

Bloodline 221

Chapter 221 Lonely me

Kyle's eyes darted around the forest as he ran among the trees. All his senses were spread out searching for as many monsters as possible.

After the horned cats, he killed a few more monsters and discovered another fact about the blue flames he didn't need to touch the ice statues to break them. A single fleeting thought was enough.

Kyle sighed when he saw his mana reserve. Within three hours he lost 80 percent of his mana.

'It would be hard to learn the spell language because only those with high intelligence and the ones who picked the mage path from the start can easily chant the spells in their mind but maybe I should learn some basic spells to control some natural elements. In that way, I can save a lot of mana.'

He mused in his mind. The blue flames consumed too much of his mana. If not for his (A)-Rank mana stat after fighting with the horned cats he would have used all his mana.

Kyle's ears perked up when he heard a faint rustle on his left side. He immediately changed his direction, heading straight toward the voice.

Soon, his eyes caught sight of two tall figures fighting with a (D)-Rank fire eagle. The eagle cried out loudly and a burst of fiery flames sprakled around her wings. Kyle's gaze stopped at the round nest on the tree behind her.

'Is she protecting her eggs?'

Kyle stood beside a tree and watched how the eagle flapped her wings and a sea of fire descended on the two figures.

He clicked his tongue. Just within three hours the participants already started forming groups to fight the monsters.

'Sigh, lonely me.'

The moment Kyle spoke about how lonely he was Bia scoff sounded in his mind.

-'Then come back. Why the hell are you going through such a long process just to enter a secret realm? If you want to enter it so badly just use Instant Teleportation and you can easily slip inside under everyone's nose. Also, don't worry about me I have secured my spot with Mia.'

Kyle controlled the urge to roll his eyes. If only entering the secret realm was so easy. Moreover, even though he could use instant teleportation who would guarantee the strong elites guarding the entrance wouldn't notice him?

Maybe he could escape the senses of an (A)-Rank or (S)-Rank individual with the help of Instant Teleportation but what about an (SS)-Rank individual?

He pinched his brows when he saw the two figures empowering the fire eagle. This wasn't the first time he saw someone else fighting with a monster but he always left them alone because he was the one who found the monster late.

However, in the next second Kyle's eyes sparkled.

'Wait, I can steal the kill? Can't I?'

Bia's dry and almost mocking laugh sounded in his mind.

- 'Don't tell me you just thought about the fact after roaming around for three long hours? I think you are forgetting this is a competition. Do you think the others would do the same as you? No, if they saw you fighting they would probably lay around for an ambush.'

Kyle didn't refuse Bia's words and stayed quiet.

'I know about all this that's why I don't want to be the weaker party.'

He shook his head to disperse the thoughts and looked at the fire-eagle. The eagle recovered and was now attacking the two figures with renowned vigor.

'I don't need the eggs it would be a hassle to carry them around for two months. I will just kill the eagle and leave.'

He waved his hand and flames appeared behind him. The flames took the shape of two arrows and under Kyle's will they shot forward heading straight toward the fire eagle.

A sharp whistling sound sounded in the air. The first to notice the flame arrows were the two figures and after them, the eagle panicked when she saw the arrows.

The two figures watched the arrows with wide eyes. The arrow's speed was very fast and before they could comprehend what was happening the eagle's painful cry rang in their ears.

The duo watched the blue flames enveloping the eagle's body and under their horrid gaze the eagle's body started freezing and within a few seconds, she turned into ice.

Their breath was stuck in their throats and they moved back solely due to natural reflex when the ice statue of the fire eagle dropped on the ground with a resounding boom.

Tiny ice pieces scattered on the ground and one of the figures dropped to his knees with beads of sweat trickling down his forehead.

"What... the heck?"

He sounded scared, astonished, and panicked at the same time but no one answered his question because the other figure fled the moment he dropped to his knees.

Meanwhile, Kyle was already gone after shooting the arrows.

He ran around the forest, killing as many monsters as possible but he made sure to stay away from the other participants.

He tested all of his skills and whenever he was low on mana he would stop and climb a tree to rest for a while.

However, because of his casual skill testing a big uproar was going on the outside world and the atmosphere in the dome was quite heavy. A lot of eyes were fixed on the big screen floating below the dome ceiling.

Anlee breathed out a large amount of air and looked at Aira with simple astonishment.

"I want to see what is this kid doing. Is it not possible to find his figure in the many projections."

Aira gazed at him from the corner of her eyes. The nobles and other individuals sitting behind them perked up their ears when they heard Anlee's question. They were dying to know who was this kid

'Kyle' and what the heck was he doing! Not just them even the audience who heard Anlee's words looked at Aira with eagerness.

Aira hummed casually.

"Don't look at me like that I can't do anything. I could have tried only if I knew what he looked like."

Anlee clicked his tongue and gazed at the screen.

"After seeing the unimaginable amount of points he stacked just in half a day what do you think his spot would be after two months?"

1_Kyle Ohan 12,890

2_Larji Homes 1367

3_Regius Gravis 1200

Aira scoffed.

"Have you gone blind? At this point, even an idiot can tell he would stay at the top no matter what."

....

Meanwhile, when the night arrived and dark clouds gathered above Kyle's head he finally stopped and started looking around for a safe place.

In the end, he wasn't able to find a clean place and just decided to settle down above a tree for the night.

However, the moment he climbed the tree his eyes caught sight of a fist-sized harmless squirrel nibbling on a dry leaf.

Kyle eyed the squirrel and held his breath. In the next second, he quietly left the tree and ran away in the opposite direction.

The squirrel squeaked lightly when he heard a rustling sound behind him. He looked back with beady eyes but saw nothing except some falling leaves.

A confused expression appeared on his face and he tilted his head to look around but after finding nothing his focus returned to the dry leaf.

On the other hand, Kyle finally released his held breath when he was at least ten meters away from the squirrel.

"Scary!"

He shuddered and started looking around for another place to sleep.

After five minutes, he finally settled down on another tree. The sky was dark and soon a few twinkling stars appeared among the clouds.

Kyle looked peaceful. He gazed at the sky but he wasn't sleepy because after seeing the squirrel his past trauma came back.

After leaning on the tree branch for a while, he sat down with a sigh.

"I really hate squirrels. Especially their sharp teeth."

He shook his head and took out a finger-sized skill core from his mind space. It was quite fascinating how the skill core wasn't affected by the blue flames.

The flames would completely freeze the bodies of the monsters that's why Kyle almost forgot to look for the skill cores. However, when he killed a (E-)-Rank monster a few hours ago he was surprised when he saw a tiny white ball among the ice pieces.

He would have completely ignored it due to its small size but because the core was sparkling brightly between the ice pieces he bent down to pick it up.

Kyle closed his eyes and grabbed the core in his figures and the next second information about the skill core appeared in his mind.

#*Fright (F+)-Rank;

User can influence the enemy's brain for a few seconds, making them feel unpleasant and scared.
Mana isn't required for this skill.

Kyle sighed and didn't absorb the skill core because he already had a (A)-Rank fear skill.

"It's useless."

Chapter 222 Are you done staring?

Kyle threw the skill core inside his mind space with a sigh.

He leaned back on the tree trunk and closed his eyes to sense the mind space. It was vast but empty.

Amidst the vast space, the finger-sized core was floating mid-air. The circular core was barely visible due to its small size but because Kyle could locate anything within the mind space it only took him a second to find the hovering skill core.

Kyle's focus zeroed on the porcelain bracelet. It was floating beside the skill core.

It was strange indeed because he could sense the sets of clothes, the food, the saber, the bow and arrows lying motionlessly in the mind space.

'I noticed it when I placed it in my mind it started floating. The bracelet didn't contain any mana like the core so why is it floating?'

Kyle opened his eyes and summoned the bracelet in his hand. It looked fragile. He wondered why it didn't break down when it was dropped.

"Hmmm."

Kyle eyed the inner side of the bracelet and traced the incomplete Array symbols with his fingertips.

He stared at it for a while and tried to understand the symbols. On the left side, the engraved symbols were very basic. However, the symbols on the right side were very difficult and Kyle had never seen them before not even in the books he found in the Tower.

His interest was piqued. He inwardly decided to study the bracelet more instead of giving it back.

"The owner doesn't know I have it. Nor do anyone else. So, I can just say it's mine."

After thinking for a few seconds, Kyle took out a sharp arrow from the mind space and stared at the bracelet.

"It's difficult due to their size but I will just try to complete the basic symbols maybe I will get an idea regarding the hard ones?"

He infused some mana in the arrowhead and grasped it in his fingers. With complete focus, Kyle started grazing the smooth surface of the bracelet.

Time ticked by and after only two minutes, Kyle's eyes sparkled.

"Tracking symbols?"

He wasn't able to find anything about the hard symbols but the easier ones gave him some information.

The bracelet was an artifact. No, it was a part of an artifact. There were four parts and each part had tracking symbols on them so if someone found one part they could locate the other parts easily.

Kyle recalled and the back side of the purple-shirt elf appeared in his mind. She was indeed wearing two bracelets but why did the information tell him there were four parts?

Kyle snapped out of his thoughts and his eyes narrowed when he heard the sounds of approaching footsteps from his left.

"I am leaving anyway."

He gazed at the bracelet and infused the tracking symbols with mana. The symbols shone for a second and Kyle could sense three faint locations. One was relatively near and the other two were far.

He jumped down from the tree and started moving toward the location he sensed nearby.

...

Meanwhile, at the edge of a mountain. It was dark due to the night clouds. The grass rustles under Regius's feet and his breathing was heavy when he killed the last fire spider standing in front of him.

His purple uniform was filled with red blood when he looked back at the five individuals standing behind him.

Just like him, they were also tired and dirty after fighting with the monsters for a full day.

"Let's stop and rest here for today. We will continue tomorrow morning."

The girls and boys all sighed with relief. It was only the first day of the competition but the moment they found each other they started hunting monsters non-stop. Specially Regius he was the one who killed the most.

Izil stretched his body and glared at Regius.

"I was going to kick you if you said we need to kill more."

Regius shrugged his shoulders with a chuckle and sat down beside a rock.

"Set up the tents and go to sleep. I will guard tonight."

Niamh and Faith nodded and started setting up two tents. One for the girls and one for the boys.

At the same time, Lumi and Izil decided to prepare food for everyone.

After they were done eating Yue approached Regius with a frown.

"Senior, you should rest because you were the one who fought the most. I will guard for tonight and if I see any danger I will wake you up."

Regius looked at her face with a raised brow.

"Are you not tired?"

"I am fine. Also, I am not sleepy yet."

In the end, he agreed with a sigh because he was indeed tired.

"Alright. Remember to wake me up the moment you see anything nearby."

Soon, everyone entered the tents for rest.

Lumi peeked out from her tent and gazed at Yue's figure with a pout.

"I wanted to sleep with you. Come inside when you are tired I will wake up one of the boys and they will guard the surroundings."

Yue gave her a nod and gazed at the mountain. The moon was clear, and the stars were scarce.

She grabbed her ponytail, it was loose after such a hectic day. With a tug, she removed the pony and her long honey-color hair dropped down on her back.

Her movement was fast yet graceful when she climbed up a large rock to see everything more clearly.

A cold breeze brushed past her cheek when she arrived above the rock. The tents were surrounded by large trees. Also, they didn't light a fire near the tents because it would expose their location to the danger lurking around them.

She took out a grey bow and some arrows from her storage ring. Even though she was a mage, she learned how to use a lot of weapons.

After some time, while Yue was standing guard a faint rustle sounded from the nearby trees. It was so faint that it disappeared into the air.

Amidst the peaceful night, a pair of bright eyes stepped out from the trees.

The person wearing a hoodie gazed at the tents with a frown but then his gaze landed at the female figure standing on top of the rock.

Kyle removed his hoodie and his hair shone brightly under the moonlight but he didn't look at the face of the standing female. Instead, his eyes were fixed on the porcelain bracelet on her hand.

One of the bracelets was in his hand while the other was just a small distance away. His thoughts wandered around because he wasn't sure what would happen when he collected all four parts of the artifacts. Maybe the artifact was very high-grade?

While he was thinking of how to steal the other bracelet from its owner, a melodious yet livid voice sounded in his ears.

"Are you done staring?"

Kyle snapped up his eyes at gazed at her face for the first time. The girl was holding a bow and the arrow was aimed directly at Kyle.

Chapter 223 You look ugly while crying

Yue was standing a top of a rock, her sharp gaze traveled around the tents to ensure no danger approached her sleeping friends.

She didn't even hear a rustle, nor did she feel anyone's presence but when her gaze trailed to the left side her amber eyes widened with shock.

Just a few meters away from the tents a dark figure was standing lavishly without any care. Amidst the darkness, the figure's silver hair shone brightly under the moonlight. In an instant, Yue's eyes narrowed and her grip on the bow tightened. How the hell did she not notice him?

With a deadpan expression, her slender fingers curled up and she immediately summoned a sharp arrow from her storage ring but the silver-hair figure was busy staring at... Ah.. he wasn't staring at her face instead his gaze was directed at her arm or her bow.

Yue gritted her teeth and lifted her bow, the arrow was placed on the bowstring but her opponent wasn't even looking at her, seemingly busy in his thoughts.

For some reason, this infuriated her even more. Just what the heck was he thinking that he didn't even care about the arrow aimed at him?

She opened her mouth and a sharp glint flashed through her eyes.

"Are you done staring?"

Her voice was livid and after her outburst, the figure snapped his head up with an expressionless gaze. Yue was stunned.

His hazel eyes shone brightly and a frown appeared between his sharp brows when he saw the arrow that was aimed at him.

Yue bit down on her cheek flesh in her mouth. The man didn't even directly stare at her but a single sight of those eyes was enough to send chills down her spine.

Her gaze was fixed on him and finally, after looking at the bow for a whole second, he looked up, staring directly into her eyes.

Yue froze for a second and her gaze wavered when an invisible pressure descended upon her body. Her grip on the bow trembled and beads of sweat appeared on her forehead.

What was this pressure? So strong... but to her surprise the pressure disappeared after a few seconds.

Yue mustered up the courage to stare at his eyes with a deadly expression but she froze yet again when his emotionless eyes crinkled into a smile.

Her breath hitched and she was utterly confused. What kind of gaze was that?

The nonchalant expression disappeared from his face. In his gaze there was no lust, no disgusting desire, it was purely filled with surprise and maybe... a little happiness?

Her mind raced. How can a gaze that was emotionless and so scary a few seconds ago turn so different?

On the other hand, at first, when the angry voice sounded in his ears, Kyle looked at the arrow aimed at him with a frown. He immediately sensed that his opponent was weaker than him. She was at most (D)-Rank.

After assessing her strength he looked up to meet her gaze. Sharp amber eyes glaring at him with a deadpan expression.

She was beautiful. This was the first thought that appeared in his mind but it disappeared the moment it appeared. He gently moved his fingers and a tiny bit of his aura seeped out from his body, boring down at her small figure.

She trembled visibly and looked down at her hands. Kyle didn't think much.

'I will take the other bracelet and leave....'

In the next second, his eyes widened because an old memory appeared in his mind. An older version of her. A big statue of a strong crowned female elf standing proudly amidst the other statues.

His memory regarding the six months he spent inside the 'Tower of Opportunity' was quite vivid because he roamed around to hunt monsters and treasures but he recalled staring at that elf statue a little longer.

Kyle rarely stared at others no matter how beautiful they were but the statue was beautiful and majestic. No.. No, it wasn't the statue that made him engrossed it was the memory that appeared in his mind when he stared at the statue.

A crying face. Yes... A young five-year-old girl crying face. Kyle's memories flashed back to the time when he saw the girl for the first and last time.

She was wearing a sleeveless dress, crying non-stop while standing in front of a grave. Her honey-color hair was tied up in a small pony. A group of old men and women wearing expensive clothes was standing around her with sad expressions.

Kyle just looked at their grieving figures with a moist gaze because he was crying as well. His father was standing in front of his mother's grave barely holding his tears and an old man was patting his father's shoulder to console him.

Even though Kyle wasn't allowed to come with his father because he was too young to visit such a place he insisted because he wanted to see his mother face one last time.

Kyle watched his father back. Just to bury his mother in a peaceful and beautiful place they traveled a lot. He didn't know where they were but according to his father, it was the most beautiful place.

Kyle wiped his eyes with his small hands and stood behind them quietly. At that moment, a small girl with puffy cheeks tapped his shoulder.

He gazed back at her with confusion. Her amber eyes were tinged red. It was the same girl he saw a while ago.

Kyle's eyes trailed off to her ears, they were pointy. He blinked his eyes but then the girl patted his shoulder with a serious expression.

"It's okay don't cry. I lost my brother. Mom said he would go to a better place. Did you lose your brother as well?"

Her voice was childish when she tried to console him even though she was barely holding her tears.

Kyle grabbed her hand and spoke with a choked voice.

"I lost my mom."

The girl's eyes widened slightly and she grabbed Kyle's hand tightly.

"I am sorry. Are you very sad?"

Kyle's eyes soften. She didn't even know who he was but her face showed pure worry.

"I am sad but thanks to you I know she will go to a better place."

She puffed up her cheeks and nodded solemnly but at that moment one of her family members picked her up from the ground.

Kyle's grip on her hand tightened but he let go when the person who grabbed the girl glared at him.

Amidst all this, her amber eyes gleamed brightly when she waved at Kyle.

"Don't be sad. Okay. You look ugly while crying."

Kyle grumbled inwardly just who was the ugliest one?

Chapter 224 An old memory

The sudden memory widened Kyle's eyes. Just like how he stared at the majestic elf statue he was staring at the girl standing on top of the rock. She looked the same, just a little older. Also, her hair was longer now covering her whole back.

He immediately removed his pressure and fixed his eyes on her. Did she remember..?

Maybe? Kyle's gaze was a little nervous but when he thought how their encounter was so brief so small he sighed in his mind.

Also, after the bloodline awakening his facial features changed so now it was almost impossible for her to recall his face.

Amidst all this, Kyle's eyes crinkled into a smile. A genuine smile. Even his lips trickled upward into a smile.

'I thought I would never see her again.'

Meanwhile, Yue was stunned when Kyle's behavior took a 180-degree turn, and seeing her vigilant expression Kyle controlled the urge to curse himself.

He cleared his throat while maintaining the eye contact.

"I mean no harm."

Yue was taken aback but in the next second, she strenched the bowstring with force and spoke loudly.

"Leave or else."

Kyle was tongue-tight. Her expression was angry and he knew there was no way she would believe him if he said they had met before.

'I want to know her name at least.'

He thought for a few seconds but then he noticed the hard bracelet in his hand.

"Leave!"

A thunderous voice sounded in Kyle's ears and he hurriedly flashed the bracelet in front of her eyes.

"It's yours right?"

Yue was shocked when she saw the bracelet in Kyle's hand. She gazed at the bracelet hanging on her wrist and compared both of them.

"How do you have it?"

She remembered clearly it was lost. So why does this strange person have it? Was he a thief? She immediately skids down the rock. The bow and arrow disappeared from her hands and she took out a dagger from her storage ring.

Kyle eyed her movement. To him, She was quite slow but in the next second, she attacked him with a sharp gaze.

He sighed.

'I was here because of the bracelet but now I am using the bracelet. It's seemed I won't be able to collect all the parts of the Artifact.'

He moved his fingers and ten fireballs appeared in front of him, stopping the elf in her place.

However, she scoffed and waved her hand gracefully, and many floating earth spikes appeared behind her back.

Kyle's brow furrowed. It was true he wanted to know her name but why was she so aggressive? He clicked his tongue and threw the bracelet at her.

"Here."

Yue was dumbfounded but caught the bracelet immediately with relief. The pair of bracelets was a gift her father gave her. Moreover, her father said the bracelets weren't normal and she had to take care of them but she was so clumsy and lost one of the bracelets.

In the end, she wasn't even able to apologize to her father about this matter.

"Who...?"

Her voice abruptly stopped when she gazed up to see no one standing in front of her.

"Huh?"

Yue blinked and looked around but no matter where she looked she didn't find that silver hair figure. He was gone.

"He just disappeared?"

She whispered and gazed at the bracelet he left behind. It indeed belonged to her. She eyed the bracelet and her gaze narrowed when she sensed mana dancing around the bracelet.

Yue wasn't well versed with Array symbols but when she saw the tiny grazed marks on the inner side of the bracelet she was stunned.

'I remember father said the symbols are incomplete that's why he wanted to let an Array master see the bracelets. Don't tell me that silver-hair completed the symbols?'

She closed her eyes but then opened them with a frown because she wasn't able to get anything from the bracelet.

"I will let father check it."

Yue didn't climb up the rock this time and just simply sat down beside the tents. Her thoughts wandered around.

'Was I too excessive?'

She pursed her lips slightly. He didn't even attack her but she just went ahead to attack so openly.

A sigh escaped her lips and she shook her head to throw the thoughts at the back of her mind. She looked back at the tents with a tsu.

"Why are they sleepy so soundly? I thought my voice was loud enough to wake them up!"

She hunched and shook his head.

On the other hand, after throwing the bracelet at the female elf, Kyle moved back into the forest to hide himself.

He gazed at her figure one last but then gazed at the mountain. His ears twitched when he heard faint noises at a distance.

Kyle hummed in his mind and left the area. The encounter was indeed unexpected and if possible he wanted to know her name.

'Well, I will think about it later.'

He went to the left side and started climbing the mountain, heading straight toward the noises.

After a few minutes, he arrived in front of a cave. The faint noises turned into loud shouts and Kyle heard the sounds of weapons clashing against something hard.

He immediately entered the cave and soon saw two elves fighting against a large spiky shell. A dead body was lying behind them.

Kyle's eyes narrowed when he saw something slimy crawling below the shell. He looked at the elves their condition didn't look good either.

'A (C)-Rank monster?'

He waved his hand and blue flames appeared behind him. The air around him turned cold because he wasn't hiding at all. Instead, he burned his mana and in an instant, the flames moved violently.

The flames took the shape of a spear and started floating. Kyle eyed the trembling elves who were almost on the verge of losing and disappeared from his spot.

In the next second, Kyle appeared behind the monster and summoned the saber from the mind space. His gaze lingered at the elves and he immediately attacked the shell from behind. The slimy monsters screeched and turned around to attack Kyle, leaving the injured elves alone.

The elves didn't even look at Kyle and hurriedly left the cave. They even discarded their friend's corpse.

Kyle clicked his tongue when he saw their fading back. His eyes glowed brightly when he stabbed the saber in the shell with all his strength.

A loud rumble shook the cave when the monster cried out in pain. Kyle looked at the monster and immediately hurled the floating flame spear at the monster.

Under his gaze, the flames seeped into the shell and it started freezing. The monster panicked due to the intense cold and tried to run but it was too late because within ten seconds its body turned into an ice statue.

Kyle eyed the statue and grazed his fingers on the ice. With a loud crack, the ice broke down into many pieces.

Chapter 225 A good method

Kyle gazed at the ice pieces and started moving out of the cave. After coming out, he blinked and looked back at the giant boulder lying vertically beside the entrance of the cave with a mischievous glint.

He thought for a second and put his hand on the boulder. Kyle didn't have to wait long because the moment he placed his hand on the boulder it disappeared and appeared in his mind space.

'Nice.'

He grinned in his mind and started moving around the mountain killing as many monsters as possible.

Meanwhile,

The next day, Regius and his team woke up with bright faces. They indeed had a good night's sleep.

Regius gazed at Yue's figure. She was sitting beside the tents.

"You look haggard. Wanna rest for a while."

Yue shook her head and stood up. She started patting her clothes with a hum.

"I am fine but for some reason, I didn't see any monster last night."

Regius nodded and looked back at the others.

"Guys, let's climb the mountain! We will surely find a lot of new prey."

A loud cheer sounded and they all started climbing the mountain with newfound vigor.

The day was bright and the morning wind smoothly caressed their skin.

Regius was in the front and the other five followed behind him.

After an hour, Regius looked back with a frown.

"It's been an hour but forget about a monster we haven't even seen their shadows! Use your ability and check if you can see anything nearby."

Izil nodded and his cyan eyes shone for a second. He gazed far into the distance and blinked his eyes.

"Nothing so far."

Regius frowned deepened. How strange, just yesterday they found and killed so many monsters but today it was like the monsters disappeared into thin air.

He grumbled in his mind, at this rate they won't be able to earn many points.

"Let's climb a little higher."

With that being said, they started climbing again.

Yue was walking with Lumi behind the boys. Her figure was clad in the Academy uniform.

A few seconds later, Lumi suddenly grabbed her arm with a surprised expression.

"Where did you find it?"

"Huh?"

Yue was confused and due to Lumi's sudden question, everyone stopped in their tracks and looked back at the girls.

Lumi sighed when she saw Yue's confused expression and pointed at the bracelets.

"I mean the bracelets. Didn't you lose one of them? How do you have both now."

Yue's eyes widened slightly when last night's event appeared in her mind. Due to the silver-haired striking appearance, it was quite hard for her to forget his face.

"That....."

She was at a loss of words and a gloomy expression appeared on her face.

"What should I say now? A strange guy appeared last night and gave it to me?"

Lumi eyed her gloomy expression with a frown.

"Hey, what happened? Why are making such a cute face."

Yue rolled her eyes and shook her hand away. She leaned in and quietly whispered in Lumi's ear.

"I will tell you later when we are alone."

Lumi raised her brow and nodded with a mischievous smile. Afterward, she glared at the others who were staring at them.

"What? Let's move. It's a personal matter."

Regius and the others eyed the pair of bracelets with surprise. They knew one of the bracelets was lost but after hearing Lumi they turned around and started climbing the mountain again.

After another hour, Regius stopped when he saw something astonishing. His eyes reflected pure shock.

Izil patted his back with knitted brows.

"What happened why did you stop...."

His sentence was cut short and he almost choked on his words.

Niamh, Faith, Lumi, and Yue appeared beside the dumfounded duo and were shocked as well.

In front of them was a large space enclosed in a shimmering ice shield. A cold aura traveled inside the shield with lightning speed but for some reason, the aura never left the boundary of the shield.

Many panicked monsters were trapped in the shield running around to save their lives. Their bodies filled with blood.

Under the group's wide gaze, long pointy icicles emerged from the ground with a loud rumble, the air cracked and large white clouds formed inside the shield.

Soon, ice pellets dropped from the clouds and loud painful shrieks of monsters sounded in their ears.

This was already enough to shock the group but in the next instant, two large boulders descended from the sky, and with a loud bang they crushed the howling monsters under their weight. The ground trembled due to the aftereffect and clouds of dust emerged in tidal waves.

Regius sucked in a cold breath and clenched his fists. He thought he was strong but looking at boulders he knew the person fighting opposite him was strong enough to subdue his whole group within mere seconds.

"So many high-rank monsters just died within a few seconds?"

He clenched his fists and stepped back.

"Let's leave. It's better if we don't close our path with this dangerous person who killed so many monsters like chickens."

The elves standing behind him all nodded with solemn expressions. Izil had the urge to use his special sight skill to see the person fighting but he restrained himself. It was not a good idea to provoke someone stronger than him.

The group's bewildered gaze lingered on the ice shield but they immediately left the area.

At the same time, Kyle jumped down from a large rock and hummed. His glowing eyes traveled to the place where the group was standing a few seconds ago.

"Regius...?"

He mused inwardly and approached the two boulders he 'borrowed' from the mountain.

Kyle chuckled with a glint and patted the boulders. They were indeed useful while fighting. It was just he had to use instant teleportation to throw them at the right place.

He placed the boulders back in the mind space and waved his hand.

In an instant, the ice domain cracked and turned into white particles. After a few seconds, the area was cleaned, except for the crushed dead bodies of the monsters everything else disappeared.

Kyle's nose wrinkled when he eyed the bodies.

"Tsk, It's a good method but too bloody."

He sighed and waved his hand, blue flames appeared behind him. The flames easily enveloped the bodies and turned them into ice.

Kyle thought and the ice broke down into pieces. He watched how the ice pieces scattered into tiny particles and the evidence of his gruesome fight just disappeared into thin air.

Chapter 226 He would stay at the top

Kyle hummed softly and checked his mana.

"20 percent mana left. I think I cleaned the mountain. Let's go down now."

He tapped his foot on the ground and immediately started running downward.

The mountain was rocky with many large boulders scattered around everywhere.

On his way, he stopped when he saw Regius's group walking ahead of him.

Kyle gazed at their backs. His eyes traveled to the honey-haired girl walking behind Regius with another girl.

"It's seemed they know each other."

He wanted to say hello to Regius but when he thought about how they were running away after witnessing the ice domain he stopped himself.

Kyle shook his head and decided to move in a different direction. After coming down from the mountain he encountered some more monsters but they were too weak.

Kyle's days in the forest were quite relaxing. He would avoid all the other participants and kill as many monsters as possible.

The only problem was that he wasn't able to take a proper clean bath. The small lakes and other water sources he encountered on his way were clean but he wasn't satisfied.

After a month of running and killing monsters, Kyle finally stopped because he got bored of the usual routine.

The only things around him were large trees, plain valleys, mountains, and a few water sources. Moreover, he unexpectedly broke through to (B)-Rank, and his strength increased again.

The increase gave Kyle a headache. Not because he didn't like his new strength but because the highest rank monster he found up till now was only (C)-Rank. Kyle already had so many strong skills and coupled with the blue flames a (C)-Rank monster wasn't even able to scratch him.

No matter how slowly he fought with the monsters they would die within a few seconds. So, he wasn't able to enjoy a good fight.

Kyle pinched his brows with an exaggerated sigh.

'I am getting too strong.'

He shook his head solemnly but Bia's sarcastic voice sounded in his head and it almost made him trip.

-'No, you are becoming a narcissist.'

'Tsk.'

Kyle rolled his eyes inwardly and started moving. This time he just roamed around without doing anything.

After a day, he started observing the other participants. Their fighting styles, their skills, their arts.

It was indeed fruitful because, within a single day, he learned a lot of new things. He even secretly scared the participants with his blue flames and 'borrowed' some of their weapons.

Kyle grinned at the pile of swords he collected just in a single day.

"I wanted one sword but now I have so many swords."

He tapped the swords and threw them in his mind space. They were all low-rank with (C)-Rank being the highest.

Kyle clicked his tongue. Now, with his strength increased he needed a strong weapon because he knew his sword Art would be more powerful.

Meanwhile, outside the competition space. The atmosphere around the dome was quiet and heavy.

The audience and the many academies professors left after the first week that's why now the dome was mostly empty.

However, the noble families, Anlee, Aira, and a few more unexpected individuals had their eyes glued to the large screen, floating below the dome ceiling.

Dynn eyes narrowed at the screen and his hand trembled slightly. He was sitting beside Anlee with a grim face. Even though he agreed when Regius his grandson told him about the event he was just too worried to leave him alone. That's why after giving his wife some consoling words he arrived at the dome.

However, he didn't expect to see a very familiar name on the ranking screen.

1_Kyle Ohan 360,450

2_Sinon Ambing 35,670

3_Larji Homes 31,040

4_Regius Gravis 31,010

'Kyle... Kyle Ohan.'

Dynn repeated this name in his mind. He wasn't sure why but he was having a deja vu somewhere at the back of his mind.

Was this person the same Kyle who appeared in his village a month ago? Dynn solemn eyes traveled to Anlee and he said with a grim voice.

"Do you know about this Kyle?"

Anlee turned around to look at him with a deadpan expression. Not just Anlee, Aira, and the other individuals in the dome all turned their heads at Dynn.

"What?"

Dynn blurted out with a serious expression but Anlee sighed.

"Can you see the dark circles under my eyes? They are all because no matter where I looked I wasn't able to find anything regarding Kyle."

Anlee turned around to look at the projections.

"The person who knew about him, Serena just disappeared into thin air. So, I don't think we will be able to know anything about him for the time being."

Dynn nodded and looked at the screen to see Regius's name again. For some reason, he felt sour when he looked at the huge points difference between the top name and the other participants.

Why was the difference so high? It's like Kyle was collecting pebbles while the others were collecting huge boulders.

'I want to kick the top name out of the ranking list. He is clearly cheating!'

Dynn grumbled inwardly and tore his gaze from the floating screen because it was giving him mild depression.

Not just Dynn but even the nobles sitting behind him were depressed due to Kyle's points. They thought their children were the best out of the best but Kyle's points told them their children were nothing in front of him.

While they were contemplating why Kyle's points were so high, they noticed his points stopped moving altogether.

Aira was the first who notice this and a frown appeared between her brows.

"Don't tell me this kid got injured? Tsk, he was doing great."

Anlee shrugged his shoulders.

"Don't worry. If he was badly injured he would have already appeared in the dome. I think he just stopped hunting monsters."

Then he laughed loudly.

"Anyway, with the amount of points he has right now even if he stopped and didn't do anything he would stay at the top until the end of the event."

Aira clicked her tongue. Not just her a lot of individuals showed sore expressions. However, there was nothing they could do.

Chapter 227 Control your voice

Time passed quickly and in a blink of an eye, the last week of the competition arrived.

The audience returned and the atmosphere inside the dome turned lively.

In the past few weeks, many participants who got severely injured during the competition arrived in the dome and were taken away by the healers.

The audience's shocked murmurs echoed in the dome as they took in the sight of the top participant's points.

Anlee massaged his temples and gazed at the floating screen. He gingerly looked back at the Royal envoy who arrived yesterday just to pick the top two hundred participants.

The Royal envoy was a middle-aged elf. He wore a white shirt with golden patterns engraved on his shoulders and sleeves.

Anlee clicked his tongue. He wanted to interrogate the top participant secretly to know his identity but it seemed impossible now due to the envoy's presence.

He grumbled but focused on the large screen.

A loud clap resounded beside him and Aira started floating mid-air. Her cold eyes traveled in the dome and from the corner of her eyes, she looked at the Royal envoy.

He gave her a nod and Aira's eyes turned emotionless when she fixed her eyes on the crowd.

"The two months are almost ending and in another week the event will end. However, to make it a little harder for the kids we planned to show them the true horror of a monster horde."

The moment Aira finished her words, the audience erupted into an uproar. The professors from different academies stood up from their chairs in shock.

The sudden revelation made their face pale. A monster horde wasn't something the young kids could handle! They wanted to voice their opinions but Aira's eyes turned sharp. An invisible pressure descended on the crowd and they shut their mouths with ugly expressions.

However, unlike the crowd, Dynn and the nobles didn't stay quiet. Dynn erupted into an angry roar.

"What the heck did you say just now?"

Aira tilted her head to look back with a raised brow.

"Control your voice Dynn. You are older I know but remember I am stronger."

"You.."

Dynn clenched his fists so hard that his knuckles turned white. A vein bulge on his forehead. He didn't care about what they did but his only grandson would be among the participants fighting the monster horde. If something happened to Regius he knew his wife won't be able to take it.

'I should have never agreed when Regius insisted on entering the event! Damn it!'

Just like him, the noble families were enraged but then the Royal envoy stood up and started floating.

He gazed at Dynn and the nobles.

"It's the King's order."

In an instant, the atmosphere turned eerily quiet and the Royal envoy nodded with a satisfied expression. Afterward, he gestured for Aira to continue.

"So where was I? Right the participants will fight a monster horde for the last week. Don't worry though no participants will die. As you all know the moment they got severely injured they would be teleported out to receive treatment from the best healers."

"Also, the monster horde won't be too strong. The highest monster in the monster horde would be (C+)-Rank because I know the participants are too weak to fight the stronger ones."

Anlee arrived beside her. He was as confused as the audience but he took it rather easily because if they released a monster horde in the competition the kids had to gather in a single place to fight. That means the thousands of projections would merge and show the whole picture instead of showing some tiny figures.

His eyes trailed to the crowd. Almost everyone was seething with anger but they had to gulp down their anger in front of the King's Order.

He scoffed and turned around to look at Aira. The place where the participants were fighting with the monsters was an enclosed illusionary space created by an old artifact that's why if Aira wanted to release a monster horde she needed a lot of resources.

Anlee was confused. Why was the king wasting so many resources in this event? He knew about the secret realm but in his point of view, it was a pity to waste so much on some young kids.

His curious gaze lingered on the Royal envoy. At the same time, Aira's body moved and disappeared. A few more individuals standing inside the dome quietly walked away.

The Royal envoy returned to his seat followed by Anlee. Dynn murderous gaze landed on their backs but they ignored him completely.

Dynn was stronger than almost everyone present in the dome except Aira. Moreover, after knowing it was the King's order he could do nothing but grit his teeth with anger.

Soon, the air around the projections turned troubled. Dense mana gathered inside the dome and seeped inside the Array symbols drawn on the round stage.

The audience watched with bated breaths and due to the intense pressure the air turned heavy.

The many small projections trembled and scattered into tiny green particles. The huge ranking screen floating below the ceiling shrunk and became smaller in size. However, the many names glowing on the screen glowed even brighter.

After a few seconds, the scattered particles gathered again forming a single projection above the stage. The projection was big enough to envelope the whole stage where thousands of individuals could stand easily.

The projection showed a vast expanse of forestation and a few mountains, hundreds of moving figures of the participants and the monsters.

Dynn eyes narrowed and he fixed his gaze on the Projection to locate Regius. Just like him the crowd and the nobles also fixed their gaze on the Projection. In the end, the kids were too young to experience something like this.

At that moment, Aira returned. Her face was a little pale because she used too much energy. She clenched her fists to gather herself and looked at the crowd with a cold expression.

"Within a few minutes, the monster horde will attack the forest shown in the Projection from the east side. The monsters won't stop because within a week they will travel around the whole area until the end of the forest. So, even if the participants tried to hide they won't be able to stay safe for a long time."

"This monster horde is nothing in front of the real thing because it would be too small. However, after experiencing it I believe the participants would gain a lot. In the future, if they faced danger they would fight it with their all instead of just hiding inside their comfort zone."

As if waiting for the cue, the moment she stopped talking the huge projection trembled. The crowd watched with rough breathing how hundreds of monsters appeared in the projection and started running in a straight line together. The monsters seemed to be coming out of thin air because their number was increasing with each passing second.

With the monsters arrived pure destruction. They bit and stomped down the large trees. A few moving unlucky participants roaming around the area were caught off guard. They freaked out and tried to run but because so many monsters appeared together not many were able to retreat safely.

In the next second, loud shrieks and painful cries sounded on the stage. The audience looked down at the stage and saw many injured participants shouting in pain.

Aira clenched her jaw, she didn't want to do this but it was the King's order. Also, no one would die. She will make sure of it.

The moment the injured participants arrived many healers poured into the dome and hurriedly took them away to treat their injuries.

Aira's voice sounded blank. She fixed her gaze at the healers.

"Use high-grade healing potions to save all of them. Don't care about the resources. Also, their permanent injuries would be cured by many precious herbs. The King knew it was a risky move that's why he opened the Royal treasury and gave his permission to use all the treasures to heal the participants no matter their background."

Chapter 228 I am dying

Regius eyes narrowed when he saw large clouds of dust rising at a distance.

He felt a small tremor on the tree he was sitting and a frown appeared on his face.

"What's happening? Izil can you see anything?"

Izil cleaned the green blood on his spear and looked above at Regius. He climbed a nearby tree and eyed the clouds of dust.

"I am low on mana that's why can't see so far."

Regius thought for a second and gazed at his group members.

"Should we go check out what's happening?"

Everyone agreed and they started moving toward the large clouds of dust. However, after walking for twenty minutes, they encountered a panicked human figure running away from the clouds of dust.

The tremor in the ground increased. Also, Regius's frown deepened when he saw two more elves running away from the dust clouds.

He opened his mouth to say something but then Izil's horrid voice sounded in his ears.

"I ... think we need to run!"

Izil turned around and started running backward. Regius looked at his back with a dumbfounded expression. Not just him, Yue, Lumi, and the other two elves following behind him were also stunned for a second.

Regius grumbled under his breath and shouted.

"Follow him!"

He used an agility skill and caught up with Izil in no time.

"What the heck? Why are we running?"

Izil gazed back with a sweating forehead and groaned.

"Monsters! I saw hundreds of high-rank monsters coming our way!"

"What?"

Regius was stunned. He could sense the tremor in the ground was increasing with each passing second.

"Damn it! Why did so many monsters appear together? Don't tell me some idiots provoked them."

Izil shook his head.

"It's not a normal group of monsters! There are too many! We can't fight them!"

Yue, Lumi, Niamh, and Faith heard their conversation and increased their speed.

They ran with all their might but the tremor only increased and after half an hour they heard loud howls, screeches, and shrieks coming from behind.

Just like them hundreds of participants were running away from the tremor.

Lumi's breath was heavy when she jumped and crossed a large area in a second. She was weakest among the group that's why she was in the last.

"Guys... I am tired."

She stopped for a few seconds and saw many participants running past her.

Yue looked back at her figure with wide eyes.

"Lumi, what are you doing? Run!"

She stopped and took out an energy potion from her storage ring to give it to Lumi but her eyes contracted when she saw a large round flying bee appearing above Lumi.

"Look up!"

Lumi's pupil shook slightly when she sensed a huge shadow enveloping her body. However, she didn't freeze in her position instead she tilted her body to attack the bee with as many fireballs as possible.

The bee screeched and flew back due to the sudden heat and Lumi immediately rushed toward Yue. Her previous tiredness disappeared within a second.

Yue sighed with relief and threw the energy potion at her.

"Hurry up drink it."

Lumi grabbed the potion and after drinking she looked back. A large group of bees was flying behind them. To her horror, all the bees were at least (D-)-Rank!

"OMG! We are doomed!"

Her panicked voice transferred to Yue who looked back and saw one more type of monster appearing behind the bees.

Yue wanted to stop and fight but when she saw two towering bears snapping the trees behind her she immediately tossed the idea out of her mind.

Regius looked back at his group members. He stopped for a few seconds and climbed a nearby tree to see the situation.

Hundreds of monsters were running toward them. The monsters were so many that Regius wasn't able to count them.

He cursed under his breath and jumped down to run again. There was no way they would be able to kill so many monsters.

Many scenarios appeared in his mind. This type of thing didn't happen until now so why so suddenly?

He gritted his teeth and shouted at his friends.

"There is a mountain on the west side! Run toward the mountain! We can avoid the ground monsters if we climb the mountain!"

He turned around and sped up toward the mountain. Izil and the others followed behind him.

A few participants running around them heard Regius's loud exclamation and changed their path, heading straight toward the mountain.

Meanwhile, Kyle was sleeping peacefully above a large boulder.

He was too bored to run around in the forest so he just decided to sleep around for the last week.

After a few minutes, he opened his eyes with a yawn. His gaze was a little blurry when he jumped down from the boulder.

He tied his messy hair in a pony and looked at the burned firewood and leftover food he had eaten last night.

"I am not hungry so let's skip breakfast."

Kyle was present above a rocky mountain. A few days ago he was following behind an elves duo quietly because one of the elves seemed well-versed in Arrays.

However, he was disappointed after following the duo for a few days because he wasn't able to gain anything. That's why he stopped following them.

Kyle stretched his body and started jogging downward toward the end of the mountain.

His eyes narrowed slightly when he saw dust clouds and large movements between the trees below the mountain.

Kyle's pace slowed when he saw a large number of flying monsters coming toward the mountain at a fast speed.

"What the heck?"

He rubbed his eyes thinking maybe he was imagining but no matter what the flock of flying monsters didn't disappear. Instead, they were coming near with each passing second.

"This..."

Kyle took in a large breath. So many monsters! He just slept for a few hours and the green forest changed into a monster forest?

He stopped in his tracks. Something was definitely wrong here. Maybe he missed something important while he was busy sleeping.

His gaze lingered at the forest below the mountain and under his astonished gaze many participants jumped out from the forest and started climbing the mountain.

The participants were sweating with their breathing ragged as they did their best to climb as high as possible.

Kyle spotted two familiar figures among the small crowd and disappeared from his location.

He appeared beside a boy who was almost on the verge of collapsing.

"Ahem!"

Regius who just barely arrived at the mountain almost freaked out when a sudden voice sounded in his ears.

"The fuck!"

He turned around to look at the figure running beside him and almost tripped.

"Kyle??"

Kyle blinked his eyes innocently and waved his hand.

"Hi, Regius. How have you been?"

Regius didn't know whether to laugh or cry. Seeing Kyle was indeed surprising but right now the situation wasn't good enough for them to exchange greetings.

"I am dying!"

He shouted and increased his speed.

Kyle gazed back at the running honey-hair elf who was staring at his figure with wide eyes but when Kyle's eyes landed on her she looked away immediately.

He turned around and increased his speed to catch Regius again.

"By the way what's happening?"

Kyle's question was quite innocent but the only thing Regius wanted was to punch him once!

Regius blurted out in an irritated voice.

"How would I know? I was standing peacefully but hundreds of monsters appeared out of nowhere! Almost half of the participants running around me got eliminated!"

Kyle replied with an 'Oh' and slowed down so he could properly look at the monsters following behind the participants.

Regius looked back at his figure and shouted with frustration.

"Why the hell are you slowing down? Run it's dangerous!"

Kyle waved his hand and started jogging downward.

"It's alright. I am just gonna check for a while."

Regius almost choked on his breath and cursed out loud.

"I told you to run why the hell are you going downward!"

Chapter 229 It's a monster horde!

Kyle ignored Regius's shouts and his eyes narrowed at the flying monsters coming toward the mountain. The monsters in the forest were climbing up as well. If it continues like this soon the whole mountain would be surrounded.

'I think we can't escape we have to fight.'

He could sense the monsters were weak. However, their huge number was something very alarming.

A lot of running participants gazed at his figure with different emotions flashing through their eyes, astonishment, shock, disdain, and curiosity.

While walking, Kyle abruptly turned his head to look at an elf girl staring at him with fluttering eyes. Her long frost hair was tied in a pony.

She was running upward with ragged breathing but her lavender eyes were fixed on Kyle.

Kyle would usually ignore this type of situation but his gaze traveled to the honey-haired girl running beside her and he gave the girls a polite nod.

The frost-haired girl blurted out loudly.

"OMG! That silver-haired human is so handsome and pretty!"

"Lumi!"

Yue shouted with gritted teeth and dragged her idiot friend up. She was so embarrassed that she wanted to shove something inside Lumi's mouth to shut her up.

Many running participants turned around to look at the two girls with conflicted emotions. They were running for life and someone just won a beauty due to his own beauty? How envious!

Kyle's eyebrow twitched and he instantly regretted his decision to nod at them.

He retracted his eyes and started running again but he could hear some noises behind him.

The two girls were probably bickering at each other. Amidst the many sounds and voices, he heard the name 'Yue' and raised his brow.

'So, her name is Yue.'

Kyle mused in his mind and to the participant's surprise he disappeared from his spot.

Regius looked back at the place where Kyle disappeared and grumbled.

"What the hell is he planning? I know he is strong... but it's too dangerous."

He stopped running and waved at his group members.

"Guys stop running. I think something is wrong with the monsters. They are climbing up as well."

Izil arrived beside him with ragged breathing. His cyan eyes glowed for a second and he looked at Regius with a pale expression.

"You are right. I can see the monsters climbing the mountain from the front. Not to mention the hundreds of flying monsters, even if reached the top of the mountain I don't think we can stay safe for long."

Regius nodded with a grim expression.

"I noticed the monsters following behind us were different from the ones we fought before. Their eyes were not focused and they just crushed everything in their path without caring about their life."

Yue and Lumi arrived beside the duo and heard their conversation. A flash of shock passed through Yue's eyes when she understood the current situation.

"Senior... I am not sure but according to your description doesn't this scenario look a little familiar to the ones we read in the history books? I am not sure if it's possible in this place but what if... it's a monster horde?"

Yue's pupil trembled at her own theory and Regius turned around to look at her with stunned eyes.

"Wait...Wait! All this is very similar to a monster horde but how is this possible when we are in a testing space?"

Regius shut his mouth when everything clicked in. They were in a testing space! Does that mean the people in charge created this scenario to make the test difficult?

He cursed under his breath and gazed at the monsters.

"If it's a monster horde. There is no point in running anymore because the monsters will never retreat. Instead, they will turn everything upside down. I don't know if I should be happy that there is no 'Monster Lord' controlling this horde?"

Izil sucked in a cold breath. Was the Kingdom trying to kill them all? Or else why would they set up such a dangerous test?

Faith and Niamh appeared beside them and Regius raised his voice to shout at the top of his lungs to gather all the running participant's attention.

"Everyone there is no point in running! It's a monster horde! If you don't want to be eliminated gather together and be ready to fight! Or else we are all doomed!"

Among the two hundred or something running participants only those who had some braincells stopped to look at Regius with wide eyes.

There was hesitation in their eyes but when they saw the hundreds of monsters they gritted their teeth and moved closer to Regius.

Soon, a large group of participants was formed and Regius was standing in front of them.

They watched as many monsters rushed at them with incredible speed. However, they steeled their resolve to fight!

Meanwhile, Kyle indeed had the gist of what was happening behind him but when he arrived at the bottom of the mountain his attention was grabbed by a lone demi-human fighting with the monsters with gritted teeth.

Kyle eyed the pair of horns coming out from his head but his eyes went wide when he saw a pair of folded black wings behind his back.

The black-haired demi-human looked engrossed as he punched one monster after another. He was wearing something hard on his knuckles to make his punches more dangerous.

At the same time, the demi-human ears twitched when he heard the faint rustling sound behind him. He kicked the monster he was fighting and turned around to kick the one behind him but when he saw Kyle's figure he stopped with a frown.

"What are you doing here human? Leave it's dangerous."

Contrary to his arrogant expression his voice came out rather calm. Kyle's eyes were glued to the pair of wings behind his back.

"Umm, can you fly?"

"You!"

The demi-human was speechless but then he eyed a cat monster leaping at Kyle from behind. He was already low on mana but he jumped and stretched out his hand to grab Kyle's shoulder as he wanted to push him away from the attack rage but to his surprise, Kyle easily dodged his hand and moved away.

The demi-human blinked his eyes and looked at Kyle with a daze but then he crashed into a tree with a bang.

"Fuck!"

A curse slipped out from his mouth and his eyes widened with horror when he saw the same monster who wanted to attack Kyle pounce at him with incredible speed.

He clenched his fists and placed his arms in front of his face for defense but the attack he waited for never came. Instead, a loud painful cry sounded in front of him.

He removed his arms and saw something that made his jaw drop. Instead of a monster, a glistening ice statue was standing in front of him.

Cold aura seeped out from the ice statue and he could see the horror and pain within those frozen eyes.

A curious voice sounded in his ears.

"Are you alright?"

In the next second, in front of his stunned eyes, the ice statue broke down into many tiny pieces.

Chapter 230 A mana-saving method

Sinon had never seen something like this in his whole life not even in his wildest dream. He indeed knew a lot of strong skills existed but how could someone just freeze an entire monster within mere seconds?

His mind went blank at the sight of the ice pieces but even the ice pieces turned into dust and swirled away with the wind.

He gazed at the figure who did it all. Silver hair and nonchalant green eyes.

It took him a few seconds to gather himself and stand up. However, he again saw three monsters pouncing at the silver-haired human from behind.

Sinon opened his mouth to warn but what happened next made his scalp go numb.

The silver-haired human didn't even look back. A sea of blue flames appeared behind his back enveloping the monsters completely.

Sinon watched with daze how the monsters turned into glistening ice sculptures and after a second nothing remained behind not even their dead bodies.

A glistening finger-sized round ball dropped on the ground and the silver-haired human eyes sparkled as he picked it up.

"A skill core?"

Kyle closed his eyes and went through the skill information but a frown appeared on his face after a second.

"A (E)-skill to increase agility kinda useless."

He threw the skill core into his mind space and looked at the demi-human. Kyle could sense at least thirty monsters around them.

"Can you still fight?"

Sinon recovered from his stunned state and nodded with a serious expression as he could also sense many movements around them but Kyle's next words almost made him facepalm.

"Can you fly?"

Sinon groaned but gave a light nod. However, the only thing he got in return was a click of the tongue from Kyle.

In the next second, many monsters pounced at the duo from all sides, the trees were crushed and the monster's angry cries rang out in their ears.

Kyle didn't wait for the demi-human to act and immediately waved his hand. Blue flames flickered behind him and took the shape of twenty arrows.

Sinon who just decided to attack a nearby monster froze in his spot when he saw many flame arrows piercing the monster's bodies with incredible speed.

He stood beside Kyle with a blank expression, thinking if the human was going to fight alone in the end why the fuck he asked him, 'Can you still fight?'.

He watched as all the monsters around him were cleared within mere seconds.

"Huuuu..."

Sinon took a deep breath and when Kyle turned around he offered sincerely.

"Thank you. I am Sinon Ambing."

Kyle nodded and secretly sensed his rank. Sinon was (D+)-Rank.

"Kyle... Kyle Ohan."

Sinon looked at the sky with a frown.

"Kyle, I think we should climb the mountain."

After a second, he whispered under his breath.

"All this is quite similar to a monster horde..."

Kyle's eyes reflected shock when he heard the words 'monster horde'. He recalled Regius was gathering a small crowd of participants and turned around to run toward the mountain.

"You can fly, right? Just fly... see yah on the mountain. A lot of participants are gathering there."

Sinon heard Kyle drifting words and was dumbfounded. He could indeed fly but he was scared of heights that's why he preferred to walk instead of flying.

He sped up and caught up to Kyle but under his eyes, Kyle's figure disappeared.

"The fuck!"

Sinon was once again shocked but he calmed his troubled heart and started running up the mountain.

Kyle appeared in front of Regius and just like before Regius freaked out, enough to startle all the participants standing behind him.

"Kyle!!! Can't you come and go like a normal person!"

Kyle nodded and gave him an apologetic smile. He gazed at the participants standing around him. They were all hurling one attack after another at the monsters who had climbed up.

Regius pushed him away and ran off to kill a flying bee monster attacking a fighting participant from behind.

Kyle's eyes narrowed, five ice arrows appeared behind him and he attacked the nearby monsters with the arrows.

The participants were startled when suddenly the monsters they were fighting got attacked by ice arrows. However, they recovered within a few seconds and turned around to attack other monsters.

A sword appeared in Kyle's hand and he activated his skill 'Swift steps' to increase his speed. His figure flashed like a blur as he swung his sword with precision, slashing and killing one monster after another.

A lot of participants were stunned by Kyle's fast movements but they were too occupied to think about anything else.

Kyle stopped behind an injured elf and killed the monster he was fighting. From the corner of his eyes, he caught sight of Yue fighting against two (D)-Rank monsters.

He could see she was having difficulty then he noticed two more giant monsters heading straight toward her.

Kyle's eyes narrowed and he disappeared from his spot. In the next second, his sword was embedded inside one of the monsters Yue was fighting. It was so easy for him to slice the monsters as they were too weak.

Yue was stunned when she saw a familiar silver-haired figure. Under her gaze, Kyle waved his sword to remove the sticky monster's blood.

He mouthed and many thunder arrows struck down from the clear sky and a few pained cries sounded around Yue.

She opened her mouth and said thank you but her mind was too occupied.

Kyle gazed at Yue and gave her a nod.

"Be careful."

He didn't stay in front of her longer. He spotted Regius's figure and immediately ran toward him while slashing all the monsters that appeared in his path.

Kyle appeared beside Regius with a grim face.

"There are too many monsters. Soon, everyone will get tired and their mana will be exhausted I don't think we can fight for long in this situation."

Regius stabbed a monster to death with his dagger and replied without looking back at Kyle.

"What else can we do? It's a monster horde even if we climb up we will only be getting a few safe minutes and nothing else."

He eyed Kyle from the corner of his eyes and clicked his tongue.

"Your breathing is calm. Even after running around so much you don't look tired."

Kyle threw an ice arrow at a nearby monster.

"Oh, I still have 65 percent mana left but I am using too many skills so I can only fight for a day at most."

Regius's mood went sour. He knew Kyle was strong but the difference was just too much.

Kyle mumbled something under his breath and shouted at the participants standing below him.

"Come up. I am going to throw some boulders down the mountain to crush the climbing monsters."

Regius looked at him with a perplexed expression.

"Boulders?..."

Oh, how he wished he didn't recall that gruesome scene he saw a month ago! Regius eyes went wide and his voice stuttered.

'I was so aggressive that night. Isn't he angry? Why is he helping me?'

"That.. was you? The ice shield..?"

Kyle shrugged his shoulders and threw him a mischievous smile.

"It's a mana-saving method."