

# Extra 15

## Chapter 15: The Start Of Training

"There is no need to feel shame."

The Head Warrior, Brutus, approached the fallen Billy and stretched forth his hand.

"You did well for your first battle. You possess powerful Skills and the potential to surpass me." For the first time ever, something was tugging at the corners of Brutus' face.

It was... a smile!

Brutus was smiling, and it was a very warm grin.

"That is why you need training. So, what do you say... Grand Knight? Do you wish to grow strong and defeat me one day?"

The hand of the Head Warrior remained outstretched as Billy looked at it with widened eyes.

Following Brutus' words were a round of applause. It started with Lucielle, followed by Adonis, and before long... everyone was clapping.

'For me? They're clapping for me?'

Billy's face shifted slightly as his widened eyes bulged even further as he noticed a particular girl clapping as she smiled.

'Alicia is also clapping? She's even smiling at me!'

It made him feel immensely happy. The experience just now had humbled him, but this... this had now raised his spirits.

From a trembling form to a smile, Billy returned his gaze to the Head Knight and nodded.

"I wish to grow strong!"

Billy reached out for Brutus' hand, and the Head Warrior pulled him up with relative ease.

Both warriors stared at each other with a measure of respect and honor attributed respectively.

It was like a new bond had been forged—one between a mentor and his protege.

"Good. I look forward to your training."

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'I see now...'

Rey smiled as he observed all that happened from beginning to end.

'Our Skills are only as effective as our mastery over them, and our Levels. It's just as Lucielle said.'

A Level 1 A-Tier Skill user would never be able to defeat a Level 10 B-Tier Skill user.

'I think this much is fair. Also, there seems to be some kind of power cap. It's likely that the B-Tier Skill will stagnate at some point, while the A-Tier one will keep improving.'

Also, Rey theorized that a Level 1 A-Tier was no doubt going to defeat a B-Tier of the same level.

'In the end, it's just better to have everything.'

After calculating everything, and observing that their real training was about to begin, Rey decided to give it his all.

'I need to become stronger... and fast!'

In order not to be controlled by his classmates, the people of this world... as well as the enemy.

'This world respects the strong and despises the weak... just like my previous world.'

As an Extra among all his seemingly overpowered classmates, Rey could already guess some challenges that would come his way.

'But, well... I have to try.'

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[A Week Later]

"Huff... huff...."

A lot of steamy breaths escaped the lips of the students who were jogging in circles.

In the vast training grounds, as large as a football field, the Beta students were being made to run round it for a hundred times in one go.

It initially started off as five laps, and even that was extreme.

But now... it was a hundred!

"Huff... huff... haaa... haaa..."

Many were out of breath already, despite only passing the fifty lap threshold. Others were sweating profusely, but they still had their determined expressions on.

No one wanted to give up!

Among the many who struggled to keep up, and were barely hanging on, there was one student whose expression felt a little too forced.

It was Rey.

'This sucks. What am I doing here...?'

Right now, he was trying his hardest to be as average as he could. That was why he was pretending to be tired, like most people in the Beta group, but in actuality, he was perfectly fine.

He had to force himself to sweat, and even his steamy breath was him trying hard to increase his body's temperature.

Nothing about this training exhausted him in the slightest.

'Those Alpha group students are undergoing tougher and more complex training, yet I'm stuck with this. Damn it!'

After training concluded on the first day, the students were divided into two groups—Alpha and Beta.

The Alpha group had all the immensely talented and powerful members there.

People like Adonis, Alicia, and Billy were the students in the group. There were a total of nine of them—a small number compared to the twenty-nine students in total.

'Of course, I didn't make the cut. In everyone's eyes, I'm as average as they come.'

In fact, he could argue that they thought he was less than average.

'The remaining twenty of us were put in the Beta group and are made to improve on our foundations, while the Alpha group has gone ahead to learn more advanced things.'

Right now, the curriculum of the Beta group involved two major things;

Physical exercise and Basic Skill application.

'We aren't even learning Magic yet!' It pained Rey to the depths of his soul, but what could he do?

He had to remain lowkey.

'I overheard some of the A-Tier students talking about training, and apparently they have started learning Magic. How lucky...'

Some Beta students would get jealous of the Alpha students learning Magic because that meant they would spend more time with the gorgeous Lucielle, but that wasn't Rey's reason.

Sure, Lucielle was immensely attractive in his eyes, but that wasn't his priority at this point.

'It's the Skills!' His eyes widened as he intentionally slowed down his pace.

He didn't want to outrun everyone else.

'Apparently we can naturally awaken more Skills if we practice hard enough and have enough mastery in an aspect.'

That was what vexed him most about this training. It was meaningless to him.

'I have Passive Skills that make my body naturally acclimate to physical stress very quickly. The first few days were hell, sure, but I've pretty much obtained the Stats that make me capable of enduring something of this level.'

Rey wasn't sure, since he didn't know the Stats of the rest of his classmates, but he was certain he was currently on the level of the average Alpha Group students.

'I should be learning what they're doing.'

Still, he told himself to exercise patience. Right now, he couldn't afford to stir the hornet's nest too much.

'Status Window.' His thoughts trailed.

[STATUS WINDOW]

- Name: Rey Skylar.

- Race: Human (Otherworlder)

- Class: Commoner (F-Tier)

- Level: 1 (0.00% EXP)

- Life Force: 5
- Mana Level: 10
- Combat Ability: 10
- Stat Points: 0
- Skills (Exclusive): [Doppel]
- Skills (Non-Exclusive): Nil
- Alignment: Neutral

[Additional Information]

You possess the weakest Class, but the strongest Skill. You can only be described as an 'Overpowered Weakling.'

[End Of Information]

In this world, people needed EXP to increase their Levels. That was the surest way to get Stat Points and develop one's Stats.

However, since the students were currently too weak, training was needed to help them gain Stats naturally through practice and pushing ourselves to the limit.

'That's why this is so frustrating. I can't push myself to the limits here anymore.'

Thanks to his Passive Skills, he had gained these Stats after a few days of hellish training, and now he was basically stagnating.

'I currently have 49 Skills at my disposal. If I can get that ONE Skill... I should be able to do the rest on my own.'

Rey finally let out his first chuckle since he began the exercise.

'I should strike tomorrow!'

## **Chapter 16: The Library**

After training was over, the students had the rest of the day to themselves.

Of course, the first thing they went and did was freshen up in their respective rooms. Afterwards, they went on whatever activities suited their fancy.

Some decided to take a walk on the vast grounds of the Royal Estate. Others decided to talk with one another, while a few try-hards were busy asking their instructors questions instead of taking a break.

However, none of these categories of people compared to the next category.

These students were beyond the level of tryhards, and they actually garnered the respect of those who saw them.

The category of students who kept training despite the time of training being over.

The likes of Adonis and Billy fell into this group.

A few other students had tried it out for some time, but these two were the most consistent. They also put in the longest hours.

"They're fucking monsters!"

"They're crazy! But I like it."

"At least we know who's got our backs in battle."

"I really want to be Bill's friend..."

"Adonis is doing this for all of us. We can't afford to slack off either!"

These were the kinds of comments that were spreading among them.

However, even with this praise given to the super tryhards, there was another category that was only occupied by one person.

"Hey, where's Alicia? Did she go there again?"

"Ah... yeah. She's there again."

"She hasn't been hanging out with any of us recently."

"I wonder what she's looking for there..."

"Yeah. Me too. She hardly visited the library back when we were in school."

That's right! Alicia White spent most of her time after training in the library.

Some admired this about her, but many students thought she was trying to avoid everyone else by being a Lone Ranger.

"I guess you can take someone out of school, but you can't take school out of someone."

"Who does she think she is? Being all by herself reading..."

"Whatever..."

Of course, none of these comments were made when Billy was around.

Everyone knew how much he defended Alicia.

Of course, this only made them more jealous and angry about their Class Rep.

... Not that she cared in the slightest.

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'Oh? Looks like Alicia is here again today.'

Rey entered the library and found the prettiest girl in class with a book in front of her.

'I come here every day, and she's constantly in here before me. Was she always a bookworm?' He couldn't really remember.

Unlike Billy, he didn't really pay attention to Alicia.

It was partly because Bill was already paying her TOO much attention, but also because he didn't like fixating on things he had no chance with.

She was way out of his league, so he didn't bother.

'Everyone is talking shit about her lately, even when she's just minding her business and reading...'

Rey thought that sucked.

'At this point, almost everyone has forgotten I exist. No one even talks to me anymore... except Adonis, of course.'

Once in a while, Adonis would check up on him and ask how things were going.

It was a bit awkward for Rey, but he did his best to make conversation.

'Anytime we talk, it feels incredibly genuine. It's almost like I'm special in his eyes...'

But Rey already knew that was an illusion.

'Adonis does the same to everyone. That's just the kind of guy he is. Other than him, no one else talks to me, I guess.'

As such, Rey began to consider approaching Alicia—one loner to another.

'She doesn't seem like she's in the mood for talking, though. Plus, we're in the library.'

Besides, just because she was actively choosing to be a loner, it didn't mean she couldn't break out of her shell if she wanted to.

That was the difference between Alicia and Rey.

'She's a loner by choice, and I am a loner because no one cares about me.'

It was a bitter pill to swallow, but this was the truth.

'I should just let things be. Thinking about this any further will be a waste of time.'

Rey decided to pick the book he couldn't finish the last time and continue reading it.

He had come to the library every day—ever since he and his classmates had been given a tour here by the Royal Librarian.

Most students were not interested in reading, considering how much of what they had to do in school. Plus, it wasn't necessary for training, so why did they need to bother?

But Rey was different.

'There's knowledge about this Nation. The conflict between Dragons. The History of this world. The other Races that exist here. The Politics. The environment. The ecosystem... everything!'

It would be foolish of him not to take advantage of such a window of opportunity to learn as much as he could about the world he was currently occupying.

'This way, I can at least survive out there if push comes to shove.'

Rey knew he couldn't be certain that things were always going to be rosy.

He had to be prepared.

'Of course, I don't spend more than three hours a day here. I hear Alicia spends all her time here. She's way more into this than I am.'

A small smile escaped his lips.

Even though they weren't speaking with each other, he somehow felt a sense of fulfillment and companionship at the mere fact that only the two of them occupied this space.

It was like an unspoken bond... or something like that.

'What am I thinking? Urgh... let's get back to reading.'

Rey sat down and flipped open the pages of his book to continue immersing himself in the things of H'Trae.

'The Royal Dungeon... huh?'

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The next day arrived, and Rey called in sick.

No one was really surprised since they had noticed how exhausted he was the previous day, and the weird expressions he was making as he ran.

Besides, quite a few students had also done the same in the course of the week.

Of course, they would only be granted a day to recover, and anything more than that would be met with immediate action.

Potions and medicine were not luxuries kept from the Otherworlders, after all.

In the scenario of the sickness being serious, they would be healed with Magic or Potions.

The reason those weren't used immediately was that Potions and Magic Recovery Spells induced on another tended to undo the stress of the body and reset the results of the training the target had been undergoing.

No pain, no gain.

If someone used a potion while training, they would be undoing the effects of the training. The same applies to external healing Magic.

Fortunately, if a person had a self-healing Skill or Magic to that same effect, they could repair themselves while training, improving themselves as they trained even further.

However, since almost all the students didn't have this Skill, the best course of action was to let them rest for the day.

And so Rey was given his due time to recover.

"Looks like they bought it. I can finally ditch that stupid training and get what I need!" Rey grinned to himself as he stretched his body on his bed.

## **Chapter 17: Magic Class**

Grand Mage Lucielle was an exceptional genius from the moment she was born. freewebno(v)el

Her unbelievable affinity for Magic was undisputed, which was why she was able to become such a revered figure despite being in her twenties.

None of the old geezers who had studied and practiced Magic for nearly a century could compare to her.

She was an absolute monster!

The reason for such rapid growth on her part was due to being born with a particular Skill.

[Magic Mastery].

On H'Trae, people born with Skills were very rare. It mostly had to do with bloodline, or certain outliers that were not expected.

Even then, it hardly happened.

Skills were meant to be cultivated and developed over time by a person.

Everyone earned their Skills.

... Everyone but Lucielle.

The [Magic Mastery] Skill allowed her to be versatile in so many magic fields and utilize multiple attributes.

With such a head start as a mere child, Lucielle only rose further in the Magic World, evolving her Skill the older and more experienced she became.

Until finally, her initial C-Tier Skill transformed into an A-Tier one.

[Grand Magic Mastery].

With this Skill, and her immense capabilities in Magic, Lucielle was cemented as the strongest Mage in the nation.

After all, no one among the humans of H'Trae had an A-Tier Skill of such effect.

She was currently the best.

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"... And that's pretty much how using Magic works." Lucielle smiled as she observed the students before her.

Seated in front of her were the students of the Alpha Group, and they were all paying rapt attention to her lecture.

Magic, to her, was as natural as breathing.

She had always been able to use it since she was young thanks to her Skill, so it was very difficult to teach these young ones.

However, she managed to pass across the information after trying and failing a few times.

"E-excuse me!" One of the students raised his hand as his voice echoed throughout the luxurious classroom that they occupied.

"Yes, Justin. What is it?"



Lucielle maintained her smile, but she was a little skeptical of the question Justin was going to ask her.

'I'm pretty sure I explained it well this time.'

It would be annoying if he decides to take us back.

According to what Lucielle knew about Justin, he was a bit of a class comedian.

He was also the least qualified among the students in the Alpha group, but his useful set of Skills and his Assassin Class made him very useful.

Combined with all the power the Hero brought to the table, and the other abilities of the rest of the members, Justin's abilities would prove indispensable as well.

That was the rationale behind him joining.

However, despite being given such an opportunity to join the big leagues, Justin was fond of making jokes and disrupting the class.

It wasn't really harmful in any way, but Lucielle found it annoying.

'It also slows down the progress of the class.'

She knew these were simply teenagers, but she had hoped these Otherworlders would take the situation more seriously.

Other than Adonis, Alicia, and Billy, everyone else seemed to display some measure of unseriousness.

'Well, I shouldn't assume too much. Let's hear what he has to say.'

"I was wondering if you could give us a demonstration with Magic on your end. You also mentioned the difference between Chants and Chantless Casting, so I would also like to see you show us an example to further burn this topic into our memory." Justin asked very politely and succinctly.

The entire class fell into surprised silence.

'E-eh? Is this really Justin?'

Not only was his question intelligent, but he had come about it in a very succinct tone.

Lucielle was impressed, to say the least.

"Well, I was eventually going to. But now is as good a time as any to give you a demonstration." She smiled and decided to go along with Justin's suggestion.

Her mood had gotten better, even if slightly.

"To answer both of your requests, I'll do both right now."

Lucielle stretched out both her hands, as if she was expecting a hug from someone, a brilliant smile on her beautiful face.

"[O' Flames of the world. Reveal your brilliance atop the palms of my hand: Fire Brid]."

~VWUUSHH!~

A brilliant surge of flames suddenly appeared. The fire danced and cackled with power as it rested on Lucielle's palm.

This was the example of casting Magic while chanting.

"[Fire Brid]."

On Lucielle's other hand, the same effect happened and flames of equal proportions appeared there.

Both flames had unstable proportions as they danced on her palm, but they seemed equal in power.

"Lucielle, please why are your flames equal? You told us the advantage of chanting, despite taking longer than chantless, is that the Spell is stronger." This time, it was Adonis who asked the question.

Everyone else in the class seemed to have the same question, considering all they had just learned.

However, the moment Lucielle heard this question, she smiled.

~FSHUUUUU~

Her flames died out as she closed off her palm, causing hissing smoke to radiate through the air.

"It's simple. I have another Skill known as [Magic Application]. It aids my casting and damage, so even without casting I can achieve the same results."

Gasps filled the room. All the students were surprised to hear this.

Chanting was a basic principle of Magic, so it was shocking that their teacher had a Skill to bypass it.

"You might not be able to notice it now, but both of my flames were much more powerful than any caster's would ever be if they used the same Spell. That's because of my Grand Mage Class."

Lucielle's Grand Mage Class made all the Magic at her disposal exponentially more powerful than normal, while utilizing the same amount of Mana.

As she explained all of these things, all her students had one single thought.

'She... she's amazing!'

They had already known it before, but this class solidified that truth and expounded upon it.

Both Brutus and Lucielle were absolute monsters in the world of H'Trae.

Fitting to hold the positions they had.

## **Chapter 18: New Plan**

After classes were over for the day, everyone in the Alpha group dispersed from their extravagant classrooms.

For the duration of the training, they were taught the fundamentals of Magic and its necessary components.

A lot of theories were explained too, and more importantly, the students were able to practice what they had been taught.

Everyone was given at least a chance to try casting a Spell while chanting and while not chanting.

As expected, since it was only their first class doing something like that, no one was able to succeed in the chantless casting.

A few, however, could do the chanting casting to an extent.

Adonis, Alicia, and Belle were the highlights of the entire class since they were able to succeed with a basic Fire Spell.

"Females are said to be more adept to using Magic, while males are more specialized in Martial Arts and overall combat." Lucielle explained with a smile.

"Of course, there's no real evidence backing this up and it's considered a stereotype."

However, when considering how Lucielle was the Grand Mage and Brutus was the Head Warrior, it was easy to see why the stereotype remained.

"These basic spells, like [Ignite] are not useful in combat, and are just for letting you properly control your Mana in coordination with your Spells. Once you get the hang of it, you'll be able to use your Skills a lot better."

That was the whole point of the training.

Every individual didn't need to pursue deep Magic in order to get new Skills—not while they were yet to master the ones they already had.

"Your Skills are all amazing and powerful. It's better to focus on getting accustomed to them, and even evolving them, than trying to get new Skills from scratch." Lucielle had explained.

Depending on the Skill, it could take years—if not decades—to acquire them.

Since they had a bunch of powerful Exclusive Skills at their disposal, the most efficient route was learning how to use them.

These words of hers echoed in the mind of a certain student as he walked away from the crowd.

He had his hands in his pockets and his auburn hair danced with the wind as he took his steps.

"Hey, Justin... wanna hang out?"

"Where are you going? We're supposed to go have some fun now!"

"Heyyy!!"

Justin, the boy who was walking away from everyone else, simply waved his hand and smiled.

"I'll catch you guys later. There's something I have to do myself."

His friends shrugged upon hearing that. Justin wasn't the type of guy to ditch fun, and since he was a blabbermouth, he would eventually tell them everything he was up to.

"Fine!"

"Don't take too long, though!"

With those words, they left him to himself as he walked to a corner.

"Haaa... that was stifling." He murmured to himself, looking to his left and right to confirm if he was all alone.

After taking a few more steps into the obscure corner behind the hall, he smiled even more.

"Looks like it's just me."

~GLUPIGLUP!~

His body slowly began to morph as his face and skin changed tone. His hair became black, and his eyes took on a dark brown hue.

He now had a plain, average face. Even his tall build was reduced to an average height.

This person... was no longer Justin.

"To think I actually pulled it off... hehehe!"

It was Rey.

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Rey's plan was simple.

He would take Justin's place by using the [Mimic] Skill he had copied from him.

Justin was known to be a very playful individual, so nothing much would be expected of him in class.

Rey thought it would be the best way to blend in with the rest of the students.

'I used the [Sleep] Skill to make sure he slept in, while also using [Sensory Connection] Skill to ensure the both of us share the same experience while he is sleeping.'

To Justin, it would all be like a dream, but this way he wouldn't be missing out on any information in the class.

'I imagine he'd be surprised to learn that it all happened for real, but we've all had experiences with things we thought were dreams but actually happened.'

Rey was sure Justin would eventually take it all in stride, considering his personality.

'Even if he doesn't, who will believe him? He's a well known comedian.'

With that in mind, Rey smiled.

He had already canceled the [Sensory Connection] Skill, and the [Sleep] Skill would wear out in about thirty minutes.

"To think C-Tier Skills could be this useful!"

Rey only had a handful of lower-Tier Skills, but the more he familiarized himself with the Skills in his possession, the more he learned to appreciate their use.

'And now... there's a new addition!'

Rey opened up his Status Window and tapped on his Doppel Skill.

Once he did this, he was able to see all the Skills he had amassed once again, though they were all in the various categories he had set for them.

[Skill Categories]

~ Attack Category: 27

~ Defense Category: 9

~ Buff Category: 10

~ Miscellaneous: 3

[New Skills: Please Select Their Categories]

~ A-Tier: Grand Magic Mastery

~C-Tier: Magic Application

[End Of Information]

"I only expected to get the Grand Magic Mastery Skill from Lucielle, since she is famed for it, but I never expected to have the Magic Application Skill as well."

Rey was grinning from ear to ear at this point.

'With these two Skills, I won't have to worry about mastery over some problematic Skills, and I should be able to use Chantless Magic.'

In essence, he wouldn't run the risk of falling behind the Alpha Group.

Spending a day in their shoes showed Rey just how much the students of the Beta Group were missing out on.

'We are still trying to improve our physical abilities and get a feel for Mana when the others are already moving towards the more advanced stuff.'

Rey didn't think it was unfair, though.

'The requirements were pretty clear. If a Beta Student had the ability to be an Alpha... they would have already.'

The whole system was designed for the sake of the students themselves.

The strong could not be held back, and the weak couldn't be rushed.

It created a balance where everyone thrived.

'Everyone but me.'

Hiding his abilities had proven useful in many instances, especially with privacy.

He had the opportunity to gather his thoughts without the prying eyes of anyone. He was free from influence and interference—at least, for the most part.

'I now have 51 Skills at my disposal. That's way more than anyone in this Nation has.'

Rey had been reading up on this world, so he knew what he was talking about.

'By having abilities that help in my fundamentals—like Lucielle's Skills—I should be able to grow even faster than ever.'

Everything was flowing smoothly.

Well... almost everything.

'There's still one major problem I haven't been able to get past.'

It was one of the reasons Rey had been going to the library, and he was still unable to fully come up with a working solution.

Now, more than ever, he was desperate.

With the current curriculum being insufficient for him, Rey knew it would be a waste to let his wealth of Skills just marinate.

He had to act—and fast!

'I need to find a place to train.'

### **Chapter 19: Awkward Moment**

"Ehhh? For real? I really asked a question in class today?"

"Yeah! Don't you remember?"

"It feels kind of hazy, to be honest. Almost like a dream..."

Rey walked past a group of students who were talking very loudly.

He recognized them to be Justin and his closest friends, and Rey simply acted like he didn't know them. Likewise, they ignored his presence.

Either that, or they genuinely didn't notice him.

He was just coming back from the library, so Rey made for his room where he planned to figure things out in solitude.

However, before he could reach his room door, he was approached by someone.

"Hey, Rey."

Rey was initially startled to hear someone call his name, but after recognizing the voice, he realized he shouldn't have been surprised.

Bracing himself before turning back to see who called his name, Rey sighed slightly.

'Let's get this over with quickly...'

He turned to see the Hero, Adonis, smiling at him with a pleasant smile on his face.

Behind him were two students whom Rey recognized.

'Billy and Belle, huh? I wonder what they're doing together...'

Of course, he didn't change his expression in the slightest and maintained his dull demeanor.

"A-ah, Adonis. Hello." He responded, raising his hand slightly.

"I heard you weren't feeling too well today." Adonis drew closer to Rey, grabbing his hand softly.

'What the heck?! This guy—!'

Rey controlled his expression, but it felt weird having someone caressing his hand.

"How are you feeling now?"

"Fine! I'm fine now, thank you!" Right now, Rey just wanted Adonis to let go of his hand.

Their little conversation was drawing some attention, and he didn't like it at all.

"Is that so? That's a relief, then."

Once more, Adonis gave a warm smile—enough to warm the heart of anyone.

However, Rey wasn't buying it.

'He does this for everyone. There's no need to make it a big deal.'

After Adonis asked Rey a few more questions, he finally let go of his hand, and the latter was so relieved that he unintentionally leaked out a sigh.

"Well, I suppose I'll see you later, Rey." Adonis beamed a smile at him.

"Yeah... likewise." Rey returned his smile with a slightly uncomfortable one.

For a moment, there was silence between them, so Rey decided to take the initiative to leave them to their business.

It wasn't like he had all day too.

"Welp, bye the—!"

"Wait! Won't you even speak to your friend, Bill? Weren't you guys very close back in school?"

The moment Adonis said that, the pretense Rey had put up for so long nearly shattered. He turned to Adonis with a glare, opening his lips to address the matter instantly.

"You're mistaken, Adonis. I don't think we were ever friends."

Rey shifted his gaze to Billy, and he noticed that the boy was trying to speak to him.

"Don't bother. I really don't care anymore." Rey whispered in a sigh.

He already knew that the only reason Billy would try to talk to him was due to Adonis' influence.

He had an image to maintain to Adonis, and he would do anything to keep it up.

'There's no need to bother with this. It'll all blow over soon enough.'

"I'm really not feeling too well. I should get some rest." Rey shuddered slightly, reaching out to the knob of his door.

"Really? You said you were already fine, though."

The one who spoke this time was Belle, the last person in the trio.

She was a blond girl who was known by everyone in class to be the cutest thing. She was short, but surprisingly had a very busty appearance.

Many guys in class had dirty thoughts just looking at her, and Rey was no exception.

At least, until more important things began to occupy his mind.

'I didn't think she was paying attention to our conversation. Damn it!'

Her inquisitive smile, and the way she tilted her head so cutely, made her seem like a doll.

But Rey wasn't going to fall for anything of the sort.

"It seems I haven't fully recovered yet." He slowly began to tilt his doorknob.

'Hopefully they catch the hint.'

"We understand. You should get some rest. I guess I'll see you in training tomorrow?" Adonis responded with his usual jovial smile.

Rey nearly felt like rolling his eyes.

'I knew this was what everything was all about. You just want to make sure I keep attending training.'

Adonis cared about the class as a collective and sought to have order. That meant ensuring the individual students were alright.

To Adonis, Rey was nothing more than a cog in a machine.

Sure, he was important.

But so were the twenty-eight other students.

"I'll make sure of that." Rey gave one more forced smile before finally retreating to his room.

'It's not like we're going to see each other in training anyway. Not while we're in different groups.'

Adonis' friendliness might have been appreciated by other students, but it had the opposite effect on Rey.

'At this point, I just want to be left alone.'

Was that too much to ask for?

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Once Rey freshened up and lay on his bed, he began to go over his thoughts a bit more clearly.

'Out of the Skills I have at my disposal, I haven't had the opportunity of testing out most of them.'

This was for two major reasons.

'One is the Mana Usage. Most of my Skills require a decent amount of Mana, so I can only use a few sparingly.'

The only reason he could use Skills at all was due to certain Skills that didn't require Mana or the Skills that boosted his Mana Level.

In essence, the Buff Category.

'The second reason is currently the most problematic one...'

And that was simply the fact that most of these Skills were conspicuous.

'I need absolute privacy if I am to be able to practice my Skills without restriction.'

A place away from Adonis and the rest of his classmates. A place far from the prying eyes of their guardians.



'My personal space where I can do whatever I want.'

A place like that wouldn't come to him very easily, but Rey thought he had found somewhere that came close to fulfilling his needs.

'The Royal Dungeon.'

## **Chapter 20: Leaving The Royal Estate**

The Royal Dungeon.

It was one of the 9 Great Dungeons, popularly known by many as a property of the United Human Alliance.

The 9 Great Dungeons were spread out throughout the four Continents, and out of all of them, the Royal Dungeon was the only one remotely close to proper civilization.

No one in their right mind would build a city so close to a Dungeon, considering the dangers associated with it.

However, the Royal Dungeon was an exception.

It was sealed from the outside by a special seal, preventing anything within from escaping.

The difficulty of the Royal Dungeon was also considered to be one of the lowest.

The upper floors had weak to no monsters at all, and the lower one got in exploring the Dungeon, the higher the chances of encountering more powerful creatures.

Since Monsters were the major thing that Dungeons were known for, unenlightened people were likely to write off the Royal Dungeon.

However, it was good for one more reason.

The Minerals!

The Royal Dungeon was very rich in minerals and materials. The Mana Particles that filled the place coalesced to form Mana Crystals and other precious minerals that the Nation coveted.

As a result, the Royal Dungeon was a treasure that was well-coveted.

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'I'm going to check it out today!' Rey told himself with clenched fists of determination.

This was currently his fifteenth day in this world, and he had gotten immensely sick of the training regiment his Beta Group were subjected to.

Of course, the requirements had already gotten higher, and the training had become more rigorous, but he had never been so bored in all his life.

'I've been putting it off for too long because of my preparations, but I think I'm finally ready.'

Rey purposed within himself to check the place out after class.

'While everyone is returning to their rooms, I'll go to the Dungeon.'

"Faster! You can do it! Faster push-ups!" A voice suddenly pierced his ears, and he realized he was still in the second of 100 pushups.

He could see a bunch of people around him giving out, so Rey also pretended to be exhausted.

His arms became all wobbly, and he began to make heavy breaths.

"Huff... huff..."

He forced sweat to drip from his body as he nearly rolled his eyes and continued his push-ups.

'When will this end?'

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[Hours Later]

Training was finally done for the day, so the Otherworlders returned to their rooms.

While everyone did this, Rey activated his [Stealth] Skill and managed to escape any eye that could be looking at him.

'I doubt anyone would be paying attention to me, though.'

Once he broke away from his classmates, he made his way to the Royal Dungeon.

'The Dungeon isn't in the Palace Estate, but instead at a different site at the other end of the Royal Capital.' Rey thought as he took his measured steps.

He could only wonder why they built it so far away from the Palace.

A few thoughts came to mind.

'In the case of an accident or outbreak of monsters, I suppose the Royal Council will be safe.'

The monsters would first have to traverse so many people before reaching the higher-ups.

'Then there's also the issue of mining and production.'

He had learned all about the value of Dungeons—the Royal Dungeon especially—when it came to Mineral Resources.

Mining was a messy job, and such an intensive and rough work wasn't befitting of the Palace.

It was like building a factory close to the White House, or something like that.

'The Royal Dungeon is in its own vast compound, surrounded by all the facilities used to purify and refine the minerals.'

That meant it was going to be guarded, of course.

However, Rey had the best idea on how to infiltrate the place.

'This should be fun!'

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Leaving the Royal Estate was easier than Rey imagined.

He had always looked upon the walls with a sense of dread upon first arriving here. He wondered what things would look like beyond the walls, and now he could find out.

By simply using Justin's [Mimic] Skill to turn into a bird, and the [Flight] Skill to properly adjust himself to the rigors of flying for the first time, he quickly got the hang of things.

He couldn't maintain [Stealth] any longer, but there was no need for him to.

Now that he was a bird, hardly anyone paid him any mind, and he was able to fly above and beyond the walls.

Finally, he was free!

'This... this is...!' Bird Rey widened his eyes as he looked at the world beneath him.

The Royal Capital stretched on for a few miles, and it was surrounded by tall walls.

The walls didn't seem as luxurious as that of the Royal Estate, but they were so far, so Rey couldn't tell very well.

As for the buildings he laid eyes on, they were just as he expected them to be.

Even if he had never been out before, he had spent time reading surveys and a bunch of other materials that involved descriptions and even sketches of the Royal Capital.

He even managed to get his hands on a map of the entire city.

He did this to be able to properly understand the terrain, so he wouldn't mess up in any aspect of his plans.

'Real life is different from sketches or recordings through Magic. It still has some details I missed from the recording.' Rey thought to himself as he flew.

The people, for one, were far more than he accounted for.

'It's daytime, so I expected to see a bunch of people. But not to this extent.'

The Royal Capital was crowded—at least, the places that Rey could see.

'Just how will the rest of the cities be?'

If the most prestigious city had such an influx of people, Rey didn't want to begin imagining how the slums would look like.

Of course, he already knew some data about what to expect.

'Humanity wasn't always united in H'Trae. After the Dragons destroyed some of their territory, and monsters occupied other areas, they banded together.'

As a result, the new Nation had to occupy every citizen of the nations under the Alliance's banner.

With limited territory and so many denizens of the United Human Alliance, Rey could see a bunch of problems arising.

'The nation is currently facing an Economic Crisis.'

That was one of the reasons they summoned Rey and his classmates.

'If the current situation persists for a few more years, the entire Alliance will collapse.'

He had studied the numbers, and based on the knowledge of his previous world, he knew full well how important a State's economy was to its continued existence.

It was difficult to see how a bunch of teenagers from another world could even solve a problem as complicated as this.

However, Rey knew why they were here.

'All of these problems are complex, but they all stem from a single issue.'

The Dragons!

'If we eliminate them, then there will be more resources to exploit.'

More land. More Minerals. More power.

In the end, the destruction of the world's enemies was necessary for the greater goal of economic stability.

'Look at me overthinking. When did I become such a scholar?' Rey mused within himself as he looked ahead.

'Looks like I'm almost there.'

It had taken him a while to get a hang of a bird's eyesight and coordination, but the [Flight] Skill really helped him out in more ways than one.

Since this was a medieval world, tall buildings were a rarity—even in the capital.

As a result, Rey was able to fly without too many restrictions.

By flying above all the buildings and charging straight for the Royal Dungeon—which existed at the very edge of the city—he was able to arrive relatively earlier than he expected.

'Alright! I've crossed the first hurdle.' He smiled with his beak curled upwards.

'Time for the second phase.'