s hair, and called out at the same time, “Sun, wake up...”

The hair was brushed away to reveal that the Sun Knight’s pair of blue eyes were actually open. They were wide open and looking straight at

Jesus.

Jesus could only stare back, dumbfounded.

Elmairy's scream echoed around the room, and everyone started to panic... Suddenly, a huge force pressed everyone down into their chairs, immobilizing them.

Jesus was also forced down into his chair, unable to move, but this force cleared his mind. He inspected Grisia closely, and the longer he looked, the lower his heart sank.

The Sun Knight uniform was almost completely dyed red, making it obvious there had been a massive loss of blood. But most importantly, the pupils in those blue eyes were dilated. If this were someone else, Jesus could tell at first glance that this person was dead. But this was not someone else. It was Grisia Sun, so he could not bring himself to come to this conclusion.

Jesus looked up. The aura that Roland was emitting now was unfathomably stronger than before. Before, Jesus could say that if he were to lose to Roland, he wouldn't lose too badly, but now Jesus was sure that he was not a challenge for Roland at all!

"You are the Demon King?" But after Jesus asked, he cared little for the answer and immediately followed up with another question, "You killed Sun?"

"Yes." The Demon King laughed, and even described the course of events without pausing. "I slashed him twice with my sword. He fell on the ground, his blood flowing ceaselessly, and he even begged me to kill him, but I didn't do it immediately; I only watched him... He looked really scared. He was so scared of dying that he even cried! It was unsightly! Hahaha!"

Chikus roared, "Shut up! You traitor! He, he trusted you so much, yet you actually killed him!"

No one else shouted in anger, but all of their eyes seemed to be blazing, and their glares were directed at the Demon King floating in mid-air.

Jesus Judgment stood up slowly. Even though his entire body was trembling under the strain of resisting, he still managed to stand up in the end, and announced to the Demon King in mid-air, “The Twelve Holy Knights will never let you off!”

Following that, the Twelve Holy Knights stood up one by one. They did not speak, but the determination in their eyes spoke for them.

The Demon King smiled. He laughed as he said, “Then come! I will be waiting for all of you at the Cathedral of the Shadow God.”

After he said that, the Demon King left.

The Twelve Holy Knights all fell back into their seats. With the enemy, the Demon King gone, their vigor for revenge also vanished. All they had in front of them now was a corpse, but everyone’s expressions were bleaker than when they faced down the Demon King.

The dead body lay still on the table, the opened blue eyes clouded over. Anyone could tell that he was dead. There was no denying it even if they wanted to lie to themselves.

In the silence, Jesus abruptly called out, “Metal.”

Metal started in surprise and nearly jumped up to answer, “Yes.”

“Bring the Pope here right away.”

*

The Pope followed the Metal Knight into the meeting room and asked in puzzlement, “What is up with all the mysterious...”

Then, he froze with his eyes and mouth wide open.

The corpse that the Demon King had thrown carelessly onto the table had already been rearranged neatly with a black robe underneath him. But the clouded blue eyes were still opened wide; no one had reached out to close his eyes.

The Pope walked to the table. Even though the truth was evident, he still couldn’t resist reaching out to check for himself.

Lesus asked lightly, "Pope, I heard from Sun that you know Resurrection?"

The Pope hesitated, and then understood everyone's intention. He said, "But my success rate of a complete revival is too low, and his injuries are so severe. This will make Resurrection much harder... Even if I am willing to pay a price to resurrect him, I can't do it! Grisia could do it because he is the Sun Knight, the one closest to the God of Light."

"You say that his injuries are severe?" Lesus asked a different question.

The Pope's face fell and he nodded, saying, "Mm, there are sword cuts to his shoulder, neck and chest. The injury on the shoulder directly snapped his collarbone. The injury to his neck is shallow in comparison, but resulted in massive blood loss. The wound on his chest pulped his heart directly. That would be the ultimate cause of his death, but even without this chest wound, Sun wouldn't have survived because he had lost almost all the blood in his body."

"Resurrect him," Lesus said without hesitation.

"But..."

He interrupted the Pope and asked, "With these injuries, how long would it take for him to lose all of his blood?"

The Pope hesitated and then said, "About seven or eight minutes."

"So Sun got slashed, they let him bleed for eight minutes, and then killed him in the end with a single strike!" Lesus was practically raging by the end. "And you plan to let him die this way and not resurrect him?"

"I didn't mean it like that!" The Pope quickly backpedaled. He looked around at all who were present and asked once more, "But are you sure you want to do this? I have to warn you in advance, the side effects of Resurrection may be so ghastly that Sun would rather die to escape it."

Elmairy growled, "Sun wouldn't choose death. He would not abandon us!"

"It doesn't matter if he loses or gains anything. That's all unimportant!"

Chikus shouted, “He is already a demon king candidate. What else is there to be afraid of?!”

“I don’t know about the others, but my teacher taught me this,” Ceo Storm said gravely. “He taught me that it’s possible to cover up the loss of one of the Twelve Holy Knights. Even if we lose the Judgment Knight, we will only end up at most with a corrupt society. But if we lose the Sun Knight, who is responsible for leading us all, then we will have no road to tread! So...”

Everyone cried as one, “We can never lose the Sun knight!”

Hearing that, the Pope sighed and said, “I understand, then let’s prepare the resurrection!”

The magic circle of the Resurrection spell emitted a pure white glow. The white haired body lying in the center closed his eyes. Under the worried gaze of those present...

The white haired man slowly opened his eyes.

Epilogue: Character Introduction

Character Introductions

Stephen: A dark knight, Awaitsun's right hand man. However, in fact, he's...

Charlotte: The Cathedral of the Shadow God's youngest shadowpriest in history. However, she seems to have another identity.

*

Epilogue

[This epilogue contains many spoilers about the plot. Those people who haven't read the contents of the novel and come to sneak a peek at the epilogue before doing so will be bitten by the Sun Knight!]

P.S You're not allowed to come peek at the epilogue for the sake of getting bitten!

I have a feeling that if this volume ended where a certain person had died, then everyone would really kill me. Therefore, at the end, I have added an extra line.

Everyone, please don't kill me. I tried my best! Really!

The volumes of the Undying Lich have finally ended.

A certain someone has killed off two liches, and then was killed by the third one. This lesson teaches us: "[If you harm liches, harm will come to you](#)". Henceforth, one shall not casually kill liches for fun."

Cough!

Following this are the volumes of the demon king. However, I haven't decided to directly call them "demon king" or just add on other words. Anyway, the seventh volume and the eighth volume will be volumes about the demon king.

By the way, the eighth volume will be the last volume.

The dispute of the demon king candidates actually started a long time

ago; it's only that Sun had completely forgotten all about it. In the next volume, we will understand more regarding this matter, and a few small secrets will be revealed.

A first-person point of view is really hard to handle, especially a first-person point of view for a long series. Every time I write a first-person point of view for a long series, this kind of feeling is etched even deeper. (However, I still continue to write them without changing. Is this possibly a tendency to inflict self-abuse?)

Luckily, I had planned since the start to have prologues and epilogues for the Legend of the Sun Knight to not be written in the first-person point of view, and thus I can use them to add on some stuff. Otherwise, the author really would cry. The main character from whose point of view the story is told has kicked the bucket, so someone teach me how to continue writing~

The author has actually killed off the main character in a first-person point of view story; this is really the epitome of the case that misfortunes springing from ourselves are the hardest to bear. (This once again proves that the author is not only fond of abusing the main character, but also abusing herself.)

In the past, I have seen some readers comment, saying that the first to die was Leaf, and the second to die was Judgment, so who will be the third to die? After that came a lot of speculation, and there were even guesses as to what Sun would lose because of Resurrection.

I really wanted to reply, "Wrong, wrong, wrong, all of you guessed wrongly! Hahaha!" (Is beaten by the crowd)

Cough. Anyway, did anyone manage to secretly guess that Sun would die? Though if you guessed it right, there isn't a prize for you.

However, everyone can still continue to guess if there is a side effect, and if so, what would it be? (Sun running towards everyone with bouncing breasts... *is killed in seconds by Judgment*)

Below is the epilogue that was casually written...

I'm very curious as to what everyone thinks of Roland and Pink? Everyone can come to my website's reflection corner to tell me!

Being the Judgment Knight sure is tough. Every day you have to worry about the Sun Knight walking out of the doors upright but coming back lying flat on his back. (Judging by this standard of tough work, Adair's job is also pretty tough.)

However, the previous generation's Chasel probably didn't have this much to worry about! He only had to worry that Neo would send someone home flat on their backs and then they would walk upright to the Holy Temple to make a report.

Every generation has a Sun Knight that is hard to handle! Let us give a second of silence for every generation's Judgment Knight... Done.

*

Let me just remind everyone, if you haven't finished the book, please don't come over to my website's reflection corner to sneak a peek, otherwise you'll get spoilers! If you see the shocking bits first, it wouldn't be as interesting anymore!

However, to remind people of this in the epilogue should more or less already be too late. And I even especially told everyone not to look at the epilogue if you hadn't read the novel... Never mind! Everyone can start being cautious from the next book onward!

By Yu Wo

Footnotes

[“Judge, Absenplum, Meetin.”](#): Sun randomly names the newborns after the sentence “Judgment absent from meeting.” The original Chinese names 沈盼、梅萊、開慧 mean Hope, Plum, and Intelligent, but they share the same pronunciation as 審判, 沒來, 開會, (Judgment, absent from, meeting).

[“You’ll become sun-faced!”](#): He basically means that his face will become very round.

[“...twelve tapeworms...”](#): We are under the opinion that this might be a possible mistake in the original text, since there are only eleven other people present outside of Sun. Or perhaps Sun is also including someone else in the count? (Like Adair!) [Stephen \(Corpse Phen\)](#): Stephen (施分) reveals his real name to be 屍芬, both of which are pronounced as shī fēn. However, the meaning of his real name is corpse (屍) and fragrance (芬). His name comes from the fact that the original corpse he used was that of a poisoned rich lady who smelled of perfume.

[Scarlet \(Corpse Claret\)](#): Scarlet’s (紅詩) real name is revealed to be 紅屍, both of which are pronounced as hóng shī. The meaning of her name was thought to be red (紅) poem (詩) but actually stands for red (紅) corpse (屍) because the first corpse possessed by Corpse Claret died from excessive blood loss and was dyed scarlet from blood.

[Pink \(Pink Corpse\)](#): Pink’s (粉紅 fěn hóng) real name actually has an extra character, 粉紅屍 fěn hóng shī. 屍(shī) means corpse. Thus, her everyday name is simply formed by dropping the “Corpse” part of Pink Corpse. Pink’s original body had pink skin because the owner of the body died from inhaling poisonous gas.

[“If you harm liches, harm will come to you”](#): This is word play on the proverb, “If you harm others, harm will come to you.” Basically, your karma will come back to haunt you.

Credits

Translator: [Prince Revolution!](#)

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