

A Ghost 571

Chapter 571 A Dhampir's Life

The power of Divine Artifacts is very dangerous. I guess there's a lot of tales of mortals trying to use them and ending up being cursed, transforming into inhumane monsters, and then tormenting everyone around them while becoming insane. Fafnir the Dwarf King was one of them, who became the Evil Dragon of Greed and destroyed his own Kingdom in the process. I don't know if he's still alive but there's no tale of him being slain yet. I wonder if we'll ever find him.

And this girl, the Frost Queen, whose real name is Tear, is also like Fafnir in a way, taking the Crown of Skadi and transforming into the Frost Queen, cold hearted and emotionless, with the desire to conquer everything and freeze the world so it becomes her endless domain of ice and snow... she also got a beef against me for some weird reason, probably incentivized by the damn Vampires who are somehow managing to make a mutual benefit contract with her, whatever it is.

"Could it be possible she's in there?" Wondered Ruby. "I know it is far-fetched, but it might be possible for you guys, who are very strong, to find out."

"Yeah, we could investigate..." I said with a nod. "For now, don't tell your team to get farther, I wouldn't be able to live knowing you guys ended killing some of your strongest men just to satisfy my curiosity."

"It is nothing like that, what we are doing is merely just for the safety of everyone... But it might be delayed for later, I suppose more important news would be entering the dungeon and everything else." Said Ruby.

"Veredorr, can you come?" I asked.

I was still too curious about Tear and what happened to her, so to clarify our minds and get better explanations from someone that witnessed it all live, I summoned Veredorr. He wasn't in my shadows as I left him in the village, though I summoned him here while he seemingly was having a nap.

He had grown rather strong, after evolving once he was now roughly Level 50 of Rank B, he was decently strong for his level, probably only slightly weaker than the twin fire ghosts who were approaching Rank

A. The same was for most of my "top undead". Meanwhile, the strongest armies of Undead I've got are all B- Rank at minimum, most of them being the monsters from the dungeon we conquered itself, combined with the old Undead we had beforehand.

Only the strongest veterans that have survived many battles have joined the newer armies with B Rank Undead. Undead monsters always rise a Rank below their original Rank while being alive. So all the guys we hunted just now, over a thousand of them in the dungeon I conquered, might become also part of this army... With them joining in, I would have 500+ more B+ Rank Undead.

It is already a sizable army! And with the strongest Generals I have, which are naturally stronger than these generic Undead due to their rare evolutions and races such as Darkbound, Mercury, and Kuro, who are genuinely stronger than even those at their same Rank due to their growth levels, skills, and titles compared to the generic ones, with such differences as tens of times stronger, I've got myself a big enough army that I might even attempt an all-out-war against the Frost Queen and her army of Ice Monsters.

...If that were to happen, which I've already envisioned, these numbers alone shouldn't satisfy me though. I have to get more and more Undead, make an army of thousands of high ranked ones. Thousands of low ranked cannot even amount to less than a hundred high ranked after all. Maybe I could try out some Undead Fusion, and fuse tons of weaker Undead into higher ranked ones. Yeah, but I might do it on another occasion, what's important now is asking Veredorr, the timid and mysterious Dhampir.

"Uwah! Ah? Eh? Ah... I was taking a nap. Master, where am I?" Veredorr asked, looking around timidly. Ruby and Aquamarine almost jumped out of their seats when they saw a bluish ghost emanating a powerful freezing aura emerge out of thin air.

Especially because his very presence froze the entire table and the floor beneath it, and even formed large ice crystals in the table and stalactites in the ceiling... he's always flashy when he shows up, he can't control his ice powers properly yet, so I have to regulate it myself.

"Calm down a bit Veredorr..." I sighed, quickly beginning to manipulate his magic output until his aura of freezing winter stopped.

"Sorry..." He sighed. "Master why am I here?"

"Well..."

I quickly introduced him to all the ladies here, and also the dwarves from our guild. We told him we wanted to hear more about Tear, the Frost Queen. Any information would be useful for the investigation.

"I see... It is a rather difficult topic... I can start from the beginning." Veredorr sighed. "I used to live on my own in the snow lands, inside a small cabin. My mother was a human and my father a Vampire. I never met my father through my entire life, and my mother fell sick due to the cold, and died when I was only ten years of age. Since then, I have been surviving on my own, never knowing what I truly was other than a half-vampire, a Dhampir, a being discriminated by humans and vampires alike."

"A Dhampir..." Sighed Ruby. "You could have come here; you were still half-human. We wouldn't have discriminated you."

"I... I never walked too far away from the lands I was born, so I was never able to find out this Dwarven Country. The only place I knew was Iceland, but I had to hide my features to buy things there, and sometimes I got caught and chased away. Many times I fought for my life and had to kill adventurers that wanted to hunt me down..." Veredorr sighed. "But when I meet them, is when I actually made friends for the first time."

Chapter 572 The Story Behind

"Friends, what a funny word. It was almost mystical to me." Veredorr sighed. "I met the two of them as they hunted around. They were people unlike other humans, as tall as three meters, with blue skin, silver hair, and golden eyes. They walked without fear of the freezing temperatures, as if they were immune to them. I met the couple of siblings, Frusk, and Tear, they were my friends, the first friends of my life."

"At first I was afraid, but they found me. And then they weren't afraid of me. They said I was small but dexterous unlike them. We began hunting together, to share meals together. I knew them more, and after months, they invited me to their village. A beautiful place inside a dungeon, a small world by itself... A beautiful blue tower always shone brightly in the background; I was always mesmerized by its

beauty..." Sighed Veredorr. "I meet these people and had a good time. They accepted me, I had... a family."

Veredorr sighed, looking into his own phantasmal hands, as if he was trying to remember something.

"Frusk and Tear were very close siblings. His little sister adored her big brother. Frusk taught me how to fight and hunt, he taught me where to hunt, how to survive... and more. Tear taught me about feelings, about people, and how to craft, cook, and sew..." Sighed Veredorr. "I spent over a hundred years with the Ice Giants, my life was peaceful and happy. After the death of my mother, I was finally able to find a place where I could belong to..."

Veredorr depicted Tear as this sweet girl that adored her big brother, someone that valued emotions and relationships, even teaching him all of that. She even taught him how to cook, craft, and sew. She was definitely not evil since the beginning.

"However, things changed that day. Due to my influence, Frusk wanted to meet the humans, he thought that they might be friendly and humble like me. I was foolish, I didn't know how they would react to him... I ended letting him go with me and a few other Ice Giants..." Veredorr sighed. "It all ended in tragedy. The Iceland Kingdom humans were accepting of beast-kin, elves, dwarves, and even Majin, but Ice Giants resembled trolls to them, they were scared, the same way they call my father's race monsters, they were scared of me as well the same way they were scared of them, my friends, the Ice Giants..."

"A battle ensued the moment they got closer to the walls. Humans' soldiers and adventurers chased us down. They were relentless, smiling as they chased us, as if we were mere prey for them... We managed to survive with many wounds but... at the last moment, a powerful high ranked adventurer appeared, he almost lethally wounded us all, Frusk stepped in to fight him, while we were told to run away..." Veredorr sighed. "I should have stayed with my friend and face death alongside him..."

"Tear was devastated of the news, and after a day, we came back to check if he was somewhere still alive... the only thing we found were... his body parts, all of them roasted, and his head on a pike." Veredorr cried, recalling a painful memory. "Frusk was... a good friend. He did not deserve such an end..."

"Tear was then devastated by the news so much she went insane. She wanted to avenge her brother and kill all the humans, she said she was going to kill everyone... She was insane, we tried to stop her, we had to bring her back to the village before she got herself killed." Veredorr sighed. "I remember her crying in frustration, in anger, in fury... We constantly told her she had not the strength to do as she said

she wanted to do... I fear such mere words might have been what triggered her to do what she did afterwards..."

"As we mourned Frusk's death, she infiltrated the Frost Tower somehow, and from within the top of the tower, she grabbed the Divine Artifact that was said that nobody should ever touch, a taboo... The Crown of Skadi was stolen by her. She wore it as she walked away from the tower that day. We tried to stop her, to take the crown away from her hands. She went berserk, as if she had completely changed. She became cold hearted and merciless, and after blaming me for her brother's death... She froze me to death... My dearest friend, the one I even... I even loved." Sighed Veredorr. "I never thought she would kill me in such a merciless way..."

Veredorr finished talking, sighing.

"That's all of it... I've told everything I know..." Veredorr sighed. "Now, please, let me alone..."

"Veredorr!"

Veredorr suddenly flew away without even coming back to me or my shadows. Well, he was free to do as he pleased. But still, I left a phantom familiar with him to watch over him. He was still a ghost that might do dangerous things to others without realizing.

"His ice powers..." Aquamarine muttered. "They are due to this kid's trauma, isn't it?"

"I've also heard about special types of phantasmal undead that are elemental ghosts take the element of their traumas. Those that die by fire become flame ghosts, those that are bullied alive become swamp ghosts, and those that die frozen become ice ghosts..." Said Ruby.

"Yeah, he had it rough." I sighed. "When I found him, his soul looked like his frozen form, it was too much of a trauma for him."

"How tragic... So this is the truth about the Frost Queen's past." Aquamarine said.

"It is... gruesome, yes. But if that's true, then she most likely wants to wipe out all of humans in this continent, probably all of us in between too, she might not even recognize us as someone different." Sighed Ruby.

"Those that use Divine Artifacts become Calamity-level Monsters, she is someone that might be capable of doing just as she said she would..." Aquamarine said. "Stopping her must be our priority."

"I agree." I nodded. "But for now, let's have lunch, I am starving..."

Chapter 573 Comforting A Ghost

As we enjoyed lunch, I began to think about what Veredorr had told us. Maybe forcing the guy to speak everything wasn't the right thing to do. I've been taking it for granted that every single Undead can obey me and do as I said, they're always happy to help and all! But... Veredorr's kind of different, he's always gloomy and silent, and unless I ask him a lot, he never really speaks.

I guess he has yet to overcome his trauma...?

...

No.

That's not right.

Ghosts, Undead like us... we never overcome our traumas.

We are dictated by them.

Our very existences are an amalgamation of magic and resentment, all the traumas we hold maintain our new existences.

We never leave behind the things that marked us.

The things... that made us suffer the most.

For some reason I lost such memories, maybe because of that, I've been able to adapt and cope with everything easily, but once I regain all those memories, will I change?

Maybe... I will become like Veredorr, or even worse.

Ah, well...

I guess I just don't have to overthink it.

Looking at Nyx's innocent eyes as she eats her food kind of fills me with happiness.

Maybe I can cope with it...

As long as I am with everyone here, as long as I have them at my side.

Maybe Veredorr merely lacks that, he thinks he has nobody with him anymore.

His best friend died gruesomely, and the girl he loved killed him cold-heartedly, as if he was just trash that got in her way, completely denying everything they have lived together.

It must have broken him emotionally and mentally too much, and the cold he emanates doesn't help, he probably feels completely desolated, in an endless snow scape of his own making.

I just have to bring him some warmth, help him out.

Make him think he's actually a friend and not just... a tool, as he might believe I think he is.

After having lunch, I left everyone inside of Aquamarine's house, as I quickly flew to look for him.

"Veredorr..."

I found him hiding inside an empty barrel behind a desolate street alley.

"..."

He didn't respond, pretending to not exist.

I quickly flew towards him and began to talk to him.

"Come on, get out... I want to talk with you but I want to see you at the eyes."

"..."

He slowly flew outside the barrel.

His red eyes seemed filled with darkness, his white hair covering one of his eyes, as his pale face looked at me. He looked very miserable.

"I'm sorry..."

I patted his shoulders.

"Why?"

"I shouldn't had forced you. That's not what a friend should do... I don't want to be just a typical necromancer. Sure, with monsters and other things that don't even have personalities, I can't really talk like I am doing with you. But you're not like them, right? So I wanted to tell you that you're a precious ally, and one of the citizens of my village. Sorry about that, we just wanted information and I kind of... No, I can't really say some stupid excuse, I was just being inconsiderate."

"Master..."

"Just call me Maria, come on."

"It is alright?"

"Yeah! We are partners now, right?"

"Hmm..."

Veredorr sighed, flying to my side.

"...Will you kill Tear?"

"I... It is something I cannot decide right now."

"She's a good girl, she's... only being controlled by her own traumas and resentments, by the crown..."

"...I'll try to figure out something."

"I guess... Killing her would be the best thing to do at this point. Perhaps how many she has killed already..."

"Veredorr... Okay, fine! I won't kill her!"

"Eh?!"

Veredorr was surprised by my sudden change of opinion.

"If I just take away the crown that'll do, right?"

"W-Well, perhaps... But are you sure? I..."

"I know she means a lot to you. I was planning to just make her a ghost girlfriend for you, but I can relate to how you feel. It is always better to save someone's life than prefer to turn them into undead. If there's the possibility, they're better off remaining alive. Being an Undead is not something we exactly want someone we love to go through, right?"

"Right... It is... so desolate and cold."

"I know... I know how it feels. Come, let's go eat so you can warm up."

"Can I even eat?"

"You can try! I can eat a lot! Maybe you can get the Phantasmal Stomach skill!"

"Such a thing exists? I miss the flavor of a warm stew, or a warm tea..."

"Let's go eat then!"

Veredorr looked back at me with his red eyes, his melancholic face slowly changing, only a little bit.

"Thanks..."

"Aw, don't think about it. We'll rescue Tear and the Ice Giants, and destroy that damn Crown, end of the subject."

"Maybe I had the wrong idea about you, you're really a different person than I thought you were..."

"Am I? of course I am!"

We flew back to Aquamarine's residence and quickly served Veredorr food. He began stuffing himself quickly after suddenly realizing he could eat.

Materializing his body and all, he warmed his insides with a delicious meat and potatoes stew, and then ate freshly baked bread with cheese, after that he drank like three cups of tea, and then ate a second and third plate of stew.

"Ah, everything's so warm... So comforting... I can't stop eating, this stew reminds me so much of the one Tear used to make..."

Veredorr began biting a piece of bread, as tears began flowing from his red eyes, which quickly froze into ice crystals.

"Thank you..." He cried, as he smiled in between tears.

"Aw come on, don't be so overexaggerated now." I sighed, patting his back. "Want to come to a little trip around dungeons?"

"Ah... Sure."

And like that, we set off.

At the end, Veredorr was just someone that needed some words of encouragement, and warm food.

Chapter 574 Exploring A New Dungeon

Helga decided to lead us to the nearby low ranked dungeons we planned to both explore and use to level up Root as much as we could before going out tomorrow. She and her group were all quite experienced in everything regarding this country's dungeons, as they had lived here ever since they were born, obviously. As we walked towards the nearest D Rank Dungeon, which is the Dungeon I decided to go to, as going to an E Rank one might be too slow and going a Rank higher than Root is still possible, Helga explained us about these dungeons.

"Around the entire city there's around five dungeons up to C+ Rank. The hardest one has a B Rank Boss Monster, but that's about it. The only dungeon of higher difficulty was the Sealed Dungeon, but that one's underground and into even deeper areas." Said Helga.

"These five dungeons are owned by different guilds and are the major source of our resources and food as well. There's the Mushroom Cave Dungeon where Mushroom Monsters appear, which is also where we grow mushrooms and harvest them to eat them." Said Blackard.

"A few others such as the Lizard's Nest are filled with lizard-type monsters, their meat's is what we eat most of the time. Or at least commoners do. I've already eaten pork several times at Miss Aquamarine's residence!" Laughed Helga.

"I'll make sure to improve everyone's pay with all the money we'll yield from the crops inside the dungeon I conquered. You guys are all part of the guild after all, and if you'll be going to work there frequently, paying you is normal." I said, trying to cheer them up. Eating the same thing over and over was sure tiring, I had experienced it with my Giant Rat Cattle... At this point most people just want to eat anything else than giant rats.

I had already brought them hundreds of Moles and Birds Monster meat, which was of incredible quality and flavor compared to our Giant Rat Cattle, so everyone must be eating way better meat.

"The Mushroom Cave Dungeon is a nice place as it is an E+ Rank Dungeon, but most of the time it is being cleansed daily by employees and mushrooms are cultivated in there all day, so there's little space for people to go leveling or anything of the sort. That dungeon has completely been privatized." Sighed Helga.

"However, the dungeon where we are going should suffice!"

"Yeah, that one dungeon's a bit of a mess, but it is easy enough for the small tree lass."

"Can someone remind me again why we are bothering so much for that walking tree?"

The dwarves began rambling as usual.

"Oi you lot! If Lady Maria asks our help, we give her our help! Don't go around questioning her now! She already said this thing was special!" Helga said angrily, reprimanding them.

Though did she had to call little Root as "this thing"?!

"Anyways, which dungeon are we visiting that you guys babble so much about?" I asked.

"Gyugyuh..." Root was sitting over my head while looking around the city.

"Muh..." Nyx was taking a look at Root as if he was her new toy. The reason he was on top of my head was because it was the farthest place from Nyx's little claws.

"This one!"

Helga and the dwarves quickly showed us the dungeon we were coming to visit. It was a rather busy entrance, there were a dozen of people entering and walking outside, all of them wearing armors and holding weapons. Some bringing enormous backpacks with themselves.

They were this country's equivalent of adventurers, often named Explorers or Dungeon Raiders. Some even just went to mine ores that grow inside, bringing sacks with ores and pickaxes with themselves.

"It looks pretty full! Will we even get to find any monster here?" Partner wondered while crossing her arms.

"Of course, this dungeon's enormously vast. It is the biggest of the four. It is named the Endless Swamps for a reason after all!" Said Helga.

"It has eight floors, all of them of a massive size which are all underground swamps and lakes. A variety of monsters appear here, alongside special magical herbs, ores, and other materials which grow naturally due to the dungeon's magic." Said Blackard.

"This place's where most of our activities were done before we decided to go to the other mountain..."

"Man, getting here sure is nostalgic."

"Makes me remember that time you tripped over a turtle that resembled a rock and fell into the swamp, and then came back covered on leeches all over your face, Blackard!"

"Hahahaha! I remember that too!"

"Gahahahaha! That was such a good time!"

"You better not fall again you black bearded bastard!"

"Tch! Cut it out!" Blackard crossed his burly arms. "Anyways, let's go. With the VIP passes we have we can enter easily into the most monster filled areas right away."

"Yeah, let's go!" Helga quickly guided us, all of us showed our VIP Cards. Even Takeshi and Laura got themselves one some time ago in a little exam they had to do, where they completely demolished the tests.

As for Root and Nyx, we hid them inside my shadows for a tiny bit. Nyx had yet to get herself a license so we had to sneak her inside without being seen. Root was literally monster so he might cause a fuss and I wasn't in the mood to explain things.

The reason why nothing happened outside was because, most likely, people thought he was a very weird hat made of wood rather than a walking tree monster. In this place where there are no trees at all, people has never seen Treants before, so they couldn't recognize him.

We entered the dungeon right away, walking down the straight path alongside many other Explorers. Helga and the team of dwarves knew all these passages while we were racking our brains where to go next. My Map Skill showed me an immense maze of interconnected caves everywhere...

"Here we are!"

Helga quickly led us to an almost empty place, in front of an enormous underground swamp covered by gigantic floating lily pads and enormous frogs hopping around leisurely.

"This is our favorite spot, Swamp 8! Not many come all the way down here because it is a pain to walk all the stairs up after we are done." Laughed Blackard.

"Oh, so that's why we went down so many stairs..." I sighed.

Chapter 575 Helping Root Level Up

"Swamp number eight, really?" Asked Lucifer. "Couldn't you dwarves come out with a better name?"

"Come on Lucifer, don't be rude now." Brunhild told her brother.

"Hey you damn lizard!"

"This name wasn't even decided by us, it was the conqueror of the dungeon!"

"Yeah!"

"And who was it?" I wondered.

"Oh, that's Lady Aquamarine." Said Helga.

"Eh?!"

We were all a bit shocked after hearing those news. Apparently the old grandma was a rather active Dungeon Raider in her younger years, and she conquered this Dungeon by exploring it all and subjugating the Boss.

"Yep she was a pretty famous beauty back in her youthful years, like over a hundred years ago though."
Laughed Helga.

"She's a really old lady now."

"Yeah, a mummy."

"Can't believe she's still kicking..."

"Oi don't disrespect her after what she has done for us!"

Blackard once more called out the dwarves. I had grown accustomed to their snarky remarks already, they made the place lively anyways.

"For now we should give you a little roundabout. This place's the home of several Amphibious monsters. Half of them are poisonous so we often don't eat them. Those giant frogs you see there, the ones that are over three meters tall? Those guys are named Greater Poison Frogs. They've got a morning star-shaped tongue covered on poison spikes, they hit with them very hard so we always need a tanker to deal with them to take on the hits." Said Helga.

"And that's without even including those damn Dart Fishes that show up whenever we try to lure the Frogs out of the swamp!" Said Blackard.

"Those damn fishes jump out of the swamp water and will immediately try to pierce through your head or your chest whenever you get closer to the water, be careful of those!"

"Their evolved form, Arrow Fishes, are even deadlier and might even have poison."

"This is honestly the toughest place of the dungeon." Helga said. "Each Swamp difficulty rises more and more. From the first to the third swamp the monsters are not that big of a deal, but from four and below, things get extremely difficult, that's why there's not many people here."

"It was the only swamp us bottom of the barrel could get into, sadly." Sighed Blackard.

"We had a hard time but we always made it out, sometimes we almost died."

"Helga almost died once, she was poisoned and we had to use all our savings to spend on an Antidote... we had it rough."

"Because of the lack of Alchemists, healing items are incredibly expensive here."

"I see..." I sighed. "Well, we'll try to mass produce potions and antidotes more, we could sell them off as our guild product, profit from it and at the same time help others Dungeon Raiders that can't afford the insane prices. How about it?"

"That sounds amazing!"

"Yeah!"

"Lady Maria's always with her amazing ideas."

"All hail Lady Maria!"

The dwarves began kneeling before me and praising me as if I were their goddess... it felt embarrassing.

"Anyways, for now, the best way to lure the frogs here is using some bait." Said Helga. "Usually we use shrimps or fish, they love those and-"

"Let's go Root!"

"Gyugyu!"

"Veredorr, can you help us?"

"Sure."

Veredorr quickly began freezing the water of the swamps I stepped over, as we were all able to walk over it with ease. We could have just flew over it but Takeshi and Laura can't fly normally unless I give them some help.

"Ah, I guess... You can do that too." Helga sighed.

"Ahahahah! Of course our weird methods wouldn't work with them, Helga!" Blackard couldn't help but laugh.

"What are you guys waiting there? Come on! Maybe you can level up by slaying monsters here too?" I wondered.

"Sounds like a plan!"

"I'm in!"

"Wait is the ice safe to step- Ah I already stepped over it..."

"It is as solid as rock, don't worry!"

As the dwarves began exploring the frozen swamp, we found Root's first victim, a Great Poison Frog who got frozen in the ice, half of its legs were, so it got stuck there.

"Gerooooo! Gerororo...!"

"There you go Root, your first victim! Go for it little guy!"

"Gyuh! I shall feast on the blood of the weak!"

Root jumped off my head as he landed over the head of the large frog.

POOF!

"Geroooooooooo!"

The frog began making annoyed noises, as Root quickly began using his Wooden Needles and several tiny slicing leaves over the Frog's head.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

"Take this! And this! Gyugyuuuh!"

Root continued fighting and fighting...

And fighting...

And it was always several minutes and the frog was as alive as ever, only barely having some bruises that were only bleeding a tiny bit over its head.

"At this pace your tree is never leveling up..." Sighed Lucifer.

"Maybe we should weaken the prey first?" Asked Partner.

"Our attacks are so strong that even a normal slap might kill the frog..." I sighed. "Oh! You guys!"

I quickly called the dwarves, most of them were sliding around the ice, having the time of their lives.

"Yes Lady Maria?"

"Can you guys chip down the HP of the frog for me? Use little attacks, nothing lethal." I asked nicely. The dwarves quickly feel pumped up.

"Oh, that's a good idea."

"Maybe we can finally be useful!"

"Yeah, let's!"

They took out their knives and began stabbing the big and fat frog. The frog was over two meters big and had very fat skin, alongside several capes of fat all over its body. It was very tough.

But thanks to my Analyze Ability, I was able to see through its stats, the HP was going slowly, like by -4% with each stabbing attack.

"Go on, go on!"

"Gerorororooo!"

The Frog cried more and more, as its HP reached single digits.

"STOP!"

The dwarves stopped at my command.

"Now Root, go for it!"

"Got it, master! Gyugyuuuuuh!"

Root suddenly jumped into the air, as his legs shaped into a sharp stake-like tip.

CLAAASH!

And he stabbed right through the frog's skull!

Chapter 576 Max Level

Ding!

[Root] defeated [Great Poisonous Frog (D Rank): Lv27] x1!]

[Root] earned 2700 EXP]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] Level has reached Level 14!]

[All of [Root] stats have increased]

[Root] Special Skill Effects have been activated, Skill Proficiency to all Skills upon Leveling Up has been distributed]

[Several of [Root] Skills have leveled up]

Oooh! This is way more than I imagined! Although he didn't got to max level even after getting rid of a D Rank Monster, he leveled 14 times and he even got some interesting bonuses.

Apparently the Seed of Calamity skill grants him bonus Skill Proficiency to all Skills with every Level, so he can accumulate the Proficiency over leveling a lot and even level up all his Skills easily.

Damn, he was made to grow strong quickly.

"Gyuuu!"

FLASH!

Root suddenly grew a few centimeters, as he began overflowing with a bit more of power. His stats had skyrocketed accordingly.

"How much did he leveled up?" Helga wondered, cleansing the blood of her knife.

"14 Levels..."

"14?!"

All the dwarves were surprised.

"E-Even as a E+ Rank Monster, that's an insane speed of leveling!"

"At most it would had been four levels..."

"Yeah, that's' incredible."

"What sort of abilities does this tiny tree has?"

"Maybe the investment will eventually be worth it!"

"Gyuuuh! I will become strong quickly for master!" Root began to get pumped up, jumping off the corpse of the frog and then stretching his roots all over the frog, beginning to... sap its blood and flesh.

This was a new Skill named [Draining Roots] with them, he can drain blood, flesh, and anything as if it were a slurpy from an already dead foe to recover HP and MP.

"Alright then! Where's our next target?" I wondered.

Quickly, we spotted another frog not so far away. This one wasn't trapped but was completely confused about what was happening right now. His whole world was suddenly frozen, I can't blame him.

"Gerorororo!"

The frog felt surrounded and threatened as the dwarves encircled the purple-colored amphibian. It was a big monster though, so it could easily charge forward and run over them.

"GEROROOOO!"

The frog opened its enormous fangless mouth as an enormous tongue emerged from within. Just as Helga explained, that thing's tongue had the shape of a morning star with sharp spikes covered on purple poison!

CLAAASH!

The hit alone shattered the ice in front of the frog, as it cracked open and led to the swamp below. The dwarves stepped back a bit, as they began throwing Bone Javelins I made for them.

This was also a way for them to train so it was killing two birds with one stone. These dwarves are not going to remain weak forever, I'll slowly train them and then let them power level in my dungeon eventually.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

Three bone javelins were launched at the frog, covering its body. The HP quickly began going down, each Javelin made the frog lose around ten to fifteen percent of its HP, quickly going below half its total HP.

"GEROOO!"

However, the frog desperately utilized a skill, opening its enormous mouth and then spitting acidic purple-colored slimy poison everywhere.

SPLAAASH!

"Ah shit!"

"Watch out!"

"Run!"

The dwarves panicked, but I soon enough, the splash of poison reached them and... nothing happened.

"Huh?"

They quickly realized there were large barriers made of darkness covering their bodies and protecting them, the poison didn't even get to them.

"Purification."

FLAAASH!

I conjured Purification and purified the poison right away.

Helga caught up to everything going on and decided to go along.

"Charge! Weaken that thing so the tiny tree can level up some more!"

"Alright!"

The dwarves unified as one squadron, charging forward using their shields and crushing the frog from all sides, while their swords began stabbing the frog from the little crevices.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"GEROOO...!"

The frog began struggling more and more, as Root quickly went to finish it off, jumping towards it by suddenly shaping into a long and sharp wooden spear of almost 50 centimeters!

CLAAASSSHH!

"GRAAHH..."

The frog suddenly had its forehead pierced by the shapeshifting Root, as it fell dead over the ground...

Ding!

[Root] defeated [Great Poisonous Frog (D Rank): Lv29] x1!]

[Root] earned 2900 EXP]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] Level has reached Level 20!]

[All of [Root] stats have increased]

[Root] Special Skill Effects have been activated, Skill Proficiency to all Skills upon Leveling Up has been distributed]

[Several of [Root] Skills have leveled up]

[Root] has reached Max Level!]

[Root] can now Evolve!]

Root quickly glowed with a golden aura, covering his body for a split of a second, as if he was renewed, his empty eyes grew slightly bigger and his branch-like pointy nose became longer and funnier looking.

"Gyugyu! Max Level!" He celebrated.

[Name]: [Root]

[Status]: [Cursed]

[Race]: [Lesser Treant (Special)]

[Level]: [20/20]

[Rank]: [E+]

[HP]: [425/425]

[MP]: [640/640]

[Attack]: [525]

[Defense]: [630]

[Magic]: [630]

[Agility]: [415]

[Aether]: [5]

[Characteristic Skills]: [Dark Element: Lv--] [Nature Element: Lv--] [Seed of Calamity: Lv1] [Spirit Nest: Lv1] [Wood Shapeshifting: Lv1]

[Resistance Skills]: [Physical Resistance: Lv2] [Magical Resistance: Lv2] [Status Effect Resistance: Lv2]

[Physical Skills]: [Uproot: Lv2] [Rest: Lv2] [Wooden Needle: Lv2] [Draining Roots: Lv1]

[Magical Skills]: [Sharp Leaf Projectile: Lv2] [Relaxing Aroma: Lv2]

[Support Skills]: [Healing Leaf: Lv2]

[Title Skills]: [Servant of the Apostle of Death: Lv1] [Treant Progenitor: Lv1] [Forest Master: Lv1]

As little Root celebrated, I took a peek at his stats. They were looking really big out of thin air. He seems to have amazing stat growths for his Rank, Seed of Calamity boosts stat growths directly, so that must be the reason behind them.

And above all, something I had realized before when I checked his status for the first time... Root has the Aether Stat for some reason!

Anyways, let's better evolve him, the faster he evolves the stronger he'll get.

Chapter 577 Hunting In The Swamp Dungeon

[Name]: [Root]

[Status]: [Cursed]

[Race]: [Lesser Treant (Special)]

[Level]: [20/20]

[Rank]: [E+]

[HP]: [425/425]

[MP]: [640/640]

[Attack]: [525]

[Defense]: [630]

[Magic]: [630]

[Agility]: [415]

[Aether]: [5]

[Characteristic Skills]: [Dark Element: Lv--] [Nature Element: Lv--] [Seed of Calamity: Lv1] [Spirit Nest: Lv1] [Wood Shapeshifting: Lv1]

[Resistance Skills]: [Physical Resistance: Lv2] [Magical Resistance: Lv2] [Status Effect Resistance: Lv2]

[Physical Skills]: [Uproot: Lv2] [Rest: Lv2] [Wooden Needle: Lv2] [Draining Roots: Lv1]

[Magical Skills]: [Sharp Leaf Projectile: Lv2] [Relaxing Aroma: Lv2]

παῖδα-ῥοῦ | ·κόΜ [Support Skills]: [Healing Leaf: Lv2]

[Title Skills]: [Servant of the Apostle of Death: Lv1] [Treant Progenitor: Lv1] [Forest Master: Lv1]

Little Root's stats have increased greatly. Seeing him slowly grow was kind of fun, like playing a monster catching game. I've been mostly overlooking the growth of all my Undead and allies through a rather superficial level, never really checking on their Status and all that much.

But now that I've been doing this meticulously with Root, I feel it's kind of... Yeah, it's actually pretty fun! Also, seeing how promising he is only make things even more fun as I have rather high expectations for his future evolutions.

And this dungeon is brimming with nice amounts of EXP everywhere, so we might as well grind to our heart's contents!

However, first things first, time to make this little guy evolve.

Root's current Race is...

[Race]: [Lesser Treant (Special)]

A Small Walking Tree that was given a Will and a Strong Soul. It moves around with its leg-shaped roots and is capable of sapping the life and energy of the creatures it fights. They're usually quite hardy to fight for beginners, as they have high defenses and recovery and can stall fights for a long period of time and come out on top or make their foes give up and run away.

This Lesser Treant is "special" as it possess something within it and it has begun to develop a Stronger Soul than usual as a result.

Huh, I see... If I were a beginner adventurer, it would certainly be rather hard to fight a Treant, they have high regeneration and defenses. If there's no fire attribute magic to deal with them effectively, they can just tank hits and stall endlessly.

"Alright Root, can you evolve right now?" I wondered.

"Gyugyuu... I dunno..." He said.

He didn't knew how.

Wait, what?!

"You don't know how-"

FLAAASH!

However, he seemed to have figured it out, as he began glowing brightly. His entire body was encompassed by bright golden light, as his size started increasing up to an additional meter!

When the evolution finished, Root stood there looking around, his appearance hadn't changed much, but he had grown taller and stronger. He was definitely not a sapling anymore.

[Root] has evolved into a [Soldier Treant (Special)]!

Soldier Treant, huh?

[Name]: [Root]

[Status]: [Cursed]

[Race]: [Soldier Treant (Special)]

[Level]: [0/30]

[Rank]: [D+]

[HP]: [625/625]

[MP]: [840/840]

[Attack]: [625]

[Defense]: [830]

[Magic]: [730]

[Agility]: [515]

[Aether]: [20]

[Characteristic Skills]: [Dark Element: Lv--] [Nature Element: Lv--] [Seed of Calamity: Lv2] [Spirit Nest: Lv2] [Wood Shapeshifting: Lv2]

[Resistance Skills]: [Physical Resistance: Lv3] [Magical Resistance: Lv3] [Status Effect Resistance: Lv3]

[Physical Skills]: [Uproot: Lv3] [Rest: Lv3] [Wooden Needle: Lv3] [Draining Roots: Lv2]

[Magical Skills]: [Sharp Leaf Projectile: Lv3] [Relaxing Aroma: Lv3] [Wooden Spear: Lv1]

[Support Skills]: [Healing Leaf: Lv3] [Magic Leaf: Lv1]

[Title Skills]: [Servant of the Apostle of Death: Lv2] [Treant Progenitor: Lv2] [Forest Master: Lv2]
[Nature's Guardian: Lv1]

He has definitely gotten stronger! He gained several hundreds more of stats and- a few new skills as well! Alright, let's test them out, this is kind of fun.

"Gerororooooo...!"

A Great Poison Frog was captured by the Dwarves not long after, as I used my Shadow Threads to wrap around its legs so it couldn't easily escape. The dwarves quickly let the frog all for Root to enjoy, this time without attacking but surrounding the monster.

"Now fight it, Root, all by yourself! Let's see how strong you are!"

"Gyugyu! Got it Master! I shall not disappoint you!"

Root quickly rushed forward, jumping off the air more athletically than I could have expected a Treant to be, as I let go of the frog's shadow threads so it could be a more fair fight.

FLASH!

Suddenly, Root's legs shaped into sharp Wooden Spears. Oh, so this was his newest Skill all about!

"Gerooo!"

CLAAASH!

However, Root and the Frog struck one another with their weapons. Root saw his wooden spears being destroyed by the frog's powerful tongue! Ah, is he still too weak to take on one alone?

BAAM!

However, Root didn't gave up, his entire body suddenly shapeshifted into a whole Wooden Spear and pierced straight through the frog's tongue, poison splattering everywhere as the frog cried in pain.

"Gerooooo!"

And that wasn't all, Root's legs quickly shapeshifted into sharp roots, spreading over the frog's entire body and piercing through its body.

"GEHAAA...!"

The frog began jumping around and suddenly conjuring Poison Magic, the only magic it had which brought out a large sphere of poison out of thin air, firing it straight at Root's face!

BAAAM!

"Gyugyuhh..."

Root didn't gave up in there though, as he quickly generated a shiny golden leaf and ate it with his sharp jaws, suddenly regenerating a bit of his HP while bearing the Poisoned Status Effect he had!

So he can even eat his own Healing Leaves to heal himself?! Now that's cheating! Well, I guess it doesn't matter at this point.

"Gerooo... Geehhh..."

The frog, having all of its HP drained by Root's roots, ended falling into the ground, its body growing thin as if everything inside was sucked out of its body. Root quickly took out his roots from the monster, standing above the corpse triumphantly.

Ding!

[Root] defeated [Great Poisonous Frog (D Rank): Lv35] x1!]

[Root] earned 3500 EXP]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] Level has reached Level 4!]

[All of [Root] stats have increased]

[Root] Special Skill Effects have been activated, Skill Proficiency to all Skills upon Leveling Up has been distributed!]

[Some of [Root] Skills have leveled up!]

Chapter 578 Moving Deeper Into The Dungeon

[Root] acquired the [Merciless Killer: Lv1] Title Skill!!

[Root] learned the [Life Drain: Lv1] Characteristic Skill!!

Oh, he even got two new Skills out of that single fight? I guess he got an enormous room for growth!

Merciless Killer was a Title Skill that boosted damage dealt when attempting lethal hits that could kill a foe in one hit, assuring that such a thing happens more often rather than the foe escaping from certain death.

And Life Drain grants the ability to drain the life of the user's foe which has wounds open and which wounds are contacting the user's body in some way, this stacks well with his Draining Roots for even more rapid drain.

"Mama, Root... big!" Nyx said in her baby talk, as Lucifer was holding her in his arms.

"Yeah he's getting pretty strong isn't he?" I laughed.

"Interesting, we have only been here for ten minutes and it already evolved... Maybe we should leave him hunt down more monsters by himself?" Lucifer wondered.

"Yeah, that sounds nice, but he still struggled, if we leave him be surrounded by many Root will surely kick the bucket." I sighed. "Let's do this carefully anyways. Helga, everyone, let's look for more prey!"

"Alright!"

The dwarves, like an army, followed my command immediately as we rushed forward. The enormous Swamp 8 was big enough to harbor a large quantity of monsters, Great Poison Frogs were only one of the many there were.

However, freezing over the swamp made most of them rather afraid of getting closer, so we were only going to hunt the Frogs we found trapped and then look for more prey.

"Geroooo!"

And there it was!

A larger than usual Great Poison Frog was trapped in the ice, it looked like easy prey.

"Go for it, Root!"

Root quickly began running with his leg-shaped roots, looking rather bizarre as he was a walking tree, something that even me as a Necromancer felt surprised to see. These types of monsters are sure rare in this continent, but it seems that in Alfheim they're a plague.

"Got it Master! Gyugyu!"

Root reached the frog as he suddenly unleashed a storm of slicing leaves that detached from his branches, showering the frog with countless thin slices.

CRASH!

And then, some of the leaves sliced through the ice and quickly helped the frog escape, as the monster immediately attacked Root by slamming him with its tongue.

BAAAM!

"Gyuuuuhh!"

However, Root resisted the hit while standing still, using his roots to pierce the ice below and keep himself still. He quickly pointed his branches at the frog as the frog dexterously jumped away from their piercing might.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"Gero... GERORO!"

The purple-colored Great Frog the size of a car quickly conjured magic, as ten spheres of poison, conjured through the [Poison Bullet] Skill it held, flew towards Root.

Root wasn't fast enough to evade, so he decided to tank them. However, not directly. He combined the branches he had and then shaped them into a big wooden shield he used to tank the Poison Bullets while charging forwards.

"GEH?!"

CLAAASH!

And he body slammed the frog out of the ground and into the skies, right before firing several Wooden Needles at it from below, piercing through its entire body!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"GAAHH..."

The frog quickly fell down over the floor, splattering over the ice and turning it bright red. Root barely survived, that shield was still part of his body after all. He quickly walked towards the frog and began draining its inside contents, until Root shone bright gold.

Ding!

[Root] defeated [Great Poisonous Frog (D Rank): Lv37] x1!]

[Root] earned 3700 EXP]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] Level has reached Level 7!]

[All of [Root] stats have increased]

[Root] Special Skill Effects have been activated, Skill Proficiency to all Skills upon Leveling Up has been distributed]

[Root] Learned the [Poison Resistance: Lv1] Resistance Skill!]

[Root] Learned the [Automatic Recovery: Lv1] Body Skill!]

"Gyugyuu! I did it!"

Root began to celebrate, the new Skills he got seemed to be something he was aiming for. He let the poison seep into his body until he developed a resistance to it, and through the Automatic Recovery, he can recover from the poison automatically over time, alongside healing a bit of HP every ten seconds.

"Nice!" I said with a nod. "Let's continue now."

We continued picking up small Frogs trapped in the ice, Root took advantage of them being trapped to finish them off mercilessly by piercing their heads using his Wooden Spear several times. We only found five more frogs stuck to the ice, but all five of them gave a nice amount of EXP each.

Ding!

παῖδα-ἡνὸς·κόΜ [Root] defeated [Great Poisonous Frog (D Rank)] x5!]

[Root] earned 18700 EXP]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] Level has reached Level 12!]

[All of [Root] stats have increased]

[Root] Special Skill Effects have been activated, Skill Proficiency to all Skills upon Leveling Up has been distributed]

However, as he leveled up further and evolved, he needed more EXP, those five frogs only amounted to five levels, one level each, and now that he requires over 5k EXP to get to the next level, he'll need two frogs to kill.

We cleansed the entire ice scape we created here, but the swamp continued further and further deep into the dungeon. I choose to better enter into the swamp by jumping on the lily pads or flying around instead. If we cover everything with ice the monsters can't attack us to begin with.

"Alright then guys, change of plans, we are going deeper into the dungeon! I also want to collect materials here. I heard there's special herbs growing in these swamps, right? And also mushrooms and ores and crystals, so time to pick up stuff while grinding EXP for Root!"

And like that, we dove deeper into the dungeon's depths.

Chapter 579 Fishing Above Giant Lily Pads

"Are these lily pads really going to be able to support our weight?" Wondered Takeshi.

"Come on don't be such a chicken! Let's go in!" Laura pushed Takeshi forward as the two stepped into the big lily pads.

These were named Giant Swamp Lily Pads, and were just as their name indicated, enormous lily pads that could hold a lot of weight before even sinking. They were all over the swamp and monster crawled over them to take a breather, frogs took most of them in.

"Smelly..." Nyx said.

"Yeah swamps don't smell the best..." Said Lucifer.

"But this is where we can get some good materials and equipment, so don't fret, my daughter! Come on, let's fly!" I said, holding Nyx's hands as she began flapping her tiny wings.

"Waaah!"

The little baby started flying around happily, as she tried to catch up to me.

"Sigh... Don't you know it is dangerous if you fly over the water like that?!" Lucifer cried.

"Don't worry, she's not going to fall-"

"Bwaaahh!"

However, Nyx lost balance, as she had yet to practice her flying and ended falling from the skies.

F L A A S H!

However, I quickly caught her by extending my phantom into an enormous shadow hand, and then quickly lifting her up towards me.

"You almost fell!"

"Scawy..."

Nyx began to sob a bit as I hugged her.

"There, there. You want to go back to your daddy?" I asked her.

"Nuhh!" She cried, grasping my shoulders.

"Okay then, mama will hold you. Is that better? Let's make sure to wrap you tightly around mama too." I said with a smile, using shadow threads to make sure I had her well wrapped around my body.

"And done! Baby Carrier Created!"

"Waaah!"

Nyx felt suddenly happy she was being carried so easily. Although I looked a bit funny with her wrapped around my body with shadow threads and tightly into my belly.

"I guess that's effective." Said Lucifer.

"Hmm, I had never seen one of those!" Helga said while inspecting me as I flew down.

"Now that's a baby carried! Wait, nobody has ever made one in here?" Asked Blackard.

"Not that I remember. Man, if I had one of those it would make my life easier and that of Myriad..." Helga sighed.

"So Baby Carriers are not a thing... Alright, I'll give the design for free to you later, and you can replicate it with Myriad!" I said with a smile. "We'll want a lot too for everyone here to carry Nyx too."

"Ooh! Alright! I think they might sell rather well." Helga smiled greedily.

B B B R R R H H H...!

"Hey, is the water trembling or something?" Wondered Brunhild, as she quickly noticed several shadows popping out from the swamp's water all at once!

SPLASH! SPLASH! SPLASH! SPLAAASH!

And they were all fish shaped, but with their heads in the shape of long arrows with a sharp, steel-like end which perhaps was a modified scale of the fish.

"T-Those are Arrow Fish! A whole school of them!" Helga panicked.

"Boys, shields!" Blackard quickly called everyone for a defensive stance as the dwarves took out their shields and stepped forward, protecting us, even when it wasn't really necessary.

CLASH! CLASH! CLAAASH!

The fishes quickly began to attack us. They weren't named Arrow Fish for no reason. They used their sharp heads to pierce through their foe's bodies, ambushing them and then throwing them into the water to feast on them, most of the time while they were still alive.

"These guys are only E Rank at the end, smash them with everything you've got boys!" Helga roared, as the dwarves quickly began attacking the fishes with their axes and blades.

SLASH! CLASH! BAAAM!

Shredded fish quickly began flying everywhere, as for a moment we thought things were being handled nicely. If we interfered it would end too quickly, and this was a good training for the dwarves too, so they can get more EXP as well.

"Go Root!"

"Gyugyuuu!"

Root quickly stepped forward, jumping above the dwarves, and then landing over a large lily pad. His body suddenly began to emanate a sweet aroma, the fishes quickly looked at him instead of the dwarves, as half of the school of hundreds of Arrow Fishes started targeting him!

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

The Arrow Fishes didn't waste any time, immediately piercing through his bark and wood as Root reinforced his defenses by shaping his branches into four shields covering his body, making him resemble a big bunker made of wood.

He also used his other skills, covering the wooden shields with spears made of wood as well, defending himself rather well against the fishes. Most of them quickly ended being impaled by the spears covering his shields. Of course, he was getting all covered with fish meat and blood.

p̃ṁḁḁ-ñovê|·cóm The school of fish targeted us as well, as they saw we were just standing there and doing nothing, they thought we were easy prey. A single swipe of my hand was enough to generate a shockwave of darkness, quickly making a dozen fish explode into pieces.

BOOOOM!

"If you know what's good for you, don't mess with us."

The fishes didn't understand my words, but they understood my strength. As if they were obeying my orders, they decided to just continue attacking the dwarves and Root instead.

Root was a good target for them even after seeing their fellow fishes being impaled by his wooden spears. And that was thanks to his Aroma Skill, it not only made it so our MP recovered faster by smelling it, but it worked as a Provoking Skill, making the Fish attack him incessantly!

As everyone killed more and more fishes, their numbers finally began to decrease. The EXP they gave to us was utterly abysmal, we would need to kill hundreds of thousands to get anything out of them... However, Root and the Dwarves seemed to be leveling up constantly, this was really powering them up.

Chapter 580 Calamity Kindergarten

Ding!

[Root] defeated [Arrow Fish (E Rank)] x107!]

[Root] defeated [Big Poisonous Tadpole (E Rank)] x42!]

[Root] earned 90500 EXP]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] has Leveled Up!]

[Root] Level has reached Level 23!]

[All of [Root] stats have increased]

[Root] Special Skill Effects have been activated, Skill Proficiency to all Skills upon Leveling Up has been distributed]

[Some of [Root] Skills have leveled up!]

[Root] acquired the [Fish Slayer: Lv1] Title Skill!]

[Root] acquired the [Amphibian Slayer: Lv1] Title Skill!]

[You acquired the [Merciless Killer: Lv1] Title Skill!]

[You acquired the [Fish Slayer: Lv1] Title Skill!]

[You acquired the [Amphibian Slayer: Lv1] Title Skill!]

[The Relentless Hunter Title has boosted your EXP earned!]

[You and your Party have earned a total of 423640 EXP!]

Oooh! Looks like I also go the Titles anyways. Because we are all in a big party, those kills also seem to count for me at the end, I got all the three new Titles he got that aren't unique to his race, amazing. I even got some EXP out of it all, well, it is not near as enough to level up yet, I need millions of EXP after all.

Let's check them out alongside another Title I got earlier...

[Calamity Kindergarten: Lv1]

A Title Skill only given to someone unique that has raised entities with enough power to be considered Calamities of the world. The more the user raises, the stronger it becomes alongside boosting such growing Calamities growth speed.

Increases the user's Stats by +1% every 10 levels a Calamity raised by them has gained. This is an invisible buff that cannot be shown in the Status. Does not affect Aether Stat.

Additionally, any Calamity class entity raised by the user will gain +25% more EXP and require -25% less EXP to level up. Stat growths will also increase according to the title skill level by +5% with each Skill Level.

Non-Calamity class allies receive only 1/3 of these bonuses, including the user.

Oooh, this must be the one that helping Root grow so fast as well! I learned it when I picked him up back in my Dungeon, I guess it is really shining brightly now that he's grinding EXP like crazy- But wait, doesn't this also affects everyone else too? So all of us are earning more EXP and now require less EXP to level up, that's pretty nice!

Looking at my status, the 10 million EXP requirement went down as well, I guess I might be able to level up with small fry, but I still need to kill thousands of them. I doubt there are so many monsters inside this dungeon...

Nonetheless, even Nyx is being boosted by this. She had been playing around by imitating my Shadow Threads into a net and catching fishes, and then killing them all instantly by sucking their souls out of their bodies and eating them happily. I think she has leveled up once or twice already. please visit

Anyways, there are other Title Skills to check left.

[Merciless Killer: Lv1]

A Title Skill only given to those that mercilessly kill their foes, always aiming at their weak points for a single lethal blow. A Title Skill often wielded by skilled Assassins.

Enhances Lethal Blow Damage by +50% and increases Stats by +5% while sneaking behind a foe to deal a Lethal Blow with each Skill Level. Additionally, Critical Hit Chance is increased by +5% with each Skill Level. If the user manages to kill a living being with a single Lethal Blow, EXP earned is multiplied by x2.

[Fish Slayer: Lv1]

A Title only given to those who have slain a large amount of Fish-type Monsters mercilessly.

Increases Damage Against Fish-type Monsters by +25% with an additional +10% with each Skill Level.

[Amphibian Slayer: Lv1]

A Title only given to those who have slain a large amount of Amphibian-type Monsters mercilessly.

Increases Damage Against Amphibian-type Monsters by +25% with an additional +10% with each Skill Level.

Merciless Killer seems interesting, and it is yet another Skill increasing EXP earned. I guess the System by be trying to do something to compensate for the insane amounts I need to Level Up now! I wonder... Also, the two Slayer Skills seem pretty alright, more damage boost is always nice, especially for Root who's just starting, I can tell Nyx got the same skills as well.

"The fish seem to have finally calmed down?" Wondered Partner.

"There's no more coming out right now..." Emeraldine said. "Perhaps it is finally done?"

RUMBLE!

However, right before we could relax, the waters once more trembled, and from within, another hundred fishes emerged, furiously rushing towards us!

Wait, is this caused by Root's sweet aroma, by any chance?!

And these fishes were larger than the Arrow Fish, by three to four times as large! They were as big as two meters each, and held sharp spear ends at the tip of their heads.

"T-Those are Spear Fish!" Helga said.

"Spear Fish?!" I asked in surprise. "They're way stronger than the others... Root, watch out!"

"Gyuuuuh!"

Suddenly, a dozen of Spear Fishes rushed towards him, their spear heads were way sharper, easily piercing through his defenses!

CLAAASH!!!

"G-Gyuuuuhh..."

Root began to tremble as his body gained several cracks, he was impaled by a dozen of these fishes!

I quickly flew to help but out, generating barriers of darkness around Root to protect him.

"Root!"

I tried to heal his wounds, however, he quickly extended a branch towards me, as if trying to stop me.

"This much, I can handle it...! Gyu!"

The five Spear Fishes suck into his body were suddenly pierced by countless of sharp spear-tipped roots, as their life and mana was absorbed out of their still living bodies.

The fishes began falling one after the other from Root's body, as his body continued cracking, until it suddenly crumbled apart!

CRAAASSSHH!

"ROOT!"

