

Dungeon S 1401

Chapter 1401: Yggdrasil's Memories

"Ehhh explain more?" Jin said as he tried to catch his breath. The Maqi he released was more than he had anticipated. In the meantime, the other Demon Rats slowly regained their composure and they tried to pick things up in this sheer white instance.

Shu seeing how his master was panting heavily had decided to transfer some mana to him so that Jin could regulate his system while Kraft walked towards the magical treant. "Ah, can't you just take it from the System? Do you really have to go through my memories?" Shu knew what Kraft was capable of and did not wish to be his specimen.

"The System will be filtering your memories and will try to make sense of it. I want the raw ones. Sometimes there are emotions packed into it and having to take a look in would definitely give a better perspective than what the System would give us." Before he even finished his sentence, Kraft had already placed his hand into it.

Not to mention, he was 'kind' enough to keep Jin in the loop by grabbing his shoulders and commencing the transfer. That meant Kraft was not only taking memories from Shu but also giving Jin the magical treant's memories so that he did not have to bother explaining everything to him.

When the memories flashed through Jin, it was heavily coded with flashes of the Yggdrasil's past. In the days it was just a tree sapling and subsequently being devoured by the world itself due to a major earthquake, causing the planet to have regenerative abilities. This allowed the Farming World to have its unique abilities.

Yggdrasil is now the mythic equivalent of Gaia, the Motherly Earth spirit that quietly watches the world. Under her watch, there was nothing significant among the species that ruled the land. Occasional wars would break out throughout the ages but it was largely peaceful during her reign.

But everything changed when the Demon Rats appeared. They quickly changed the rules of engagement and slaughtered anything and everyone they could find, disrupting the scales of balance that had been preserved for the longest time ever. While surely there would be an influx of lifestream due to the death of creatures, Yggdrasil needed to ensure that the lifestream could reproduce life back to the world as well.

However, the cycle was disrupted when the Demon Rats began to plunder the lifestream energies from the roots of the world and used them for their experiment and to improve their own technology. Initially, Yggdrasil thought it would merely be a minute intervention, but the Demon Rats got clever and greedy, taking huge portions of it.

The Rats might not have known it since they were vastly manipulating the lifestream energies in the Northern Region but this had caused huge changes to the environment in the other regions. It was most noticeable in the Southern Region where the land was already harsh on their inhabitants to be even crazier to survive in.

This prompted monsters like the Zerg Queen to have difficulty finding food although the humans living in the area just acted as the catalyst to make the situation worse. The Western and Eastern Regions

were also seeing their crops growing at a slower pace. Also, their agricultural advisors noticed that at the rate the crops were maturing, they might have to either devote more land to farmers or tighten the food supply by introducing more taxes. Their stock would dwindle to the point that starvation might be a prevalent issue and they do not have an idea how to deal with it especially when all the appointed Scholars had disappeared.

That was why when Weslie returned to the Western Region and greeted the Queen, she was well missed and many advisors to the Queen asked for the scholar's advice. One of the main concerns was indeed the food situation in the Western Region. Thus, by participating in the fight against the Demon Rats, the Queen of the West hoped that Weslie would have one less issue on her mind and she would be able to aid them with this unknown mystery.

And while this was somewhat cruel, sending troops for the war against the Demon Rats would also alleviate the problem of the food supply. Besides getting gold which the Queen would not question how her Scholar was able to amass that much amount, soldiers would be taken care of.

Guaranteed meals during the course of this battle might be a short term solution but this would allow the Western Kingdom to breathe a little on their resources even if it was just mere weeks of fighting. ((Author's note: Time travelled faster in the Farming World than in the real world and most of the time's perspective had been written in lieu of Jin's world. I do not wish to retcon too much with regards to timing.))

And to put it bluntly, War would no doubt incur losses and while that loss might be devastating to families in the Western Kingdom, it was one of the few ways to dampen the seriousness of the food situation.

As for the Eastern Kingdom, the nobles were hoarding the food supplies and the peasants were all suffering. There was no effort being done to aid the commoners while the King and his wealthy subjects continued to enjoy their food luxuriously without care for life. Gold might not have been on the ground for ages but he still had informants who served the Jacks, his group of Robin Hood Werejackals. It was also one of the reasons he did not really wish to ask for help from the nobles since to them, there was nothing to gain from it other than to flex their military might.

But the Dark Templar organisation had numerous nobles under its wing, and since they were already under the System's influence, it was easy to move a few thousand troops for the war. In return, the System and Gold were able to give reason to feed the families of those troops. Upon hearing that there was food on the table, many who were able, pledge their sword arm for the battle against the Demon Rats as well.

No doubt the news went to the King and the other nobles but they honestly did not care about the situation of the Northern Region and lived in their ignorant bliss.

With all this information flowing through Jin and Kraft, they could see how the Farming World started to crumble down with the intrusion of the Demon Rats. However, it was evident that Jin's intervention in both the Northern and Southern regions had indirectly helped Yggdrasil to regain some energy. However, that extra help was quickly depleted when the Demon Rats furiously produced new equipment.

It was only in the past few days when the Demon Rats were struck in their Undercity that Yggdrasil had managed to recover a little better. In the meantime, as embarrassing as it was, the System finally was able to get the pattern of the energy signature and it was indeed Yggdrasil acting as the 'Spirits of the Land' aiding it to fight the war against this rat menace.

With a plea from the world, Jin decided that it was better to get this over and done with as soon as possible while reaffirming his resolve to eradicate the rest of the Demon Rats (that were not his.)

Chapter 1402: Revising Threat

"Does the User wish to expedite the entire war scenario? It would inadvertently affect the PandaVerse Festival's schedule." The System queried.

"System's right you know? This World Spirit had already been suffering for some time, what's the difference with another few days?" In a rare situation, Kraft had supposedly aided the System.

"Not to mention, I do not think you have that many things planned for the ending of PandaVerse Festival other than a big celebration. You had already called in favours, brought in Singers and Bands for the past few days."

"The Virtual Reality Instance is still in beta testing and though people are enjoying it now, officially incorporating the 'Corpse Catcher' technology would be a better solution for the way forward." The System added, to support the case of not hastening the current war scenario.

"Urghh. Even though you are right, we did have a plan in the event that we had cleared the raid early. So, why can't we just improvise with that particular plan? The fight may have been over but surely we will need to several sweeps to ensure all the Demon Rats were killed. We cannot even let one escape in the event that they would mutate like the variants and start reproducing."

"That will be quite anticlimactic though." Kraft shook his head in disagreement. "If the ending of PandaVerse Festival is like this, it would be criticised harshly especially when all eyes are on us after you pull the stunt of revealing a number of Zodiac Heads at the start of the festival."

"Let me worry about that for now. System, we will go with that particular backup plan of revealing to the Pandarens that they could have a possible farm of their own once they rid the Demon Rats in the Northern Region."

"User, are you sure that is a good choice? The System initially went with the backup plan mainly due to the fact that it was not profitable for us to clear the war in less than seven days. Also, we would be at a loss despite the profits if we were to send everyone in without knowing if the Demon Rats would have an extermination plan such as a nuclear bomb. Judging based on what the System had gathered from all possible information from the surviving Demon Rat Researchers, a nuclear bomb equivalent using lifestream energies had been manufactured and kept."

"Is that true?!" Jin looked at Transquick who was still fixated on the Metal Box Artefact.

"Is that true?!" Kraft's eyes were filled with delight knowing that there was finally something worthy of his destructive calibre.

"Hmm? True what?" Transquick broke his trance from his theory crafting and ensued with some irritation.

"You guys built a lifestream energy bomb?" Jin asked as if he needed to verify the information at the very moment as if his life depended on it. At the same time, he tried to shut Kraft up who was walking toward him, wanting to grab his prized researcher and give him a hug. (Although it was pretty obvious that he wanted to take a closer look into his memories and learn where the bomb was.)

"Lifestream energy bomb? Oh, that piece of wondrous marvel that Borat did. Well, now I know why he wanted to create such a weapon of destruction so badly considering his allegiance with the Mage General..." Transquick clicked his tongue twice and an assistant came by to ask what was required of the Research Head.

"Do you mind getting me my tablet as well as the mechanical book of records if it had not been broken by the aura blast from just now?" Transquick asked and the assistant instantly grabbed them from the side, already prepared what the Research Head had wanted after hearing the queries from the two humans.

"Ah, brilliant." Transquick smiled ever so slightly and tried to turn on his tablet...until he realised he needed power. Kraft then nudged Jin and the Dungeon Supplier reluctantly obliged by teleporting in a portable power generator since he was the one who requested the information.

"Hmm, yet another tech which I have never seen before. But the wires seemed to be similar to ours. I guess, with a bit of tinkering I should get it up with no time." True enough, Transquick took a few tools that were lying around in his utility belt and he performed some 'cut and paste' and voila! The power generator was able to be attached to his tablet, allowing it to power up rather quickly.

"Call me a genius~" Transquick was elated that he was able to transfix two different pieces of technology from different worlds and utilise them at the spot. As much as the two humans were urgent and hungry for information, they were equally curious about how the tablet boots up Operating Systems, and the user interface, they both wondered how different or similar the two world's technology would be.

Soon, they found out that it was nearly identical, but akin to the 80s version of Disk Operating System (DOS) where it was a list of commands with the limited user interface. Yet, Transquick navigated through his tablet rather quickly and was able to find the lifestream energies entrance.

"Huh... its location is kept secret even from me who has the highest access to the said database," Transquick said and Kraft who already got bored decided to grab it from him and fiddle it himself.

In a few minutes of tapping furiously on the tablet's keyboard, he finally found out that the location was not just top secret, it did not exist. "What a waste of time." Kraft sighed as he threw back the tablet to his researcher.

“Does not exist? Does that mean it’s being taken out of its inventory?” Jin asked and Kraft slapped Jin’s back for stating the obvious. “Then System, are you able to track the Lifestream energy bomb with your scan? Surely, with an intense-”

“Ah, you won’t be able to detect with usual means. It’s kept in a similar metal box like this artefact right here. It will deflect any magical signals since the bomb itself is sensitive in nature.” Transquick said as he showed the both of them what the metal crate that held the bomb looked like.

“Damn it. That means there’s a high chance it could actually be deployed to the ground.” Jin said and Kraft merely shook his head.

“Guess, it’s up to the Night Foxes to search for them again. Bossman, go sit up in the command room and make sure the attrition of fight is well-”

“No. This time, I will go.” Jin said as he fiddled with his phone and transferred a buttload of System Points to Kraft.

“Go settle your new researchers.” It was pretty apparent Jin did not want the bomb to fall into the ‘wrong’ hands.

Chapter 1403: Extra: Negotiating with the Boss

“Well... if you say so?” Kraft knew that he could do two things at once. Finding the Lifestream Energy Bomb and stealing it right under Jin’s nose while looking through black market catalogues to make sure that he is able to buy what he wants via the System.

After all, it was rather rare for Jin to even distribute System Points it would be a waste to not use it straight after and demand for more. Yet, Kraft decided to have some conscience since this was indeed the first time in a long while since Jin wishes to step into the battlefield and do some fieldwork himself.

“I guess it’s better for him to do something or else, he would rot with all that knowledge. Besides, I bet he barely used ten percent of the System Rider System especially when he got so many minions to work with.” Kraft said out loud to himself since he knew that the System and Jin were waiting for his response.

“Oh, did I speak too loud?” The Devil sniggers at his comment and beckons Transquick to follow him, “My dear little scientist, you will have all the equipment you wish to have. I do not even mind if you sleep on the floor but first, let’s get you acquainted with my homely abode in the Farming World.”

“Goblin...World?” Transquick did not know what was that but it was equally interested in the sound of that.

“Also, My dear Bossman. I let you have the command of my Night Foxes. I bet you will find them useful in your search for that Lifestream Energy Bomb. But do be quick about it, the amount of System Points you gave me barely covers their one week’s allowances.” Kraft said as he waved goodbye to Jin and teleported to the Goblin World where his own tavern was.

“Out of curiosity, how much is he paying you on a daily basis?” Jin asked Tinda and Narris via the System Channel.

“Master said we cannot say anything about pay. It’s a very sensitive thing to be discussed on a public channel—” Before Narris could finish her words, Tinda cut in.

“Less than 50 System Points a day depending on our workload. He is extremely stingy and does not give any overtime pay. I would not mind to be of service to you, Master Jin. So long we can keep this quiet. A hush hush deal between the Night Foxes and us.” Tinda whispered in rapid blaze succession that Jin needed some time to process what she was talking about.

“I eh... I see. So I am guessing, you guys will double cross him just for extra System Points...? Jin said out blatantly and Narris tried to be honourable in her dealings but if there was a screen for Jin to see the expressions of every other Night Foxes behind her, it was bloody obvious they wanted something more than just honour. But even if he could not see it, Jin was able to sense the frustration from the background.

The grumblings and possibly some hissing on the ‘honourable’ Night Fox that Kraft favoured so much. “It’s not double crossing when we are technically working for you. Kraft is merely the...erm what do you call it? Local Director? You are the Chief Executive Officer of this bloody company. Getting some extra commission from you is not betrayal at all.” Tinda phrased it so comically that Jin could see that they were desperate for extra System Points.

“I honestly won’t blame them for being so hungry for those points.” Jin thought to himself and asked the System to get a comprehensive report on the Night Foxes’ earnings. In less than a blink of an eye, the System’s report was generated right in front of Jin to read and without much of a glance, it was evident enough that the Night Foxes were indeed being underpaid for the work they did.

“Sigh, considering the work they do for Kraft, they do deserve the kind of System Points that Kraft mentioned if he didn’t blindly rob them of their allowances,” Jin said while shaking his head in dismay.

“Right????” Tinda was excited to see that the Boss of their Boss had some sympathy for the Dark Elves.

“Fine, fine. Aid me in the search for the lifestream energy bomb and all of you would be entitled to a bonus.” Jin said and the Night Foxes were pleasantly thrilled by the prospect of incoming System points.”

“You know, it would best to keep your word by giving us a deposit...” Tinda tried to persuade for some points upfront but Jin shut her up with just four words.

“Don’t Push Your Luck,” Jin replied and almost every single Night Fox around her pulled her aside and Narris who was supposedly the most abiding Dark Elf under Kraft’s command placed her hand onto Tinda’s mouth and told her to shut it.

“One more condition. The Lifestream Energy Bomb or BOMBS are entirely my possession. If I notice that Kraft had managed to get a hold of any part of it. I will banish everyone as per the agreement signed between you and the System.” Jin made it clear that even though they were in the same team, under the same System.

“Does that include our Boss stealing it right under our nose?” One of the Dark Elves asked and Jin nodded his head.

“Yes, if he steals it right under your nose. By hook or by crook, you better take it back. And do not worry about the Demon Rats he is attempting to sway. The System had placed a direct order, instructing them to not share anything about the Lifestream Energy Bomb with Kraft.”

“You know... if you keep him out like that, all the more he would attempt to bite you back,” Narris said, thinking she gave a sound warning.

“Don’t worry. I know his character equally well. I just need to make sure his potential desire for that wanton destruction would be sated in different ways.” Jin said as he returned to his Dungeon Maker room, asking for a map of the Undercity once more.

Chapter 1404: Preparation For The Final Fight

The Night Elves went into overdrive searching for the Lifestream Energy Bomb despite the ongoing war that was happening despite the entire incident. Moloch was handling the situation well enough that Jin felt reassured that he was able to move into the Undercity without worrying.

“Don’t you worry kid. While I might not look like it, I do have some experience under my belt. It’s just that your way of doing war is a tad unconventional but after watching and reviewing your actions, I now know what needs to be done.” Moloch said as he sent the information of what he did for the past few hours.

Jin took a quick look within the Dungeon Maker and noticed that the Demon Rats were not relenting despite the loss of their Research unit. Kraft did make it look like they had stolen some properties from the research facility and then burned the entire place down. He even purposely got several of the Dark Elves to throw a few of the dead ‘assassin’ researchers near the entrance of the burnt down research facility to look as if it was pillage and arson.

This would allow the Mage General to not know that the distress signal called by the assassins was not due to betrayal but rather a sign of help against the humans and their fellow monster allies.

But they got to make it foolproof to make sure that the Mage General would not suspect a thing about their intention to get the Lifestream Energy Bomb. Thus, a few Night Foxes were purposely seen putting up an elaborate act that they were taking the injured Birth Mothers in the event that there were still soldiers and mages monitoring the situation. With such a ploy by the Night Foxes, the rest of the Demon Rat Researchers and Jin would not have to worry the Mage General’s having suspicions about them knowing the Lifestream Energy Bomb... Or at the very least lowering the chance of it.

The most important thing was to deceive their higher ups to make them think that the humans were only here in the research facilities for the Birth Mothers and nothing else of note. This was because if the Researchers were dead, Prideblood would know that the humans would not have access to the information with regards to their most exquisite and destructive weapon in their hands.

“However, can I give you some advice?” Moloch asked his master for the permission to speak, which Jin gave it freely.

“I believe it is now time to cut the heads off the snake’s body. We have reached the City’s centre and all the forces that we are seeing now are trained soldiers like the ones we had fought protecting Wecha Town.”

“The rank and file Demon Rats are currently dispatched to the flanks and fighting against the zombies but the main bulk of their veterans are concentrating their firepower in that particular area. I will not be surprised to see a few recurring characters like Skydigger, the Pickaxe General who ran away from the Pandarens.”

“I thought he would be dead with all that damage done to him.”

“Even if he does die, do not be surprised if you see someone claiming to be Skydigger.” Transquik who teleported in, wanting to give Jin the possible hiding locations where the Lifestream Energy Bomb would be. “There are permanent unique general positions in the Demon Rat military and there are disposable ones. Skydigger is one of the names bestowed to the Demon Rat that was able to transcend their combat skills and proved to be deadly with a pickaxe.”

“Most of the elites are just waiting for the General to die out from combat to take the seat. And yes, there is a queue for that title because everyone knows the privilege of being a General.”

“So, I guess we should aim for the permanent positions?” Jin took a quick glance at the possible locations on a bloodied map of the Undercity and passed it to the System to upload so the Night Foxes knew where to go.

“Yes, Gnawbones was fortunately one of them as he was the few who partook a decent amount of lifestream energy, the other three who also took in the energies were Roughscream, Prideblood and Cinderclaw. Particularly the last one is now seated as the King and Overseer of the entire Demon Rat race. Defeat him and you might have some control of the situation.” Transquik was quick enough to understand that Jin wanted the war to finish as soon as within his seven days. Now that he was inundated into the System, and the promises of technological research after the war had spurred Transquik to reveal even more information to ensure that Jin reached his goal.

“Then I guess I better head to the High Command as soon as possible. Peppers and Pei. We have some hunting to do.” Jin called out the names of his mage bellator and his guardian ‘fox’ to the Dungeon Maker instance.

“Heh, the System told me all about it. Let’s see who really deserves the title of Mage General.” Peppers said as she unveiled under her cape, a combat vest filled with crystalised tubes that were supposedly used to control her mana consumption.

“I am the one who should be surprised that you decided to call me. I thought you would call the Orcs to fight against this...Club General. Wait, are you implying that I fight like a brute?” Pei, the Pink Fox unveiled her human form and took out her katana with the intent to stab Jin.

“No! No! I was merely thinking that you fight with the most elegance despite your cold hard strikes within my army. And also, don’t you think you should be thanking me instead?” Jin knew that the rest of

the Foxes were hard at work recreating Demonpolis and that they were dying from administrative paperwork.

"You have a valid point. The rest would be jealous if they knew that I went out to play." Pei retracted her sword and Jin was relieved that she could still listen to reason.

"See? The privileges of being guardian once for the User." Jin chuckled but Pei knocked his head.

"I still am, just that I know that you are within the System's premise and the sole reason why I did not make a move." Pei argued with her hands crossed.

"And if you are going for a big battle then all the more you all should feast first before going in." Lynn suddenly popped into the Dungeon Maker instance which Jin presumed that the System had told her everything about.

"Thank you Lynn." He said as the dungeon supplier told the two of them to have some food to gain some buffs before entering for the 'final' fight.

Chapter 1405: Leading The Distraction

"So Boss, do you want a quick portal to the High Command or do you want me to create a pathway to that building?" Moloch asked but he believed he knew the answer Jin was going to give though it was better to come it out from his mouth than assuming.

"Create a pathway for me to go through. Use a WARE event or multiple WARE events to make it happen." Jin said as he looked through the information that Transquick had given him with regards to the Demon Rat Generals who had been taken in the lifestream energy for their own consumption.

"Hmm, might be a tad difficult since we are only in the middle of the fourth day and most of the crowd comes after their work schedule." Moloch said as he tried to check the number of Pandarens around to see if there was any 'magic' he could pull to make it work.

"Aren't the Pandawans still around? I thought I heard them saying that they had saved up their leave and money just for this particular event?" Jin asked and Moloch brought up the Pandaren List to check whether his usual customers were present in the fight. Based on the System's last seen reports, he eventually found out that they were currently resting and having their lunch at one of the newly opened restaurants within the Tree Mall.

"They are currently waiting for the orders and since they are such a big group, it would take some time. Although I believe you can use your privilege as the Tree Mall's landlord and push forth the order...since your NPCs are the ones doing most of the cooking." Moloch giggled and Jin thought about it for a second before saying no.

"Let them rest, it would be horrible of me to let them miss this out but equally horrible to cause them to quicken their pace of eating just for this minor event," Jin said but Moloch begged to differ.

"I honestly think they will drop everything whatever they are doing and go for a run with you. Frankly speaking, it's not just the points, they believed in you especially when you have such an exciting battle ahead. Besides, you did owe them a good fight after you abandoned them to fight against Baal."

"That is also true... Now that I think about it, do you think it's okay to release Baal now for a fight?" Jin asked Moloch since he was the only one monitoring the progress of Baal despite being kept under heavy System scrutiny (even when he too had agreed to sign the System's contract willingly.)

"Hmm... If you want him to be part of the fight, it will no doubt increase the odds of this current battle since his leadership is unparalleled -well, his leader was unparalleled when I first joined him. Not like that crazy fool he was under Kiva's artefact influence so I guess we could give it a try. Besides, having him for future battles would definitely be useful if we were ever to intervene in the Demon's dimensional plane or heck, even the Gods' place of living. Not that I honestly want to go there."

"Woah, Woah. You are thinking way too much now. In any case, contact the Pandawans and get our NPCs in that Chinese restaurant to serve the food to them as soon as possible. Also, put their meal on my tab while I talk to Baal for a moment or two."

"Boss, you sure?"

"Better to have me give him the orders than to get it from you. He might agree on the account that he is doing you a favour or returning the debt he owes you, but ultimately, he is my minion. I still have to talk to him and make sure he sees things my way."

"Boss, you sound cool for a moment, but I do not think you are that capable."

"Hah asshole." Jin chuckled as he had already sent the Night Foxes to do a preliminary search while hiding their presence. Only later when Jin and his minions enter the fray, it would then be the best distraction for the Night Foxes to do their job properly and search for the Lifestream Energy Bomb while making sure that their generals are occupied to even think of using the Lifestream Energy Bomb, especially their Mage General Prideblood.

"Hahah, I will prepare the Demopolis Minions for mobilisation. They would no doubt be happy that King Baal would be there to lead them once more." Moloch said to Jin knowing that even if his master had failed to convince Baal, the last resort he could do was to either command them himself, or Jin using the System to force Baal to lead the troops. Yet, those thoughts were kept aside since he had already conversed with Baal enough times to know that it should be an easy job for Jin to convince the Demon King to lead once more.

Once Jin teleported into the instance that was keeping Baal imprisoned, he was expecting a defeated soul, filled with regrets. But he was dead wrong when the dungeon supplier saw the demon humming to himself in his prison cell writing something with a few books by his side. He never believed the King of Demons would be studious if he had never seen this side of him.

"If you have come, it means that you either want me to go into battle or need me for some advice with regards to the Demon Dimensional Plane," Baal said as he continued to be occupied writing.

"Yes, the former." Jin did not bring up any excuses or any roundabout explanation.

“Are you not afraid that I might break the System’s hold, take control of the army that I once lost and create a coup d’etat within your circle of minions?”

“Honesty, not really. If it comes to that, I will just settle with whatever powers I have within my possession. I clearly do not have the time to think about such stuff. Besides, I trust the System to inform me of such incidents before they could even happen.”

“Then you must be fortunate to not have such worries.” The King lamented a little. “I too would like some of this ‘worry not’ attitude and just do more for my kingdom.”

“You can always make a new one. I can offer you a position in Pandapolis Administration since there are now demons working in the city as well alongside the whatever stowaway humans.”

“Tempting offer but I do enjoy my current solitude. Being bogged down with paperwork isn’t my style.”

“Though I feel that you are enjoying it.”

“Probably just bored.”

“But are you bored enough to lead your men to battle again?” Jin felt that there was no need to prattle on.

“Hmm. I would not lie that my sword arm is itching for a fight since my defeat. For now, I will accept your call to battle. But do not expect-”

“That’s enough for now, we can discuss more when we are done with the current situation. Time is of some essence in this current matter.” Jin said as he requested the System to pour whatever vital information it had to Baal, allowing him to understand the chain of developments that were happening in the Farming World.

“I see, then let’s get to it,” Baal said with a sigh after rubbing his temple from the excessive information that was given to him. Jin was undoubtedly relieved that everything went smoothly, many thanks to Moloch who had been preparing Baal from behind the scenes.

Chapter 1406: Ever Extending Bridge

Baal entered the Dungeon Maker Instance with Jin and Moloch was not surprised at all that he was able to make his way here. But rather, he was more than happy to place his hand out as if he was demanding something from Baal.

“What?” Baal tried to avoid the stare from Moloch but the plushie minotaur was insisting for Baal to hand over it. This made Jin curious and Baal decided not to dilly dally too much considering the situation in the Farming World.

“System Points trade. It was a bet whether Boss would be willing to go to get Baal out of his cell.” Moloch said and Jin only had confused looks on his face.

“We made a bet. That’s all. Do not think too much about it. It’s just our past time hobby when Moloch and I were still King and Advisor.” Baal said but Jin was more curious about how Baal even got hold of System Points. Yet, that was a question that was out of the current context at this point in time and one could only assume that the System was already getting Baal to do things even though he was semi imprisoned.

“Do I have Kiva under my control as well?” Baal asked and Moloch smacked his former King on the shoulders, telling him to not joke anymore in front of Jin. However, Baal was asking it as a serious inquiry.

“Why do you need him?” Jin asked and Baal requested the System to open up the Undercity’s map.

“There is no doubt that I can brute force my way through the City Centre with my troops but it will take too many causalities. But from what I heard, Kiva had developed a sort of bridge module with the Science Branch which enabled it to work by extending almost infinitely until it reach its destination. It was a combination of magic and technology at the same time.” Baal answered and Jin now understood that even though he was imprisoned, he was still privy to their information. That means the System did not see him as a threat but Baal merely wanted some time alone for himself and decided to continue to stay within the cell. The only problem was that the System did not allow freeloaders and thus where the System Points came about. Still, he did not understand what was Baal thinking and needed clarification.

“What does that have to do with the push for the High Command?”

“You needed a bait for distraction and this would be the perfect lure to make sure that the Demon Rats High Command take note of you,” Baal said as he requested the System to simulate the ever extending bridge module in the Undercity.

“In the first place, why would he even make such a product?” Jin asked but both Moloch and Baal merely shrugged their shoulders. The System, however, was able to provide an answer for it, stating that it was to connect not just cliffs and canyons or fast flowing rivers but to connect between countries, and more ambitiously, between planets.

“Planets??!” Jin exclaimed as he could not believe the absurdness of the said product.

“Well, if he wants to use this to connect between planets, then that means it’s sturdy enough to hold against artillery fire.” Moloch deduced and the System gave a positive affirmation.

“I see. So as our forces goes overhead the ground, they could obviously see the threat that was coming towards them, since we are forcefully connecting it to the Demon Rats High Command Building. Not a bad idea.” Jin nodded his head in agreement and give the plan a go ahead.

“Not only that, but the bridge can also extend sideways so we can use the surrounding buildings as a diversion while enhancing our temporary stronghold.” Moloch had a quick review of Kiva’s product. “Though I do not believe the name of this product is just called Ever Extending Bridge. He definitely had a fanciful name for it.”

“Yes, Researcher Kiva did submit a name but it was unanimously rejected by the rest of the Science Branch, citing concerns that it might be too pompous.” The System reported and the group sighed, knowing Kiva’s habits.

“Also, how’s the response from the Pandawans?” Jin decided to sidetrack from the current conversation, now knowing the direction of their war plan. (But unbeknownst to him, the System was a tad disappointed considering it had come up a heck load of plans previously regarding this invasion and Jin had decided to use a plan that had not been fully simulated and its risks calculated. However, the System does not deny the attention it could generate from the plan, it was merely worried about the damage and cost it had to bear.

“The Pandawans agreed to it, and in fact, Xiong Da had promised to come as soon as possible even though I told them to enjoy their food,” Moloch replied. “I even added that if they waste their food, they are not going to go in at all, which prompted them to Xiong Da to gobble everything which the rest could not finish. For that, I was partially speechless.”

“But it was barely a few minutes the last I spoke to you... Guess I cannot underestimate the power of the hippo.” Jin shook his head in dismay.

“Nah, they were only given the appetisers. So, they still got the main course and dessert but Xiong Da is obviously on the edge. Thankfully, the NPCs responded positively to our orders and they are dishing the food out as fast as possible while maintaining quality.” Moloch reassured Jin.

“Then, we shall start the assault first. Send out the announcements to both the Pandarens and our Minions. As for Baal, I shall give you temporary control over the Demopolis Generals. Even the Devil Dragons who are fighting now will be under your command. In the meantime, Moloch please ensure that the rest of the forces are still doing their part, especially the ones that are fighting in the East and West tunnels.” Jin ordered and the both of them acknowledged.

The Demon Rats would not know how hard Jin and his minions are going to hit after this slew of orders.

[Chapter 1407 Prideblood’s Ambition](#)

With each day of defeat and losing their grounds of their Undercity bit by bit to the humans and monsters, the Demon Rats’ morale was dropping rapidly. The rumours regarding the death of their Air Force General had been made true once the Demon Rats in the Air Force had been given orders by Mage General Prideblood.

And what was worse was that the humans were relenting in their fight, something which most of the veterans had dismissed them as weak beings were refuted at each and every turn of the battle. The newer Demon Rats could see the vigour of the human cultivators returning to the battle not defeated but ever more eager to kill them.

Their numbers might not amount to much but their resurrective abilities were something that even the Demon Rats believed that it was only a matter of time before they lost such an ability and died permanently. There was no such thing as infinite magic and somehow they thought it was proven true within the second day of the battle.

Yet, as a spark of hope shimmers through their hearts, the humans came in with their allied monsters to crush all their beliefs. Now into the fourth day of battle, they were desperately fighting only in hopes

that their main armies who had advanced into the Eastern and Western regions would have more success and buy them time to establish a new foothold in said regions.

Yet, the control of information by the High Command had disabled them from knowing the truth that their main armies were nowhere near the Eastern nor Western regions. Even in their attempt to retreat to the Undercity as reinforcements had been cut off as there were reports that the monsters had taken control of the tunnels at both ends.

There were no more troops to spare to retake the entrance of the tunnels by the Undercity and even a squad of Demon Rats Elites under the command of Cinderclaw had been wiped out by two greenish 'guardians' standing proud and strong at each entrance.

The presence of Jin's infamous Goblins, the Death Knight and the Ifrit's Successor had made the intensive training and experience Demon Rats Elites gained, a joke. They were nearly immediately slaughtered with their powers combined and the goblins knew that a great show of strength would deter the High Command from sending any more troops now that they were at a deficit.

However, the Demon Rat Generals refused to acknowledge the fact that they could not be killed, especially the Mage General who knew that he still had the ultimate trump card in his sleeve. The Lifestream Energy Bomb.

He had read extensive reports on how the bomb's side effects after it had exploded, disabling the ability to regrow anything. This means that there was a chance- nay, a definite way to kill all the humans and their monsters in one go as long as they were gathered.

Even if it means the destruction of the Undercity then so be it. Prideblood believed that destroying the bulk of these humans with resurrective powers within the Undercity would not just be an achievement but also a warning to their group that was hiding beyond the Northern Region to be afraid of the Demon Rats.

All they needed was more time so that the humans and monsters would be more concentrated within the Undercity before he used such a deadly weapon. However, the only problem with such a tactic was that it was a theory that had yet to be proven against the humans and no one had such a plan in mind, not even the Usurper General Cinderclaw who took the throne for himself.

However, with each passing second, the loss of troops and the need to command the rest of the air force, the thought of using the Lifestream Energy bomb was getting stronger and stronger. It felt like it was a beginning of an obsession, wanting to use such technological powers and defeat the humans once and for all.

Unfortunately, as he was thinking on the sidelines about the total destruction of the humans, the radio and magic communication operators were signalling the Generals in their high seats that the humans were teleporting something huge. (Since they saw a huge portal on their magic eyes and cameras)

"Is it that big fish that was hovering above the Northern Capital? They are teleporting that thing in?" Prideblood did not know how to fight that threat but he believed the remaining bulk of Gnawbones Airforce would be a perfect diversion for it while the humans gain the balls to rush through the city centre.

“No, it seems like they are bringing out a sort of metal plate contraption. We could not identify its use-” The operators reported until the Ever Extending Bridge which Jin had prepared finally came into play. It shot out instantly like a rock being slung out from a catapult as it extended endlessly with the use of magic. Kiva was absolutely delighted that his newest invention was being used especially during a wartime setting.

The Bat Lord made sure that the coordinates were right, barely avoiding almost every single building by extending it over them while stretching towards the High Command’s location. Soon, the bridge ‘found’ its target and crashed itself towards the High Command, lodging itself in the middle of it all. At the same time, Kiva ensured that more plates were deployed not to just ensure that it was firmly into the High Command but also to ensure the stability of the bridge.

Soon, pillars started to grow like tree roots attempting to find stable ground. (They do look like metal tree roots from afar.)

“Charge!” Baal, who was the first to emerge from the portal in a lightweight armoured car, had now surprised the rest of the Demon Rat’s High Command. The shock gave them sufficient time for the remaining army to pop out from the portal all in armoured vehicles, ranging from armoured cars to heavy duty tanks.

Some of the soldiers were on foot but they ensured the portal’s safety by fortifying the surrounding buildings so that the Demon rats could not disrupt the Demopolis’s army advance.

One thing is for sure, the assault to end everything finally begins.

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[Chapter 1408 Battle On The Sky Bridge - Part 1](#)

Everyone who was currently fighting on the battlefield had no idea that the bridge that magically appeared from a portal would be of an immense proportion. The allies of Jin were shocked and yet encouraged by the sudden flow of reinforcements but the enemies’ morale had been severely hit by this move.

The High Command was scrambling to gather forces to counterattack but the sky bridge had made it rather hard for the Demon Rats to reach. It was near impossible unless individual teams of Demon Rats climb up buildings and jumped onto the sky bridge. It invalidated all the defences that the Demon Rats had prepared and thus they were desperately trying to bring the sky bridge down with whatever ranged weapons that they had at their disposal.

On the other hand, the Demopolis Army had it easier as they were in their war vehicles pushing through at top speed and killing anyone that they had spotted in the buildings. Even those Demon Rats who had risked their lives to jump onto the sky bridge were bull charged by the armoured cars.

Normally, it would have slowed down the pace of the advance guard but Baal was at the lead of the charge with Kiva at his side. “My Lord! Let’s make this a trip to remember for this is our reunion!” Kiva exclaimed as he activated his magical ring, the only battle item which he was allowed to bring out since the rest of his arsenal had been confiscated by the System.

Still, with just his ring, he was able to conjure a wind barrier that not only knock unsuspecting Demon Rats who jumped to the sky bridge to get their bearings, but also those who had attempted to prepare a makeshift barricade against the vanguard.

In the meantime, Baal was standing tall at the top of the armoured car, unhindered by Kiva's shouting as well as the garbage hanging around the sky bridge. He was surveying the current battlefield to see how he should deploy his forces.

"Hmm. Marquis Forneus. The System just did a wide scan and noted a few places which might have the potential ability to destroy the sky bridge. Send your forces to those coordinates immediately." Baal told the Devil Dragon's Leader and the Marquis was all the more delighted to serve under the decisive Baal once again. With a resounding yes to his orders, he sent the Devil Dragons closest to those coordinates to survey and destroy whatever that might plague the current operations.

"Earl Barbatos, Dive down and remove those barricades. Half Ghoul Lord Derek would appreciate such an effort." Baal gave another order to the Lord of Giants and Barbatos who were hitching the rides on tanks immediately complied to the order, leaping down from the sky bridges to sweep the barricades away. (When the trolls and giants did it, everyone on the sky bridge could feel a difference in the weight and its recoil and the tanks could move even faster without wasting too much mana.)

"Earl Furtfur, Get your Winged Hydras to disrupt the Demon Rat Variants before they receive the orders from their Demon Rat counterparts to intervene on our advancing army." Earl Furtfur took the orders at heart and with pride, commanding his Winged Hydras who were hovering above the Demopolis Army to split out and attack the Chimeras that were on the ground of the Undercity.

"Kiva." Now Baal finally gave the Bat Aristocrat the attention he craves.

"Yes, my lord!" Kiva was a little disappointed that he was not spoken with any noble title attached to his name. But at the same time...relieved and perhaps delighted? He assumed that Baal had decided to call him by his name only as a sign of possible friendship.

"No, do not overthink. Your title had been stripped for the heinous acts you committed in Demopolis. It shall remain so until you have proven yourself to me." Baal said and told him to get his bottleflies to engage against the Demon Flying Rats.

"Ha! That is one too easy of an order!" Kiva clearly disregarded what Baal had said and instantly relayed that command to his Bat Bottleflies. "Those disgusting replicas will be annihilated the moment they meet my tremendous force of Bat Bottleflies!"

To Baal's surprise, those Bat Bottleflies were surprisingly strong as they sought their prey and devoured them almost in an instant. The Flying Rats were not able to fight well compared to the Bat Bottleflies who were of similar size and with deadly agility to boot.

With just a few commands, the entire battlefield turned from a war of attrition to a near total annihilation of the Demon Rats. The Pandarens who were informed of the sudden event took whatever opportunity they could to enter the fray and attack any Demon Rats.

Even Xiong Da and his group of Pandawans had commandeered an armoured vehicle, racing through the sky bridge and went ahead to assist the Lord of Giants in destroying the barricades. At the same time,

they put up new WARE events to ensure that the Pandarens were concentrating the fight so that the Demopolis Army could move unhinged towards the Demon Rat High Command.

“See, ‘Master’. My King is capable of things that you would never achieve! Descend from your petty high throne and accede it to my King. Perhaps, he will-” Before Kiva could finish his sentence, Jin who was sitting at the back of the armoured car had already nudged Peppers to use a mute spell on him. As for his evaluation of Baal, Jin was undoubtedly impressed that his lords and ladies were able to follow his short commands until he remembered that Moloch was also handling the minions.

With the aid of Moloch’s directing each individual company of Demon Soldiers to their respective places after Baal’s orders, the groups were able to effectively coordinate the attacks.

And because of that, he and the other three were able to relax for now as his hard work of taking over Demopolis paid off. All he had to do was to wait until they either reached the High Command or the three Generals infected by the Lifestream energies were to appear.

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Chapter 1409 Battle On The Sky Bridge -Part 2

The Pandarens alongside the Demon Army had pushed through the Demon Rats’ barricades with a decisive blow under the command of Baal. Jin and his companions were able to move through the Sky Bridge smoothly without the hindrance of the Demon Rats.

Soon, the Demon Rat High Command is within sight and as expected by the Demon Rats under the Generals, they had already mounted a defence within the surrounding area. Windows had been left slightly jarred and filled with Demon Rats armed to the teeth. From basic rifles to sniper nests, there were even mages at the ready to send a volley of terrible offensive magic to Jin’s vanguard.

“Jin, shall I clear them out?” Baal asked as he was still standing tall and everyone had their scopes and barrels aimed at him.

“I guess you want some form of warming up?” Jin said through the System Channel as he took a closer look at the Demon Rats via Pepper’s magnifying magic. From the looks of it, they were veterans, probably the elites of the elites protecting the Generals and the operators in the High Command from certain harm.

“Since you already have your lineup ready for the fight, I guess this is my only plea- an excuse to stretch my sword arm.”

“Hey Baal, get in line!” Moloch yelled through the System Channel. “I have yet to go into battle! How can you go if I did not have a shot at them?”

“I thought you said you preferred to stay at the sidelines, managing the command?” Jin asked, knowing that if Baal goes on a rampage, his previous second in command would like to fight alongside him.

“This is different!” Kiva and Moloch somehow managed to shout at the same time through the System Channel and it seems like the other noble lords and ladies had the very same idea. To fight under Baal, a Greater Demon, was a dream that many Demons from the Demon Plane would sacrifice their lives and even souls for. But to fight with Baal? Everyone would desire such great honour and pleasure.

“Heh. Then I am sorry Moloch and even to you Kiva. You have your roles to fill at this point in time. You have to lead the entire Demopolis Army to immeasurable victory while Kiva, focus on driving.” Jin ordered and the two had to comply based on their contract with their System. There was no time for personal desires to be in the way of matters when the most important battle drew near.

“Does that mean?” Baal was elated to know that he had the permission to fight as metaphysical chains that were holding him back suddenly turned visible. For Demons who were following behind him were shocked at the layers of chains that were put on him but that was the System’s condition for him to lead the army since a Greater Demon should not be given a chance to have complete free will.

But just for this moment, all the locks and chains had been released from him, giving him the ability to breathe properly after months of confinement. (Though it might be months, the System had used time dilation to make him feel the days like years, and months like centuries. His back that had been imprinted with the marks of chains gradually disappeared as his strength returned to him just by taking in the air around him.

With all the Demons under his command and the immense stench of death in the undercity, it provided him with the necessary mana for absorption. The demons were gladly pouring tribute mana for their one and only King regardless of the distance. This was made real and further accelerated with the aid of the System, transferring the mana from one monster to another through System points. As the Demons gave their king System Points, it was then turned into Mana where he used it to absorb and regain his vitality.

In less than twenty seconds, he was already up to half his previous strength and Baal stopped accepting any more tributes or generous donations. (especially from a certain bat ‘lord’.) The Greater Demon believed that he had more than enough power to decimate this place twenty folds even though he was half his strength. And that reality was proven when the barrage of rockets began to fly towards the vanguard but with a gentle flick of his finger, a gust of wind ensued, causing all the rockets to be deflected away, damaging the surrounding buildings instead.

Next, the Demon Rat Snipers made their shot but those bullets were like quickly slowed down a metre away from Baal’s torso and head. The Greater Demon grabbed all those bullets that were stopped right in front of him and he threw them back at them again, with the very same trajectory. Most of the snipers realised what he was doing and managed to dodge the shot (barely) but a few who were preparing their next shot did not have the time to react fast enough and got killed in the process.

However, the Demon Rats were not relenting as those who were killed had been replaced by a fresher batch of soldiers waiting to perform their duty. The Mages who saw Baal in action, instantly doubled up their casting, knowing that this adversary they were facing was considered an elite. If they were to pull their punches, they might be the ones who are going to die.

So, as synchronised as they could be, the Demon Rat Mages simultaneously unleashed a volley of fireballs towards Baal who was still in the lead of the vanguard.

The Greater Demon believed that fire should be fought with fire and thus revealed a magic circle that was large enough to encase the entire breadth of the sky bridge. Soon, the balls of fire albeit of a different colour came shooting out from the magic circle, intercepting each and everyone that Demon Rat Mages had cast.

But the Demon Rat Mages already knew his ferocity and thus hid a second spell within the fireballs. It was an absorption spell where the fireballs take in the mana of the opponent's spell and used it for their own. As Baal thought to fight 'fair and square' for this particular showcase, it seemed that it only gave him a better excuse to use stronger spells.

The Demon Rat Mages' fireball turned insanely huge and the Demon Rats thought that this could be the counterblow that they were waiting for so that the sky bridge that was hinged onto the Demon Rats High command could be destroyed.

However, the opposite happened.

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Chapter 1410 Battle On The Sky Bridge -Part 3

Baal took a slow breath in even while the fireballs were coming in hot. Yet, it was still too close for comfort for some of the Demopolis Army as they were not as fearless as the commanders and captains.

But with a huff and a puff from Baal, all the fireballs froze in midair unable to consume the magical energy that Baal had emitted. His breath of frigid ice had caused those who were worried about imminent destruction to let out a sigh of relief. Almost every Demon Rat Mage on the scene was surprised by the change in development.

They were fairly certain that the fireballs alongside with the absorption spell should have dealt the counterblow they were all waiting for. Even Prideblood, the Demon Rat Mage General were surprised by how his unique spell which he had infused and spread through the Demon Rat Mages had been rendered useless.

Could there actually be a type of magic that was capable of stopping his unique absorption spell or the spell had reached its upper limits and stopped working? There were so many questions in his head but the sight of those ice cold static fireballs in the air was a testament that there was someone who was superior in magic to him.

And what's surprising was how the environment was not affected by Baal's Breath of Frigid Ice and that meant he had precise manipulation of magic that was top tier. Even Shiva who was supposed to be the pinnacle of ice element casters, the Shaitan would have to bow down to his ability to cast a wide area of effect of magic and not disrupt the surroundings.

Thus, this allowed the entire Demopolis Vanguard to move forth without too much of a hassle. On the other hand, the Demon Rats had anticipated those frozen fireballs to be countered and blown back towards them but it was not happening. They remained as they were while the Demopolis Vanguard drove through.

Hence, the Demon Rat Mages had begun casting their next set of spells, using lightning which would not interfere with the frozen fireballs. Thinking it would be useful since the lightning strikes should result in a direct attack, the mages poured as much mana as they could to blast it out from their spell circles.

“And here I thought they would create natural thunder and lightning.” Kiva scoffed and subsequently laughed at how stupid the Demon Mages would feel if they know what was to come next. Jin and his other two companions kept quiet and waited for the stupidity to surface into reality. As those lightning bolts were being sent out of the magic circles, some of the Demon Rat Mages who were slower in their casting found out something crucial, including those who were sensitive to mana in the air.

There was still a lingering magical spell in the midst of this battlefield but the presence was so minute that not even the Mage General was able to sense it except for a few. Regardless, those mages were not able to report as well since the magic presence of those frozen fireballs was so dense that most of the ‘sensitive’ mages shrugged it off.

It was only until the first batch of mages who fired their volley of lightning strikes did they realise what Baal had been hiding. The lightning bolts that were spitting out of their magical circles had been solidified into ice. Lightning which is supposed to be moving at the speed of light had been frozen by Baal’s continuous casting of his spell. The reason why he did not allow the frozen fireballs to dissipate and be destroyed. Its massive magic signature had confused the Demon Rat Mages and their mana sense, allowing him to hide his ice magic in the midst of this already chaotic battlefield.

Baal could have used destructive earth shattering magic but that was not the point of this particular match of magic. He needed to show finesse to prove his strength and superiority against the Demon Rats. (Besides, he knows that a certain bellator would hate to see that she lost her chance in mass destruction.) The Demon Rat Mages were eventually killed by absolute sub zero temperatures as the frozen magic circles subsequently iced their mana flow as well.

The remaining mages tried to stop their casting once they learnt of the situation and yet there was nothing they could do as the ice spell had already permeated through their shield barriers with the frozen lightning bolts as the catalyst. The Demon Rat Mages maintaining the shield barriers were not spared by the frigid ice as they were the next to die while the rest of the Mages tried to make a secondary barrier to ensure they would not be encased in cold hard water crystals.

“I have to admit to your precision and cunningness.” Peppers finally blurted out praise despite her being quite reluctant to do so through the System Channel.

“For the Mage Bellator to take her time to praise me, I believe that is an honour I would not forget.” Baal chuckled knowing that her powers and potential were undoubtedly infinite if not for her restraints. This was because for someone to have access to the universal pool of magic had been deemed as a person to be considered, capable of defeating Greater Beings without much trouble.

Once she had managed to permanently deal with her weakness, it was possible for Jin to have a godly being at his side as well. That was assuming she was willing to tackle her weakness and the only way Baal could think of was of great trials and tribulations.

“We are reaching soon,” Kiva said as he saw the Demon Rat’s physical barricades were coming up close.

“Just put us near the barricades. Do not need to crash us over.” Jin said as he readied himself, knowing not to underestimate his opponents even though they were presented to be weaker to them individually. Yet, he did not forget what Transquick had said about those who had been ‘infected’ by a copious amount of lifestream energy. They might still be a force to reckon with and he had to be careful.

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