## Chapter 1177 A Plan

As Liam pieced together the demon's actions, a realization began to form.

The demon's eyes, with their eerie green glow, suggested that its power stemmed from the Heart of Life shard.

It seemed this same power had drawn Liam, who carried a piece of the Heart of Life shard, to this very spot.

Suddenly, it clicked.

The disturbances he had felt from his Heart of Life shard were not random. They were responses to the demon's calculated provocations.

It became clear that the demon's plan was to lure those harboring shards of the Heart of Life, then consume their power.

With a furrowed brow, Liam glanced at Laura and Shayla, who lay unconscious beside him.

The demon was targeting people who had the Heart of Life shards, but why would it capture Laura and Shayla?

Had their proximity to him caused them to absorb some of the Heart of Life shard's essence, inadvertently marking them as targets?

The weight of his realization deepened Liam's frown.

He knew this could be true. A bitter smile flickered across his face as he recognized the peril he had unwittingly brought upon his friends. Now fully aware of the stakes, Liam shook off his initial shock and began to strategize a plan.

A few minutes passed. Then, an idea sparked to life in his mind.

If the demon had the capability to absorb the Heart of Life shard from him, then logically, he should be able to absorb the demon's shard in return.

With this thought, a new determination filled Liam.

"This might be the only way for me to free Shayla and Laura from this dreadful situation," he muttered.

He glanced upwards at the pit's opening.

The cluster of vines above had thinned out considerably, and without the demon's direct influence, they simply dangled limply at the edge of the pit.

Seizing the opportunity, Liam wrestled with the constricting vines.

Soon enough, he managed to free his hands.

With his hands free, Liam swiftly pulled out his Shadow Sword and swung it, slicing through the remaining vines that ensnared him, effectively securing his release.

Once he was out of the vines' grasp, Liam took a deep breath, feeling the oppressive weight lift from his chest.

He then quickly retrieved some medicinal herbs from his Compressed Space Containers. The herbs were specifically concocted to heal core injuries.

He began administering them, gearing up for the imminent confrontation—a confrontation he was

determined to begin.

But before focusing on his own injuries, Liam made it a point to check on Shayla and Laura.

Realizing they were still breathing with stable vital signs, he let out a sigh of relief.

He carefully assisted them into a sitting position and gently feed them the medicine.

Seeing their unconscious state and pallid complexions, an unusual emotion stirred deep within Liam.

He suddenly felt a raw, intense desire surge through him; he wanted to rip off their clothes to satisfy his desire.

Thankfully, his strong self-control prevailed, and he dismissed these inappropriate thoughts.

Regaining his composure, Liam frowned deeply, troubled by these impulses that were so unlike him.

He wondered if the pollen was to blame.

With a deep sigh, he felt unnerved by the sinister attributes of the Demon Forest.

It dawned on Liam that the floating pollen might be a peculiar aphrodisiac, designed to paralyze creatures nerves and reduce them to their most basic instincts, consumed with the desire to unleash their primal urges.

This way, the prey would lack resistance.

Narrowing his eyes, Liam realized this was probably why the Demon had felt confident enough to leave him in this pit unbound.

But this time, the Demon had clearly made a mistake!