D. of Pride 881

Chapter 881- Breaking the Allied Clans

"This... can't be... Durak can't die so easily. He is one of my strongest men. He can't die by a mere monster"

After the silence, came denial. Yverza was in disbelief, the one of his strongest subordinates ended up dying. If it was an information coming off from somebody else, he would have just scoffed at it or killed the informer on the spot.

However, the information came from none other than from one of his direct subordinates. Someone who was present there during the incident.

BANG... A powerful energy blast immediately crushed the nearby area and Yverza flew up, unfurling his mana wings. His destination— the Hidden Forge.

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Back inside the Main hall of the Main Floor. Simon and the others looked on as Bea appeared along with Melinda, the Queen of the harpies in tow.

As soon as she entered, the first thing she did was bow towards the master of the dungeon Simon, while exuding her natural sultry aura.

Grrr... in front of her, Bea growled like a wild cat when she saw that.

Melinda ignored her and continued to nod her head towards the other members inside the hall. Being the Queen of the Harpies who was used to managing a large clan by herself, she was very good when it came to governing. The ones seated inside were people who were closest and most trusted by the dungeon master. Naturally, she knew how to make an impression on them.

The others also returned back her greeting. To be able to come here, no the very fact that she was able to set foot here on the Main Floor showed her standing and the Dungeon Master's attitude towards her.

Simon observed his subordinates before initiating the conversation.

"How are those three?" he posed a question. The three he mentioned were none other than the previous three overlords of the forest who now became his subordinates.

"They are fine. Although they took some severe damage, they managed to come out from all of this with their life intact"

Melinda answered. She just came back from the floor where the three former overlords, the Deep Sea Alligator King, the Lightning Draconic Serpent and the Earth Shattering Lower Dragon were.

"I see" Simon nodded. It was great and all using the former overlord to test out the concept of the boss areas.

However, that aside, the fight with the three kings was a dangerous one with the scale heavily tipped against them. Naturally, there was a chance of the former overlords dying.

Fortunately, he was able to get them out using the teleport formation he purchased from the shop for them.

"Hehe, Lord Simon does not have to worry, although they are severely injured, it isn't to the point where it would claim their life. In fact, I am amazed that they were able to come out with only this much injury after facing three of the seven kings"...

"They aren't bad seeds, if nurtured properly they can soar quite high. Ah, I have also given them the reward you sent for them. Their injury should heal in a couple of days" Melinda added.

"That's great news. They have done a lot, thanks to them we were able to learn so much about the skills and combat style of all the three kings".

Irene commented. As someone who managed the dungeon and acted as the proxy dungeon master in Simon's absence, she knew a lot of his plans and actions that he took. As such, she could easily deduce his reasoning for pitting the two sides together.

"Anyways, you also did a good job. With your transmission call, the trap has been set. Take a seat, watch with us how this trap blows up their alliance".

On her words, Melinda abided and took a seat by Mars' side who was right now in his humanoid form. As someone who had breached level 700 after receiving a name, the aura he naturally exuded was no weaker than the seven kings.

Melinda naturally felt that and couldn't help but feel inwardly surprised. All the people here although not all combatants, had their own unique points and strengths.

For example, she could feel a mysterious energy that was similar to nature itself, coming from some of the green haired people here.

There were also beings here like Prime who she had never encountered before. Not to mention the Mistress of this dungeon whose strength she could not fathom even after using the Appraisal skill and the maids.

And lastly, there was the master of the dungeon himself, a being who sat quietly and exuded an unshakable confidence even while facing three of the seven kings together. How could she not be surprised?

That said, her surprise didn't last long as her attention was taken over by the events transpiring on the 90th floor shown by the multiple windows floating around the hall.

The trap that she had set, the transmission call that she had made to Gil-Garna on Simon's orders was slowly spreading all over the alliance like a virus.

That's right, the transmission call was none other than the idea of the Dungeon Master. At first, even she thought that it was an unusual plan and was not sure if it would help.

However, seeing the events that were transpiring now in front of her eyes, she finally understood how devious and impressive the idea was.

At the same time, she couldn't help but feel awe and fear at the man who came up with such an idea.

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90th floor... the Hidden Gallows.

Yverza stood before what could now only be called as the remains of what used to be his subordinate and slowly looked down.

His hands were clenched and his endogenous armour reflected his veins that were bulged due to anger.

How long had passed? Yverza continued to stand there motionless even after the remains were gobbled up by the dungeon. Due to his helmet and the inclination of his head, it was unknown what kind of expression he was making.

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Due to his helmet, it was impossible to see his face. However, one thing was clear from the slight trembling of his body, he was furious.

A loss of level 600+ wasn't something that one could get over with in a day or two.

"Ah, I knew I would find you here" At this moment, a rustling noise sounded out followed by the appearance of Shasurna.

"Why are you here? I think I made myself clear when Gil-Garna came here. I said that I need some time alone... so get lost" Yverza was not in the mood to mind his language nor up for some small talks with his fellow king.

"Don't be like that, I know exactly how you feel. If you remember, I too lost my direct subordinate to this dungeon a couple of floors ago"

Shasurna did not mind Yverza's unfriendly behaviour and continued to move forward with his slithery tail. As he said, he knew exactly how Yverza felt since he too had lost a direct subordinate not too long ago.

As such, it could be said that if there was anyone who couldn't tell what he was thinking and going through, it would be the Emerald Viperlord.

"Why did you come here? Don't tell me it is for a stupid reason like what Gil-Garna came here for. I don't need your stupid consolation and I am still sane. The Dungeon is still our top priority, I know how to separate my personal interest from our joint objective"

Yverza spoke turning his head around slightly.

"Hoh, Gil-Garna was here? Well, I expected him to have made his move already. Anyway, I am not here to console you or tell you all those nonsense. The reason why I came here is to inform you of something"...

"What? What do you mean?" To his surprise, Shasurna wasn't here to console nor speak of words of comfort to him. In fact the next words that came out of the latter's mouth were so shocking that he couldn't help but turn his head around.

"Do you know the reason why your subordinate died?"...

BANG... At those words from Shasurna, Yverza lost control of his aura causing the whole chamber to creak and collapse.

"What do you mean? Do you know something? What is the real reason behind my subordinate's death?"...

"Calm down, I will tell you everything. However, before that I need you to agree on a few conditions of mine"...

"State"...

"Hehe, it's nothing much. I want you to tell me what kind of agreement you had with Gil-Garna" The Emerald Viperlord shrugged "If I am going to tell you an information as important as that, I need some kind of evidence that proves that we are allies. If you can tell me the truth, I am willing to tell you the reason behind the death of your subordinate"...

"Agreement?!" Yverza arched his brows uncertain why the other party would suddenly ask him that.

Nevertheless, he still replied truthfully. At this moment, knowing the truth behind the death of his direct subordinate was more important to him.

After the Ivory Terraquake stopped reciting the agreement he had with Gil-Garna, Shasurna nodded his head.

"As expected, it really was as I thought" he uttered in a low voice.

"I told you what you wanted. Now tell me what do you know about the death of my subordinate" Yverza declared impatiently.

"Fine, let me tell you this... the death of your subordinate wasn't by accident, it was planned"...

"What?!!"...

"You heard it, it was planned" Shasurna started recounting what happened after they were all teleported to this floor.

"We the seven kings were all teleported to special areas which are guarded by the most powerful monsters of the dungeon. The allied clans were sent scattered all around the floor. With us gone, and our appointed subordinates scattered, the allied army was in shambles"

"What's more, there were several large areas on the floor where a barrier was installed which jammed the transmission conch. As such, they couldn't even send transmission calls to contact their leaders. In such a situation, the allied clans still continued to explore the dungeon"

"Time passed by and we finally came out of the special areas. The teams nearest to us contacted us immediately. As it turns out the team that sensed the presence of Gil-Garna were mine".

Shasurna's eyes became venomous and his tail thrashed loudy.

"From this point on, things get interesting. When my team reached Gil-Garna, they unknowingly heard the conversation between him and the Queen of the Harpies...

"Enough with your nonsense. I know that you won't allow a safe passage to the dungeon core without any reason. What are you scheming?" Gil-garna barked out at the transmission conch in his hand.

"What a rude thing to say. However, since you have asked let me tell you what I want..." the voice that came out from the other end was none other than the Queen of the harpies.

"I want half of this dungeon. I know that you have been scheming against the backs of the other seven kings. You have no intentions of sharing the dungeon with them. The only reason why you even proposed the idea of an alliance was because you knew that just conquering the dungeon with your ogre clan alone would leave them in a vulnerable state after"

"So to not only conquer the dungeon in one go and to make sure that no other king clans in the forest are a threat, you proposed an alliance to make use of their strength. The dungeon would take care of weakening them and once their numbers dwindled, the other king clans would no longer be in a state where they could attack the ogre clan"

"Then at the crucial moment, you will betray the other two kings and steal the dungeon core from under their noses. Once you get hold of the dungeon core, you will then use all its resources to fight off the other kings and push them out of the dungeon. This way, you achieve both the goals at once".

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Gil-Garna was silent as he heard Melinda recite his plans. Her story was quite detailed and managed to perfectly capture many of his thoughts.

Sigh... After a while, he took a deep breath and calmly spoke on the conch "Impressive, you really are something. This is the first time I have seen someone guess my whole plan. However, no matter how closely you can guess my plan, do you have any proof?"

"In the end isn't this all your speculation? I am sure the other kings have their own plans. Everyone is for themselves, there is nothing wrong in placing one's interest first. Don't you think so too?"...

"I do and our ideologies matches too which is why I am contacting you this way. I have done my part, you will soon hear the news. I hope that you fulfil your end too. Let us rule this dungeon as its Queen and King"

CLACK... the transmission ended there, leaving a baffled and confused Gil-Garna standing there holding a transmission conch.

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"And that's all of it. The last thing my clan members saw was Gil-Garna crushing the transmission conch. So what do you think? Now do you know the reason why your subordinate died?" Back inside the Hidden Gallows, Shasurna spoke with a smirk.

"This... are you sure about it?"

Yverza was sceptic, he was not a fool, he could see that the Emerald Vierplord had some ulterior motive for telling him all that.

"Whether I am lying or not, you can simply find that out from your own clan members. I'm sure a couple of them were in the area when this happened. They will tell you the exact same thing" Shasurna shrugged.

"Are you telling me my subordinate died because Gil-Grna is scheming against us and has joined hands with the queen of the harpies?"...

"That's right, or else how do you explain this part? Out of all the three king clans, the ogre clans are the only ones incurring the least amount of injuries. My direct subordinate Surtana died drastically weakening the snakemen clan and now even one of your subordinate died"

"Our two clans have suffered disastrous losses while the ogre clan still retains most of its power. I am sure you can see it now on which side Gil-Garna is on. This was his plan from the beginning. Weaken our two clans before ultimately betraying us in the end"...

"But I had an agreement with Gil-Garna. He wouldn't..."

Yverza tried to reason. However, he couldn't complete his sentence as the evidence lay right in front of him.

If Gil-Garna really did betray them, then all of this could be explained. The Ivory Terraquake Rhino was silent for a while before turning around and questioning Shasurna.

"Why tell me all this? What are you scheming?"...

The latter spread his arms "I am not scheming anything. In fact, I brought this information to you because I don't want to get schemed against. Now that we know Gil-Garna has joined hands with the enemy, we must join hands to fight against him or at the very least you and I cannot stand against each other when the time comes"

"This is precisely what Gil-Garna wants. Since that is the case, I came up with proposing an alliance between you and me in mind. If we collaborate, we should be able to thwart our Gil-Garna's plans. What do you say?"

Time passed by and by the time the allied clans finished exploring the floor, two days had already passed by.

The 90th floor was so vast and dangerous that even with the strength of the allied clans they could only progress extremely slowly.

Additionally, there was also the news of Durak, one of the two direct subordinates of Ivory Terraquake Rhino dying in one of the special areas of the dungeon. Naturally, this affected the morale of the allied clan causing them to become more cautious and slow with their advance.

With the precedence of Surtana and Durak, two beings who died even while being level 600+, the atmosphere of the allied army became more tense.

Every new area that they explored, they did so by putting their numbers against it. It was not only the allied army who was tense, the atmosphere amongst the Seven Kings was no different.

Standing in front of yet another teleportation construct that led to the next floor, the three kings pondered something in their heads.

"Since its yet another teleportation gate, we should proceed keeping in mind that things may transpire as it did on this floor. We may be randomly teleported to any part of the next floor. Chances are, that many of us might even find ourselves inside those special areas"

The first to break the silence was Gil-Garna. He assumed the command and started handing out orders.

He was just telling all the teams of the allied army what to do when Yverza behind him slowly muttered a snide remark.

"You know an awful lot of what is going to happen"...

Hearing this, Gil-Garna frowned "What do you mean?"...

"Nothing, we were just wondering if you know so much about the next floor, so you should brief us about it more thoroughly. What kind of floor is it? How powerful are the monsters there and what are their numbers? How many special areas are on the floor and who is going to be targeted next?"

The one to comment this time was Shasurna. He lazily played with the harpoon in his hand while his eyes stared at the teleport gate on the side.

"How am I supposed to know that? All I know is that since there is another teleport gate here, the dungeon master must be planning to separate us once again"

Gil-Garna answered. He couldn't understand the unfriendly look that the two were giving him.

Ever since they came out from the special areas they had been thrown in, he could feel that the relationship between the three of them had become strained.

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All of them were in their guards and none of them spoke more than needed. A change that was not there before.

"Is that so?" Yverza spoke a few short words before turning around to leave.

And so one by one all the allied army teleported to the next floor—the 91st floor, the place where the fate of the allied clans would be decided once and for all.

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Main floor... seating on the head seat, Simon gazed at Bea next to him and ordered. "All traps have been set, sent in the Chloro Arsenalis, Antlion Giant Larvae and Three Headed Boss Frog. We will make our stand here".

Chloro Arsenalis was one of the few mutated monsters that was a product of science and magic blending together. It was a major breakthrough for the monster research department that Coleus was incharge of and was something that both Prime and Coleus had worked on.

With their extreme stealth and high firepower, they were a force to reckon with.

Since Simon had decided to make the 91st floor the place where they would make their last stand, he chose to reveal some of his trump cards such as the Chloro Aresenalis and the others who were responsible for defeating the level 600+ beings on the previous floors.

Bea quietly nodded her head and left to carry out his orders. As one of the few people among his subordinates who is able to use space magic, it was upon her to bring in those monsters.

After Bea left, Irene shifted her attention from the windows depicting the scene on the 91st floor before placing it on the man next to her. The man she loved and the one who won her heart.

"How confident are you?" she spoke in a tone that only the two of them could hear.

Simon looked at Irene and grinned confidently. "Very much" he answered.

"I'll still need a number"...

"100 percent". There was no lie or falseness in his voice or in his eyes. Only pure confidence and optimism that was a result of having no doubts in one's strength, oozed from the man.

Seeing his outlook, Irene didn't comment much and shifted her attention back to the screens.

At this moment, the people inside the hall were intensely discussing as they stared at the windows depicting the scene on the 91st floor.

"There is still a lot of delay and coordinate lag with the teleport gates. I can improve it, if you allow me to research it" Prime commented, his body lighting up with numerous colours as he excitedly looked at the numerous things he could tinker with.

"There are also many imperfections in the traps and special areas which I set. It was only after I saw the invaders activate it, that I realised there is a difference between the way I think and the former"

Fey mused. She was finally learning from her mistakes and what better way for her to improve than to gain some on field experience?

As she saw her traps being avoided or being seen through she realised that she could not think unilaterally. If she wants to capture the invaders in her traps, she must learn to think like them and outsmart them in their game.

"Hmm.. Hmmm... great... so if it's just a quarter of the crystal it brings this effect. Then what if I mash it with other crystals? Let's see... the proportion of 1:5:3 works and if also throw the first and second generation breeding in the mix"...

"No, this way the power gets too diluted. I see, I can use the Variant selection for this one. Great, thanks to the invaders I'm getting a lot of great ideas"

Scribbing on his clipboard, was none other than Coleus. He was at this moment completely immersed in the scene displayed on the window as he hurriedly jutted down notes.

His lips opened and closed uttering words like a chant. He was so absorbed in his thing that he forgot he was uttering his thoughts out loud.

It was not only Prime, Fey and Coleus who were learning from their mistakes as they watched the invaders advance through the floors but every single one of them seated inside the hall... including Simon.

He was able to get by so far thanks to the ample experience as a game developer in his previous life. However, such knowledge alone wasn't enough to carry him forward to the future.

As he saw the invaders powering through the special areas and finding loopholes in his floor designs, dungeon mechanisms and even special effects, he realised that he still had much more to learn.

The knowledge he gathered in his previous life was just the building blocks for his dungeon. How to make it work and make his dungeon an impenetrable fortress in the future was something that he had to learn through experience.

As for others, they too were learning as they watched the scene playing out in front of them.

For a while, the entire Main hall was swept up in an atmosphere of self improvement and learning.

Seeing this change, Irene couldn't help but smile. This kind of transformation was only something that Simon could bring. His infectious attitude of always trying to improve himself had also caught onto his subordinates making them want to try to better themselves.

This was a good change that not just anyone can bring. It takes a leader who is revered and recognised by his subordinates who actively trust him with their lives and want to become his strength.

Only a leader like that can bring on such a change. And Simon was one of them.

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While a profound change occurred inside the Main hall, the situation on the 91st floor also took a drastic turn.

Having been randomly teleported and scattered in a floor as vast as the 91st floor, the allied clans found themselves in the same situation once again. Blood flowed and many casualties occurred on the allied clans side.

Chapter 885- Why don't you let me join in the fun!!

Blood flowed and many casualties occurred on the Allied clan's side. That said, having experienced the same thing previously, they did not panic and fought off the monsters that came attacking them.

However, it could be clearly seen that the allied clan was no longer the same as before. There was some kind of undercurrent brewing among them and they were no longer in their best state.

Even common monsters they have been defeating around all this time, they were having a hard time defeating them now. All of this change occurred in the time span that took them to clear the previous floor....

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The chaos on the 91st floor went on for a long time, the undercurrent that surged within the Allied army kept bottling up like a volcano and finally, it erupted.

The moment when Bea appeared on the floor with numerous Chloro Arsenalis, Giant Atlion Larvae and Three Headed Boss Frog, the undercurrent could no longer be contained.

Chaos burst forth along with the suppressed resentment and accusation. This led the allied clan to completely break down and fight among themselves leaving them open to the attacks of the monsters of the dungeon.

And thus, the plan that the Master of the Dungeon had been spinning all this time—since the very beginning the allied clan entered his dungeon... was completed.

Observing everything from his Main Floor, Simon gave a wicked smile, his heterochromatic eyes burned with a fierce light.

TAP... he tapped on his armrest and raised to his feet. His movements immediately attracted the attention of his subordinates who turned their heads around to all look at him.

"It's time I go clear the ants that have invaded my dungeon. I'll be away for a short while"

Saying that Simon took the strides to exit out of the hall. His crimson clothes hand stitched by the greatest tailor from the mystical Forest Spring Spirit clan and made out of the finest materials of the dungeon, gave him a noble and grand look.

Coupled with his pitch black hair, dark heroic face along with the natural confidence that he oozed, he looked the very definition of Demon Noble.

Irene, Bea, Mars and Melinda quickly followed behind him. Their exit did not cause any concern from the remaining subordinates as they were all confident in their lord's victory. That was how much assurance his tall and wide back gave them.

"Big Brother... will definitely win"

Seated in her seat, Cecilia tightly clenched her hand while looking at the disappearing backs of her brother, sister Irene and all her friends.

Once outside the White Palace, Simon used the summon function of the dungeon to teleport them to the 91st floor.

Right before he left, he sent a sound transmission to Wisp.

"Sent in the newest Mk4 armour to the 91st floor. It's time I try out how powerful it is". With that, the figure of the five of them disappeared from the Main Floor. 91st floor... southern region, in front of a vast plain or rather a terrain that was previously a hilly area was now transformed into a loess filled plain with clouds of dust and huge chunks of debris as big as a mountain littering the place. BANG... another shockwave hit the place visibly distorting the space, even causing slight cracks to appear in the air. The shockwave turned the already devastated land into an area of pure destruction. At the centre of the shockwave, three shadows could be seen pulling backwards at a speed too fast to capture for the naked eye. One of these shadows had a humanoid appearance, with crimson hair and a violet horn protruding from their forehead while the other two figures had a hulk like figure, a powerful armor, a lower serpentine body and onyx like eyes that shone with a sharp light, respectively. The shadows were none other than the three kings of the forest, Gil-Garna, Yverza and Shasurna. At this moment, they were tightly locked in a battle, their each clash shaking the very foundation of the floor. the three figures were too fast for an average eye to trace them. However, those who could see their movements could see that two figures of the three were fighting together while the last figure was dodging left and right and avoiding attacks where it could. From a third perspective, it looked like the third figure was locked in a defensive fight. That said,

not everyone had the leisure to pay attention to the battle of the three kings as they weren't the only

ones who were fighting.

On the ground and even in the skies, swarms of figures were tightly locked in battle. They flew and ran all over the battlefield flattening lands and destroying mountains with their powers.

All kinds of skills and magic flew in a magnificent firework before clashing in a deadly and bloody manner. Corpses littered the place and the ground was marked with pockmarks and ditches.

The swarms of figures fighting wildly were none other than the allied clans. However, that said, the clans could no longer be said as allied since the ones they were fighting were none other than one of their own clans, the Black Ogre Clans.

That's right, the allied clans have fallen apart and the Terraquake Rhino Clan and the Snakemen clan were now joining hands to deal with the Black Ogre clan.

This raised the question why were the former allies suddenly fighting among themselves?

The answer to it could only be explained through what happened next after the allied clans were teleported to the 91st floor.

The rumours about Gil-Garna working with the enemy spread among the allied clans like wildfire. Many who lost their friends and fellow clan members to the dungeon, were enraged and indignant at the betrayal.

They started glaring at the ogre clan and refused to work together with them. Nevertheless, even though huge undercurrents flowed underneath their calm exterior, the situation did not devolve to the point where they started fighting like bitter enemies.

Chapter 886- Why Don't You Let Me Join In The Fun!! (2)

No, the situation only progressed this far when their kings, gave them the command and declared the Ogre clan as their enemy.

From that point on, the Terraquake Rhino clan and the snakemen clan joined hands to fight them. That said, the Black Ogre clan still retained most of its powers and had three level 600+ beings and numerous crimson horns to direct and lead the battle.

While the strength of the other two king clans had visibly weakened. They had suffered the most losses and there was only a single level 600+ being on the side of the Terraquake Ehino clan.

Given the disparity in strength, even though the black ogre clan was fighting two king clans at once, they were still able to hold their own.

With Gish-Bagh stopping the level 600+ being from the Terraquake Rhino clan, it left the other two direct subordinates of Gil-Garna to run rampant any way they wanted.

At a glance, it looked like the Ogre clan would win the battle... that is if there are no other forces at play.

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On top of a relatively large mountain, Bea looked at the scene unfolding in front of her. A chaotic battlefield, blood flowing in streams, mountains of corpses and the invading clans and the monsters locked in a life or death battle.

That's right, the allied clans were not only fighting among themselves but also the monsters of the 91st floor.

Looking at the Three Headed Boss Frog, Giant Antlion Larvae and Chloro Arsenalis going wild while the invaders were busy fighting themselves, Bea couldn't help but marvel at the devious plan of her master.

"To be able to turn them against each other in this way, Master really is impressive" She grinned. Her beautiful and radiant smile stood out in contrast to the blood and gorey atmosphere of this place.

"It should be soon. Let's see how long they can hold on"

While Bea observed the battlefield like an onlooker up near the sky or rather ceiling of the floor, the clash of the three of the seven kings became even more fierce.

BANG... three forces collided creating a thirty feet wide vacuum. Whoosh... Gil-Garna utilised a movement technique and his high speed flight to quickly open a distance.

"How many times do I have to tell you, this is a trap? One that is laid out by the master of the dungeon to break our alliance and sow discord in us"...

"Silence betrayer, you think you can fool us with your words again? You think we don't know anything?" Shasurna hissed brandishing his harpoon.

"That's right, we know all about the agreement you had with Melinda. You think you weaken our clans and join hands with the Queen of the harpies later to hoard the dungeon for yourselves. You think this king will allow it"

Yverza snarled while flexing his muscles. The dangerous amount of strength contained within his movements was enough to give chills to even someone as strong as a seven king.

"I told you I had nothing to do with that transmission call from the queen of the harpies. Let me explain... when I came out of the special area on the 90th floor..."

"Shut up, we don't want to hear any of your excuses"

Saying so, the two kings released their attacks.

Facing their attacks Gil-Garna chose to dodge their attacks. However, it didn't seem like he could do that forever. He tried to reason but the other two kings weren't willing to listen to his words at all.

There was only so much he could handle and so finally unable to take it anymore, he too started fighting back.

Even if it had derailed somewhat, the original plan was in the end still him controlling the dungeon alone.

So what if he couldn't borrow the power of the other two kings to subdue the demon? He had enough confidence in his own might and the trump card that he had prepared that he wouldn't fail.

The only thing that was bothersome was that he fell for the trap or rather the allied clans did. 'This is your victory I'll give you that. But don't think that you have won this yet' Gil-Garna muttered in his heart as he squared off against the other two kings.

"[Icebound Harpoon Thrust]"

Shasurna spun his harpoon covering dozens of meters of land in ice in an instant. His thrust carrying the might of a late level 700+ being along with extreme chilling cold, was an extremely lethal attack.

The [Icebound Harpoon Thrust] took the form of a huge white pillar as it sped towards the Ogre King.

"Gil-Garna, this is for trying to betray me and killing my subordinates"

Saying that Yverza arched his back and initiated a charge. His powerful legs allowed him to leap at incredible heights at blinding speed.

In his front was Yverza charging at him at a lethal speed and behind him was Shasurna using his power and complex techniques. Gil-Garna had nowhere to retreat this time.

"Since you two can't be reasoned with words, I have no choice but to use my fists next" grunting so, he activated some of his skills.

ROARRR... With a deafening roar, Gil-Garna's transformation was complete. His already imposing figure grew larger, his muscles rippling with newfound strength. His crimson skin seemed to pulse with an inner fire, and his eyes burned with a fierce intensity.

He took a deep breath, his chest expanding as he prepared to meet the dual assault head on.

Whoosh... With a swipe of his hand, massive amounts of heat gathered at the centre of his left hand. The air around him crackled with energy as he clenched his fist and activated one of his powerful skills [Inferno Blast] that was augmented by several of his other skills.

BANG... with a fierce punch, a scorching heat blinding to the eye erupted from his fist, pushing back the encroaching ice from Shasurna's [Icebound Harpoon Thrust].

The harpoon, though powerful, was met with an equally potent force as it collided with the wave of heat.

Chapter 887- Why Don't You Let Me Join In The Fun!! (3)

The clash of elements created a massive explosion, sending shards of ice and sparks of fire scattering in all directions. On the other side, Yverza, who was undeterred by the explosion, continued his charge.

His powerful legs propelled him through the air with astonishing speed, his impressive form covered in impenetrable armour cast a shadow over the battlefield.

"[Earthshaker Slam]!"

He roared, positioning his fists in front of him in a fashion of tackle. The actions of the Ivroy Terraquake Rhino might seem extremely normal; however, under that normal façade a berserk to the extreme power boiled.

Exercising a movement skill, Gil-Garna leapt into the air and chose to deftly avoid the attack.

BOOM... Yverza passed through the place where he was a moment ago and crashed into the ceiling above. The impact sent shockwaves rippling through the artificial sky, causing the sky clouds and sun to visibly distort.

From this one could see how powerful Yverza's attack was. The latter's pure physical strength was something that even Gil-Garna dared to fight head on.

That said, he was also from the warring race, the king of black ogres. When it came to physical strength, he had confidence in his own strength.

As such, right after avoiding the worst of the shockwaves, and countered with "[Meteoric Descent]."

He came crashing down like a comet, his fists wreathed in flames. He aimed directly for Yverza, who barely had time to raise his arms in defence.

The two titanic forces collided, sending a burst of energy that rippled through the fabric of space itself. Gil-Garna who was wreathed in flames and Yverza whose very body was his weapon, when the two of them collided the sky darkened and for a second, the entire artificial sky disappeared.

That was not all, the force from their collision spread in a spherical area causing the ground beneath them to buckle.

"Gil-Garna!! This is for killing my subordinate" Shasurna roared. Spotting an opening, spun his harpoon once more and unleashed "[Glacial Vortex]."

A swirling storm of ice and wind formed around the tip of his weapon, growing in size and intensity as he directed it towards the Ogre King.

The vortex expanded, threatening to engulf everything in its path. The temperature plummeted, and frost began to form in the immediate couple hundred meters of land.

With his previous attack offset so easily, the Emerald Viperlord came out with an even more powerful attack.

Feeling the incoming danger, Gil-Garna narrowed his eyes. His body moved and with a grunt, he activated "[Molten Shield]," enveloping himself in a protective barrier of molten lava.

The glacial vortex clashed with the molten shield, causing steam to erupt in a massive cloud that obscured the battlefield.

For a moment, all was silent except for the hiss of steam and the crackle of elemental energy. At this very moment, he displayed his advantage, blessed in both magic and physical combat he was different from the likes of Ivory Terraquake Rhino and Emerald Viperlord.

Even though he was being attacked by two kings together, he was still able to hold his ground and fight them off without a problem.

SWISH... Out of the steam, Gil-Garna fllaped his Mana wings and charged forward, his shield dissipating as he focused his energy into his fists.

"[Crimson Blitz]," Bellowing a deep ogre call, he launched a rapid series of punches that seemed to even ignite the very air around him.

Each punch carried the force of a tide, as they collided against Yverza's armour making him unable to keep up with the onslaught.

A Terraquake Rhino's defences were formidable, especially for a variant like him who was able to reach the king class, His endogenous armour had reached an impenetrable level of defence, yet even he was beginning to feel the strain.

Shasurna took advantage of this moment when Gil-garn was focused on attacking Yverza to flank him and aim for a vulnerable spot.

"[Frozen Lance]," he whispered, his harpoon extending into a long, slender lance of pure ice. He thrust it forward with deadly precision, aiming for Gil-Garna's blind side.

The lance if connected, would no doubt pierce the ogre king's flesh and draw blood. However, at that moment, betraying expectation the ogre King seemed to have seen through his attack.

"[Inferno Sweep] he retaliated with a backhanded swipe. His hand, now aflame, connected with Shasurna, sending the snakeman king sprawling.

The flames licked at Shasurna's scales, but he quickly extinguished them with a flick of his tail.

At the same time, Yverza, seizing the moment, launched himself at Gil-Garna once more.

"[Titanic Charge]," he bellowed, his entire body becoming a living battering ram. The ground quaked with each step as he barrelled towards his target.

There was practically no time to react at all. Yet even that attack was seemingly dealt with by the Ogre King.

The collision was monumental. Gil-Garna slid back several meters, his feet digging furrows into the ground. Nevertheless, even against that common sense defying strength, he held his ground pushing back against Yverza's attack.

"[Glaring Heat]," he shouted, driving his fist upwards into Yverza's jaw. The blow lifted the giant rhino off his feet and sent him crashing to the ground.

BOOM... A complete stomp. Whether it be Shasurna or Yverza none of them were able to gain an edge facing Gil-Garna.

What was going on? The two kings were shocked. They knew that the ogre king was strong; however, they didn't expect him to be this strong.

It was one thing if they were facing him alone, yet even with the two of them joining hands, they were barely able to fight him?

This was... something beyond their expectation. No, it wasn't something that should be possible.

"Heh, hahaha" At this moment, Gil-Garna suddenly started laughing. He smacked his face and sighed, his lips carrying a condescending smirk.

"Since it has come to this, I think I don't need to keep this façade up any longer". Saying so, he fully unleashed his aura allowing the two and everyone around the battlefield to see his level.

Chapter 888- Why Don't You Let Me Join In The Fun!! (4)

Feeling the aura coming from the ogre king suddenly intensify, both Shasurna and Yverza were shaken.

A bad afterthought suddenly struck them and they couldn't help but use the skill they had once stopped using due to boredom and becoming the strongest in the forest... the appraisal skill.

And then... their misconception of being the strongest in the forest broke.

They saw Gil-Garna's level—799.

It was as if somebody had pressed the pause button, The Ivory Terraquake Rhino, Emerald Viperlord and all those who were present on the battlefield, including Bea were frozen in place as they stared with wide eyes.

Level 799...

What did the level signify? Didn't it mean that Gil-Garna had reached the peak of his class?

Level 799... he was just one step away from reaching the mysterious and phantasmal level 800 class?

This... the difference between their level and his might just be about 10-11 levels; however, the true gap wasn't something that can be just measured with numbers.

This was something that they knew especially well given that they stood at the peak of their class and as the strongest beings of this forest.

In this world, there exist absolute barriers that cannot be breached no matter how much effort or training one puts in. These restraints that bind every being in this world and is called the unwritten rule of the world, the Bloodline limit.

As long as that existed, all the creatures of this world would one day be faced with a limit that they cannot surpass. In this regard, the seven kings considered themselves lucky as they were able to inherit the bloodline and powers of the ancient beasts they found inside the forest.

However, no matter how much lucky they were, it still boiled down to one's limit at the end. Although they were able to reach the peak of level 700 class their strength had also come to a bottleneck.

No matter how they tried they were unable to realise either level as each level after level was like climbing a mountain from the start all over again. The experience and mystical energy needed couldn't be imagined.

It was because of all of these reasons that they were so shocked to find that Gil-Garna had reached the absolute peak of his class.

What's more, one more step and he would breach the level 800 class. A Mythical class that even they could only sit back and watch from a distance.

"Now then shall we make it even more interesting"

Flying in the sky, Gil-Garna declared with suave. For a moment, the battlefield was silent, save for the heavy breathing of the other two kings. But the respite was brief.

Shasurna rose to his feet, his eyes blazing with fury. "I admit that I didn't expect you to hide your strength this well from us this whole time. However, don't you dare look down on me!! I don't believe that with us working together, we can't take you down"

He raised his harpoon high and called upon his most powerful skill, "[Blizzard Cataclysm]."

A massive storm cloud formed above them, dark and ominous. Lightning crackled within its depths, and snow began to fall in thick, heavy flakes.

Matching his aggression, Yverza also prepared his attack. Bloodied but unbowed, he joined forces with Shasurna.

"[Earthquake Stomp]," Yverza roared, his foot smashing into the ground and sending shockwaves towards Gil-Garna.

The fight of three beings who were well past level 700 and were reaching the peak of their class, could be imagined.

Dozens of miles of land was instantly decimated, the false environment unable to keep up, space cracked, ceiling crumbling and the entire floor and the ones adjacent to it, trembling intensely.

The fight was so fierce that it could no longer be described as a fight but a cataclysmic event instead. Each and every attack these beings dished out, was powerful enough to level out a city and cause substantial damage to the lives around them.

Observing their fight from not far away, Bea positioned herself on top of a large mountain. Her eyes continuously moved as they captured every movement made by the seven kings. Her face was passive with no expression that could be seen.

"Soon... it should be soon"

Suddenly she opened her lips to mutter something. A few moments later her eyes shifted away from the seven kings and towards the northern region of the floor.

She could sense fierce spatial fluctuation from that area. Given how strong the spatial fluctuation was, it could be assumed that a large teleportation occurred there.

For something like this to occur now of all times, there could be only one reason. Her master and the lord of this dungeon, have made his move.

"Hmm? They are... Orcs"

Bea narrowed her eyes. Her vision which was sharp enough to easily spot beings from several miles away, spotted numerous beings that matched the description of the orcs.

"They should be the newly evolved orcs that master was talking about"

Given that the orcs looked quite different than what she remembered them from the last time, she reckoned that it was due to the changes they had recently gone through.

That said, the change in their appearance was not important right now. What was important was that her master chose to bring out the orcs for this fight. Could it be...

"He is giving them another chance to retake their honour that they had lost while fighting the ogres last time?"

As someone who was present there at that time, she knew exactly what had transpired back then.

The clan of orcs who had been driven to the edge and forced to become the slaves of the black ogre clan and their king who had betrayed them. It was a pitiable scene yeah, however, they were at the end merely orcs.

Bea had no pity for them. If this was their end, so be it. Nevertheless, her master thought differently. At that time, he took the initiative to give the orcs a way out and brought their clan under his protection.

Chapter 889- Why Don't You Let Me Join In The Fun!! (5)

Thought as she much, she couldn't figure out why her master would do so. The race of Orcs were weak, their strength and potential were limited. Their race was divided, their king corrupt and they were being targeted by other powerful races of the forest.

In short, they had no value in her eyes. She wasn't the smartest among her sisters, nor she was the strongest. She excelled at a few things and to top of it all, she was bad at housework.

Nevertheless, as a warrior dubbed as a Valkyrie, she had enough discerning ability to tell the worth of the warrior when she saw one.

It was because of this reason that she knew the race of orcs was not worth her master's protection. When he faces future enemies who are much more stronger than the ones they have faced until now, the orcs wouldn't be able to aid him.

They were weak.

Of course, this thought wasn't something her master shared. He not only helped them avoid extinction, but even took them under his wing, nurturing and supporting them with all kinds of resources and means.

He believed in them and as a result of which, their efforts which bore fruit, stood right in front of her eyes.

They have evolved, gaining strength and reaching heights she thought wasn't possible for them.

As she observed the powerful line up that the clan of orcs brought with them, Bea couldn't help but look at them with a new light.

"To be able to achieve even something like this... master really can do anything"

Saying so, she hurriedly shifted her eyes and looked at an area in the sky where the space distorted and a couple of figure appeared with a flash of light. Her body moved and she quickly disappeared from her place.

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Back at the area where the three kings were fighting... Gil-Garna looked down condescendingly, his figure overbearing and filled with confidence.

Below him, the two kings who glared at him with hatred and caution, prepared their attacks.

"Since you haven't learned your lessons, let me beat the gulf between our strengths inside your brains. I wanted to keep this skill for when I fight with that demon and his minions but tch... it couldn't be helped. I will quickly deal with you guys before I make that demon pay for all this"

Saying so, Gil-Garna tapped into the air and took out something from out of nowhere. A simple action; however, the meaning that they entailed was significant.

For the second time since facing the ogre king, Yverza and Shasurna had their eyes wide open in surprise.

"Be glad that you guys will be the first one to experience it..."

Gil-Garna grinned. He was just about to reveal his trump card when his attention was suddenly attracted towards the huge number of presence that appeared on the floor at this instant.

What is going on? The two kings seemingly also sensing the changes, glanced in that direction.

There they could see a large army come out of the forest. They were led by beings that they could not recognise nevertheless, felt faint familiarity from.

"They are... Diluvian High Orcs?!!"

The Emerald Viperlord muttered. He could see many creatures that resembled Diluvian High Orcs from the Ghastly Winding Forest amongst the group.

The Diluvian High Orcs who had been exterminated from the forest... who knew that they had taken refugee inside the dungeon.

It was widely known in the forest that the race of ogres and orcs were enemies and had been fighting each other for tens of years. It was only recently that this long standing enmity was over with the complete defeat of the orcs.

They were exterminated until not even a single member of their race remained... or so it should have been. However, at this moment there were several thousands of orcs standing right in front of them.

The Emerald Viperlord and the Ivory Terraquake Rhino shifted their eyes towards the ogre king.

The one who had enmity with the orcs was him and he was also the one who had released their news of extermination.

Seeing the orcs who should have been exterminated by his subordiantes, standing right in frint of his eyes, Gil-garna couldn't help but frown.

What was going on? The orcs were exterminated by his clan, he had personally made sure to check its authenticity by sending his right hand man Gish-Bagh.

However contrary to his expectation, there they were standing right in front of him. Were they taken in by the demon before he could completely finish them off?

It was the only possible answer. At that time when he came to pick up the reward of his efforts, the ancient beast carcass, the main objective behind him starting this war was missing along with their king Belgarious.

At first, he thought that the orc king had run away but even after searching wide and far for him, they failed to find the slightest trace of him.

Ever since then, he had been suspecting a certain someone for their intervention. Who knew that the ancient carcass was taken by the master of the dungeon?

"Good, I shall make you pay for the last time too"

Muttering to himself, Gil-Garna clenched his hands. The three kings who were about to duke it out and settle this battle, suddenly found themselves halting their attacks and take a back step to observe the situation.

A weird stalemate had formed with both the parties staring at each other with weird eyes. The battle on the 91st floor suddenly took a new turn with the appearance of appearance of orc army led by beings they haven't seen before.

As unexpected and unforeseeable as it was, the real turn in the situation was about to come. Following the appearance of a large number of orc army, a couple of figures also arrived at the top of the floor like ghosts.

They stood in the air as if there was an invisible pedestal beneath their feet and looked down at the entire floor from their vantage point.

Chapter 890- Simon Vs the Three Kings

Leading the group was a tall man with a noble and handsome look. His features were sharp and he gave off an enigmatic charm. Two horns sprouted from his head looking almost like a crown and he possessed long pitch black hair.

Standing in front of the others with his hands inside his pocket, and a wide grin on his face, he looked like a ruffian turned into a scholar.

"Ahh. Ah... sigh... you all sure ran rampant on my floor. If I came slightly late, this entire place might have collapsed"

The figures or more specifically the demon brushed his hair behind his head and said exaggeratedly. Even though his words sounded like he was angry, not even the slightest trace of anger could be seen on his face.

Far from it, there was a smile of what could clearly be seen of happiness and excitement on his face.

His words and the appearance of new figures instantly attracted the attention of everyone on the battlefield. The three clans, the direct subordinate of the kings and even the monsters all stopped their attacks to observe the figures who had just appeared.

Well for the latter it was more like the case of standing at salute for their king.

These slight changes didn't miss the eyes of the three kings who all looked warily at the new entrants.

"You... are the master of this dungeon?" the one to speak was Gil-Garna. Although he asked it as a question, he was more or less certain of it.

After all, there was only one demon in this entire Ghastly Winding Forest who had dared to set up his dungeon here in all of these years— Demon of the East.

"Anyways, I have been observing you all for some time and I must say, you all have put some decent effort to reach this stage. It was quite entertaining to watch, thanks to you all we now know which areas and parts of the floor we must work on. For that, you have my thanks"

"That's right. I am the master of the dungeon you have been all eager to meet. In other cases, I would say welcome to my dungeon but I can see that you have all familiarised yourselves here and have treated the place like your own. So I would skip the formality"

The demon performed a perfunctory bow. His words plus his actions confused the ones observing him.

"Anyways, I have been observing you all for some time and I must say, you all have put some decent effort to reach this stage. It was quite entertaining to watch, thanks to you all we now know which areas and parts of the floor we must work on. For that, you have my thanks"

Maybe it was because they were fatigued from the fight or maybe because all the information was too much for them to handle, but they couldn't understand what he meant.

Though one thing they did understand and that was... he was making fun of them.

"You sure possess a sharp tongue. However, now that you are here don't think that you can keep that attitude of yours forever"

Gil-Garna knit his brows together and replied in a slightly annoyed tone. Clearly, he was pissed off by that comment from the demon.

"Haha, change my attitude you say? We'll have to see about that. Anyway, I am sure we can threaten each other with words all day long. So instead why not be civil and discuss it out?"

The demon shrugged his shoulders before asking in a carefree manner. "Although I'm sure I know the answer, but let me still ask it just to put it out there. To what do I owe the honour of having three of the seven kings and their clans inside my dungeon?"...

Tch... the most quick tempered one among them, the Emerald Viperlord Shasurna clicked his tongue and pointed his harpoon at the demon.

"Why are we here you ask? Stop talking in that grandiloquent manner. Isn't it obvious? We are here to capture your dungeon".

"Hoh, I expected so. To destroy my floor like that and kill so many of my cute subordinates, you are quite the rude guests" he shook his head and sighed.

"I wonder if you all do not have any self-esteem? But well, what did I eve expect of someone who crawled his way till here"...

"That attitude of yours..." Shasurna hissed enraged by the former's tone. He was clearly mocking the fact that he possessed no legs.

Pfftt... while the three kings were being played on by the demon like that, a laugh involuntarily leaked from one of the members behind him.

It was Bea, at some unknown point in time, she approached the group and was now standing near them.

"Master" the first thing she did after suppressing her laughter was bow her head in respect at the being who was standing in front of the group.

For Bea, one of the Valkyries to bow her head to someone, who could the demon be other than Simon?

The figures that appeared on top of the 91st floor were none other than Simon and his party. The latter nodded his head acknowledging her presence.

"Good job bringing those mutated monsters to this floor. You have worked hard"...

Bea quickly shook her head "Not at all master, it was my duty. However, master why did you bring the orcs here?".

Irene and the others also looked at Simon, they wanted to know his plans.

"Heh, I didn't plan to bring them at first. However, when Berigard learned of the Ogres invading the dungeon, he came to Mars with the proposal of fighting the enemy. After thinking for a while, I decided to bring them along. This would be the battle to redeem themselves. I decided not to take that opportunity from them"

He explained as he looked at the orc army in the distance.

Led by Berigard who reached a new evolutionary line along with several of his orc generals, the orc army was no longer the same as before. As they stared down at their enemy the three clans, they looked both menacing and fearsome.

So that was the case, everyone nodded their head. It finally made sense why he chose to bring in the orcs when there were other powerful clans in the dungeon like the Elder Newts, Harpies and such.