

Death Guns 271

Chapter 271 - 266: Against The Ogres

The following day, the fake dungeon sun shined brightly to announce the start of a new day.

The group was already up and was eating when suddenly, they started to hear a sound of vibration.

"The ground is vibrating. Do you sense it too?"

As Alex muttered, he felt his body shake slightly again. Listening, they could faintly hear a thudding noise. As the sound gradually grew louder, the vibrations grew proportionally larger.

"Something is coming," Isabella said while tightly gripping her spear.

Artemia had already summoned her Gift; she readied her two glaives.

"Given the timing of the footsteps, there should only be two of them at best. I can imagine its size." Artemia said.

Thud! Thud!!

The sounds of footsteps grew closer and closer until the first enemy came to view.

Alex had encountered this type of monster in the past; however, this one had one head instead of two.

"An ogre. Who would have thought I would encounter one this soon." Alex muttered while glaring at the green monster in front of him.

It was at least 5 meters tall. Its body was filled with an overwhelming amount of dense muscles. The club the monster held in its hand was simply an uprooted tree.

"There is still another one at the back," Isabella shouted; it seemed that she hadn't heard Artemia's words.

"I'll take care of this one. You should take care of the remaining one." Alex announced before kicking against the ground.

Looking at the puny existence running toward him, the ogre snorted with disdain before raising its club.

However, the Ogre didn't know the existence that was Alex. If it had known Alex's ability, rather than not taking any serious countermeasures, it would have swung its club with all its strength from the very beginning. However, opposite to its physical ability, its intelligence was low. It had decided that Alex was an insignificant being based on his appearance alone.

"Raaaaaarh!"

The club swung down with the momentum as if to destroy everything it touched. It was a single attack with no thought put into technique, only a brute strength. However, the attack that was made with only physical strength hid a violently destructive force.

Yes, that was if it hit.

"Such an attack is obvious! Compared to that two-headed ogre, you are nothing."

Jumping back, Alex provoked the Ogre with his eyes and words as the club made a small crater in the ground.

Although the Ogre couldn't understand human words, it could still fully understand the malicious intent against it.

Yes, the diminutive creature that was only up to its knees was disrespecting it. How infuriating. I shall crush his skull on the ground.

"GAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!" (A/N: Die you bug.)

As a simple Ogre, it went berserk at Alex's cheap provocation, raising its club again and smashing into the ground with increasing anger.

However, such an attack could never land on Alex; moving to the side, Alex dodged the mighty blow before aiming Silveria at the monster's unguarded knee and fired.

"Phantom Bullet"

BANG!

Crack!

The ogre kneecap broke.

"GAAAAAAAAAAAA!"

The ogre wailed of pain; he almost dropped its club, then came the second attack.

BANG!

Crack!

The remaining kneecap got broken by another phantom bullet.

"Gugiahhhh!"

This time the ogre wail shook the whole forest sending the second ogre into a frenzy.

Pouring a little bit of MP into Sleipnir, Alex felt the change, this time more clearly, his knife elongated; he felt like he wasn't standing on the ground.

Knowing that his MP was draining faster, Alex moved.

Swoosh!

He disappeared, and when he reappeared again, he had at the back of the ogre with his knife sheathed and then,

Thud!

The ogre's head fell into the ground shortly followed by its body.

"Amazing. I have never seen someone perfectly handle Sleipnir as you did. It almost one jealous." Artemia, who was not participating in the fight, praised Alex after seeing him making good use of Sleipnir.

After collecting the body of the dead ogre, Alex joined Artemia to watch Isabella fight.

Dodging the ogre that had become reckless after seeing his brother died, Isabella lowered her head and muttered something.

Isabella was astonished to see Isabella's speed increase all of a sudden.

『It seems that this girl also a boot similar to yours, master.』 Silveria, who was silent since the start, finally spoke.

Alex nodded while watching Isabella ran across the ground and leaped into the air with two steps. At a height over 5 m, the figure of Isabella could be seen above the head of the Ogre.

"Gaa~!?"

"Haaa!" Isabella shouted.

As expected, maybe noticing the enemy at the same height as its line of sight, as Isabella swung the spear in her hands at its head, the Ogre almost simultaneously raised its club.

However,

「GA!？」

Isabella's spear wasn't normal; its weight got increased. Currently, it weighed over 100kg. Adding to that was Isabella's momentum. Moreover, for the magic empowered spear, cutting through the club, which was basically a tree, was met with no resistance. The blade approached the head of the Ogre; however, because of its survival instincts, though it moved back, causing a massive wound to be torn into its chest, the attack didn't kill it.

"Gugiaahhhhh!"

"Tch!"

Isabella clicked her tongue in annoyance as she landed on the other side.

"Isabella used the new skill she acquired after a painstaking training," Artemia explained.

Alex couldn't only smile bitterly as he knew why Isabella trained so hard. It was in the hope of fighting him and maybe win.

『Well, it's a good thing she stopped provoking you. If not, her pride would have been crushed after seeing you beat her even under her gravity magic. I never expected that little girl to be an Earth Elementalist. I thought she was only Water elemental.』

To Silveria's words, Alex responded, 'Maybe, she just recently awakened the Earth element like Leon.'

『Maybe. Oh! It's about to end.』

As Silveria said, the fight was about to end.

After receiving such a deep wound from the puny human, the injured ogre became enraged and started to swing its club recklessly.

Dodging the blows, Isabella launched an attack.

"Water Snake!"

Isabella's spear was transformed into a huge spear that tore through the ogre's club before piercing the latter chest. The right side of the ogre was utterly gone. It's died with his eyes wide open; he couldn't believe that they couldn't claim a single life before being killed. How unbecoming of Kings of the forest.

Thud!

The lifeless body of the second ogre fell to the ground.

Meanwhile, Isabella could be seen on her knees, panting hard. That last move had taken a lot of MP; however, it was worth it.

"That was a nice fight."

Alex, who was approaching Isabella, praised her.

Chapter 272 - 267: A Startling Revelation 1

"That was a nice fight."

Alex, who was approaching Isabella, praised her. He then looked at the corpse of death ogre; the right side was wholly gone.

"That was some powerful skill. Even me, I will have a hard time dealing with it." Alex muttered.

【Well, if you neither use Phantom Bullet, Erase, Ice bullet, then it will be hard to deal with her attack.】 Silveria commented.

"Well done, Isabella. I'm proud of you."

Artemia's words put a smile on Isabella's lips.

"Let's take a short break. We had a tough morning." Alex proposed as he sat on the ground in a lotus position.

"I wonder how the girls are doing?" Alex suddenly mumbled, and because of the proximity to the other two, they heard him.

"It seems that you are worried about them. Don't worry; knowing their strength, I don't think anything will happen to them. They just need to be cautious." Artemia said while sipping orange juice.

"Even though I have never fought The Ice queen and the S Queen, from the hearsay, I know they are strong, probably stronger than me. So, don't worry." Isabella also said some comforting words to lessen Alex's worries.

While he was surprised by Isabella readily admitting to being inferior to Maria, he was even more surprised by the S Queen he just heard.

"Excuse, Who's the S Queen?"

Even though he had an idea who that person might be, he still asked just to be sure.

"Don't you know Lady Sakuya's nickname?" Isabella asked with confusion.

Alex shook his head. He only heard about Maria's and Luna's nicknames.

"Did you forget that Alex just recently came? It's normal for him not to know. The S Queen is the nickname given to Sakuya after she thrashed numerous young masters and mistresses. She even beat the shit out of my Big brother. Since that day, he came to fear her. In the start, Big brother tried to go after the three; however, unlike the other two who rejected him while staying polite, Sakuya's way was brutal. She asked for a duel; if my brother wins, she will consider becoming his woman."

Before Artemia could continue further, she was interrupted by Alex, who raised a question.

"And what if she wins?"

Facing Alex's question, Artemia revealed a troubled expression before saying.

"She didn't say it." She said.

"What ?" Alex was surprised.

"It's not like she didn't want to say; however, before she could say her condition, Maria moved faster to close her mouth. That day I was there, I was disguised, so people didn't know it was me. From the feeling that I've got what Sakuya wanted to say would be without a doubt something outrageous." Artemia said while recalling the dangerous glint that passed through Sakuya's eyes just as she was about to announce her condition.

"I can picture what she would say," Alex said while imagining a naked prince running around in the capital with Sakuya sitting on top of his back, making an Ohohoho sound.

Alex shudders just by imagining such a scene; he quickly wiped away the invisible sweat on his forehead.

Inside her dimension, Silveria was laughing hard; she laughed until she started to roll on her bed holding her belly.

Ignoring her, Alex focused his attention on Artemia, the latter continued.

"As you have heard it. My brother lost, badly even. He got beaten to the point that his face was almost unrecognizable."

"To that point?" Alex said, surprised.

Artemia nodded, "Well, my brother isn't powerful like the rest of us, but he is smart. Governing an empire doesn't always require the emperor to be the strongest. I would have preferred him to become the emperor rather than my sister, but that would-. Forget it, let's not talk about it."

Alex didn't pursue the matter as well, as he no interest in the throne or politics.

"Better quickly made Maria yours because my brother will never give up so easily, especially now that he learned that you made Luna your woman," Artemia warned him.

Chuckling, Alex said, "No matter what he will do, Maria will never become his woman, you can be sure of that."

Seeing Alex so confident, Artemia didn't say anything more. She stayed silent for a moment before looking at Isabella and said.

"Isabella, go scout the area near the river for a moment."

Isabella nodded before disappearing. There was nothing to be added anymore as Isabella understood the underlying meaning of Artemia's words.

"What do you want to talk about for you to send Isabella away?" Alex turned to face Artemia after Isabella was gone.

Chuckling Artemia asked, "You are already aware of my goal coming here, aren't you?"

"Yeah, I know." Alex nodded.

"I see. I must thank Elseria then." Artemia said.

"What is the relation between you and her? Who's she really?"

Alex couldn't help but ask this. He had this nagging feeling that Artemia and Elseria knew each other; they seemed to share some secrets.

And as expected, Alex didn't get the answer he was hoping for.

"I will let you figure that out. It isn't for me to say it." Artemia answered with an apologetic smile.

"I hate when you lots act like this." Alex didn't hide his dissatisfaction.

Artemia had expected such an outcome, so she said.

"Don't be like that. Let's talk about something interesting instead. I heard you talked with Lilith just before we came. Is that right?"

"You are well informed. As expected of the princess. Well, that's true." Alex didn't deny having talked with Lilith as it wasn't something that should be hidden.

"I see. Let's me guess you two made some kind of alliance to screw Lucifer. She talked about acquiring something Lucifer coveted. Did I get right?" Artemia asked with a smile.

However, to Alex, that smile wasn't angelic in the slightest; it was demonic like the one a demoness wore when everyone goes according to her plan.

Gulp!

'This woman is scary. It's a good thing I'm on her side for the moment.'

Alex thought after gulping audibly.

"You have perfectly guessed what she said. So, now I want to know what all these questions are about?"

Alex's words were simple. Would you please go straight to the point?

Artemia smiled, and just as she was about to open her mouth, they heard a loud explosion coming from Luna's direction.

BOOM!

Chapter 273 - 268: A Startling Revelation 2

Going back in time a little. When Artemia was asking Alex if he knew the real goal of this expedition, Isabella, on the other side, sat not too far from the river and was throwing stones on the water while muttering.

"I wonder what they're talking about?"

"What if Alexander became a beast and assaulted her highness? Kyaah! I must be there to watch, no save her."

"Should I go back to peek?"

Isabella quickly shook her head and tried to convince herself.

"No, that not it. Everything I'm doing is for the princess's wellbeing." She said.

This would have sounded convincing if she wasn't wearing a dangerous smile on her face. Currently, Isabella's mind was filled with some dangerous scenes, not suitable for a sane mind to learn about it.

Isabella was so lost in her little world that she hadn't noticed the monster lurking behind her. It was a Water monkey, and unlike average, this Water monkey was different. It stood at 2 meters tall; its fur was a little bit grayish on the left side. While it was not mid Boss like the one Alex killed yesterday, it wasn't far from it; this is a unique monster; calling it Rare species should be more accurate.

This monster was the mate of the one Alex killed; in other words, the killed monster's wife. She came to seek vengeance for her man. What Alex and others didn't know was that just after getting killed, that giant Water monkey released a special pheromone that sticks against his killers to alert the others. It was pretty undetectable, so Alex's group didn't know.

As for the reason why the female Water monkey picked Isabella especially, it was simply because she was the weakest of the three.

Holding her right paw forward, the rare female species of Water monkey slowly changed. A water ball of the size of three basketball was created in the sky, just above the daydreaming Isabella.

Just as the spell was completed, the female Water monkey swung her arm down.

Swoosh!

At the last moment, Isabella was able to sense the incoming danger. Mustering enough strength into her legs, Isabella managed to barely avoid the fate of being squashed by a water ball.

BOOM!

A big explosion occurred that leave a deep scar on the ground where Isabella was.

It was this same explosion that alerted Alex and Artemia to come over quickly.

And when they came, they were shocked to see Isabella locked in a fight against a strange Water monkey.

"It's the woman of that Big monkey I slew yesterday." Alex immediately announced upon seeing the female Water monkey.

Artemia was curious about how he knew that; however, she stopped when she recalled the particular skill those reincarnated have: Appraisal skill.

"No good," Artemia shouted when she saw Isabella be sent flying; she even spurted a mouthful of blood before crashing against a tree, breaking it.

While puking blood, Isabella tried to move. However, Artemia's voice dissuaded her.

"Isabella, stay done. I shall take care of this little monster." Artemia declared.

Her declaration forced Alex, who was preparing to kill the female Water monkey, to step back. He went to assist Isabella in getting back on her feet.

When the female monkey understood that Artemia would be her opponent, she turned tail and ran.

"As if I would allow getting away after injuring my cute subordinate."

Artemia declared before disappearing as well; like a bolt of lightning, she moved, passing through the trees as if they were not present.

On the other hand, the female Water monkey jumped from tree to tree like a ninja. The two continued the game of catching first when Artemia suddenly stopped and leaned to her left.

Swoosh! Bang! Crack!

A big tree passed by air breath of her face and crashed against the tree behind her. The big tree almost surpassing the one that attacked Artemia was broken into two. If Artemia's instinct weren't sharp and warned her that she was walking into a trap, she would have become a corpse by now.

Looking at the female Water monkey who had a human-like face after seeing her trap failing (A/N: She showed a disappointed face.), Artemia's eyes turned calm, and instead of immediately lashing at the culprit of her current mood, she calmed before suddenly taking an action that startled the female Water monkey.

Artemia turned her back at the monster and simply walked away. At first, the monster was confused, thinking maybe it was some kind of devious trap the despicable human was plotting; however, no

matter how long she waited, Artemia didn't make any move, she continued to walk back towards Alex and Isabella's direction.

Seeing this, the female Water monkey grinned before trying to create a spell to kill Artemia.

Just as she stretched her paw, bolts of black lightning descended from the sky and obliterated her.

At the same time, Artemia mumbled.

"Black Demise."

"Sigh! This skill is still incomplete; if not, I would have erased at least half, if not the whole forest. Time to go back." Artemia said, dejected.

The other monsters that previously hoped to move against Alex's group dropped that idea after seeing the scene of some portion of the forest gone.

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Artemia joined Alex and Isabella; the latter was sleeping after receiving treatment.

Alex and Artemia decided to resume their previous discussion.

"Do you have an idea about what you are going to snatch?" Artemia asked, her legs crossed.

"I don't know, but I guess it's some kind of treasure." Alex speculated.

[[I'm curious as well.]] Silveria said; however, Alex ignored her and focused on Artemia.

"You are wrong; what you will be going after is the same thing I'm currently after." Artemia dropped a bomb.

"What?" Alex shouted.

As if it wasn't the end, Artemia added.

"Lilith is the same as me. A reincarnated goddess, in fact, she is the reincarnated goddess of Demon."

"Eh?"

Alex was so surprised that his mouth was wide open.

[[What a startling revelation.]] Silveria sighed.

Alex nodded his head. Artemia continued.

"Even Lilith herself isn't aware of this truth. What you are going to snatch is something that contains a part of her power. It was sealed after that battle. Acquiring this thing may bring back some of her memories apart from increasing her strength."

"I see; however, I'm more interested about what happened back then for this world gods to fall," Alex said, his eyes locked on Artemia.

Chapter 274 - 269: The Tenth Floor

"I see; however, I'm more interested in what happened for this world Gods to fall."

Alex said, his eyes locked on Artemia. The latter chuckled before talking.

"We fought against a monster that shouldn't have existed in our world, and as you have guessed, we lost. We were handled like children, we who claimed as the strongest existence within this world, how ironic. Even though we lost, we still managed to seal that monster as we couldn't kill it. One among us predicted the arrival of otherworlders. This was his words: 'Among those will arrive shall be the one that can slay the beast, he will have an unusual Gift.' That was our friend last word."

"I see. Can you tell me what kind of beast you fought?" Alex asked; while he sympathises with Artemia for what she went through, he was more interested in getting more information about his future enemy. This dragon won't be an easy opponent.

"It was a dragon, however, a sinister dragon that shouldn't exist in this world. This dragon cast a curse upon this world, making it impossible for this world resident to one-day step into the God realm. It is why there are only Demi-God level powerhouses in the current world. It was as if this monster feared that those who advanced into the God realm would be a threat to it." Artemia explained.

"I see, let's-"

Just as Alex was about to continue, they heard movement coming from Isabella's tent. She had woke up, so Alex decided to postpone this discussion for another time.

"Time to get going." He said, and Artemia nodded. They waited for Isabella to join them before moving.

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An hour later, Alex and the others finally found the stairs leading to the ninth floor, and soon they appeared on the ninth floor.

"Tch! Another mushroom forest."

Alex said, annoyed; unlike the previous forest (a mix of flowers and mushrooms), this forest was solely composed of giant mushrooms the size of an adult male.

While fighting against the awful smell in the air, the trio walked through the mushrooms forest and strangely, they didn't encounter any monster on their way to the tenth floor.

"Strange. Why there isn't any monster on this floor?" Isabella asked as they were about to go down to the tenth floor.

"It's a good thing that we don't have to fight any monster here before going down on the tenth floor where we will probably fight against a boss," Artemia said while giving one last glance at the ninth floor.

Just as they stepped on the tenth floor, what welcome them was total darkness; however, Alex, who had night vision, was able to see in the darkness. He went immediately alert at the scene in front of him.

"Enemies ahead," Alex shouted while switching to Silveria. At the same time, he used Xerox to create a second gun.

Artemia and Isabella readied their weapons and came the light, followed by a

Kacha~, kacha~, kacha~, kacha~.

From the other side, a group of skeletons appeared.

They consisted of white bones without a piece of flesh on their bodies. They looked just like a model of the human body. The eyes in the skull were also hollow, giving a terrible feeling. The most different part from a human body was a magic stone in it, protected by the ribs. When defeating an undead with physical attacks and not magic, the quickest way was to destroy the magic stone directly.

The Skeleton at the lead had a long rusty sword. The Skeleton right beside it held a spear and pointed the tip at Alex.

This group of skeletons numbered around thirty.

Alex was the first to make a move.

Bang! Bang! Bang!!!!

Bullets tore through the air with perfect accuracy, as if the other two knew that it wasn't their time to shine; they just waited at the back, letting Alex fight to his heart content.

In just three minutes, Alex eliminated this group of skeletons.

"Amazing."

At Isabella's voice, Alex gave a wry smile while looking at the corpse of skeletons in front of him; he couldn't help but shook his head.

Skeletons were rank E monsters. They were lower-ranking monsters than the rank D Water Monkeys they had encountered on the eighth floor and the Lizardmen they had encountered on the third floor.

However, Skeletons were hated by other adventurers for the single reason that it was undead. Basically, it was a monster that didn't have an ego. For that reason, it would not be frightened no matter how much it was damaged and would just attack the adventurers. Adding to that, the proof of subjugation of Skeletons was their magic stone, which was problematic. In order to defeat a skeleton with physical attacks, there was no other choice than to destroy the magic stone. As a result, it was subsequently challenging to obtain proof of subjugation. For similar reasons, you couldn't expect to get many materials from such an ordinary monster. If it was a higher ranking undead monster like a Skeleton Lord, its bones, strengthened by magical power, could be used as materials for weapons and armour. Or using alchemy, its material could be used to produce a magic item or special potion. However, this was impossible with the lowest ranking Skeletons.

Looking at the broken piece of bones lying on the ground for a moment, Artemia lifted her head and scanned the tenth floor, the area where her eyes could see. Apart from the monster they just fought, there was nothing else.

"How strange, I thought we would encounter a tough opponent here on this floor, but I'm disappointed only to see a bunch of weak skeletons," Artemia complained.

"You talk too fast." Alex, whose sense was enhanced than the others, said before shooting towards his left.

Bang! Crack!

The enemy that planned to sneak attack on them got instantly killed. It was a skeleton hound.

"What?"

Isabella emitted a startled cry before gulping; more than hundreds of skeletons appeared just as if they got teleported here.

"Now, it's more fun." Artemia declared before disappearing.

Chapter 275 - 270: An Unusual Floor

Now, it's more fun." Artemia declared before disappearing. Blue lightning was wrapped around her body, increasing her speed to a crazy level.

She passed through a group of seven skeletons for a second, and just as she left, these skeletons were reduced to dust. Because lightning work against skeletons as Fire did, it was easy for Artemia to eliminate skeletons quickly.

Not wanting to be outdone, Isabella moved as well, making use of her newfound power, the Earth element, especially gravity magic; Isabella was to almost compete against Artemia.

However, the star of this fight was, without doubt, Alex, who kept firing left and right with a frightening accuracy of a hundred per cent. He had killed more than sixty skeletons since the arrival of the first group.

Just as Artemia eliminated the last skeleton, something surprising happened. The areas where Alex and others stood started to shake, almost making them fall into the ground, then there was a flash of light that blinded Alex's group.

"What's going on?"

While stabilising himself, Alex couldn't help but raise his head and survey his surrounding; surprisingly, they were back at the entrance where Alex fought the first group of skeletons.

"Something does feel right. Why are we back at the beginning again?" Alex turned to face Artemia in whom he believes to have more experience in a dungeon.

Just as Artemia wanted to speak, another group of skeletons appeared; however, unlike the previous group with thirty members, this one had thirty-five members.

Annoyed, Alex quickly eliminated those thirty-five skeletons. Just as he killed the last skeleton, Alex's level increase by one once again, he immediately checked his new status. It was true that levelling up becomes easier inside a dungeon where they inexhaustible supply the monster. Since yesterday Alex had level twice.

『[Alexander Kael Touch]

Class: Magic Gunslinger

Age: 17

Male

Race: High Human

「 Rank 7」

Level 68

Experience Value (XP): 400/19200

Magic Power: 5070 (+ 60) ➤ 5130/5130

Magic: None

Attack: 1550 (+20) ➤ 1570

Defense: 1450 (+20) ➤ 1470

Agility: 1600 (+20 BP) ➤ 1620 (+200)

Intelligence: 1450 (+20) ➤ 1470

Luck: 1230 (+20) ➤ 1250

BP: 0

SP: 0

Gift: Two Guns * Semi-sealed*

Skills: [Advanced Appraisal Level 1] [Item box Level 2] [Swift Fingers Max] [Divine Sense Level 4]
[Throwing knife Level 5] [Dark Vision Level 2] [Dual Wielding Level 2] [Accel Level 3] [Knife Art Level 4]
[Link Level 3] [Gun Art Level Level 10] [Normal Regeneration Level 5] [Mana Recovery Level 5]
[Synthesize Level 3] [Shadow Shift Level 1]

Special Abilities: [Language Comprehension][Danger Sense] [Overdrive] [Death's Eye] [Envisage] {Erase}
{Magic Bullet} {Snatch} [Hellsing] [Xerox]

Titles: [Otherworlder] [The one who can't use Magic] [The one whose fingers are faster than Flash]
[Goblin Slayer] [The Reborn] [Shadow Nemesis] [The Slaughterer]』

'That should be good for now.' Alex mumbled to himself after using his BP; he added it to his MP as the more MP he has, the more extended Sleipnir unique ability will last; however, now wasn't the time to think about such a thing.

Frowning, Alex once again checked their surrounding, and his conclusion was the same, they were back at the same place where he first fought.

"I think that we have fallen into a trap. One of the skeletons we killed must have been the trigger that sent us in a time loop." Artemia explained after analysing their current situation.

"I see. I finally understood why we keep experiencing the same thing for a while." Alex said before killing his 200th skeleton.

"How do we get out from this?"

Isabella was the one to ask this; she was getting sick of constantly killing only skeletons.

Artemia stayed silent before suddenly ordering,

"Please step back."

Alex and Isabella stepped back as they were ordered.

Artemia walked to where she believes everything began, where that unusual skeleton fell under Alex's bullet. Taking a deep breath, black lightning started to gather around and before attacking the ground.

Crack! Bang!

The sound of glass breaking could be heard after Artemia's black lightning struck the ground.

Another blinding light assaulted Alex's group.

When they open their eyes again, they were inside a big room; behind them was a small room, it was probably where they got stuck into an infinite loop.

"This doesn't look like a typical tenth floor I have read about," Isabella said with a frown.

Alex and Artemia didn't say anything as they were focused in front of them.

From the other side of this floor, footsteps could be heard coming straight towards Alex's group.

Alex's frowned in disgust; an intense smell of rotten flesh drifted to his nose, whose five senses were much sharper than the ordinary person.

"Fuck! It stinks." He couldn't help but pinch his nose as the smell became harder to bear.

Artemia, who was just behind Alex, also frowned silently and held her nose.

Before long, the damp footsteps approached.

The identity of the damp footsteps and the putrid smell became apparent. Some had half-rotted bodies with their rib bones exposed; others had gooey liquid coming out of their eye sockets. Every time they took a step, an odour would drift out, and flesh and liquid would fall on the ground, making sounds as countless shadows tried to move towards Alex.

"Zombies. It was to be expected. I hate zombie films, to think I will encounter them in reality." Alex muttered bitterly. With his sharp senses, the direct hit from the putrid smell had already left him in a bad mood.

The same for Artemia, whose sense, while it might not be sharper like Alex's senses, was sharper than the average human. She turned her eyes to the nearly 20 Zombies and gave a groaning cry in a bad mood.

Meanwhile, noticing the Zombies, Isabella spoke up unpleasantly.

"Wait a minute, there are some Zombies with armour equipped. Could that mean that it was some fallen adventurer?"

"I wonder. Perhaps this is the fate of adventurers who lose their lives on this floor. Ugh, as I thought. I would hate it if I ended up like that."

Artemia confirmed Vel's thoughts and turned to look unpleasantly at the Zombies who were gradually approaching.

Adventurers who challenged the dungeon naturally wanted to avoid dying here. The danger of death always accompanied diving into the dungeon. However, even if you died here, your corpse would be turned into a toy by a Lich who is a higher form of undead.

One should know that effective attacks against ordinary undead, such as Holy magic (Light Element) and fire magic, were also effective against Zombies. Or, if you didn't mind coming in contact with rotten corpses, you could also target the magic stone buried inside their flesh.

While Alex's group was composed of neither Healer nor Fire mage, they still had an advantage when fighting against undead monsters. With Alex unusual ability to deal with dark creatures and Artemia, whose destructive lightning element left one in awe, it could be said the undead monsters were unlucky.

"Let's sent those poor souls on their way."

Artemia declared as she stepped forward, white bolts of lightning were dancing around here.

Chapter 276 - 271: An Elder Licht ?

Alex's group quickly eliminated those zombies.

"It smells awful," Artemia said while covering her nose. Because she used lightning to eliminate the zombies, the smell of burnt rotten flesh wafted through the air; Alex had a hard time as well. Suddenly, his eyes widened; this didn't go unnoticed by Artemia, who stood beside him.

"Another enemy?" She asked while being on guard.

Before Alex could answer, a metallic kin~ sound echoed into the surroundings.

Isabella thrust out her spear on reflex. However, the magic spear that was thrust out in the short moment that the enemy attacked pierced the air instead of the enemy.

"Be careful, it's fast!"

As Isabella's voice echoed into the surroundings, everyone held their weapon as they watched the enemy.

As the faint light from the dungeon walls illuminated the area, a huge wolf appeared. Its height from feet to head was up to Alex's chest. From its upper jaw, deep green fangs stretched out like the extinct Sabertooth Tigers from Earth. And from its back, something like a tentacle grew on the left and right, making sharp sounds as they moved through the air. It was probably a blow from the tentacle that had attacked Isabella.

"Phantom Wolf."

Alex mumbled the moment he saw those wolves; seven of them appeared at once.

"It's my first time seeing something like this. Alex, can you-"

Alex didn't wait for Isabella to finish what she was going to say before he started to explain.

"Phantom Wolf It's a C rank monster, but it usually lives in packs. In packs, they are B rank monsters. As for its strongest weapon, rather than its fangs, watch out for the tentacles that extend from its back. You can treat them as something like a whip. It can manipulate its tentacles at will to attack the enemy and uses its fangs to finish off its target. In addition, their physical ability is high, and they can use wind magic to attack fast and retreat if they can't win. They got the name phantom from the fact that when they attack, it's almost impossible to see them."

"I see, it's a rather annoying enemy."

Listening to Alex's explanation, Isabella pointed her spear at the enemies.

Swoosh!

The phantom wolves made the first move. At the same time as that bark, a gust of wind blew, blinding Alex's eyes. He felt two killing intents.

Responding quickly to the killing intent, Alex poured magic power into the Sleipnir, his knives elongated, and he swung them, making sure not to hit his surrounding party members.

"Graaah!"

Splash!

Like a knife cutting through butter, Alex's knives bisected two phantom wolves; at the same time, Alex threw one of his knives at the wolf that was trying to sneak attack, Isabella.

Being enhanced by the wind element, Alex's knife was fast; in a flash, it pierced the phantom wolf head, instantly killing it.

Before Alex could assist Artemia, the latter had already eliminated three phantom wolves, almost as if she was competing with him; this made Alex chuckle.

Isabella was the only one still fighting; she twisted her upper to dodge the last phantom wolf attack before kicking the wolf flying with her legs.

She immediately chanted,

"Water spikes."

And five conical spikes made of water were formed. They were about 10cm in diameter; those water spikes tried to pierce the phantom wolf; however, the wolf was able to twist its body and dodged the water spikes.

Just as the monster landed on the ground, Isabella was already in front of it; she sent five thrusts in one attack.

Five blue spears light went through the phantom wolf body, killing it.

"Phew! They are tough to deal with."

Isabella said while wiping away the sweat on her forehead.

"Isabella, quickly collect the materials; we will leave this floor; I have a bad feeling."

Artemia approached Isabella and urged her. Alex was not surprised as he was also feeling ominous for a while. This floor was too bizarre. With Alex help, Isabella rapidly collected the usable materials.

Boom!

The whole floor violently shook just as the group was about to stand up and find the exit to the next floor.

"No good."

Alex muttered before pouring MP into Sleipnir and threw himself on Isabella, thus saving her life.

From the ground, Isabella's eyes widened when she saw a huge black scythe passing above them. If Alex hadn't intervened, she was sure to lose her life. She became momentarily dazed.

"Get hold of yourself. This isn't the end."

Alex's voice brought Isabella back to reality. When she searched for Alex, he was already gone. His figure could be seen standing in front of the huge shadow shrouded in darkness.

Compared to this shadow, Alex was tiny. Artemia was standing beside Alex, her glaives connected in the form of a spear.

"You can't be serious, right?"

Isabella could only mutter helplessly as she watched the colossal monster that appeared; it was 8 meters tall. In his right hand was a giant black scythe, the same scythe that almost took her life if not for Alex timely intervention.

The huge monster that appeared was a black skeleton wearing a worn-out black robe. This skeleton emits a dangerous aura; Isabella felt suffocated even when the monster's aura wasn't directed at her. She wondered how Alex and Artemia could bear this aura; even Rank 9 adventurers couldn't emit this kind of aura.

"Jie jie jie~ I thought I would be able to harvest at least one life with that attack. Jie Jie jie~ however, the little rat managed to save the bug life." the black skeleton talked.

Isabella's became round; she couldn't believe what was happening. For this monster to speak the human language could only mean one thing, it was the highest tier of undead monster, An elder Licht, something an average Rank 10 couldn't hope to fight. Fear took root inside her heart, making her body refuse to listen to her command.

Meanwhile,

『Master, it's hopeless, the current you can't fight this monster.』 Silveria didn't hold back and told Alex the cold truth.

'I know damnit.' Alex answered back while hiding his trembling hands; he had trouble holding Silveria. He was feeling scared; never before in his life he had felt such fear.

Compared to him, Artemia appeared relatively calm, yet her eyes were cold; no gentleness could be seen in the current Artemia's eyes.

"What do you want? This isn't a floor you should appear on?" In an ice-cold tone, Artemia questioned.

"Jie jie jie~ Like they person said, you know pretty everything. Well, I don't mind telling you why I'm here. I'm here for your life, Jie Jie Jie~." the Elder Licht declared with his black scythe raised.

"I see." In the same tone, Artemia answered; however, she secretly ordered Alex to catch Isabella at her signal.

"Jie Jie~ Quietly han-"

The elder Licht's words got stopped by an explosion.

Boom!

Making use of that explosion, Alex disappeared, and when he reappears again, he was holding Isabella in his arms.

Artemia and Alex exchanged glances before Artemia tore apart a scroll she brought from her space ring.

"Nooo~"

Seeing the scene in front of him, the Elder Licht bellowed and threw its scythe towards the white light enveloping Alex's group after the scroll was ripped; unfortunately, the Elder Licht was a step too late, his black scythe passed through the white light. Alex's group was already gone; however, the Elder Licht could still hear Artemia's voice.

"I will surely pay you back today affront."

Knowing that he had failed his mission, the Elder Licht retreated to his original floor. However, he was laughing.

"Jie jie jie jie~."

"The next time, I will claim your life. Without killing me, you can obtain what you are after. Jie jie~ Torturing you will be fun. Eh? So, that boy is the prophecy boy; I understand why they tasked me to find a way to deal with him. He is giving me a dangerous feeling even while being weaker than me. I'm not

too fond of this feeling; I don't like it at all. The next time I shall flay his skin, pull out his tendons and grind his bones. Jie jie jie~ I can't wait to start. I hope you will survive until that day, Prophecy boy."

Sitting on a gigantic black throne made from the bones of what seems to be the bones of human's bones, countless human bones, the Elder Licht looked forward to the day he would fight Alex's group. Just thinking about it makes his non-existent heartbeat in anticipation.

.....

At the same time, in another location, there was a flash of light, and after the light disappeared, three humans could be seen. Naturally, it was Alex, Artemia and Isabella.

"What happened?" Alex asked; however, it was a thud sound that answered his question.

Artemia fell face against the ground. After putting Isabella, who had lost consciousness during their transfer, on the ground, Alex checked Artemia's pulse. Seeing that she was still alive, he breathed a sigh of relief before sitting on the ground.

[[Don't worry, she just fainted, having exhausted her MP. Let's her recover. As for Isabella, she fainted because of the huge pressure. Master, please rest. I will be on the lookout.]]

Silveria's words make Alex feel like a huge load had been lifted from his shoulders, so he breathed another sigh of relief before letting himself go.

Just as his back touched the ground, Alex fell asleep.

Silveria appeared and heaved a long sigh.

Chapter 277 - 272: The Truth

Silveria appeared and heaved a long after Alex fell asleep.

"To think someone would come out this early to stop us. I thought we would at least reach the twentieth floor before anything happens; guess I was too naive."

Silveria muttered while checking their surrounding; after Artemia used a forced teleportation scroll, the group was sent into a random floor. Currently, they were inside a huge forest, sounds of birds chirping rang out, and the fragrance of fragrant flowers drifted around the air. There was even a waterfall not too far from Alex's group. This place was a pretty good secluded paradise, but the precondition was that there weren't any people here, and this wasn't inside a dungeon.

Suddenly, Silveria, who was enjoying the first time in a long time, the feeling of a warm breeze against her skin, frowned when she sensed some presence coming towards her.

Soon, footsteps could be heard, and they got closer and closer until five humanoid monsters with pig heads appeared. They only held primitive weapons such as crude clubs made from uprooted trees and stone clubs.

The orcs that appeared looked at Artemia and Isabella with lecherous eyes; when they saw Silveria sitting there so calmly, they became enraged.

"Bui, bui~."

They started muttering some unknown language while pointing their clubs at Silveria.

Even though she didn't know what they were talking about, the fact that they looked at her with lust-filled eyes made Silveria; hence she flicked her fingers and,

Boom!

Those five orcs exploded, producing a gory scene.

"You should stop pretending, little miss. We need to talk." Silveria said before sitting back where she was.

Knowing that she was busted, Artemia stood up and sat across Silveria after summoning a chair from her space ring.

"It's a pleasure to meet Alex's famous master finally," Artemia said; she tried to stay at the best of her capabilities. However, her voice still held some hint of playfulness when she spoke.

"I don't like to play around. Smart as you are, you already know my identity." Silveria's tone leaves no room for a joke.

Artemia's face became serious, and she said.

"Yeah, I have speculated about your identity after doing some investigation that ended fruitlessly. Now that I saw you here, it became clear who you might be. Never I would have thought. A gift could materialise like this. I only thought at best you can speak with your Gift and only exceptional Gift has this ability. We are still frog at the bottom of the hell. They exist things unknown to us."

When she said that last words, Artemia stared at Silveria.

"It's why I must go to higher worlds," Artemia added after a moment of silence.

"Not only you but others as well. It's probably because you were eager to leave this world that you ended doing something you shouldn't have. I bet you forced the world's door, and something came out to stop you; unfortunately for you lots, what appeared wasn't something you could defeat. If only that it would have been good; however, the guardian that should only test you and judge if you are worthy or not to go to higher worlds was corrupted and result in your world suffered this terrible fate. You brought this upon yourself. If not because our starting point was here, I would have never let my master play your game and clean after you."

Silveria's tone didn't sound friendly at all. Others may not know the truth, but after numerous investigations, Silveria understood the truth. Even though the original world got destroyed after that war, till today, some of the original world systems were still used. Back then, to go from one plane to another, you will face the guardian and pass a test before going to the next plane. Well, powerful individuals could tear space apart and travel at will; however, individuals such as these were rare.

Between anchor worlds (Mysthia is one of them) exist guardian beasts. Anchor world is the term used to design a world with the world's portal, more specifically Plane's door. This door links to higher worlds or lower worlds. And because Artemia and others wished to ascend to higher worlds after finding out the existence of this door, a guardian beast came out; not only this guardian beast was powerful, it was corrupted as well.

'Better pretend you are still sleeping, master. Like this, you will get more information. I just recently got some evidence. What I said was a half-truth, half-lie; I want some confirmation.'

Silveria sent her voice into Alex's head; unlike what Artemia was thinking, Alex wasn't sleeping; no, he was still sleeping a moment ago. Because Silveria wanted him to hear their discussion, she woke him up.

Alex silently nodded his head and continued to pretend to be asleep; he regulated his breathing to the extent that it was impossible to know he was faking sleep.

Artemia lowered her head after hearing Silveria's accusations. After a long moment of silence and after checking Alex and Isabella's condition, being sure that those two were still sleeping, she finally talked.

"You are pretty scary, do you know that?" Artemia said half-jokingly; however, Silveria's eyes didn't even twitch; they remained cold as she stared at Artemia.

"Ugh!"

Artemia felt uncomfortable under Silveria's stare. She could only sigh and admit everything.

"What you said is true. One day we stumbled upon that unusual, extremely tall black door. After numerous analyses and speculation, we came to know about the purpose of this door. Did you know that Typhania is a High Elf, a race that shouldn't exist in this world, the dwarves that got wiped out were said to come from a higher world a long time ago. In fact, I'm not also an original resident as well. I don't know what happened, how I, no, we end up here. I will tell you something usually only a few people know. I'm not human; I'm Half High Angel; I'm a mix between a High Human and a being from the Angel race. I know you must know about those special races, that exist only in the higher worlds, even High Human is said to have gone extinct over there."

Silveria put on a startling expression just for the sake of gaining more information.

Unknown to her, Artemia continued,

"And why I know all these things, it is because when I got close to the black doors, some memories that should have existed previously inside my head but sealed got unsealed. Same thing with Typhania. We just want to go back and find about we really are. However, we made a big mistake and paid the highest price."

Alex's breathing almost became unnatural when he heard about these revelations. However, he quickly controlled his breathing once more and continued to listen to their conversation.

Chapter 278 - 273: True Identity

"I see, you want some answers. So, you tried going to higher worlds; however, you got wiped out." Silveria said sarcastically.

However, Artemia didn't mind Silveria's tone; she smiled bitterly.

"How many of your so-called gods fought against that dragon?" Silveria inquired.

"We were seven: Typhania, Lilith, me, Frida of the beastmen; Gregory, the dwarf; Vandal, another human, the prophet and Miria from the demon continent. As you know, we got wiped out. Only I, Lilith and Typhania survived. Typhania disappeared, and both Lilith and I died after making some preparations. We knew we would reincarnate because of the golden rings we found in one of our expeditions in dungeons. I split my power into two and sent one here; Lilith did the same. I hope after successfully merging with this power, I can slowly increase my levels and try stepping into God realm again. We are about to run out of time. I planned to tell Alex everything; you have noticed that I have started sharing some information with him. I was afraid he wouldn't help us after learning the truth." Artemia said while looking in Alex's direction.

"Eh?"

Artemia was startled to find out that Alex wasn't sleeping; he was listening to everything they were saying. Currently, Alex sat legs crossed on the ground; you could spot anger on his face.

Artemia looked at Silveria and declared.

"Hahahaha! As I thought you really cunning."

"Thank you for the compliment; however, if you lived as long I do, you will have few things under your belt." Silveria chuckled.

"So, what will you do after learning the truth?" Artemia asked the silent Alex.

Taking a deep breath to calm his emotions, Alex finally spoke.

"I'm pissed; however, this isn't going to change anything; you have your reasons for acting as you did. While I don't like how you are trying to use me, I can only comprise because to go to the higher worlds; I need to pass through that door, whether I like it or not, I will be fighting against the same beast you fought. This is your original goal, have me fight against it. I don't have the choice as I want to go to higher worlds."

"I know you are angry because we don't tell you the truth right away but place yourself in our place; if we did that, maybe you will not help, you will hate us. We sacrifice everything; we might have been the cause; however, sooner or later, someone would have tried the same thing as we did. Is it wrong to try to find about one origin? No, isn't it. I believe it is also isn't wrong to want to explore higher worlds because you want to evolve, to become stronger. I may not have told you everything at the start, but I tried to be a bit honest as possible; I have never planned to keep everything for myself; I planned to tell everything during this expedition slowly. I hope you can forgive me, no us for not telling you everything sooner. I do not wish to be on bad terms with you, not only because we need your help but because you are someone I want to get along with. Let's see, how should I put it? You are like my rival, someone I want to surpass no matter what. I may be stronger than you, but it's only at the moment. I believe you will soon catch up and surpass me; I want to surpass the future. So, I sincerely hope our relationship will not break because of this. I'm sincerely sorry."

At the end of her sentence, Artemia lowered her head; she refused to raise it again, not until Alex accepted her apologies.

Alex could only sigh helplessly as he exchanged glances with Silveria; the latter shrugged her shoulders before leaving the two alone.

Truth be told, even though he was a little bit angry because they hide the truth from him, it wasn't to the extent of completely cutting off their relationship; he needs their cooperation to fight against the guardian beast. It was impossible for him alone or his little group to fight against the guardian. If Alex were to cut off his relationship with Artemia just because of what happened, he would have done so with Silveria, who kept hiding things from him since the start.

"Raise your head. However, there's something I wish you to tell me and want you to be honest with me. Can you do it?" Alex looked straight into Artemia's eyes and asked this.

Seeing that there was a chance to redeem herself, Artemia quickly nodded her head, eager to know what Alex would ask her. However, Alex's following words make her eyes turn round.

"Elseria is Typhania, isn't it?" Alex asked with a smile. His heterochromia eyes locked into her.

He started to think this recently, everything about Elseria smells like someone with extreme status, far from her current one. She was shrouded in mystery; she appeared out of blue two hundred years ago. So, Alex started to think she was Typhania that disappeared two hundred and years ago.

"Yeah, it's her," Artemia admitted right away. She secretly muttered to herself. 'Forgive Typhi; I can only sacrifice you here. I know you have my promise not to tell him, but with how things evolved, I can only break that promise. It is a sacrifice for great good.'

"I see. She hides it pretty well. How many people know about this?" Alex immediately asked another question; it would be a lie if he said he was not surprised that Artemia confirmed his speculation. To think that he was going after a goddess, however, he will still conquer her even after knowing who she really is.

"Except me, few people. I'm the only one who knows here. The others are on the elves continent, her confidants, the people she governs; she is the Empress of the Elves, after all. Even though someone is governing the elves, this person works under her orders." Artemia explained.

"Wow! Empress on top of being a goddess. I will have a hard time making her mine." Alex secretly mumbled.

"Did you said something?" Artemia asked because she didn't hear what he said.

"No, nothing, please continue," Alex said.

Chapter 279 - 274: Twentieth Floor

"How long the seals holding the guardian beast will last?" Alex asked Artemia after she exposed Elseria true identity. This was the real question he meant to ask because knowing how much time he had left would help him prepare for the final showdown.

"3 years, five at the most."

With a heavy feeling, Artemia told Alex the truth; he couldn't help but sigh as they didn't have much time left.

"I need to gain strength as quickly as possible," Alex muttered.

"Let's finish this mission quickly," Artemia said as she stood up and went to wake Isabella up.

While observing Artemia help Isabella stand up, Alex wondered.

'What floor is this?'

[[It's the twentieth floor.]]

Unexpectedly, Silveria got the answer to his question.

'How do you know?' Alex immediately asked back as he was curious about how Silveria knows on which floor they were.

[[I read the magic flow. It will take too much time to explain, so I'll pass. Just know that this is the twentieth floor. Also, the deeper you descent, the harder it will be for me to identify which floor you're on. I hope you will not use another teleportation scroll.]]

'I don't think she has so many teleportation scrolls on her. Let's hope we will not have to use another one again. We must get stronger, stronger enough to face that Elder Lich. Hopefully, we will not have to fight against those who gave the Lich orders.'

[[Hopefully.]] Silveria also said after hearing her master's words.

'There is something I'm curious about?'

Alex, who was silently walking ahead of Artemia and Isabell, suddenly said.

[[What are you curious about?]] Silveria asked back.

'I wonder how who is behind that skeleton, I mean Elder Lich? And how does that person know what Artemia is after?'

To Alex's questions, Silveria stayed silent for a while before answering.

[[I also found it weird when that monster appeared. The person behind the Lich must know about Artemia past. It is to say, there's a traitor. Maybe it's one of their past comrades that didn't really fall as they thought. Well, in any case, better be vigilant.]]

'I will. I wonder how the girls are doing on the other side?'

Alex couldn't help but think about Maria and others.

Just as Alex and Silveria were about to continue their conversation, they were forced to stop because not too far from Alex's position was a goblin holding a club; however, it wasn't what makes Alex paused in his steps, there was something unusual about this goblin, and he couldn't quite put his finger on it, it was why he didn't immediately initiate an attack.

However, not everyone was patient as Alex. Due to what happened on the previous floor, Isabella was frustrated, and when she saw that lone goblin standing in their way, she sprints toward it to kill it in one blow, this way, she could vent some of her frustrations.

Seeing Isabella coming toward it, the monster that looked like a goblin also sprinted toward her with her club raised high; the two would clash soon.

Suddenly, Alex remembered something, so he quickly cried.

"It's not a goblin, it's a Spriggan."

Artemia, who was next to Alex, was the first to react to his voice. She went forward with her glaives.

"Isabella, fall back," Artemia shouted; she was too lost in thought to be able to identify this monster immediately.

Artemia's warning was few seconds too late.

A green wall suddenly spread in front of Isabella, who had to stab out with her spear.

No, it wasn't a wall. It was a gigantic figure 5 m tall.

Spriggan. In its normal form, it was easy to mistake it for a Goblin. But when it fought, it would reveal its true nature as a Giant. It was a monster with two figures, a giant and an ugly midget. It was a kind of Giant, but it was an extremely heinous and ferocious monster that like to eat the flesh of humans or creatures with low intelligence.

Classified as a B rank monster, it possesses a tough skin that normal weapons couldn't penetrate. The only good point about this monster was it couldn't use magic like the real giant in history.

Somehow, at the same time, the spriggan body enlarged, its club also turned big.

Unlike the tree that the Ogre had directly pulled out from the ground, the tip had been worked on heavily to cause great damage on hitting the enemy.

The club swung down towards the surprised Isabella.

Gakin~!

Artemia threw one of her glaives covered in lightning toward the huge club; her glaive struck the tip of the club, forcibly changing its trajectory before it had swung down.

With Artemia intervention, Isabella recovered from her shock; she jumped back to put some distance between herself and this monster.

Before the monster could recover its club and swing it again, Alex moved. Pouring a little bit of MP into Sleipnir, enough for Sleipnir to launch him into the sky.

Alex appeared above the spriggan. Annoyed because Alex was flying towards him like a bug, the spriggan freed one of his arms and used it to whack Alex away.

However, like a monkey, Alex slipped past that hand and appeared behind the monster head. Before the latter could turn around, it was forced to defend against Artemia attack. Using this opportunity, Alex, free-falling, aimed Silveria at the back of the spriggan head and shot.

"Phantom Bullet."

BANG!

Half of the spriggan head was gone under Alex's phantom bullet.

At the same time he landed, the monster body was falling towards the ground.

"Quick as always. You don't even let me kill anything." Artemia joked when she saw that Alex had killed another monster in one blow.

Alex let out a small chuckle before calling out his status. He just levelled up after slaying this monster, as expected of B Rank monster; it gave him plenty of Exp.

『[Alexander Kael Touch]

Class: Magic Gunslinger

Age: 17

Male

Race: High Human

「 Rank 7]

Level 69

Experience Value (XP): 50/19300

Magic Power: 5130 (+ 10) ➤ 5140/5140

Magic: None

Attack: 1570 (+10) ➤ 1580

Defense: 1470 (+10) ➤ 1480

Agility: 1620 (+10 BP) ➤ 1630 (+200)

Intelligence: 1470 (+10) ➤ 1480

Luck: 1250 (+10) ➤ 1260

BP: 20

SP: 0

Gift: Two Guns * Semi-sealed*

Skills: [Advanced Appraisal Level 1] [Item box Level 2] [Swift Fingers Max] [Divine Sense Level 4]
[Throwing knife Level 5] [Dark Vision Level 2] [Dual Wielding Level 2] [Accel Level 3] [Knife Art Level 4]
[Link Level 3] [Gun Art Level Level 10] [Normal Regeneration Level 5] [Mana Recovery Level 5]
[Synthesize Level 3] [Shadow Shift Level 1]

Special Abilities: [Language Comprehension][Danger Sense] [Overdrive] [Death's Eye] [Envisage] {Erase} {Magic Bullet} {Snatch} [Hellsing] [Xerox]

Titles: [Otherworlder] [The one who can't use Magic] [The one whose fingers are faster than Flash] [Goblin Slayer] [The Reborn] [Shadow Nemesis] [The Slaughterer]』

Chapter 280 - 275: On The Girl's Side 3

In front of them was a Spriggan, a monster over 5 m tall.

Alex didn't immediately put his gained BP to use; he was more concerned about why he quickly levelled up. Normally, it shouldn't have been the case no matter how generous the Spriggan was in giving Exp.

'Sil, how do you explain what just happened?'

Alex turned toward the only person he believes to have the answer to his question.

As expected, Silveria indeed had the

Answer.

『You were able to level up so quickly due to me.』

'Do explain.' Silveria's declaration piqued Alex's interest.

In truth, Silveria did not wish to disclose this news as she foresaw what her master's words were going to be.

『I killed monsters when you were asleep, orcs. Because I'm bound to you, if I kill monsters, you will get the Exp as I don't need them.』 Silveria explained.

Silveria's words brought a smile upon Alex's face. He couldn't help but said.

'Wow! Such good news. I should order you to farm Exp while I'm asleep.'

『I knew you would say that; however, your wish isn't realistic, me appearing was already the most I can do at the moment. Just killing these weak monsters made me suffer enormously. I can't help as there are some limitations to what I can do. I may come and scare monsters, people with my aura, fight for a second, but that's all I can do. To do what you hope me to accomplish will be impossible unless you wished to have me sealed again. In the future, when you will become stronger, I can do a lot of things.』

'Don't worry; I was just joking with you anyway.' Alex said after hearing Silveria.

Artemia turned to face Alex after giving Isabella an earful. Isabella promised to be more careful from now on.

"This monster is Boss level one. So, it's accurate for me to say that we are either on the fifteenth floor or twentieth." Artemia said after watching Alex store away the Spriggan's corpse.

"It's the twentieth floor." Alex corrected Artemia.

"Oh?! And how did you know that? No, forget it; it must be her doing. She's amazing." Artemia wanted to ask how he knew where they are; however, she stopped asking when she remembered Silveria's figure.

Although curious about what Alex and Artemia were talking about, she knew it was her place to question them.

The three went deeper into the forest in search of the stairs leading to the next floor.

Soon, they found it; taking them, Alex's group descended toward the twentieth-one floor.

•••••

Meanwhile, in another location, Maria's group just killed another group of black goblins. It was their eleventh group after someone forcibly sent them on this floor.

"Hah hah hah! How many levels you-"

Before the panting Maria could finish what she was about to say, the girls answered.

"Three levels."

"Same here."

Both Luna and Sakuya answered; Gracier was the last to answer.

"Five."

"Wow! One more than me." Maria said while drinking a Mana recovery potion.

Gracier smiled before checking her status.

『[Gracier Alexandra Touch]

「 Rank 6」

Level 57

Class: Fire Empress

Age: 14

Female

Race: High Half-Elf

Experience Value: 3500/8200

Magic Power: 1785 (+25) ➤ 1810/1810

Magic: Fire Magic

Attack: 730 (+25) ➤ 755

Defense: 495 (+25) ➤ 520

Agility: 395 (+25) ➤ 420

Intelligence: 385 (+25) ➤ 410

Luck: 395 (+25) ➤ 420

BP: 50

SP: 0

Gift: Ignia's Bracelet

Skills: [Cooking Level 4] [Sewing Level 3] [Fireball Level 5] [Fire Arrows Level 4] [Meteor (???) Level 4] [Flame Shield Level 5] [Presence Detection Level 5] [Chantless Magic Level 8] [Fire Lotus Level 5] [Archery Level 5] [Blaze Steps Level 5]

Special Ability: [Dragon Eye Level 10 Max] [Flame Wings Level 3] [Dragon's Breath Level Level 2]

Titles: [Avenger] [Child of Fire] [The Awakened] [The Diligent]』

'How should I use my BP?' Gracier wondered for a moment before using them on her attack's stat. She needs more attack power, more destructiveness, so she didn't hesitate to spend her BP on her attack's stat.

After collecting the materials from the dead monsters, the girls found an excellent corner inside the dead forest and set up a camp.

"I wonder what Alex current level will be? Maybe he is already Level 70."

"Luna, only one day passed, and you think he will jump six levels? I don't think it's possible." Sakuya said.

"I also think it's possible. No matter how faster he is when clearing a floor, there's a limit on how many he can take in one day."

It was Maria who talked this time.

"Me, I'm more concerned about how situation. I don't understand what happened, but if there was someone behind, what happened to us. I want to know why? And more importantly, I want to make them pay." Gracier said; her eyes were filled with murderous intentions, something you usually would not see on her face.

"Sigh! I hope it's not man-made what happened to us. Like this, we might have a chance to come out alive from this. If there is really someone behind this forceful transfer, what they have in mind will do us no good. Their goal must be to catch one of us or eliminate us. I wonder which one is?"

Nobody said anything after Sakuya said that. They were contemplating on what goal the culprit of their current situation has. Knowing it might help them to better prepare. However, no matter how much they thought about it, they could not accurately tell which one of the two options Sakuya proposed was the right one.

"Let's stick closely together and watch each other back. We need to increase our level to protect each other better; the faster we can do this, the better it would be. Communication doesn't work inside dungeons; if not, I would have tried contacting Leon for help." Maria told the others.

"You are right. It will be good if we could encounter another group, even Leonardo's group will do." Sakuya said while stretching.

Luna frowned when she heard this; she didn't wish to encounter this group because she had the feeling that Damien would try to take advantage of Alex's absence to try to woo her.

"Let's hope we will not encounter them."

After spending one hour resting, the group left in search of the next floor, and just after they left, another group came, strangely it was Leonardo's group.

"When will they make a move?" Impatient, Leonardo couldn't help but ask.

"Calm down, soon they will. Let's proceed ahead and do not forget what I saw." Damien said to Leonardo while looking in the direction of Maria's group; it was as if he knew they were there.

While glaring at Damien's back, Leonardo responded.

"I didn't forget. I will follow your orders. At least for now."

Leonardo said the last part rather inaudibly.

The group decided to camp on this floor tonight.