

A Ghost 441

Chapter 441 Laura And Takeshi's Amazing Strength

Rock, the director of this academy seemed flabbergasted over what had just happened in front of his eyes. Laura quickly jumped off the large carcass of the crab, walking towards us. Emeraldine quickly used the [Clean] Spell to clean her clothes which were covered in crab innards, as the explosion ended reaching her a bit at the end.

"Y-You win, I guess..." Rock sighed.

"Can we keep what she defeated?" I asked.

"Eh? The Mithril Crab? Uhh..." Rock began to feel a bit greedy, without wanting to let go of the beast my daughter defeated.

"Well, if Takeshi wins the next battle, we can keep the crab alongside whatever else he defeats later, how about it?" I wondered with a smile.

"Huh... And what do I earn if you lose?" Rock wondered, a sharp glint came from his eyes.

"I can sell you potions at a discount." I said.

"Potions you say?! Deal!" The dwarf immediately said.

It seems that potions are indeed highly priced in this country.

"Then bring out the next monster!"

Rock seemed pumped up. He quickly called the other dwarves in the arena to open the gates once more, as Takeshi had already gone down to confront his challenge. He was mentally younger than Laura, and often more childish as a result, I was honestly worried.

"SHAAAAA...!"

Suddenly, the sound that snake monsters make resonated within the arena, as from within the open gates, a long, ten-meter-big snake with a head the size of a car emerged, with shiny red eyes and purple scales that shone with a metallic brilliance. The snake monster had long fangs that resembled spears coming out of its upper jaws.

"This is a Giant Venomous Metal-Scaled Snake! A deadly monster that often appears inside of caverns. They can swallow us whole and are considered the deadliest D+ Rank monsters. By their venom alone, some would even argue they're C Rank!" Said Rock with a prideful smile.

Was he really hoping for a little child to get swallowed by this giant snake or something? Damn, when men are into gambling, it is all or nothing, huh.

"Uuhh... A-Alright then. I have to calm down..." Takeshi muttered to himself, as the enormous snake slowly began approaching him..

The monster seemed slightly wary of its surroundings but detected Takeshi as an easy meal it could swallow whole after biting it once. The snake quickly leaped over him the moment it realized he was too small for the beast to be so wary of him!

"SHAAA!"

The enormous jaws of the snake opened, as Takeshi took a branch from his pocket.

"A branch? Is that what's he's going to use to fight? Don't be ridiculous!" Laughed Rock.

"[Fisher]!"

FLAAASH!

The stick he was holding quickly turned into a beautiful silver-colored fishing rod, it was the exact same as the ones from Earth, whose designs were completely alien to this world.

"SHAAA!"

The snake paid no attention to that little toy as the beast opened its jaws, quickly approaching Takeshi.

However...!

CLASH!

"S-SHA...?!"

The snake suddenly stopped right before it could swallow Takeshi.

The fishing rod he was holding had acted. Its silver-colored thread suddenly wrapping the head and neck of the snake in a mere second, stopping it completely from moving forward towards Takeshi.

"W-Wha? Is that a magic item?" Rock asked in surprise. "But he made a branch into it...? Huh?!"

Takeshi sighed a bit in relief.

"Hahh... I-I guess it worked nicely." He sighed.

"S-SHAAA!"

CLAAASH!

The snake furiously freed itself from the fishing rod's thread, as it quickly tried to attack Takeshi with its snake tail, stomping him down into the ground seemed like a good strategy, I suppose.

BAAAM!

The enormous tail couldn't be stopped, as it hit the ground!

However, as the snake slowly raised its tail to see the boy's body Takeshi was... nowhere to be seen?!

FLASH!

Suddenly, the ground behind the snake began to move strangely, as if it had turned into water itself, and from within, Takeshi emerged.

"Hahh... This is surely a convenient ability that [Fisher] unlocked after I evolved." Sighed Takeshi.

Indeed, this was a new Ability! Just like my own Unique Skills could evolve as I evolved, Takeshi and Laura also improved. Laura gained more power and Takeshi obtained the power to share his fishing rod's power to trespass physical matter as if it were water, giving him the incredible ability to swim anywhere he wanted as long as he held the fishing rod created out of any branch he could pick up.

"SHAAA!"

The snake furiously attacked Takeshi once more, however, he quickly disappeared once more, appearing right to the snake's left side.

"I'm here!"

"SHAA!"

BAAAM!

Takeshi once more disappeared, appearing to the snake's right side.

"Or here?"

"SHAAA!!!"

BAAAM!

And then, once more, Takeshi emerged from the ground as if it turned into water right behind the snake once more.

"You're a bit slow..." He sighed.

Was he getting cocky after acting all shy and afraid? Wow, that's a big change.

"S-SHAAA!"

The snake hissed furiously, as its tail continued slapping the ground everywhere Takeshi appeared for several times consecutively!

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM!

However, it couldn't catch Takeshi, as he constantly appeared near the snake once more.

"S-Shaa... haahhh..."

The snake was gasping for air completely exhausted, looking at Takeshi with furious eyes.

"T-This power... he can turn anything into water he can swim through? Is this even water attribute magic?!" Asked Rock in shock.

"Hehe, it's a family secret!" Laura giggled.

Rock couldn't help but distort his face as he quickly smiled cynically.

"W-Well, it's not as if he can do anything else than run away!" He angrily said.

"Oh yeah?" I asked with a smile, pointing at the arena with my index finger.

"SHAAA! SHAAA!"

The snake was struggling, out of nowhere, it found itself caught in the fishing rod threads, which could apparently extend an enormous length as long as Takeshi infused more Mana into his Fishing Rod, he wasn't simply playing around, he was slowly catching the snake into the fishing rod, until it completely caught the creature, rendering it immobile!

Chapter 442 Amazingly Done!

"It would be a pity to kill such a beautiful snake but... I have to do what I need to do."

Takeshi suddenly strengthened the grip of his Fishing Rod, as the hook suddenly pierced the snake's scales and flesh, reaching its heart and crushing it from the inside!

SPLAT!

The sound of the snake's heart exploding inside of its body could be heard around the entire arena, as the snake suddenly vomited a mouthful of blood before rolling its eyes and dying on the spot.

BAAAM!

Its enormous body fell over the floor with a loud thud, signaling the victory of Takeshi.

Laura ran towards Takeshi to congratulate her little brother.

"Takeshi! Amazingly done!" Laura hugged Takeshi.

"I-I took a bit more of time than I thought, but I did it all by myself! [Fisher] is really amazing." He said happily.

"You could had also used your Water Magic or Dark Magic... You took it easy." Said Laura.

"Hahaha... Yeah, but I don't feel so confident on using those as their Skill Levels aren't so high." Sighed Takeshi.

"You're overly cautious as ever." Sighed Laura.

Flabbergasted after seeing my two beloved children fight amazingly well even against powerful threats such as D+ Rank monsters, Rock had no choice but to give up.

"So? So~?" I asked teasingly.

"F-Fine... you can have them... And the monsters... too..." He sighed.

"Yaay! New Materials!" I said happily.

Honestly the only things I was mostly interested in were the snake's scales, its venom, and the crab's carapace and the mithril growing over there. Those were all precious materials that could be used for a variety of purposes, mostly crafting new equipment. I wanted to use them to reward the children for what they had done as well.

"Mithril is an incredible ore that can conduct magic." Said Emeraldine. "It is ideal for magic accessories and magic items."

"Alright, let's go collect them!"

I flew down and quickly put both monster carcasses inside my Inventory, which Rock and the other dwarves working with him reacted with even more shocked faces.

"T-The materials disappeared in an instant?!"

"What sort of sorcery is this?"

"S-Space magic?!"

Aquamarine heard them talk as she quickly patted Rock's shoulders.

"Keep it a secret, will you? As long as you want to keep your position." She said menacingly.

"A-Ah... Y-Yeah..." He sighed.

It seems we had a rather strong and influential ally with us from day 1. After the entire battles ended, the dwarf reluctantly gave Takeshi and Laura their passes, and the job was more than done now.

"Y-You two are incredibly strong. If you ever want to join the school for real, feel free to contact me so I can enroll you two into a class for the most talented." He said.

"Huh, we'll think about it." Laura said.

"Yeah, maybe..." Takeshi said.

As we were done with this, we had no time to waste.

We moved back to Helga's home, as we saw off Aquamarine who decided to go to her guild's building to deal with a bunch of job she had piled up. As old as she was, she was still doing a lot of paperwork, which was impressive.

"Hey, you're back! Is it done already?" Helga wondered, as my two twins quickly showed her their passes.

"Yeah!" Takeshi celebrated.

"It was easy." Laura said.

"Huh! You two are quite something if you were able to pass that old man's Rock tests. I remember my years back in the academy and that bastard was always giving the most cruelest of test to kids..." Sighed Helga. "Well, that's the place where I meet my husband too, hahah... A-Ah! Anyways, let's get going." Helga seemed to smile a bit as she recalled her past in the school.

The dwarves and Helga seemed to have prepared as well for dungeon diving, as they wanted to join the fray and see if they can level up through defeating monsters. You're never strong enough in a world infested by monsters after all. They came even more prepared than before, forbidding their pickaxes and bringing their heavy weapons. Most of the dwarves came with full body armor, large shields, and either an axe, a long sword, or a hammer. Helga was proficient at using a giant hammer, and she didn't shy away from carrying it leisurely as if it didn't weighted at all.

"Hm, how are Hammers as weapons?" I wondered, as we flew towards the mountain.

"Pretty good! Almost anything you hit with them dies instantly as long as you aim at the head. If not, you can easily break a monster's limbs and incapacitate them. It is a bit hard to maneuver around as it has a very heavy weight, so it loses its balance very quickly." Said Helga. "But with enough muscle, you can just smack anything."

"Ooohh... I am using swords, axes, and a spear. And I'm planning on probably getting a hammer at some point..." I said while rubbing my chin.

"Why so many weapons?!" She asked in shock.

"Well I am a ghost." I whispered to her. "So I can just make more limbs if I want to, I fight with my fists too! It is super fun to collect new skills of any weapon!"

"Y-You're really into collecting Skills... I've never seen someone so obsessed about it as if it were fun." She sighed.

"It is not?" I raised an eyebrow.

"I-I mean, they're useful but... doesn't it feels like work to you?" She wondered.

"What? Work? But its super fun!" I sighed.

I wonder why she doesn't get me...

Ah, maybe it must be because skills and the status are like part of their own world, not something new like it is for me. Eventually even something as amazing as a status becomes something of commonplace for them, so it is nothing amusing.

Perhaps my fascination with it comes from my fanaticism over RPG games I used to play in my previous life, and all the Isekai stories I liked to read involving Status Systems, Skills, Job Classes, and blood-pumping action, I guess.

"Oh, we are getting closer!"

Anyways, it's time for some dungeon diving!

Chapter 443 Time To Conquer A New Dungeon!

As Maria and company reached the mountain once more today, a lurking figure slowly continued following them from afar. Her sharp, draconic eyes glaring their every movement. They were not exactly menacing, but she seemed to be inspecting them as if she was obsessed with them... when they finally landed in the mountain, she quickly hid beneath a rock and then looked at them once more.

"Where is my brother and his friends going now?" She wondered.

She slowly lurked around, using her magic to hide her presence wonderfully, even from Maria...

"To a dungeon?" She wondered, seeing them slowly descend through a large hole.

As she followed them silently by reducing her size into a smaller form, she suddenly realized something.

From within the dungeon, something powerful was resting...

"Wait...! This dungeon is...?"

.

.

.

(Maria's POV)

After arriving at the mountain, we swiftly moved through the cave we have used before and then reached the hole going down. The fall from here was sure deadly for most people, but we were going to bring them down using Lucifer, and my shadow magic.

"Alright you guys, prepare yourselves!"

I quickly called them to prepare, as I expanded my shadows and let them all inside. I guess Lucifer didn't even need to help in that regard. When I had everyone inside my shadows, we descended quickly down to the cave I had discovered, and we were greeted by the beautiful lake where Gero came from.

"I guess now that we are here... You guys can come out." I said.

The dwarves quickly walked out of my shadows, followed by an enormous Undead Salamander. The moment they noticed Gero, they stopped walking and then slowly looked back at the enormous beast.

"U W A A A H!"

"A A G G H H!"

"W H A T S THAT?!"

The dwarves quickly began to panic.

"Hey! Come on, you saw him yesterday! He's my Undead monster I caught here." I sighed. "His name is Gero, make sure to treat him nicely."

"Geroro..." Gero groaned, looking at everybody with his big and frog-like eyes.

"I-I guess that with such a strong monster, we can be well protected."

"Yeah..."

"It is amazing what Necromancers can do..."

"I agree..."

Helga looked at me with a slightly tired-looking expression.

"Maria, do you really have to bring him?" She sighed.

"Eh? Is there something wrong with him? Of course I have to bring him! He wants to level up! I also got a bunch more of Undead with me... I'll bring them all out as well, I heard this dungeon is dangerous so the more the merrier, right?" I asked, bringing out countless of skeletons, zombies, and undead giant spiders. There were also those giant bugs we fought when Agatha turned into a demon, and other lizard-like monsters from the dungeon previous to that.

"S-So many..."

"There are even bugs and is that a lizard?!"

"A giant dinosaur thing..."

"These are... how many?!"

"Over... two hundred? I only brought fifty out." I said while looking at everyone. "I have the rest of my undead friends back home protecting my place. I could only bring a small battalion with me."

"I-It is more than enough..." Helga said.

I quickly assembled all my Undead in front of me, I had only brought generic ones, with all the OP ones back home protecting my place and the people there. So Gero was the strongest amongst them all, therefore, I gave him the title of Undead General for this Battalion.

"Alright! From now on, Gero is your Undead General, guys, obey his orders!" I said, the Undead gave out all sorts of terrifying groans, as they seemed to agree.

"Alright, let's get going then!" I said, as I lead the way into the dungeon's entrance.

The marching monsters behind us and some in front seemed to have put the dwarves in a bit of a stretch. I didn't really wanted to make them more uncomfortable, but this was something that needed to be done! This was a dangerous dungeon after all.

At the end, they still calmed down and simply decided to ignore the Undead with us. Ultimately, we finally reached the dungeon's first floor, which looked not exactly as we had expected it to look like.

Inside of the dungeon there was an enormous and expansive grassland. There were even mountains around the background, a shining sun atop the sky, and even some trees spread here and there. To the distance, perhaps half a kilometer away from here, there was a small mound of earth in the grasslands, with a cave-like entrance leading somewhere down.

"I-Is this really a dungeon? It is not like anything we have ever visited before!" Said Emeraldine.

"Wow... Aren't dungeons way smaller and packed?" Wondered Partner.

"They're supposed to be like that, yeah." I said while rubbing my chin. "But this place... Well, we have only explored a single dungeon in our entire lives, so maybe there are other types."

"Hmmm... I had almost forgotten, but yeah, Dungeons come in all shapes and sizes. Some are more temple or ruin-like in appearance, some are like these, small, pocket worlds, and then there are mixed versions of both." Lucifer said. "Usually those with this appearance are stronger and are said to be "projections of the world"... or something like that."

"Huh, in the caves there are some Biome Dungeons, as we call them." Helga added. "But they're not near as big as this... And are these plants? There's a surprisingly big variety of herbs growing in this dungeon... it is something very rare, if we can find a way to farm this land and produce crops from here, we could solve a lot of issues with food in our country..." Helga quickly began to wonder such things.

"Wait, something's coming!" Partner pointed out, as several figures quickly emerged almost out of thin air from within the vast grasslands expanding right before our sight.

They were gigantic... moles?

Chapter 444 Against An Army Of Furious Monsters!

The figures that approached us seemed to be emerging out of thin air, but they were actually coming from underground, it was a massive group of over fifty moles the size of cars, probably the biggest one reaching as big as three meters. Not only their size was absolutely monstrous, but they also packed gigantic claws they used to dig underground, and big star-shaped snouts that seemed to help them guide themselves even if they looked blind.

"GRUOOH!"

CLASH!

One of them immediately reached us in an instant, clashing over the floor right before us and shaking the earth. Cracks began to appear across the ground as the floor was just about to crumble!

[Giant Death Mole: Lv48] [Rank: B-] [Status: Hungry]

A monstrous mole from the first floors of the Dungeon. It appears in groups of almost a hundred, and they are vicious creatures capable of easily digging underground, conjure Earth Magic of high level, and provoke powerful and devastating earthquakes with their body size and weight.

They lack eyesight but use their star-shaped noses to guide themselves even when not being underground. Their enormous claws are not only able to wonderfully dig underground but can also slice apart their prey quite easily.

Skills: [High Speed Digging] [Deadly Claws] [Spinning Attack] [Earthquake] [Seismic Wave] [Pitfall]
[Slashing Attack] [Stone Blast]

"Careful! They're B- Rank!" I said, as the dwarves quickly roared, getting into a position where they got up together and formed a congregation of shields with their weapons out.

"GRUOH!"

CLASH!

Another mole emerged underground and attempted to clash against them, but their combined tactics worked, as the mole's claws ended being blocked by the dwarfs' combined shields, just before the creature was attacked with several weapon techniques unleashed at once.

"RAAAHH!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"GRUOOHH..."

BAAM!

The mole's entire body was suddenly covered on wounds, as it struggled to get back up.

"G-GROHHH...!"

"B- Rank, huh? You could easily kill one of us alone, but if we are together, we are stronger!" Helga roared, jumping over the shields of her comrades, and raising her hammer, falling down over the mole like a meteor and crushing the beast's head with the might of a dwarven mother!

"Skull Cracker!"

CLAAASH!

The mole's head was easily cracked and splattered over the floor by the enormous weight and might of Helga's hammer.

However, it was too early to call it a victory, as dozens of Moles began to emerge from underground, surrounding us. And from behind them, there were even more moles!

"Just how many are there?!" Lucifer roared, as he confronted three himself, transforming into his dragon form as every dwarf here had already seen his form already, and using his claws and tail to attack them.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

However, the three moles resisted his physical attacks by using their gigantic claws as shields, and barely managed to come out of his blows unscathed.

"Hmph, rats!" Lucifer roared furiously, as his claws suddenly flared with phantasmal flames.

CLASH! CLASH! CLAAASH!

Once more, he hit the three Moles with all his strength, this time, their claws were unable to resist the blows completely, as their entire bodies were also caught in the fire of the phantasmal flames covering Lucifer's claws.

With their claws shattered and their bodies burning, the giant moles perished almost on the spot. Giving Lucifer the time to fight even more incoming beasts.

Meanwhile, the rest of my Undead led by the powerful Gero fought bravely. Gero unleashed his Domain of Venom as he poisoned many Moles, weakening them in the process the moment they stepped into

his domain, giving the time for the other undead who were weaker to fight back, using their bodies or the weapons they held to fight. Some moles quickly began to perish as they were ganged over with old rusty weapons held by the human skeletons and zombies and the claws and fangs of the undead monsters.

However, many of my Undead were easily getting demolished as well. The moles were mightily strong, using their claws to easily tear apart my giant spider zombies, the miasmic bugs, and the skeletons and zombies from soldiers I had once defeated in the past. Maybe if I brought the Vampire Zombies led by that Werewolf, it could have been different, but this was all we had anyways.

Well, it wasn't as if there weren't any materials readily available for me to use...

"Let's do some basic Undead Raising then, boys! [Transfiguration of Death]!"

FLAAASH!

A wave of phantasmal essence was unleashed from my hands as I watched the scene with a smile, the lying bodies of the moles quickly began to move once more, as their souls were forcefully put back to their bodies at random, forcing them to raise and move once more even after death.

[Transfiguration of Death] was the awakened version of [Fake Life] which packed even stronger power, as it granted raised Undead extra power and skills, and even a higher power than their original living selves if they were weaker than C Rank monsters. Of course, the moles were B-, but even if raised as they were, they were pretty strong.

"Now go and catch your kin! Make sure to not leave any alive!"

With a dozen Moles at my disposal, I immediately ordered them to dig underground and create traps for the other living moles, while also intercepting them underground so they wouldn't surprise us with attacks below our feet.

"And the rest... [Undead Healing]!"

FLAAASH!

Another wave of phantasmal essence flew away as it caught all of my defeated Undead, their shattered bodies quickly stitched back together as they were fully recovered to how they looked before getting destroyed. My MP was getting drained quickly, but thanks to [Ultimate Skill: Yog-Sothoth], I was able to easily drain MP from the monsters surrounding us.

"March forward!"

As the undead continued fighting and getting destroyed, I continued healing them back up over and over again, as the Moles numbers seemed to have no end, I joined the fight by firing projectiles from afar, snipping the incoming beasts and stopping them from flooding us completely.

Chapter 445 Devastating Everything

"GRUOH!"

RUMBLE!

Suddenly, the ground below my feet trembled, as four Moles emerged, attacking me all at the same time.

"Huh, quite the bold ones to come and strike the general! Come and die then!"

The Moles' claws attempted to quickly butcher me alive, but I disappeared from their sight by converting into a mass of phantom and shadows, quickly separating myself into several clones that appeared within their own shadows, behind their backs!

[Black Lightning Strike]!

SPARK!

I unleashed black lightning from my shadows, quickly electrifying the moles in a mere second. Their bodies were fried alive by the black lightning, a new element I was able to bring out after I stole it from Agatha when she transformed into a Demon. By merely grabbing her lightning and throwing it back at her, I learned such a power myself too!

CLAAASH!

The lightning impacted the four moles in an instant as they flew away, falling into the ground several meters from my position. Barely alive, the monsters furiously attacked me from a distance, using [Rock Blast] to summon two-meter-large stones through magic and launching the stones at me.

"A mere child's play."

[Abyssal Manipulation] and [Black Lightning Strike]!

FLASH!

As I activated both of those skills, not only I gained a greater control over darkness and shadows, but I also fused it with my black lightning, generating threads of black lightning that reached the moles in mere seconds!

SPAAARK!

I aimed at their brains this time, frying their heads in an instant and killing them on the spot.

"GRUUEHH..."

As their bodies fell motionlessly, I didn't wait a single second to use [Transfiguration of Death] to raise them back to fight for me.

"Raise once more, now, you're part of my army!"

"GRUOH!"

The moles groaned eerily, standing up once more. However, they were strange as if the lightning that killed them stayed within their souls and bodies, sparks of electricity began to come out of their noses and claws, and their fur was also sparkling with this electricity.

As I looked at their Status, they had become [Undead Lightning Death Moles]! Interesting, there's a small chance depending in how a monster dies for them to take part of their cause of death and make it into their own power!

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

The four Lightning Death Moles moved at lightning speed, defending me from another four Moles emerging below me, their claws and movements were more than twice as fast as their own kin, and they were able to unleash lightning strikes with each attack as well!

CLASH! CLASH! CLAAASH!

The four Moles were being demolished by my new Elite Moles, but they quickly realized fighting at close combat wouldn't be good, firing their Stone Blast Spells at us once more.

"Hmph, you really don't learn, huh?" I sighed. "Veredorr, you can come out now, dear."

"T-Then let me aid you, milady!"

FLUOOOSH!

Suddenly, the air surrounding me was frozen, although the Moles I raised were unaffected. The ground surrounding us suddenly froze as ice began to expand rapidly. The other enemy Moles realized this threatening presence, as the ghost of a pale, red-eyed Dhampir man emerged from within my shadows.

This was Veredorr, a man's soul I met back then, he was a friend of Ice Giants and got killed by their new Queen. He's a source of information but also a valuable ally, due to the trauma of his death, I've raised him into a ghost, and he ended successfully evolving into a Frost Ghost, capable of controlling ice and lower the temperature of the environment around him!

And this wasn't everything... I had discovered something quite revealing when I found more ghosts like me which I had risen. Aside from Veredorr, there was also Francesco and Silvio, the two Blazing Ghosts, with them and Veredorr, I learned one of the truths about my powers, elemental ghosts counted as something similar to Spirits for me, meaning... that I could channel my power with them and create brand new Spells.

"Frozen Cage!"

I connected my power with the soul of Veredorr, as in seconds, the ice responded my call and merged with my darkness, forming black ice which quickly began to attack the Moles in front of us, catching them and freezing them, caging them for eternity in this ice.

CRAAASH!

The moles, however, easily broke out of their frozen cages, but that was due to my own permission. These moles were swiftly risen into Undead the moment they died, and not only that, but their ice-covered fur and ice-made claws easily showed they had suddenly mutated. These moles became [Undead Frost Death Moles].

"Now fight!"

I ordered my new elemental undead to move forwards, the Moles quickly intercepted their former kin as they began slaughtering them mercilessly. They were B- Rank monsters and packed an incredible amount of power, but against someone like me at A Rank and above, they were not that much of a threat!

As I took over the entire battlefield with my might and my Undead, the dwarves quickly began to receive the assistance of my newly raised Undead Moles, as they were relieved from the pressure of battling such strong monsters.

"A-Amazing, Maria is incredible!"

"I've never seen a Necromancer before, is this how they fight? This is absolutely ridiculous..."

"Not only that, but she's super strong herself as well!"

"Does she even needs her Undead to begin with...?"

"Tsk! If you got the time to talk like that then move forward and fight! Maria is putting everything she got for us to advance towards the next floor, don't slack off you bastards!" Helga roared, while receiving the assistance of my Undead, she began smacking Mole heads emerging from the floor furiously.

BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM!

"OOOH!"

The dwarves roared in unison, joining her as they began to fight back as ferociously as they could.

As we slowly made our way towards the cave-like mound which seemed to be the door that might lead to Floor 2, I felt the presence of something powerful approaching...

TRUUUUMMM...!

The earth shook, as an enormous beast emerged!

Chapter 446 A Boss Battle This Soon?!

The enormous monster easily surpassed ten meters of height, with two pairs of gigantic and muscular arms packed with four massive claws each, made for digging underground and also made to slaughter their powerful, perhaps just as big enemies. Its snout resembled a red star, and its eyes were nowhere to be seen. Its entire body was covered in black and brown fur, with many black quills growing over its body. It even had a long tail with the tip resembling a giant boulder which it used to probably smack stones and rocks that got in its way.

"GRUOOOOHH!"

The beast roared, as it made its own presence more than clear to everybody's eyes. It was just a giant Mole like the ones we have been fighting, whose numbers had begun to be reduced as I used everyone's might to push forward, now less than a dozen were left, and they were only attacking from a distance by firing Stone Blasts, but my own Lightning Moles were swiftly taking care of them thanks to their swift and fast movements.

So the only thing we had to take care of was this beast.

[Giant Death Mole King: Lv66] [Rank: A-] [Status: Furious]

A gargantuan Mole, an evolution of the Death Mole after reaching a certain Level by defeating many foes and devouring monster's Magic Crystals. This monster not only has a gigantic size but possesses a second pair of enormous arms and claws to devastate anything in their path, they are capable of shaping the entire terrain around them and their HP, Defense, and Strength are unparalleled. A City-level threat capable of destroying whole fiefdoms in a single night.

Skills: [Devastating Earthquake] [Intimidating Roar] [Iron Defense] [Four Clawed Attack] [High Speed Drilling] [Boulder Blast] [Call Ally] [Kin Reinforcement]

"Fufu, you're pretty strong, aren't you?" I giggled. "You shall be a wonderful addition to my Undead Army!"

As I said those words, the dwarves were left speechless. Helga herself seemed completely dispirited to even be capable of defeating such a tremendous beast, something that could only be possible if many Golems had been brought here. But I had insisted in not bringing such annoying and expensive machinery, us was more than enough.

And we are more than enough.

"Lucifer! Gero! Take care of the giant's body, don't let it rampage! Everyone else, let's attack it from a distance!"

"Gerororo!"

"Got it!"

Lucifer immediately flew forward on his dragon form, enormously physically strong as he was, alongside the big Gero who had been enhanced with my own magic to be stronger. The two clashed against the Giant Mole King before it could do anything funny.

CLAAASH!

"GRUUOH!"

The Mole King immediately responded to their charge which attempted to put the beast off balance from its standing posture, using its four enormous arms and attempting to slash my two giants into pieces.

"You think you have a chance against an Ancient Dragon?! You have yet to even see my full power!" Lucifer cockily said, opening his jaws and unleashing an incredibly devastating Breath Attack, as a ray of darkness emerged from his open jaws, hitting the Mole Giant in the face and burning its snout.

BOOOM!!!

"GRAAAH!"

The Mole King cried furiously, its claws reaching Lucifer but only scratching him as his powerful metallic scales were harder than mithril itself at the level he had reached. Although he had yet to fully reach his former strength at his prime, he was slowly getting closer to that!

CLAAASH!

Gero didn't stay there doing nothing, as his enormous tail, the longest and biggest part of his body swung furiously against the Mole King, hitting its legs and throwing it off balance in combination with Lucifer's attacks, pushing the Mole King into the ground.

BAAAM!

"Now!" I said, as our entire group readied magical attacks which quickly began to shower the Mole King with deadly elemental attacks.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The dwarves all knew magic of some sort, as fire, ice, water, wind, and earth emerged as projectiles, falling over the Mole. Its fur seemed to have a powerful anti-magic effect, rendering most magic we threw at it useless. However the beast was still receiving the pressure of most of the magic attacks, while Emeraldine, Partner, and I prepared our own powerful blows, Takeshi and Laura moved forward and suddenly attempted to assist Lucifer and Gero!

"Hey, wait! Where are you going?!" I asked furiously, sending some of my Phantasmal Familiars to bring them back to the safety of the distance from the Boss Monster, but they swiftly evaded my phantasmal familiars.

"Big sis, please trust us! We want to help as well!" Takeshi said, summoning his Fishing Rod once more and suddenly infusing several quantities of Mana into it.

FLASH!

The fishing rod's thread suddenly grew longer, thicker, and even stronger than before, quickly flying directly towards the Mole King who was furiously unleashing slashing attacks using its limbs and even firing giant boulders at Lucifer and Gero. Lucifer was mostly the one taking all the damage due to his amazing defensive stats while Gero attacked from a distance while trying to poison the beast.

CLASH!

"GRUOH?!"

The Mole King suddenly reacted to Takeshi's Fishing Rod's Hook, which had grown up to three meters in size! The hook quickly pierced the mole king's flesh, reaching its legs which were furiously attacking as well, and entangling it tightly with the thread! The Hook was unable to damage the flesh any more than that though.

"Now...!"

Laura suddenly touched Takeshi's Fishing Rod, as her eyes shone bright red.

"Detonation!"

Takeshi immediately let go of his Fishing Rod, as it suddenly shone bright red! Wait, so that was it!

FLASH!

The fishing rod alongside all of the thread flared with an explosive flame, and then...!

BOOOOOOMMM!!!

An enormous explosion took place, the Mole King's right leg was easily destroyed into pieces, and most of its lower part was also heavily wounded!

They did an amazing job, as both Takeshi and Laura smiled out of happiness that their tactic worked.

But this also made the Mole King incredibly infuriated!

"GRUOOOGGGHH...!"

The monster groaned in agony, furiously unleashing hundreds of Boulders using [Boulder Blast] which began falling over everybody like meteors!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Chapter 447 Defeating The Boss! ...And A Mysterious Creature

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The monstrous Mole King unleashed his gigantic and furious attack, as countless Boulders the size of five to seven meters began to be summoned one after the other from within magic circles the beast conjured almost instantly when one of its legs was blown up by the combined attack of Laura and Takeshi. Although it was commendable how great their abilities have become, they were too reckless, and ended going too far away from the safety of our group as well!

"Takeshi! Laura!"

I flew towards the two of them as fast as I could, as Emeraldine ran behind me and quickly generated a barrier of light over the two before an enormous boulder were to almost crush them.

BOOM!

CRASH!

The barrier easily broke apart by the enormous impact and weight of the boulder. As more boulders continued to fall from the sky. I immediately unleashed my shadows as I grabbed both of these children and put them inside of them.

"I told you to not be reckless!" I reprimanded them, as the two seemed to be sorry.

"Sorry, we screwed up..." Takeshi said.

"Ugh, it is my fault, I was the one with the idea..." Laura sighed.

"Well, you still did amazingly though, I have to admit it. However, this is not exactly the time to go praising one another over their achievements!"

I flew back to our main group and quickly decided to erect an enormous barrier made of shadows using [Abyssal Barrier] and [Embodiment] to materialize my abyssal shadows even more, making them harder than the boulders.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

As countless boulders continued falling, Partner had charged in front to aid Lucifer and Gero, with my permission of course.

"HYAAA! RAAAH!"

Partner gracefully jumped over the battlefield, using both of her spears to slice through the enormous boulders with ease, or even using her swiftness and great dexterity to jump over the gigantic boulders with ease, reaching high up and then...

FLASH!

A pair of bat-like wings grew out of her back! Wait! Is this something new?

Maybe it is part of her developing vampiric powers...

"You damn rat, stop conjuring boulders!" Lucifer roared angrily, his jaws quickly began biting the hard face of the mole, as the mole's jaws tried to fight back by biting his neck, but his scales protected him quite well.

CRUNCH!

"GRUUOOHHH...!"

The mole roared furiously, its two pairs of claws ferociously attacked Lucifer's chest, only for Lucifer's magic to be unleashed as phantasmal flames and a black energy that embodied death itself emerged, covering the entire Mole King while Gero poured it with venom so it would stay paralyzed on place. The salamander specialized in paralyzing venom secretion.

And of course, Partner quickly took the opportunity to aid the two as well, coming from high in the skies, her two spears were shrouded by her [Blood Aura] as she continued to pour her Mana into them. Both spears shone as bright as stars for a few seconds, unifying into a single projectile she launched towards the mole's chest.

"Blood Devouring Spear!"

CLAAASH!

The enormous, combined spear impacted the Mole King's chest as Lucifer and Gero managed to get away in time, the powerful piercing power, which was a specialty of Partner paid off wonderfully, as it quickly pierced through the Mole King's hard hide, muscles, bones, and reached its heart, piercing it as the bloody spear began to absorb the monster's blood viciously!

"GRUOOOHHHHH!"

The Mole King struggled, but thanks to Lucifer's strength keeping it down, it ultimately perished, quickly stopping its pointless struggle. The boulders had stopped falling some time ago now, and peace quickly took over the Dungeon Floor.

Wow, that was... one hell of a fight. And you're telling me this is only the first floor of this dungeon?

"Is it over?" Wondered Helga.

"It is... I think." I sighed in relief.

Looking at the horizon, everything seemed peaceful. It seems there might be a Boss Battle every time we find a ton of monsters like these. I hope things don't escalate out of proportion in the last floor.

Well, hopefully.

After checking that everybody was alright, I moved to the Mole King's carcass where Gero and Lucifer were resting.

"You guys did splendidly! Well done! Let's take a break before descending further for now." I told them.

"We'll obviously take one." Sighed Lucifer. "That beast was awfully strong. But I've grown stronger from defeating it as well... I suppose we can't really keep growing stronger if we don't actively risk our lives, even though I kind of detest that part of this world."

"Ah, yeah, I guess you're right." I sighed. "For now I don't know how many floors are there, but if this continues being the same, we can take a break and come back later after we fight another horde."

"I suppose, although I would really just want to keep going." Lucifer admitted. "It would be better for us to get this done with as quickly as possible, isn't it?"

"Yeah, yeah~! If we can take over this mysterious dungeon I bet we can find some nice treasure inside of its depths! And what about leveling and all? I got a bunch of EXP!" Partner said carefreely.

"I suppose the ones that are really stressed out are the dwarves. It mostly depends on how much they can last in these types of battles." Said Emeraldine.

Crack...

"Right... Huh?"

Crack... crack...

"What's that sound?"

I looked around my surroundings but found nothing.

Crack... crack!

"What sound?" Asked Partner.

"I can hear it too, something cracking?" Wondered Emeraldine.

We suddenly looked around, until...

"Look!" Partner pointed out at the belly of the Mole King, as it was being torn apart by two enormous black insect-like limbs!

Crack... CRASH!

TRUUUMMM...!

An enormous presence suddenly emerged out of nowhere, quickly catching us off guard completely!

Something smaller than the Mole King, hell, even smaller than the damn Moles emerged from the Mole King's stomach. When it completely crawled out, it resembled a gigantic humanoid ant-like insect, with sharp red eyes, and a menacing aura.

Chapter 448 A Deadly Ant!

The moment I looked into the monster, which resembled a three-meter-tall humanoid black ant creature with bright red eyes, I saw an awfully annoyingly confusing Status when I checked it! It even hurt my head a little bit when I tried to peer into it! Just what is this thing?!

I stupidly checked its status again, only to get another strong headache, something that shouldn't even be possible because I don't even have a head or a brain! Does peering at this monster's status provoke some sort of response that damages the soul directly?

Ding!

[Due to constant [Erosion] Damage inflicted upon your Soul you have learned the [Erosion Resistance: Lv1] Skill]

Erosion Resistance?!

System, what is even happening?!

[I am not sure, but this monster doesn't seem to be something you can appraise using your current powers... It immediately attempted to hurt your soul the moment you peered into its own Status, if you try this again, you'll receive another hit and this time it might actually hurt you.]

Eh?!

[However, based in what it is emanating, this thing reeks like the secretion of the Fragment of the Evil God, the same sensation I felt when you fought Agatha is felt here...]

[Whatever this is, it is dangerous, be careful]

What...? A monster that has the power of the Fragment here? But I thought this was an abandoned dungeon deep in a mountain! Just what happened here?

"BZZZ... BBBTTZZZ..."

Suddenly, the ant creature began making a strange noise, the noise was strangely painful to hear that even my soul trembled. Lucifer, Emeraldine, and Partner instinctively stepped back, but that's when it struck.

FLASH!

Moving at a speed that I was barely able to detect at all, the Ant Monster rushed towards Emeraldine, the weaker of the four of us, and pointed its hand at her chest.

CLAAASH!

"BBZZTT...?"

However, I managed to stop it in time, as I used [Shadow Teleportation] to reach Emeraldine's position in time, stopping the monster's arm.

"You bastard... what the fuck are you?!" I roared, quickly unleashing my wrath.

My darkness quickly emerged completely. I knew that if I held back against this monster, I would end up paying for it. Without a second of a doubt, I activated most of my Skills at once, as a storm of darkness, crackling black lightning, burning black fire, and even a deep, black void emerged within my chest, quickly absorbing the ant's entire arm, and breaking it apart.

CRAASH!

"BBBBZZZZTTTTTT!"

The monster suddenly gave out an ear-piercing scream as wings emerged from its back and it quickly flew away from me. At the same time, I completely devoured its arm, as I suddenly felt like I munched on solid miasma and Demonite crystal at once with some bug juice and other parts of bugs. The flavor, however, was almost completely miasma.

What is this thing?!

"You're not getting away!"

Lucifer roared, quickly unleashed several blades created out of phantasmal flames and darkness, and firing them at the ant as it flew over the ground.

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

"BBBZZZ!"

However, the ant quickly responded by waving its legs, in mere seconds, the wind barrier was broken as enormous shockwaves of darkness and miasma were unleashed, hitting all of us at once and shaking the earth below.

TRUUUUMMM...!

"W-What with this power?!" Asked Partner in surprise.

"Uaggh...!" Emeraldine tried to protect herself with her light barrier, but the barrier quickly began to melt away against the miasma.

"Living Armors! Come!"

I summoned my Living Armors without doubting, equipping both over Emeraldine and Partner, making them almost immune to Miasma, as such living armors were able to absorb them.

"Hahh... T-Thanks." Emeraldine sighed. "This is Miasma, isn't it?" She wondered.

"It is exactly that." Lucifer muttered, as his body was bleeding through a large wound which was already festering with miasma infecting it.

"Lucifer!" Partner cried in surprise, as she suddenly flew to his side alongside a phantom clone of mine. We swiftly healed him, cutting his wound's rotten parts, and then combining Partner's blood Magic with Undead Healing to fully recover his wound.

The ant, however, seemed completely aggressive, and immediately attempted to fight back once more. The insect raised its hands into the sky and suddenly began to gather enormous quantities of miasma, even with a missing arm, it still had another three to use!

FLUOOSH!

The miasma gathered together and then materialized into a large spear. The Chaotic Spear, as I called it, began to unleash an enormously dense aura of pure obscurity, as the ant monster pointed the spear towards us and then fired it without delay.

FLASH!

The spear flew at an incredible speed. Calculating its power through mere senses, I could easily tell this thing could generate an explosion that would cover most of this Floor's space! I couldn't let that just land in front of us.

"Not so fast!"

In an instant, I flew into the skies as I transformed into a mass of flies and darkness, catching the enormous spear with my Phantasmal Stomach, and using Abyss Eater to devour it whole.

CRUNCH! CRUNCH! CRUNCH!

It was incredibly hard to munch, and the enormous quantities of miasma it had were constantly distorting the interior of my soul! However, I was managing, and quickly devoured it in less than a split of a second.

FLASH!

A second after, I emerged right behind the ant who was left flabbergasted after seeing what I did. And mercilessly held it with my shadow tentacles, pulling it down into the abyss of my soul.

"You're not getting away!"

"BBZZZZ...!"

The furious ant began fighting against me as much as it could, its legs kicked me constantly. Each kick felt as if my soul was shattering, but I gritted my teeth and constantly healed my soul using Undead Healing, as I continued to pull the ant into my Phantasmal Stomach, within the deep void inside of me.

[Ultimate Skill: Yog-Sothoth]!

TRUUUUMMM...!

As I activated my Ultimate Skill, the black void grew larger and all-encompassing, capturing the bastard completely and beginning to tear it apart piece by piece.

"Die, you bastard!"

"BBZZZ...!"

Chapter 449 First Floor Clear And Level Up Frenzy!

With a last cry of agony, the menacing creature was swiftly destroyed. I couldn't really hold back at all. If I extended the battle too much, that thing's speed could have caught someone else that wouldn't have been able to easily intercept its attacks. I felt a sense of urgency the moment the System told me to get rid of that thing as soon as possible. I guess I overdid it, but it is never overreacting when it comes to survival.

"Hahh... Phew..." I sighed while slowly flying down the ground.

When I meet everybody else, I was greeted with questions and the panic of my group.

"Just what was that thing?! It was so fast and it had miasma with itself!" Emeraldine said. "This dungeon... could it really have a fragment?"

"I don't really know, but we really need to investigate further to see what's in here..." I sighed. "I don't think it's a fragment. If it had one, it would be like the dungeon back in the mountain where the country of the dwarves is located and might even pour miasma outside of the dungeon... Whatever is in here, it is probably not as deadly, but still incredibly dangerous."

"Imagine if we find more of those monsters in large groups..." Partner muttered.

"We... how would we even be able to fight against them properly?" Lucifer sighed.

"Yeah, it is not something we can properly handle completely for now... But still, we need to investigate and see for ourselves." I said. I was rather reluctant to go back for now.

"Yeah, we know you won't want to go back yet." Said Lucifer. "Let's gather with the dwarves first."

"I agree. We might be able to get some insight if we ask them?" Wondered Emeraldine.

"Perhaps, let's go." I said.

As we made our way back to the dwarves, I looked into the System Notifications, I had accumulated a lot of EXP, so I decided to quickly receive it all for now.

[Calculating EXP earned...]

[You defeated [Giant Death Mole (B- Rank)] x54]

[You defeated [Giant Death Mole King (A- Rank)] x1]

[You defeated [Abyssal Parasite Legion Ant Grand General (A Rank)] x1]

[You earned 3250000 EXP]

[Your Level has increased from Level 10 to Level 11!]

[Your Level has increased from Level 11 to Level 12!]

[Your Level has increased from Level 12 to Level 13!]

[Your Level has increased from Level 13 to Level 14!]

[Your Level has increased from Level 14 to Level 15!]

[All your Stats have increased]

[You earned System Points]

[Several Skills have leveled up]

[The [Undead Healing: Lv10] Skill has awakened into the [Death Restoration: Lv1] Skill!]

[Name]: [Maria Fuentes Belles]

[Status]: [Strengthened, Cursed]

[Race]: [Beelzebub]

[Job]: [Dark Shadow Spectral Death Spirit Queen]

[Level]: [9/80] -> [15/80]

[EXP]: [50000/800000]

[Rank]: [A++]

[HP]: [48000/48000] -> [60000/60000]

[MP]: [142000/142000] -> [166000/166000]

[Attack]: [16500] -> [25500]

[Defense]: [18500] -> [27500]

[Magic]: [132000] -> [156000]

[Agility]: [48000] -> [60000]

[Aether]: [100]

[System Points]: [144000]

[Soul Grimoire Abilities]: [Creation], [Deletion], [Transfer], [Enhance]

[Characteristic Skills]: [Ultimate Skill: Yog-Sothoth] [Unique Skill: Supreme Magic] [Unique Skill: System] [Unique Skill: Goddess] (Sealed) [Undead: Lv--] [Dark Element: Lv--] [Death Element: Lv--] [Poison Element: Lv--] [Illusion Element: Lv--] [Elemental Spirit: Lv--] [Fiend Language: Lv10] [Shadow Transportation: Lv7] [Abyssal Body: Lv10] [Supernatural Senses: Lv10] [Poison Body: Lv8] [Plague Body: Lv3] [Abyss Eater: Lv2]

[Resistance Skills]: [Status Effect Immunity: Lv--] [Greater Magic Damage Resistance: Lv6] [Darkness Resistance: Lv10] [Fear Resistance: Lv10] [Elemental Resistance: Lv9] [Poison/Toxin/Venom Absorption: Lv-] [Erosion Resistance: Lv3]

[Physical Skills]: [Phantasmal Grasp: Lv7] [Masterful Stealth: Lv5] [Cursed Abyssal Blade Arts: Lv1] [Barbaric Dark Axe Arts: Lv1] [Phantasmal Limbs: Lv5] [Fist Strike: Lv5] [Piercing Spear Attack: Lv1]

[Magical Skills]: [Greater Curse: Lv6] [Life Absorption: Lv7] [Phantasmal Puppeteer: Lv2] [Dark Sun: Lv5] [Dark Storm: Lv5] [Abyssal Spear Arrow: Lv3] [Abyssal Barrier: Lv3] [Abyss Manipulation: Lv3] [Black Lightning Strike: Lv3] [Transfiguration of Death: Lv2] [Soul Devourer: Lv2] [Undead Detonation: Lv8] [Shadow Thread: Lv7] [Disease and Poison Creation: Lv7] [Pandora's Box: Lv9] [Shadow and Death Domain: Lv8] [Gorgon's Five Cursed Eyes: Lv6] [Gorgon's Transformation: Lv6] [Chaotic Dark Meteor: Lv4] [Dungeon Manipulation: Lv1] [Abyssal Demon Transformation: Lv2] [Illusory Delusion: Lv3] [Mind Bending: Lv3] [Insect Manipulation: Lv3] [Miasmic Essence Manipulation: Lv2]

[Support Skills]: [Shadow Storage: Lv10] [Death Restoration: Lv1] [Erase Presence: Lv10] [Summon: Lv7] [Spirit Summon: Lv4] [Aura of Famine: Lv9] [Embodiment: Lv2] [Cooking: Lv4] [Hunting: Lv4] [Split

Thinking: Lv7] [Mental Mapping: Lv5] [Phantasmal Stomach: Lv7] [Farming: Lv3] [Alchemy: Lv2] [Mining: Lv1]

[Title Skills]: [The Dark Witch: Lv7] [Dungeon Conqueror: Lv4] [Big Game Slayer: Lv9] [Taboo Mark: Lv8] [Bringer of Misfortune: Lv10] [Undead Queen: Lv9] [Evil of the World: Lv7] [Pickpocket: Lv7] [Apprentice Swordsman: Lv8] [Apprentice Axe Warrior: Lv6] [Apprentice Spear User: Lv1] [Apprentice Thread User: Lv5] [Spirit Queen: Lv4] [Spirit Mediator: Lv4] [Poison Queen: Lv5] [Merciless Assassin: Lv4] [God of Light Nemesis: Lv4] [Shameless Degenerate: Lv3] [Opportunistic Buyer: Lv4] [Plague Slayer: Lv5] [Gluttonous Eater: Lv5] [Saint of Death: Lv4] [Deceiver: Lv2] [Undead Slayer: Lv3] [Slime Slayer: Lv2] [King Slayer: Lv3] [Dungeon Master: Lv1] [Dungeon Destroyer: Lv1] [Queen of Flies: Lv2] [Sin of Gluttony: Lv2] [Mold Breaker: Lv2] [Sacrilegious Existence: Lv1] [Vampire Slayer: Lv1] [Little Farmer: Lv3] [Bookworm: Lv2] [Clandestine Brewer: Lv2] [Greedy Miner: Lv1]

[Divine Protections]: [Hel's Divine Protection]

Huh, one of my skills ended awakening into something brand new, that's nice and all, but where's the rest? I've got a bunch of Level 10 ones! How can those not awaken yet? Do I need to reach a certain requirement or mastery over them, maybe?

Well, whatever's the case, my stats rose a nice amount, and now that I am Level 15, I am only 65 levels off evolving once more... Ah, it still a long road until then. I gotta grind as much EXP as I can so I can grow stronger! If there are things like this damn monster walking around leisurely in this world, hidden in dungeons, then I can't really slack off at all.

When we finally gathered with the dwarves, I let out the twins from my shadows and explained them what had occurred, which they had barely managed to see only some blurry black spots in the air, the battle was indeed rather fast for their eyes.

Chapter 450 Eye Of The Abyss

"There was an ant inside the Mole King's stomach?" Helga asked in shock.

"Yeah, it looked like a typical ant monster, but it was standing upright, with only its last two legs. It had red eyes and a black jewel growing from its chest, and also was super strong." I said. "Is there no other reports of such a monster before?"

"Hmm..." Helga began to think, rubbing her chin. "I think we have heard of something like that, right?"

"Oh yeah." Blackard said. "There was a time, some years ago, when that dangerous dungeon was found. It was said that they found a ton of small black ants with red eyes who were awfully powerful. Most golems were eaten by them, and a lot of people died... it was pretty awful."

"They managed to purify the area using a lot of holy magic. Our country had to bring priests and magicians from the outside to deal with them. After that, the entire area including the dungeon got sealed by magic and then sealed once more with several walls of fortified stone." Said Helga. "I think this is the same dungeon that Aquamarine want you guys to investigate. To think there are ants from there in here..."

"Bu according to what you said, missy, these are awfully way stronger."

"Yeah, yeah."

"Can we even fight one?"

"No way, we'll die."

The dwarves seemed to know about these damned ants' way better than I expected. However, the ants they fought were not as strong as the one I killed. And on its description, it was called "Grand General", so this damn monster might had been a rare breed that was a general. It was also a parasite, so they probably start as small larvae that parasite monsters and slowly grow inside of them off their nutrients.

It was honestly better to bring the Dwarves back home for now so we can continue investigating things more leisurely by ourselves, having them here would be a hindrance, quite honestly.

"Alright then, I can see you guys really don't want to go back yet." Helga said. "We'll go back while we can and report this to the old hag. We managed to defeat those moles together, that's more than enough memories I want for now, I got a whole family and leaving them without a mother wouldn't really be a good thing."

"Thank you Helga, you can take some of the Moles as well as a reward." I offered.

"Oh no, don't worry, we already served ourselves picking up a lot of dropped items lying around, there's still a lot more but we can't fit them all in our backpacks." Laughed Helga. "Take care, Maria, I am sure you and your group's strong, so we'll be waiting for you guys back home!"

"Alright, I'll send you some Phantasmal Familiars so you have a safe travel back home." I quickly crated a few dozen large Phantasmal Snakes and sent them off with them. Like that, Helga's group swiftly went back home.

"Well, who want some Mole Stew?" Emeraldine wondered.

Emeraldine quickly decided to cook something up while we were tidying up everything else. We had to quickly get every item dropped around. We mostly found ores dropped, something rather unique. There were colorful elemental jewels, magic gold and white silver ores, reinforced iron ore, and other crystals. Equipment were not rare, however, but most of them were quite low quality. Compared to what can be made out of alchemy, they were junk pretty much.

But still, according to Helga, there were special "magic item processing machines" that can convert dropped items from dungeons such as accessories into materials that can be used to make new and better items, which is something the dwarves do a lot which they simply call "recycling".

After we gathered everything, we even found some health and mana potions, and even antidote potions scattered around. But those were super rare, only finding five of them. Perhaps the Moles Drop Rate is mostly Ores, Stones, and Jewels than other because they're more connected to the ground, maybe? All the ores and jewels we found were the ones I had already mined, so there wasn't anything particularly new, but it was very valuable, nonetheless.

"Master, look! Look!" Partner, Laura, and Takeshi suddenly pointed out at something that was lying right besides the giant corpse of the Mole King, which I had yet to put inside my Inventory.

"Huh? What is it?" I wondered, flying there to find a strange drop.

This wasn't the dropped item of the Mole King because that was a big combination of various ores made into a ball, but this item was... some sort of black jewel with a red eye-like marking on top of it. Quite honestly, it looked very eerie.

"What the heck is this?" I wondered, grabbing the jewel gently.

[Eye of the Abyss (A Grade)]

A special jewel said to hold a fragment of abyss itself within it. This jewel contains enormous quantities of Darkness and Chaos Attribute Essence stored inside and possess the spiritual resentment of a monster born within miasma. A jewel often used on forbidden rituals involving Secretions of the Fragment of the Evil God. Can be used as a powerful Core that could fuel Magic Items with energy for years, and it could even... do something even better in the right hands.

It was indeed a flashy description. However, it does indeed looks interesting. Perhaps I could make it into an accessory like a ring... It might fit my elements and even strengthen my magic. If I'm fighting monsters like that ant more in the future, I might as well get new equipment too.

"It looks to be a very strong jewel containing darkness and... chaos? Is that even an element?" I wondered. "Well, whatever's the case, it is rather dangerous so I'll store it for now and see what I can do with it later. For now, let's go eat everyone, we need to discuss further what we'll do."

"Alright!" Partner, Laura, and Takeshi said in unison, following me from behind like ducklings.