

## **Dungeon S 1411**

### **Chapter 1411 Battle On The Sky Bridge – Part 4**

As Jin, Pei and Peppers stepped out of the car, they were met with fierce resistance which Jin's personal mage had already taken care of the current dilemma. A multilayer shield barrier had been erected which prevented their car to be wrecked into havoc from the hail of bullets. (Baal initially wanted to provide such a service but was immediately denied as the Bellator herself wished to have her powers shown clearly. Basically, she was itching to show off as well.)

The soldiers at the frontline barricade had no idea about the dreadful deaths that had happened on the rooftops of the High Command and surrounding buildings. They only assumed that these people that came forward were also soldiers that could be beaten via conventional means.

"Leave all these small scums to my men. Master, go ahead and fight the Demon Rat Generals to your fullest pleasure." Baal signalled to his commanders and the Infamous Soldiers of Gem emerged from the hazy crowd of demons. The Sapphire Soldiers used their magic rather smoothly because of the mana compatibility left by Baal's previous frost spell. They absorbed the surrounding mana and sent gushing water which subsequently turned into silhouettes of bulls, decimating the makeshift barricades in a matter of seconds.

But the Demon Rat soldiers were not dumb and actually used the makeshift barricades as a front for their actual iron barricades. They were filled with counter spells which were ready to dispel Sapphire Soldiers' magical attacks. And they were indeed extremely effective in breaking the flow of battle that the Sapphire Soldiers had started. Yet, this did not falter the Soldiers of Gem as Topaz Soldiers who were well known not only for their manipulation of earth magic but also their ability to wreck stuff.

There were no other better candidates in the Soldiers of Gem to crush the iron barricades even though they know that the Demon Rats might still have some nasty tricks under their sleeves. True enough, rotating guns were seen popping out of those barricades and instead of bullets, long iron spears were being shot out from those guns, killing several Topaz Soldiers in one go.

Yet, the Topaz Battalion did not hesitate to push forth as they attempted to adapt to the situation and deployed soldiers wearing the latest set of armour developed by Jin's Science Team. It amplified their Topaz stone by threefold, allowing them to harden themselves enough to withstand the killing blow from those rotating guns. Soon, they managed to reach to the barricades, smashing both the guns and the Demon Rats manning them.

The fight became fiercer as Troll Rats, another chimaera variant came into the picture, contesting the Topaz in the field of attrition. Yet, this stalemate allowed the other soldiers of Gem moved forth, providing the necessary firepower to stop them. The Ruby Soldiers sent lava filled punches to Troll Rats, diminishing their ability to recover while the Emerald Soldiers kept the Topaz Soldiers alive as much as possible by channelling mana to allow them to recover.

Though some of their spells were hindered by the Iron Barricades' numerous counter spells, the soldiers were still able to put up a decent competitive edge against the Elite Demon Rats holding their ground. No doubt both sides' 'main protagonists' could intervene in the fight, they could already sense who they should be fighting with.

Naturally, they thought that Baal was considered to be their main target but he was not sending out any killer vibes which made the Demon Rat Generals confused until they saw that there were three humans beside him. Thus, they assumed that those humans were the guards that protect him and they were the huddle which was required to defeat him.

But unlike the Demon Rat Generals and their misinterpreted intel, Jin was already eyeing their general who supposedly governed the entire Demon Rat population. However, before he could even make a move, the Demon Rat's Lance General and Club General somehow popped up from the bottom of the bridge and prepared to strike Baal, thinking he was the general of this entire movement. (After all, he did look like a human if he did not change back to his demon form.)

Jin and Pei managed to block both of the General's strikes and caught on the situation that the Demon Rats believed Baal was their main general. It was no doubt a good distraction for Jin to be seen as the lesser one rather than the main perpetrator of this entire army invasion. Pei instantly dispatched their Demon Rat Club General but eventually realised that it was a mere fake and that the Club General was actually doing a follow up attack from the Lance General in order to catch Jin off guard.

They thought it would be a sure strike when Jin was seen as defenceless as he was blocking the Lance General's attack but everyone around him knew that he was setting up a feint as much as the Club General had prepared one.

With Bam and Boo as one greatsword blocking the lance attack, it immediately split into a scimitar and shield, allowing Jin to simultaneously parry the Club General's strike and use his shield to slam the Lance General away. Their hopes for a one strike one kill had dissipated when they lost the element of surprise against Jin. Pei slowly walked towards Jin while both the generals jumped backwards to have some ground away from their opponents.

"Are you going to follow them? They are going to play dirty," Pei commented as she could already predict what the two Generals were going to do.

"Can I leave their deaths to you?" Jin queried and Pei smiled ever so slightly.

"If you promised that luxurious bath package for me in that whatever mountain hot spring instance." Pei tried to bargain.

"Oh, that top VIP package with a month's worth of Polar Bear and Panda's massage? Sure." Jin didn't expect that her conditions to fight both were easy. At the very least, he had her occupied and not a wasted trip.

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## **Chapter 1412 Battle On The Sky Bridge – Part 5**

As Pei had expected, the two generals jumped down from the sky bridge in an attempt to lure one of Baal's 'guards' away from him and the Crane Fox followed them willingly to whatever battlefield they were choosing.

For the remaining 'guards', Prideblood, the Demon Rat Mage General had finally entered the fray. There was no grandiose in his arrival and merely flew towards the group asking for an opponent to challenge. He would have wished to fight against Baal himself to prove that manipulation of his magic spells was not the only thing that could subvert a fight but Peppers already stepped in and pointed her wooden staff at him, demanding for the duel to be with her instead

Compared to Baal, who had nonchalantly released his magical aura, Peppers for once kept her magical aura suppressed. It was a trick she unwillingly picked up as a promise by Ayse and the rest of the Science Branch to make sure that she controls her mana better. Thus, Prideblood did not take too much notice of the small little girl and only assumed that she was doing this because she was part of the guards that Baal had employed around him.

"I will get rid of this obstacle and challenge you." The Mage General said as he swirled his head to beckon Peppers to come with him.

However, everyone knows how defiant that little pepperish girl could be.

In the middle of this fight where there could be potential friendly fire, Peppers had daringly fired an explosive flare spell right at where the Demon Rat Mage General was standing. While it did startle the soldiers of Gem, Princess Gaap who was their commander had already used all the gems in her possession to protect not only herself but her army from the flare attack.

At the same time, Gaap also held her priciest Ruby Gem up to absorb Peppers' residual fire mana so that she could have an easy time casting high level magical fire attacks if there was a need to do so.

"I did not expect such an attitude from a human, to attack preemptively for a duel." Prideblood cleared the air around him, undoubtedly surviving from the entire attack unscathed with a magic barrier. But before he could insult Peppers once more, a beam of energy came straight from the sky bridge and towards him. While his magic barrier was able to withstand the attack, Prideblood was being pushed back by it. The attack by the little girl was not meant to be destructive, but to push him out of the current battlefield as well. That was when he realised that the humans and monsters were as gullible as he thought they would be.

He was initially planning to use the aspects of a duel to bring Baal's mage to a 'neutral' ground where he could have the initiative of having the familiarity of the area. Traps were also set up and it involved the very same counterspells that had been seen used against the soldiers of Gem.

However, he does not have the idea whether his motive to do so had been discovered or the mage girl was able to read his mind, causing her to be aggressive and have the duel location of her choosing instead.

Prideblood wanted to counter the attack but he was not given any chance as the colour of the energy beam suddenly turned multicoloured like a rainbow and splinters of the energy beam emerged from the main beam to shoot at him. This forced him to not just concentrate his defence at the centre of the barrier where the beam had been focused but also on his sides and rear.

There was no chance for him to counter when he had his mind filled with trying to stop the attacks and hence he could only be pushed in a direction of the current duel to how Peppers would like him to be. It was a bad start but Prideblood had to make do with what he had at the moment.

“Hopefully he can last longer than the other opponents you had fought against.” Jin waved at Peppers but it seemed like the Mage Bellator was already getting bored.

“The other opponents you forced me to face could have cut this energy beam into half, deflected the rest and retaliated without too much of a hassle. I think you might have severely overestimated the enemy this time around.” Peppers said as she twisted her wooden staff a little more and the rainbow colour beam started to show even more hues of colours and Jin could already imagine the increase in difficulty that the Mage General had to handle.

And unsurprisingly, Prideblood was indeed going to swallow his pride now that he found out that his magic barrier had been proven to be useless. The energy beam splintered, even more, shooting mini beams at a continuous pace against the Mage General that he could not keep up with the blocking.

The Demon Rat Mage General might have been able to block ten mini beams of the same intensity at one time, but in a split second, another ten beams emerged out of his sight and hit ten other different spots. Only those who are mana sensitive, and are meticulous in their preparations for defence could stop this attack, otherwise, the definite way to defeat it was to counterattack with an explosive amount of magic.

And sadly, Prideblood did not belong in any of those. He thought that being infected by the lifestream energy would make him invincible but it was clear without a doubt that the humans and monsters were stronger than him by many folds.

? Still, that did not mean he was left without any other means.

Even as he was injured by multiple energy beam attacks, he was looking at the right time to activate the lifestream energies within him so that he could not just effectively block the beams but also counter them. After all, his speciality spell was the mana absorption spell. As he got hit by those beams, he was also taking in those spell attacks as mana. Once he was ready, he could fire off the very same beam with greater intensity than what Peppers was producing.

“Heh, for a Mage General. He is easy to read.” Peppers said to herself as she now placed two hands onto her wooden staff and poured more mana into the attack while changing the spell configuration she was dishing out.

As calculated, it looked like it was gonna be an easy victory for her.

## **Chapter 1413 Battle Under The Sky Bridge**

“Firecleaver.” The newest Club General said to his partner as he raised his weapon up. “She had defeated my clone almost instantaneously.”

“Do not call my name so casually, ‘Roughscream’. You have yet to fill the shoes of the old general. He was the only one that is deserving of the title.” Firecleaver said as he continued to monitor the lady fighter that they had lured.

“Bickering between the two of you so early in this fight? How could I expect a decent duel when the two of you are not in sync with each other? Shall I end this fight quickly?” Pei said as she still kept her katana sheathed in the scabbard. It was then she heard a loud explosion from above the sky bridge and knew that Peppers was starting her attack against the Demon Rat Mage General.

“Welp, looks like my colleague might defeat your fellow General faster than I kill the both of you if you two could not get your shit together.” Pei shrugged her shoulders and hoped that provoking them would give her a warm up exercise that was worthy of a sweat at the Hot Spring Instance.

However, the only one that responded to her provocation seemed to be the younger general who seemed like proving himself to Firecleaver. It seemed like whatever information that Transquick had given was stated to be true. The title of the Club General was given to the strongest of Demon Rats who have the best proficiency in that particular weapon.

From the way they had conversed, Pei can only assume that the previous Club General did succumb to his wounds from the Pandawans’ retaliation and this particular Demon Rat was merely filling in the shoes of his predecessor so that there is always a Club General at the top of the Demon Rat hierarchy.

That also meant that whatever information collected by the System about the Club General was invalid. The only advantage Pei had was her overwhelming strength but killing them might be a waste since she could possibly always learn a trick or two from her enemies and incorporate them into her skills. That was assuming that there was something to learn from the enemies since she had already accumulated a decent amount of skills from her years fighting the ancient war with Kraft.

Regardless, having a refresher would not hurt once in a while and could only hope that her enemies would be up to par as their names could. (Although, she was not expecting much since the data from the System had already indicated them to be lesser than a Grade 4 Cultivator due to their inhuman strength.)

The new Roughscream started to saunter through the graveyard of all things mechanical as that was the place where the Generals had led her to. Subsequently, his footwork got more intense and from the heaps of trashed vehicles, more of his ‘clones’ merged from it.

A synchronised attack where if Roughscream had failed to hit her because she dodged, the other clone would immediately attack without any hesitation. This should make blocking difficult since killing the clone did not cause the clone to dissipate like an illusion. This was because the new Roughscream had trained not just several Demon Rats to be like him but several dozens like him.

In short, the new title of Club General was not held by just one Demon Rat but an entire clan of Demon Rats. All of them had been trained under one teacher previously which made their thoughts and movements to be similar to each other. It was an ironic choice for the entire clan to be dubbed as the new Club General but Pei could see that their higher up might be doing this not to just motivate the new Club General but provide sufficient power to fight against this particular imminent threat and the Club General’s name Roughscream would always be eternal.

Even if one dies, another Roughscream could replace him easily because they are of the same. Demon Rat Axe General Cinderclaw imagined that the repercussions of choosing an entire clan to be a club general would not be too far fetched as he imagined there would be considerable losses sending his

generals to fight against the humans. If any one of that Demon Rat Clan had survived and they managed to pull through from this war, Cinderclaw could simply announce a competition for one person to get the Club General title.

In short, he did not care as long as the Demon Rats were able to perform their duties and that was why Lance General Firecleaver, a veteran general, had refused to acknowledge the new Club General since he was considered to be disposable.

Pei had no idea and only assumed that they were just the Club General underlings since all of them looked the same to her. And unfortunately for the Club General, she did not dodge any attacks from the 'Club Generals' and slaughtered every one of them mercilessly. Her speed was also fast while her katana sliced through their meat and flesh like fresh chicken meat on a chopping board.

There was no delay in her subsequent strikes and the nameless clan of Demon Rats had been decimated in this particular graveyard. Their years of intensive training disappeared right in front of Pei when their lifeless bodies decorated the graveyard, leaving none behind. But even as the last 'Club General' standing right in front of Pei, knowing that his death was inevitable, he stood tall against her, holding on not just his club weapon but his mate's club too.

"Foolish. Run away while I am feeling generous. You are just another worthless stain to my katana." Pei said as she looked at the Lance General.

"Hmm? Let him do what he wants. I care not for this generation of club wielding Demon Rats." Firecleaver said as he had already sized Pei up from the way she killed the Club Generals.

"Such a pity, I thought you Demon Rats are, at the very least, united," Pei said as her katana now sheathed within her scabbard had been used as a blunt weapon against the last Club General.

And yet, it slices through the Club General's weapons and subsequently his head as well. The results were pretty obvious and Pei returned her stare at Firecleaver.

"So, when is your turn to be a useless resource?" Pei asked as she swung her scabbard so hard that it not only removed the blood stains on it but destroyed a large mountain of scrapped vehicles.

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## **Chapter 1414 Lance General's Utter Defeat**

Firecleaver snickered as he swung his lance around to warm himself up as well as showing Pei that he had the competency to use it well. The Club Generals might have been killed in a flash but their speciality was in their strength, not their speed. Pei utilised that weakness to make sure that they never rise again even though they tried to compensate by using numbers to make up for it.  
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That was why the Demon Rat Lance General thought that he would have an edge against an agile opponent since the title of the Lance General had always been given to the Demon Rat with the fastest speed. Not to mention, he had consumed the Lifestream energies albeit not as much as Prideblood and Cinderclaw.

Thus, he was confident that he would have an edge against Pei and believed he finally could have some fun since the opponents he fought never provided him with the relevant challenge. In fact, he felt bad for the lady swordsman since the lance had always been superior to swords because of its length, striking power and the ability to adapt from a distance.

Nevertheless, he did not know that Pei came from an era where such mediaeval weapons were almost irrelevant in the face of cultivation powers. The only use for such weapons was only used to channel their chi and dump whatever energy they could gather towards their enemy.

So the poor Firecleaver thought that he had the edge against Pei and charged arrogantly toward her. If Pei could scoff at that idiot within the time he attacked, she would have done it. However, his attack was so pathetically simple that she felt she had taken advantage of Jin's deal. Even if the two of those generals had combined, they were no match to the Crane Fox who had performed battles that were beyond this set of particular 'skills'.

And without much hesitation, Pei had sliced him into two by using his momentum as the catalyst. Firecleaver did not even have the opportunity to utilise his skills at all but so the same could be said about Pei when all she had done was putting her katana at the correct position for him to be sliced.

To be frank, Pei did not expect him to die that quickly. "Perhaps, he had some special skill with him." That was what she thought and hoped that he might split into two and fight against her with whatever lifestream energy that Jin was so worried about.

Yet, the reality was harsher than her fictional imagination as she was standing in between both parts of Firecleaver and could only sigh that her job was done. But as the Crane Fox decided to walk away from the 'murder' scene, she could sense a strange energy moving throughout the area.

"Ah, this must be the lifestream energy that Jin was talking about," Pei said as she tried to sense the movement of the said energy. However, instead of dissipating into the air like how most form energies would do, it seemed like it was moving in a particular direction and she decided to follow it, hoping that it would lead her to somewhere exciting.

It was not long until she saw one of Kraft's Night Foxes looking around the area. Only through a brief conversation that Pei remembered that the Night Foxes were looking for the Lifestream Energy Bomb.

"Did you sense the movement of the lifestream energies?" Pei asked the Dark Elf and he said that he could only briefly sense it and needed full concentration to trace it. "Ah, so I accidentally interrupted your job," Pei replied, knowing that she was just going to use it as an excuse to follow him so that she had something to do.

It was only at that time she realised that she was becoming like Kraft, wanting to do something fun just to escape from the real work. She momentarily slapped herself on the cheeks, inciting the curiosity of the Night Fox but the Dark Elf was intuitive enough to ignore her. He knows that asking could inadvertently bring more trouble for himself.

Unfortunately, it seemed as if Pei's instinct were always right on the money as both the Dark Elf and she found themselves going through a rather derelict building which was not given much care and away from all the current fighting that was occurring throughout the city. The moment they went through the front door, the presence of magic was immense and Pei could feel the intensity of the lifestream energy gathering right below the building.

"There could be a chance we hit the jackpot." The Dark Elf said and Pei nodded her head in agreement. However, if they were to notify the other Night Foxes, it could possibly be too late for the group since the presence of magic might mean that the Mage General would notice enemies within the vicinity.

Thus, the System that was monitoring the situation instantly informed Pei to retrieve the lifestream energy bomb and override any orders that she had. While she was not obligated to listen to the System because of what it had done to her previously, the Crane Fox knew that it was Jin's desire to get the lifestream energy bomb and end this war charade as soon as possible.

"I guess, getting the Lifestream Energy Bomb should be an equivalent exchange for that hot spring instance luxury package." Pei reasoned it would be a good trade and told the Dark Elf that followed her to look after the entrance, defeat any trespassers and inform her if any Generals decided to come knocking on this building.

Obviously, the orders were easy for the Dark Elf to follow and he was more than competent to comply, so he nodded his head in agreement and left the acquisition of the lifestream energy bomb to Pei.

For a short while, Pei assumed that any Demon Rats that were hiding within the basement of this derelict building would be as useless as the generals she fought against. But unlike the Lance General, this entire basement was filled with a heavy aura of lifestream energies and that might prove some challenge even for the Crane Fox.

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## **Chapter 1415 Battle On The Sky Bridge – Part 6**

"You know the memes among gamers like how we levelled up in the sidequests too much until the main quest is too easy?" Peppers said as she started now changed her energy beam from a bright multi colour hue beam into one that eludes nothing but blackness from it.

The Soldier of Gems was furiously attacking the front, preventing any Demon Rats from even coming close to General Baal and Jin. And since Baal had already taken care of the Demon Rat Mages from before, there was clearly no threat to the two of them who were standing there out in the open.

"So, you are saying that we over prepared for this?" Jin asked as he folded his hands and leaned beside the jeep which they came out from, watching Peppers do her magic since there were basically no threats between them.

"I think the oversized robots in the Mecha World posed more threats than this. Though I honestly could not blame you for overpreparing." Peppers analysed the situation as the blackness of the beam that she



cast out felt as if it was a spell that a Void Being would use. Space around it started to distort a little as if the beam was sucking not just any mana around the area but it was also sucking the reality around it.

“Considering the fact that if we did not attack when they had their armies separated, their overwhelming numbers were still a force to be reckoned with. And you know how Demon Rats can be. Even if I blast them all with one huge spell, the remaining could scatter and breed. Divide and conquer is still a relevant tactic which should be embraced.” Peppers said as she could finally feel resistance against her black beam.

She smiled a little knowing that the Mage General Prideblood had finally decided to be serious in his fight and unleashed his lifestream energies that he had been hiding. He initially thought that the mage that was guarding Baal was using her ultimate skill and thus, decided to hold on until her mana expired.

Yet, the longer he held onto it, the more Prideblood realised that he had been toyed by her and the level of damage that the black beam had done could have annihilated him if he broke just one second of concentration. Thus, he knew that he had to be serious in the fight if he wished to survive the attack.

He thought that Baal was the only magic user who could threaten him but this little girl had powers of magic that were beyond his expectations. However, Peppers did not have any quarters for him to rest the moment he broke the black beam of energy.

Once he had dissipated the beam away, Prideblood had been blasted with a series of black and white explosions which Peppers nicknamed the spell Salt and Pepper, where it was merely a series of manipulation of light and dark mana. She created that spell as a way to learn and understand the concept of Yin and Yang but as lazy as one could be hardworking, she got bored trying to understand the meaning behind it.

To her, it was merely a concept that worked because of limited resources and for her to have the entire universal mana pool, she could hardly understand why there was a need to have harmony between two elements. However, she continued her lessons because Lynn took time out of her busy schedule to teach her so that she could understand how cultivators truly work and how sometimes cultivators could excel at times when things became too difficult to handle.

But for now, Peppers was merely using the Salt and Pepper spell as a way to flaunt her results of studying to everyone in hopes that using the spell constantly would make her understand it someday.

On the other hand, Prideblood was trying his best to counter the Light and Dark Spell Explosions to the best of his ability. The only problem was that each time a pair of those spells exploded, the next set somehow got stronger and it became from ‘troublesome to dispel’ to ‘I don’t think I will survive.’”

Still, the Mage General thinks that he might have the chance since he had the power of absorbing spells into his own... but that was assuming he was able to cast a spell of his own. Peppers had already prepared for that the moment she saw it at work when he and his Demon Rat Mages were fighting against Baal.

During her consecutive spell cast of Salt and Pepper, she purposely allowed Prideblood to have his own way by giving him a small window to cast a spell. Naturally, the Demon Rat Mage General fell for it and cast a wind arrow shower spell in hopes that quantity would beat the ‘quality’ spells that Peppers had been dishing out.

Besides, those wind arrows would be absorbing those magical spells that Peppers released and they would be his revenge against the little mage girl. However, the more the wind arrows absorbed the mana of the Light and Dark elements simultaneously, the more it would negate the effects of spell absorption.

Prideblood was surprised by it as he saw his arrows merely dissipate the moment the light and dark element spells had been absorbed, forcing him to try again with another elemental spell. But even with earth arrows, the spells had been cancelled out once they absorbed both elements, making him confused why he could not counter attack.

“Hmm. I think I might start to understand a little bit of Yin and Yang.” Peppers thought to herself as she saw the effects of those magic arrows being cancelled out. However such thoughts perished the moment she started casting more of the Salt and Pepper Spell.

Eventually, Prideblood lost all his mana just from defending and the black and white explosions killed him, without giving him the chance to retaliate using that lifestream energy bomb which he had kept as backup.

All he could hope was that the defences he had nurtured through the months of storing near the Lifestream Energy Bomb might prove to be useful against the attackers of his Undercity. “Besides, it will destroy them all if they aren’t careful.” Prideblood smiled to himself before his face got wiped off this world from the last pair of Light and Dark Explosions.

“Now all we are left with is the main antagonist.” Peppers said as she floated up to the top of the car’s roof and summoned out a bag of chips, waiting for the main event to start.

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## **Chapter 1416 Skull Of Eternal Unrest**

“Are you sure about that?” Jin asked as he saw the one and only general watching the entire shitshow from the rooftops. Baal’s Icy Breath might have killed the rest of the Demon Rat Mages but he was standing in the middle of it all unscathed by everything else.

Peppers was a little confused with Jin’s questioning until she realised that the Demon Rat Mage General’s body slowly started to regenerate from the little pieces of meat that were left from the explosions.

“Healing Magic? Wait no... it felt like Reverse Time Magic, but it does not seem that way. If you Reverse Time magic in that particular space time area, my explosions would have happened again and yet the only thing that’s moving is his body.” Peppers deduced but Jin and Baal quietly looked at both Cinderclaw and the resurrection of Prideblood.

The Mage General gave a burst of croaking laughter as his head was formed first and subsequently the rest of his body. His Mana levels were also back to their original values as if he was not just reverted back to his old self but was reborn as well.

“Cinderclaw! With this feat of wonder, I will swear fealty to you for the rest of my life!” Prideblood shouted as the tips of his body had been detailedly reformed. The others might not have known but the previous North and South Scholars had dabbled and wielded the powers of necromancy.

However, their use of necromancy felt inadequate and multiple experiments had proven that the effects of long lasting life were mainly due to their ability to maintain the mana levels within the undead. But what if they do not wish to use their mana since it was draining way too much of it for daily usage? What if they have another source of power that could be replenished easily but is powerful enough to maintain undeads?

So, yes. The answer was Lifestream energy. With the characteristic of the Farming World, the lifestream energy was the key to solving their conundrum. It is not only able to act as a superior substitute to mana, but it also provides regeneration and possibly awakening the special abilities within one’s self.

For the Demon Rats, when they are killed, they would be transformed into a resource. There are normal resources and there were rare ones. Cinderclaw happened to be that one of a thousand resources, or perhaps one out of a million. That particularly unique one where the item itself was an artefact amplifier.

By itself, it was pretty useless even though it was a rare item, but the North and South Scholars had their ways of increasing the strength of Cinderclaw’s abilities by allowing him to use their artefacts.

That was when the seed of rebellion had been planted into Cinderclaw’s mind as they experimented on him with various artefacts to see how strong the amplification could be when he had unlocked his latent talents via the lifestream energy.

Soon, it was plain to see that he could be way more powerful than the scholars themselves and thus they decided to wipe his memories of those artefacts that had been used in order for him not to lust for such items. However, the scholars themselves did not know that after being affected by both lifestream energies and a multitude of artefacts had made him somewhat resistant to the mind washing effects.

Those memories eventually surfaced and Cinderclaw sought after those artefacts that the scholars possessed even though he knew that by doing so, would be a coup d’etat. Still, he did not care as once he was well recognised by the other Demon Rats, being second to none to the scholars, removing them would only be the least of his worries.

Thus, he was using that particular necromancy artefact, the Skull of Eternal Unrest, infused with lifestream energies to bring Prideblood back into the picture. So long as the lifestream energies were still within the vicinity of his death, Prideblood could return almost instantly, rendering him nearly immortal considering how the Demon Rats purposely set their city underground to get close to the source of lifestream energy.

“Argh, so irritating!” Peppers said as she raised her hand and closed her eyes while a magic ball choke full of magic was being generated but Jin stopped her by holding her wrist, stopping her from completing the incantation.

“Why are you stopping me from killing him?” Peppers said as Jin told her to look up and she saw Prideblood being ravaged by Baal’s magic attack. Ice spikes were protruding out not just from his chest but from every portion of his body.

Yet, the body which was supposed to be frozen and broken by the ice spikes was slowly being stitched by the powers of the necromancy artefact. “Even if you condense your magic and kill it in one shot, it doesn’t matter until the main artefact user dies,” Jin said while Cinderclaw held onto the Skull of Eternal Unrest and continued to pour lifestream energies into it. [freewebnovel.com](http://freewebnovel.com)

“Then, the mage general would be an excellent way to warm up my magic fingers. It’s been so long since I used my magic and those spell words are just hanging in my brain, wanting to get out.” Baal iterated as he once again cast another spell in demon tongue, causing Prideblood to explode into ice flakes.

“As for you, instead of blasting things with friendlies in the way, think of a way to capture all that lifestream energy so they could not be used in its resurrection. I will go deal with that main antagonist of this entire charade.” Jin said as he poured some Maqi into his legs and boosted them so he could qing gong straight to the top of the Demon Rats High Command.

With his Panda Mask on as a blatant and yet necessary cover against streamers’ comments, he jumped straight to the real threat of the Demon Rats to end this once and for all.

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## **Chapter 1417 Battle On The Skybridge -Final**

Cinderclaw was satisfied with the current situation.

Even though his troops were losing heavily against the soldiers carrying various colours of gems as their weapons of choice, he now knew that he could revive them so long he had the Skull of Eternal Unrest and the rest of the artefacts that he had ‘inherited’ from the North and South Scholars.

But as he revels in his joy of doing his very first ‘resurrection’, it seemed as if the humans had already known the potency of the artefact that he was holding even if they did not know anything about the strength of his innate talents. Still, he was rather taken aback by the display of spells from Baal where every word he uttered was a total destruction of Prideblood.

It made Cinderclaw think that the humans have some knowledge of the Skull of Eternal Unrest or it was a mere coincidence that they would kill Prideblood before his regeneration was fully complete. This was because the Skull of Eternal Unrest could not be dispelled until the target had fully healed. Not the slightest detail could be missed out and one could say that it was the perfect resurrection item.

The only problem was that when used in battle, the enemies would not stop and wait for their target to be fully resurrected just like in this scenario. Thus, unless the Skull of Eternal Unrest had used up all the user’s mana or in this case, lifestream energy, Prideblood would be stuck in the loop of being killed over and over again by Baal’s varied repertoire of magic spells.

To top it off, Moloch was off the battlefield, feeding Baal magic spells incantations in demon tongue via the System Channel, allowing the previous King of Demopolis to practice magic he had not done for the longest time ever. (Peppers was also recording all the spells on the sidelines despite showing no interest in the current situation.)

This also meant that Prideblood was inadvertently feeling the brunt of every single spell and suffered the start and end of life. It felt like an unending circle of suffering with each regeneration and there was no chance for him to take action since the artefact did not allow him to move from the spot other than his mouth.

And even if he could spew out a spell incantation fast enough, it had been proven repeatedly that his magic was no match against the humans and monsters. His counter spell and absorption spell had zero effect on Baal's improved spellcasting (courtesy of Moloch) which forced him into an endless loop while keeping Baal amused in this current war.

Prideblood's only hope was that the artefact is destroyed because of durability issues or from the collateral damage by the clash between that Panda Masked Warrior and his current master which he had recently sworn fealty to. This was mainly due to the fact that the Lifestream energies would not be ceased since Cinderclaw was using another artefact to pull the lifestream energies from his dead comrades. In short, he was akin to a necromancer class with all the artefacts he was holding onto while having the strength of a warrior.

However, that pride of being the strongest warrior flew away the moment Jin had joined blades with him. The Dungeon Supplier was not giving any chance now that he knew he was holding artefacts which Gold, the Eastern Scholar had warned him of. While he did not remember all the strengths and uses of the artefacts that Gold had told about, he was aware of the fact that the Northern and Southern Scholars were holding artefacts that could topple this entire war if Cinderclaw learns of their use.

Not to mention, the threat of the Lifestream Energy Bomb was still lingering in his mind.

Jin was not worried about the death of his comrades or the annihilation of his customers in this current raid. He was more concerned about the aftermath of the attack, rendering the fertile lands of this potential investment to be useless. After all, if he wished to retain a foothold as a world renowned dungeon supplier and ultimately number one dungeon supplier, he had to have the scale of production to back it up.

If Pandapolis was his manufacturing city, the Farming World, specifically the Northern Region would be the city of bountiful resources that provide the raw materials for his manufacturing city to work on. In the meantime, Demopolis was currently acting as a military city where demons and soldiers were trained to use modern weaponry while the city acted as a storage facility for all the items he accumulated for a great war if deemed necessary.

So, to make sure that his prospective city was well and alive, he was giving his all to make sure the general was killed before any major harm was done to the land. The knockback Cinderclaw received was something he had felt before and understood that this particular Masked Warrior was of a high level that could not be taken lightly.

He instantly tapped into his artefacts and the dead Demon Rats around the vicinity started to 'wake' up. Even those who had turned into a particular resource were slowly gaining back their Demon Rat forms.

"Tsk, I have no time to handle small fries. If you think you are a skilled necromancer, think again, you insolent rat." Jin said as he wielded his sword upwards and used it to draw a magic circle above him. Soon, a magic portal emerged and a squad of well armed Orcs were seen jumping down from it.

“About time.” Nubwort, the Black Disaster said as he banged his spear on the ground and it reverberated loudly. The other Orcs roared in unison, causing a warcry effect to spread around not just among the Orcs but also empowering Jin as well.

“I save the last for the best. Beat the shit out of them. Show them my version of necromancy to this second rate one.” Jin ordered and Nubwort grinned with delight.

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## **Chapter 1418 The Duel With Cinderclaw**

Nubwort's troops performed another war cry and even though the Demon Rats were 'zombified' by Cinderclaw's artefact, they were not entirely immune to the crippling screams of the orcs.

Though this only gave the orcs a few seconds to close the distance between them, it was all that was needed for the orcs to have utter victory against them. And as mentioned, the war cry even boosted Jin's spirits up, making him feel stronger. The feelings cannot be quantified but the System had already noticed a sharp increase in Jin's Maqi as he too went forth to Cinderclaw.

Yet Cinderclaw was still astute enough to block the incoming attack with his axe, causing the surroundings to receive the aftereffects of the impact. The ground sunk from the attack and Jin continued with his second attack, now changing his Bam and Boo into two shorter swords, hoping to use agility to his advantage.

At the same time, he also activated his System Rider belt, calling forth Assassin Savant to enter. This way, Jin has the speed and skills to overpower the Demon Rat Axe General. As Assassin Savant entered to become the persona of his System Rider, the armour turned thinner as if to allow better mobility but did not compromise on the strength of its defence. The living armour that Jin had was still working as intended.

However, Jin did not know that his first blow against Cinderclaw was the first time the Axe General received such a death threatening attack. If Zeru or Kraft was around, they would have lamented at the missed opportunity the enemy had bestowed Jin. The dungeon supplier's lack of experience had forced him to miss such an opportunity to kill the enemy in one shot since Cinderclaw was stunned for a few seconds.

But unbeknownst to experienced fighters, Jin unknowingly did the right thing as well. In the time he switched into an assassin, he had already aimed several vital points stabbing them thoroughly and swiftly based on the knowledge of Demon Rats' Anatomy after the System had reviewed hundreds of corpses and killing blows.

It wasn't until the fifth blow that Cinderclaw managed to recover himself from the stun and stopped Jin with his bare hands from giving him the sixth stab. At that point Jin used his Maqi to command a gust of Green Panda Wind Energy and Red Panda Fire Energy, causing a vortex of tornado against him, allowing the System Rider to have some distance against Cinderclaw.

“That guy... does he know my secret?!” Cinderclaw thought to himself as he used his axe to forcefully remove the flaming vortex and took several deep breaths to recover. “Five lives had been lost and I was only left with three in a short period of time? This warrior cannot be underestimated.” No matter how strong his artefact amplification skill was, there was an artefact called the ‘Cat with Eight Lives’ that does not scale with his amplification skill.

Once considered an artefact that should be discarded upon using eight times to save one’s life, Cinderclaw found that the number of attempts on the Cat with Eight Lives could be regenerated with lifestream energy.

The only problem was that it required an extremely high amount of lifestream energy making the conversion of energy not worth it to regain back one attempt. His innate talent of amplification also did not reduce the amount of lifestream energy needed, forcing it to be one of the valuable artefacts that he possessed.

Still never in his life thought that Cinderclaw would need to rely on such an artefact until his fateful encounter with this human in a slim metallic suit. But yet he rejoiced at the fact that Jin did not know the secondary effect of the artefact. It prevents his enemies from aiming at the same spot once again and even if they do break the enchanted area and Jin manages to stab through it, no death would occur to Cinderclaw again.

Yet one could say Jin was lucky enough to have started his assault on the vital spots from the bottom up.

Two stabs through his both thighs, causing massive blood loss,

One stab at his abdomen and slashed it outwards, forcing his organs to be expelled.

Two stabs below the armpits in an attempt to disable his hands.

While it might not seem like vital spots to a human, there were major arteries based on the Demon Rat’s anatomy. (Although it also seems that Jin wanted to have a fanciful kill and did not aim for the heart or neck.)

And of course, with Cinderclaw still standing, the Assassin Savant was shocked, wondering if he had some sort of death immunity artefact. “Well, if he dies so easily, he is not worth being the leader of all Demon Rats, right?” Jin said as he clashed his two shortswords together to make a sic-ing sound before rushing towards Cinderclaw once again.

This time Cinderclaw had already estimated the powers of his opponents and summoned out an undead demon rat troll variant in front of him as a barrier while he recovered his stamina for a little while longer after consecutively using five uses from the Cat with Eight Lives.

“Now this is possibly the only opponent that I could find worthy.” Nubwort swung his spear a little to create some momentum before throwing it towards the Undead Rat Troll. The force of the spear throw caused it to knock sideways, allowing Jin to move forward without obstacles in the way. Simultaneously, the Black Disaster jumped towards the Undead Rat Troll to slice his head off.

“Tsk. Irritating humans.” Cinderclaw said to himself as he slammed the ground hard and prepared to handle the charge from the assassin who seemed to be putting a lot of magic on his two weapons, hoping to have one clean kill.

"Remember, he might have some sort of death immunity. I suggest not to hit the very same spots." Assassin Savant said with some anxiety and yet Jin was calming him down.

"Don't worry. If he does not die. We will try and try again."

## **Chapter 1419 The Delight Of Zither Mistress**

As predicted by Cinderclaw, Jin had thrown his two shortswords towards him but what he did not expect was that the shortswords suddenly emerged out of the auras of two black and white bears right at him. [freewebnovel.com](http://freewebnovel.com)

Bam and Boo had been embodied with Jin's Maqi to an extent that it was able to create silhouettes of the Pandas diving right at him. The Axe General had no idea whether the silhouettes were real or just a diversion from the strike of the shortswords.

To Jin, they were both real and acted as a diversion for Jin to switch his System Rider to someone which he had been longing to use since the start of the System Rider Belt. His appearance of his System Rider changed into something more demure and even had a gown befitting of the minion he was borrowing the powers from.

When Cinderclaw blocked both of the silhouette blasts, he had been cut by the shortswords that were hidden within the Panda silhouettes but the strikes were not as accurate as Jin hoped to. Yet it was enough of a diversion for him to change his System Rider and the real attack began as the Demon Rat Axe General had been strung up.

"Master! Cool!" Zither Mistress said as she saw Jin had beautifully and masterfully tied Cinderclaw in a web of strings. With each silk woven string enhanced with Maqi, any slight movement that Cinderclaw made would cause him to bleed excessively.

"Of course, I learnt a little bit about strings when I was away. I thought I could impress you with this." Jin grinned a little behind his mask but he could already feel that Zither Mistress was elated by the compliment as she thought that she had been forgotten by her master with the slew of new minions coming in to serve under him.

"I teach you! New trick!" Zither Mistress said as she controlled Jin's body the way he moved the strings and suddenly Cinderclaw's arms and limbs fell off in an instant without much strength. The intense gore could have scared any newcomers and perhaps force them to regurgitate like how the broken blood vessels would from the sudden loss of limbs.

Without a doubt, it did not faze both the Zither Mistress or Jin and instead the latter marvelled at Zither Mistress's manipulation of his Maqi. The rest who were using his body (no pun intended) utilised his magic and his chi channels so roughly that he might feel wasted by the end of the fight. But Zither Mistress' accurate control of his Maqi despite her first time using it made Jin give 'mad' respect for the little girl. (Obviously, he knew that she was a being that lived over hundreds of years but he still treated her as his dear little sister that he never had.)



However, the Panda Cultivator was still wary of Assassin Savant's advice of Cinderclaw having death immunity and could already notice the regrowth of arms and legs once more. Jin did not wish to waste any more time and used his Maqi to control Bam and Boo to float up and strike Cinderclaw once more.

What he did not expect was the Demon Rat Axe General to retaliate as he saw the Demon Rat use both his tail and mouth to stop the strike towards his heart. And with his tail, Cinderclaw used the momentum of the striking shortsword towards Jin, causing him to break out from his current position and release the hold he had on the Axe General.

"User, you could have tolerated the attack." The System felt it was a pity that they were at the grasp of winning and Jin let go of such an opportunity. "Your suit of living armour would have the chance of blocking the attack. Even if it pierces through the living armour, User possessed the power of regeneration to a certain extent."

"And make me feel those worms crawling inside me? Ew no. Thanks. Besides, I honestly do not wish to see a situation where my weapons are pitted against my shields. I would never want to know which is the stronger one." Jin said as he changed the shape of Bam and Boo into two needles, allowing them to escape from Cinderclaw's grasp.

And as it returned to Jin, he did not hesitate to attempt another assassin attempt using Bam and Boo in their needle form to pierce through the rat's head. However, Axe General manipulated the lifestream around him to create a temporary barrier which protected him from the attack, forcing Jin to call back Bam and Boo, turning them into the instrument of choice for the Zither Mistress to use.

"I will kill enemy!" Zither Mistress said with such resolution that Jin could not help that he wanted to root for her even though he planned to switch monsters so that Cinderclaw would remain unaware of the thousand and one tricks he had.

However, Cinderclaw became extremely anxious since he knew that his Cat with Eight Lives are going to end soon if he was not careful. Up till now, the Axe General had yet to place a proper blow against his enemy and worse still, his undead Demon Rats were all killed with his opponent's minions watching the battle on the sideline.

It was as if they were waiting for their master to slip up so they could swoop in to save the day and perhaps bag the kill of Cinderclaw in their hands so that their master would offer them a generous reward.

"I am supposed to be the great one," Cinderclaw mumbled...as he took out the last artefact that he initially hoped to use for conquering the other kingdoms. Unlike the Cat with Eight Lives which was shaped like a cat statue and the Skull of Eternal Unrest, a skull, the last artefact he was carrying was shaped like a finger but it was called the Lost Key of the Unticking Clock.

Without any hesitation, he bit it knowing that doing so would potentially end his life.

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## Chapter 1420 Key Of Unticking Clock

As soon as Cinderclaw bit the finger artefact, the world momentarily stopped for him. While it seemed befitting for the Key of the Unticking Clock to stop time and allow the Demon Rat Axe General to move unhindered through the supposed fifth dimension of reality, it was not the true effect of the said artefact.

Unbeknownst to everyone, Cinderclaw had a unique organ that most male Demon Rats do not have and it was a pouch similar to one of a Birth Mother. The unscrupulous Scholars of the North and South had experimented on Cinderclaw and a few selected rats to such an extent that their murders would be justified if an observer would know the entire story.

With the Key of the Unticking Clock, Cinderclaw was able to do the impossible, and also potentially the first for a male Demon Rat to give birth to new Demon Rats. Aye, if he could not defeat the monstrous humans right in front of him now, then what about Demon Rats that from him? His descendants should have been evolved and well suited for the fight since they will take in not just his strength but his innate skills and talents.

And that finger artefact was the item that would make those eggs within him to be a reality. The Key of the Unticking clock would force the eggs to 'magically' be fertilised, grow through the process of incubation and get to the age of Cinderclaw in mere nanoseconds. It was not meant to work in such a grotesque way as Cinderclaw had planned to slowly use the artefact in secret and produce his shadow army of warriors that would be loyal to him to the bones.

Not only that, he could select his potential heir for the throne when he was too old for it and his reign of terror would forever be etched on the minds of the enslaved. Unfortunately, all of this would be just a dream for he knows that the current situation demands that he takes such drastic actions.

An explosion containing a swarm full of warrior Demon Rats bursting out from within his stomach in a second will definitely kill the Usurper General. Cinderclaw could have used the Cat of Eight Lives to overcome this difficulty and he only had one try left to make sure that he survived it.

If he managed to go live through that, he would potentially have a terrifying skill in his possession since the Cat of Eight Lives Artefact had the power to make a previously life threatening death be nullified depending on the site of injury. This meant that he could use the Key of the Unticking Clock without care and he would still survive such a brutal 'birth'.

That is assuming he survives the attack...which he did not.

When Zither Mistress took full control of Jin's Bam and Boo when it became the instrument of her choice, she had managed to tug a string of the Zither, sending a killing wave of chi, aiming right straight for Cinderclaw's neck. Because of the Axe General's moment of hesitation to use his ultimate trump card, he did not know that a slice of lethal chi had already decapitated him, forcing the Cat of Eight Lives artefact to work (not) to his favour to fully perform such a taboo act.

When the Key of Unticking Clock takes its effects based on Cinderclaw's desire, the time around them continues to move and Cinderclaw's belly instantly exploded forcing the armour that was holding him to scatter while not one or two Demon Rat warriors emerged out of him but dozens of Demon Rat warriors similar to Cinderclaw's stature were dying to a gasp of air.

As disgusting as the scene was, the Zlither Mistress seemed unfazed by the entire scenario and had already played a quick tune which released a series of chi slashes towards the Demon Rat Warriors.

A few of them were instantly killed but she noticed that many still survived, especially those who were hit on their necks. She had no idea that the effects of the Cat of Eight Lives were still active in Cinderclaw's offspring. This act of killing prompted the Demon Rats Warriors who were confused by their brand new surroundings to do what their instincts were to guide them.

Go for the nearest enemy.

It might seem like an easy task clearing naked Demon Rat Warriors but the System had warned that the lifestream energy surrounding Cinderclaw had dissipated and instead went into these newly born Demon Rats, causing their attributes to spike sharply. The Orcs who were watching from the sidelines quickly intervened and realised that the Demon Rats they were fighting were no ordinary fighters.

One of the Orcs overly underestimated and lost his head through just a punch from these newborn Demon Rats. And to make things worse, even with Cinderclaw's death from giving birth to his new warriors, more of them continued to spawn from his stomach like ants rushing out from their anthill.

It was not a pleasant sight when these empowered Demon Rats were filling the roof of the High Command but the System had confirmed that Cinderclaw died a pathetic death and was no longer a thorn in Jin's side.

"Fall back. There is no reason for us to linger anymore." Jin said as he too saw how the Mage General who had been used a toy by Baal finally stopped regenerating. Without Cinderclaw's control of the artefacts, there was no more Lifestream energy that allowed the Skull of Eternal Unrest to work.

Furthermore, the artefacts that the Axe General used broke and there were no other concerns for Jin to stay especially when he got a message from Pei that she might have found the thing that he was worried about this entire time.

In fact, this spawning of Demon Rat Warriors was a blessing in disguise. Now that the Generals were killed, Jin could let the remaining portion of the battle be played out by the remnants of the Demon Rat race alongside his customers.[freewebnovel.com](http://freewebnovel.com)

For now, his concern was the lifestream energy bomb and he rushed to Pei's side as soon as he can.

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