

Dungeon S 1711

Chapter 1711 Who Will Know? -Part 33

Realising that the grip of tentacles had been loosening from the death of the Older Quacken, the Fira Dragon took whatever chance it could to grab onto the corpse of the dead monster ship and climbed out of the moat. The younger Quacken was definitely not able to restraint such a huge monster and it was pretty obvious that the Fira Dragon wanted to get out of the water as soon as possible which led to the Fira Dragon flying out of the water and the remaining crew of Quacken had been carried up as well.

"Release your tentacles you stupid duck! Do you really want to die?" The captain of the leftover Quacken shouted at the new born version of the Quacken. Apparently, how Quacken lives from a severe wound was through division of cells but that was the only trick they could do once they reached a certain age or level of experience since the Dungeon World was mostly based on such a metric. If they did not, then their demise was imminent.

So for the new Quacken to survive, it needs to survive its child like state for at least a year or get sufficient experience that it could accelerate its growth. Thus it did not make sense for the younger Quacken to remove its tentacles away from the Fira Dragon when it knew that it was injured enough for a kill. In order to gain victory, the Quacken attempted to absorb the dying tentacles that had still been wrapped around the Fira Dragon in hopes that it could bring the monster down.

Angrily, the Fira Dragon tried its best to shake it away from it as it gained flight. In short, it was carrying the younger Quacken and a few of its crew mates who had yet to jump out of the boat when the incident happened.

So, what Jin and the others saw was a Fira Dragon with a half broken boat on its back climbing up the altitude so that it could shake it off. However, the Mechanical monster had no idea that all of the Battle Airships were already aiming against it and was ready to fire the moment the Quacken had been dropped out of the sky.

"Argh, this stubborn duckface! Those who are still able. Shoot the shit out of the dragon so that we would die splatting on the ground!" The captain of Quacken shouted as he too personally manned a fixed gun emplacement on Quacken and started pouring lead into the Fira Dragon's wings.

"Time is running out," Jin said as he checked his time from the System Console he was left with only a few minutes and the 10 minute rule was about to expire.? "You guys, lend me your jet boosters,"? Jin asked and he quickly strapped a pair on his hip. "Stay here and watch the full show. I will deal with the Fira Dragon...well hopefully before we return back to the underground basement."

With his Maqi charged, the jet boosters on his hip increased his speed by multifold and allowed him to reach Taris City General's position. "My Lord, Apologises. I do not think that we are able to fulfill the time limit that you had asked for." He knelt and asked for forgiveness but Jin did not care about that and kept looking at the Fira Dragon's movement.

"Tell the Battle Airships to start shooting at it. Lend me your Wall Breaker Lance and your mages as well." Jin said as he already raised his hand out. Taris City General immediately acknowledged and readily gave the Lance to his master. "Do you have a spare?" Jin asked before Yaega was able to shout out for the mages.

"Yes, Demopolis made quite a few to my surprise thinking this was a one of a kind customised item. They said it was customised and each of the other iterations was a few percentage stronger." Yaega replied.

"So, if I destroy this, you can just fall back to an older Wall Breaker Lance before getting a new one?" Jin asked once more and the General nodded solemnly.

"Nice, System. Be kind and not to bill him for the next lance."

"The System will deduct from the User's profit instead."

"Fine by me, I can't see the money anyway." Jin smiled as he stepped aside a little and prepared his stance. Taris Mages quickly arrived when the General called and Jin told them to give him a boost up in the air.

"Not sure if you guys have the spells but fly, charge, boost, overboost, limited boost," Jin said as he too was charging up his Maqi to be in conjunction with those spells.

"My Lord, we have all of those. We can do weapon damage amplification as well as lightning charge." When the Taris City Mages heard it, they knew that Jin was going for a one shot kill while flying since they knew there was a time limit attached to this particular dungeon instance.

"Now that's excellent service. Give me all of that." Even before Jin could finish his sentence, the Taris City Mages had already taken the initiative to mumble the incantations. Meantime, Yaega had also relayed instructions to tell the Battle Airships to fire at will.

Without hesitation and straight after the sentence ended, the battle airships released their barrage of shells against the monster without mercy. The younger Quacken was unfortunately caught in the mess of it as well and the pain from those shrapnels and explosive force had finally caused it to release its tentacles and listen to the captain.

"Aye you dumbass duckface, follow my instructions and you can land on the moat!" The Captain shouted and used the ship's steering wheel, which used the rudder to slap the Quacken's butt. The duckface listened to it and tried to move as much as possible based on the slapping position. Eventually, it managed to land in the water with a huge splash and every ship around it hastily crowded around it to see if the crew on board needed help.

However, the one that needed help would be none other be the Fira Dragon.

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The Fira Dragon howled in pain even though it was relieved from the strangling of the Quacken. The massive battery gun barrage had been putting holes in the Mecha Fira Dragon that it would render it incapable of flight soon enough.

Thus, it had decided to activate its hidden trump card that it did not wish to use against such foes. The Fira Dragon's AI logic wished to keep it hidden from a more difficult foe but the quantity of attacks it had suffered made it feel that it should use it as soon as possible.

Its eyes shone purple lights the moment the AI within it decided to trigger the hidden trump card, allowing the massive regeneration of its body. At that instance, the admiral of the Battle Airships had determined that the use of laser cannons was needed to burn the Fira Dragon down from the sky as the main battery guns were not doing sufficient damage to it.

The Mechanical monster needed to be attacked consistently for the regeneration to stop. So, just as the laser cannons were aimed and shot at the Fira Dragon, they found their simultaneous shots of lasers from each and different Battle Airship had been deflected.

One of the lasers because of its strength emitted from the bigger ships happened to deflect at an angle and skewered a Battle Airship at the outermost corner of their formation. It was then they realised that the Fira Dragon had been protected by a huge barrier made out seemingly from crystals.

"Holy sheet. Is that?!" Click could not believe her eyes and stood up out of surprise.

"This is not a good sign," Tellie exclaimed as all of them never expected the Fira Dragon to be able to show such adaptation upon consuming the former Crystal Dragon.

"How much time we are left with?" Diaz shouted out loud and later unconsciously checked the timing on the holographic console.

"Not enough to deal with a new threat. Switch to explosive rounds and penetrative rounds for an anti crystal element fight. If Jin cannot bring it down fast enough, we have to fight it alone." Yinn said and the rest quickly changed their weapon load. As they were initially brought in into Parry City with the expectation to counter the Crystal Dragon, they had originally brought quite a few penetrative rounds of ammunition.

It was definitely not sufficient against such a monster as they were expecting backup after the investigation but right now, it was better than nothing and they knew that they had to do something or at least slow it down so that they could also inform the Daimon military. Hopefully, the Grey Bears were able to discover its weakness and later convey it to the rest so that Daimon had the knowledge to bring it down quickly with little casualties.

Everyone in the Grey Bear Squad was switching their weapon load except for Page who was still watching the scene unfold as if she was expecting something. "Come on... Come on..." She whispered to herself and Diaz tapped her head with a touch as if hoping for her to snap out of it.

"What are you doing? There's no time to stare at that. We need to prepare for-" Diaz pulled Page up from her sitting position but she shook Diaz's hand away abruptly and shouted.

"COME ON! DO YOUR JOB" She screamed at the top of her lungs, an act that was unusual even for her behaviour and everyone around her had no idea why she did that and was worried for her, thinking that something within her logic circuits had broken down.

"Is she becoming rogue?" Click questioned as she quickly picked up a connection wire and attempted to insert it at the back of Page's nape to perform a diagnostic. The rest also aided in restraining her in case she decided to reject the diagnostic scan but she did not resist at all.

"No... She is not." Click answered her question and saw the processes that had been running when they were resting. "Her virus programme got through but it was not deep enough and had been detected. She is manually guiding it while avoiding the quarantine as much as possible."

"Why can't this stubborn girl say anything?! We can aid her!" Diaz exclaimed.

"Her processes were all running simultaneously and had already shut down most of the rest non essential programmes so that she could focus on it. I suspect any disturbance in her process will most likely be-"

"Then shut up and help her now," Yinn said as she picked her connection wire up as well and inserted it into Click's side ports. Tellie and Diaz also took their connection wires and plugged them into Click too and Click did the necessary configuration so that they were all able to share the processing load that Page was handling.

This time it was a race against time as the virus programme switched through multiple folders and files as if to prevent detection and at the same time attempt to burrow itself deeper to get to what Page wanted the most. The access to the Fira Dragon's system.

With the help of her teammates, the virus had been copied and duplicated into several dummies so that the Fira Dragon's AI logic had to deal with multiple copies. This was in lieu of the fact that the Fira Dragon was still fighting against a barrage of explosives.

"User, the System has detected that the Fira Dragon is changing its element and adapting it to be the Crystal Dragon."

"Tell me something I do not already know," Jin said as he could feel that his Maqi was nearly at capacity and the heavy bombardment from the battle airships was already at its limit. Even the Naval Monster Ships were also supporting with long range attacks even though it was not their forte to shoot high up.

"The Grey Bear Squad seemed to have success for the Virus programme within the dragon to work. But it requires some time for it to work."

"The problem is we do not have time."

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"The System suggests that the User create some time and maybe opportunity for the Grey Bear Squad to be successful."

"If I attack now, I won't guarantee that I can kill that terrifying mechanical abomination in one shot. Those Crystal Barriers are a pain in the ass!" Jin happened to say out loud by accident and Taris City General heard it and smirked.

"General Ana. Those Crystal Barriers are an obstacle to our Lord." Just this sentence was more than enough to relay the concern.

"Not sure if I can do much, my Lord. But I can give my best shot." The Angel of Fire said as she was blessed by her mages instantly for the power of flight. She spread her artificial wings and flew as fast as she could while using the inertia to slam at the path where Jin would most probably hit. The Fira Dragon saw a human threat coming and already shot out a fireball in her direction.

The only problem was that the fireball was extremely massive and it felt that it was weighted with crystal remnants within the sphere of flames as well.

"I am not going down without helping our lord!" Ana said as she took the chance to pause for a moment as she swung 360 degrees and threw her axe straight at it while she not only took the fireball in the face but also killed by it.

The axe however had its trajectory adjusted and boosted by her mages who were right behind her as well, forcing it to zoom straight into the crystal barrier. At that point, Jin did not hesitate any further and blasted off as well. All he left was a huge cradle of broken road with its dust and debris being blown towards the Taris Mages who had been boosting his skills. There was even a secondary sonic boom that came after the first shock wave had been heard, and almost no one could see how Jin had flown up in less than a second.

He was faster than a plane, a missile, and definitely the speed of sound itself as he flew off. The Fira Dragon had already been preparing for that threat when it was hovering in mid air deflecting all those bombardments and changing itself to be a Crystal Dragon. If not for its transformation, the Fira Dragon would be flying around evading all the attacks.

But since it found how useful and strong its crystal barriers were, it decided to strengthen the crystal barriers by adding multiple layers over and over again, cross sectioning them so that they would be so tight there was no way the attacks would get to it.

Even the axe that Ana had thrown, had only broken 2 layers of the crystal barrier, a significant feat which even the Battle Airships' bombardment was unable to achieve, especially with the Fira Dragon's consistent regeneration.

Unfortunately, it did not expect Jin's attack to be this swift and could only believe in its crystal barriers. However, it had not known that the big fat seemingly dull lance was extremely effective against such barriers.

The Wall Breaker Lance.

As the name had suggested, it gave a significant bonus when crashing through walls and thus Jin had seen it in action before. So, he had an absolute fate that it would do just that for him.

"Eh?" Jin who was so focused on breaking the crystal barriers had no idea that the power he was holding was so overwhelming it penetrated through all the Crystal barriers in record time. The Fira Dragon was equally stunned and was only able to dodge a fatal attack by turning its body in time.?

"EEEEEEEEHHH?!!!!"

Its torso was partially destroyed and so was one of his wings and yet Jin was still flying upwards from the power he had accumulated. He honestly thought that the crystal barrier was sturdy enough to withstand the Wall Breaker Lance he never thought of a scenario where he would break through everything.

"Fuck Fuck Fuck!" Jin said to himself as he needed to either stop and charge through again or go one big round so that it could keep the momentum. Either way will waste time and the Fira Dragon was able to regenerate those barriers again.

And that's what the Fira Dragon thought as well until it realised that it was unable to initiate the regeneration. His wings and torso were still leaking from the loss of power and the crystal barriers were not regenerating back.

What was happening?

"HAHAHAH!" The entire Grey Bear was celebrating within their cores process even though all of them were physically offline temporarily to aid Page in the final push. The moment their Mechanoids rebooted and went online again, they moved away from each other, automatically unplugging their wires away.

They grabbed Page and shouted in joy for the most apparent thing that had happened. "We Did it! WE DID IT!!! YEAHHHHHH!"

The virus insertion into the System files was successful the moment Jin disrupted the Fira Dragon with his attack. That instantaneous moment where the Fira Dragon had to focus all of its processing capabilities to override the current modules that were running and focus on dodging.

That was the opportunity the Grey Bears were looking for as they supercharged the virus and sent it dashing straight to the core as if the millions of doors that were locked or closed had been open just for that millisecond for the virus to push through.

And because of that Page finally had access to the System Files and deleted the modules that governed regeneration through nanobots and the remnants of the Crystal Dragon inside its 'stomach'. When Jin and the others saw that the Fira Dragon was not able to perform any regeneration, he decided to go one big round to keep the momentum and head in for another strike.

"FIRE! FIRE EVERYTHING!" The Admiral of the Battle Airships cried at the top of his lungs and they did a simultaneous attack that continuously broke the dragon's barrier and rendered it immobile.

Aye, the end of near.

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With the Maqi he had accumulated, Jin concentrated all of it into the Wall Breaker Lance while he was flying. He knew that he must hit or else this would fail spectacularly that the Grey Bears and maybe even the Seven Cities might laugh at him.

After all, being a Lord of these cities, he had to show that he was this super duper cool master that everyone could rely on. That was his actual side thought but in reality, he had enough of this Fira Dragon and learnt his lesson on why Synthesis World's Virtual Simulation did not wish to have any monster Mechanoids built.

The reason for him to fight alongside Archduke Dyke and clear this simulation and later be the winner of this round seems all the more important to him as a vendetta that he must exact. Even though he knew that the Synthesis World's AI Administration had a small hand in forcing him into such situations, they were definitely not the perpetrators for all these secret creations of Monster Mechanoids.

Of course, he needed to get his body back and deal with certain stuff to ensure that his profits were still flowing into his bank account but the effort to get there had made it doubly sure for Jin that he needed to end this round with the Empire Royals dead regardless of the methods used.

So, as he grabbed the Wall Breaker Lance tightly, Black and white traces of lightning started to embrace him again and eventually creating the Panda silhouette that the Grey Bears seen while the Seven Cities revered it as their Lord showing his animal spirit that had been used to conquer worlds.

"Panda Lightning Strike!" Jin shouted as he boosted once more and another sonic boom dissipated right behind him. The Fira Dragon knew that there was no way it could block such an attack and he had to at least away minimally away from the projected trajectory to reduce the amount of damage it could suffer.

Only then can the Fira Dragon try to get rid of the Virus that had invaded it or at least suppress it momentarily to rewrite the regeneration files so that its nanobots could start working overtime again.

But what it did not expect was that right now it was no a straight charge and rather it turned jagged and afterimages of the impending lance attack was fuddled with streaks of black and white lightning bolts with the image of an animal that it could not recognise within its database.

Before it could process any further and react against such an attack, it felt that something was missing. The lightning bolts had dissipated and there was nothing right in front of the Fira Dragon. The bombardment also stopped and the Fira Dragon' AI was unable to command any of its limbs.

Signs and warning that the power was critically low and the AI rushed to override had proven to be futile. The monster slowly but surely descended down to the ground. As it happened, the environment was also changing as digital bits of the black sky was exchanged for a white ceiling and a boxed in room where it felt that what it saw was surely its last.

The underground facility eventually became its coffin and the Grey Bear finally won.

"System, help me thank the Seven Cities..." Jin whispered as he appeared on the third and highest platform in the basement facility and fainted there.

"Commander!" The rest of the Grey Bears shouted with concern as they rushed to the best of their best athletic abilities to reach the third platform.

Page was thrown by Diaz from the second platform and she was the first to be in contact with Jin. "We won! Commander! We Won! Stay conscious. You need to tell the rest of Daimon City that its done!" She exclaimed with a tear emerging out from her eyes.

She had never worked this hard for her commander before especially not under the previous one and now Page understood why the rest of the Grey Bears were so committed to be with him and even went with his crazy ideas.

Sadly, Jin went unconscious again but Page had double, nay- triple checked that all of his vitals were present and concluded that he probably collapsed from exhaustion. "Ahh This commander. Always falling asleep once the job is over." Yinn commented as Page slowly brought him down to the secondary platform and they went to safer grounds via the rooms at the side of the basement.

"Its kind of a bad habit for him to always sleep straight after that." Tellie giggled as she poked his face.

"Tellie, I do not think you have the right to say that. You do that as well. If I am not wrong, you are ranked two within the squad, next to Commander Jin." Click said sarcastically and Tellie gave put her tongue out to spite her.

"I really could sleep on the ground right here. I'm exhausted." Diaz did what she said and lie flat on the ground without any care for any possible dangers that could still be lurking,

"Yinn, should we start telling General Ost and the rest to stand down? They are probably nervous as heck." Click questioned as she too let down her bag and used Diaz's leg as a pillow to sleep on.

"Ladies. Sorry to be a party pooper but...ermm." The vice leader opened her backpack and unrolled the map that they had grabbed (not steal, mind you :P) to show all of them the location that they were in.

"We actually have another basement to check and the way to move is through that door over there."

"SCREW YOU!" The entire group said and even showed the middle finger at the same time which made all of them laughed as one big team except for Yinn.

"Alright alright, time out for 30 seconds and we have to check the remaining basement. Otherwise, we would not be able to report that this facility is clear." She said but none of them bothered to answer her.

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"Are we going to really leave Jin on the ground if we were to check the last underground basement?" Click asked as she reluctantly changed her loadout to the normal bullets.

"We can bring him with us as well, but he would probably be a bullet sponge if no one took care of him." Yinn also told the rest to keep the penetrating rounds at a corner they were able to assess easily since she did not have any idea what lay ahead of them.

"But we cannot leave him here. If the enemies ran away and saw an enemy sleeping peacefully at the corner, what do you think they would do to him? Doodle on his face with a marker?" Tellie asked.

"More like doodle his face with bullets. Muahahha" Diaz laughed and proceeded towards Jin. "I carry him since my Gunzerker abilities will allow me to shoot even without a gun. Although it would be best if Click could create two machine gun turrets attached to my back or shoulders? That would be more helpful than me trying to shoot using my mouth."

"Lol, that would be awfully scary if you merely open your mouth wide and bullets came out from there. You might as well spit wherever you go." Click said allowing Diaz to entertain on that idea while she made those turrets as Diaz had requested. "Do you want to have a mini gun to go along with your suit?"

"Haha very funny. I don't have that kind of capacity within my body."

"I mean I can create an ammo tank and there should still be a mini gun at the armoury."

"Eh.. about that," Tellie interjected. That exit is a no go after that stupid Fira Dragon slammed one of the Mecha Fire Dragons there... or was it us that caused it? Don't remember."

"We will check the viability of the escape route later. Otherwise, there is always the poorly patched up hole above Hangar Bay 7 that we might be able to utilise with jet boosters." Yinn said as she checked if everyone else was ready.

"Hang on, Let me just connect the turret with Diaz's body so that it could feed the machine gun rounds from her body." Click replied and after a few checks, the turrets were working, and thus, Diaz carried Jin and was the position as the second last in the squad with Page at her rear in case things went real south.

The Grey Bear squad stayed a metre back as Yinn opened the doorway. Thankfully, it was not rigged or booty trapped and the Grey Bear Squad as tired as they could be walked down the stairs as carefully as they could to find themselves opening the door to the last basement floor.

When they opened it, Yinn breathed out a huge sigh of relief, followed by the remaining squad members who walked through it. It was a storage area for all the equipment and materials that were accumulated for the creation of the Mecha Fire Dragon.

There were even more weapons and other prototypes that seemed to be partially completed and later scrapped given the amount of cobwebs that was left in the room. Other than that, there were no humans nor Mechanoids in the area but the Grey Bear Squad remained vigilant. Page and Diaz were left at the basement's entrance while Click and Tellie stuck closely behind Yinn as they systematically cleared each and every room they could unlock.

Eventually, they reached the last final room where there was a huge safe door within it. "As much as I want to know what's in there. I think we should be able to leave this to the experts and government officials to deal with this." Yinn said and Click boo-ed at her.

"After working so hard, surely opening that humongous safe should be a priority, no? Imagine if there were riches in there or maybe dungeon artefacts that could help us in the fight against future Monster Mechanoids? Surely, you do not want to miss out on that fact, right?"

"Hey guys! There are custom packs here too. Remember the package thingy that the Archduke Engineer had installed for us? It seems there are lower numbered series in here as well." Diaz shouted through the basement as she got tired of guarding and went looking around.

"Is that how those Monster Mechanoids could be so strong? They have numbered packages?" Tellie asked and they got distracted by Diaz's finding.

"We don't have to touch those packages. I am sure Master Flammet can make customised software and hardware package for us!" Click shouted back and then turned back to Yinn. "So yeah. We fought like

shit, at least we try to crack it open and see if we can any artefacts that might prove useful. Who knows? There might be an artefact that allows us to control elements like how Jin used those electricity moves."

"Oh. Like my energy blast? I was able to change the element to electric when I shot the beams against the Mecha Fire Dragon. It's a bit tricky to do the conversion though." Tellie said and Click shook her head.

"I honestly believed Jin could do more than fire and lightning. I remembered seeing him manipulate wind elements as well and there might be a chance he could do other kinds of elements like some king of magicks." Click explained. (The System was amused by this conversation)

"Fine. Fine. We will attempt to break the safe and at most when we get here, it is already forced open. Besides, I would be lying if I said I am not interested in getting some rewards after coming this far." Yinn finally compromised and Click was delighted. She started to fiddle with the controls and checked if her explosives were sufficient to break the locks.

In the meantime, the rest of the Grey Bears walked around to check and log what other things they could find in this lofty cave of 'loot'.

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"Urgh... Where am I again?" Jin said but this time, he was seemingly resting on a rather comfortable pillow but the entire body was on hard ground.

"Just rest easy, Commander. You are in safe hands." Page whispered softly but as she wanted to comfort him even further, the ruckus from the rest of the Grey Bear Squad was being extremely noisy.

"I told you not to put the explosives over there!" Diaz argued with Click.

"You don't have to be here in the first place, I just needed that small little space to put my explosives so I can calculate the amount needed for the safe!"

"Can you just hurry already? I am getting tired." Tellie yawned as she saw the commotion happening at the side.

"I concur with Tellie. If you are still not done, we will get out of here." Yinn looked at the time passed and shook her head.

"But the treasure!" Click and Diaz said in unison. Page on the other hand decided to shout out.

"Commander is awake right now! Could you guys keep it down? He is still resting!"

"See, you take so much time that the commander is awake!" Click complained.

"Oh, sleepy head is up," Tellie said to herself and she clapped softly, wanting to see the commander.

"You were the one who asked for my help and now you complained that I'm a nuisance?" Diaz was beginning to be frustrated.

"What are they fussing about?" Jin asked as he knew there was no way he could rest or even sleep.

"They wanted to open the safe but their explosives were not working and so were the combination of codes. Tellie offered to shoot down the safe door but the people who wanted the treasure inside were afraid that she would burn everything inside with her energy blast."

"Commander! Are you okay?" Tellie came and said hi to Jin which he smiled gently and waved back.

"I assumed you want me to take charge of the situation, Tellie?" Jin asked and she nodded her head with happiness that she did not need to communicate with her commander for him to know her intentions.

"Well, good news. I think I can do that." Jin said as he stood up slowly and saw that Yinn also approached and saluted him for a moment.

"Sorry, Commander. There was a basement floor left and we wanted to make sure that there were indeed no more Mecha Fire Dragons within this underground facility. And also hope that this is the only facility that Parry City has that created those dragons. In the event of clearing the last basement..."

"Yeah, I get the gist from that. Let me handle those two kids." Jin said as he staggered a little at the start which Page managed to catch him and held him steady. "Thanks, I think I was too tired."

"Couldn't blame you on that. Even we saw that was a brilliant battle from you. It's a pity that the Daimon Citizens were not able to see you in action. They will fall in love with you even further." Page said and Jin smiled a little.

"It's fine, all that matters is the end result. When they see those monsters dead, that's all that matters." Jin replied.

"Are you not going to give a reply to Daimon Military? They might be waiting for your answer, or lack of answer."

"Well, no Mecha Fire Dragons leak out of the city. So, they can still worry a little more for me. There's no harm in that, right?"

"Yes."

"Besides, how can I address the public when I HAVE THESE TWO KEEP SQUABBLING IN FRONT OF ME!" Jin let go of Page and ran towards Click and Diaz who got scared by the sudden shouting from Jin as he grabbed the both of them, each in his arms, and subsequently pulled both of their cheeks.

"Ah, commander. Welcome back. Did not see you back there." Click's speech was fumbled by Jin's actions.

"Lies," Jin said as he continued to squeeze their cheeks even harder.

"Commander. Sowwrry. We keep quietttt noww," Diaz was not able to talk right too.

"Good." Jin let go of them and they knelt now to beg for forgiveness. "Seriously, these two. If you want to open it, you could have wake me up." Jin said and the both of them looked up with their heads tilted towards Jin, initially confused, and later that confusion turned to delight.

"Commander, you have the codes??!!" The both of them cried out with joy and Jin knocked both of their heads so fast, they could not even block it.

"Don't give me that crying baby face. I am not falling for it." He told the two girls.

"On a serious note, you have the code?"

"Ehh... yea," Jin realised he should not have said it out loud and just opened it up. Then he could make up some excuse that it was 'Magic~! And fiddled with his fingers which the Grey Bear Squad would subsequently ignore him and divert their attention to look at the treasures instead. The fact was that Syn had left a message for him as he was staggering towards Diaz and Click.

The mail's title read as passcode to the safe and when he opened it, the number was there. Perhaps, Syn had done it to reward Jin and the Grey Bear Squad for the massive sacrifice and work they had done.

"Where did you get it?" Click asked and Jin lied and stated that the code came when he killed the Fira Dragon.

"Honestly, I do not know whether the code could work or not. But it seems like a code for the safe since it was just numbers." Jin explained and suddenly those delighted faces turned sour.

"Why did we even bother thinking that he really does have it." Click sulked and Diaz had refused to see eye to eye with Jin. It was pretty obvious that both of them thought that what Jin had was a lie and they felt like they wasted their time patronising him since there was no way a code could just go to Jin's head after defeating that Fira Dragon.

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"Ho? You girls don't believe me?" Jin smiled as he folded his arms.

"Yeah. We believe that you are lying." Click said even though she was still kneeling down as if she was under punishment along with Diaz. However, the guts to challenge Jin had shown that they knew when to take orders and when they could misbehave

"You think you can bait me to open it for you?" Jin knew what the two rascals of the squad were up to and he felt that he wanted more praise for them before he acted upon it.

"More like let's not waste any more time on this," Yinn said at the sidelines, feeling this would drag even longer if it was not completed.

"Yeah, I am getting tired of them quarrelling about the safe. Commander, if you could just open it and let's be done with it." Tellie yawned softly after saying it. In fact, she was so sleepy, that Tellie looked like she could hold onto her sniper rifle and use it as her bolster.

"Alright, alright. But before I open let me address to the public. Once we are done with that let's get out of here." Jin said and the two mechanoids were moaning at Jin's decision since they had to wait even longer for the safe to be opened.

"Commander, just open it, and then let us search the safe. We will be able to save some time when you give that speech of yours." Diaz commented and Click nodded in agreement with her.

"No. What if there is something so special, that you two kids decided to keep it for yourself without me knowing?"

"Oh please, the System knows what we are carrying it at the very end, what's the point of us hiding it?" Click stated and Jin realised that was a rather valid point that she made.

"I think the Commander just wants the first choice of the loot. After all, he had the code and not any of you. He was the only one who killed the Fira Dragon." Page deduced Jin's reluctance.

"Let me remind all of you that this technically belonged to the Parry City Military no matter how illegally acquired they are. By taking all these is also considered stealing of their property." Yinn remarked and the entire party boo-ed her again which this time she reacted strongly by sticking her tongue out at them.

It was the first time she showed something out of her usual professional self and everyone gasped at the change Yinn had for herself. "Commander, you better open the safe now, or else we think we will get possessed by some unknown AI like how Yinn had changed," Diaz said and Click agreed once more.

"You people..." Yinn shrugged them off and they all giggled behind Jin's back.

"Alright, alright. I will open it." Jin gave up and went to type the code that was given to him by Syn, in hopes that there were treasures of untold riches behind it. All those illegal gatherings of the Royal's gold could be put to good use in both Parry City and Daimon City. This could also boost the resources they could acquire for the fight against Daimon but more importantly was the possibility of dungeon artefacts within it, giving them a possible edge in the future.

So as the password was keyed in, it was accepted immediately and the loud clicking of the gears was a symphony to the entire squad. Slowly but surely, the safe opened and all of them stayed a few metres back so that they could have a grand look at the stupendous amount of gold or treasures hidden in there since the lair of evil men should be filled with riches, right?

The light was automatically turned on and as soon the door moved itself away so the entrance remained open, so were their mouths who were in disbelief.

"Oh ...my god.." Diaz was the first to speak, speechless at the look of the safe.

"This is... This is..." Click could not help but to leak a tear from her eye.

"Unbelievable." Yinn who was initially not interested in the safe, was dumbfounded by the safe's opening as well.

"Commander. I think with this..." Page cannot express herself any more than she could with the opening of the safe.

"It's my first time to see my expectations broken to such a level." Tellie also agreed with the rest of them.

"Yeap. Same here. This is just an incredible sight." Jin replied.

Nothing.

Nothing...

Nothing?

Nothing!

"THERE IS NOTHING HERE?! WHAT KIND OF EVIL UNDERGROUND LAIR IS THIS?!" Diaz felt like pulling her hair from her head. On the other hand, Click cried as she fell to the ground, speechless. Yinn felt this was really an entire waste of time but she was thankful it was done early rather than having Jin trying to figure this out as well. Page and Tellie merely laughed at the absurdity of this entire endeavour.

Imagine if word gets out that the competent Grey Bear Squad who had worked in several impossible situations to save people had difficulty opening a safe, only to find that it was empty on the inside.

"I don't believe this. I honestly cannot believe this. I am going into the safe to search if there is any hidden secret room or something." Click said and Diaz decided to walk in with her as well.

"Remember to check for traps," Page reminded. "Else, I won't bother fixing you guys up when you need it!"

"I will just go do my speech to the rest. Oh my god, this is stupid." Jin said as he told the rest that he would be going up to the upper basement floor so he could show them the results of the Mecha Fire Dragons that had been defeated.

Yinn also stated that she would follow him since she could not stand the absurdity of this room. Separately, Page and Tellie decided to stay near the safe and watched how Click and Diaz made a fool of themselves.

Chapter 1718 Who Will Know? -Part 40 (Final)

When they reached the basement where they defeated the Mecha Fire Dragons, Jin took a look at the mess that was left. Even though the Dungeon Instance had disappeared, the scars, the marks, and even how they had been destroyed had shown that this was not done by a small group of people.

If he wants to explain the situation, he probably has to hide some evidence by burning and destroying the parts even further. Otherwise, he could just show a quick glimpse of the monster mechanoids that were killed and speak more about the future.

Either way, it would be a headache he had to suffer through after coming out of this underground facility. "Yinn, might give me some space to think and talk to myself?" Jin asked and his vice squad leader nodded.

"I will be waiting at the corner right over there."

"Thanks, it would not be long."

"Just do not go out of my sight. No matter how strong you are, you would still need help."

"Thanks once more," Jin said as he walked further down the secondary platform which was more stable to sort out his thoughts. At that point, he summoned the System and... Syn.

"That's a rather nasty trick to play on me. You already knew there was nothing inside, right?" Jin started off with that and Syn chuckled.

"Yes, yes. I already knew there was nothing inside. That is why I have decided to give you the passcode so as to not waste time. I assume it would be an entertaining scenario to look at but I never expected it to be this fun." Syn commented.

"Please don't do this again. It can be fun at the start but irritatingly tiring for future times."

"Yes, okay. Jin I will take note of that." Syn replied and Jin sighed.

"Well, since that's off my chest. Anything to help me with the speech? I feel I'm a little torn."

"About what to say?" Syn tried to confirm the question. "If that's the case, why not just say the truth? Otherwise, lie all the way. AI Administration believed that either way, the Daimon City and Parry City had put enough trust in you for you to do what is needed." Syn gave its opinion.

"User could just not show it and let the military handle it. There is no need for you to show proof in the System's opinion. Come out from the borders of Parry City and those military who see you, will know that you had defeated the monster mechanoids and proceed from there."

"I feel that giving them something right now would be a better choice. Everyone is hot on their toes and the finger is too close to their triggers for comfort." Syn replied.

"We did not catch one of the known people behind this, that General Toba," Jin said and the System told Jin that he could relax on that.

"After Sir Peru Peru's speech, the Air Force in general immediately went in guns blazing to save their General as well as taking over the War Room. The Air Force General had been injured during the firefight as General Toba was said to have used him as a hostage. Yet, Air Force General Inus was able to -according to the reports, to slip using the chair he was being tied to and this slip enabled the air force special commandos to take the shot to incapacitate the Army General into custody."

"Since the System already gave that much info, then I shall give you a bit of special info."

"No thanks, I do not want it. That will amount to favours or debts in the future." Jin rejected flatly and the System would laugh if it could. "I learned the bad way not to ask or receive special stuff."

"I assure you this is free information which you will know subsequently as well." Syn did not give Jin any choice but to accept the information. "Ever since the war room had been overtaken, General Inus asked the operations to rescue their people to continue although your Generals do not accept it."

"Even though Sir Peru Peru swears by him, your Generals stated that until Jin comes out alive or when the Mecha Fire Dragons emerge out of the city grounds, Daimon would continue to stand by," Syn added.

"The System could have told him that."

"Just let me talk a little. I do feel lonely and you guys are currently my only friends here." Syn said and Jin laughed before realising that Yinn was watching him so he lowered the laugh.

"The System understands this solitude that AI Administration representative Syn is going through but at the very least, you had some contact unlike the System when it had to weather the-"

"We don't need any history lessons at the moment. I guess I will announce the speech here and later get my men to come here and fetch me. I am exhausted, and would prefer to have a ride home than walk through the streets and get popped by a stray enemy sniper."

"I cannot guarantee whether that situation that would happen or not." Syn's hint was more than enough reason for not following the System's advice to come out of the basement and walk back.

"Then the System guessed User knew what he needed to do." The System returned to dormancy from Jin's side, leaving Syn and Jin alone for a while.

"And, what are you waiting for? Don't you have to leave and govern the rest of the Virtual Simulation? I am sure this is not the only place that is rather happening."

"On the contrary, it is the most happening place at the moment. Almost all the cities in the Empire had taken interest in this. Your Generals will fill in the rest but okay, I will get going." Syn replied but before he left, Syn decided to converse with Jin again.

"Hey, I know I had kinda cheated you with that empty chest. Will promise to give you some compensation for your efforts."

"That would be great but it's not needed. Don't worry." Jin as usual does not want to keep any debts.

"Also, one last thing. Your soul extractor. It's almost ready. You can return home soon. I promise you its not a lie... Just remember to come back," Syn said.

"Don't worry Syn. I have a score to settle with the Royals as well."

Chapter 1719 Aftermath of Parry City's Incident -Part 1

Every second that passed, every minute that went by and eventually an hour. The hopes of the people were decreasing as time burnt in nonexistence that Daimon Interim Leader was able to do something special.

However, the fact that those Mecha Fire Dragons did not burst out of the City grounds had been in the minds of the Generals. Parry City Military General Inus who was now in charge of the military arm had told the special armed forces to not give any quarters in terms of interrogation.

"Make them take the truth serum if need be. I got sick of waiting already" General Inus ordered.

"But sir, those truth serums have severe side effects and might not even work." His officer said.

"These scums that wished to destroy our town for the sake of some extra money at the side should not deserve any mercy. Each minute they kept their mouth shut, the Interim Leader suffered. For what we know, he could have already been dead trying to protect our lands and the Mecha Fire Dragons dug through the ground and got away without receiving any judgment from us."

"Understood, Sir." The officer saluted but before he left, a public livestream came out and the devil that they talked about was on screen.

When everyone in Daimon City saw Jin's face and his somewhat relieved demeanour, they could not help to heave a huge sigh of relief. "Sorry about the delay. We were too knocked out to answer after winning the battle." Jin was sitting down in a corner with his combat vest unzipped had also indicated that the fight had been won.

"Thank you, everyone, for having your thoughts and prayers to us, and here is the result." Jin flipped the livestream console and showed them the mess they had done. In comparison to the nice and tidy room they went in previously with all the Mecha Fire Dragons that had yet to be activated, it felt like this room could do some cleaning.

"So yeah, erm. This is just an update to stand down for Daimon Air Force, however, as much as I want to get out of this underground facility, I am unable to because of the damage done by the fight. But not to worry, my Mechanoids have some rations on them and there's enough plugs here for them to be charged fully."

"I also know that this might be Parry City's territory but Sir Peru Peru. Please let my troops go in to fetch me. It's not that I do not trust your military's capability to get me out but I had been shot at enough times and I'm exhausted." At that moment, Sir Peru Peru came online as well but he was already on the ground with his forehead sticking to the hospital floor.

"Thank you. Lord Jin. From the deepest depths of my heart, I thank you for what you did for Parry City."

"Sir Peru Peru, get up. You are still injured from the incident. Do not strain yourself. Doctors and nurses what are you all doing, get him up." Jin said and the Daimon Medical team that was in charge of Sir Peru Peru immediately responded and also begged Sir Peru Peru to return to his bed.

"I understand that you do not trust our military but rest assured that the mutiny that had happened has already been resolved with punitive force. The current Parry City Military is under my command and they would not do anything to harm the saviour of their city as well."

"Yeah. I know but erm..." Jin did not know how to rephrase the sentence well at that point in time which allowed Sir Peru Peru to continue speaking.

"However, I will allow the dispatch of your military force to pick you up and even allow your troops to go remove the debris as well. Ah, my bad I forgot. The underground facility would also be under your control but we hoped that you can allow Parry City Investigators to perform the search as well." Sir Peru Peru gave such concessions that Jin was rather surprised it was so generous that he felt a little uneasy.

"Thank you, Sir Peru Peru for your kindness. We can talk more about the details later when we meet in private with regard to the investigation of the facility. I can also allow an airborne despatch for you to return to Parry City if you wish to."

"I do not mind staying in Daimon's hospital. The hospitality they gave me is unparalleled and I even hoped that the Parry City hospitals could learn as well."

"Seriously, Sir Peru Peru. You do not need to bootlick any further. I did just what I was supposed to." Jin said so bluntly that it caught Sir Peru Peru in a bind.

"But yeah, if you don't mind Daimon Hospital for now, I can still allow an airborne dispatch that brings your guards over so that you won't be too uncomfortable being surrounded by Daimon Guards. Besides, your house is in ruin...unless you have another house to stay in..." Jin said and Sir Peru Peru laughed.

"Like you said, don't worry about the small details. Then let's get the ball rolling otherwise, the economy for both of our cities will suffer. I assume once you return to Daimon, my citizens can return too?" Sir Peru Peru asked for concern for his citizens too since most of them were staying in temporary tents or even in open areas. It was not the way to survive but the fact that Jin and Daimon had provided essentials to them had already given him gratitude that was beyond words.

"Yes, the military would assist the immigration control department to start preparing their departure from Daimon and back to Parry City. Otherwise, they can stay in Daimon for at most three days before returning. Oh and for those who want to travel into the city, by all means, go ahead. We welcome your business." Jin smiled as he said that since he wanted everything to go back to normal as soon as possible.

Chapter 1720 Aftermath of Parry City's Incident -Part 2

"Well, what are we waiting for? Our lazy ass Interim Leader wants to be escorted back to Daimon. So, let us give him the best escort ever." General Grieves said as he received the coordinates to the underground facility. The Grey Bear Squad had also given Grieves a copy of the physical map they grabbed (again, not stole!) as well as video records of the basement to the best of their abilities.

Based on the information that Jin and the Grey Bear Squad had sent, Grieves believed that a fifty men strong team would be sufficient to not only remove the debris but also patrol and guard the underground facilities once Jin had been escorted back to Daimon.

The soldiers selected were elated that they were able to do something for their interim leader who had been hogging the spotlight this whole entire time. General Grieves also finally had something to do as he was given permission by General Ost to bring their 'tired' Jin back from Parry City.

It did not take long for the Daimon military to assemble a few jeeps, a truck filled with excavation equipment, and lastly the most important a 'luxurious' car filled with sufficient suspension to handle the roads of Parry City. (The car was in courtesy of Diamondz Corp) Initially, there were plans to use the helicarrier but 2LT Cloudie who had been working doubly hard to ferry Parry City citizens from the Northern portion of Daimon to the Southern Daimon declined the request to fetch Jin back.

"It's not safe if I do not have enough sleep. And now that I know Jin is still alive, I can sleep in peace too." 2LT Cloudie said and General Grieves understood and gave permission for him to skip it. Thus, in

less than an hour, all the paperwork was in order and the Parry City Immigration (or what's left of it) approved the armed escort and allowed them to pass.

Even the soldiers themselves had never seen such a quick approval of documents, skipping all the necessary checks and scans for them to pass through. So, by the time they reached the underground facility, the observers from the Parry City Military could never imagine it was so close to Daimon borders. Should the Mecha Fire Dragons really had not been killed, the rampage it does would definitely have affected Daimon and the refugees they were currently holding.

And Air Force General Inus cursed since he knew that the particular place was a notorious place for gangs, which was why the security checks there were lax enough to let General Toba do his thing. Not to mention, gold and points were the easiest to get the gangs to work for General Toba as well.

But now that the place is vacant, Parry City Military believed it would be a good time to guard the place too since those 50 men would not stand a chance in patrolling the streets if the gangs started to return. Either that, those gang members had yet to move away, hiding and waiting for their chance to appear and Jin managed to slip into that area without anybody knowing.

"Get in contact with General Grieves. I heard he was the one who is going to bring Jin back." Inus ordered and soon the two Generals were able to meet with each other.

"General Inus. What's the matter? Are you going to deny us from rescuing our lazy bum?"

"No, General Grieves. On the contrary, I am here to give some warning. The area that you guys have parked yourself in is gang territory. I am afraid that there may still be gang members around or you will have trouble patrolling the area."

"I am assuming you wish to offer some assistance? There is no need to. We can bring in some heavy duty Mechanoids and a few more soldiers to keep the area safe since we are permitted by your leader to bring as much as I want to. So, do not worry about us. We have the manpower and I know the gangs in Parry City. As long as you do not disturb them, they will not disturb us. I'm also sure they are not stupid enough to make enemies with Daimon Military."

"But General, as a precaution. It's best that you allow some of my personal best to be there."

"Then all the more I decline. As much as I can understand the sentiments for providing assistance and ensuring that we are taken care of, what our lazy bum said is also true. He had been attacked so many times that it's not funny anymore. Be thankful that our leader and his team did not kill anyone. That thermobaric blast is of your military own making as well. I also assume Diamondz Corp would be finding some answers too." General Grieves knew what Inus was trying to do.

After the reputation of Parry City Military being seen as a bunch of people who want to destroy their own city, as well as taking advantage of the situation in an attempt to indirectly kill their own lord as well as Daimon's. It would take years to gain back that kind of trust from other people.

In fact, General Inus was worried no one would wish to cooperate with Parry City Military or even do sales with it, in fear that the next mechanical dragon production could happen again.

"Get the police to aid in, and if needed, send an advisor from the military. I assume the police handle more of the gang than the military do, right?" General Grieves said and Inus smiled lightly. Perhaps

Grievus knows what Inus was going through but for now, it's too quick to let bygones be bygones. There was some mistrust and that breach of trust needs time to mend.

But once the talk was over, General Grievus hurried his men to go into the underground facility and save that very special lazy bum.