

Domain 521

Chapter 521

In the end, as expected, clearing the dungeon had been relatively easy. Ryan just had defeated with relative ease a true predator of the seas, after all. A giant crab wouldn't be the monster that would make him face some hardships underwater.

Congratulations! You have cleared the dungeon and obtained its treasure! As a reward for your achievement, you can obtain one of the three following classes: Templar, Magic Archer, and Sorcerer.

Please be aware that clearing this dungeon again won't give you the chance to unlock the other remaining classes. If you want to obtain them, you will have to search for those in other dungeons.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Magic Archer!

You obtained the following skills: Radiant Arrow, Stunning Trap, and Nerve Arrow.

Your dexterity and stamina will increase by four points. Your mana, health, speed, and control will increase by two points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Radiant Arrow.

Effect: A special arrow that causes damage and blinds the enemy for a moment.

Cost: 50 mana.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Stunning Trap.

Effect: It grants the user the chance to create a magic trap able to stun your foes for a second.

Cost: 50 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Nerve Arrow.

Effect: A special arrow that decreases the mentality of your target for ten seconds. The amount of mentality decreased will be equal to the level of the skill, and this effect can stack.

Cost: 50 mana per attack.

You obtained 01 status point.

“It feels like forever since the last time I obtained a true archery-related class,” Ryan nodded to himself in satisfaction once he left the ocean to take a break and breathe some air. “In any case, who could have thought that hunting in the ocean would have been such a great idea... I bet I can clear two more dungeons before sun starts to set.”

“It looks like someone is getting ahead of themselves,” Femradiel said. “Anyway, after all this exploration, didn’t you notice anything stranger.”

“I noticed many strange things, you will have to be more specific than that,” Ryan said.

“I am talking about the number of monsters and their species,” Femradiel said. “It must be obvious, but few dungeon masters would try to create underwater dungeons since it isn’t an environment where most monsters could fight. Dungeon masters create dungeons in places where they have a certain advantage, but despite that things are too peaceful underwater... as if someone is already ruling the seas.”

Ryan nodded after hearing that... It made a lot of sense. Moreover, given that the Azure Seahorses were probably working for Poseidon, they weren't putting much of a fight, and Ryan couldn't imagine a mythological creature that could dominate the seas. As if that wasn't enough, the Hydras that Gustavo mentioned, for some reason, Ryan felt that they were working for a dungeon master and not for themselves. That was the only explanation as to why they were so keen to destroy their domain.

"Do you think a dungeon master created several underwater dungeons to make a single species of monsters prey on all others to become stronger?" Ryan asked.

"I can't think of any other reason as to why the Megalodons lost their sovereignty over the oceans so fast," Femradiel replied.

That theory didn't make much sense, and that was weird given that Femradiel's theories always make sense. Despite that, Ryan couldn't discard the possibility. As far as he knew, dungeon masters were too unpredictable, and their strategies could vary quite a lot since they were part of this 'game' for several millennia.

Ryan had to solve the mystery of the oceans as fast as possible, but that would be quite a difficult task since locating himself underwater was extremely difficult, and his senses were also dulled. After thinking for a while, aside from using a Megalodon to help him on that task, Ryan decided to use Seal to speed up things as well. Since some monsters had the Water Breathing technique, Ryan could create some equipment that would have that ability at a level much higher than his. At the very least, he should use them to make sure that he won't suffocate due to a time limit while fighting bosses.

Ryan also decided to finally test the power of his electric-based skills. Much to his surprise, he noticed that the attacks didn't damage or shock him. While the more the projectiles traveled, the more they lost their elemental affinity. They only electrocuted anything when they entered in contact with something.

After returning to where the Azure Seahorses were spawning, Ryan created a single ring that would grant him that skill at a high level. He didn't actually test how long he could stay underwater while wearing a single one of them, but it probably would help him hold his breath for a few hours.

Deep Ocean Ring (+8)

Effect: it grants you the effects of the skill Water Breathing Lv 160.

Durability Lv 50/50

“All right, now we just need a Megalodon to use as a taxi and killing machine,” Ryan said.

“I wish you luck trying to ride one,” Femradiel said. “Hopefully, you won’t pass out when the creature reaches absurd speeds in the ocean and your brain won’t receive some damage as well.”

“Your optimism always encourages me, Femradiel,” Ryan said.

In any case, while obtaining tier two classes were nice and all, Ryan couldn’t afford to keep clearing them forever. To obtain answers about the situation in the seas, he had to look for the tier three dungeons that were hidden there. Ryan knew that was a pretty risky plan, but he was the type that couldn’t focus on the grinding without knowing what his enemies were up to.

“All right, Femradiel,” Ryan said. “Where is the direction in which we can find the dungeon that has the highest concentration of mana?”

Chapter 522

Even though her senses were pretty good, it took Femradiel a while to find a tier-three dungeon. The dungeon was located hundreds of kilometers away from the coast, so when they found it, it was already dark.

“I can pinpoint the location of some monsters below us, but you won’t be able to use Appraisal on them, right?” Femradiel asked. “You need a clear view of them for the skill to work and in this type of situation, it won’t happen.”

“Indeed,” Ryan said and then rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “Still, I feel like leaving now would be a waste of time. I want to train Lunar Arrow whenever I have the chance, after all.”

Attacking the monsters was possible, and Lunar Arrow probably won't lose any power since it isn't a physical projectile, so the chances of Ryan killing the tier three monsters in a single shot were pretty high. However, doing so without knowing about their skills and attributes was just too reckless, even for Ryan's standards.

After thinking for a while, Ryan decided that he will have to take his chances to obtain the Intel that he wanted. Fortunately, he wasn't alone, so he could decrease the level of danger by relying on Femradiel.

"Femradiel, you will use Teleport and make me get close to the nearest enemy that is alone," Ryan declared. "After that, I will do the rest of the job."

"If you say so," Femradiel said. "Let's hope you mess by entering a range you aren't using at fighting."

Without giving a proper warning, Femradiel just teleported Ryan underwater. Since the monster wasn't far away from the surface, Ryan didn't feel weird by suddenly appearing below sea level.

In front of him, Ryan found another creature that had a light blue body. However, that one closely resembled a real fish. The beast had light blue and yellow scales covering some parts of its body. Instead of ears, the monster had fins. At the same time, the upper layer of the body was humanoid, but the lower layer was like the one which belonged to a fish. As expected, as if that was a standard weapon for the warriors of the oceans, the creature had a trident.

Triton Lv 500

Health: 46.000/46.000

Mana: 62.000/62.000

Stamina: 37.000/37.000

Strength: 4500 (+ 1200)

Dexterity: 3300 (+ 800)

Speed: 3100 (+ 500)

Intelligence: 4500 (+ 800)

Endurance: 3100 (+ 900)

Control: 3500 (+ 600)

Mentality: 3500 (+ 600)

Luck: 2000 (+ 300)

Recovery: 18.000 (+ 4000)

Willpower: 3500 (+ 600)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Aquatic Charge Lv 400, Harpoon Lv 300

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Strength Lv 350, Improved Recovery Lv 300, Swim Lv 600

Spells: Water Cannon Lv 350, Ice Spear Lv 300

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv 600, Water Breathing Lv 600, Electric Resistance Lv 200, Shock Resistance Lv 150

Ryan was caught off guard, given that the monster was even more powerful than the Azure Seahorses. However, the very moment the creature swung its spear, Ryan used Lunar Arrow. At lightning speed, the projectile fell from the sky and hit the monster's back, damaging its spinal cord. At least Ryan thought that had happened. He had no idea if monsters actually have a spinal cord.

Although the creature's status was pretty impressive, a single attack on its back had been enough to paralyze the beast. Ryan easily avoided the attack and then grabbed the monster's body and left the ocean by using Teleport since other monsters were around. He couldn't let them notice his presence.

"It looks like their vision isn't that amazing at night..." Ryan frowned while looking at the paralyzed monster that still was alive. "Hey, Femradiel, can you read his mind and find some useful information?"

"I can only see what he is thinking right now," Femradiel replied. "But even if I ask some questions, we won't obtain any decent Intel since he is just an ordinary monster. You will need a boss for that."

That made sense. In the end, before the monster could recover from the damage, Ryan beat the crap out of the creature and then used Seal on the monster's body and then transferred his spirit to a crossbow.

Aquatic Hunter Crossbow

Effect: it passively increases the power of your attacks by one point for every minute you stay underwater. The bonus damage disappears once you leave the ocean. Each bolt costs 50 points of mana.
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Dexterity + 130, Intelligence + 90

Durability: 100/100

“Nice, another interesting weapon for my arsenal,” Ryan nodded to himself in satisfaction and then teleported the Triton’s body in the distance. “The bonus will increase exponentially while I upgrade the weapon, so I should do it before I challenge the boss.”

“You really like to create new weapons, huh,” Femradiel said. “I guess everyone needs a hobby, but yours is quite weird.”

“You are in no position to say that, I know that dragons love to guard and increase their treasure,” Ryan said.

“I am more practical than mist dragons, if it isn’t useful to me in the short and medium term, I don’t consider most things a treasure,” Femradiel said. “Still, this habit of yours is making me change my mind a little bit.”

It was only natural since Femradiel already knew how useful a huge set of crossbows could be useful when used alongside the Magic Bow skill. That being said, the cost of mana of all weapons Ryan had in store was quite something.

In any case, now that Ryan had an idea of what he was going to face next, he could adapt his plans. First of all, he decided to upgrade his newest crossbow up to plus eight since that was the limit of the skill. To make sure that would proceed as smoothly as possible, Ryan used the same strategy to capture the Tritons. As expected, it took a while for Ryan to find the perfect conditions, but he succeeded in achieving his goal in the end.

Class: Artemis’ Disciple Lv 04 (+ 04 UP) / Frozen Spellcaster Lv 05 (+ 04 UP) / Monk Lv 16 (–)

Race: Night Demon /Reptilian/ Ice Fox (–)

Rank: 51st

Health: 4970/4970 (11,74/s)

Mana: 6520/6520 (11,74/s)

Stamina: 6950/6950 (11,74/s)

Strength: 631 (+428) (+130)

Dexterity: 5150 (+4155) (+350)

Speed: 1120 (+1910) (+48)

Intelligence: 981 (+1604) (+33)

Endurance: 858 (+309) (+160)

Control: 926 (+2040) (+10)

Mentality: 908 (+433) (+70)

Luck: 1030 (+35)

Recovery: 3450 (+2750) (+845)

Willpower: 930 (+409) (+40)

Coins: 3.652.992

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Flurry Lv 01, Bash Lv 01, Headbutt Lv 01, Ki Explosion Lv 01, Tiger Cannon Lv 01, Defend Lv 01, Inspire Lv 01, Radiant Arrow Lv 01, Stunning Trap Lv 01, Nerve Arrow Lv 01,

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Concentration Lv 85 (+ 05 UP), Enhanced Concentration Lv 39 (+ 04 UP), Dark Vision Lv 09 (+ 08 UP),

Spells: Earth Creation Lv 13 (+ 12 UP), Summon Ice Golem Lv 19 (+ 18 UP),

Support Skills:

Classes:

Combat: Beastmaster Weapons Master Lv 75 (+ 08 UP), Butcher Lv 09 (+ 08 UP), Spearman Lv 13 (+ 12 UP), Viking Lv 12 (+ 11 UP), Champion Lv 10 (+ 09 UP), Crusader Lv 01, Barbarian Lv 01, Magic Archer Lv 01

Non-Combatant: Blacksmith Lv 45 (+ 05 UP), Whitesmith Lv 28 (+ 06 UP), Alchemist Lv 55 (+ 03 UP)

Race: Centaur, Lesser Dragon, Kobold,

Chapter 523

In the end, clearing an underwater dungeon at night was just too reckless, even for Ryan's standards. So, Ryan decided to wait until morning, but he waited while he was underwater. The reason being the effect of the Aquatic Hunter Crossbow. When the weapon reached the eighth upgrade, the bonus damage increased considerably. As if that wasn't enough, Ryan also equipped the previous crossbow that he had made, the one who would raise his intelligence for a time.

"That is quite the combination you have there," Femradiel said. "But unless you are fast enough, you will lose the bonus of intelligence of the other crossbow."

"I know, and that is why I waited until now," Ryan said. "Thanks to sunlight, I won't miss all that much."

Although Ryan felt pretty confident with that strategy, staying underwater for several hours without proper equipment was beyond weird. While his body could withstand the environment and even recover after a couple of minutes of rest, there was no way a human would like to stay wet all the fucking time.

Regardless, before Ryan could reach the limit, he decided to attack. There was no point in wasting time, so he wouldn't be able to use his stealthy skills.

When Ryan approached the dungeon, the monster felt his presence and proceeded to move toward him. However, each one of them fell after a single second when Ryan hit them with his newest crossbow, the Aquatic crossbow, and a magic copy of his Titanium Electric Bow. While Ryan had to fire three times with each one of them, it doesn't change the fact that he had been fast and used less mana than he used with Lunar Arrow.

You obtained 250 coins.

You obtained 250 coins.

You obtained 250 coins.

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"Not bad, huh," Ryan thought. "This strategy is relatively simple, but extremely useful."

"It would be weird given how many weapons you have, that at some point, you wouldn't be able to do at least this much," Femradial said. "In any case, you don't have time to celebrate yet."

Ryan managed to slay the Tritons that were in the area, but many others were spread around. The number was pretty significant since they spawned freely, at least for a few days, without being bothered. Regardless, Ryan massaged them before they could get too close. It was a pity that whenever those creatures die, their equipment also disappears. Otherwise, Ryan would be able to make a killing by selling since they looked pretty high level.

Thanks to his magic weapons, it looked like Ryan managed to decrease considerably the difficulty of fighting underwater. However, he didn't expect things would be that convenient even though he barely had the chance to use the Aquatic Crossbow.

In any case, Ryan decided to hurry up and clear the next dungeon to take a break. After a full day of investigation, he didn't find a single answer to his questions. He had some hypotheses, but that wasn't enough.

Much to Ryan's surprise, the interior of the next dungeon was covered in a coral reef. Now that he didn't have to worry about enemies trying to surround him, he noticed that the waters were crystal clear. As expected, the dungeon master of that place probably lived in a world of very clean water. That environment was beginning to show itself on Earth.

Atlantis Royal Guard Lv 600

Health: 162.000/162.000

Mana: 143.000/143.000

Stamina: 112.000/112.000

Strength: 9500 (+ 1200)

Dexterity: 4300 (+ 800) ρ??C??(?)???

Speed: 5100 (+ 500)

Intelligence: 6500 (+ 800)

Endurance: 5100 (+ 900)

Control: 4500 (+ 600)

Mentality: 6500 (+ 600)

Luck: 2000 (+ 300)

Recovery: 58.000 (+ 4000)

Willpower: 6500 (+ 600)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Aquatic Charge Lv 400, Harpoon Lv 300

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Strength Lv 350, Improved Recovery Lv 300, Swim Lv 600

Spells: Water Cannon Lv 350, Ice Spear Lv 300

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv 600, Water Breathing Lv 600, Hydromancy Lv 500, Electric Resistance Lv 200, Shock Resistance Lv 150

Due to the fact that the coral reefs were emitting a lot of light in the last part of the dungeon, Ryan found the boss pretty easily. Fortunately, fighting in such a place wouldn't be that difficult, at least in theory. The boss's status was beyond impressive. If Ryan receives critical damage, he might die.

“I hate to say this Ryan, but you shouldn’t underestimate this guy,” Femradiel said. “You might not last long without Draconic Transformation. A fight against a boss of this level will take a lot of time and the effects of the ring were about to end.”

“Well then, I guess I need to be fast,” Ryan thought.

Ryan didn’t feel that compelled to use Draconic Transformation against the boss. While he was completely aware that the fight was going to be difficult, there were other ways to decrease the difficulty. A good preemptive strike was one of them.

Although he didn’t test what he learned before in the Giant Mantis’ world until now, Ryan decided to do that. He stored away his crossbows for a while on his back and then equipped his Titanium Electric Bow. When the arrow appeared, he charged Power Shot and also used Wind Creation and Wind Transformation around the projectile. Thanks to the vast amounts of mana Ryan was using, it didn’t take long for the projectile to become as big as a spear made of lightning.

Congratulations! The skill Wind Creations has leveled up.

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Despite the constant and surprisingly good notifications, Ryan didn’t lower his guard. The reason being the boss was looking at him. Despite the fact that he knew that a big attack was coming, the big Triton had no intention of moving from its spot. Strangely enough, the creature was right in front of the purple crystal. As if he knew that someone might try a preemptive strike and wanted to use some fools to cause a dungeon break. Ryan noticed that possibility, but even after that, he didn’t manage to relax. The boss was just too confident...

Since Ryan's weapons have been improving, he managed to charge a powerful attack like no other for twenty minutes. He could have done that for a long time. Still, since he was also putting a lot of elemental energy in his projectile, the bow began to lose some of its durability a lot sooner.

In the end, just to make sure the dumbass creature wouldn't do anything troublesome, Ryan activated Deadly Aim and Perfect Aim. After firing, Ryan felt a massive force pushing him backward. As expected, all those bonuses of the attack were finally there to ask for a price. Since Ryan already expected that, he managed to stop spinning pretty soon, only to notice the fingers of both of his hands had been broken by the attack. Even though the projectile never caused any real damage to him, the electric aura also paralyzed his fingers.

As if all that wasn't enough, the entire area began to tremble due to the impact of Ryan's attacks. However, he didn't receive any notification. The boss was still alive, and Ryan confirmed that the beast not only managed to block the attack but still was managing not to be pushed backward and hit the walls of the dungeon. Even though the monster was being electrocuted by the elemental energy Ryan had put in his arrow.

"It looked like you were right," Ryan thought and then equipped his crossbows. "I would have been done for if I had tried to face this thing fair and square."

"That possibility still exists, you know," Femradiel said, and Ryan noticed that the monster barely lost thirty percent of its max health.

That had been Ryan's strongest attack so far. It didn't matter if the environment decreased his status and the efficiency of his skills. That attack probably could have killed ten dragons if they were put one behind the other.

"Just make sure to read his mind as much as possible," Ryan said and then proceeded to attack the monster.

"I won't be able to read anything if he doesn't think about anything else aside from killing you," Femradiel said.

It was too late to think about anything else. Then, Ryan began to fire while using the Immobilizing Crossbow and the Pestilence Crossbow. There was no time or reason to use the others when the

monster endured the previous attack. Decreasing the monster speed and causing some extra damage over time would definitely help Ryan.

However, before the bolts could hit the monster, the boss did something that made the projectiles lose a lot of speed before hitting them. Even though the creature just looked at them... It wasn't Telekinesis. It was Hydromancy. Even though the boss still was busy holding back Ryan's arrow and the creature certainly wasn't a mage-type, it still could do something like that... ρ??(??)???

"No wonder this asshole was so confident and accepted my preemptive strike head-on," Ryan thought while furrowing his eyebrows.

Ryan increased his firing speed, but before that could be really effective, the boss finally stopped his first attack completely. While spinning its trident, the creature repelled all of Ryan's bolts, and using its freehand, it made Ryan move toward it.

"Hydromancy again..." Ryan thought while he was trying to counter the skill with Telekinesis.

Ryan has to change this tactic again and quickly. In the end, he just created several copies of his Electric crossbows. He hoped that the elemental damage would be enough to make the dungeon boss suffer damage. In the end, the attacks indeed caused some damage, but recovery of the creature alone was enough to counter it.

"Damn, to think this fucking boss would be this..." Ryan thought, but then his thoughts vanished when the creature finally swam toward him.

Ryan somehow managed to react on time and move toward the other side of the dungeon. Still, he confirmed his fears when he saw the beast hitting the dungeon's wall and then making the entire place tremble. He changed his mind. A critical attack wouldn't be enough to kill him. Any attack at that level would.

Ryan's plans to weaken the enemy weren't effective against that type of opponent, so he had to return to the basics. If Ryan couldn't weaken the enemy and charged attacks weren't that useful, Ryan just had to improve his main attributes.

After getting and using several DEX potions from his storage dimension, Ryan began to fire again. This time, when the boss tried to charge, its speed decreased considerably, and Ryan saw some blood coming from the creature's hands.

"Yeah, just like this..." Ryan thought.

Ryan's increase in power surprised the monster, but not enough to completely change the tide of the battle. Suddenly, the dungeon boss threw its spear at Ryan. Without thinking, Ryan teleported to the side. Still, in the very moment, he reappeared, and the trident hit the wall. The dungeon boss hit him with an elbow attack. The air escaped completely from Ryan's lungs, but he managed to use full-heal before his health could drop to zero. However, he was forced to clench his teeth and use the skill again when his back was hit against the dungeon's wall.

Even while his eyes were closed, Ryan knew that the monster would attack again. Hence, he used Teleport to appear behind the purple crystal. That was the only place he could think of in such a short time. Ryan didn't have many options to change the tide of the battle, so he decided to risk everything with a semi-suicidal attack. Before the monster could find him or recover its weapon, Ryan fired several Poison Bombs at the creature. When the creature saw that small and relatively small object moving towards itself, it punched without thinking about it and destroyed it. The water around the boss turned green, and that blinded the beast a little bit.

"I am going to pollute your habitat a little bit," Ryan thought. "Don't hate me for it."

"As expected of Ryan," Femradiel said. "You refuse to use power ups like Draconic Transformation, but you still can use underhanded and dirty tactics like this."

Chapter 525

Ignoring Femradiel's words, in just a few seconds, Ryan turned the whole crystal-clear water of the last part of the dungeon into a deadly prison of poisonous water in a matter of seconds. Just as Ryan had expected, the poison wasn't escaping from the dungeon due to the barrier that prevented anyone from escaping from a boss battle.

The beast was caught off guard since Ryan only used bolts and arrows to attack until now. In any case, Ryan used that chance to attack the semi-blinded monster with real Poisonous arrows. Still, as expected, the beast noticed the approach of the projectile by the movement in the water.

“He won’t go down that easy...” Ryan thought. “In that case...”

Ryan fired some magic arrows, and the boss repelled them again. However, one attack came that the creature failed at blocking. A Cursed Ray passed through the trident and hit the boss’s body. It wasn’t much, but Ryan decreased the attributes of the creature.

The very moment the boss decided to counterattack, the Cursed Ray stopped. The creature dashed toward where Ryan was, but in the end, the monster only hit the dungeon walls. That wasn’t supposed to be possible. Even if Ryan used Teleport to escape, he should have moved the water around a little bit. While the boss was thinking about what happened, another Cursed Ray hit its back.

“As expected, Silent Movement also works like this,” Ryan thought.

“If you don’t know this, Cursed Ray can decrease the status that you want more than the others,” Femradiel said. “You just have to aim at the right part of the enemy’s body.”

Ryan wanted to complain about why she didn’t mention such valuable information sooner, but he didn’t have time for that. He had to Teleport and escape from the boss attack again. Besides, it wasn’t like he could properly aim the monster’s legs. Ryan couldn’t see the beast. He could only imagine his position thanks to Radar.

After using that same tactic a few more times, the boss finally decided to do something different. While Ryan was hitting the creature with Cursed Ray, the monster used Hydromancy and somehow managed to put all the poison that covered the last part of the dungeon in a single sphere of water that was big as itself. Ryan couldn’t help but frown at that since one crazy level of skill was necessary to separate the poison that has been mixed with the water for the past few minutes. As if that wasn’t enough, the monster turned the sphere poison into a green sphere of ice to seal it completely.

Despite that, Ryan didn’t feel bothered by it since he decreased the boss’s speed considerably while the creature was busy. Not only that, but the health of the beast also reached the halfway point. Besides, seeing that much ice gave Ryan some ideas... p??J??(?)???

When the boss dashed toward Ryan again, this time, he didn't have time to dodge. However, the creature's trident only pierced a mirror of ice. The ice shards caused some damage, but they only caused a few scratches.

A few seconds after, Ryan hit the monster's legs with Cursed Ray again. However, despite the fact that the beast lost some speed, it still hit Ryan when it dashed again... or so the monster thought. The very moment its trident touched Ryan's chest, Ryan transformed into the sphere of frozen poison. The shards cut the boss's body in several parts, causing considerable damage and even poisoning the beast again. It was all thanks to Ryan's Substitution skill.

Instead of getting carried away with success, Ryan used Telekinesis to make some of the ice shards pierce the boss's body. Much to Ryan's surprise, the boss didn't try to dodge or block the shards. While the creature was bleeding, it was just at Ryan with a murderous gaze. It has been a while since he felt that 'how dare you wound me like this mongrel' like a gaze, so he only felt refreshed by it, but not for long.

While spinning its trident, the boss created a whirlpool-like attack that was pulling Ryan towards it. He managed to evade it using Telekinesis alone. Still, then the creature used Hydromancy as well, and things got suddenly more difficult. As if that wasn't troublesome enough, Ryan began to feel that uncomfortable agony in his chest growing in power... he was running out of air.

"It looks like this attack is making the oxygen inside you being used faster," Femradiel said.

"That is obvious," Ryan said while frowning. "Any idea how I can counter this?"

"Without using Draconic Transformation? No," Femradiel replied while shrugging.

Ryan felt pretty stupid for asking, but in the end, he didn't let that bother him for long. He wasn't in a situation where he could let anything else bother him. After all, he was running out of air, and the boss was using its secret technique made to suffocate its targets or to prevent them from escaping a melee fight.

Ryan's magic projectiles probably won't have any effect since the whirlpool will make them change directions before hitting the boss. Besides, the Triton can always use ice magic to block them, so Ryan really was in a bind...

"No other choice, huh..." Ryan bit his lips in annoyance since he was considering using Draconic Transformation.

However, in the end, Ryan changed his mind when he had a certain idea. It was kind of risky since he was running out of air and won't have time to think of anything else, but Ryan decided to bet all his coins on it.

Ryan fired several Poison Bombs, but they exploded even more, they could hit the Triton, but in the end, that worked in Ryan's favor. In a brief moment, several Poison Bombs exploded and made Ryan escape from the boss's sight. He put his real plan in action, and before the boss could notice, he was impaled by dozens of spears.

Chapter 526

The whirlpool lost power at the same time the Triton suffered critical damage by all the spears.

"Wow, not only you managed to pull that off, but your plan also worked," Femradiel said. "I am really impressed."

Ryan's plan was relatively simple. While the boss couldn't see him, he summoned thirty or so of his Spiritualist's Spears, activated Deadly Aim and Perfect Aim before teleporting all of them around the boss. Somehow, Ryan managed to do that in a fraction of a second, even though he had to use all his mana.

Despite that, the Triton still was alive and conscious enough to use Hydromancy and try to move the spears away from his body.

"If you want me to obtain some Intel, you should let me make a few questions to him before killing it," Femradiel said.

“Can’t I make the questions?” Ryan thought. “Oh wait... I can’t speak underwater.”

In order to prevent Ryan from learning Telepathy, Femradiel used a roundabout way to use that skill. She summoned an ice golem and then used Animalistic Transference while she also was draining the mana from the monster to prevent the creature from trying anything. In the end, Femradiel suddenly killed the beast.

“What was that?” Ryan thought.

“This is one of the guys who you can’t break no matter what,” Femradiel replied. “Anyway, I learned a few things, but you are running out of air.”

When Ryan heard that, he panicked. For some reason, he stayed fine while Femradiel was using his body, but then suddenly, things got agonizing again. In a hurry, Ryan opened the treasure chest and didn’t even think too much about it. He just chose the usual option and then teleported outside.

Congratulations! You have cleared the dungeon and obtained its treasure! As a reward for your achievement, you can obtain one of the three following classes: Royal Knight, Royal Archer, and Caster.

Please be aware that clearing this dungeon again won’t give you the chance to unlock the other remaining classes. If you want to obtain them, you will have to search for those in other dungeons.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Royal Archer!

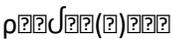
You obtained the following skills: Vital Hunter, Mana Falcon, and True Sniping.

Your dexterity and stamina will increase by six points. Your health, mana, speed, and control will increase by three points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Vital Hunter.

Effect: It decreases your foe's endurance by one point per level during ten seconds. The effect can stack and will last for ten seconds after the last use of the skill

Cost: 50 mana per attack

You obtained 01 status point. 

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Mana Falcon.

Effect: It creates a falcon made of mana that will pursue a determined target, and it will explode upon contact.

Cost: 100 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: True Sniping.

Effect: it grants you extra damage when causing critical hits. The extra damage is equal to the level of the skill multiplied by ten points.

You obtained 01 status point.

Ryan nodded in satisfaction since he got another class that will directly help in his main fighting style. While Mana Falcon seemed a bit weird for a skill of a bowman, the others were excellent. Vital Hunter would really come in handy many times in the future. Even though the cost was high and consumed mana after every shot. It wouldn't be a good idea to use low-level skills in such a place where Ryan's disadvantage was already too big. Still, considering its potential, Ryan decided to take his chances. But first, he had to hear about the things Femradial learned.

"Well, Femradial, what did you learn?" Ryan asked.

“Unlike what I predicted, it looks like not even the underwater dungeon bosses have the answers that you want,” Femradiel replied. “The reason being that their dungeon master is a pretty serious guy who thinks too highly of himself and doesn’t share the important stuff with his followers.”

“I am waiting for more details,” Ryan said.

“As you expected, the dungeon master who is controlling the oceans truly is Poseidon,” Femradiel said. “He indeed created dozens of underwater dungeons all over the planet just to make sure that his monsters would grow stronger fighting each other and eventually would reach the top of the food chain of these parts.”

“Poseidon...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows.

“I saw him, Ryan and I am one hundred percent sure that guy is seriously bad news,” Femradiel said, and she seemed strangely worried. “That guy talked with hi Triton only once even though he was a member of his Royal Guard. Not to mention, he looked at him as if he was a piece of trash that didn’t deserve to stay hundreds of meters away from him.”

“Well, he is a Greek god, so I already expected a real haughty and prideful individual,” Ryan said.

“He is many times more prideful and haughty than you can imagine,” Femradiel said. “Based on the look of his eyes, I can assure that Poseidon isn’t coming to obtain followers on Earth. He is coming to destroy and conquer without caring about the human race. If he doesn’t care about his followers, he certainly won’t care about the well-being of another species.”

After hearing Femradiel’s worried words, Ryan began to ponder about what might happen if Poseidon genuinely becomes the first dungeon master to have the chance to show itself and its true power on Earth. Few creatures could make dragons become wary of them, so if even Femradiel was warning Ryan that intensely, then perhaps he has to worry about the severity of the situation and change his plans accordingly. However, in the end, Ryan couldn’t do much aside from obtaining more classes and decreased a little bit the number of monsters in the oceans.

“Let’s take a break,” Ryan said and then sighed. “I want to check things in my domain before continuing with this.”

Chapter 527

In the end, aside from the fact that Ryan had to summon some Giant Bees and Golems that had died fighting inside the dungeon, nothing had changed in his domain. Ryan upgraded his domain a little bit, but it would take a while before other dungeons are close enough to enter.

Area Lv 27: 75 square miles Level UP cost: 690.000 coins or 6.900.000 mana

Monsters Book Lv 10 Level UP cost: 5.500 coins or 55.000 mana

Barrier Lv 15 Level UP cost: 15.000 coins or 150.000 mana

Army Lv 14 Level UP cost: 29.000 coins or 290.000 mana

Dungeon T1 Lv 52 (71%) Level UP cost: 104.000 coins or 1.040.000 mana

Coins stored: 1.885.338 Mana stored: 7.623.222

“Now that I think about it, I cleared some dungeons that broke several times but didn’t have enough spawned monsters and bosses,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “There were no signs of battles in those places... so I guess the number of monsters was small because the dungeon master didn’t have enough coins and mana stored to make all the monsters that could appear spawn. The seventh dungeon break is going to take place in ten days, maybe I should save coins and mana for that.”

Until now, his Frozen Slime’s dungeon hasn’t been cleared yet, and the times Ryan checked it, there wasn’t a single sign of any creature entering the dungeon, so he assumed things would proceed accordingly.

“Femradiel, can’t you create your new body already?” Ryan asked.

“No, it will take a while since you are using a lot more mana than usual,” Femradiel said. “But it is fine, I am still deciding a few details in my mind.”

Ryan really wanted to see Femradiel’s tyrant form, even though she didn’t say that she would create that type of body anything soon. Regardless, Ryan felt like he was looking for reasons to slack off. He didn’t want to fight in the ocean anytime soon since he felt weaker than usual. Still, then again, that would be such a waste considering the fact that finding dungeons easy to clear was relatively easy.

“If that is the case, let’s return to the ocean...” Ryan said and then sighed. “We obtained some intel in the last fight, so now I think we should check things over the coast instead of moving away to find certain dungeons.”

“Are you fine with that?” Femradiel asked. “You really were looking forward to clearing the tier three underwater dungeons.”

“No, but I need to confirm other things,” Ryan said. “Even if he is the god of the oceans, and he is extremely prideful and haughty, Poseidon is obviously someone cautious. That is why he created several dungeons underwater. Someone like him probably put some dungeons in strategic points around the coast of all continents.”

“I suppose that makes sense,” Femradiel said. “So, you want to look for those dungeons and then delay his plans a little bit.”

That was the gist of things, but instead of just strategically causing problems for Poseidon, Ryan felt like harassing him just because he truly wanted to. Someone like him who treats his subjects that poorly certainly deserved an ass-kicking. Even more so when the creatures that served under him obeyed him by their own volition, unlike Ryan’s monsters that were completely bound by his will. It looked like Ryan was a bit jealous, but he would never say that out loud.

“To make things proceed a bit faster, you should let me use Teleport in your place,” Femradiel said. “It will be too much of a pain to tell you the exact place you need to go.”

“All right, just remember than my goal is to find any place that might be an advantageous place for Ryan to build a military base and tier three dungeons near the coast,” Ryan said. “Although he will

probably rebuild his kingdom somewhere in the Mediterranean, we can't ignore any place that might look suspicious."

"Understood," Femradiel said.

While they had a lot of ground to cover up North, Ryan and Femradiel didn't want to stay for long in freezing waters. In fact, they didn't want to stay even for a couple of minutes. While both of them had a high level of Cold Resistance and they probably had the advantage up North, they doubted they would find any sign of Poseidon's army. Besides, warm waters were pretty comfy.

"... I can sense a tier three dungeon a few kilometers away from here," Femradiel said. "The number of monsters around is relatively high."

"What type of monsters are there?" Ryan asked.

"It is hard to say, I can feel the presence of several types of monsters," Femradiel replied.

That was odd... but then Ryan considered the possibility that some species were hunting another stronger one. If the attackers belonged to Poseidon's army, then everything would make perfect sense.

Femradiel returned to Ryan the control over his body, and then he approached the area mentioned. Even from far away, Ryan could tell that some fierce battle was taking place there since that part of the ocean had become slightly red.

Instead of entering the water, Ryan kept his distance and then used Clairvoyance. The sunlight helped me see things clearly on the underwater battlefield. In the end, Ryan opened his eyes widely in surprise when he saw a group of Megalodons attacking some Tritons and Azure Seahorses. As expected, the megalodons were fighting alone, and the other two species were working together.

"Another Triton's dungeon," Ryan said and then rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "To think that such a high-level dungeon would be this close to Miami... but what is the purpose given that they can't leave the ocean?"

Before Ryan could find a proper answer to that question, he felt the approach of something. Not from the air, but from underwater... in an instant, something joined the fight and attacked the megalodons. This time Ryan opened his eyes widely in shock when he saw a single Hydra wiping out the megalodons in a single instant.

Chapter 528

Hydra Lv 750

Health: 380.000/380.000

Mana: 250.000/250.000

Stamina: 244.000/244.000

Strength: 13.500 (+ 2200)

Dexterity: 8500 (+ 1800)

Speed: 10.000 (+ 1500)

Intelligence: 7500 (+ 1800)

Endurance: 7600 (+ 900)

Control: 4500 (+ 1600)

Mentality: 7500 (+ 1600)

Luck: 2000 (+ 300)

Recovery: 120.000 (+ 20.000)

Willpower: 7500 (+ 1600)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Devour Lv 700, Paralyzing Bite Lv 600

Passive Physical Skills: Enhanced Strength Lv 400, Enhanced Recovery Lv 300, Swim Lv Max

Spells: Haste Lv 400, Tsunami Lv 400, Sea Storm Lv 400

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv 800, Water Breathing Lv 900, Hydromancy Lv 600, Electric Resistance Lv 400, Shock Resistance Lv 350

“What the hell? Level 750?” Ryan almost shouted due to the surprise. “And those statuses... that is insane.”

“No wonder your friends in Brazil are having a hard time against them,” Femradiel said.

“They are not my friends...” Ryan frowned.

“You really like to say that, don’t you?” Femradiel asked. ρ???ϕ??(?)???

It was hard to know if that Hydra was a boss or not, but if Ryan had to bet, he would say that it was. The creature was similar to an eastern dragon, but its features were way more savage and rough in comparison. Moreover, that monster had a snake-like body instead of a lizard or dragon-like body as Ryan had imagined.

Regardless, as if the monsters under Poseidon's control had planned that from the very beginning, the Hydra left the area after the successful ambush.

"It looks like this god of the seas also uses some cheap tricks to power up his troops," Femradiel said.

"So, the Hydras truly are being controlled by Poseidon..." Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "I thought we would have five more months before the first dungeon master has the chance to come and show its true power on Earth, but I guess I was wrong."

"What are we going to do?" Femradiel asked. "That thing is at a level where even while using Draconic Transformation, you might lose. In fact, the chances of you losing are much higher than winning."

"... Let's follow it," Ryan declared. "I want to know the routes those creatures are using and if there are many of them in the Northern part of the Atlantic Ocean."

Femradiel sighed, but in the end, she didn't complain. Ryan's ideas were getting more insane as of late, but at least that one made some sense. Following a monster was the only thing he was planning to do for the time being. Fighting will come after once he confirms that there is no other Hydra nearby.

Much to Ryan's disbelief, he could barely follow the thirty meters long monster even though the creature was just swimming and he was teleporting. Fighting against such a monster would be quite the ordeal...

"As expected, that thing is moving around and attacking the big guns that don't belong to Poseidon's army," Femradiel said. "That thing is truly a beast whose sole purpose is to reach the max level of its dungeon."

Ryan used Telekinesis to confirm that and saw the beast attacking Megalodons whenever one entered its search range. The Hydra was so fast that not even them could react, and given that the bit of the monster could paralyze its foes, it looked like escaping or winning a fight were virtually impossible.

“Not even your arrows can move that fast,” Femradiel said. “How exactly do you plan on fighting that thing? You certainly can’t fight, even if you stay outside water.”

“You certainly are pessimistic...” Ryan said and then sighed. “I am going to use one of the first tactics my father taught me. Watch and learn.”

That was the perfect chance for Ryan to show Femradiel how awesome his father had been once as a hunter. To the point where he decided not to use any DEX potions. For a while, Ryan just waited and pursued the Hydra without doing anything. Still, then when the Hydra found another prey and opened its mouth to bite them, Ryan summoned several copies of his Immobilizing Crossbow. As expected, Femradiel frowned since that was an old tactic, but then she noticed that Ryan also activated Vital Hunter.

“Woah, incredible. You combined two negative effects,” Femradiel said. “Instead of a single attribute, you are going to decrease two without using magic... that is what I call a genius.”

“That isn’t the question, moron,” Ryan said. “You said that my projectiles will never hit the Hydra, but I just hit it. One of the best times to attack prey is when the prey is eating.”

“Who doesn’t know that?” Femradiel asked.

Now that Ryan thought about it, that was indeed a pretty simple strategy. Anyone could actually reach that conclusion... Regardless, it wasn’t time to waste time talking or thinking. Ryan’s bolts were still hitting the Hydra, but who knows for how long? As far as he could tell, a monster wouldn’t use its top-speed just to move around while looking for food.

Congratulations! The skill Vital Hunter has leveled up.

Congratulations! The skill Vital Hunter has leveled up.

Congratulations! The skill Vital Hunter has leveled up.

...

While Ryan was grinning due to the constant notifications, he suddenly stopped when he felt a shiver like no other. While Ryan was attacking the monster with bolts, the creature just stopped moving and glared at him. Even though the monster was underwater and Ryan was five kilometers above sea level.

“I guess that isn’t surprising...” Ryan gulped. “That thing has more dexterity than me.”

In the end, the Hydra just moved downward until it reached a point where sunlight couldn’t reach... As expected, the beast could even live at such a deep level. After Ryan’s bolts reached one hundred meters below sea level, they stopped hitting the Hydra.

“Well, at least you can learn from a failure,” Femradiel said. “So, don’t feel too bad about it.”

“Why would I feel too bad about it when I learned so much from that monster?” Ryan asked. “Now I know exactly what I should do to kill that thing.”

Chapter 529

Femradiel had no idea how much Ryan actually learned after the failure. Still, she concluded it hadn’t been much since he spent the entire day doing nothing and just stayed in the same place he had been when he attacked the Hydra.

The truth is, Ryan didn’t spend the day doing nothing. Femradiel just didn’t know what he had done. After sunset, Ryan approached the ocean, then suddenly and out of nowhere, something jumped from the completely dark ocean. Even Femradiel didn’t notice the Hydra’s approach, but Ryan did. Despite that, the Hydra approached faster than he could escape with Teleport and ate him as a whole.

“HHUUUUUUUUUUUAAAAAAAAARREERRGGGGGGGGHHHH.”

Before the monster could fall into the ocean, the creature screamed from the depths of its soul. Ryan watched the monster vomit a lot of blood, but he wasn't done yet. Ten shooting stars passed through the dark sky and hit the Hydra. Despite the low level, that Ryan's most powerful offensive skill... and yet, it barely pierced the monster's face.

"You really have Steel nerves," Femradiel said. "I didn't notice when you hid the Spiritualists Spears in the ocean and used Substitution. You also had the chance to fire ten Lunar Arrows... too bad that all that only made the Hydra lose fifty percent of its health."

Ryan couldn't help but feel annoyed since Femradiel managed to see his plan in action, even though he tried really hard to shut her smart mouth. However, Ryan didn't give up yet.

After decreasing his altitude again, Ryan waited for another surprise attack that never came. As expected, even though the creature was a monster, it wouldn't fall for the same trick twice. Ryan used Search to track the monster during the whole day, and he still was using it to confirm that the Hydra was around. However, even though the monster was close enough and Ryan was walking on the ocean's surface, the creature didn't try to attack him.

"What a troublesome monster..." Ryan said and then sighed. "It already knows that it can't surprise me, but it is violent enough not to leave alone a prey like me."

In the end, Ryan decided to accept some risks in order to try to kill the monster before it can heal or try to get rid of the spears inside its mouth. Ryan deactivated Water Walking, and then he began to sink. Still, he only felt the Hydra's movements when he was almost one hundred meters below sea level.

This time, much to Femradiel and the Hydra's surprise, Ryan didn't try any trick. He was hit in full by the Hydra's face, but before the monster could eat him, the creature trembled viciously.

"Seriously... how can you go this far and not use Draconic Transformation?" Femradiel asked.

Ryan almost passed out from the impact, and by the speed, the Hydra could move. Still, not only he endured and survived the attack, but he also managed to use Telepathy and make the spears inside the Hydra's mouth pierce the beast's flesh even further. The pain slowed down the beast, who tried to shake off Ryan, who was semi-stuck between the monster's teeth.

Ryan summoned his Magic Bows and then attacked again with his bolts that could decrease endurance and speed. However, even though he was firing and hitting the insides of the monster's mouth, he barely was causing any real damage. As if that wasn't bad enough, the Hydra suddenly stopped moving to the sides and then began to dive downward. ρ??(??)???

"Crap, this is bad..." Ryan thought in shock.

Ryan tried to move away from the monster, but he failed, and, in the end, he ended up teleporting himself and the beast to outside the ocean. For some reason, that cost a lot more mana than usual, but at least Ryan escaped from the monster's devious plan.

Since they weren't in the ocean, there wasn't much the Hydra could do, so Ryan tried to free himself... only to fail miserably again. Before he could think of anything, the weather in the area suddenly changed. A massive downpour began to fall, and lightning bolts began to hit the ocean. The light emitted by them made Ryan see something that he didn't like... in the distance. Dozens of incredibly large whirlwinds were moving toward him and the Hydra.

"I guess this is the special skill of the Hydra's, the dragon's rage," Femradiel said.

"Why are you so calm and talk as if this problem isn't yours?" Ryan asked. "I am pretty sure this skill has another name."

Before Ryan could complain, even more, he and the Hydra fell on the ocean again. However, the monster made sure to let its face out of water in order to split him apart from the whirlwinds. Ryan panicked as they approached and tried to focus his Telekinesis on a single spear, the one who was closest to the monster's brain. Still, despite that, he failed at preventing the attack.

"Now is the time, Ryan," Femradiel said.

Although Ryan wanted to say no, it looked like this time he didn't have any other choice. However, in the end, Ryan decided to bet his life anyway. Who would die first? He or the Hydra? To make sure things would be as unpleasant as possible for the Hydra, Ryan summoned a Fire Golem inside the monster's mouth and immediately made the creature self-destruct.

The whirlwinds that were already pulling Ryan away from the monster's mouth lost some power and speed, but soon they recovered.

"I guess it isn't going to be that easy..." Ryan said and then sighed.

The whirlwinds finally pulled Ryan away from the Hydra. However, he had to pay the price for it. The monster's teeth dilacerated everything below his waist, and once again, the pain almost made him faint.

Before the power of the winds could pull Ryan's limbs from his body, he used Teleport to escape to the most unexpected place... to inside the Hydra's mouth, who was already deep underwater.

Chapter 530

Ryan tried to touch several spears in order to recover some mana, but in the end, he only managed to touch five. Despite that, in just a second, he recovered one thousand points of mana.

Instead of getting excited, Ryan used Telepathy and began to use INT potions like there was no tomorrow. At that point in time, everything aside from using Draconic Transformation was allowed.

"Screw it," Ryan thought. "You will regret picking a fight with me."

"But you were the one who started the fight," Femradiel said.

Much to Ryan's surprise, the Hydra didn't try to dive even more profound than it already was. That was strange since the monster was smart enough to understand why Ryan used Teleport on himself and on the Hydra. Still, then he considered the possibility that the creature had to stay relatively close to the surface to control Sea Storm.

When Ryan's INT potions had all been used, he decided to go all out. First of all, he teleported himself and the creature back to the storm above the ocean. Immediately, both of them were caught in the air and spinning like crazy due to the whirlwinds, but Ryan didn't let that stop him. Now that the water-

“Did you eat something weird?” Femradiel asked. “It is kind of strange to hear you admit your weaknesses like that.”

Ryan sighed... to think that Femradiel could make such a comment at that time. It looked like she had already been corrupted by Ryan’s sarcasm. Regardless, it has been a while, but Ryan found another enemy that he couldn’t win against. The last time such a thing happened was probably when he faced the demons. Although he couldn’t imagine himself winning in a severe fight against Yahiko and Alissa, they weren’t enemies.

“For the time being, I need to go become stronger as fast as possible and then try to hunt some of these fuckers again,” Ryan said and then kicked the Hydra’s corpse. “The only way I know to do that is by clearing dungeons and leveling up my classes that are at a low-level.”

Ryan’s archery classes would help him more to improve his main fighting style, but against monsters such as Hydra, just using a bow or crossbow and then try to keep his distance from them was impossible... or maybe not. After checking his skill list, Ryan found a skill that he had neglected until now that could help him with that. It was Evading Shot. Attacking while using that skill and Ryan’s most powerful crossbows would consume a lot of mana, but he didn’t have much of choice. To increase his attack speed and firepower output, some problems have to be accepted.

“You can return to your own training, Femradiel,” Ryan said. “Speaking of which, it is almost the time you mentioned, right? For the familiars to become as strong as your previous self.”

“Yeah, but why stop now when they can become even stronger?” Femradiel asked. “You are so stubborn that you refuse to use Draconic Transformation, so I can’t see you using them anytime soon. I should just let them keep training until the real fight begins.”

“If you say so,” Ryan shrugged.

“In any case, now I have to create a body that will be more useful in underwater battles,” Femradiel said. “I suppose that one will cost less mana to create than the Tyrant form.”

While Femradiel was mumbling to herself, Ryan looked for the nearest dungeon that he hadn’t been cleared yet. This time he wouldn’t mess up, he had already discovered several methods to keep improving, and Ryan just had to find the perfect balance between them.

“That will be difficult, but in the end, I reached a point where I can’t choose the way to become strong,” Ryan said to himself. “I have to use them all.”

Chapter 531

Maybe it was due to the fact that he lost a lot of blood for some other reason. Still, after the fight against the Hydra, Ryan was so hungry that he ended up eating the last dozen dragon hearts on the same day. Also, strangely enough, his body felt full of vigor after those meals.

When Ryan found a dungeon that was spawning Desert Wolves, he didn’t hesitate in attacking the monsters with some Stone Bullets. They were pretty fast, so they would be the perfect test subjects for Evading Shot.

Instead of just using the skill when a monster dashed at him, Ryan waited until the last moment to use it. Basically, he just used it when he felt the bad smell coming from the monster’s mouths. Then he would use Evading Shot, hit the interior of the nearest monster, and then appear ten meters away from the previous location.

You obtained 120 coins.

“It isn’t a skill like Flash and Teleport,” Ryan muttered to himself after he saw Evading Shot in action. “Essentially, it is just high-speed movement skill that, unlike the others, can be stopped and seen.”

That seemed a bit problematic, but soon Ryan confirmed that wasn’t the case. When a pack of Desert Wolves tried to jump toward him, Ryan hit them almost at the same time and then appeared forty-five meters away from his previous position.

You obtained 120 coins.

You obtained 120 coins.

You obtained 120 coins.

...

Congratulations! The skill Evading Shot has leveled up.

You obtained 01 status point.

"I see now... I will change my position based on the direction the projectile was fired," Ryan muttered to himself again.

Ryan barely noticed the sudden movements of his body when the effect of the skill took place. He only noticed because he almost missed the last shot since he didn't consider that new fact about the skill. It was another factor that Ryan had to consider while fighting, but it would be more useful than troublesome.

In order to sharpen his sense and become more used to that skill, Ryan let the monsters approach and attack him. He only used the skill at the very last moment... but at some point, he got bored since the Desert Wolves always stared at him in confusion after he escaped his attacks. As expected, Ryan would have to face at least a middle-ranked boss to have any decent training.

Although it was unnecessary for the sake of leveling up Evading Shot, Ryan used it whenever he killed a Desert Wolf since he was recovering enough mana to do it. In the middle of the hunt, Ryan even learned a few more gimmicks of the skill. He could activate the skill even when he was using the Magic Bows alone, and the effects could stack. Not only that, Ryan's position would change according to the direction and the order his Magic Bows were fired.

"This is getting kind of complicated, but it is good that I can move without giving any sign with my body to which direction I am going," Ryan nodded to himself in satisfaction.

While Ryan was practicing Evading Shot and killing the Desert Wolves, he recalled that he should contact Gustavo and his friends. He didn't mention that probably Poseidon was controlling the Hydras, after all. So, the chances of them not knowing that were actually high. Without wasting any time, Ryan used the telepathic channel, and Gustavo accepted the call quite quick.

“Ryan? How unexpected, you never started the telepathic link before,” Gustavo said.

“I wanted to talk about the Hydras,” Ryan said. “I found a big one, and I learned a few things about the situation in the oceans. Did any of you guys tried to clear any underwater dungeons that can be found there?”

“No... that was too risky,” Gustavo said, and he sounded surprised. “You cleared some underwater dungeons and even fought against a Hydra in there?”

“That is right, I found one moving around these parts, but I guess their numbers aren’t that high in the northern part of the Atlantic,” Ryan replied.

In the end, the only thing Gustavo and his friends knew was that the Hydras were hunting other species of monsters. They learned that when their draconic partners used their powers to track those monsters down. Another thing they learned was that attacking a domain served as a real good training practice. The bigger the domain, the faster one could level up their skills. That was why the Hydras attacked Gustavo’s domain whenever possible.

Ryan didn’t obtain all that much information, but in the end, he decided to share everything he learned. After all, few people could or had the nerve to fight in the ocean, and only those who had dragons under control could fight and show their true power. While Ryan was mentioning the events of the last days, he noticed that it was quite weird that Gustavo and his friends didn’t explore the oceans, even though their Draconic Transformation was a level much higher than his.

“Poseidon, huh...” Gustavo said and then sighed. “It looks like things were getting even more difficult for the human race.”

“Do you have any idea how we can slow down the leveling up the speed of the Hydra’s dungeon?” Ryan asked. “It would also be interesting if we could find where it is. I am pretty sure it is near where you guys live.”

“No, we don’t have any idea...” Gustavo said and then sighed again. “We also think that their dungeon is indeed close by, but we can’t pinpoint its location exactly. All that we know is that there is a massive storm in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. We believe that is caused by the Sea Storm spell that is been cast by dozens of Hydras. Thus, we can’t approach it.”

“I guess that at least is a start,” Ryan said. “For the time being, we can’t do anything aside from strengthening ourselves and hope that we will have the chance to do something before Poseidon can manifest himself and show its true power on Earth.” ρ???ϕ???(?)???

Class: Artemis’ Disciple Lv 09 (+ 05 UP) / Frozen Spellcaster Lv 07 (+ 02 UP) / Monk Lv 16 (–)

Race: Night Demon /Reptilian/ Ice Fox (–)

Rank: 49th

Health: 5240/5240 (12,19/s)

Mana: 6920/6920 (12,19/s)

Stamina: 7250/7250 (12,19/s)

Strength: 831 (+458) (+130)

Dexterity: 5450 (+4355) (+350)

Speed: 1120 (+2050) (+48)

Intelligence: 1181 (+1654) (+33)

Endurance: 1158 (+329) (+160)

Control: 1326 (+2120) (+10)

Mentality: 1208 (+473) (+70)

Luck: 1030 (+40)

Recovery: 3650 (+2850) (+845)

Willpower: 1230 (+449) (+40)

Coins: 5.985.323

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Vital Hunter Lv 13 (+ 12 UP), Evading Shot Lv 12 (+ 11 UP)

Passive Physical Skills: Stealth Lv Max (+ 05 UP), Pain Resistance Lv 37 (+ 12 UP), Spearmanship Lv 54 (+ 09 UP), True Sniping Lv 09 (+ 08),

Spells: Teleport Lv 39 (+ 05 UP), Summon Fire Golem Lv 62 (+ 11 UP), Lunar Arrow Lv 07 (+ 03 UP), Clairvoyance Lv 15 (+ 05 UP), Poison Bomb Lv 14 (+ 13 UP)

Support Skills: Nocturnal Eyes Lv 49 (+ 04 UP), Wind Resistance Lv 21 (+ 06 UP),

Classes:

Combat: Summoner Lv 85 (+ 05 UP), Sniper Lv 85 (+ 06 UP), Weapons Master Lv 75 (+ 08 UP), Sentinel Lv 76 (+ 07 UP), Hexblade Lv 36 (+ 06 UP), Magic Archer Lv 03 (+ 02 UP), Royal Archer Lv 06 (+ 05 UP),

Non-Combatant: Blacksmith Lv 45 (+ 05 UP), Alchemist Lv 55 (+ 03 UP),

Race: Centaur, Lesser Dragon, Kobold,

Chapter 532

Before ending the telepathic link, Gustavo said to Ryan that he and his friends would focus only on developing some kind of strategy to hunt the Hydras. Until now, they let several other problems keep their minds busy, but now they didn't have any other choice to rely on others to solve them.

As for Ryan, he just continued to train Evading Shot. Due to that, his hunting speed decreased considerably, and he only cleared a tier two dungeon after a full day.

Congratulations! You have cleared the dungeon and obtained its treasure! As a reward for your achievement, you can obtain one of the three following classes: Knight, Slayer, and Sage.

Please be aware that clearing this dungeon again won't give you the chance to unlock the other remaining classes. If you want to obtain them, you will have to search for those in other dungeons.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Slayer!

You obtained the following skills: Quick Roll, Retaliate, and Cold Blood.

Your dexterity and stamina will increase by four points. Your mana, health, speed, and control will increase by two points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Quick Roll.

Effect: An evasive maneuver that grants the user the chance to roll on the ground in a near-instantaneous movement.

Cost: 20 stamina.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Retaliate.

Effect: It grants the user the chance to enter a state of total retaliation. By activating the skill, the user can counter all attacks delivered by a single target. The extra damage caused is equal to the level of skill.

Cost: 30 stamina per second

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Cold Blood.

Effect: It temporarily increases the attacking speed when using all types of weapons by two percent per level.

Cost: 50 mana per second.

You obtained 01 status point.

Ryan nodded to himself in satisfaction. Those skills certainly will help him to improve his fighting style. That being said, he had no intention of changing his plans for the time being.

“Although Evading Shot doesn’t actually put any weight on my back or arms, gravity is already annoying enough,” 3 said while he was massaging his shoulders. “Since this skill isn’t a movement that transcends space like Flash and Teleport, my body is suffering a little bit.”

The problem was Ryan’s endurance. It was just too low. The only way to decrease that was by leveling up Ryan’s melee classes, but that would slow down Evading Shot leveling up speed.

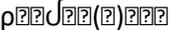
“I guess using it with Magic Bows too often is no good,” Ryan concluded. “But I guess using it when a single weapon is under my control will be bearable.”

Given that the strain on Ryan’s body will be even more intense when he tries to use Evading Shot underwater, he decided to look for another dungeon and train his melee classes. Usually, when Ryan changes his plans, something happens, and things even troublesome get in his way, but this time nothing actually happened.

“I guess I am overly conscious about my fair amount of unluckiness,” Ryan shrugged.

Ryan started to look for another dungeon. It didn’t matter the rank, he just wanted to fight against a vast number of monsters, but in the end, he was stopped because Femradiel suddenly called him.

“Hey, I believe we have a problem,” Femradiel said.

“Define what is a problem from your perspective,” Ryan said. 

“Another dungeon appeared and this one is spawning monsters that are doing weird things,” Femradiel replied.

It looked like Ryan wasn’t being overly conscious about his problems, after all. In any case, he hurried and returned to his domain in the blink of an eye, only to find a dungeon spawning some golems that looked far weirder than his.

Elemental Golem Lv 02

Health: 5.000/5.000

Mana: 5.000/5.000

Stamina: 5.000/5.000

Strength: 510 (+ 60)

Dexterity: 510 (+ 60)

Speed: 510 (+ 60)

Intelligence: 510 (+ 60)

Endurance: 510 (+ 60)

Control: 510 (+ 60)

Mentality: 510 (+ 60)

Luck: 510 (+ 60)

Recovery: 510 (+ 60)

Willpower: 510 (+ 60)

Coins: —

Status:

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills:

Passive Physical Skills:

Spells: Ice Wall Lv 30, Fire Wall Lv 30, Earth Wall Lv 30, Water Creation Lv 40, Fire Creation Lv 40, Wind Creation Lv 40, Earth Creation Lv 40

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv 60, Fire Resistance Lv 60, Wind Resistance Lv 60, Earth Resistance Lv 60

The golems were a mix of all golems Ryan had seen before. Some parts of their bodies were made of magma. Others were made of ice and electricity. Even their set of skills looked weird, but what really looked weird in them was their behavior. The very moment they leave the dungeon, the golems make holes in the ground and then fill them with a lot of water. In just a few seconds, those creatures could create an entire Olympic pool.

“They are weird, all right,” Ryan frowned. “Can’t say that I have seen a monster who wants to make pools.”

“Don’t you find this weird?” Femradiel asked. “The goal of those creatures is to cover this area’s surface with water...”

“Poseidon, huh...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrow. “I guess he was the one who tried to fry me alive with those lightning bolts... Although it is weird that the god of the seas can control lightning, it wouldn’t surprise me if he can use all types of magic spells.”

What really was troublesome was the power level of the elemental golems, they weren’t a problem now, but in due time, they indeed would become a massive pain in the ass just like the Specters. There was no doubt that they were a tier-three monster... that being said, Furball was doing a good job stopping them as fast as possible and then eating their cores.

“I guess guarding this dungeon will be your job, buddy,” Ryan said. “Lately, the enemies haven’t been causing too many problems for you, so I guess this is a good chance for you to train and sharpen your instincts.”

Chapter 533

It was evident that Ryan's golems soon wouldn't become a treat to the elemental golems, so Furball had to get used to fighting against the boss as soon as possible. That being said, Ryan couldn't take any chances, so he went inside the dungeon to offer him some support.

"The next time I level up the area of my domain, it will certainly engulf this dungeon..." Ryan furrowed his eyebrows. "Letting creatures that have this kind of goal have access to the interior of my domain might cause some real nasty problems later, so I will have to think carefully about how to deal with them once Furball becomes unable to defeat the boss by himself."

"I can always solve this problem by guarding this dungeon with my third body," Femradiel said.

"No, you will guard the domain when I leave," Ryan said. "It will be better that way since you will be able to notice if something happens in any of the dungeons."

Ryan considered the possibility of taming the elemental golems, but in the end, he decided not to. As of late, he wasn't using his taming skill all that much since obtaining new domains was more difficult than he thought, and letting the monsters guarding all dungeons near his domain seemed like a waste since Ryan could use the monsters to level up his newest classes. Also, considering the level of the monsters, they wouldn't become much stronger under his command.

The layout of the dungeon was pretty basic, it was essentially a spiral corridor that was leading them downstairs, but in some parts, Ryan could find some parts covered in ice, spitting magma, and walls that could electrocute the explorers.

"Poseidon might be a big asshole, but he certainly knows how to keep his guests entertained," Ryan said.

"So, you are already assuming that he is an asshole," Femradiel said.

"Yep, it is better if I lower my expectations of my enemies," Ryan said. "That way, they won't surprise me negatively when I meet them for the first time."

After a couple of seconds, Ryan and the others finally arrived in the last part of the dungeon. As expected, it was big, like the place where he fought Yomotsu Shikome. That was weird given that the boss in front of the crystal wasn't even ten meters tall. However, Ryan knew that such a large space only represented how powerful the dungeon's bosses could become once they reached high levels.

The boss of the dungeon was essentially just another elemental golem, just a bit bigger. The only other noticeable feature was that the elemental parts of their bodies were constantly moving. At one point, the left leg of the boss was made of ice, and a few seconds later, it was made of magma. Even the area around the core of the creature didn't remain uniform.

"I see... this creature is a specialist at blocking elemental attacks," Femradiel said. "At some point, most dragons won't be able to cause any damage against it."

"You hold your kin in such low regards..." Ryan frowned. "That being said, I can easily imagine what you are thinking."

Furball was a monster specialized in non-elemental attacks, but that doesn't mean he would have an easy time against the boss. After all, Furball has to bite and scratch the monster or use a body slam when he attacks, so it was only natural that he would suffer damage from that boss. Despite that, as if he had felt Ryan's worry, Furball dashed toward the monster and didn't think twice in biting the left arm of the beast that was covered by magma.

It looked like Ryan had underestimated Furball's strength and viciousness. His partner easily bit off the arm of the elemental golem and tossed it aside. It looked like the spiciness of magma didn't suit his palate.

Although the boss soon created another arm made of magma, Furball kicked the beast's ass quite easily... in the end, the elemental golems were a creature that would cause a lot of trouble... in the future. Ryan could only hope that Furball's growth would be more impressive than theirs. p??J??(?)???

"Thanks, buddy," Ryan pattered Furball's head. "It looks like you are quite excited about this job."

Congratulations! You have cleared the dungeon and obtained its treasure! As a reward for your achievement, you can obtain one of the three following classes: Dark Knight, Gunner, and Warmage.

Please be aware that clearing this dungeon again won't give you the chance to unlock the other remaining classes. If you want to obtain them, you will have to search for those in other dungeons.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Warmage!

You obtained the following skills: Fire Orb, Ice Orb, and Electric Orb.

Your intelligence and mana will increase by six points. Your health, stamina, recovery, and mentality will increase by three points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Fire Orb.

Effect: It grants you the power to summon an elemental orb that will fly around you for five minutes. The orb can be thrown at your targets, or it can support you in close combat.

Cost: 100 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Ice Orb.

Effect: It grants you the power to summon an elemental orb that will fly around you for five minutes. The orb can be thrown at your targets, or it can support you in close combat.

Cost: 100 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Electric Orb.

Effect: It grants you the power to summon an elemental orb that will fly around you for five minutes. The orb can be thrown at your targets, or it can support you in close combat.

Cost: 100 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

In the end, Ryan left the dungeon pretty satisfied with the class. Fighting using those skills would be pretty hard, but surprising his enemies with them won't.

Chapter 534

Although Ryan won't be able to fight alongside the always helpful squire for a while, he left the dungeon while humming.

"You seem to be in a good mood," Femradiel said.

"Furball will become one badass before the real fight begins, so I can't see why I shouldn't be in a good mood," Ryan said.

"Well, things seem to be going well for you, I just hope that a demon's dungeon won't spawn near your domain," Femradiel said. "They are the only ones left that you pissed off but still didn't try to have a base near your domain, after all."

That made Ryan realize that some dungeons appeared in his domain between the time of the dungeon breaks. By the look of things, he didn't know everything that there was to know about the dungeon master's system. Regardless, he could think of a few hypotheses, but none seemed accurate.

Suddenly, the area trembled, and Ryan recognized that type of tremor. It was the same as when a dungeon breaks. However, the seventh dungeon break still was a few days away. That means...

"Femradiel..." Ryan said while he furrowed his eyebrows.

“It is just a coincidence... that being said, I can feel a new source of mana close by,” Femradiel said.

Ryan immediately teleported to the place Femradiel mentioned, and he found another underground dungeon, but he had to wait for a while before the first monster finally could appear. Ryan couldn't help but frown when he saw what seemed to be ghost-like floating around. The creature resembled a little bit Yomotsu Shikome, but unlike the undead creature, the new one was wearing a single-piece dress that was white but had some red marks.

Banshee Lv 01

Health: 3.000/3.000

Mana: 3.000/3.000

Stamina: 3.000/3.000

Strength: 360 (+ 05)

Dexterity: 360 (+ 05)

Speed: 360 (+ 05)

Intelligence: 360 (+ 05)

Endurance: 360 (+ 05)

Control: 360 (+ 05)

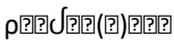
Mentality: 360 (+ 05)

Luck: 360 (+ 05)

Recovery: 360 (+ 05)

Willpower: 360 (+ 05)

Coins: —

Status: — 

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills:

Passive Physical Skills:

Spells: Envy Eyes Lv 40

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv 20, Freeze Resistance Lv 20, Fire Resistance Lv 20, Wind Resistance Lv 20, Earth Resistance Lv 20, Electric Resistance Lv 20, Shock Resistance Lv 20

“Banshee?” Ryan frowned. “What kind of creature is that?”

The very moment Ryan used Appraisal, the monster looked in his direction. Although he couldn't see the creature's expression due to its long messy hair covering her whole face, Ryan could feel the glare.

Suddenly, the creature two Magic Bows out of nowhere and attacked Ryan. Despite the surprise, he reacted in time to do the same, only to fail at summoning his Magic Bows. In the end, Ryan managed to dodge the attack since he was much faster than the level one monster.

“What the hell... why did the skill fail?” Ryan opened his eyes in surprise.

“It seems Envy Eyes can temporarily steal one of your skills,” Femradiel replied.

That was why Ryan dodged the attack despite the fact that he failed on his first try. He knew that skill all too well. In any case, before he could summon a crossbow, the Banshee fired another, but this time Ryan didn't see the projectile. In the end, he was forced to Teleport to several meters above ground level.

“Femradiel...” Ryan said.

“... it looks like her skill is more complicated than I thought,” Femradiel said. “I have never seen anything like it, but it looks like the monster can temporarily steal your ways of attack.”

“How so?” Ryan asked.

“Don't expect me to know everything, I am a dragon with amnesia, if you have forgotten,” Femradiel replied.

That sequence of words seemed weird, but in any case, Ryan could study his enemy later. While Ryan was in midair, he equipped his Thunder Lord crossbow and fired, but then the Banshee finally found him and then fired again, and she moved backward several meters... the monster just used Evading Shot as well.

“Let's see, if I had to guess, I would say for every ten levels of her skill, she can steal a skill of yours...” Femradiel said. “This type of enemy will become a real pain in the later.”

Ryan couldn't agree more, but it was surprising that Femradiel still was trying to analyze the enemy's powers despite having failed a few times. In the end, Ryan got tired of it and then just used Telekinesis to make the monster from escaping again. After that, he crushed the enemy's head on the ground.

You obtained 150 coins.

“Nasty as usual, huh,” Femradial said.

“Said the dragon that tries to eat her enemies alive,” Ryan said.

“It is easy for you to talk, humans are so privileged that they obtain strength two times after clearing the dungeon, by getting classes and skills,” Femradial said. “I don’t know any race that can do that.”

Before that could turn into an actual argument, Ryan decided to shut up. Anyway, another troublesome monster appeared, but Ryan had no idea if Poseidon had created another dungeon to monitor him. That would be way too weird. That being said, Ryan didn’t make many enemies lately...

Before Ryan could find a proper answer, another Banshee left the dungeon and then tried to use Telekinesis on him. Unable to use Telekinesis himself, Ryan just used his Thunder Lord crossbow and made bolts rain over the creature. The beast tried to summon a Magic Bow and counter the attacks, but in the end, the difference in power was just too big.

“What a strange type of monster,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “How come it has such an impressive ability, but when it comes down to using it...”

“You can’t forget this is just a mob monster created through the power of the dungeon master’s system,” Femradial said. “You can defeat them as much as you want, but the real fight will only start later, you should hurry and come up with some kind of plan to defeat them without relying on certain skills.”

Chapter 535

The future was becoming grim by the minute, but in the end, Ryan decided to focus on the good side of the problems that just appeared. Another dungeon means more coins to his domain and a new class for him. That being said, Ryan was quite curious as to what type of boss he would find inside the dungeon. If the minions alone could be that troublesome even at a lower level, the boss probably wouldn’t have been contained by his summoned monsters for long.

Unlike the elemental golem's dungeons, Ryan didn't find anything weird or different inside the Banshee's dungeon. The only real difference is that inside, they had an easier time trying to repel his bolts by using Magic Bows. They could hit Ryan's attacks despite the incredible difference in speed, but losing in raw power was inevitable for them.

"Aren't you going to use them to create new crossbows?" Femradiel asked.

"I will wait for a while longer, the effects of my weapons will be more powerful according to the level of the monsters I use Seal in," Ryan replied.

"That would explain why you didn't try to use Seal, not even in that colorful golem," Femradiel said. "Anyway, any idea how you are going to keep this dungeon guarded?"

"I am working on it," Ryan replied.

Aside from using several types of golems to make sure that the Banshees wouldn't be able to counter all of them at the same time, Ryan couldn't think of any other idea on how to deal with them. In the end, he reached the last part of the dungeon without thinking of a proper way to deal with the mobs. Dealing with the boss then seemed impossible with summoned monsters.

Ryan put his worries aside when he reached the last part of the dungeon. Sitting on a red throne, he found a weird creature... It made Ryan recall the shadows he found when he was clearing some dungeons in Canada. Weirdly enough, the shadow even had a sword made of shadows.

??? – Lv ???

Health: ???/???

Mana: ???/???

Stamina: ???/???

Passive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???

Spells: ???, ???, ???

Support Skills: ???, ???, ???

“Not again...” Ryan said and then sighed.

It has been quite a while since Appraisal proved to be useless against an opponent. Still, Ryan could easily remember the time the skill proved to be useless... that happened a few times when Ryan tried to use it on Dungeon masters and their avatars when they were dungeon bosses.

Ryan didn't want to waste time with pleasantries, so he just summoned several magic copies of his Titanium Electric bow and then charged Power Shot. However, before he could do that for more than a few seconds, he felt his body being pulled toward the last room of the dungeon. Ryan could feel the glare of the monster...

“Telekinesis...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows. “Well, there is no point in wasting my time with a low-level boss.

In the end, Ryan attacked before the boss could make him enter the dungeon. However, much to his surprise, Ryan's bolts passed through the shadow, but at that exact same time, the shadow stopped using Telekinesis.

“I see now... Intangibility,” Ryan muttered.

After he canceled his magic bows, Ryan summoned his Holy Crossbow and Immobilizing Crossbow, and when the shadow got up, he made bolts rain over them. Although there was no way to prove that, Ryan had a feeling that the dungeon master was a demon. That was weird since all the demon generals Ryan fought so far talked too much.

Once again, Ryan's bolts didn't hit the enemy. However, the creature didn't have the chance to attack as well. That was the problem of Intangibility. While the creature couldn't do anything, it suddenly charged

toward Ryan with its sword covered in the darkness, ready to strike. Even while the sword was approaching his head, Ryan didn't move away or try to escape.

In the end, the sword made of shadows almost scratched Ryan's forehead, but the creature was forced to stop since his bolts finally caused so much damage that it paralyzed the creature... no, the Holy Crossbow was the sole cause of that.

"You really are a demon general, aren't you?" Ryan asked.

The shadow glared at Ryan, but even in defeat, it didn't say anything. In the end, it only did that until its body began to turn into an unrecognizable and lifeless dust.

You obtained 10.000 coins.

"That was surprisingly easy," Femradiel said.

"... Did you read this thing's mind?" Ryan furrowed his eyebrows.

"I am sorry, but if Appraisal doesn't work, then reading an enemy's mind is impossible," Femradiel said. "There are some ways to counter that kind of power, but I believe it will prove useless against this type of opponent."

"Why?" Ryan asked.

"Spells like Mind Armor rely solely on mana to protect their users, but I am pretty sure that thing's health and mana are deeply connected," Femradiel explained. "If you try to make it run out of mana by using Appraisal, the monster will probably vanish once its mana is emptied. Thus, making me unable to read its mind."

That was a pretty complicated explanation, but Ryan understood and agreed with the main points. In the end, not even he was sure if the monster died due to the holy bolts that he fired or if he just died due to lack of mana. It was hard to believe that a dungeon boss would run out of mana after using Intangibility for a couple of seconds. Still, then again, Ryan didn't have all that much information about

what dungeon bosses and dungeon masters could really do. At least not the ones that have been alive for thousands of years.

Regardless, the main problem was that too many enemies were trying to stay close to Ryan's backyard, and once their dungeons reached the level max, things would become messy for him.

Chapter 536

Congratulations! You have cleared the dungeon and obtained its treasure! As a reward for your achievement, you can obtain one of the three following classes: Mystic Knight, Punisher, and Caster.

Please be aware that clearing this dungeon again won't give you the chance to unlock the other remaining classes. If you want to obtain them, you will have to search for those in other dungeons.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Punisher!

You obtained the following skills: Killing Spree, Heroic Gunmanship, and Deadly Bullet.

Your dexterity and stamina will increase by six points. Your health, mana, speed, and control will increase by three points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Killing Spree.

Effect: It increases your dexterity for ten seconds after killing a foe. The bonus in dexterity will be equal to the level of the skill.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Heroic Gunmanship.

Effect: It increases the power of your attacks when guns by three percent per level.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Deadly Bullet.

Effect: fires a special bullet that decreases the recovery of your target. The value decreased will be equal to the level of the skill, and the effect will last for sixty seconds.

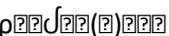
Cost: 50 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Fortunately, something good always happens soon after something bad happens. Although that wasn't a rule in Ryan's life, most of the time, he was pretty much certain that something like a tier three-class falling on his lap would be the reward for his hard work.

In the end, Ryan decided to let his Red Falcons guarding the dungeon. The last part of the dungeon was fairly large, so they would have plenty of room to fly and attack. Besides, the dungeon boss was weak against continuous attacks. At least that was the truth considering the high cost of mana Intangibility has.

"You should hurry up and decide to use Draconic Transformation to strengthen your skills," Femradiel said. "By using it, your summoned monsters will be able to level up past level one hundred and thus the difference in power between them and dungeon monsters will decrease considerably."

"What are my other options?" Ryan asked. 

"Stay inside your domain and keep hunting all those monsters without getting new classes until the dungeon masters appear," Femradiel replied.

As much as it was annoying for him to admit, Ryan really couldn't see any other way to solve that problematic situation. The battle machines couldn't work well with the Fire Golems or even the Ice

Golems since their elemental bodies could damage them. As for the ordinary golems, they weren't that sturdy if compared with the others.

Another problem was the fact that Ryan couldn't come up with any decent plan because the boss didn't show much of their skills. Besides, putting too many battle machines inside the dungeon would only work to strengthen the spawned monsters faster than usual.

If Ryan weren't so prideful, things could be solved much faster. Still, he felt like if he starts to choose the easiest option whenever something appeared, things would only become harder later on.

"My head hurts..." Ryan said and then sighed. "I am going to look for a new dungeon to clear in order to refresh my mind, I need a break."

Maybe leveling up a few times his new classes will liven up Ryan's mood. However, before he could look for his next target, Alissa called him via the telepathic link.

"Ryan, are you busy now?" Alissa asked. "I need to talk with you."

"What was the point of asking? You already forcefully opened the link," Ryan said and facepalmed. "Anyway, I am free now, but now for long. Please don't say that you want to share more gossips about the situation in the secret base."

"Nah, I just wanted to talk with you about Femradiel, is she sleeping a lot lately?" Alissa asked.

"I am not sure, I have no idea to know when she is resting," Ryan replied. "...Why do you ask?"

"It is about Orgar, he is being pretty quiet as of late, he says that he has been sleeping since I have been living a boring life, but even so, he is sleeping too much," Alissa said.

"... He is an old dragon, so of course he will sleep a lot," Ryan said after he recalled the conversation he had with Orgar about his situation. "In my head, I always imagined Orgar to be a seventy-, or eighty-years old man."

“I can see why you would think that,” Alissa said. “Well, talk with you later.”

After saying that, Alissa ended the call. Ryan sighed in relief, but then he worried if Alissa would ask the same thing to Gustavo and his friends. Unlike him, they didn’t have a single reason to lie. They didn’t know about how Alissa and Orgar became partners, after all.

“Great... another thing to bother me at night,” Ryan said after a long sigh. “I guess that is one of the signs that Orgar’s mind is being mixed with Alissa’s. Yet, she didn’t notice anything out of place...”

Ryan thought Alissa would be the only one who would manage to do what was necessary aside from Ryan to protect the country. She certainly wouldn’t do something like that in the past, but now she was a leader who cared about her underlings. The question was: will that continue once Orgar disappears? Despite everything, Alissa was fairly egoistical, so he couldn’t imagine her living a life where her sole goal was helping her underlings.

Ryan was even wondering about the possibility that he would become, for real this time, a target to vent Alissa’s frustrations in a bad way. He was the only one who knew what was happening to Orgar, and yet, he decided to keep quiet about it. If anything, Ryan’s future was getting bleaker by the minute... before he could begin to sigh, even more. Ryan began to look for some dungeons to clear.

Chapter 537

While Ryan was looking for another dungeon clear, he surprisingly found a slimes’ dungeon. Those were quite rare in his country territory, just like the chance to obtain a tier-one dungeon. Naturally, Ryan didn’t have any difficulties clearing the place.

Congratulations! You have cleared the dungeon and obtained its treasure! As a reward for your achievement, you can obtain one of the three following classes: Swordsman, Thief, and Novice.

Please be aware that clearing this dungeon again won’t give you the chance to unlock the other remaining classes. If you want to obtain them, you will have to search for those in other dungeons.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Thief!

You obtained the following skills: Venom Knife, Lesser Poisonous Enchantment, and Poison Creation.

Your dexterity and stamina will increase by two points. Your speed, health, mana, and control will increase by one point whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Venom Knife.

Effect: It fires a magic knife with poisonous attributes that causes critical damage and poison your enemies.

Cost: 50 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Poison Enchantment.

Since you already have this skill, it will level up five times.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Poison Creation.

Effect: It grants you the power to create a bottle of poison that causes damage equal to the level of intelligence of the maker and extra damage according to the level of the skill.

Cost: 100 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

“Who could have thought this class would be this useful... and its skills cost so much mana,” Ryan frowned. “I guess the system realized that they were too good for a tier one skill.”

Although getting a single tier-one class didn't liven up his mood all that much, Ryan at least had a good time while thinking about how to improve his fighting style since the slimes weren't a real threat to him, not even when they reached the level four hundred. It has been quite a while since the last time he thought about that since he obtained skills like Magic Bows that were just too good to ignore.

Ryan already had a decent set of skills, and in the future, he will obtain, even more, so he didn't have to worry about that. He had to worry about how and when to use them. Skills like throw had become kind of obsolete since Ryan could fire certain melee weapons with his bow. They just needed to have the right shape. Fortunately, Ryan could create those melee weapons to satisfy his needs. But even then, that wasn't what Ryan needed. He needed something that would grant him the power to exterminate his powers even while he was hundreds of kilometers away from them.

“Clairvoyance will help me with that, the real problem is the cost of mana to fight while using such high-level skills,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “There is also the problem regarding his projectiles losing power while crossing over long distances. Aside from Lunar Arrow, all of my attacks would lose power and speed after travelling for ten kilometers.”

That seemed like a solution much less troublesome than relying on summoned monsters and tamed monsters. Still, then again, the cost of mana was too big of a problem. It seemed like Ryan needed other skills that will help his ability to obtain mana from extra sources. Since he couldn't talk with the secret base for that kind of intel anymore, Femradial was the only one he could talk with. The problem was: she couldn't remember anything aside from Mana-Eater that could help Ryan right now.

“Screw it,” Ryan said. “Let’s keep focusing on leveling up my classes and hope that someday I will obtain the inspiration needed to solve those problems.”

Before he could decide on returning to his domain or looking for another dungeon to clear, Ryan suddenly heard Femradiel’s voice. Despite her words, she seemed pretty calm. $\rho\tau\tau\tau\tau\tau\tau(\tau)\tau\tau\tau$

“Ryan, I am sensing a massive translocation of mana up North,” Femradiel said. “If my guess is right, dozens of thousands of monsters are heading West.”

“Can you use my Clairvoyance and confirm things?” Ryan asked. “I am kind of busy here, so I can’t do it.”

Ryan sighed... what a partner Femradiel was... As expected, he could only count on Furball. Before the night could fall, Ryan decided to look for those months with Clairvoyance. While up North was rather non-specific, he decided to look in a straight-line up North from his location, and much to his surprise Ryan indeed found something. Somewhere in Kansas, Ryan found thousands of Desert Wolves and Dire Wolves moving together as if they weren’t enemies. That was weird. Ryan was pretty sure there wasn’t supposed to exist a Dire Wolves’ dungeon in the territory of his country. However, the weirdest thing of all was a group of a few hundred monsters.

Werewolf – Lv 550

Health: 75.000/75.000

Mana: 52.000/52.000

Stamina: 59.000/59.000

Strength: 7900 (+800)

Dexterity: 3500 (+200)

Speed: 2500 (+300)

Intelligence: 2500 (+200)

Endurance: 7500 (+600)

Control: 1500 (+100)

Mentality: 4500 (+500)

Luck: 2500

Recovery: 20.000 (+8.000)

Willpower: 4500 (+500)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Voracious Claws Lv 400, Paralyzing Bite Lv 350

Passive Physical Skills: Predator Scent Lv 350, Improved Strength Lv 250, Improved Concentration Lv 250

Spells:

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 400, Cold Resistance Lv 400, Electric Resistance Lv 400, Freeze Resistance Lv 200, Shock Resistance Lv 200

“How the heck I didn’t find these creatures before?” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows in disbelief.

That whole situation was quite weird, but as far as Ryan knew, there was no human settlement in the western side of the country. So, those monsters weren’t planning to cause problems for the human race. Despite that, Ryan felt really compelled to follow them.

Chapter 538

Even before finding their destination, Ryan already knew a few things about that army of monsters that was heading West. First of all, the Werewolves were tier two monsters. That being said, Ryan couldn’t underestimate them. Given the fact that he never heard of them, they weren’t ordinary monsters, and also, given their skills, he couldn’t attack them. If he does that, Ryan won’t find their dungeon. He tried to find anything that resembled their dungeon, but he didn’t find anything.

Second of all, it was obvious that those dogs were working for a few dungeon masters that decided to make an alliance. It was weird to make an alliance when they were on Earth, but it wasn’t made to wipe out the remaining humans. If that were their goal, they wouldn’t move toward a location in the opposite direction of the only human settlement in the country. They would split and attack from all sides.

In the end, Ryan decided to quietly follow them from very far away while using Clairvoyance. Thanks to it, he was never discovered, and the army of dogs proceeded at a steady pace for a full day. Only to suddenly disappear out of nowhere when they crossed the borders between Colorado and Utah.

“As expected, they have a few tricks up their sleeve...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows and then decided to use Teleport.

After activating Silent Movement, Ryan flew around the area where all the monsters suddenly disappeared. From above, he didn’t find anything ordinary, only the overgrown grass of the last seven months and the destruction that was caused by the monsters. Fortunately, it was getting late, so Ryan decided to investigate once the darkness of the night covers everything.

“It looks like you found something interesting to keep you occupied,” Femradiel said. “You shouldn’t waste time here; they are only tier two monsters. They are probably playing war against other species.”

“Now you are interested, huh,” Ryan frowned. “Well, they will have to find another place to play. I will probably fail many times, but I will try really hard to prevent those fuckers from destroying even more this land.”

“You are sometimes so stubborn when it comes to certain things...” Femradiel said and then sighed. “I am finishing the details of my new body, so I am going to be busy for the next week. That being said, I will give you a hand here.”

“You know, as of late, I have a feel that I am more helping you than you are helping me,” Ryan said.

“I feel the same way,” Femradiel said. “But it can’t be helped since you are really looking forward to having three familiars that are as strong as my former self. Anyway, an illusory barrier is probably the thing that is preventing you from finding what you want. Some real troublesome sorcerers are in the area. So, you will be found immediately if you try to enter or even touch the barrier.”

“I figured that myself,” Ryan said.

“Did you also figure that this type of barrier has certain demerits?” Femradiel asked. “They can fool your eyes, but they won’t fool you if you don’t look directly at them. Considering that, they can only work while they aren’t obstructed.”

“Obstruction... So, I can enter the barrier by using an underground route?” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully and then asked.

“That is right, illusions are only used to keep the enemies away from the caster,” Femradiel explained. “Given their high cost, it wouldn’t make any sense to make them fool everything in certain directions. Anyway, I am going to focus on my job, I will try not inform you too late if something unexpected happens.”

Ryan sighed. Femradiel was becoming more and more relaxed as of late. While she has yet to fail on anything, maybe it was time for Ryan to find some sort of punishment to make her walk on the line.

After waiting for a while, Ryan decided to infiltrate the place. Despite the fact that such a job was something new for him, he didn't feel that worried or nervous. Maybe it was due to the fact that he fought more terrifying enemies in worse situations, or perhaps he wasn't bothered by the enemies this time.

In any case, Ryan began to dig a tunnel, all the skills that granted him some control over the ground. Much to his surprise, digging had become considerably easier if compared to the last time he did it. The last time he had to work quite a lot on his first battle against the Reptilians.

After a couple of minutes, Ryan felt that he has passed below the boundaries of the barrier. Still, in the end, he decided to proceed a little more since some guards probably were stationed in the borders. After digging for a mile or so, he finally decided to check things on the surface. Fortunately, Ryan didn't feel any presence nearby with Radar.

Before using Clairvoyance, Ryan had to open a hole above him. Even that skill had some demerits. Ryan couldn't see things in confined spaces he had never been, after all. However, once Ryan opened the hole, things went as smoothly as possible, even though the hole was thinner than a finger.

After using Clairvoyance and his vision moved and left the underground, Ryan could finally see the illusionary barrier's interior. Still, he had a hard time believing in what he was seeing. He didn't know much about the area where he was, but he was fairly sure that there wasn't a single big city in dozens of miles, but he could see one.

Despite the fact that it had been built by monsters, the place was quite organized and complex. Since the wolves were fairly big, everything looked two times bigger than usual. At first, Ryan thought that some buildings looked like extremely large dog houses, but in fact, they were just hangar-like buildings where the monsters could use to rest and practice. At least that was what Ryan saw happening in there.

Chapter 539

"This place looks like an improvised domain..." Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "A base created by monsters that obviously has some militaristic purpose..."

Weirdly enough, the illusory barrier worked like a mirror that could be found in interrogation rooms but in reverse. Anyone inside could see things happening outside, for a bunch of smelly dogs, they sure were cautious about their security.

Regardless, after looking for a while, Ryan found a dungeon in the center of that place. However, there was no sign of the sorcerer that summoned the illusory barrier. As expected, finding someone that powerful won't be that easy. Unfortunately, Ryan couldn't risk starting the attack, given that the sorcerer managed to hide a horde of thousands of monsters with its powers in a single instant.

"For a tier two monster, it certainly has a massive mana pool and recovery to keep this massive barrier active at all times," Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "That or the sorcerer has some interesting trick up their sleeve."

The most obvious place to find the boss would be in the dungeon, but entering there won't be that easy. Well, it will, but once the fight starts, things will become messy since several werewolf bosses were around the dungeon. Even despite the fact that their barrier probably has never been broken, they were even more serious about the security around the dungeon.

"Let's see... I can attack then at night with Lunar Arrow, I just have to find another place where the chances of me being found will be even less likely," Ryan muttered. "However, if there are more than one dungeon master in that dungeon, then the attack will alert all of them and if they use their powers to hide themselves while they escape..."

In the end, the best option seemed indeed the one where Ryan would use Teleport, appear inside the dungeon, and fight enemies from all sides. At the very least, that way, the boss of bosses won't have the opportunity to escape, but that was indeed a reckless plan, even though it was only a tier two dungeon.

Ryan only faced enemies good at illusions a few times, so he wasn't that confident in winning before they became a real pain in the ass.

"Oh, well... whatever happens, I can always escape by using Teleport," Ryan shrugged. "It is not like I need to stay until the very end after starting a fight."

Ryan's pride probably won't allow that, but that convinced him to do what was necessary to prevent the boss of bosses from escaping.

Before Ryan could start the attack, things suddenly got noisy outside. Dire wolves, Desert wolves, and the Werewolves left their hangar-like buildings. They began to run toward the northern part of the barrier.

“It looks like this place isn’t as safe as I thought,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “Something or someone decided to start a night raid.”

The thought that he had never been discovered crossed Ryan’s mind. After all, he was on the eastern side of the camp. Regardless that was the perfect time to attack, but the Werewolves guarding the dungeon didn’t move an inch. That means that the boss or the bosses inside probably won’t leave as well.

Before teleporting to the dungeon, Ryan used Clairvoyance to see what was happening. He was left speechless when he saw some very suspicious-looking monsters crossing the barrier and attacking anything in sight. Ryan had a hard time accepting that, but the monsters looked like humans using some cat costumes... some pretty well-made costumes,

Demi Felines – Lv 500

Health: 35.000/35.000

Mana: 26.000/26.000

Stamina: 33.000/33.000

Strength: 3900 (+600)

Dexterity: 3000 (+300)

Speed: 2500 (+400)

Intelligence: 3000 (+400) $\sqrt{3000(400)}$

Endurance: 3000 (+400)

Control: 1500 (+400)

Mentality: 3500 (+400)

Luck: 3500

Recovery: 10.000 (+4.000)

Willpower: 3500 (+400)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Poisonous Claws Lv 300, Paralyzing Claws Lv 300

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Strength Lv 250, Improved Concentration Lv 250, Improved Speed Lv 250

Spells: Cursed Sphere Lv 350, Earth Spear Lv 300, Earth Creation Lv 300, Earth Transformation Lv 250

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 280, Cold Resistance Lv 280, Electric Resistance Lv 280, Freeze Resistance Lv 150, Shock Resistance Lv 150

“The hell is going on...” Ryan frowned. “ First, all of the dogs seem to be working together and now some cat-people are attacking them... I must be hallucinating.”

After using Clairvoyance to see if there was a dungeon up North, Ryan only confirmed that there was a massive round area that was weirdly quiet... as expected, it was another illusory barrier, but to think that dog and the cat-like monsters would use the same tactic... it looked like Ryan will have to be more attentive in the future, some troublesome dungeon master might be building their strength using the same method.

The number of monsters attacking was relatively small. Ryan couldn't even count five thousand of them. Since it was only a minor skirmish, he wouldn't have much time to attack. Without wasting any more time, Ryan aligned several potions in front of him and then used Lunar Arrow.

You obtained 120.000 coins.

You obtained 120.000 coins.

You obtained 120.000 coins.

...

Ryan had been so fast and precise that even he was surprised by the results. Thirty or so Werewolves' bosses were killed by a rain of shooting stars... it was a pity since Ryan wanted to make some weapons out of them. Before anything inside the dungeon could notice what had happened, Ryan teleported to inside and buried the bosses as well.

After the cleanup, Ryan hurried to the last part of the dungeon, but in the end, it didn't take long for him to notice that something was off. After running for a few seconds, he suddenly saw himself leaving the dungeon.

“What the heck...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows in surprise.

Despite the speed and precision of his attacks, it looked like Ryan had been noticed by the sorcerer. It was too late to complain now, but it was too late to retreat as well. He had to find a way to deal with the illusion...

Chapter 540

It didn't take long for Ryan to learn that breaking the illusion would be much more complicated than he thought. It was because his Mind Armor was active. That skill also worked against Illusions... at least with works against Illusions that affect his body directly, and that wasn't the case right at that moment.

"This must be an illusion that affects my sense of direction...." Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully.
"Somewhere inside the dungeon, I probably take a turn without noticing and ended up returning to the entrance."

In the end, instead of hurrying, Ryan decided to walk inside the dungeon while touching the walls with his Spiritualist Spear. Those could drain the mana even from domains, so they should be of some use. Since Ryan didn't let the weirdness of the situation get the better of him, it didn't take long for him to find some fake walls made by illusion magic. Without hesitating, Ryan began to explore those, and thanks to it, he finally found some werewolves waiting for enemies. Ryan made magic bolts rain over them. The creature died pretty fast since their level of strength couldn't be compared to the bosses he defeated earlier. Fortunately, one of the monsters resisted Ryan's attacks quite a lot, and he had the chance to make a magic crossbow.

Night Hunter Crossbow

Effect: at the cost of eight points of mana, it grants the user the chance to fire bolts that cause two percent more damage at night.

Dexterity + 120, Intelligence + 80

Durability: 100/100

After feeling satisfied with the result, Ryan proceeded with his task. However, perhaps because he was too cautious not to fall for another illusion, some monsters began to appear from behind. They were just ordinary werewolves, but their numbers were pretty high.

“I guess they do understand that the sorcerer is more important than protecting their borders,” Ryan said and then summoned some Magic Bows to kill the creatures. “Now that I think about it, if this is a werewolves’ dungeon and the boss is just another werewolf... why aren’t they using illusion magic as well?”

That question was bothering Ryan quite a bit. Still, in the end, he decided to put it aside and focus on proceeding toward the last part of the dungeon. Fortunately, it didn’t take long for Ryan to reach his destination. Still, before he proceeded, Ryan put several of his spears on the path toward the last part of the dungeon and made them spin. His focus would be divided, but at least now, he knew that anyone or anything that tries to interfere in the fight will be sliced apart to death.

Charging a preemptive strike with mana and stamina while his spears were spinning like that wouldn’t be possible. Besides, if the monsters see Ryan preparing, they will probably become more violent, and the spears won’t last that long. So, he moved toward the last part of the dungeon and then saw a weird-looking creature meditating while floating.

??? – Lv ???

Health: ???/???

Mana: ???/???

Stamina: ???/???

Strength: ???

Dexterity: ???

Speed: ???

Intelligence: ???

Endurance: ???

Control: ???

Mentality: ??? ρ??√??(?)???

Luck: ???

Recovery: ???

Willpower: ???

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???, ???

Passive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???, ???

Spells: ???, ???, ???, ???

Support Skills: ???, ???, ???, ???

“Again...” Ryan said and then sighed. “Why those guys insist so much on being such a massive pain in the ass?”

Ryan had a hard time describing the creature. Still, at least now, Ryan knew that they were some sort of high-level mythological being. Regardless, the creature had a blue staff on its lap, and they also had a body covered with brown fur. A dark cloak covered almost every part of the boss’s body, aside from the head and forearms. Ryan couldn’t see the eyes of the creature, but they had a long nose that made Ryan recall an armadillo and ears that seemed like it belongs to a dog. It really was a strange creature...

“Ryan...” The creature muttered without expressing many feelings through its rough voice.

“You know me?” Ryan frowned, already pointing two crossbows at the creature.

“Indeed... those who try to challenge the elder gods tend to become relatively famous around us... for the short amount of time they live after doing it,” The creature replied.

“Elder gods?” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows. “Sorry, but you guys are more like alien invaders than anything.”

“This land you claim to be yours, have always been ours...” The creature said. “Even if we weren’t here for the past few millennia, nothing would change that.”

“I disagree in all possible sense,” Ryan said. “Finders keepers.”

“Do you know the first being who said that?” The creature asked.

“I can’t say that I know,” Ryan shrugged. “But if I had to guess, I would say that was a human. A relatively smart one.”

“A thief is the correct answer,” The creature said. “What did you humans do with this planet aside from destroying it? Despite that, you claim ownership of something that you can’t even repair or treat with care?”

“Tough question...” Ryan said. “Well, in all humans’ defense I can say that you guys caused far more destruction and death than any of us in all those millennia that you refer to. So, there is no sense in trying to make me feel guilty or rethink if I am on the right side.”

“To think that human arrogance has reached this level in the meantime we were away...” The creature said while shaking its head. “It is truly a pity given that once, a long time ago, your species had a tremendous potential, but now all of you were just an empty shell of your former glory. Perhaps all of you indeed deserve extermination.”

“Perhaps, I don’t know if you can decide this, but I can decide by myself that I won’t go down without a fight,” Ryan said. “So, give your best shot, self-proclaimed elder god.”

As soon as Ryan finished that sentence, the boss divided itself into hundreds of illusory copies... maybe Ryan failed at estimating the strength of a tier two boss.