

Debuff Master

Chapter 14

Tae-Sung's abysmal compatibility with the premium VR capsules caused the issue.

[The compatibility of the user and the capsule is low.]

[It is advised to use another capsule.]

[Compatibility: 61%]

His compatibility with the stone coffin-like VR capsule, which was called the Requiem 6, was 61%. His compatibility with the capsule was lower than his compatibility with the V-Iron 6, which was the capsule he tried just a while ago.

"Ah..." Oh Jun-Hwan muttered. He looked taken aback by the compatibility.

"It seems that you are not compatible with the Requiem 6 model as well... *haha...*" he said while laughing awkwardly.

"It seems so," Tae-Sung replied while exiting the Requiem 6 model.

"*Hmm...* then I shall show you the other models," Oh Jun-Hwan politely said.

"Sure," Tae-Sung nonchalantly replied.

"What do you think of this model? You might be aware of it as well, but this is the model that is now the norm for pro gamers. *Haha!*" Oh Jun-Hwan proudly said.

The next model he recommended was the H6 model, which was a model personally developed and created by Hive.

However...

[The compatibility of the user and the capsule is low.]

[It is advised to use another capsule.]

[Compatibility: 71%]

Even the H6 model, which boasted the best specification among the premier VR capsules, was not compatible with Tae-Sung.

However, the real problem started from there...

[The compatibility of the user and the capsule is low.]

[It is advised to use another capsule.]

[Compatibility: 54%]

[The compatibility of the user and the capsule is low.]

[It is advised to use another capsule.]

[Compatibility: 69%]

[The compatibility of the user and the capsule is low.]

[It is advised to use another capsule.]

[Compatibility: 71%]

They tested more than 20 capsules after the H6 model, but none of them was compatible with Tae-Sung.

"Is there a chance that customer-nim is innately picky when it comes to VR capsules...?" Oh Jun-Hwan nervously asked while profusely sweating.

There were a few people like him who were innately sensitive when it came to their compatibility with VR capsules. In fact, there were rare cases where some people possessed a pretty unique brain wave pattern that they could not log in to any virtual reality games at all.

"I don't think so. I did not have any issues during the past year with a premium capsule, even though it was a secondhand one," Tae-Sung replied. He was telling the truth because the VR capsule he had been using right before he lost it all was the previous generation model of the H6, the H5.

"*Hmm...* How is your compatibility with your current capsule?" Oh Jun-Hwan asked.

"It is at 77%," Tae-Sung replied.

"And which model are you currently using?" Oh Jun-Hwan asked.

"I am using the Virtual Sports 3 model," Tae-Sung replied.

"*Huh?*" Oh Jun-Hwan muttered in surprise as he doubted his ears for a moment.

“I said I’m currently using the Virtual Sports 3 model,” Tae-Sung said once again.

“Are you serious?” Oh Jun-Hwan asked in disbelief.

“Yes, is there a problem?” Tae-Sung asked.

“N-No! There is no problem at all!” Oh Jun-Hwan exclaimed while waving his hands before adding, “It is just that the model you are using is quite old...”

“...”

“I never imagined that I will meet someone still using the Virtual Sports 3 model in this day and age...” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

Tae-Sung did not reply to the branch manager’s comments. Instead, he grumbled inwardly with discontent. *‘What? Have you contributed anything to me so I can buy it? What can I do when I don’t have the money to buy a good one?’*

“Customer-nim,” Oh Jun-Hwan called out.

“What?” Tae-Sung grumbled in response.

“I am sure you are aware, but a user would not necessarily be compatible with a VR capsule just because the capsule is a premium one. The abilities and talent of the user along with their compatibility are the most crucial factors when it comes to playing virtual reality games,” Oh Jun-Hwan explained.

“I know that much,” Tae-Sung replied.

The premium capsules only provided a slight increase to one’s compatibility, but it did not do anything else after that since the brain capacity of the user was the most important factor.

“With that in mind... I think customer-nim’s compatibility with premium VR capsules is not that good or...” Oh Jun-Hwan trailed off.

It seemed he was hesitating whether to say the next part or not because he had a troubled look on his face. But eventually, he said, “It could only mean that customer-nim’s abilities are so atrocious, even these premium machines cannot work with you.”

“...”

“However, I strongly believe that a customer being sponsored a new VR capsule by our head office is not someone ordinary,” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

“What are you trying to say?” Tae-Sung asked with a hint of hostility in his voice.

“I shall guide you to the Platinum Boutique,” Oh Jun-Hwan declared.

“P-Platinum Boutique...? What is that?” Tae-Sung asked, seemingly taken aback.

“It is a special place where only our top 0.1% VIP customers are allowed access,” Oh Jun-Hwan proudly said.

“The top 0.1%....” Tae-Sung muttered.

“Now, please come this way,” Oh Jun-Hwan said as he guided Tae-Sung to a secret corridor hidden within V-Lounge.

The Platinum Boutique was a place unknown to the public, and it was an area only reserved for the true VIPs of V-Lounge.

Why?

It was all because the VR capsules displayed at the Platinum Boutique weren't the 6th Generation models. Rather, they were the cream of the crop capsules equipped with the best specification possible that they would at least be the 7th or the 8th Generation models in their respective categories. The prices of those capsules started from a staggering 1 billion won that even those who had struck it rich in recent years would not dare to even shop in this place.

Moreover, the Platinum Boutique was a place only those with both money and social status could access.

“Please take a look,” Oh Jun-Hwan said as he showed the VR capsules in the Platinum Boutique.

There were only four VR capsules displayed in the place.

“These are the capsules with the highest specification possible, and they are equipped with the best next-generation software. As such, these can truly be considered as the pinnacle of virtual reality gaming equipment,” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

Then, he haughtily shrugged his shoulders before proudly saying, “These four models guarantee a compatibility of at least 85%!”

“Did you just say 85%?!” Tae-Sung exclaimed.

He could not help but be surprised at the branch manager's words since 85% compatibility was an amazing number only 4% of those playing virtual reality games possessed, yet these machines guaranteed that figure.

“Are you saying that these machines guarantee the same compatibility as pro gamers...?” Tae-Sung had to ask and confirm it.

“That is correct,” Oh Jun-Hwan replied while nodding.

The 85% compatibility these machines guaranteed was an astounding number when the 83% to 88% compatibility that pro gamers possessed was taken into consideration.

“If the VR capsules at the V-Lounge were considered to be BMW or Audi in motor vehicle terms, then the VR capsules here at the Platinum Boutique are the Ferraris and Lamborghinis of VR capsules. In fact, these capsules have coined the term ‘Super Capsules’,” Oh Jun-Hwan proudly said.

“Wow...” Tae-Sung muttered in awe.

“Of course, it can only guarantee compatibility since even these machines cannot do anything more for someone without the innate talent to operate it further than that,” Oh Jun-Hwan clarified.

It seemed that even these ‘Super Capsules’ were not an exemption from the basic logic that the ‘pilot’ was the most important part of operating a machine.

The VR capsules were just like motor vehicles, and an ordinary person would not be able to unleash the full potential of a supercar.

“Please try this capsule first,” Oh Jun-Hwan said as he pointed at a golden VR capsule before explaining, “This model is called the ‘Steel Kreuz.’ As for the price... I think it will be better for me not to mention it. *Haha!*”

“*Haha...*” Tae-Sung let out an awkward laugh since he could tell from its exterior alone that it would cost more than a billion won.

“Please come and try it.” Oh Jun-Hwan urged.

Tae-Sung entered the Steel Kreuz VR capsule with expectations about how compatible he would be with the capsule.

[The compatibility of the user is 85.1%]

He got a compatibility that was 0.1% higher than the one guaranteed by the capsule.

“*Oh!*” Oh Jun-Hwan exclaimed and said, “You do have the talent as expected.”

“*Huh?* Is that so?” Tae-Sung asked in response while seemingly confused.

“The fact that you got 0.1% more than the guaranteed figure is proof that you are indeed talented. It is pretty rare for people to have a compatibility that is higher than the guaranteed figure unless they are talented,” Oh Jun-Hwan explained.

“*Hmm...*” Tae-Sung muttered as he processed the branch manager’s words.

“Let us keep the Steel Kreuz model aside for now. Please try this one as well,” Oh Jun-Hwan said while pointing at a red VR capsule.

“This is the Ishuka model, and it is designed to have a superior interior that will alleviate the user’s fatigue even more compared to the Steel Kreuz. It was masterfully designed and crafted so that the user would not feel tired even after using it for fourteen hours!” Oh Jun-Hwan proudly explained.

“*Ah*, is that so?” Tae-Sung said, seemingly impressed.

He tested the Ishuka model as well.

[The compatibility of the user is 85.1%]

His compatibility with the Ishuka model was the same as the Steel Kreuz model he tested earlier.

“*Hmm...* I think customer-nim’s abilities are more suitable for super capsules compared to the premium capsules,” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

“I-Is that so?” Tae-Sung replied while awkwardly scratching his cheek.

“Please try this as well,” Oh Jun-Hwan said as he pointed at a black capsule this time.

The black capsule was called the ‘Raptor’ model.

[The compatibility of the user is 85.1%]

The result was the same as the Steel Kreuz and Ishuka he tested earlier.

“*Hmm...* 85.1%... and three in a row at that. I think we have found what we are looking for. I think customer-nim is truly more compatible with super capsules,” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

“*Haha...* Maybe I’m more suitable for expensive things? *Haha...!*” Tae-Sung awkwardly laughed.

He was at a loss whether he should be happy about it or not.

His compatibility with an old secondhand VR capsule was 77% while his compatibility with premium VR capsules was below average. However, his compatibility with super capsules was pretty high at 85.1%.

He could not make heads or tails on how his compatibility worked.

'Well... I guess it doesn't matter as long as I can get 85.1%. That's a figure on par with the pro gamers after all,' Tae-Sung thought.

He decided not to think about it too much and be content with the fact that he would get a free super capsule he was highly compatible with.

"Then, shall we test the final model?" Oh Jun-Hwan asked while pointing at a purple VR capsule, which was the last remaining super capsule among the four super capsules.

"Do I have to? I think it's going to be the same 85.1% anyway?" Tae-Sung asked.

"I do not think so." Oh Jun-Hwan shook his head.

"Why so?" Tae-Sung asked.

"The model name of this VR capsule is 'Ogre'," Oh Jun-Hwan said.

"Ogre? Isn't that name a bit too vicious?" Tae-Sung said with a frown.

"Its specifications are vicious, too," Oh Jun-Hwan added.

"...?"

"The Ogre supports a minimum compatibility of 90% and can go up to 99%!" Oh Jun-Hwan exclaimed.

"Heok...!" Tae-Sung gasped in surprise.

"However, the compatibility will be zero if the user does not possess the abilities the Ogre demands from its user," Oh Jun-Hwan explained.

"Hmm... that's a picky one..." Tae-Sung muttered.

"That is because it is a hyper capsule," Oh Jun-Hwan proudly responded.

"Haha..." Tae-Sung awkwardly laughed.

It seemed the Ogre was a VR capsule that possessed specifications better than super capsules.

“Then, I guess it’s going to come out as either 90% or 0%,” Tae-Sung said.

“That’s what I think as well...” Oh Jun-Hwan nodded in agreement.

The 85.1% compatibility was already an astounding number, but it was way below what the Ogre demanded from its user.

“Still, I suggest that you try it just in case,” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

“Sure...” Tae-Sung replied.

Since he wouldn’t lose anything even if he were to test it out, he decided to get a feel of what the best available VR capsule had to offer.

Tak!

Tae-Sung closed the Ogre’s cover and booted it up to check his compatibility with it.

“*Hmm...*” Oh Jun-Hwan muttered while looking at Tae-Sung and the Ogre.

“it shouldn’t be zero, right? *Hmm...* this customer is a really picky one. It had been pretty difficult to recommend him a model,” Oh Jun-Hwan muttered to himself.

While he was busy in his own thought, a beep rang from the capsule.

Beep!

The Hyper Capsule Ogre let out a beep to signal the reveal of Tae-Sung’s compatibility.

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“*Heok...!*”? Oh Jun-Hwan could not help but gasp at the compatibility number. His face was pale, and his eyes seemed like they were about to pop out at any second now because...

[The compatibility of the user is 96.5%]

Tae-Sung and the Ogre were an exact match; no rather, they were a match made in heaven.

Their compatibility was an astounding 96.5%!

This was a number that could not be found even among pro gamers, and there would be perhaps less than five people in the entire world who would have this level of compatibility.

“C-Customer-nim!” Oh Jun-Hwan stuttered, “D-Did you see that? 96.5%! It said 96.5% just now!”

“I-I saw it...” Tae-Sung replied, seemingly shaken before saying, “Is this real...? My compatibility is 96.5%...? *Haha...*”

It seemed that Tae-Sung was more astonished by what was happening than the branch manager.

“C-Customer-nim...?” Oh Jun-Hwan called out.

“Yes?” Tae-Sung responded while tilting his head in confusion.

“*Uhm...* I apologize but... what do you think if we check your compatibility one more time? I do not mean to say that I cannot trust your abilities, but...” Oh Jun-Hwan trailed off.

“Sure, why not,” Tae-Sung replied while nodding.

“It is because I simply cannot believe what I just saw...” Oh Jun-Hwan muttered cautiously.

It was only normal for him to doubt his eyes since the compatibility number that appeared just now was an unbelievable number, regardless of how advanced the Ogre was as a capsule.

However, the number remained the same.

[The compatibility of the user is 96.5%]

[The compatibility of the user is 96.5%]

[The compatibility of the user is 96.5%]

Tae-Sung’s compatibility with the Ogre remained steadfast at 96.5%, and it did not change even by 0.01% no matter how many times they tested it.

“C-Customer-nim...” Oh Jun-Hwan muttered with a look filled with disbelief before he continued, “I think...”

“...?”

“I think you are so talented even the premium capsules could not keep up with you... *hahaha... haha...*” Oh Jun-Hwan said while laughing in disbelief.

“Is that... how it works...?” Tae-Sung replied in a daze.

“No... that is not how it is supposed to be...” Oh Jun-Hwan muttered.

“*Hmm...*” Oh Jun-Hwan seemed to be contemplating something for a while before saying, “I think there was something about this some time ago.”

“*Huh?*” Tae-Sung muttered as the branch manager’s words piqued his interest.

“I think it was a year ago? They said that a similar incident happened at the Platinum Boutique in New York,” Oh Jun-Hwan explained.

“Really?” Tae-Sung asked.

“That customer was only satisfied after testing out a Hyper Capsule. If I remember correctly... I think the compatibility was 92.7%...? I think it was something like that,” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

It was less than what Tae-Sung had achieved, but it was also an astounding compatibility number.

“I think I heard from somewhere that one’s compatibility with an average machine will be low if they’re too talented,” Oh Jun-Hwan added.

“*Haha...*” Tae-Sung awkwardly chuckled.

‘Does this even make sense? My compatibility is 96.5%? Will I be in the top ten when it comes to compatibility?’ Tae-Sung wondered.

He had lived his entire life as a loser on the sidelines, but it seemed that he could finally somewhat call himself a gifted-genius-whatever-you-want-to-call-it now.

Tae-Sung could not believe what was happening right now.

“If I knew this would happen, I would have brought you here earlier. I would like to apologize for my short-sightedness, Han Tae-Sung-nim,” Oh Jun-Hwan said as he respectfully bowed toward Tae-Sung.

He was sincerely apologizing for his failure to cater to his customer’s needs and for failing to realize his customer’s abilities as the highest person in charge of V-Lounge’s Gangnam branch.

“There’s no need for you to apologize. Who knew it was going to turn out this way in the first place?” Tae-Sung said.

“You truly are someone befitting of being sponsored by the head office! *Haha!*” Oh Jun-Hwan laughed heartily.

“Haha...”

you don’t have to go that far...” Tae-Sung replied while laughing awkwardly.

“Anyway, congratulations, customer-nim. You are now the proud owner of the Hyper Capsule, the Ogre!” Oh Jun-Hwan exclaimed as he sincerely congratulated Tae-Sung for finding the capsule that would be his ‘life partner.’

“Thank you,” Tae-Sung replied. He sincerely bowed toward the branch manager as well.

He was grateful for the branch manager’s extreme patience in finding a suitable VR capsule for him for the last two hours.

“Now, shall we go and sign the contract? The head office will pay, but this VR Hyper Capsule will be under your name after all,” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

“Yes, let’s do that,” Tae-Sung replied.

The branch manager led Tae-Sung to another place so that they could sign the contract.

“But... can I ask something?” Tae-Sung asked.

“Please feel free to ask me anything,” Oh Jun-Hwan politely replied.

“The Ogre... How much is it? It looked pretty expensive to me...” Tae-Sung asked.

“*Ah*, do you mean the retail sale price of the Ogre?” Oh Jun-Hwan asked in response.

“Yes,” Tae-Sung replied with a nod before adding, “I’m not paying for it, but I can’t help but be curious...”

Oh Jun-Hwan smirked and said, “It is 8.3 billion won.”

“...?”

“It’s 8.38 billion won to be exact. *Ah*, of course, that price is exclusive of the seven percent VAT,” Oh Jun-Hwan added.

“That’s crazy...” Tae-Sung muttered in disbelief.

It seemed that Tae-Sung would end up becoming the owner of the Ogre, but there was a saying that bad things would happen when things were going well, and that was exactly what happened the moment he was about to become the owner of the Ogre.

“B-Branch Manager-nim!” shouted one of the Platinum Boutique staffers while running, “We have an issue!”

“An issue? What do you mean by that?” Oh Jun-Hwan asked.

“Um...” the staffer hesitated for a moment.

“...?”

“Jung Chi-Ho customer-nim wishes to purchase the Ogre right now!” the staffer exclaimed.

“What?!” Oh Jun-Hwan exclaimed as he shot up from his seat.

His reaction didn’t come as a surprise when considering that Jung Chi-Ho was the one and only grandson of the chairman of the Sunghyun Group, Jung Soo-Young. In addition to being a global conglomerate, the group was also the largest conglomerate throughout South Korea.

Jung Chi-Ho turning 27 years old this year recently got hooked on Brave New World. In addition, he was willing to do anything as long as he could become strong in BNW.

He was a so-called pro ‘wallet warrior,’ and he spent tens of billions of won to arm himself with all sorts of powerful items. He also did not shy away from hiring top rankers to ‘power level’ or ‘boost’ him.

However, BNW wasn’t a game where one could become the best just by spending a lot of money.

Individual ability and talent played a huge role in this game.

Unfortunately, Jung Chi-Ho’s talent and money were nowhere enough for him to become the best in the game because his compatibility was just slightly above average. Moreover, his game sense was nowhere near that of pro gamers.

As a result, Jung Chi-Ho suffered countless defeats at the hands of top rankers.

‘Damn it! I’m losing to those peasants?! Don’t make me laugh! Just wait and see, you bastards!’ Jung Chi-Ho gritted his teeth after suffering a string of defeats at the arena.

In the end, he chose to use his final resort. He would purchase a new piece of equipment—a hyper capsule.

He was sure that he would properly 'enjoy' the game as long as he used the Ogre, which was a VR capsule that guaranteed 90% compatibility. And he was right because just a slight increase in compatibility would be more than enough to boost one's gaming abilities in the world of virtual reality.

However, there was a problem with his perfectly crafted plan.

"What the fuck? It just got sold? Are you bastards joking with me right now?" Jung Chi-Ho lashed out at the staffers when he was informed that the Ogre he wanted to purchase was sold to someone else just five minutes ago.

"Hey! Call your manager! Call him this instant before I wreck this whole place up!" Jung Chi-Ho screamed while gritting his teeth in anger.

As someone born with a diamond spoon in his mouth, he felt that his anger was justified. After all, there had never been an instance in his life when he was ever denied anything he wanted.

Thanks to that, Oh Jun-Hwan had to step up and personally calm him down.

"Jung Chi-Ho-nim, I apologize, and I sincerely apologize once again, but a different customer had already purchased the hyper capsule so—" Oh Jun-Hwan said.

However, Jung Chi-Ho interrupted him. "So what?"

"Do you want me to wait? How long? Six months?" Jung Chi-Ho asked with anger in his voice.

The Hyper Capsule Ogre required ten master craftsmen to personally work on it by hand, so it took at least six months to create one.

"Hey, peasant," Jung Chi-Ho said.

"..." Oh Jun-Hwan maintained his silence.

"You call yourself a branch manager? You dare to spout such nonsense in front of me? You... do you know how expensive my time is? An hour of mine is more expensive than everything you make in a year, you know that?" Jung Chi-Ho berated Oh Jun-Hwan.

"I apologize! I sincerely apologize!" Oh Jun-Hwan continuously bowed and apologized to the young man in front of him. He had to appease the customer in front of him because the young man was a big shot.

"If you are sorry, bring my capsule out now!" Jung Chi-Ho lashed out. Then, he screamed at the top of his lungs, "Which bastard bought it?! Cancel the contract and drag that bastard in front of me right now!"

His voice reverberated throughout the entire Platinum Boutique.

“Where is that bastard?!” Jung Chi-Ho shouted as he started to search every nook and cranny of the Platinum Boutique.

“I said, where is that bastard?!” he screamed at the staffers.

“C-Customer-nim!” Oh Jun-Hwan hurriedly tried to stop the young man before he could kick a door down.

After all, it was the door of the VIP room where Tae-Sung was leisurely waiting.

“Is it you?” Jung Chi-Ho asked when he found Tae-Sung sitting inside.

“Are you the bastard who stole my Ogre?” he asked.

“So what if I am?” Tae-Sung replied in a cold voice.

“What? So what if you are?? *Haha!*? Look at this bastard. Have you gone nuts? Hey, which shanty did you crawl out from? Did you hit the lottery or something? Do you even have money to pay for the Ogre?” Jung Chi-Ho asked with his voice filled with arrogance and contempt.

“So what if I do?” Tae-Sung replied. He did not actually have the money to pay for it, but there was a company willing to pay for him.

“Do you even know who I am?” Jung Chi-Ho haughtily asked.

“Do I have to?” Tae-Sung replied.

“What?” Jung Chi-Ho muttered in disbelief.

“I just signed the contract for the Ogre, and I have no plans of revoking it. You better stop causing a scene and go home, then wait for the next one six months later,” Tae-Sung said with an arrogant smile.

That was the last straw for Jung Chi-Ho.

“C-Customer-nim!” Oh Jun-Hwan exclaimed as he ran into the VIP room to stop Tae-Sung.

It was all to protect Tae-Sung from Jung Chi-Ho.

“Please go over there for now. It will be difficult for you if you get involved,” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

“I know...” Tae-Sung replied.

He was well aware that things could go south if he got further involved.

‘Does it mean that you can do anything you want just because you’re right? Are you a noble if you have money? Does it make sense to call someone a peasant in this day and age?’ Tae-Sung thought as he clenched his fist.

However, there was no way Tae-Sung could simply ignore Jung Chi-Ho’s ramblings after suffering at the hands of wallet warriors before.

He disliked them.

He hated them.

He detested those bastards who thought they had the right to step on others just because they were rich.

“This bastard actually dares to?!” Jung Chi-Ho shouted before grabbing Tae-Sung’s collar and threatening the latter, “Do you want to die?”

“Die? To someone like you?” Tae-Sung retorted and grabbed Jung Chi-Ho’s collar as well.

Tae-Sung did not care about the repercussions. He hated the idea of groveling at the feet of a spoiled brat like Jung Chi-Ho—he would rather suffer than do that.

“Ah...” Cha Hye-Mi finally made sense of the situation, and she muttered, “This is driving me crazy...”

Of all people, Tae-Sung just had to get involved with someone like Jung Chi-Ho, who was the cream of the crop among the trash.

“I apologize, Manager Cha Hye-Mi-nim,” Oh Jun-Hwan said before adding, “This is all my fault.”

“There’s no way this is your fault; why would it be, Branch Manager-nim?” Cha Hye-Mi asked.

“No... it’s—” Oh Jun-Hwan muttered.

“Let us try to defuse the situation first,” Cha Hye-Mi interrupted.

As they were about to step in to try and defuse the situation, Jung Chi-Ho suddenly asked, “What level are you?”

“Me? I’m Level 5; why?” Tae-Sung replied.

“What...?” Jung Chi-Ho doubted his ears.

“Are you deaf? I said I’m Level 5,” Tae-Sung repeated.

“Level 5? *Ha!*” Jung Chi-Ho scoffed as if he found it absurd.

“Are you joking with me? You dare to purchase the Ogre when you’re just a measly Level 5?” Jung Chi-Ho asked.

“Why? Are there any laws against it?” Tae-Sung retorted.

“Stop spouting bullshit. What is your level? I will kill you if you don’t tell me the truth,” Jung Chi-Ho said coldly.

“I said I’m Level 5,” Tae-Sung said with a hint of annoyance in his voice.

“Is this bastard crazy...?” Jung Chi-Ho was exasperated.

“Do you have a problem with me being Level 5?” Tae-Sung asked.

“Level 5... alright, let’s say you are a Level 5 player as you say. Do you really think a noob like you deserves to use the Ogre? Do you even have any shame?” Jung Chi-Ho asked.

“I think I’m still better than you despite my level.” Tae-Sung nonchalantly taunted the scoundrel.

“What? You’re better than me...? You?” Jung Chi-Ho was astounded.

“Yes, me,” Tae-Sung said.

“Stop spouting bullshit, you crazy bastard,” Jung Chi-Ho retorted with anger in his voice.

“Why? You wanna have a go at it? Shall we have a go in Virtual Fighter?” Tae-Sung asked.

Virtual Fighter was a dueling program that was basically the PVP of virtual games.

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Virtual Fighter was also known as the most basic PVP action game since the game had no fields where players could roam aside from a lone arena.

There was no mana, and there were also no skills. Of course, there were also no potions or ability-enhancing items.

It was a PVP game where a player's abilities would be put to the test.

Thanks to its simplicity, Virtual Fighter was regarded as the most realistic PVP game among all virtual reality games, and it was often used by players to determine who was better between them and their opponent.

The reason why Tae-Sung suggested Virtual Fighter was that he wasn't confident of beating Jung Chi-Oh head-on in BNW because of the huge level gap between them.

He was Level 5 while Jung Chi-Ho was probably in the 200s.

In the first place, a proper duel between the two of them would be impossible since he would certainly die in one hit even if he received the balancing buff from the 'Yustia Temple,' which was the dueling arena of BNW.

It was also impossible for them to log in to their accounts here at the Platinum Boutique thanks to BNW's complicated login process. Players usually found it difficult to access the game from anywhere else aside from their homes unless special arrangements were made beforehand.

'I might not have a chance in BNW, but it's going to be different if it's in Virtual Fighter. I can win,'?Tae-Sung confidently thought.

Tae-Sung had a chance of winning since Virtual Fighter only factored a player's natural combat sense and compatibility with virtual reality.

On top of that...

'This bastard is no different from a piece of trash when compared to Master,'?Tae-Sung thought with a grin on his face.

Tae-Sung had a secret weapon hidden up his sleeve, which was the countless one-sided beating he had suffered under Deus.

"Hoho, you're so weak, my disciple."

"You punk! You're wide open here! Kekekeke!"

“Can you even hunt a goblin when you can’t even beat an old man like me?”

Deus was fast and flexible, and he was powerful as well. He subdued Tae-Sung and turned the latter into a rag without even using a single speck of mana.

The only thing Tae-Sung could do was tear the hem of Deus’ robe.

“Oh? Impressive. You actually managed to rip the hem of my robe?”

However, he was strong enough to defeat someone like Jung Chi-Ho.

“Excellent. You will be able to crush most people with your current capabilities.”?

Deus’ compliment meant his combat sense had increased by a lot, and it gave Tae-Sung confidence he never had before.

Of course...

“T-Thank you, Master!” Tae-Sung exclaimed.

“However, my disciple...” Deus muttered.

“Yes, Master?” Tae-Sung asked in response.

“Do you really think that you’ll get off scot-free after ripping your master’s one and only robe like this?” Deus asked in a threatening voice.

“W-What do you mean by that, Master...?” Tae-Sung said nervously.

“Brace yourself, my disciple,” Deus warned.

“Ahhhhhk!” Tae-Sung cried out in agony.

He was mercilessly abused in return for tearing his master’s robe.

“Virtual Fighter...?” Jung Chi-Ho muttered.

“That’s right,” Tae-Sung said with a nod before adding, “I think it’s an excellent idea.”

“Hmm...” Jung Chi-Ho seemed hesitant.

“I think this will be the best way for us to decide who is the rightful owner of the Ogre. After all, Virtual Fighter is a fair game,” Tae-Sung said.

There was some logic to his words since the Ogre was a hyper capsule that transcended the capabilities of a regular capsule, and it was only obvious that the rightful owner of this capsule should possess the ability to use it to its full potential.

"Hmm..." Jung Chi-Ho scratched his chin as he hesitated.

'What if this bastard is a top-ranker? Won't I be beaten to a pulp?' he thought.

Jung Chi-Ho could not simply agree to the offer since Tae-Sung could be a top ranker.

Smirk...!

Tae-Sung arrogantly smirked when he saw Jung Chi-Ho's hesitation.

"Are you scared?" he asked.

"What did you say?" Jung Chi-Ho glared at him.

"I said, Are. You. Scared?" Tae-Sung emphasized each word.

Tae-Sung was obviously taunting him.

"If you're scared, just go home quietly with your tail tucked in between your legs and stop salivating over someone else's stuff," Tae-Sung added while waving his hand in a dismissive manner.

"You bastard actually dares to...!" Jung Chi-Ho shouted in response. He then screamed in fury, "What do you take me for?! Alright, let's have a go at it! I will beat you to a pulp!"

"Alright," Tae-Sung replied with a nod and said, "It will be just one round. The loser has to give up on the Ogre."

"Sure, let's do that. Just don't complain later, you bastard," Jung Chi-Ho responded as he gritted his teeth while glaring at Tae-Sung.

It seemed that he had fallen hook, line, and sinker for Tae-Sung's taunt.

"W-Wait a minute!" Cha Hye-Mi exclaimed.

"What?" Tae-Sung asked.

"Please come here for a second. Hurry up!" she exclaimed as she dragged Tae-Sung away.

“Have you gone crazy?” Cha Hye-Mi asked in a low voice.

“Me? No? I’m not crazy,” Tae-Sung replied, seemingly confused by her words.

“Mr. Tae-Sung”. Cha Hye-Mi started.

“Yes?” he replied.

“The Hyper Capsule Ogre already belongs to you. I’m telling you that it’s finalized. You do not have any reason to duel that scoundrel just because he is causing a scene. You are the only one who has something to lose since you will have to wait for 6 months before getting another Ogre, and...” Cha Hye-Mi’s said as her eyes suddenly sharpened before she continued, “That is as far as he is capable of doing even though he is the grandson of the chairman of the Sunghyun Group. Our head office does not really care about conglomerates like the Sunghyun Group. Our head office is more focused on taking care of players with 00 epic codenames.”

Hive Games Entertainment was the industry leader of the virtual reality industry, and even a giant conglomerate like the Sunghyun Group was bound to be small in front of a behemoth like Hive Games Entertainment. After all, the latter’s market cap was the sum of Microsoft and Apple’s market cap in the past.

“Really? I still want to do it, though,” Tae-Sung said and stubbornly refused.

“Mr. Tae-Sung!” Cha Hye-Mi exclaimed.

“I’m aware that I’m the only one who stands to lose something. I know,” Tae-Sung said.

Tae-Sung was not stupid. Since he had brought it upon himself, he knew that he would not be able to say anything if he ended up losing and the Ogre was taken away from him.

“However...” Tae-Sung muttered before saying, “I want to crush him.”

“You want to crush that scoundrel?” Cha Hye-Mi was taken aback.

“Yes,” Tae-Sung replied.

“Do you really have to do this? People avoid poop because they find it gross and not really because they are scared of it,” Cha Hye-Mi said.

“If I were to keep avoiding them, there would be no end to them,” Tae-Sung said.

“*Huh?*” Cha Hye-Mi muttered in surprise.

“People avoid poop because they find it disgusting. That is correct, but do you know what people with power do?” Tae-Sung asked.

“...?”

“They clean it off without dirtying their hands,” Tae-Sung said.

“W-What do you mean...?” Cha Hye-Mi was astounded.

“Avoiding it because it’s dirty means you are avoiding it because you feel that you stand to lose something from it. However, those confident that they won’t lose anything—in short, the really powerful people will bulldoze through it and crush it to pieces,” Tae-Sung said.

“Crush it...” Cha Hye-Mi muttered.

“A powerful person obliterates anything that stands in their way regardless of whether it is a poop or soybean paste, and they go on their way,” Tae-Sung said.

“That sounds a bit unrealistic and idealistic...” Cha Hye-Mi darkly muttered.

Was it even possible to crush anything in one’s path?

The world wasn’t such an easy place.

“If you don’t have the ability to achieve something, they will call you a dreamer. But if you do, they will call you a revolutionist... something like that,” Tae-Sung said. Then, he looked straight into her eyes and said, “I won’t live my life bowing to others anymore, and I don’t wish to be trampled on any longer.”

“Ah...” Cha Hye-Mi gasped.

“No, it’s more like I just can’t stand those bastards who boss other people around just because they have some money. It’s only after crushing them will I be relieved of my frustration,” Tae-Sung said in a low but stern voice.

Why did he say that? It was all because he was a man who knew the pain and suffering of having everything he owned taken away from him by those with money and power.

“Go and crush that scoundrel’s head, then. I hope you crush him real good,” Cha Hye-Mi said.

“Of course I will,” Tae-Sung replied with a big smile.

“T-Then...” Oh Jun-Hwan stuttered while staring alternatingly between Tae-Sung and Jung Chi-Ho before continuing, “The match will be in Virtual Fighter, and it will be a winner-takes-all match. Both players will use super capsules for the match, and the loser shall forfeit their rights to the Ogre VR capsule. Do you both agree to these terms?”

“I agree,” Tae-Sung replied.

“Sure, I agree so let’s get it over with,” Jung Chi-Ho responded.

Their replies were different, but the meaning was the same.

“Just prepare the Ogre purchase agreement since there’s no way I’ll lose to a peasant like him,” Jung Chi-Ho confidently said.

He looked at Tae-Sung as if the former were an inferior species, but Tae-Sung did not fall for Jung Chi-Ho’s petty taunts.

‘I guess he will only come to his senses after being beaten to a pulp,’ Tae-Sung thought.

All of a sudden, Deus’ teachings popped up into his mind.

“My disciple, you are a human being so you shouldn’t waste time exchanging words with those worse than animals,” said Deus.

“Huh? What do you mean by that, Master?” asked Tae-Sung.

“Don’t bother talking to those worse than animals and just beat them to a pulp!” Deus exclaimed.

“Aha!” Tae-Sung exclaimed as well.

“Those worse than animals will only listen after receiving a good beating. Don’t forget that a beating is much more effective than a thousand words with those creatures. Give them a good beating first before trying to talk to them. Do you understand?”

“Yes, Master!”

In Tae-Sung’s eyes, Jung Chi-Ho was one of those creatures his master had described as worse than animals. As such, he no longer felt the need to exchange words with the latter. Rather, he would simply do what Deus had told him—he was going to give Jung Chi-Ho a good beating. A beating in real life was preferred, but things would certainly blow out of proportion as a consequence of that, so he had to settle for Virtual Fighter.

“Now, please enter your capsules,” Oh Jun-Hwan said.

Tae-Sung and Jung Chi-Ho respectively entered the black Raptor and red Ishuka capsules.

Then, the duel finally started.

It was a duel with the rights to the Hyper Capsule Ogre on the line.

Blink! Blink!

Tae-Sung and Jung Chi-Ho entered virtual reality when their respective capsules blinked, and they found themselves in the arena.

The arena looked plain. It was the size of half of a basketball court, and the floor was made out of ash-colored marble. The walls around them had an East Asian flair, and there was a wooden roof over their heads.

The arena looked like a training ground from a famous sci-fi movie.

[Welcome to the Virtual Fighter arena, Han Tae-Sung-nim.]

[Your current compatibility is 85.1%]

[Five minutes left till the duel starts!]

[Please select your character!]

The final message and the character selection screen popped up in front of Tae-Sung.

“See you after five minutes,” Jung Chi-Ho said with an arrogant smirk.

Tae-Sung ignored him.

‘*Who should I play as...?*’ Tae-Sung wondered as his eyes swept through the character selection screen.

Virtual Fighter was a fairly simple game. The players had to choose from twenty different characters with their respective specialties and weapons. The developer decided to implement characters into the game since they were certain that the game would end up turning into a messy brawl if they let the players use themselves as their character.

‘*A blunt weapon user will be easier for me,*’ Tae-Sung thought as he selected a Western male character wearing a policeman uniform.

The character's name was 'Kale,' and Kale was a character modeled after a veteran LAPD police officer. Kale had excellent stats as befitting of a policeman, and he was pretty skilled at subduing his enemies as well.

'I like his weapon, too,'?Tae-Sung thought.

Kale's weapon of choice was a police baton that policemen used in real life.

Tae-Sung thought that Kale was the perfect fit for him since he was also using a blunt weapon in BNW.

'That's right, let's go with Kale...'?

Tae-Sung extended his hand and tapped on Kale's portrait.

Fwoooosh...!

A surge of graphics flew toward Tae-Sung and changed his appearance into Kale's.

The whole process felt like someone had used a skill on him.

The player did not become the character they picked in Virtual Fighter. Instead, the game system would combine both of their identities so that each player would retain their unique identity in the game.

[Han Tae-Sung-nim has chosen 'Kale' as their character!]

[Han Tae-Sung-nim is ready for combat!]

On the other hand, it seemed that Jung Chi-Ho was done making his choice as well.

[Jung Chi-Ho-nim has chosen 'Hitokiri' as their character!]

[Jung Chi-Ho-nim is ready for combat!]

The character Jung Chi-Ho chose, Hitokiri, was a character modeled after a vicious Japanese Yakuza, and Hitokiri's main weapon was a sharp katana.

[Player 1, ready!]

[Player 2, ready!]

The character selection screen disappeared when they selected their characters.

[Both players.]

[Please face each other.]

[Bow.]

Jung Chi-Ho motioned with his chin while Tae-Sung roughly nodded in response.

[Both players, ready!]

[The match will start in 5 seconds!]

[5...]

[4...]

[3...]

[2...]

[1...]

[Ready... Fight!]

The barrier separating the two disappeared as soon as the countdown ended.

“Die! You fucking bastard!” Jung Chi-Ho screamed as he charged at Tae-Sung with his katana tightly gripped in his hands.

1. I don't usually leave TL notes like this, but just to clarify... He means bulldoze through challenges and not the poop itself. I know that you know, but we all know that a bulldozer charging through a poop went through our minds... ew...

2. This is a Korean saying where it means 'whatever it may be,' and they say it like this since poop is gross and useless while soybean paste is edible, but both of them look the same. for reference for those that don't know what soybean paste is.

Chapter 17

Jung Chi-Ho charged with ferocious momentum.

He had a vicious Blade Reaper class in BNW, and the killing intent was visible on his face as he charged at Tae-Sung. Moreover, Jung Chi-Ho had been training in swordsmanship since young, and his understanding of Japanese swordsmanship was especially high. As a result, his attack was fiercer and sharper than his character's.

'I'm gonna split your head into two,' he smugly thought.

Jung Chi-Ho aimed for Tae-Sung's forehead.

"Hap!"?he let out a shout as he swung his sword down Tae-Sung's head.

'He's coming...'?

He had been observing Jung Chi-Ho ever since the match started without missing a single movement.

'He's coming in fast, and it's an overhead swing.'

Surprisingly, he was able to analyze Jung Chi-Ho's attack without any difficulties calmly. But the even more surprising part was the fact that he did not intend to analyze it in the first place.

'I can see it. It's too obvious...'?

Jung Chi-Ho's movements were so obvious Tae-Sung did not even have to put in any effort to read them.

The reason Tae-Sung could do this was simple.

'This is just child's play when compared to Master...'?

Tae-Sung's master, the Level 999 Hidden NPC, was the strongest being in all of Brave New World. And Tae-Sung faced that monster for ninety-eight consecutive days—although he got one-sidedly beaten every time.

It was simply inevitable for Tae-Sung to see Jung Chi-Ho's attack so clearly as if it were in slow motion.

'And...'?His gaze was fixated on Jung Chi-Ho's wide-open chest as the latter brought his katana over his head.

An opening!

The answer to what he was supposed to do became clear the moment an opening presented itself.

Grip!

Tae-Sung gripped his baton tightly.

"Hap!"?Jung Chi-Ho exclaimed as he swung his katana down.

When Jung Chi-Ho's katana was about to come down, Tae-Sung slammed his baton into Jung Chi-Ho's wide-open chest.

Pukeok!

"*Kuheok!*"? Jung Chi-Ho let out a groan with his tongue sticking out from the impact.

"What?!" Cha Hye-Mi could not believe her eyes.

The movement Tae-Sung had displayed just now was so unbelievable that she couldn't help but doubt her eyes.

If it were in BNW where mana and stats existed to enhance one's body, it would be easy to replicate Tae-Sung's attack just now. However, it wasn't something that could be easily done in Virtual Fight, as the game was designed to be as close to reality as possible.

"*Haha...*" Oh Jun-Hwan chuckled in disbelief before he exclaimed, "I knew it! I knew Han Tae-Sung-nim would succeed! *Haha!*"

"You knew it? What do you mean?" Cha Hye-Mi asked after turning toward Oh Jun-Hwan.

"*Hmm...* that is..." Oh Jun-Hwan hesitated and scratched the back of his head.

"What is it? Hurry up and tell me!" Cha Hye-Mi exclaimed.

"Han Tae-Sung-nim's compatibility with the Ogre was an astonishing 96.5%," Oh Jun-Hwan explained.

"W-What did you just say?! How much?!" Cha Hye-Mi shouted in surprise.

"96.5%. It was 96.5%..." Oh Jun-Hwan repeated.

"Impossible!" Cha Hye-Mi exclaimed. She could not believe Oh Jun-Hwan's words.

It was just natural for her to find it difficult to believe since 96.5% was an astonishingly high number. In fact, the number of people whose compatibility was more or less Tae-Sung's were less than five.

"That's impossible! How is 96.5% even possible?! That's comparable to a top ranker! It's a god-given ability! If that's true, Tae-Sung is definitely not an ordinary player, but I'm certain that it's a mistake," Cha Hye-Mi exclaimed.

The reason Cha Hye-Mi adamantly refused to believe it was that she had already read the data regarding Tae-Sung, and the Tae-Sung she knew from the data wasn't someone capable of reaching 96.5% compatibility. In fact, she quickly dismissed him and thought if there was anyone more useless than him due to the fact that the results he had achieved were far less than the amount he had put in.

How did such a man suddenly reach a compatibility of 96.5%?

Even if it were justified by saying that Tae-Sung used the Hyper Capsule Ogre, Cha Hye-Mi still couldn't understand it.

"I understand how you feel," Oh Jun-Hwan said with a smile before adding, "However, it is a fact that he reached that figure. I initially suspected that it could be a bug or an error, but it was not. We tested it quite a few times, but Tae-Sung-nim's compatibility came out 96.5% every single time."

"*Haha...*" Cha Hye-Mi laughed in disbelief before saying, "I just thought that you went all the way to the Ogre because he wasn't compatible with any capsule..."

"Then, I can understand why you are so surprised. *Haha!*" Oh Jun-Hwan laughed heartily.

"Then... that means... this battle is..." Cha Hye-Mi muttered.

"Yes..." Oh Jun-Hwan nodded.

"Without a doubt, Tae-Sung will—" Cha Hye-Mi trailed off.

"Win." Oh Jun-Hwan concluded for her.

"Tae-Sung will crush him," Cha Hye-Mi added.

"I think so as well. Of course, we will have to wait and see the result," Oh Jun-Hwan said while staring at the screen.

"Yes," Cha Hye-Mi replied while staring at the screen as well.

"We have to wait and see what happens. Let's see if Tae-Sung-nim will finally show us his true value," Oh Jun-Hwan said.

However, the victor and loser were quickly decided, contrary to Cha Hye-Min and Oh Jun-Hwan's expectations.

"*Kuheok... heok...?heeeeok...*"? Jung Chi-Ho gasped while trying to catch his breath.

An excruciating pain hindered his breathing after getting hit in the chest by Tae-Sung's attack, and he felt as if his lungs and bowels were about to burst from the impact. He was not used to the pain since Virtual Fight was a game that emphasized realism, which meant the characters did not possess superhuman endurance like in BNW.

"You bastard! You dare do this to me!" Jung Chi-Ho growled like a wounded beast.

However, Tae-Sung remained silent as he leisurely walked toward Jung Chi-Ho, and he did not even bother retorting or saying anything at all.

Step... Step...

"You shouldn't waste time exchanging words with those worse than animals."

"Give them a good beating first before trying to talk to them."

Tae-Sung was faithfully carrying out Deus' teachings.

Seuk...

He raised his baton and aimed it at Jung Chi-Ho on the ground.

"Do you really think that... I will be hit by you again?!" Jung Chi-Ho shouted as he gripped his katana.

It was a surprise attack! Jung Chi-Ho suddenly swung his katana the moment Tae-Sung stepped into his attack range.

However, Tae-Sung was no longer someone who would get done in by a surprise attack of this level.

'He's too slow...?'

He saw Jung Chi-Ho's incoming attack and turned to avoid it.

Whoosh!

The katana sliced through the air after failing to connect with anything.

'He's full of openings. I can hit him wherever I want,?' Tae-Sung thought as he identified more than a dozen gaps in Jung Chi-Ho's defense.

It was inevitable for Jung Chi-Ho to have so many openings since the katana was a sword that had to be swung rather than a stabbing weapon. It possessed high Attack Power, but if the user were to miss, they would be exposed as the weapon required a wide motion to use properly.

As a result, Jung Chi-Ho would pay the price for choosing such a weapon, and it would be an expensive price to pay.

Puk! Puk! Pukeok!

Tae-Sung unleashed a barrage of strikes into Jung Chi-Ho with his baton.

“*Ack! Euaak! Aaaack!*”? Jung Chi-Ho screamed in agony. However, he did not show any signs of backing down as he growled once again. “Bastard...! I see you have some skills!”

“...”

Tae-Sung did not bother to reply. He maintained his silence as he continued to observe Jung Chi-Ho’s movements.

“Hey, aren’t you going to answer me? *Ha?* Are you ignoring me?!” Jung Chi-Ho screamed in fury. He immediately stood up and swung his katana at Tae-Sung once again.

Whoosh!

The katana struck nothing once again.

‘*He avoided it again?*’? Jung Chi-Ho was shocked.

Pak!

With the baton, Tae-Sung smacked Jung Chi-Ho in the face.

“*Keuk!*”? Jung Chi-Ho groaned as he fell to the ground.

“Th, T-This bastard dares to!” Jung Chi-Ho growled from the ground while gritting his teeth before shouting, “Hey! You are really making me mad now!”

He got up once again and swung his katana at Tae-Sung.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!?

However, the katana failed to land a single hit on Tae-Sung, and in return...

Pak! Pukeok! Pak! Pak!

Jung Chi-Ho’s face was mercilessly beaten by Tae-Sung’s baton.

“*Kuheok!*”? Jung Chi-Ho winced in pain as he fell to the ground once again.

“You bastard...! Hey, asshole! Do you know who I am? *Ha?! Do you know who I am?!*” Jung Chi-Ho screamed.

“...”

Tae-Sung kept his silence as he continued to stare at Jung Chi-Ho.

“Are you ignoring me? You dare ignore me?!” Jung Chi-Ho screamed in anger. He seemed to have lost his sanity as he got up once again and aggressively swung his katana at Tae-Sung.

However, the result didn't change. He was beaten up once again.

Puk! Pukeok! Puk!

Tae-Sung smacked Jung Chi-Ho in the head multiple times with his baton.

“T-This bastard dares to...!” Jung Chi-Ho cried out.

'I'm losing? I'm losing to this peasant? No, I refuse to accept this!'? Jung Chi-Ho thought as he immediately got up once again and charged at Tae-Sung like an enraged wild boar.

His pride could not take the fact that he was getting a one-sided beating from someone like Tae-Sung who looked nothing special, and that was why Jung Chi-Ho tried everything he could to land a single hit against Tae-Sung. He tried wildly swinging his katana and kicking Tae-Sung. He even threw away his sword and tried to subdue Tae-Sung with judo moves to bring Tae-Sung to the ground.

However, the result remained the same no matter what he tried.

“Ku...?Kuheok...!”? Jung Chi-Ho groaned while falling to the ground once again.

“...”

Tae-Sung didn't even speak as he continued to avoid all of Jung Chi-Ho's attacks. He didn't take the initiative to attack and simply counter-attacked. It was as if he were saying, *“this is the difference between you and me”* to Jung Chi-Ho without saying a single word.

The one-sided beating continued for a while until Jung Chi-Ho eventually cried out like a pig being slaughtered and sprawled across the ground.

“Gwaah!”

[Game Over!]

A message popped up.

[The winner is Kale!]

[Player 1, Han Tae-Sung-nim has won!]

The match ended with Tae-Sung's victory.

"Again! Fuck! I want a rematch!" Jung Chi-Ho screamed. He refused to accept the result of the match.

It seemed that he was the type of person who felt no shame in breaking a promise because he asked for a rematch even though they had agreed that the match would be in a single-round winner-takes-all format.

"*Hmm?*" Tae-Sung muttered before he smiled and said, "Sure, let's go at it again."

"Prepare yourself, you bastard! I just let my guard down a while ago," Jung Chi-Ho said.

Tae-Sung did not bat an eyelid at Jung Chi-Ho's threats.

Why was he so calm?

It was all because the thought of losing to someone like this scoundrel had never crossed his mind.

'I'll gladly fight you until you get sick and tired of losing,' Tae-Sung thought with a smile.

The second match started, and they chose the same characters as before.

[Ready, Fight!]

The match started, but the victor was quickly decided.

[Game Over!]

[The winner is Kale!]

[Player 1, Han Tae-Sung-nim has won!]

The result was no different from the first match.

“Ah! Fuck!” Jung Chi-Ho was furious. He refused to acknowledge the result once again.

“Again! I want a rematch!” he screamed and demanded another rematch.

“Sure,” Tae-Sung coolly agreed, as he did not feel the need to refuse.

The rematch did not end there.

“I can’t... accept this... I lost to you...? I lost to a peasant like you?” Jung Chi-Ho started muttering to himself.

The third rematch ended with Jung Chi-Ho being one-sidedly beaten to a pulp once again, but he still couldn’t accept the result, so he asked for another rematch.

“Again! Again! Fuck! We have to do this until I win!” Jung Chi-Ho lashed out.

“Sure,” Tae-Sung replied.

The series of rematches continued for a while.

The fourth rematch, the fifth rematch, and the sixth rematch...

It seemed that Jung Chi-Ho was serious when he said that they would do it until he won because he continued to challenge Tae-Sung again and again, going through all of the characters. However, Tae-Sung always emerged victorious.

That was how they went on and on with the rematches, and they were now at the 19th rematch. Jung Chi-Ho had challenged Tae-Sung 19 times in a row, but he still couldn’t win even a single match against the latter.

The 20th rematch started...

“Why! Why can’t I win?! Why! Why do I keep losing to this peasant?! Again! I said let’s go again!” Jung Chi-Ho started screaming like a madman.

He chose Kale this time, which was the character Tae-Sung had been using this whole time, but he could not win against Tae-Sung even after choosing the same character.

Pak! Pak! Pak!?

Tae-Sung mercilessly beat Jung Chi-Ho with his baton.

His movements were so mechanical and systematic that the viewers found it scary.

What did Tae-Sung do whenever Jung Chi-Ho showed an opening?

He would beat the latter with his baton.

What if Jung Chi-Ho blocked his attack?

He would still beat him.

What if Jung Chi-Ho attacked?

He would block or dodge the attack before once again beating Jung Chi-Ho up.

The only thing Tae-Sung had to do over the 20 rematches was to continuously beat Jung Chi-Ho until the latter's HP was depleted. He did this without saying a word in the game.

'Come at me a hundred, no, a thousand times. There's no way I'm going to lose to the likes of you. I will show you what an insurmountable wall looks like so that you'll know what it feels like, too,'?Tae-Sung thought.

He wanted to teach Jung Chi-Ho what an opponent one couldn't beat looked like, and he wanted to make Jung Chi-Ho feel what he felt when he was mercilessly crushed by those people in the past.

It seemed that things were going according to Tae-Sung's wishes.

'Why do I have to lose? Why am I losing?! Why am I getting beaten up by this bastard?! Why?! Why! Why can't I land a single hit on him?!'?Jung Chi-Ho thought as he started to fall into despair after losing so many times.

Why did he have to lose?

This was the question that filled his mind as he slowly descended into the pits of despair. Then, another thought came to his mind the deeper he fell into it.

'I can't beat him...'?he thought.

People were bound to meet an insurmountable wall at least once in their life.

"E-Enough!" Jung Chi-Ho screamed.

In the end, Tae-Sung clearly had shown him what an insurmountable wall looked like, and Jung Chi-Ho ended up abandoning all greed he had toward the Ogre.

“Enough! Don’t hit me anymore! *Ack!?Euaaak!?Why* are you hitting me at the same spot?! *Euk!?Enough! W-When* will this end?! *Aaaaack!*” Jung Chi-Ho screamed, begging for it to end.

He desperately wanted to get out of the game, but there was still some time left before the game ended. The only way he could get out of this game was to get beaten up to a pulp until his HP reached zero or to mutually agree with Tae-Sung to end the match.

Virtual Fight was not a game that would end after getting hit a few times.

After a few minutes...

“*Keuk... Eugh...*” Jung Chi-Ho groaned.

Then...

Pukeok!

Tae-Sung slammed his baton into Jung Chi-Ho’s head and cracked the latter’s skull open.

[Game Over!]

[Winner is Kale!]

[Player 1, Han Tae-Sung-nim has won!]

As expected, the winner was none other than Tae-Sung.

“Rematch?” Tae-Sung asked after returning to reality.

“ ... ”

Jung Chi-Ho did not respond. He realized that he could not beat Tae-Sung, but his pride did not allow him to concede defeat.

“Rematch or not?” Tae-Sung asked once again.

“ ... ”

Jung Chi-Ho still didn’t respond.

Heh!

Tae-Sung let out a smirk and laughed after figuring out Jung Chi-Ho’s mental status.

“I will count to three. If you don’t respond before the countdown ends, I will take it as you admitting defeat,” Tae-Sung said.

“...”

“One, two...”

“...”

“Three.”

Jung Chi-Ho still didn’t say anything even after Tae-Sung was done counting down. He didn’t speak, but he seemed to have already given up on the Ogre.

[The match has ended after both sides have agreed!]

[The winner is Han Tae-Sung-nim!]

[20 Matches, 20 Wins, 0 Loses.]

The message declaring Tae-Sung’s victory popped up in front of them.

“I’ll get going now,” Tae-Sung said before shutting down the Virtual Fight client.

The Hyper Capsule Ogre was finally his.