

GODS' IMPACT 241

Chapter 241: Rock. Paper. Scissors!

When Victoria was waiting for Zach to arrive, she was thinking of many things she wanted to do with him.

"First, I will hug him tightly and squeeze his body. The..." Victoria placed her hand on her lips and muttered with a flushed face: "Maybe... a kiss too?"

'The last time I kissed him was when we cleared the 100th floor. It has been a week since then and many things have happened.'

SIGH!

'The incident with Aurora broke Zach's soul. But it's honestly amazing that she is okay now. I can't imagine what would have happened if something serious had happened to her.'

"Victoria!" someone called out to her.

Victoria threw all the thoughts aside and turned around with a smile on his face to see Zach running towards her. But her face twitched when she saw Aria behind him.

'Why is she here?!' Victoria yelled inwardly after seeing Aria.

Zach stopped in front of Victoria and said, "I have come to pick you up."

Victoria looked past Zach's shoulders and glared at Aria without saying anything. And as expected, Aria glared back at her.

Zach glanced back and forth at Aria and Victoria and said, "Can you two stop glaring at each other and save it for another time?"

Victoria hugged Zach's arm and said, "I am hungry. Let's go to a restaurant."

Aria hugged Zach's other arm and said, "I am hungry too."

Zach took Aria and Victoria to a nearby restaurant that also happened to be his favorite restaurant in the entire first realm.

Upon entering the restaurant, he was greeted by the NPCs. However, as soon as they noticed it was Zach— their God, they immediately stopped what they were doing and focused all the hospitality on Zach.

They even stopped serving the other players, and the NPCs Zach met on his way to the restaurant also followed him to the restaurant.

"What's happening?" Victoria asked with a confused look on her face. "Why is everyone following us?"

"It's a long story."

Zach walked into the store and noticed his favorite table was already occupied. So he decided to sit at the other table. However, the owner of the restaurant asked the players sitting at the table to move to a different table. Then, they wiped the table clean with a cloth and waited for Zach to sit there.

"..."

Even Zach was surprised to see that they cared more for him than their business. But he felt flattered to be treated that way.

'They are boosting his ego. Great.' Aria thought inwardly.

Zach sat at the table, but then the real challenge began.

The seats on the table were only suitable for two people to sit. So both Aria and Victoria knew that either of them had to compromise and sit in front of Zach rather than sitting beside him.

However, neither of them wanted to make that compromise.

Zach knew that they would eventually turn to him and asked him to choose either of them. And he didn't want to do that.

All this time, Zach has been swearing that he would treat all the girls equally in his harem, and if he ever picked one of them for something, the rest would feel betrayed.

Of course, it was something inevitable and there were many things and occasions where Zach would have to make certain choices, and the girls realized that too. But they wanted to be the one getting selected.

And as he had expected, After glaring at each other for a few seconds, Aria and Victoria turned to him and asked in unison, "Zach. Who do you want to sit next to you?"

"...."

Even though Zach had already expected that he hadn't gotten ready for the answer.

How could he select between either of them? He loved both of them equally, and he didn't want to upset another by choosing one of them. However, if Aurora was between the choices, he would have chosen her without any second thoughts.

After pondering for a while, Zach came up with an idea to avoid any drama.

"How about you two play rock paper scissors?" Zach suggested. "The winner gets to sit next to me."

"Wait, that game is the one where you do hand signs, right?" Aria asked with a confused yet curious look on her face.

"Yes. We played it yesterday," Zach nodded in response.

"Heh!" Aria smirked and said with a proud face: "I have mastered that game. No one can win against me."

"Ready then?" Victoria asked.

"Ready."

Aria and Victoria shook their closed fists and said, "Rock, paper, scissors!"

"..."

The results were surprising.

Victoria had chosen paper, and Aria had chosen rock.

"Impossible!" Aria exclaimed. "There is no way I would lose in such an easy game!"

"Hah!" Victoria scoffed out loud and said, "Guess even the goddess can't win against me."

"Wait! It was best of three," Aria stated with a straight face.

"No, it wasn't." Victoria glanced at Zach and asked, "Was it?"

"I... don't remember mentioning it."

"..." - Aria.

"But you know, what? Okay! Let's do best of three," Victoria uttered with a confident look on her face.
"Because I know I will win."

'I have already won once, so now I only need to win one more time and I will get to sit beside Zach!' Victoria declared inwardly.

In the second round, Victoria chose scissors, and Aria chose rock.

"Yes!" Aria rejoiced after winning.

"..."

'Calm down, Victoria. There is no need to freak out. You can still win.' Victoria had already started regretting agreeing to play best of three.

In the third round, Victoria chose paper, and Aria chose rock.

"....!"

"No!"- Aria bellowed.

SIGH!

Victoria sighed in relief and smirked at Aria, who was glaring at her with teary eyes.

"You used a newbie trick— that was to choose rock every time," Victoria asserted.

"It was the best of five!"

"No, it wasn't, you loser! Accept your loss, and let me sit with Zach."

Victoria turned to Zach with a cheerful smile on her face, but her smile vanished when she saw someone else sitting beside Zach.

Chapter 242: Before The Ten Battles

Victoria wanted to sit beside Zach, and for that, she had to fight with Aria and win against her in the game of rock, paper, and scissors.

Fortunately, she won and earned the right to sit beside Zach. However, when Victoria turned to Zach to sit beside them, there was someone else sitting there.

It was a nun with blond curly hair from the bottom. Her face was as white as milk, and her body was developed from the right parts.

"...!" Victoria's face twitched when she saw her because she had recognized the nun.

Of course, the nun was none other than Ninia.

"What are you doing there?!" Victoria shouted. "That's my seat you are sitting on and my man you are sitting with."

Ninia hugged Zach's arm and said, "But I was waiting for him to visit me ever since he ascended."

"I don't care. I have been waiting for him for much longer than you," Victoria remarked.

She grabbed Ninia's hand and tried to pull her, but she wasn't budging.

'She is stronger than I thought!'

Of course, Victoria could easily pull Ninia away if she used her full powers according to her stats.

Even after all that, Ninia didn't let go of Zach's arm.

"Zach! Why are you sitting there like that?! Say something!" Victoria yelled at Zach. "I am supposed to sit there!"

Zach wanted to have some more fun, but he didn't want to tease Victoria more. He knew that she had a short temper, and she would run away if she got furious.

Zach smiled at Ninia and patted her head before saying, "Ninia. Can you sit with the other girl?"

"What do you mean by the other girl, huh?! I am your wife!" Aria remarked.

"Can you sit with my yelling wife?" Zach asked again.

"Okay..." Ninia muttered with a dejected look on her face.

Ninia got up and sat on the opposite seat from Zach, and Aria sat beside her.

Zach then looked at Victoria and said, "My lap is empty, in case you want to sit."

Of course, Zach meant that as a joke to tease Victoria, but Victoria took it seriously.

She sat on Zach's lap and glanced at Aria and Ninia, who were staring at her with dumbfounded looks on their faces.

Even Zach was surprised, but he was happy that Victoria was sitting on his lap.

Soon after that, they ordered the food.

At first, Ninia refused to eat with them and said she was only there to meet Zach, but when Zach insisted on her, she agreed.

"So? What's your story? You said Elliott pulled a cheeky move. What did he do?" Zach asked Victoria.

"First, tell me the reason why we are getting this special treatment and why you are being treated like a celebrity? It's true that you saved all of them, but I don't think that's the sole reason why they would show such hospitality," Victoria stated.

"Long story short..." Zach shrugged his shoulders and said, "I became a god."

"Umm... did you not tell me this before?" Victoria wondered with a puzzled look on her face.

"Yeah, but at that time, I only had the... Uhh... Godship?" Zach turned to Aria and asked, "Is that a word?"

Aria nodded in response and said, "It is."

"Okay. So I was already a god, but now I have become a real god," Zach said to Victoria and made her more confused.

"..."

"In short, I now have followers who worship me daily..."

"What?!" Victoria exclaimed. "You are making them worship you?!"

"I am not—"

"He is not. Please do not accuse my lord of something like that," Ninia quipped and glared at Victoria. "My lord protected us and asked me to get him followers. But I never forced anyone to become his followers. I simply proposed the idea of him being our god, and told them his promises."

After a brief pause, Ninia continued, "The attack last week made all of us realize how weak and hopeless we were. So now, we need to grow stronger with the help of our Lord."

"..."

"We are giving our faith and loyalty to our Lord, and our lord is benefitting us in return," Ninia asserted with a proud face.

"Oh?" Victoria curiously raised her brows and asked, "What did he promise you?"

"He promised us many things, out of which one was that we would be able to evolve and get strong," Ninia replied in a calm voice.

"Did he show you any proof or live demonstration?"

"No. But I believe in my lord, and so do all his followers."

Victoria looked into Zach's eyes and squinted her eyes as though she wanted to say something, but she couldn't say it in front of Ninia.

However, Zach had a pretty firm guess on What Victoria wanted to say.

Do you think you can do that?

Victoria wanted to ask that to Zach because she was anxious whether Zach could really do it or not.

It wasn't as though she didn't believe him, but she was worried about the consequences of what might happen if Zach couldn't do it.

While Victoria may not know everything about Zach, out of all the girls, she knew the most about him. She knew Zach's nasty and arrogant side, and she had dealt with him.

Of course, both Victoria and Zach had changed now, and they realized there were other things than love that mattered in a relationship.

A few minutes later, the food arrived, and they started eating. But Zach was still curious about Victoria.

"So... when are you telling your part of the story?" Zach asked impatiently.

SIGH!

Victoria sighed and uttered, "Elliott wasn't letting me go."

"..."

"He started saying mean things and in the end, he started bad-mouthing about you too. He even denied my resignation letter," she added.

"But didn't he already sign it? How can he deny it after signing it?"

"He only signed it, he didn't stamp the seal on the letter. And thus, it was in waiting," Victoria sighed.

"What did you do then?"

Victoria shrugged her shoulders and said, "I ran away."

Chapter 243: Challenging The Ten Battles

"You ran away...?" Zach uttered what he just heard from Victoria's mouth.

"Yeah." Victoria nodded and said, "I got in the carriage and came here."

"But you told me 'I am finally free'..."

"I am, But I am not."

"Can you explain it in simple words without trying to make it complicated?" Zach sighed and uttered, "But scratch that. I want to know if you are still in the guild or not?"

"Technically no, but on paper yes," Victoria responded.

"Great." Zach facepalmed himself and muttered, "You are not trying to make it less complicated, I see."

"There are two types of rules for the guilds. One is the rules that the guild makes, and another is the rules that the game makes."

"Okay, now I understand a little better."

"The game already has rules that allow the player to make their own decision about joining and leaving the party or guild. For instance, there could be a guild forcing players to join them, but not allowing them to leave. But upon filing a resignation letter, the players have a chance to leave the guild," Victoria explained in simple words.

"Now I get it." Zach nodded as Victoria explained to him her situation.

"I think the game.... Or gods knew such things could happen, and thus they had a universal rule that applied to all the guilds including the top or the lowest, that the players can leave the guild whenever they want once they have filled the resignation letter— regardless of whether it was accepted by the guild master or not."

After a brief pause, Victoria continued, "But the limit for that was seven days. And today is the seventh day of me filing the resignation letter. So even if Elliott pulled his move, he can't actually stop me from leaving the guild."

"But you are still in the guild, yes?" Zach asked to confirm.

"Yes."

"So... how do you leave it? I don't want you in the guild."

"I am not sure, to be honest, since this is my first time happening..."

"I know how to do that!" a voice rang in the restaurant.

"...?"

Everyone's gazes turned to the door to see Elliott and a few other guild members standing at the doorway.

Zach frowned his face upon seeing Elliott, but he kept his cool. He knew that Elliott was worse than a con artist, so there was no meaning in getting provoked.

Elliott looked at Victoria and said, "I knew you would be here."

"Why are you here?! And how did you even know I was here?" Victoria asked with a surprised look on her face.

"My guild is famous, and there are many who want to recruit. Just like me, they believe that my guild would one day become the strongest guild in this game. However, I can just allow everyone to join the guild, so unless they do something that could benefit me and the guild, they won't be recruited."

Elliott snickered and said, "Someone saw you walking with that narcissist piece of shit and informed me. So I came as soon as I could to save you."

"What do you mean by 'save me'?! You are the danger!" Victoria said out loud with nothing to worry about.

Zach was just by her side, and that alone was her strongest source of confidence.

"Victoria, I have come to take you back. Let's go back to our guild and become number one together." Elliott then turned to Zach and uttered, "Leave this asshole behind."

"..."

"Did you forget how much he has hurt you? People don't change so easily, and he is just trying to use you. It's still not too late to come back," Elliott uttered in a calm voice.

"Jokes on you! I am into that shit!" Victoria kissed Zach on the lips and glanced at Elliott from the corner of her eyes as she inserted her tongue in Zach's mouth.

After a few kisses, Victoria smirked at Elliott and said, "I like the way he is, and I don't care what he wants to do with me. You are not even 1% of a man compared to he is."

Elliott's face twitched after seeing and hearing that. He glared at Zach and Victoria and said, "You slutty bitch! You whore! I was ready to accept you even though you are a slut, and yet you choose this piece of shit over me?!"

"..."

"You—!"

Elliott finally realized that he was surrounded by the NPCs, who were glaring at him and the guild members.

"What do you want?! Fuck off!" Elliott yelled at them.

"You insulted our Lord, and for that, you must not go unpunished," the owner of the restaurant uttered.

"What are you—!"

CLAP~ CLAP!

Zach clapped his hands to get everyone's attention, and then said, "Calm down, guys, I appreciate your loyalty, but I will deal with this personally."

Zach kissed Victoria on the lips and got up from his seat. Then, he stretched his hands in the air and yawned loudly to show Elliott that he was worried or scared at all.

Zach walked to Elliott and stood in front of him.

"..."

He glared into Elliott's eyes and uttered, "The last time someone called my wife 'bitch', he was hanged to a thousand needles. And you called Victoria by many words."

Zach cracked his fists and wondered, "What shall I do with you?"

Elliott stepped back and hid behind the guild members.

"Do you think hiding will save you?" Zach scoffed out loud and said, "No matter what you hide a shit, it will always smell shit. So it doesn't matter if you bring one thousand members with you to save yourself, or you hide in your majestic flying guild castle; I will come to hunt you down."

"You cannot kill me!" Elliott retorted. "If you kill the guild master, the vice-captain would naturally become the next guild master. So if you kill me, Victoria would become the guild master, and then she would never be able to leave the guild!"

"...."

"If you truly want to free Victoria from her duty, then you must fight the ten strongest guild members, and win all the battles!"

Chapter 244: Commencing The Ten Battles

'Fight 10 members?' Zach uttered inwardly. 'I can just reject, but that wouldn't change anything. I want to free Victoria from the guild.'

As long as Victoria was still part of the guild, she couldn't join Zach's party. She could live and travel with him, but she couldn't ascend together with him.

There were also many duties of the vice-captain, and she had to do them as long as she was in the guild.

That's why, Zach wanted to free her.

Still, there was a high chance that Elliott was lying about freeing Victoria. He could go back on his words at any time.

However, Elliot said that in front of all the NPCs, players, and his guild members. And he couldn't back out from his words when there were so many to witness his words.

Zach looked at the guild members, and he recognized a few of them from the dungeon expedition and the demon invasion.

They all avoided eye contact with Zach because they had first-hand experience of Zach's powers. They didn't want to mess with Zach, nor did they want Zach to think that they were with Elliott.

Sure, they came together with Elliott, but they had no choice but to follow the order of the guild master.

Zach agreed to fight ten battles to free Victoria from the guild.

"Let's go to the garden," Zach asserted in a solemn voice.

Everyone, including the NPCs, players, and the guild members, went to the garden.

The NPCs left their shops and work to accompany their Lord— Zach. While the players went there for fun and to pass the time. And the guild members had no choice but to go with them.

After reaching the garden, Elliott selected 10 of his best and the strongest members to fight against Zach, and he threatened them that if they didn't win, they would be demoted in ranks.

Meanwhile, Aria, Victoria, Ninia, and the rest of the NPCs had gathered around Zach.

"Be careful, my Lord. That man is a bad omen. You shouldn't interact with him," one of the NPCs said.

"Don't worry about it," Zach chuckled and said, "If he is a bad omen, then I am the worst omen."

The NPCs had faith in Zach, and they believed that he was the strongest, and he would win against any and everyone.

However, it was different for his girls.

Aria wasn't worried about Zach, but she was angry at Zach as Elliott not only insulted Victoria, but he insulted Zach too.

"Let me go fight him instead, and I will bring you his head!" Aria said with her voice full of anger.

"Zach." Victoria nudged Zach to get his attention and said, "Let me be the one to fight. You are doing this for me, while I should be responsible for myself."

Zach licked his lips and said, "That kiss in the restaurant was amazing."

"What are you—"

Before Victoria could speak one more word, Zach shut her up with a kiss.

Normally, Victoria would have pushed him away, especially if it was in the public. But she no longer cared about anything.

After the dungeon expedition, Victoria spent a week without Zach, thinking about him all the time. She realized that the more distance she would make between Zach and her, the more she would be hurting herself.

She wanted to kiss Zach and do many more things, but her 'morals' and 'ideals' were getting in the way of her love. Furthermore, she had to fight them with her feelings, and win to be finally able to throw aside her ideals and morals.

Without them, she was like a normal girl with pride and ego, who wanted to be with Zach and compete with other girls.

One of Victoria's main motivations was Aria, who was in the same boat as her until not long ago— when Aria finally decided to accept her feelings and confess her love to Zach.

Aria and Victoria had spent a week together in a dungeon expedition, and they had become good friends. But she still didn't know many things about Aurora, who was her main rival.

If Victoria wanted to compete against Aurora, she first had to enter the competition— that was to be on the same relationship level as the other girls.

After the kiss, Victoria stared into Zach's eyes and said, "I love you."

"I know that."

"Let's..." Victoria averted her gaze for a second because of embarrassment, but she made eye contact with Zach again and said, "Let's... do it... once we ascend."

"...!"

Victoria's words had become Zach's main motivation and made him happy, but only if he hadn't caught Aria glaring at him.

Zach nodded at Victoria and Aria and uttered, "We will talk about this later."

Zach turned around and looked at the other group of guild members.

"Umm..." Ninia pulled Zach's sleeve and bit her lips with an anxious look on her face.

She wanted to say something to Zach like everyone else did, but the words she wanted to say were already spoken by others.

Zach chuckled with a smile on his face and patted Ninia's head. "Don't worry. I will be alright."

"Umm... I will also give you something once you return..." Ninia uttered in a low voice with a flushed face.

"..."

Zach wanted to ask for details, but two dangerous entities were glaring at him, so he had no choice but to stay silent.

"I will be back before you start to miss me," Zach scoffed out loud as he walked out of the group and made his way to the center of the garden.

Ninia watched Zach with an alluring gaze and started praying for Zach's safety.

She was praying to Zach for his own safety.

Victoria and Aria glanced at each other from the corner of their eyes and nodded.

"Is this what I think it is?" Victoria asked Aria in a low voice.

"I think so, too. But I am not sure. It could just be her faith and loyalty to him as his first follower," Aria responded with a whisper.

The ten strongest guild members of Risen warrior stepped forward and stood in front of Zach to challenge him.

Zach cracked his fingers with his thumb and muttered, "My hands were itching for some action anyway."

Chapter 245 The Top Ten

Ten strongest guild members of the Risen warrior guild stood before Zach.

Zach looked at them one by one and read their name and level.

The first one was 'Gildarts', but Zach wasn't sure whether it was a real name or nickname. He was level 71

The second was 'Ishajreon', and Zach couldn't even pronounce it in his head. He was level 95.

The third was 'Jeremy', and Zach was certain it was his real name rather than a nickname. He was level 69.

The fourth was 'Razeir', and he was level 85.

The fifth was 'Gramir', and she was level 77.

The sixth was 'Kevin', and he was level 80.

The seventh was 'Evonik', and he was level 82.

The eighth was 'Crazy Bitch', and she was level 88.

The ninth was 'Thomas' Chick', and she was level 86.

The tenth was 'Kira', and she was level 99.

Zach sighed in relief after looking at them all, because he didn't recognize any of them. However, Elliott did that on purpose because he didn't want to send them to fight Zach since they had already witnessed Zach's true strength. So if he had sent them, they would have surrendered as soon as the match started.

While it may be strange for Zach, he had spent over a week with the guild members of Risen Warriors during the dungeon expedition, and they all had worked hard to survive.

Zach thought the rest of them would be petrified and undergo trauma after experiencing the tragedy on the 75th floor, but most of them had already recovered.

'Well, it's also a bad thing that I am seeing them for the first time,' Zach uttered inwardly. 'I don't even know what classes they belong to!'

'Some of them are higher level than me, but that doesn't mean they would be stronger. However, there are chances that they have got some OP skill, or maybe even one of the gods' blessings.'

'Players have already started worshiping the gods to gain favor. I don't know what they could ask as a favor, but naturally speaking; any sane person would obviously wish to get stronger.'

Everyone had their own fighting styles that differed from another, and it was safe for Zach to assume that the 10 top guild members would be worthy of being the top ten.

Elliott called a flying carrier that was specially made for the guild master.

He got on it and flew it a few meters above the ground so that he could watch the battle without any interruption or anyone blocking their way. He also felt a sense of superiority by being above everyone else.

"You can start any time now!" Elliott said out loud while sitting in a haughty position in the carrier.

He also had a few guards on the carrier to take care of him. Two girls were massaging his shoulders and hands. While the other two were massaging his legs. Two more girls were sitting on his lap and feeding him fruits and drinks.

He was showing everyone how luxurious his life was.

Gildarts stepped forward and requested to start the duel.

A screen appeared in front of Zach that said:

[Gildarts has invited you for a duel! Press 'Yes' to accept and press 'No' to reject.]

"I don't have time to fight you one by one!" Zach beckoned everyone and uttered, "All of you, come at me at once."

"It's called duel for a reason, you dumbass!" Elliott commented from his flying carrier. "You have to fight them one by one!"

"Argh!" Zach groaned in frustration and accepted Gildarts' invitation.

'I don't have my gloves right now, so I can summon weapons. I can fight without using any weapons since that would give me +500 ATK because of my skill. However, I can't use martial arts on the players who use ranged attacks.'

'I will decide what weapon I would use after seeing what classes my opponents belong to. But I will have to do it within ten seconds once the duel starts, or I will be unable to equip weapons after that.'

Zach narrowed down the possibilities of the classes of his opponents.

'There is no way any of these ten players have healer class. Elliott is stupid, but he is not stupid to send a player with healer class in a duel.'

Gildarts took out his sword and said, "Let's fight fair and square. Take out your weapon."

Zach scoffed and uttered, "The battle would become unfair the moment I decide to get serious. So spare me your 'nobility' and let's start this duel already."

"Fine by me."

Gildarts' sword suddenly turned color and became red.

"..." Zach raised his brows in amusement and wondered, 'Sword magic?'

Zach wanted to use a weapon since sword magic wasn't something he could scoff at. However, he was low on MP since he was coming back directly after clearing the dungeon of the higher realm.

He cultivated some MP passively while spending his time with Aria and Aurora, but it wasn't much.

Zach still had to fight the rest 9 players, so he was saving up his ace cards for the last and trying to fight without tiring himself.

Gildarts dashed at Zach while aiming the tip of the sword at Zach's neck. It was as though he was trying to kill Zach.

According to the rules of the game, killing other players in duels wouldn't give a red name tag to the player, and there was no penalty such as negative karma.

However, one could always retreat in the middle of the battle once the player's HP decreased to less than 5 percent.

Zach easily dodged all the Gildarts attacks, but there was something wrong.

Normally, one would get tired and slow down after moving and running around in the ring, but Gildarts was becoming faster for some reason.

The red fire covered Gildarts' sword and its shape became bigger.

"I told you to take your weapon out," Gildart smirked at Zach and dashed at him while swinging the sword like a professional.

A few seconds into the battle and it had already ended.

Chapter 246 Top Tier Skill User

As soon as Gildarts dashed at Zach with his fire-sword, Zach dashed at him with double the speed compared to him and kicked him in the nuts.

"...!"

Gildarts dropped his sword and yelled in pain.

"Aargh!"

Everyone looked with a baffled expression on their faces as Gildarts fell to the ground while grabbing his nuts.

Zach stood in front of Gildarts and raised his leg. Seemingly, trying to kick him again. But Gildarts started crying while grunting in pain.

"I surrender!" Gildarts bellowed while trying to crawl out of the ring.

Zach could have let Gildarts go after that, but since he had tried to kill Zach, Zach thought it would be fair for him to accept his surrender.

Zach once again kicked Gildarts in his nuts and said, "I accept your surrender."

"Aargh!" Gildarts screamed.

Zach felt good, so he kicked him for the last time and threw him out of the ring.

Then, Zach cracked his neck and stretched his hands in the air. Seemingly, he was trying to intimate other opponents by showing them that he was simply warming up and hadn't gone serious.

"Next!" Elliott yelled with a furious look on his face.

Ishajreon walked into the ring and invited Zach for the duel.

Zach immediately accepted the duel and got himself ready to equip weapons before the 10-second limit ended.

He waited for the first five seconds for Ishajreon to take out his weapon, but he didn't.

"..." Zach raised his brows and thought, 'What is he planning? If he doesn't take out any weapon, then we both have to fight unarmed.'

Ten seconds passed, but neither of them took out their weapon.

'I highly doubt that this player knows any closed ranged combat style. Not trying to be a stereotype, but nowadays, no one cares about learning anything. Everything is automated with the help of A.I, robots, and alien technology.'

'So this guy has to be a ranged attack user. But he didn't take out any weapon that could be used by the ranger class. So the only possibility is that this guy is a mage.'

'But if that's the case, then what's his primary class?' Zach thought.

Zach had to inspect every opponent he had to fight because that was the first step to take in a duel.

Knowing an opponent could give out many clues regarding opponents fighting styles and attacks, and Zach was trying to exploit them all.

'The other primary classes are swordsman, ranger, and bandit. He didn't equip any weapon, so he can't be the first two. But he may be a bandit, and he has a skill that hides his weapon. Or maybe a hidden blade or something?'

Ishajreon had researched quite well on Zach, and he had already prepared for the possible counterattacks. He was sure that he would win as long as he didn't reveal anything and kept Zach curious to divert his concentration from the duel.

'He must have figured out my classes by now, but he is wrong. My second class is indeed a mage, but my primary class is not a bandit; it's a swordsman. I will let him think that it's a bandit, so he would anticipate a surprise attack from me, only to get killed by my class mage skill— Mana Zone!'

'Something is wrong...' Zach uttered inwardly. 'Why was this so easy to guess? Have I suddenly become smarter? No, I was already the smartest.'

'Could that be that these players are just dumb? That could be possible, but if they Manage to surprise and level up quite nicely, I don't think they would be that dumb. In other words, something is wrong, but I don't know what.'

Ishajreon smirked inwardly and thought, 'Yes! Yes! Worry more, Zach. I have got you right under my palm!'

Ishajreon took the opportunity and activated his skill— Mana zone— that created a small domain within a three-meter range.

Then, he activated the second phase of the skill that covered the domain with magic.

'This skill cost me a lot of MP, so I can only use it once! But I will need to use it once because I have already won!'

"Hehe! The outcome of this battle was already decided the moment I used this skill. Now, even if you surrender, I am not going to stop! Or rather, I can't stop even if I want to, because this skill can't be stopped once it has been used!"

"..."

Ishajreon couldn't stop smirking, but his smirk vanished when he heard Zach's scoff.

Ishajreon had truly cornered Zach, and the skill was a top-tier skill that could easily kill an average player.

It could have hurt Zach severely, but it wouldn't have killed him. Still, if it wasn't for Ishajreon's bad luck.

A Witcher, later mage, and then Warlock; they could use a variety of elements using magic that cost them MP.

In the Mana zone skill, Ishajreon could have used any element, but he decided to use water.

SIGH!

Zach sighed after seeing the domain getting covered in water.

Ishajreon had collected all the information he could— about Zach— from the guild members who were in the dungeon expedition and witnessed Zach's prowess.

However, there was no one to accompany him on the 100th floor except Aria, Victoria, and one guild member who went with them to commit suicide. And because of that, no one had seen Zach use his Sea's blessing which later changed to Sea's Wrath after it recognized Zach as a Sea God.

Zach waited until enough water had filled in the domain, then, he smirked at Ishajreon and uttered, "You were saying something?"

Ishajreon started sweating as he couldn't fathom the reason behind Zach's smirk.

'Why is he not afraid?' he panicked. 'Does he think he can escape my Mana zone skill?!'

Ishajreon's face turned pale when he realized his Mana Zone skill was no longer responding to him.

Zach had taken control over the domain using Sea's Wrath.

Chapter 247 Next!

"...!"

Ishajreon couldn't stop panicking after realizing his top-tier skill wasn't responding to him. That was when he realized why Zach had a smug and confident look on his face.

'Impossible! That's cheating! This guy is clearly cheating!' Ishajreon thought to himself.

'Now that I think about it, the NPCs were acting suspiciously around him. This game is created by gods, and the NPCs in this game can be considered humans. So if they are treating Zach as someone important to him, he has to be one of the gods!'

Ishajreon had lost his mind, but his assumption was half-correct.

'How is that a fair fight?! He is a cheater!'

Ishajreon forgot how he tried to fool Zach into predicting wrong about his class, and how he tried to kill him using the top-tier skill.

Zach and Ishajreon had the intelligence on the same level, the only difference was in their mentality.

Ishajreon was ready to kill, but he wasn't ready to die.

Once Zach had taken control over the Mana Zone domain that was nothing but water, he forced and pulled all the water to the center.

It created a huge water bubble and Zach trapped Ishajreon inside it.

"Taste your own medicine, bitch!" Zach scoffed out loud.

Of course, getting trapped in the water wasn't something that could kill a player if it was only for a few seconds. But not only was Zach killing the Ishajreon trapped under the water bubble, but he was also increasing the pressure inside it.

Hence, the size of the water bubble was slowly getting smaller as the pressure increased. The pressure eventually started crushing Ishajreon's body.

Naturally, he opened his mouth to scream, and Zach got the opportunity he was waiting for. He started filling Ishajreon's body with the water and controlled it.

Sure, he could have used his nose, but that could have made Ishajreon aware of Zach's plan.

After fighting with Ishajreon, which didn't start, Zach had realized that Ishajreon was more of a brain guy. So Zach did what Ishajreon would want Zach to do. He fooled Ishajreon into thinking that he fooled Zach, while in truth, he was getting played by Zach all along.

Of course, Zach didn't realize it immediately, but After seeing Ishhajreon acting confident, Zach knew something was wrong. And it didn't take him much time to figure out what Ishajreon was aiming for.

Still, Zach didn't know what Ishajreon's top-tier skill, Mana Zone could do, and he had no choice but to wait.

Luckily for Zach, Ishajreon used a water element.

Ishajreon's health rapidly started decreasing as time passed.

The tension in the atmosphere around the ring was eerie. And no one could take their eyes off the battle.

Zach was dealing with a level 95 player without even doing anything as though it was a piece of cake.

'What should I do with him? At this rate, he will die. But I am sure he was trying to kill me too.'

Zach pondered for a while and thought, 'I can just kill him, to be honest. And since this is an official duel, I won't get the red name tag.'

Zach stopped applying pressure to the water once Ishajreon's HP hit 69. Then, he launched the water bubble— with Ishajreon still inside it— at Elliott, who was in his flying carrier.

"I leave this to his luck. His HP is low, so he might die after hitting the carrier, or perhaps he would survive if he got lucky."

In either case, Zach had won the second duel too. It was a battle against top-tier skill versus top-tier skill, and Zach won.

The water bubble hit the carrier and Ishajreon's body dropped on Elliott's lap where two girls were sitting.

However, it rolled down from Elliott's lap and then fell from the carrier before hitting the ground with a splat.

'Oh, he died...'

Zach expected Elliott and the guild members to be shaken up by that, but much to his surprise, the third opponent— Jeremy, walked into the ring and invited Zach for a duel.

"..."

Even Zach felt pity for Ishajreon since no one cared even though he died fighting for Elliott's selfish reason.

SIGH!

Zach accepted the invitation of the duel and immediately dashed at Jeremy, only to punch him in the face as hard as he could.

Zach felt his fist breaking the skull, and he heard the sound of bones breaking as Jeremy's body was sent flying a few hundred meters away from the ring.

The duel ended before it could even begin.

"Next!" Zach called out to the next opponent.

Razeir stepped into the ring and invited Zach for the duel. However, he already had his weapon equipped in his hands, since he didn't want to meet the same fate as Jeremy.

Zach also equipped a weapon, and it was the cursed dagger.

Once the battle started, Zach dashed at Razeir and grazed him with the dagger.

Razeir scoffed after seeing Zach's attack only depleted 10 HP. He thought he had dodged Zach's attack and managed to survive, while Zach was simply playing around.

Razeir stood at his spot and prepared himself for Zach's attack.

'I won't charge at him. I will let him charge at me, and wait for the perfect opportunity to dodge and attack him!' Razeir decided.

Razeir waited and waited until he noticed his HP had been constantly decreasing. He realized that Zach wasn't going to attack him, ever again. And that he would die without even getting a chance to shine.

'I will die at this rate! But if I kill him, this effect will stop, and I will survive!'

Out of desperation, Razeir dashed at Zach, thinking he would be able to save himself. But his HP hit zero (0) and he died before he could even reach Zach as his body dropped to the ground.

"Next!" Zach yelled impatiently.

Now, the rest of the opponents were afraid for their turn.

None of them wanted to fight against Zach, but they had no other choice. If they didn't fight, Elliott would kick them out of the guild, and if they fought, they would die.

Smart ones made the smart choices, while the fools remained the same.

Chapter 248 Eye For An Eye

Gramir reluctantly stepped into the ring and invited Zach for a duel.

It was Zach's first time fighting against a girl after fighting with Aria in her domain.

However, it wasn't as if Zach was planning to go easy on her just because Gramir was a girl.

Obviously, Zach didn't like killing anyone, especially the innocents.

First, Gildarts had tried to kill Zach, but Zach spared him after kicking him three times in the nuts.

Second, Ishajreon tried to kill Zach using the Mana Zone, so Zach left his life hanging on a thread, and fate willed him dead.

Third, it was Jeremy, who didn't do anything, but he was sent flying a hundred meters away by Zach.

Zach wasn't sure if he had died, but the duel ended.

Fourth, it was Razeir, who died because of his foolishness. If only he had surrendered instead of charging himself at Zach, the duel would have ended and the dagger's effect would have stopped.

In short, Zach killed those who tried to kill him.

Now, it was Gramir's turn. She could fight Zach fair and square and surrender once her HP had hit low. But then Elliott would kick her out of the guild.

However, Gramir did something unexpected.

As soon as the battle started, Gramir raised her hand and said, "I surrender!"

"...!"

Of course, the player could only surrender when the HP hit lower the 5%, so everyone was confused about what Gramir was trying to do.

But, Gramir wasn't trying to announce her surrender. She was telling that to Zach.

Zach understood that Gramir didn't want to fight him, or rather, she didn't want to die. And that was enough for Zach to spare her.

Zach also raised his hand and uttered, "I surrender too."

In a duel, if both players surrendered or revoke the duel, the duel would be canceled without any consequences.

Seconds after the duel was canceled, Gramir received a notification that said:

[You have been kicked out of the guild— Risen Warriors!]

Of course, Gramir was ready for this, and she wasn't affected by that. She turned to Elliott and looked up at him. Then, she showed him her middle finger and yelled, "Fuck you! You son of a bitch!"

After saying that, Gramir walked out of the ring.

Next, Kevin walked in and invited Zach for the duel.

Judging by his body build, Kevin looked to be a swordsman, but Zach couldn't bet solely on his looks.

Zach accepted the invitation without wasting his time.

"You can go all out if you want to. I know I am going to lose, but please, just don't kill me," Kevin said in a calm voice.

The first ten seconds passed, but Kevin didn't take out his weapon. He thought if he doesn't use any weapon, Zach wouldn't use either, and they would fight unarmed.

'This is... honestly boring...' Zach thought. 'I expected the battles to be exciting, but here I am feeling bad. I feel like I am bullying my opponents here.'

The opponents were forced by Elliott to duel against Zach. At first, they thought it would be easy since they were one of the strongest players in the guild. But they never expected Zach to be this strong.

Now, all the opponents had realized that they wouldn't be able to win against Zach, and if they didn't want to die, it would be best to not fight him.

However, that would mean losing their guild.

Of course, they all made a wise choice.

'We can join another guild, but we won't be getting another life,' they all thought.

Zach played around with Kevin, and he was surprised to see he knew some martial arts.

"Where did you learn martial arts?" Zach asked curiously.

"I have always been a fan of martial arts, so I watched movies, anime, and tutorials on the internet," Kevin replied while breathing heavily.

He could barely stand still after moving and jumping around. While Zach hadn't even broken a sweat yet.

"So you are self-taught?" Zach asked with an amused look on his face. "Not bad, actually."

"I wish the game had a class for martial arts. But I am sure it wouldn't do good since martial arts can't win against modernized weapons," Kevin asserted.

"Normal martial arts can't, but... well..." Zach kicked Kevin in the chest and pinned him on the ground.

His HP had reached lower than 5%, so he surrendered the duel.

"This was the first nice duel I have had in a long time," Zach scoffed. He reached his hand to Kevin to help him get up, and said, "Keep on practicing, you can get better."

Just like Gramir, Kevin also received the notification of getting kicked out of the guild.

Next, Evonik stepped forward and walked into the ring.

"Wait a minute!" Zach said out loud to get everyone's attention. "Let's save yours and mine time and end this."

He looked at the remaining 4 opponents and said, "Just surrender and go home."

Out of the 4 of them, only Kira, who was level 99 left the guild and stood with the other ground of bystanders.

"...!" Zach stared at the other three opponents with a confused look on his face and wondered, 'Do they not want to live? Are they stupid?'

Zach then recalled their names: one was named 'Crazy Bitch', and another was named 'Thomas' Chick'.

SIGH!

Zach let out a weary sigh and beckoned Evonik.

"You may think you will win, but you are wrong! I calculate everything before making a move, and I have over a dozen ways I can beat you... no, to kill you!" Evonik declared.

Zach genuinely felt pity for Evonik after hearing that.

It wasn't as though he didn't take Evonik's words seriously, but he was laughing at the overconfidence he had.

Evonik invited Zach for the duel, and Zach immediately accepted it.

This time, without waiting for the opponent to take out his weapon, Zach equipped the mythical rank sword he got as a reward to clear the dungeon.

Chapter 249 Guild Schemers

While Zach was fighting with the remaining ten opponents, things were getting heated up in the flying castle.

As Elliott had taken most of the strongest guild members with him, the remaining members in the guild were relieved.

They already knew why Elliott took the strongest players and what he was planning. And they also knew that Elliott would be challenging Zach for Victoria.

The news of Zach's unbelievable feats had already spread throughout the guild, and most of them admired Zach. They knew that fighting against Zach would be the stupidest thing to do.

Deep down, they all hoped that Zach killed Elliott, and they all would be free from their slave-like life in Gods' Impact.

Many of them wanted to leave the guild, and some of them did, but most of them couldn't. They had already gotten accustomed to everything in the guild, and leaving the guild would be like stepping into a new world from them.

They would have to earn and risk their lives more than before in order to survive. In the end, they decided that they would rather prefer to live a slave's life than die out alone or get eaten by a monster.

Shay was walking through the hallways to go to Elliott's office.

Unlike everyone, Shay was unaware of Elliott's absence because he was out somewhere else for other purposes.

When Shay entered Elliott's office, he found Natasha sitting on Elliott's chair in a haughty position.

"What are you doing here?" Shay asked Natasha.

Natasha's face immediately turned pale after hearing Shay's voice. She sat in a meek position and turned to Shay with a shy look on her face.

"I was just tired... after doing the paperwork..."

Natasha said in a meek manner.

'What is he doing here?!' Natasha yelled inwardly. 'I thought he went out because of some business! When did he come back?! And more importantly, why is he here in Elliott's office?!'

"Well, whatever. I don't care what you were doing." Shay glanced around and asked, "Where is Elliott?"

"He is not here."

"I can see that, and that's why I asked you; where is he?" Shay asked impatiently.

"He went after Victoria," Natasha answered.

"Huh?"

"As you know, Victoria is leaving the guild, but Elliott doesn't want her to. So he took a few of the strongest guild members to fight Zach and bring back Victoria."

"What do you mean, to bring Victoria back?" Shay asked with a puzzled look on his face. "He can't do something like that."

"Well, he is..."

"Victoria is not his property, and she can do whatever she wants. And did you just say he went to fight Zach?" Shay scoffed as he asked.

Natasha nodded in response.

"Hah!" Shay scoffed out loud and laughed for a while before saying, "Do you know how powerful Zach is?"

Shay had witnessed Zach's power during the demon invasion, and he was left speechless.

"How would I do?"

"You must have heard about it from the other guild members. And I wasn't actually asking you, so there is no need to answer. I said it sarcastically," Shay sighed.

"There were hundreds of players barely fighting toe to toe with the low-ranking demons. And the big ones were no match for them." Shay snorted and uttered, "If Zach can crush them like ants, then our strongest guild members are nothing against them."

"I have no idea why he is so obsessed with Victoria," Natasha groaned. "She belongs to someone else, and Elliott can't even come close to Zach. Let it be in looks, power, or anything!"

Natasha let out her honest thoughts in the spur of the moment and forgot that she had to keep acting meek in front of Shay.

Fortunately for Natasha, Shay didn't care to think about Natasha acting weird so suddenly.

"I hope Zach kills Elliott. That would be a great thing to happen," Say snickered.

'Yeah. I hope that small dick dies!' Natasha uttered inwardly. But soon realized something. 'Wait, if the guild master dies, the vice-captain would naturally become the next guild master, and that would be Victoria. And I don't want that bitch to come back here!'

'I don't care about Elliott, but I care about the seat of the guild master. I won't give a shit if Elliott dies after making me vice-captain, but for that, he first has to accept Victoria's resignation letter— which won't happen as long as he is alive.'

'Argh! Why do these stupid rules exist?! Any guild member can leave the guild, so why not the vice-captain too? Stupid video game logic!'

"When did he leave?" Shay asked Natasha.

"It has been around an hour or so," Natasha replied.

"Hmm..." Shay glanced at Natasha from the corner of his eyes and raised his brows with a curious look on his face. "Aren't you his secretary? Why did he leave you behind?"

'I am not his secretary! And I am not his cum dumpster either! I am just waiting for the perfect opportunity to get hold of the guild master's throne!'

Natasha wanted to say that out loud, but she couldn't for obvious reasons.

"He left me here, so I can take care of the stuff in his absence. I am currently in charge of this guild," Natasha responded in a slightly arrogant tone.

"Oh? I guess the new vice-captain is already decided then," Shay chuckled.

'Damn right! I know you were aiming for it, but it's mine!' Natasha uttered inwardly.

"I don't know about that..." she said in a low voice while squirming. "I think He will make you the vice-captain since you are the funder. He wouldn't want to risk making you angry."

"Hah, I doubt that. He knows that if he makes me the next vice-captain, then I will have more power than him since I am the funder too," Shay snickered as he said that.

Meanwhile, Zach beat the crap out of Evonik and eventually killed him because he tried to fake his surrender and backstab Zach.

Chapter 250 Culprit Playing Victim

"So you are not interested in taking Victoria's spot? You don't want to become the vice-president of Gods' impact's second-strongest guild?" Natasha asked with a curious yet judging look on her face.

"Of course, I am, but Elliott won't make me the Vice-captain since he knows the risk. If I become the vice-captain, I will be able to make decisions regarding the funding management on my own since every decision needs two votes; one from the funder, and one from the authorized guild member such as guild master, vice-captain, and several others," Shay stated in a solemn voice.

'That's right! How did I not think of that?! I was aiming for Elliott since he got the highest authority in this guild, but he is nothing without the others. Shay is a funder, and the guild is alive because of him.'

'So even if I somehow manage to become vice-captain or even the guild master after killing Elliott, I would still need Shay to fund this guild. I don't know what he is planning to do, but I need him!'

"Say, Shay, do you truly not remember the night we spent together?" Natasha asked meekly, but with an alluring gaze in her eyes.

"..."

"So...?"

SIGH!

Shay let out a weary sigh and asked, "Why are you bringing this up? I thought it was over."

"How can it be over?! You stole my virginity!" Natasha yelled. "You were drunk that night, and you forced yourself on me even when I tried to stop you! That was basically a r*pe!"

"What...?" Shay let out a soft chuckle and said, "I forced myself on you? What a joke."

"I am being serious here!"

Natasha was trying to use the damsel in distress card on Shay to make him feel guilty about his actions, which he never did. But as Shay couldn't recall his night with Natasha, he couldn't claim anything.

"If I truly r*ped you, then how come you didn't mention it that time?" Shay asked with a judging look on his face. "And why didn't you tell me this the next day it happened? We might be in different classes, but we go to the same school, right?"

"I didn't want to do that. And even if I had told you that, would you have taken responsibility?" Natasha asked with a knowing look on her face.

"Well..."

"See?! This is why I didn't want to tell you. And after you told me that you don't even remember what you did to me that night, I can't help but spill all the beans. I can't take this anymore!" she bellowed.

'Heh! I thought Shay was smart, but I guess he is a rich spoiled brat in the end. And his ego and pride have been damped again and again ever since he joined this guild. He has realized his limits and weaknesses.'

'If I keep this up, I might get Shay dancing on my finger too! And honestly, I would prefer Shay over Elliott at any time. His dick is big, after all!'

"Listen..." Shay turned to Natasha and said, "I honestly don't remember that night. I remember all the other girls I slept with that night, but... not you. So either you are lying and making all this up to exploit something from you, or you are telling the truth."

"..." Natasha gulped down after hearing that. 'Oh shit! Oh, shit! Oh, shit! I totally forgot about that part!'

'It would obviously be a weird thing if he remembered the other girls and not me!' Natasha panicked. 'I have to come up with an excuse or my plan to use him will fail!'

"And even if it is the latter one and I truly r*ped you, I can't take the responsibility. Just think of it as a one-time thing and forget about it," Shay uttered in a calm voice.

"How can you say that?! Do you have any idea how important the first time is for a girl?!" Natasha shouted with a furious look on her face.

'Even though I had my first time with my uncle,' he smirked inwardly.

"I can only do one thing. And believe me, even if we somehow manage to get out of this game, and you sue me, I would still win the case," Shay stated nonchalantly.

"Because you have so much money, and you will bribe the judge?"

"No." Shay shook his head and said, "Because you don't have any evidence. And it's been months since that happened. Even if I had ejaculated inside you, I doubt my sperm would still be in your cunt."

'Dammit! I thought his soul would have been broken! But he is still fucking annoying!'

"So what? Are you implying that I am lying?!"

"No. And let's just say that you have evidence, and you proved me guilty in court; even then, I wouldn't be jailed. At most, I would be asked to pay you money— which I can do now if you want me to. I will give you as much money as you want," Shay asserted with a curious yet calm look on his face.

'This will prove that she is lying or not,' Shay uttered inwardly.

'What should I do? This is my golden chance to get free money. And this was my intention from the start. The only reason I r*ped him that night was to sue him and get money. And I have finally accomplished that mission. But...'

Natasha shook her head and said, "I don't want money. If you think I am a cheap girl, or that you can get away with this with money, then you are wrong. A girl's worth cannot be paired with money."

'Why would I want gold from a mine when I can have the mine itself?' Natasha scoffed inwardly.

"..." Shay watched Natasha and thought, 'Maybe she is telling the truth. I guess I will think about taking responsibility.'

Shay touched a pendant in his pocket and muttered, "The girl I loved is already dead."

"What did you say?" Natasha asked.

"Nothing." Shay turned around and walked out of Elliott's office after saying, "I am going to the capital to see what's happening."

'I want to ask Zach about something too.'

However, when he reached the capital, he witnessed something unexpected that left him baffled and clueless.

Even in his wildest dreams, Shay had never expected to see Zach on the losing side.