

## Gourmet 481

### Chapter 481: Three Visits to the Thatched Cottage Quest

One week ago.

After receiving the second of the Three Visits to the Thatched Cottage quest from Jarrod, Minhyuk was left lost in thought, *‘From what I heard, quite a few people have received the second of the Three Visits to the Thatched Cottage quest.’*

However, no one had succeeded in clearing the second quest. Based on what Minhyuk had heard, it might be possible to win the heart of one Star, but impossible to win the heart of all of them, including the villagers. On top of that, there was little to no information about all of the people that settled in this village.

*‘The nearest Star would be the Star Painter Elise, right?’* Minhyuk thought, immediately deciding on Star Painter Elise as the first Star that he would visit.

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Star Painter Elise was well over forty this year but it was obvious from her looks that she definitely made many men cry in her younger years. The image of her painting a vivid and green landscape in the middle of her exhibition hall was extremely beautiful and awe-inspiring.

After painting for a long time, Elise finally took a short breather. She stretched her body before grabbing the cup of tea nearby and looking outside. Not long after, her expression morphed into that of puzzlement. A man stood outside while admiring the paintings that she hung in front of her shop.

In the man’s hands were...

*‘Takoyaki?’*

...takoyaki. The very same takoyaki that came in those rectangle paper boxes. Strangely enough, the takoyaki, complete with mayonnaise, takoyaki sauce and bonito flakes sprinkled on top of it, was still steaming hot. Elise folded her arms on her chest as she watched the man. She thought, *‘Is there a shop that sells takoyaki around here?’*

As far as she could remember, there was no shop selling takoyaki in this place. Then, she watched as the unknown man stabbed a piece of takoyaki with his long toothpick before placing it in his mouth.

*‘The takoyaki is still piping hot...’*

The man immediately huffed and puffed while rolling the still steaming takoyaki in his mouth. The best time to eat takoyaki was while it was hot and fresh out of the pan. This was because the takoyaki would be crispy on the outside and moist on the inside. If one chewed on it while it was still hot, they would be able to munch on the chewy octopus hidden inside.

“Takoyaki is really delicious!”

The man ate one, two, three, four takoyakis in a row! A drop of Elise's drool fell down on the ground as she watched the man eat.

*"Sluuuuuurp!"*

This was the very same Elise, who was known for her elegance in the village! For a moment, she wondered about how shameful her actions were. But...

*'I want to eat some takoyaki...'*

...the way the man ate so happily made the food look extremely mouth-watering. As much as she wanted to, she could not take her eyes off of him. Elise watched as the man looked around while eating his takoyaki. And as he looked at the pictures, the man shed tears while eating the last piece of his takoyaki.

*"Sob. So beautiful..."*

*"...?!"*

Elise was extremely shocked to see the man cry over her painting. She thought, *'Those tears are sincere and truly from the bottom of his heart.'*

She could tell just by the look on the man that was bawling his heart out. Elise personally believed that a painting contained both the painter's thoughts and feelings. Unfortunately, there were many times where these paintings were used to garner false admiration from the nobles, for their wealth and false elegance. That was why she felt like it had been a long time since she last saw sincere and heartfelt tears!

*'Aaah. He's crying his heart out. He's bawling!!!'*

Elise's hands immediately shot up to her chest when she felt a twinge of pain from watching the crying man. Then, she made a decision, *'I'll go ask him where he bought his takoyaki, then I'll show him my other paintings! After all, he's someone that truly loves paintings!'*

She rushed out the door and said to the man, "I saw you shedding tears while looking at my paintings. I'm sure you understood the loneliness that I felt when I created this. *Fufu*. It has been a long time since I last saw someone like you. Someone that can truly understand the meaning and sincerely love my paintings."

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The notifications rang for Minhyuk.

[You have received Elise's favor.]

[You have received Elise's favor.]

Minhyuk could tell that the woman that ran out of the shop was Elise. However, he could not understand the nonsense that she was spouting. She said, "I saw you shedding tears while looking at my paintings. I'm sure you understood the loneliness that I felt when I created this. *Fufu*. It has been a long time since I last saw someone like you. Someone that can truly understand the meaning and sincerely love my paintings."

“...???”

Him? Crying over a painting? Of course, it was an undeniable fact that the painting that Minhyuk was looking at was extremely beautiful. But...

*‘I cried because I ate the last takoyaki though?’*

...this was the reason why he cried! He was crying his eyes out because he ate the final and last piece of the piping hot takoyaki in his hands! Minhyuk felt sad because he could not believe that the delicious takoyaki was all gone. It was something that was truly worth crying over!

But then, the woman in front of him even took things a step further as she said, “Please come inside. I want to show you more of my paintings. Someone like you is qualified to do so.”

“...???”

From what Minhyuk had heard, Elise’s exhibition hall was ready for viewing. However, no outsider was allowed to enter to view her artworks. She had not opened her exhibition hall for a long time and was only painting inside all by herself. No one could enter even if they wanted to. But Elise personally invited Minhyuk to come inside and view her art.

Then, another set of notifications rang the moment Minhyuk entered the exhibition hall.

[You have entered Elise’s Exhibition Hall.]

[Something amazing will happen every time you view Elise’s Paintings.]

Elise smiled lightly and said, “You can take a look at the paintings as much as you want. A person like you, who truly loves paintings, is always welcome in my exhibition hall.”

Just like what was previously mentioned, no one else had entered Elise’s exhibition hall since she settled down in this village. That was also the reason why he was eating takoyaki and looking at the paintings outside, he had been trying to find a way to enter.

“Aaaaah. Thank you. I can’t believe I will be able to see Miss Elise’s beautiful paintings up close! Ah, I can’t help but feel emotional! I feel like I’m going to cry again!”

Minhyuk said, tears falling from his eyes again. His figure was the epitome of a scammer who could sell a glass of water for five million won!

Minhyuk turned to look at the paintings while maintaining an expression of being moved. The first painting was a landscape painting. It depicted the sight of a tall mountain, with snow that looked like fluttering petals falling down on it.

[You have seen Elise’s ‘Falling Snow on a Lonely Mountain’.]

[You have seen the Star Painter’s painting.]

[You have gained 2 DEX.]

There were no titles under the paintings, but the notifications rang for Minhyuk. He quickly exclaimed, “Snow falling atop the mountain. It’s a very beautiful artwork. I can’t take my eyes off of the details of the snowflakes.”

Elise smiled lightly as Minhyuk continued to talk, “However, as beautiful as it is, your lonely heart is evident in this painting. It’s both lovely and lonely. What a bitter and sad piece.”

Minhyuk’s words shocked Elise. She said, “Ac... actually, the name of this piece is Falling Snow on a Lonely Mountain. I can’t believe it. You completely understood the feelings that I wanted to express in this painting...”

Elise gently placed her hands on her chest as she looked at Minhyuk with genuine admiration.

[You have received Elise’s favor.]

Not long after...

[You have seen Elise’s ‘Mother Bear and Baby Deer’.]

[You have gained 2 DEX.]

“Survival of the fittest. The mother bear needs food so it could feed its cub. That’s why it has to hunt the poor and pitiful fawn. This piece is a clear representation of survival of the fittest. A work that shows a sad, yet undeniable truth of our reality.”

“H, how...”

[You have received Elise’s favor.]

Next...

[You have seen Elise’s ‘Bird’s Flight’.]

[You have gained 3 DEX.]

“Ah! A bird flying high in the skies! From what I can see, the bird seems to express your desire to take flight and soar to the beautiful skies once again. Just like when you were younger. The blue sky represents the splendor of your youth.”

“I can’t believe this. You’re able to easily see through my heart like this... I feel ashamed.”

[You have received Elise’s favor.]

[Your favor with Star Painter Elise has reached an extremely high level.]

[You have gained 50 DEX.]

[You have gained +1 in all five of your basic stats.]

Was it possible for an ordinary person to improvise this fast? No. This was only possible because Minhyuk completely understood how others’ minds work! In the end, Elise sat down and offered to serve Minhyuk tea.

That was when Minhyuk delivered the final blow. He even purposely made his voice shake as he said, “Hoo. That’s really sad.”

“Yes? What...”

"I can tell what you're feeling with your paintings. You're very lonely right now, but you can't go out and show yourself to the world again, because of something."

"...!"

Elise was taken aback. What Minhyuk said was completely true. Then, Minhyuk smiled softly as he continued to say, "You were once hailed for your beauty and even your paintings were known to be the best in the continent. But it seems like something had happened. May I ask what?"

Elise felt her heart shake as Minhyuk held her slender hands. The person in front of her completely understood what she was thinking and feeling! There was also his soft and gentle smile!

"But know this, you and your paintings are still as beautiful as ever. There's no one on the continent, no, in the world that can draw a more amazing painting than you."

Elise suddenly burst into tears the moment she heard his words. She sobbed, "Thank you. Thank you for your words of understanding. I was very, very lonely..."

Minhyuk smiled softly as he watched Elise's tears drip down her cheeks. Then, Elise, with a smile on her face, wiped her tears and said, "Ah. That's right. Where did you buy the takoyaki that you were eating earlier?"

"No one was selling it, so I made some."

"But it was in a paper box...?"

"It's because it will taste more delicious if I ate it that way."

"...????"

Elise looked bewildered.

*'He ate it like that for that reason?'*

Then, she said, "By any chance, can you give me that takoyaki..."

"I cannot."

"...?"

Minhyuk spoke out of reflex. He was shocked at himself as he thought, *'Ah! Oh my. What if the favor drops?!'*

His favor with Elise was very important right now. So, Minhyuk quickly quipped, "Actually, this takoyaki is very important to me. It's a dish that my friend and I loved to share together a long time ago. But now, that friend of mine is..."

Minhyuk suddenly looked up at the distant skies as his eyes reddened with tears.

"Ha..."

"Th, that... I didn't mean to bring up something painful! For me to ask you for something so precious... Ah, it's, it's just that I really want to eat it but..."

Even after hearing Minhyuk's explanation, Elise's disappointment was still clear on her face.

"I can make some for you. However, I want you to know that takoyaki is really precious to me. My friend is even called Takoyaki. Ah! Takoyaki! I miss you!"

"Aah. Then... ah!" Elise was suddenly put in a tight spot. She immediately tried to remedy the situation, "I can't just ask you for something so precious for nothing. How about this; can I give you the Star's Blessing in exchange?"

"A Star's Blessing?"

"That's right. A Star's Blessing is a power that only the Five Stars can use once every three years."

"Very well, I understand."

Minhyuk was a veteran at spewing lies and expending his saliva just so he would not make dishes for someone for nothing! Then, he took out his takoyaki pan.

"...Why do you have a takoyaki pan with you?"

"I always carry it with me to remember my friend. It's his keepsake, you know?"

"Th, that..."

Minhyuk quickly poured the takoyaki mix, placed some octopus bits inside before pouring the mix again. Then, Minhyuk quickly flipped the takoyaki upside down, showing the perfectly golden brown underside. His dexterous hand movements were flashy and ornate, just like a takoyaki stall owner!

"Wow..."

In a blink, Minhyuk had finished cooking the takoyaki. He placed them neatly in a paper box before sprinkling some mayonnaise, takoyaki sauce, and bonito flakes on top. The bonito flakes fluttered and danced from the heat of the freshly-made takoyaki.

Then, Minhyuk took out a small glass bottle and tapped a few drops on the dish.

"What's that?"

"A special sauce."

"Aha!"

Elise looked at the takoyaki in awe as she stabbed a takoyaki covered in the fluttering bonito flakes with the long toothpick, before putting it in her mouth. The heat immediately spread in Elise's mouth which prompted her to roll it in her mouth. And the moment she chewed on it, the chewy octopus greeted her.

While she was savoring the dish, a notification suddenly rang in Minhyuk's ears.

[Elise, one of the Five Stars, has the power of the stars.]

[The Sea Honey will not be able to show its powers.]

"...?!"

The notification was very shocking. But then...

“It’s so delicious. For real...” Elise exclaimed.

And the look in her eyes...

*‘It looks similar to the eyes of my devout fanatics.’*

Then, another set of notifications rang out.

[Your favor with Elise has reached the highest level.]

[You have gained 100 DEX.]

[You have gained 30 REP.]

[You have discovered the secret hidden in the second of the Three Visits to the Thatched Cottage Quest.]

[As the king of Beyond the Heavens Kingdom, there is a chance for you to take Elise in as your vassal.]

[However, this is only possible if you can capture the hearts of the rest of the Stars.]

He had won the heart of one of the Five Stars, the greatest painter.

*‘The reason why the quest was called Three Visits to the Thatched Cottage...’*

According to the records, Liu Bei visited Zhuge Liang three times before he was able to get him to his side. Just like the notifications said, there was a chance that he would be able to get the greatest painter for the Beyond the Heavens Kingdom.

*‘There’s a chance that I can make her become the Painter’s Tower’s tower master.’*

If Minhyuk got the four remaining Stars then...

*‘Plenty of players will flock to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom.’*

Chapter 482: Three Visits to the Thatched Cottage Quest

[You have been given the Star’s Blessing of the Star Painter Elise.]

[You have gained 200 DEX.]

[You have gained +30 on your Physical and Magical Defense.]

[All of your stats will permanently increase by 1.]

The Star’s Blessing that Minhyuk had received from the Star Painter Elise was amazing. There was a permanent increase in all of his stats! Even his DEX increased sharply!

“That’s why I’m telling you, I cackled at him!”

Elise looked noble and elegant, but the moment she opened her heart to someone, she turned into a huge chatterbox. Minhyuk just nodded along and listened to her, turning this story session into an information-digging session.

“Then, what did the Star Sculptor say? Isn’t he too much?”

“Yes! Truly unbelievable! What a perfectionist. *Sigh~* The Star Sculptor is a very fussy person. But if you’re able to truly win his heart, then he will give you everything. That’s the kind of person he is.”

“The Star Tailor?”

“That person is even more fussy and strict. Not even a small misplaced thread is allowed to stick out in front of him.”

Just like that, Minhyuk was able to dig out information about the other stars and the rest of the villagers from Elise. Then, he suddenly thought, *‘It doesn’t matter if I listen to all of the information about them, it’s still too much.’*

Minhyuk only had ten days, which was a very short period of time to win the hearts of not only the Five Stars, but all of the villagers.

*‘Is there no way? Hmmm. A way...’*

Minhyuk thought about a method to capture the hearts of the remaining Stars after hearing the information about them.

*‘Ah, there’s that method, right?’*

There was a very easy way for him to approach the villagers and make friends with them, all the while making sure he catered to the nature of the Stars.

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Hamil, an architect working in Arsa Village, was one of the people that settled in the village after the death of Eto Kingdom’s previous king. Right now, this very same Hamil was facing the greatest worry of his life... lunch time.

*‘What should I eat for lunch today?’*

It was the same worry faced by those who worked during the day! All of them worried about what to eat for lunch.

*‘Today’s work is especially hard. I want to eat something special.’*

There would always be days when one wished to eat something special, something different from what they usually had. It was the same thought running through Hamil’s head as he walked around.

After walking for a while, Hamil suddenly stopped a distance away from a man, who seemed to be preparing to open a shop in front of a small trailer. He thought, *‘It’s my first time seeing that guy here.’*

Hamil could tell that the man was a foreigner. And with the banner hanging in front of his shop saying, *‘Asgan’s Flavor’*, it seemed like the man was not only a foreigner, but also someone from another continent.

But then, Hamil snickered not long after. He thought, *‘He dares to sell food here in our Arsa Village?’*

Arsa Village was home to Star Chef Cord, a master chef that served as the role model for all of the chefs in the kingdom and the continent. His disciples even followed him and settled in this village. In other words, Arsa Village, which was teeming with chefs, was home to the best dishes. In fact, Hamil could confidently say this because their village was selected as the ‘village with the most delicious dishes’ in the entire continent.

But someone from Asgan Continent actually dared to sell strange food here? Hamil could only snort at the man. Nevertheless, he still continued to watch.

“Come, come! Buy some rice cakes, fritters and blood sausages! *Chomp!*”

The first thing that the man tried to sell was rice cakes, fritters, and blood sausages. But as he continued to watch the man, Hamil felt dumbfounded.

“Buy some rice cake, fritters and blood sausage sets! *Chomp!*”

It was because the man kept on eating what he made. Strangely enough...

*‘Eh? I don’t like that rice cake, fritters and blood sausage from Asgan Continent... so, why do I want to try some?’*

...this thought flashed in Hamil’s head.

“Haa. I’ll finish all of the rice cakes, fritters and blood sausages at this rate. Right, ramyeon! Let’s make some ramyeon!”

After eating three sets of rice cakes, fritters and blood sausages, the man, as if realizing that the method that he was doing was wrong, suddenly switched things up and started cooking ramyeon.

*‘Oh? What’s that?’*

The Athenae worldview’s theme might be following the medieval era, but their NPCs were still able to eat modern dishes and food unique to each server’s original country, thanks to the foreigners that created them inside the game. Of course, each of these countries had dishes that suited the tastes and preferences of their server in the Athenae world.

However, Minhyuk’s ‘ramyeon’, which looked similar to the ‘ramen’ that Hamil knew, had a different packaging. It was only natural. After all, the ramyeon in Minhyuk’s hands was none other than ‘Jjin Ramyeon’. Being in different servers meant that the food that they knew were completely different from each other, so it was only right that Hamil found the ramyeon different.

Unaware of Hamil’s doubts, Minhyuk quickly cooked the ramyeon, cracked an egg in it, whisked everything together, boiled it some more, then added some green onion garnish once everything was done.

*‘Is he really going to sell food? Why is he making one when no one’s placing an order?’*

Then, the man said, “Ah, wait~ Why did I make one when there’s no order? Oops. What should I do with this~?” before picking up his own chopsticks!

*‘It’s on purpose! He definitely made it on purpose! He made it so he can eat it!’*

The man blew on the mouthful of noodles that he clamped with his chopsticks before putting everything in his mouth.

*“Sluuuuuuuuuurp!”*

Then, a shocking sound rang in Hamil’s ears. He continued to watch as the man lifted his entire bowl, blew on it, and gulped down a mouthful of soup.

“Woah! That’s spicy!”

“...!”

Hamil felt drool start to flow down his mouth as he watched the man suddenly whip out a serving of Korean Kimchi with his remaining ramyeon.

Crunch, crunch, crunch—

Hamil’s adam’s apple bobbed as the divine sound of the man’s eating rang in his ears. He did not know what the food tasted like but strangely enough, his mouth was already watering. This was all because the man was eating ramyeon with relish, as if the dish in his hands was the most delicious dish in the world. His face was even filled with happiness!

Hamil completely forgot the fact that he was snorting and mocking the man earlier as he called out, “Ex, excuse me! Please give me a bowl of Asgan ramyeon too!”

*“Irasshaimase!”* Minhyuk, the man who was eating the ramyeon, shouted enthusiastically. He knew how effective his powers were more than anybody else. After all, there were quite a number of people on the internet complaining about how they gained more than 20 kilograms just by watching him eat.

This was the method that Minhyuk used. Besides, there was something that made this one ramyeon bowl that Minhyuk made different...

[You have completed a ‘perfect’ ramyeon.]

[The ramyeon noodles will become more chewy while the soup’s flavor becomes richer and deeper.]

...it was none other than the prestige of his DEX! Minhyuk did not stop there. He even placed a drop of mysterious liquid in the ramyeon bowl.

“What’s that?”

“Ah, it’s the special sauce that I made, dear customer. *Fufu*,” Minhyuk chuckled as a crowd started to flock around them.

“Isn’t that Hamil?”

“Hey, he’s the pickiest eater in our village, right? How come he’s eating something that’s sold on the street?”

“Isn’t he the guy that only ever eats Mister Cord’s meals?”

Hamil was very famous in Arsa Village as a tried and tested gourmand. That was why everyone was very shocked to see Hamil slurp away at a bowl of ramyeon sold on the streets.

*"Sluuuuuuuuuuuurp!"*

Hamil was eating his ramyeon so fast it looked like he was inhaling it. He did not let a drop go and even went so far as lifting the entire bowl to slurp everything. When he finished, sweat had already gathered in his nose.

*"Fwaa,"* Hamil spat out a satisfied sigh.

"Hey, hey look at Hamil... What in the world does that dish taste like?!"

"Huh? Hey, Hamil! Say something!!!"

"It, it tastes better than Mister Cord's ramen...! It's the tastiest ramen that I have ever tasted!"

"...?!"

"...?!"

"...?!"

"...?!"

His words brought a huge shock to everyone. In the blink of an eye, Minhyuk's shop was filled with customers. In fact, he sold around 500 bowls of ramyeon in just a single day. The customers ordered one bowl at first, but would always order seconds. His shop's ramyeon was a complete blockbuster!

The very same night...

"I, I want to eat some ramyeon...!"

"I want to eat ramyeon!"

The villagers felt an unknown, yet intense craving for ramyeon, which made them lose a lot of sleep. The next day, these people crowded over Minhyuk's shop. In fact, the number of people that gathered far exceeded the number yesterday and it was all thanks to word of mouth.

Furthermore...

"What?! A chef from Asgan Continent dares to sell instant ramen, rice cakes, fritters, and blood sausages in Arsa Village without my permission?!"

Star Chef Cord was enraged. He dragged his disciples along with him, firmly believing that he would be able to kick Minhyuk out of this village.

*'Maybe I should try it? Just to see what kind of trashy dishes that fraud is selling.'*

But after eating just one bowl...

"One more order of ramyeon please! No, make that two!!!"

*"Arigato?gozaimasu!"*

Cord and his disciples fell in love with the taste of Minhyuk's ramyeon and fritters!

Once Minhyuk captured the hearts of the villagers to some extent, Minhyuk decided to enact the last of his plans.

"I'm sorry but I don't think I will be able to sell ramyeon anymore."

"Wh, what?! Why?!"

"Tell us why?!"

"I... I ran out of ramyeon... I'm truly sorry," Minhyuk said, looking extremely sorry and bitter. Meanwhile, the villagers that were already addicted to his ramyeon were left stunned.

Unbeknownst to them, Minhyuk was lying through the skin of his teeth. After all, he was someone that had 50,000 pieces of instant ramyeon stocked up in his inventory! Besides, he was someone that had spent most of his money on food, when most of the people spent them on potions.

"How, how can this be..."

"Is there no other way?!"

"There is. I have to go back to Asgan Continent and bring some back. But the road back is too... difficult... Hoo..."

"..."

"..."

"..."

Everyone was left speechless. They all knew how difficult it was to cross through different continents. The villagers all started to talk. At that moment, Minhyuk, with a grim look on his face as if he had finally decided on something, said, "...Alright. I'll give it my all! It pains me to see everyone so sad."

Then, he bowed politely, before turning around with a somber look on his face.

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Hamil and the rest of the villagers wondered about how the foreigner that was selling ramyeon before was doing. After all, he has been gone for two days now.

*'I want to eat ramyeon! Where the hell is he?'*

*'Didn't you say that you'd give your all?! Huh?! Then come back quickly and feed us those delicious Korean dishes!'*

At the time when the villagers were running around like headless flies and waiting for Minhyuk...

"He's back!!!"

"He came back!!!"

Cord, who heard the excited shouts of the villagers, immediately rushed out. But what greeted them was very shocking. The villagers that gathered together opened a path for someone.

That someone was none other than Minhyuk. However, he was walking with the support of crutches, his entire body covered with blood, and he was even vomiting blood. In the end, he collapsed in front of Cord.

“Haa... Haa...”

“What, what in the world happened to you?! Why are you injured?! What happened, huh?!”

“...I, I was able to go back to Asgan Continent for everyone. But the Red Goblin caught me and... urk!”

Blood, or tomato juice to be exact, dripped down from Minhyuk’s mouth. Truth was, Minhyuk did not go to Asgan Continent during his two days of absence. Simply put, he was just lying. But seeing him vomit blood made everyone from Arsa Village feel gratefulness and admiration for him.

“Why, why did you do something so foolish... just for some stupid ramyeon?!”

“You, you got hurt so much just for our sake?!”

“Aaaaaaah! What a good person!!!”

“As a chef, there’s nothing that brings me more joy than seeing you guys enjoy my dishes...”

Cord’s heart trembled when he heard Minhyuk’s words. Without realizing it, he had already knelt down to give Minhyuk a big hug.

“You...!”

Minhyuk returned Cord’s hug, his eyes shining sadly and his body shaking. He was definitely in full performance mode!

*‘Aaaaah! This is a true and genuine chef. Although he only cooks instant food, his mindset is that of a master craftsman!’*

Cord stood up and looked around and said, “He’s a great man. Someone worthy of our respect. Even though his body is covered with blood after going to a faraway place, he’s still smiling for our sake. This man is a precious noble of our Arsa Village!”

“Agreed!”

“That’s right!”

“Waaaaaaaaaaaaaah!”

The villagers shouted loudly.

[Your favor with Cord has reached the highest level.]

[Your favor with Hamil has reached the highest level.]

[Your favor with Alesia has reached the highest...]

[...the highest level...]

The notifications kept on ringing in Minhyuk's ears. Then, he licked the tomato juice off of his mouth.

*'Tomato juice is really delicious!'*

"Long live Minhyuk!!!"

"Long live!!!"

"Long live Minhyuk Religion!!!"

In the end, the villagers cheered loudly for Minhyuk. This was the secret behind the birth of 'Minhyuk Religion' in the Japanese Server.

Chapter 483: Three Visits to the Thatched Cottage Quest

[You have been given the Star's Blessing of the Star Chef Cord.]

[You have gained 200 DEX.]

[You have gained +30 Physical and Magical Defense.]

[All of your stats will permanently increase by 1.]

[You have been given the Star's Blessing of the Star Tailor Ellen.]

[You have gained 200 DEX.]

[All of your skills' cooldown will be reduced by 2%.]

[All of your stats will permanently increase by 1.]

[You have been given the Star's Blessing of the Star Sculptor Berk.]

[You have gained 200 DEX.]

[You will get a higher increase in stats after looking at a remarkable painting or sculpture.]

[All of your stats will permanently increase by 1.]

Minhyuk was able to increase his favor with all of the villagers with only a few simple dishes in the form of ramyeon, rice cakes, fritters, and blood sausages! On top of that, the things that he received were not limited to the Star's Blessings. As he strolled around the morning market...

"Minhyuk! The apples that I got today are very fresh. Have some!"

[You have acquired a delicious apple from Lorenei's Fruit Store.]

"Minhyuk, this is a sculpture that I made before. I want to give it to you. I carved your image when you were cooking!"

[You have acquired a sculpture from Caddy's Sculpture Store.]

"Minhyuk, have some cold juice!"

“Minhyuk, have some ramen!”

“Minhyuk?!”

“Minhyuk!!!”

“Our dear Minhyuk?!!!”

“Sect leader!!!”

Just like that, all of the villagers showed great enthusiasm with Minhyuk.

“Hiyaa. This apple is very ripe. *Chomp!!!*”

Minhyuk received countless gifts from everyone in the village. As he continued his stroll, one man watched him. This man was none other than Jarrod.

*‘Ho?! How...?’*

Since that incident, the villagers and the Five Stars had disbanded and grown apart. They even became hostile towards each other. Jarrod had tried many times to mend their relationship but he failed every single time. However, in just a short week, Minhyuk was able to revitalize the village and even succeeded in increasing his favor with them.

*‘What an amazing guy. If it’s him, then perhaps...’*

Jarrod felt like Minhyuk might be able to pull off the thing that he had been trying to do for a long time. But before that, Jarrod went to visit Minhyuk’s shop and ordered something to eat. The ramyeon was so delicious that it even made him cry. There were also rice cakes, fritters, blood sausages, and fish cakes!

“Now, please follow after me.”

“I was the one that ordered but why are you eating with me?”

“Ah, no~ I don’t really want to eat it but I have to eat some to show Mister Jarrod how to eat it.”

“...Wipe your saliva first before you speak.”

*“Sluuuuuurp!”* Minhyuk quickly slurped the drool that dripped down his mouth while Jarrod copied what he was doing.

Minhyuk first took a sip of warm fish cake soup which Jarrod immediately copied. The deep and rich flavor of the soup immediately spread in their mouths!

“As expected, fish cake soup really tastes best when you eat it out on the street.”

“Yeah!”

Jarrod copied Minhyuk down to the T. He clamped a piece of fried seaweed roll, dipped it in the spicy red rice cake sauce, then placed it in his mouth.

Crunch, crunch, crunch—

The crunch of the seaweed roll rang sweetly in Jarrod's ears the moment he took a bite. The spiciness of the rice cake sauce washed away the greasiness brought about by the fried seaweed roll. Just like that, he continued to move his chopsticks.

This time, his chopsticks stretched out towards the blood sausage. He dipped the blood sausage in salt and placed it in his mouth. The chewy texture of the blood sausage brought a smile to his face. After that, he grabbed a piece of the dry liver and dipped it in the rice cake sauce.

"It's not fishy at all..."

The spicy rice cake sauce perfectly complemented the dryness of the liver and the slightly fishy aftertaste that accompanied it. Then, Jarrod lifted the bowl of fishcake soup, blew on it, and drank everything in one go.

*"Sluuuuuuuuuurp!"*

Next, Jarrod picked up a skewer of fish cake, brushed some soy sauce on it, and munched on it.

"Ho~" A sigh of satisfaction gently flew out of Jarrod's mouth after he finished savoring the warm fish cake in his mouth. He admired his bowl happily as notifications began ringing in Minhyuk's ears.

[You have achieved more than 90% favor with the villagers and the Stars.]

[You have gained +15 in all of your stats.]

[An additional +5 in all of your stats is rewarded for achieving more than 90% favor.]

[You can acquire gifts from the Four Stars.]

[Please accept the gifts from the Four Stars.]

"When we first met, I actually believed that you won't be able to complete it. You're quite amazing, huh?" Jarrod smiled softly before continuing, "This is my last request."

Then, Jarrod began to tell his story.

The Five Stars were the most prominent individuals of the Eto Kingdom. Most of the kingdoms and empires were ranked based on their power and force, but not for Eto Kingdom. This was because the commercial value of their art and products was so remarkable and outstanding, that it allowed them to be exempted from that ranking rule.

In fact, Painter Elise only needed to create a few paintings and she would already be able to fill up 3% of the kingdom's finances. But that was not all. Whether it was the Star Chef, the Star Tailor, or any of the stars, they were all so talented, that the kings and emperors of other kingdoms and empires coveted them.

Painter Elise was known for being able to paint the real sky. Tactician Jarrod was famous for repelling a 40,000 strong monster corps with only 500 soldiers. Star Tailor Ellen was well-known for being able to craft ordinary cloth armor with defense that was as good as sheet metal armor. Star

Sculptor Berk was famous for being able to carve the figure of the gods. Because of these, the Five Stars were hailed as the legendary and supreme figures in the history of Eto Kingdom.

However, their loyalty was only exclusive to King Valex. And of course, King Valex also cared for them.

There was one more person King Valex cared for: his treasured queen. Then, Queen Aria, the most beautiful woman not only in the kingdom, but the entire continent, had gotten pregnant.

That was when things began to spiral out of control. Wild rumors suddenly started to spread in the kingdom.

*‘The child in Queen Aria’s belly is the child of one of the Stars.’*

This unfounded and ill rumor started to spread. At first, Valex did not believe the rumors. But as time went by, his suspicions gradually grew as if he was being possessed by something. Even the Stars suspected each other. Elise, the only woman among them, became disgusted with them, while the male Stars all doubted each other.

Eventually, they grew distant. In the end, King Valex suspected them to the point that he even interrogated them. But the truth was nowhere to be found. He could not charge the Stars of a crime that had no evidence and was only based on groundless rumors.

The relationship between the queen and King Valex deteriorated as well, which plunged him further into madness. Soon, he went crazy. The once gentle and benevolent King Valex began to tread the path of a tyrant as he killed off his beloved queen’s servants. However, this journey to tyranny did not last that long. Plagued by his suspicions, King Valex turned to alcohol. One day, he was found dead in his bedroom, surrounded by empty bottles.

Queen Aria took to the throne and gave birth to her child, which left the entire Eto Kingdom shaken. The people no longer wished to follow Queen Aria nor the Stars.

Much later, these Stars, who doubted each other, only found out that everything was planned by the Verax Kingdom.

Verax Kingdom’s black sorcerer manipulated and weakened King Valex’s spirit, while spreading false rumors throughout Eto Kingdom. Even though they discovered the truth, it was already too late. The Stars had already screwed everything up. All they could do was leave the palace and settle down in the same village.

“We grew to hate each other, but we still settled down in the same village. I believe deep down, no... I know that we all wish to be together again. And you... you might be able to tear down the walls that us, the Stars, have built between ourselves,” Jarrod smiled softly as he continued, “I hope that we can show the world, that the Stars the people thought could not shine anymore, are still and will still shine brightly in the skies, illuminating the heavens where the former King Valex is now resting in.”

Minhyuk nodded silently.

“This is my final request. I want to build a building for the despairing Queen Aria and His Majesty King Valex, assuage the chaotic minds and disorganized thoughts of the people, and stabilize the shaken Eto Kingdom.”

The crazy tyrant King Valex’s tomb was so shabby that it was hard to believe that a king was resting in that place. After all, Aria could not bring herself to treat the crazy tyrant that doubted her with care upon his death. However, she now knew that everything was a ploy of another kingdom. This story was also circulating among the masses.

However, it was very hard to correct the public opinion that had once faltered due to the rumors. So, in order to remedy that, Jarrod wanted to erect a building for King Valex. Since King Valex’s tomb was already in place, Jarrod was only left with a building that would honour his king.

“Gather the Stars, the villagers, and any helping hand that you can get and create this building.”

“King Valex’s tenth-year death anniversary will happen a month later. According to the legends, former kings that had passed away would descend upon the earth once again to take a look at their kingdom. The building must be completed before that day.”

“How should the building be done?”

“The building should be the grandest, most noble and greatest building in history.”

“...”

Minhyuk could tell what Jarrod meant. If they could create the greatest building in existence, they would be able to give a huge blow to those that shook the foundations of Eto Kingdom.

*‘But, that’s impossible, right?’*

As the thought flashed in Minhyuk’s head, Jarrod said, “We are the Stars of Eto Kingdom. Nothing is impossible in our vocabulary.”

That was right. They were the Five Stars of Eto Kingdom. They were the most suited people for the creation of this building. After all, they were the ones that made statues and robes for their king, the ones that painted him throughout his life, made splendid architectures for him, and the ones that cooked meals for him.

“The one thing that bothers me the most is that there are only a few people here.”

Even if all of the villagers participated, they roughly numbered around a thousand. That number was not enough to finish such a grand building in just a month. Then, Minhyuk said, “I have a friend here but... I have to contact him and ask him if he’s free.”

“Is that so?” Even though Jarrod answered him like that, he still doubted Minhyuk's words.

*‘He’s from Asgan Continent. He definitely wouldn’t have one or two friends here.’*

Even so, Jarrod thought that he should trust Minhyuk for now.

“Can you set up an appointment with the Stars tomorrow?”

“Yes.”

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The next day, at lunch.

Jarrod stood with Minhyuk, waiting nervously for the Stars to come. Ten years. They had been talking ill of and treating each other badly for ten whole years. Would they even come? And when the appointed time came, no one appeared.

*‘...In the end, they did not come. Huh?’*

It seemed like the walls that they had built between each other were still too high. However, the two of them waited and waited and waited. Thirty minutes went by but still, none of them came. Another thirty minutes crawled by and still no one appeared.

“Hoo...” Jarrod sighed, face pale as he turned towards Minhyuk and said, “In the end, it didn’t work, huh?”

But then, at that moment...

Step, step, step, step—

A woman, wearing a flamboyant attire, appeared followed by a hundred people. She said, “I was running a bit late since I went out to gather my painters. Sorry, Jarrod.”

That was not the end. Chef Cord also arrived followed by his disciples. Even Sculptor Berk and Tailor Ellen appeared leading many people behind them. The villagers had also gathered around them. Most of them came from Eto Kingdom and also wanted to take part in their plans. Jarrod smiled slightly.

However, only a small number of people had gathered. They were only a thousand at most. This number alone could not make the grandest and most splendid building for their king. Then, at that moment...

“My friend is here,” Minhyuk said.

Jarrold saw someone walking through the village, leading tens of thousands of people behind him.

“...?!”

Jarrold was shocked. He thought, ‘*How come there's so many people?!*’ as he stared dumbly at the people that arrived.

Meanwhile, the man that led the group smiled lightly and said, “Long time no see, Minhyuk.”

“Long time no see. I wasn’t able to greet you properly during the World War.”

The man that appeared was Japan's strongest and the guild leader of Japan’s best guild. The very same man that changed the ‘Summit Five’ and turned it into the ‘Summit Six’.

He was Japan’s greatest, Musashi Kentaro.

#### Chapter 484: The King’s Building

In the past, Musashi Kentaro had met Minhyuk and Mage Ali in Beas Village. Of course, their first impression of each other had been awful. Kentaro was arrogant back then. However, thanks to Minhyuk, he realized that the world was teeming with strong and powerful players, and that he was lacking in many places. He became stronger thanks to the teachings of none other than Minhyuk.

Eat well, exercise diligently and sleep on time!

Following this doctrine, which eventually became Kentaro’s famous line, Kentaro’s physical body became healthier, which in turn allowed him to obtain strength in Athenae better than before. To Kentaro, Minhyuk was his benefactor. So with his call for help, Kentaro led his guild members, the members of the best guild in Japan, to where Minhyuk was.

However, no matter how prestigious the position of a guild leader was, it was impossible for him to make all of his guild members come to Minhyuk’s aid with just one order. The reason for everyone’s participation? There was only one.

*‘Perhaps... we can taste the Food God’s dishes.’*

*‘I heard that we’ll be able to hear heavenly harmonies with just a bite of the Food God’s dish.’*

*‘I can’t wait!’*

That was right! Anyone that tasted Minhyuk’s dishes, whether they were a gourmand or not, would always find themselves moaning, even with just the side dishes! There would be some people in the world that felt that eating was an annoyance, but none of them hated the act. And Minhyuk already knew that this quest was an extensive quest. In fact, he only ‘barely’ received the quest when these notifications had already appeared in front of him:

[You are the one that directly received the quest.]

[You will be given special privileges during the quest.]

[You can now make quests.]

[You can personally set the rewards.]

He was given the ability to create quests! Of course, as the king of 'Beyond the Heavens Kingdom', he already had the ability to create quests to have players help in his kingdom. However, that was an ability that was only possible in the confines of Beyond the Heavens Kingdom.

Now, that was not a problem anymore.

*'Through this, I can make a linked quest. I can reward them accordingly through each step. It will definitely foster a good environment and spur people's enthusiasm to work.'*

A lazy worker would definitely be of no use. Only those that were willing to try and work hard would become more useful and create good results.

"I will give a present to those that came here to help," Minhyuk said as he looked around with Kentaro.

"Wow~ Are we finally going to be able to taste the dishes of Our Lord Food God?"

"Kghhk!!!"

"Kyaaaa!"

Minhyuk took the opportunity to create quests while everyone was in awe of their luck.

*'Three linked quests per day. I'll also set the rewards so that they will get better as time goes by. The meals that they will get will become tastier the better their performance.'*

At this point, it was certain that Minhyuk would not participate in the construction. His job here was to cook for them.

*'They're definitely curious about Korean dishes. After all, they all ate a lot of kimchi stew, soybean paste stew, and bulgogi when they visited Korea.'*

But Minhyuk was fully aware that finding a place where they could eat authentic and delicious bulgogi and kimchi stew was really hard. After all, Japanese tourists would often flock to 'tourist attractions'. To be honest, most of the restaurants in those places were considered bad by Korea's standards. In fact, there were even plenty of rip-offs among those restaurants. That was why Minhyuk wanted to give them a taste of authentic and delicious Korean dishes!

[Have you completed the Quest Creation process?]

"Yes."

At the same time, all of the people present have received a quest.

“Oh? A quest where we can get food from the Food God?”

“It’s getting me excited, huh?”

“That sounds excellent.”

Kentaro led around 20,000 of his guild members. This was the best way to get them to do their best. However, plenty of them were still complaining.

“Are you kidding me? The reward is just food?”

“Are there no other rewards besides food? The quest doesn’t seem to be easy and the rewards are terrible too.”

Even in reality, they would be provided with full meals as long as they went to work in construction sites.

But to think the rewards that they were being given here were only food?!

Kentaro could only smile bitterly at the ones that were complaining. Minhyuk was also aware that these reactions were inevitable. It was only natural since everyone here was going to invest their ‘precious time’. They already did not have enough time to do various quests and increase their levels, but the only reward that they would get was food. It was definitely a ridiculous quest!

*‘I’ll do my best so that the food I make will not look sloppy.’*

Besides, even if he wanted to, there were too many people for Minhyuk to give another reward. Also...

*‘Fufufu. Do you really think this reward is bad?’* Minhyuk thought, expecting a very rare scene in the future. Then, he unfolded a large parchment in front of Kentaro and the Five Stars.

“This is the blueprint for the building.”

“...Th, this...”

“Isn’t this really grand?”

“No. It’s not only cool, it’s also perfect. Look at that interior?! Who in the world made this?!”

In fact, Jarrod was someone that had dabbled in construction and had a considerable amount of knowledge about it. Even the well-versed Jarrod had never seen such an intricate and perfect design.

The answer to his question was Roadol, the president of Ilhwa Construction. The blueprint was something that Roadol had spent a long time planning and drawing.

“This will be the greatest building in existence once it’s finished,” Minhyuk declared confidently, his confidence making all of the Five Stars believe in him.

Finally, the construction started.

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The construction site of the building was set in a huge forest located close to Arsa Village. This forest was called the Forest of the Sun. Although trees and grass grew lush around it, nothing grew in the middle. That place was where they were going to construct their building.

Thousands of people began to pull out the small and large stones embedded on the ground. They gathered it together and placed it in a cart to dispose of it somewhere else. Then, the people that were unearthing the rocks...

“*Fwaa.*? This is tiring. So backbreaking.”

“If only I could taste the Food God’s dish.”

“Ugh... I don’t want to do it anymore. Doing something like this just for one dish?!”

Many of the players among them were forced to come because of Kentaro’s call. All of them grumbled. After all, in places that required strenuous labor, most of them would reveal their true personalities. Some worked silently and diligently, carrying the stones away, wiping their perspiration with the towels on their necks, before running back to carry more. There were others already feigning exhaustion, showing that they were having a hard time carrying one or two pieces of rocks.

“Aenil. Take it easy. Why are you working so hard when there’s no reward?”

“Even so, it’s a quest given by a Korean player that came to our country. If I do it half-heartedly, I feel like I’ll be showing them that Japanese people are all like this. Anyway, doing something like this is fun in its own way.”

“Well, you work hard at everything you do. That’s a problem on its own.”

The man, Aenil, smiled. He was the typical model student! However, his friend just leaned against a tree while whistling leisurely. Just when Aenil was preparing to work hard again, an unexpected notification rang in his ears.

[Your participation rate has increased dramatically in just a short period of time!]

[You can choose between Juicy Juice and Iced Americano for your special reward.]

“Huh?”

It just so happened that his throat was getting dry. Aenil went to where the people had gathered. There, he saw a handsome young man handing out drinks.

“Gorfido?”

“Heok! It’s, it’s really Gorfido!”

“Gorfido’s handing out drinks here?”

There was no one that did not know who Great Pirate Gorfido was. After all, he knelt in front of Minhyuk and swore his allegiance not too long ago. But what he was doing now...

*‘He’s giving out drinks?’*

*‘Keok?!’*

The shock did not end there.

“Gorfido. Can’t you go any faster when handing out drinks?! Can’t you see the crowd lined up here?! Oh my~ our dear gulli... no, brothers! Haha! Have some refreshing drinks! The *Juicy* goes in, *glug, glug, glug~ until when are we going to do the~ shoulder~ dance~*”

This was the typical business owner! Smiling kindly to customers while getting angry with their part-timers! Aenil, who was also in line, finally received a glass of watermelon juice from Gorfido.

“Thank, thank you for the drink,” Aenil said, eyes and body quivering as he received the glass of watermelon juice from the fierce Gorfido and tipped it to his mouth. The moment the juice entered his mouth...

Blink—

Hallelujah~ Hallelujah~ Hallelujah, Hallelujah~ Minhyuk-llujaaaaaaaah~?

Aenil blinked blankly, eyes growing wider by the second, as a heavenly voice rang in his head! After that? Well, he could not stop his mouth from gulping down everything in his glass!

Gulp, gulp, gulp, gulp, gulp—

After gulping down his watermelon juice, Aenil could only shout in shock, “Cra, crazy...! This is very delicious!”

It was just watermelon juice, so how could it be this delicious, right?! Of course it would be delicious. Even though it was just a simple watermelon juice, after passing through the hands of Minhyuk, someone that had 5,000 DEX, that was doubled by the effects of Ellie’s Kitchen Knife, it would definitely be able to attract anyone’s attention!

But that was not all! A set of shocking notifications even rang in Aenil’s ears.

[You have drunk the Refreshing Juicy Watermelon Juice.]

[Strength starts to fill your body as your exhaustion fades away.]

[Your STM will increase by +20 for four hours.]

How could a buff from a simple juice produce this much effect?! This was the thought that flashed in everyone's head.

*'I, I want to drink it again...!'*

However, that was when Aenil realized why Gorfido was the one tasked to hand out drinks. Just one look and he could tell that he would be logged out if he tried to ask for another drink.

*'I, I have to work harder! I'll definitely get another drink.'*

Rush, rush, rush, rush—

Aenil immediately ran back to work. And the ones that had a taste of the drink with him...

Rush, rush, rush, rush—

*Rush, rush, rush—*

Rush, rush, rush—

...all ran at full-speed and went back to work.

"Huh? What the hell?!"

"What the hell's wrong with them?!"

"For a moment, I thought we're in a zombie movie?"

Minhyuk smiled viciously at the sight of the rushing people. He was making full use of the 'quest system' by using the juice as a special reward for those that worked hard. Once they got a taste of it, they would definitely work harder. Then, what would happen if someone that was doing things half-heartedly saw them?

"Can I have one of those drinks too?"

"...You do not meet the requirements to get a drink."

"No. I also worked hard so why don't you give me a drink too... Ah, I know. Of course not, huh? I won't drink it."

One of the grumbling and complaining players immediately dashed away when he saw Gorfido's hand settle on the hilt of his sword. The player thought, *'I want to drink it too, you know? Hoo... I have no choice but to work hard for a bit, huh?'*

They would have no choice but to work, out of sheer curiosity for the drink. And once they got a taste of the drink? They could only change and turn into 'Aenil's state and...

"Minhyuk-Ilujah!"

...do their best!

*'Fufufu! Work hard, slaves!'*

Minhyuk grinned widely.

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PD Haruo of Japan's top broadcasting station, KBTB broadcasting station, was walking around in Athenae with his filming crew. He declared, "Either way, the situation will be interesting. We can film how the Food God and the Japanese Players fail in creating the King's Building."

Reporter Yuka nodded when she heard his words. PD Haruo believed that they would fail simply because...

"Just now, I've heard that the rewards that the Food God offered is food, you know? On top of that, Kentaro brought 20,000 people there. Do you think they went there willingly? They just went there because they can't disobey Kentaro. Also, who would want to work hard when the rewards are that poor? That's 100% a failure. That's why we came here to film."

It was the quest to build a building for a king! That was why it was not unusual to fail. However! This was the Food God failing! PD Haruo had already thought of a title too. It went like this: *The Food God Can't Do Anything in Japan!*

Yuka nodded since PD Haruo's words were well-founded and convincing. But still, she raised his doubts and said, "But, wasn't the Food God known for making the impossible possible?"

"This time is definitely different. They have to make the grandest building in the world. The Food God is just a player that eats well. He's not a builder, you know?"

Yuka nodded once again while Haruo smiled in a cunning manner and said, "I don't really like that Food God. I'm sure that the rumors about the food that he made is just something exaggerated for marketing!"

Haruo was definitely certain that the testimonies about the greatness of the Food God's cooking were only exaggerated by the Beyond the Heavens Kingdom.

*'And even if the food that he made is really delicious, there's a limit to how much that can motivate others to work.'*

Moving with such thoughts in mind, they finally arrived at the construction site. Just then, the Food God appeared to meet them. He said, "Oh my~ Aren't you PD Haruo, the famous PD from KBTB broadcasting station? Hahaha!"

"You know me?"

"Of course~ Of course~ You're very famous. What was that... Ha... ha..."

"Happy Days!"

"Ah! Yes, that! I always watched Happy Days!"

Haruo could feel that Minhyuk had not seen a single episode of Happy Days. Even so, he said, "Oh. I guess my programs are famous in Korea too."

As they talked, Yuka said, "PD, I've already informed you but I have something to do so I'll log out and come back later."

"Alright."

Then, Food God Minhyuk handed out drinks to the PD and the rest of the broadcasting station's employees while singing, "*Until when are we going to do~ the shoulder~ dance~ Glug~ glug, glug, glug~*"

Yuka just shrugged and logged out. She did not have the time to receive and taste the drink because she was busy and had work to do in reality.

An hour later, when she came back and reconnected inside the game, Yuka tilted her head in confusion.

"Where did everyone go? Why are their whispers off too?"

Haruo said that they would start their shoot after talking with the Food God. He said that discussions would definitely only last for an hour. But she could not find anyone after coming back after the hour was up. So, Yuka moved forward to find them.

What greeted her was a shocking sight.

"Uwooooooooooh!"

Crack, crack, crack, crack!

A man was digging the ground like crazy. But that was not all, there were around twenty people that gathered around the man and were also digging crazily. These crazy people were none other than PD Haruo and the rest of the broadcasting station's employees. All of them were smiling weirdly.

"Fufufufu... I, I can drink a bit more of that drink..."

"Refreshing and sweet... watermelon juice..."

.

"My, my melon..."

"He, hehehe...!"

"Uwooooooooooh!"

Then, Haruo said, "Everyone, you can do it! Just a few more and we will be able to drink it again!"

"Uwooooooh! Long, long live the Food God!!! Long live the Sect Leader!!!"

Crack! Crack! Crack! Crack!

"...?"

Yuka could not understand what was happening in front of her. Why were they working here when they only came to cover what was happening here? What was worse, this was Haruo, the one that said that the Food God's food was only exaggerated by the rumors.

*'What in the world happened?'*

Chapter 485: The King's Building

PD Harui, with all of his programs receiving high ratings, was one of the producers that soared high in Japan. He was also someone that had clear boundaries and distinction between his private and public matters. But now...

*‘We’re here to cover the story and shoot their progress. So, why the hell...!’*

Reporter Yuka immediately approached PD Haruo and said, “PD, why did you suddenly decide to grab a pickaxe?”

When Haruo turned to look at her, Yuka was very shocked to see the crazed look in his eyes. He looked just like those zombies craving for blood in the movies. Then, he said, “Yu, Yuka... You come here, quick! Grab a pickaxe too!”

“What?! Why should I also grab a pickaxe...?”

“If you’re not joining us then don’t interrupt what we’re doing! Go away!” PD Haruo shouted as he pushed Yuka away. Even her other colleagues were showing similar reactions.

Seeing this, Yuka pulled out her personal camera and moved to start filming while thinking, *‘Since we already got the permission to film, let’s do this. I won’t lose my professionalism.’*

She might be a reporter, but she could also film. As she continued to film, she was met with another shocking sight.

*‘Huh? Now that I’m looking closely, aren’t all of the people working here in a similar state?’*

Yuka felt like both the players and NPCs were going crazy. All of them were getting tainted with madness! Yuka continued to walk around until she found Kentaro’s Seven Admirals.

Kentaro’s Seven Admirals were Japan’s top rankers that had been with Kentaro for the longest time. If Kentaro was number one, then they were ranked third, fifth, sixth, eighth and the likes. They were known for their strict, cold, and ill-tempered personalities.

Of course, just like Yuka expected, these people were working unwillingly. Yuka sneaked forward to get a scoop of their story.

Japan’s ‘Iron Tanker Kaisei’. He was Japan’s number one tanker and was famous for enduring the attacks and damage dealt by thousands of monsters. He said, “This is really ridiculous. Isn’t Kentaro a bit too much?”

“That’s right. I also think that it’s a bit too much.”

And the one that answered Kaisei was...

*‘Isn’t that Saint’s Wing Louvin?’*

Saint’s Wing Louvin was Loyna’s devout follower and a priestess that has received her grace. She was someone with outstanding power and firmly sat at the top rank in the priest’s rankings.

“Why is he making us do hard labor when we already don’t have enough time to level up?”

“The worst part is the rewards. It’s just food. Why do I have to do something ridiculous just for that?”

“Calm down. Take into consideration the server consolidation in the future. It’s good for us to build ties with the Beyond the Heavens Kingdom,” Messenger of Death Taichi said calmly.

“Of course, that’s a good thing. But what if? Just, what if Beyond the Heavens Kingdom turns their back on us once the servers are consolidated?”

“Do we have a guarantee that he will fulfill what he said?”

“Twenty thousand of our guild members participated in this because Guild Leader Kentaro said, *‘If you go there, you will definitely get something special when you come back.’* But is there anything more special than artifacts and EXP to players like us?”

“Right, right. Kentaro is truly mistaken this time.”

Their words made it hard for Taichi to defend Kentaro. In the end, he could not say anything against them. The only reason why they could not protest loudly was because Kentaro was working so passionately.

*‘Just like what PD Haruo said, there are many players that are against this.’*

The sun slowly set in the horizon. Meanwhile, the Seven Admirals began to talk again.

“It seems like I have met the requirements to eat one dish.”

“Those that tasted the dish are suddenly working harder but what’s the point of that? It’s just food.”

“I can’t understand it either. I only eat *meal tablets*.”

Meal tablets were a kind of medicine. This tablet contained a combination of nutrients and proteins beneficial for the body. Just one tablet and one would feel full for the day. Plenty of rankers use this tablet so as not to waste any time eating. Also, even though twelve hours had passed since they started working, the Seven Admirals had only met the requirements to eat one dish, the first dish.

“Let’s just try this one dish then.”

They all moved to where Minhyuk was. Minhyuk was busy delivering food here and there. Iron Tanker Kaisei received a soybean paste stew set meal, Saint’s Wing Louvin received a kimchi stew set meal, while another one of them received the bulgogi set meal.

“The dishes that I’ve tried in Korea are the worst out of all the dishes that I have ever tasted.”

“Yeah. It was incredibly expensive too.”

“It was also too salty.”

“It was alright. But it’s something that I would not want to eat again.”

These were their thoughts and assessments regarding Korean food. Meanwhile, Saint’s Wing Louvin looked at her kimchi stew set meal. The side dishes included in the meals Minhyuk prepared were spinach and bean sprouts, spicy stir-fried fish cake and two fresh out-of-the-pan fried eggs. In reality, Louvin was a picky eater. She was someone that was very choosy in the food that she ate. That was why every once in a while she would consider changing her diet and using meal tablets instead of having regular meals. That very same woman was now stirring the kimchi stew in her bowl.

*‘It looks very salty to me though?’*

Louvin scooped a mouthful of the soup, blew on it gently, before taking a sip.

*‘Huh?’*

Louvin was very shocked at the sudden burst of flavor that danced in her mouth. Although it was just a sip, she could tell that the soup was very refreshing, even though it was hot. On top of that, the spiciness that lingered in her mouth made her crave for something. After a few moments of pondering, Louvin realized that what she was craving for was none other than rice. So, she hurriedly scooped up a mouthful of rice and placed it in her mouth.

*‘The rice is well-cooked...’*

Louvin could tell that the rice was cooked in perfect proportions. It was very well done! Then, at that moment, Minhyuk approached and said, “You should try putting some meat and kimchi on top of the white rice.”

“Ah. Thank you,” Louvin answered as she followed Minhyuk’s suggestion. She scooped a spoonful of the steaming white rice before placing a piece of kimchi and a perfectly cooked meat with a 5:5 ratio of lean meat and fat on top of it.

The moment she placed it in her mouth...

Hallelujah~ Hallelujah~ Hallelujah, Hallelujah~ Minhyuk-llujaaaaaaaah~?

“...!”

Her hand, which was holding the spoon, trembled. The taste of the kimchi and its soup spread in her mouth gently and smoothly. The 5:5 perfect ratio meat was also easy to chew, like some tender beef that melted in her mouth.

And the steaming mouthful of white rice? It was the icing on the cake!

“De, delicious...!”

Louvin finally realized what ‘flavor’ was. She, an extremely picky eater, finally learnt what a ‘true delicious meal’ was, after her twenty nine years of existence!

“You should also try the fried egg and the rice,” Minhyuk suggested, like a kind Korean Restaurant boss to his customers. Following his suggestion, Louvin hurriedly added a piece of the fried egg on her rice.

*'It looks really pretty.'*

The glossy yolk looked a bit runny, but it was still cooked very well.

"Poke the yolk with your chopsticks."

The golden yolk flowed gently down the rice the moment Louvin's chopsticks touched the egg.

"Scoop a mouthful of the white, the yolk, and the rice."

Louvin immediately followed Minhyuk's instructions. She pressed the middle of the egg and scooped the whites, the yolk, and the rice altogether. Then, she placed it in her mouth.

"Crazy... This is crazy delicious...!" She covered her mouth as she exclaimed in admiration. Even her eyes looked shiny and wet with tears. But that was only for a moment, she did not have much time for sentimentality as she hurriedly moved her hands to scoop another mouthful of the kimchi stew!

"Can I have another bowl of rice?"

"This... I can't give you anything else aside from your quest rewards. It will be unfair for others."

"Ah... just one... please...!"

Saint's Wing Louvin, the woman famous for being the most picky and choosy individual in Japan, was now begging for a bowl of rice.

"Then, I'll give it to you for 10,000 gold. Ah, this is only because it's you, Louvin."

"O, okay!"

Minhyuk was someone that would never incur a loss! He even sold his rice at a price that was ten times more expensive than usual! On top of that, as if he did her a favor, Louvin would feel closer and more grateful to Minhyuk.

With the additional bowl of rice, Louvin quickly finished every last drop of soup in the earthen pot. The meal was so satisfying that she could not help but sigh in awe. As she wiped her mouth with a tissue, a quest window immediately popped up in front of her.

The contents of the quest were the same as before. The only thing that changed was the rewards list. This time their choices were: *'Bulgogi, Spicy Stir-fried Pork and Spicy Braised Chicken'*.

*'I, I want to eat them...!'*

Saint's Wing Louvin, the pickiest and choosiest woman in Japan, grabbed her pickaxe and...

"Uwooooooooooooh!"

...rushed out. Yuka looked at her disappearing figure. She had already seen the other Admirals rushing out long before Louvin did. All of them looked frantic as they worked harder than everybody else.

Claaaaang—

“I will eat!”

Claaaaaaaaang—

“Spicy Braised Chicken!!!” Saint’s Wing Louvin shouted with firm determination.

*‘How, how can this be... she just ate one meal...’*

At this point, Yuka realized that PD Haruo and the rest of her colleagues were working hard because they were entranced by the food. Then, at that moment...

“Oh my~ Aren’t you one of the employees of the broadcasting station?” Minhyuk asked as he approached her with a soft smile on his face. Then, he handed Yuka a cold glass of watermelon juice before continuing his words, “You’re not supposed to get this if you’re not working but since you’re a broadcasting station employee, I’ll give you this. In return, please make a good broadcast of our situation here.”

And Yuka...

Gulp, gulp, gulp, gulp—

...gulped everything in one go.

“...!”

Suddenly, she grabbed her camera in one hand, while grabbing a pickaxe with another, before rushing out and screaming, “Uwoooooooh! I will get another of that watermelon juuuuuuuuuuuice!”

All of the people that participated in the building quest were slowly being ‘Minhyukified’.

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It was two in the morning. However, the construction site where the King’s Building would be built was still as lively as ever.

“Sleep?! What do you mean by sleep?! Is that even a problem?! Especially when I’m about to be able to eat Minhyuk’s food again?!”

“Because I have to go to work?! I can get by with just an hour of sleep!!!”

“Uwoooooooooh!!!”

None of the players logged out for the night. It was because they had the crazy idea that they would be able to eat Minhyuk’s dishes once or twice more if they worked at night! They were trying to rationalize their actions by telling themselves that they would just be tired in the morning.

“Let’s work hard a bit more! Just a bit more and we’ll be able to drink that glass of watermelon juice again!”

“Let’s gooooooooo!!!”

Minhyuk scuttled in between them and cheered them up. Those that heard his encouragement squeezed their strength and worked even harder. And that was not all...

“Oh no. Old man~ why aren’t you sleeping?”

“Hoho. Boy, I haven’t eaten anything that’s more delicious than your cooking in my entire life.”

“Is that so? Then, please hang in there a bit more. I’ll make you a very delicious drink and treat you to a meal.”

“Thanks, thank you!!!”

...even the elderly were participating in the work that they were doing at dawn. It had been almost twenty hours since they started the construction! The Five Stars all looked at the scene in shock.

*‘How can a simple dish...’*

*‘There’s still many people at this time?’*

*‘But their faces... they don’t look tired at all.’*

*‘From what it looks like, his dishes also carry an amazing power that helps them gain more strength.’*

*‘Amazing.’*

The Five Stars were the best Named NPCs in Japan. But even for them, Minhyuk’s dishes still looked extremely excellent. However...

*‘We’re still short on people.’*

*‘Even if more than 20,000 people worked 24 hours a day, we still won’t be able to finish everything on time.’*

Just when this thought flashed in their heads, bad news came crashing down. Literally crashing down.

Rumbleeeeeeee—

It was still obviously dawn but the world suddenly turned bright all of a sudden. Then, this bright light suddenly converged and enveloped the site where they were building the king’s building.

[The Absolute Gods are watching you and the Five Stars.]

[They are extremely furious.]

Rumbleeeee—

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang—

Was this what they meant when they said a bolt out of the blue? Just like that, lightning began to strike down from the once clear skies above. There was even a huge thunderstorm that brewed and crushed the pile of stones that the workers struggled to collect and build. Minhyuk, the Five Stars and all of the workers hurriedly tried to dodge the lightning bolts that were already reaching the thousands.

*‘The Absolute Gods are angry? Why?’*

Then, as if answering the question, the notifications popped up.

[The Absolute Gods are furious that a building honoring a human will be grander than their temples.]

[The Absolute Gods are giving you a warning right now.]

[You will suffer from a terrible disaster if you continue to construct the building.]

Minhyuk’s face turned ugly after hearing the notifications. The notifications also rang for the other players and NPCs. Minhyuk quickly tried to ponder about the matters at hand.

*‘We have to stop because the gods are angry? A disaster will befall upon us if we continue?’*

It was completely ridiculous. Also, there was a ‘part’ that he was suspicious about.

“What, what do we do?”

“Minhyuk, what should we do?”

The Five Stars were all confused. Kentaro and the 20,000 players also rushed to him to see his decision. Minhyuk looked up at the skies. And beyond everyone’s expectations, he said, “Hey! Gods! Stop the bullshit. Do I really have to listen to your nonsense?”

“...?!”

“...?!”

“...?!”

“...?!”

Everyone was horrified to hear his words. But then, the notifications rang again.

[One of the Absolute Gods looks at you blankly.]

[One of the Absolute Gods is confused.]

[One of the Absolute Gods has taken a fancy to you.]

[One of the Absolute Gods has become extremely furious.]

[One of the Absolute Gods looks at you with shining eyes as if they found something interesting.]

## Chapter 486: The King's Building

Jarrold, one of the Five Stars, thought that the Absolute Gods' anger would definitely soar and they would wipe everything out here after hearing Minhyuk's shocking remarks. After all, no one had ever dared to say 'Do I even need to listen to your nonsense?' to these gods. Even if they stood against the wrong opponent, Jarrod thought that this was still too much. But then, something strange happened. No, more like nothing happened.

*'What?'*

While everyone was looking around in doubt, Minhyuk looked like he had already expected this to happen. He thought, *'The Absolute Gods would stop a player's ongoing quest? Even if they were gods, that would still mean that there was a huge collapse somewhere, right?'*

If the quest was going to be stopped midway then it should not have existed in the first place, right? Minhyuk noticed right away that the Absolute Gods were only 'scaring' them and he had confirmed it with the remarks that he said earlier. The Absolute Gods had various reactions to his words too with one of them becoming extremely furious.

[The Absolute Gods have started a discussion.]

Minhyuk's expression turned solemn after hearing the notification.

*'They might not be able to stop us but they can get involved.'*

The key here was how they would get involved. Then, additional notifications rang in his ears.

[The Absolute Gods have suggested that you make the grandest and noblest building in existence.]

*'The penalty for failure...'*

It was tremendous. A thirty point decrease in all stats and even a one level decrease of all skill levels? The worst part? The one level decrease in all skill levels was equivalent to at least a sixty level decrease in his overall level. And that was not all. The Five Stars were also going to be punished by the Absolute Gods. This notification was not only received by Minhyuk but also by the

Five Stars and the players present. They also saw the penalty for failure. However, they only received a -2 in all stats. It was much less compared to the penalty that Minhyuk and the Five Stars would receive but it was still something that could sting. They were also informed that they would not incur any penalties if they withdrew now.

“A -2 in all stats? There’s even a +1% in skill cooldown?”

“My gosh... what the hell is this?”

“Why did the gods suddenly intervene?”

Minhyuk could tell what this was. ‘*What a shallow and petty trick...*’? That was right. The Gods were intent on making them give up by allowing them to refuse the quest with no penalties incurred.

“Well, it’s just a -2 on all stats, right? Won’t we gain more if we eat our Sect Leader’s dishes?”

“To be honest, a -2 on all stats for penalty is well-deserved with the level of those dishes.”

“Yeah, yeah. I have never eaten anything that’s more delicious than that in my entire life.”

They were the ones that had eaten Minhyuk’s dishes! None of them were afraid of the -2 in all stats penalty. After all, the taste of Minhyuk’s dishes were so divine that it was enough for them to ignore such penalties. The ‘pleasure of eating’, something that they had never felt before in their life, was something that could completely overwhelm the stat penalty. Also...

“Aren’t the rewards marked as ???, right?”

“Have you ever seen the gods make this kind of quest?”

“Of course not.”

“Then, wouldn’t the rewards be ridiculous?”

“Well, let’s try it just once.”

...the players were extremely determined. None of them left their posts.

[One of the Absolute Gods is impressed by you after seeing everyone unite together.]

After confirming everyone’s willingness to stay here, Minhyuk said, “Let’s hurry and get back to work!!!”

“Yes, sir!!!”

Then, Minhyuk stood up and went somewhere. He was actually very angry. It was already a quest in the form of a ‘bet’ but the Absolute Gods tried to stop it by inducing ‘fear’ in them. The place where he went to was where PD Haruo, Reporter Yuka and the rest of the KBTv, the top broadcasting station in Japan, employees were. All of them were still working crazily and banging their pickaxes just so they could ‘eat more dishes(?)’.

“Everyone from the broadcasting station! You have something else to do.”

Of course, he took out some watermelon juice for them.

“What, what is it? We’ll do anything!”

“Loyalty! Salute!”

“Uwooooooooooh!”

The broadcasting crew cheered and rushed in like zombies when they saw the watermelon juice in Minhyuk’s hands.

“Please broadcast about the bet with the gods and tell them that we’re recruiting people. Ah, you can use the scenes that you have personally seen here.”

“I understand what you mean,” PD Haruo was a veteran among veterans. He could easily edit and send videos that would attract everyone’s attention. Minhyuk also thought that he needed something that could ‘stimulate’ the public’s enthusiasm.

“I think this will be a good title...”

PD Haruo and the rest of the crew looked at Minhyuk excitedly.

“The Ones Making their Stand Against the Gods.”

“...!”

PD Haruo had a hunch. Everyone knew that humans were incapable of going against the gods. After all, even the demons that were far stronger than humans remained helpless under gods. However...

*‘One player is gathering his forces to go against the Absolute Gods!’*

He could expect a huge impact from this.

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Ever since they joined the company, PD Haruo and the rest of the KBTv broadcasting station’s crew had been overly enthusiastic regarding editing the videos. They were the ones that could edit simple videos and make it the center of attention.

“Remove this part! This will get severe criticism and invoke hostility!”

“In the end, Player Minhyuk is Korean. Many of our fellow citizens would be against him just because he is of a different nationality. We have to package him up nicely.”

“We have to make it so that it would be the most stimulating video so we can get the highest ratings. That way we can get more people to come!”

The biggest reason why they were working this hard?! It was because Minhyuk, while rubbing his thumb and index finger in a gesture as if he was talking about money, promised to give them a lot of food if their broadcast was successful.

And then, the video was broadcasted to the world. The video showed how everyone turned into zombies crazed for something as they gobbled up Minhyuk's dishes. The notable fact here was that Minhyuk did not add any 'Sea Honey' in his dishes this time mainly because he was prepared for scenarios like this. That was right, these people that were showing extreme fanaticism and crazed actions were purely because of Minhyuk's dishes. Of course, the video was accompanied by the broadcasting company's experienced commentary.

[With the advent of advanced technology, Athenae, a virtual reality game, has now become our second world. However, in this world, the existence of 'Gods' have put pressure upon the players. It has always been that way. As if to answer their overwhelming existence, Food God Minhyuk, a player, stood tall and declared war against them.]

The figure of Minhyuk standing up and looking up at the sky was displayed in the video. Then, he spat...

[Hey! Gods! Stop the bullshit. Do I really have to listen to your nonsense?]

Of course, the commentary did not end there.

[The ones that can make a stand against the Gods. Food God Minhyuk is recruiting such individuals. Those that are willing to fight with him, please head over to Arsa Village.]

Plenty of people went wild after seeing the video.

[Standing against the Gods? Doesn't that sound so cool?]

[Have you seen those dishes? Everyone suddenly started working hard the moment they got a taste of it. Just how delicious is the Food God's cooking?]

[I'm from the Restaurant Exploration Association. Who wants to go to Arsa Village with me?]

[But... don't you think that it's a bit overboard? Isn't it too ridiculous for someone to become like that after eating one dish?]

[Aren't those things rampant on public TV these days??? That's too obvious, right???]

[The Food God is too disgusting. Did you see his fat picture? I almost threw up when I saw it.]

[I don't think anyone will go there...?]

[If we go there then he'll just exploit us for labor.]

[He's not even a player from our country, why do we have to help him with his quest? Anyone going there is just complete BS.]

[The bastards that will go there are a disgrace to Japan. Bakayaro!]

Everyone was divided into two distinct opposing opinions. But then, at that moment, some people posted other posts.

[Still, I think I want to go and help the Food God. I still can't forget how he went to Yuuta. It moved my heart deeply.]

[I don't think the Food God is a bad person. Just look at what he did for Yuuta. I believe he's a very cool and collected adult.]

[Back then, the Food God has received and rejected countless offers for advertisement and contracts offered by companies that were worth tens of billions of won. However, he went out of his way to visit Japan for a while for something that could not garner him any profit.]

[He has shown great kindness towards a Japanese child. That's why I'll help him.]

The 'Yuuta Incident' was an event that touched the hearts of the Japanese deeply.

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This was a story that happened shortly after Athenae: World War. At that time, the world has declared and chosen the Food God as the top influential figure. However, despite his great influence, he never made a move. Even with countless advertising offers and company offers worth tens of billions of won, he still remained silent.

Currently, a skinny boy sat in front of a window with his hands clasped together in prayer. This boy was none other than Yuuta. Yuuta, born with a rare disease that resulted in a severe gastrointestinal disorder, could only consume 'liquids' which forced him to be thinner and smaller than his peers. And this very same Yuuta prayed dearly, *'Dear God, please let me meet the Food God once. Just once, while I'm still alive.'*

Plagued by this rare disease, Yuuta, who had mostly lived in the hospital, did not know how long he could live in this world. However, an existence fanned the flames of hopes in his heart once again. And this person was none other than the 'Food God'. He was a Korean hero that overcame his rare disease. He was Yuuta's hero. After praying, Yuuta immediately turned to look back while asking, "Dad. Do you think the Food God received the chocolate and letter that I sent him?"

"Of course, Yuuta. He must definitely be happy to receive them."

Yuuta's parents turned sad after seeing him ask so enthusiastically. The Food God was a world-renowned figure. There would definitely be thousands of fan letters and gifts that he received each day. There was no way that he would notice the boy's chocolate and letter. But the young Yuuta still wrote his letter carefully and diligently with his bony hands.

[Hello Mister Food God! I hope I can see you while I'm still alive! I also have a rare disease like you but I still dream of becoming a baseball player and play in the major league! Also, I hope that you can eat this chocolate once you're completely cured from your eating addiction!]

Yuuta firmly believed that he would be able to meet with the Food God while he was still alive. But his parents did not.

*'He's someone that does not even move even when presented with tens of billions of won.'*

*'Yuuta... forgive me. I can't do anything for you.'*

The two of them could only despair at their helplessness. But then, one of the nurses rushed into their room and said, "Mo, mother! Father! Hurry! Bring Yuuta to the rooftop!"

"Yes?"

"...?"

They all went up to the rooftop in confusion.

*‘No way...’*

A completely ridiculous thought flashed in their heads. They wondered if it was possible from the shocking words that the doctor-in-charge had told them earlier. However, they still remained doubtful as they continued to climb to the rooftop of ‘Fuji Hospital’, the largest hospital in Japan. But there was no one on the rooftop. Then...

Whirl, whirl, whirl, whirl, whirl—

A bright light lit up the rooftop as a helicopter appeared above them. On the pilot’s seat, a bulky and muscular pilot wearing sunglasses manned the helicopter to land on the landing spot. With a loud noise, the helicopter finally landed on the hospital’s rooftop.

Whirl, whirl, whirl, whirl, whirl, whirl—

The strong wind brought about by the helicopter’s whirling blade made the hairs on Yuuta and his parent’s head flutter fiercely. Then, several strong and sturdy men wearing suits got off the helicopter. And finally...

Step—

...a 185cm tall man with his swept up black hair and black suit stepped down while loosening his tie. Then, with his hair and collar fluttering from the wind, he walked forward before stopping in front of Yuuta.

The man held out his hand holding a glove and a baseball as he lowered himself until he was at Yuuta’s eye level. He smiled brightly as he gave his gift to Yuuta and said, “Hello, Yuuta? I’m the guy that you call Food God.”

“...Waaaaaaaaaah!”

The boy’s hero, the Food God, the very same person that did not move despite the tens of billions of won of offerings and contract has appeared in front of Yuuta. And the reason why Minhyuk came here...

“Woah! The Food God is right in front of me! I can’t believe it! The Food God even gave me a glove and a baseball! Waaaaaah!”

...was to see Yuuta smile.

Chapter 487: The King’s Building

The entire Japanese Server was in a huge buzz after the release of the announcement that Food God Minhyuk was recruiting people.

“This is our chance to taste the Food God’s dishes.”

“I heard his dishes are crazy good!”

“Ah, more than that, I want to help him because of the Yuuta Incident.”

“I won’t go. The Food God is just an ugly human hiding in a thick coat of pretense.”

People were divided into different opinions. However, what was sure was that the entire Japanese Server was in a huge buzz.

Meanwhile, King Louvre of the Verax Kingdom, the kingdom that planted hidden gossip mongers and spread false rumors about Eto Kingdom's Queen Aria being pregnant with the child of one of the Stars, trembled.

*'How dare these Five Stars...!'*

He was trembling in anger at the audacity of the Five Stars, who were constructing a building to honor King Valex. He knew that Queen Aria had already given up on revealing the truth of the matter. After all, it was very difficult to reverse the public's opinion and clear her name after something like that.

However, the story would be different once this building was finished. This was because all eyes of the people of Eto Kingdom would be focused on the building. What was more, the building that they were constructing was...

*'A building that's grander and nobler than the Gods' Temples?!'*

What kind of bullshit was that?! If that building was successfully made, they would suffer from severe repercussions. Eto Kingdom would even be able to return to its peak.

*'Valex, you bastard! You're still trying to drag me down even after your death!'*

King Louvre had a tremendous inferiority complex. However, he thought he had been freed from that. After all, Valex was already dead and the Eto Kingdom was falling apart.

But now? King Louvre began to make correspondence with the other empires and kingdoms. And along with that...

Each of the kingdoms and empires began to actively create quests. What was more, there was great disparity between the quests' difficulty and rewards that the word 'beneficial' was stamped on them. This was because the other kingdoms and empires did not want to see the rise of the Eto Kingdom once again.

[Isn't this quest too amazing? Ah, there's a time limit. Oh no, what to do? I had already decided to go to the King's Building's site...]

[I also got a good quest. Compared to the quest's difficulty, the reward is extremely good. I can even get a sword made by the Blacksmith Baro...]

The emperors and kings slyly put a 'time limit' on their quests. Doing so would sway the foreigners to choose their quests. If the foreigners headed for their quests first, by the time they finished, the quest for the King's Building would already be over.

They were only able to do this because they believed that they would not incur any losses. After all, the original quests benefited both sides. Even if they generously amped up the rewards, the only

loss that they would incur would be the benefits from the quest. Besides, to them, creating quests was but a simple task. The people's mind began to sway from this move.

Still, they were not satisfied, and did some more petty tricks.

"Have you heard the rumors? I heard that King Louvre will send troops to wipe out those that have gone to the Eto Kingdom's King's Building's site."

"You'll die if you go there! The empires and kingdoms do not want them to build a building in honor of King Valex!"

"Each of the empires and kingdoms have sent tens of thousands of assassins. If you go there, you'll die without anyone knowing."

"And that's not all. From what I heard, Eto Kingdom's Queen Aria is being pressured by her officials with regards to the creation of the building. If worse comes to worst, she'll also send her troops to stop people from coming."

Yes. That was what they did. Since these empires and kingdoms did not have a justification to stop the building's construction, they went so far as to send their own troops and made ridiculous excuses that they were just subjugating monsters to snoop around.

Meanwhile, a masked woman, escorted by a select few knights, arrived in the vicinity of the construction site. This woman was none other than Queen Aria. Queen Aria looked around, *'The kingdom is already done for. Why are the Stars going through all the trouble of doing something like this?'*

Queen Aria had already lost all hope and will to stand up once again. This was because she had seen the collapse of Eto Kingdom, a growing and lively nation, in an instant. She did not have any confidence that her kingdom would be able to hold out and endure against the attacks of the other empires and kingdoms at this point in time.

*'It would be for the better if they stop this nonsense right now,'* She thought, as she hid near the construction site. As they settled down, her gaze drifted somewhere. And the place where she was looking was where Jarrod and Minhyuk were.

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Jarrod immediately realized that the other empires and kingdoms were keeping them in check. So, with a somber expression on his face, he went to talk to Minhyuk.

"Unbelievable."

What did it have to do with those people if they were making a building that would honor the king of Eto Kingdom?

*'We have to somehow finish this building on time.'*

Minhyuk immediately checked the current Building Completion Rate, which was indicated on the blueprint that he had on him.

[Completion Rate: 11%]

Minhyuk sighed. Everyone worked hard for days on end but they only finished around this much. They needed to do more and they also needed to attract more people. Then, a thought suddenly flashed in his head, *'There's one other way.'*

"We need the Eternal Flames."

"The Eternal Flames...?"

The rewards from the building creation quest clearly indicated that Minhyuk would be able to get the Eternal Flames. That was why he confidently said this, "Yes. Once I get my hands on the Eternal Flames, I will be able to cook better dishes and even make them faster."

According to the expected effects of the trailer, Minhyuk's cooking time would be reduced by as much as 40%. On top of that, the dishes that he would be able to make with a strong fire like the Eternal Flames would be tastier and have a stronger buff effect, despite its short duration.

"But from what I know, only His Majesty King Valex could get the flames of the Eternal Flames."

"Only His Majesty King Valex?" Minhyuk asked in doubt. He was sure that the Eternal Flames was listed on the rewards, right? Then, he realized, *'Ah...!'*

In the first place, the quest said that the soul of the deceased king would descend upon the building upon its creation. He could tell that this soul would be the one to bring out the Eternal Flames.

"Is there another way?"

"There's one way but it's going to be very hard," Jarrod said, face turning extremely serious. "You have to break the stone that covers the Eternal Flames and bring it out with your own power. In fact, the reason why it's very hard to get the Eternal Flames is because of the rock shell that covered it. The true Eternal Flame inside does not bring harm to people."

"What do you mean by hard...?"

"It's because the rock shell is too hard. And it's also too hot. On top of that, one has to slam it for at least eight hours a day, otherwise the shell will regenerate on its own."

"...?!" Minhyuk's face morphed into that of surprise. The stone shell will regenerate?!

"To top it off, it's extremely hot..."

The Eternal Flames were known to have enough force to blow away an entire city in one go. But there seemed to be no other way.

"It can't be done by many people?"

"Yes. Only one person can challenge the Eternal Flames at a time."

"Then, I'll challenge it."

“It would be better if we go a bit further away for that then,” Jarrod said, pointing his hands toward the hill that was a bit further away from them. Minhyuk and Jarrod immediately moved toward the hill. The hill was quite high, high enough to overlook the entire construction site.

“I will take it out now,” Jarrod, the man protecting the Eternal Flames, declared as he took out a rock emitting a dazzling red light. “The Eternal Flame will shoot out the moment you attack it. You can avoid the flames as long as you’re out of the five meter range.”

“...When did you get there?”

“Ordinary people will disappear the moment they touch that,” Jarrod said from ten meters away. Minhyuk took a deep breath in response as he pulled out his Continent Destroyer Sword. And the moment he attacked the rock...

[You are challenging the Eternal Flames!]

[The Eternal Flames will burn even brighter if you succeed in acquiring it with your own hands!]

[The items that will use the Eternal Flames, including artifacts, will have a stronger effect if you succeed in acquiring it with your own hands.]

[You have to attack and hit the Eternal Flames for at least eight hours a day.]

Shwaaaaaaaaa—

A huge blast of fire engulfed the area where Minhyuk was. And along with that...

*[Your HP has decreased by 2%.]*

[Your HP has decreased by 1%.]

[Your HP has decreased by 1%.]

[Severe burns have restricted your movements!]

It was only two seconds. Two seconds and Minhyuk’s HP has already plummeted by 4%.

“...Ugh?!” Minhyuk staggered back a few steps.

‘*Shit...?*’

The fire that licked Minhyuk’s skin was shockingly hot. If it was anyone other than him, someone with high fire attribute resistance, then they would have already been burnt to a crisp and turned into dust, scattering into the wind.

“Can you do it?” Jarrod asked, which only prompted silence from Minhyuk.

After a few moments, Minhyuk finally said, “There’s no other choice. Please gather the priests. I think I might need to get constant heals from them.”

Aside from the priests, Minhyuk also needed some buffs with regards to his fire attribute resistance. Minhyuk made and ate epic-grade ‘cold noodles’ on the spot.

[You have eaten Cold Noodles.]

[Your Fire Attribute Resistance has increased by 36%.]

By the time he was finished with his meal, more than a thousand priests had gathered around him already.

“You need to give me heals non-stop for eight hours straight so make sure to take turns.”

“Yes!”

“Just a slight mistake and everything will be for naught.”

The priests all nodded their heads as they watched Minhyuk reach his hands out toward the Eternal Flames once again. Then...

Slaaaaaash—

...he attacked it again.

[Your HP has decreased by 2%.]

[Your HP has decreased by 1%.]

[Your HP has decreased by 1%.]

The fire engulfed Minhyuk as the priests casted heal on him continuously. Then, the notifications rang in his ears.

[A warm and gentle power surrounds your body.]

[You have gained 600 HP.]

[A warm and gentle power surrounds your body.]

[You have gained 450 HP.]

[Your HP has decreased by 2%.]

[Your HP has decreased by 1%.]

Minhyuk's HP constantly increased and decreased! Thankfully, Minhyuk's fire attribute resistance was high enough that he could endure the attacks of the Eternal Flames with just the priests' heals. If an ordinary player was standing here, they would have already died many times over even if they were receiving constant heals.

Clang, clang, clang—

Clang, clang, clang, clang—

A huge blast of flame devoured Minhyuk everytime his sword struck at the Eternal Flames. But despite the burning flames, Minhyuk still had enough leeway to make a game plan, *‘I'll attack the Eternal Flames for eight hours and cook for 10 hours.’* Of course, he should not stop cooking so that those that were building would continue to do so.

Clang, clang, clang, clang—

Clang, clang, clang, clang, clang—

Just like that, three hours had gone by. However, the priests' faces gradually turned ugly as time went by.

"Heok, heok. Shit. This is so hard..."

"I feel like I'm going to die."

"Ugh..."

"I know that we're just casting heals here but it's still too hard."

"Look at the Food God. He should be the one saying that."

It was already crazy hard for them to cast heals for three hours straight. Of course, they had all the right to complain. But after seeing the Food God, they could only remain silent. Three hours have passed but the Food God was still going strong. Some declared that the Food God was just lucky that was why he became strong.

But that was not it. The Food God became strong through his own efforts and hard work.

Clang, clang, clang, clang, clang—

Clang, clang, clang, clang, clang, clang—

Minhyuk was definitely exhausted and burning from the flames. But he never stopped his movements. *'My dishes will taste better and become more outstanding if I get the strong firepower of the Eternal Flames!!!'*? A dish cooked with a strong flame would become more delicious. This was the thought that was running in Minhyuk's head and spurring him on.

Meanwhile, those that were gathered here... *'We have to work hard to meet his expectations.'*? Since Minhyuk put his faith in them, then they would step up to meet that expectation. After all, he was doing this for them.

Clang, clang, clang, clang—

[Due to the extreme pain that you are suffering, the DEX rewards have improved.]

[You have gained 2 DEX.]

[You have gained 1 Will.]

The notifications rang continuously in Minhyuk's ears. Then, another two hours went by. Perhaps it was due to exhaustion that Minhyuk suddenly staggered.

"Huuuh?!"

"Huuh?!"

Just when the priests were getting worried, Minhyuk slapped himself awake and started to attack the rock again.

Clang, clang, clang, clang, clang—

Shwaaaaaaaaaaaaa—

“Crazy...”

“Isn’t he cool?!”

He stood up once again in front of the huge fire and continued this lonely fight. Seeing this, the priests' admiration for him began to skyrocket. And eight hours later...

[You have successfully restricted the regenerative properties of the Eternal Flames.]

...Minhyuk finally stopped attacking.

“Fwaaaa. We’re going to logout for a bit.”

“It’s backbreaking.”

But then, Minhyuk said, “I should go and cook for them now.”

“...When will you rest?”

“Ah. Around ten hours later?”

The priests were all left speechless.

“Are you crazy?! You have to rest, even for a bit. It must definitely be harder for you. Us, priests, took turns to rest but you, Food God, you did not.”

“A lot of people came here and put their faith in me. So, I have to repay that.”

“...!”

“...!”

“...!”

“...!”

“Well then, I’m going to make food for everyone now.”

The priests all looked at him with genuine awe and admiration.

*‘The Food God is truly a good person.’*

*‘Are you telling me that everything that he has now was all thanks to his effort and hardwork?’*

*‘Is he still a person?’*

*‘He’s really amazing.’*

The injuries on Minhyuk’s body were stark on his skin. And since they were on top of the hill with the best view of the construction site below, everyone could see what happened. Right now, all eyes were looking at Minhyuk. Their eyes were all shining with awe and yearning to be with the Food God which spurred their enthusiasm on and made them work harder.

“Minhyuk.”

“Ah, yes?”

One of the priests called out to Minhyuk, who was on his way to cook, and said, “When the servers merge later, will you accept me as a citizen of Beyond the Heavens Kingdom?”

“Of course, you’re very welcome there.”

Some of these priests were Kentaro’s guild members. However, there were still quite a few unaffiliated priests among them. And these people were willing to go to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom as long as Minhyuk accepted them.

“Me, me too! Please accept me too!”

“Me too!!!”

“Include, include me too!”

Right now, it was a very foolish move for players to migrate to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom. After all, the Beyond the Heavens Kingdom was still in a precarious situation compared to other kingdoms. However, they clearly saw the kingdom’s potential right here and now.

*‘If it’s that person then...’*

*‘He will definitely not stop at becoming king. He might even become an emperor!’*

*‘Everything will be possible if we’re with him!’*

The priests that were present here saw a future with Minhyuk and his kingdom. And... they were not the only ones shocked right now.

[You have received Aria’s favor.]

[You have received Aria’s favor.]

[You have received Aria’s favor.]

“Eh?” Minhyuk looked around in doubt. After all, Aria was King Valex’s wife and the current ruler of Eto Kingdom.

Chapter 488: The King’s Building

Aria, King Valex’s wife, was hailed as the most beautiful woman in the continent. After King Valex’s death, she ascended the throne and became Eto Kingdom’s queen.

Currently, she was stomping furiously on her way to the construction site.

*‘The Stars did not even consult with me...! How dare they! How can they do something like this without consulting with me, the queen of Eto Kingdom? And who in the world is the foreigner that’s leading the build?!’*

*‘Eto Kingdom is already done for...?’* This was what Aria wholeheartedly believed. After all, their people no longer had any faith and trust in the kingdom. There were even many people that left the kingdom, just like the ‘Five Stars’. There was no hope left for the Eto Kingdom anymore.

But then, on that hill not too far away, the man, the main culprit behind the recent hubbub, challenged the Eternal Flames.

*'It's impossible. No human has ever taken the Eternal Flames with their power alone,'* Aria thought. She had heard a lot from King Valex, the only one that could freely bring out the Eternal flames, *'Even the gods have a hard time taking out the Eternal Flames with their own power. The tremendous blast of flames that bursts out can immediately turn a person into cinders. On top of that, one has to attack it for eight straight hours, otherwise it would just regenerate. Something like that is completely impossible.'*

It was difficult for a person alone to continuously strike the Eternal Flames for eight straight hours, but that was not the biggest problem. The biggest problem was the damage that the Eternal Flames could incur on the person the moment they attacked. Aria believed that the man would not be able to endure this torture. He would either withdraw from the pain, or die and turn into cinders. However...

Baaaaaaaang—

Baaaaaaaang—

Claaaaaaang—

...the man looked like he did not know how to back down. He continued to attack even when the tremendous blast of flames licked his body and made him suffer from extreme pain.

Claaaaaaaang—

Claaaaaaaang—

The man continued to swing his sword while stumbling on his feet every once in a while.

*'N, no...!'*?Aria unconsciously became worried for the man. However, he was able to endure the pain and even continued to swing his sword.

Baaaaaaaang—

Once the eight hours was up, the blasts of flames and the rock's regeneration stopped.

*'Impossible...!'*?Aria was shocked. Then, she watched as the priests knelt down in front of the man. But that was not all.

"Did you see that? He swung his sword repeatedly for eight straight hours. He did not even take a break once!"

"Is that even possible...?"

"That's really amazing..."

"Crazy..."

Everyone was in awe of the man. But just when they thought that everything was over for the day...

“You’re going to cook...?”

...the man did not take a break and began to cook for an hour, two hours, four hours, seven hours straight. Aria, who saw the scene, was left speechless. After cooking for ten hours, the man disappeared for a while, but when he came back he started striking the Eternal Flames once again.

“...”

Aria was once again at a loss for words. She thought, ‘*Even I have given up on my own kingdom.*’? There was no more hope for their Eto Kingdom, so why was that man not giving up? And it was not just him...

“No! You have to sharpen it like this!”

“Stones! I need more stones! Bring it to me, quick!”

“Hurry!!!”

...even the Five Stars and the other foreigners were not giving up.

“Hey! Can’t you see the Food God over there? Do you think you can slack off when he’s working hard for us?”

“I’m not going to log out today. I’m cashing in my annual leave.”

All of them were giving their all.

But what was she, the queen, doing?

‘*Can we even get back on our feet?*’ Aria imagined herself asking the unknown man over the hill. Just like that, one day, two days, three days passed by. Time continued to pass by. Aria kept watching them make progress. One day, at dawn, while Aria was sleeping in the small tent that she had set up near the construction site...

Rumbleeeeeee—

...a loud rumble shook everything.

“Your Majesty, the Queen!”

“Are you alright?”

The escort knights hurriedly rushed to her to check on her situation.

“I’m alright. What’s happening?”

“We don’t know either.”

Not long after, Queen Aria came out of the tent. Everyone’s eyes were focused on a particular area. And in that place, they saw the rough shell that surrounded the Eternal Flames scattered on the ground, as the Eternal Flames that were glowing like ruby and burning hotter than any flames appeared.

“...!”

Aria was completely and utterly taken aback. How could the man get the Eternal Flames with his own power? Then, a huge burst of flames swirled in the area, but the heat did not affect the man. With a pinch, he was able to seize the Eternal Flames in his own hands.

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[You have successfully acquired the Eternal Flames with your own power.]

[The effects of the Eternal Flames have been improved.]

[Even the Gods are surprised with your achievement!]

[Ingredients for the Cooking Trailer have been detected. You can use the Eternal Flames for the artifact.]

A faint smile hung at the corners of Minhyuk's mouth as he thought, *‘I can't get enough of this sweet aftertaste!’* Hard work would always bring about great rewards! And Minhyuk could never get enough of it.

He immediately applied the Eternal Flames to the Cooking Trailer.

[You have used the Eternal Flames on the Cooking Trailer.]

[The All Creation Production Book has been triggered. Producing the Cooking Trailer.]

[With the improved effects of the Eternal Flames, the completed Cooking Trailer will have better effects than expected.]

[The Cooking Trailer has been completed.]

[‘Anonymous’ has been announced to the entire continent for your achievement in creating an artifact closest to God.]

And along with that, a cooking trailer that was as small as a toy floated on top of Minhyuk's palm. Minhyuk immediately checked the artifact's information.

?Your cooking time will be reduced by 60%.

?Your cooking time for bulk dishes will be reduced by 70%.

?The flavor of the dish will be preserved in bulk dishes. No deterioration will occur.

?Automatic cooking function.

?With the stronger firepower, stir-fried dishes will have a 10% increase in buff effects.

?Dishes cooked in the trailer would have a 30% increase in buff effects and a 40% duration reduction.

?The trailer can detect any danger in the vicinity. The higher the level of danger detected, the higher the chances of creating a higher-grade dish that can help you overcome the approaching crisis.

?Attacks and damage will be nullified while you are cooking. However, it is only effective for an hour.

?Active Skill: Double Food

“Wow...” Minhyuk could only utter this word in amazement. The effects were extremely good, especially these two: the 60% reduction in cooking time and the active skill ‘Double Food’. Both effects were outstanding.

Active Skill

Double Food was literally an overpowered effect. If Minhyuk casted Double Food within ten minutes after he cooked a ‘God-grade Dish’ then, the same dish would appear in front of him.

*‘And also...’*

Minhyuk also had a skill, Overlapping Delight, that allowed him to receive the effects of two buffed dishes at once. What would happen if he ate a dish with Double Food at the same time?

*‘Crazy...’*

It would definitely give him a tremendous boost in power.

“God-rank?”

“The Food God received a God-rank artifact?”

“Uwaaaaaaaah!”

Once again, plenty of people turned their attention toward Minhyuk after hearing the world message. This was the first time that Minhyuk had ever received a God rank in public. However, he did not care. Especially when a notification rang in his ears as he looked at the cooking trailer that looked like a carriage in his palms.

[Would you like to use the Cooking Trailer?]

“Yes,” Minhyuk answered as he threw the trailer on the ground. The moment he threw it, the Cooking Trailer grew bigger and bigger until it was the size of a huge carriage.

Minhyuk could not help but rub his eyes in disbelief the moment he entered the trailer, “This...?” Although it was not explicitly mentioned in the Cooking Trailer’s special effects, the cooking trailer’s outside appearance looked small enough. A rough estimate of its size outside would be around ten to thirteen square meters.

But once he was inside...

*‘It’s roughly around fifty square meters?’*

It was quite a large area for a kitchen.

Minhyuk began to cook, *‘With this, the people outside will work harder and faster.’* He was solely after the buffs that the dishes would bring as he cooked. The first dish that he made was spicy stir-fried pork. The trailer was complete with a huge cooking pot and a small space for cooking single dishes. He could use whatever space he wanted based on the situation that he was in. And right now, he was using the huge cooking pot. He placed enough ingredients for 400~800 people as he started cooking the spicy stir-fried pork.

Rumbleee—

Along with that, a set of notifications rang in Minhyuk’s ears.

[The Eternal Flames are displaying their firepower.]

[You have received an additional 10% increase in the buff effects for stir-fried dishes.]

Then...

Shwaaaaaaaaa—

...as if olive oil was poured into a heated frying pan, huge flames soared from within the pot. However, *‘It’s not hot,’*

Minhyuk did not feel the heat at all despite the flames burning brightly and cooking the dish evenly. As Minhyuk continued to stir-fry with his cooking shovel, another set of shocking notifications rang in his ears.

[You can activate the Automatic Cooking function.]

[Upon activation, the Automatic Cooking function will follow the user’s DEX.]

Minhyuk had been doubtful about the automatic cooking function since earlier.

“Start Automatic Cooking.”

At that moment...

Shwaaaaaaaaa—

...the spicy stir-fried pork began to move on its own as it got cooked evenly.

“Crazy...!”

It was truly convenient. With this, Minhyuk could make other dishes at the same time. It was not just that; it could also exert the same power and ability that was in accordance with the user’s DEX. When the dish was finally done...

[You have completed the Spicy Stir-Fried Pork.]

[Epic Grade.]

After that, Minhyuk quickly distributed the dishes. Those that received the dishes felt their hand tremble as they looked at the effects.

*‘This is crazy...!’*

*‘W, waaaaaaaaaah...!’*

?All stats increase by 18%.

?Increases a chosen skill's level by +2.

"...!"

"...!"

"...!"

"...!"

Those that have finally come across the Food God's actual dishes were shocked. Minhyuk tried to go back to cooking. But then...

"What, what did you say?!"

"Right, right now?!"

A commotion broke out among the workers. After receiving the report, Kentaro immediately ran to Minhyuk and said, "Minhyuk, there's trouble!"

"What?"

"According to the reports, what seemed to be the troops gathered by the other empires and kingdoms are coming. Their number is said to have exceeded 180,000!"

"...!"

Minhyuk was shocked at the report. There were more than 180,000 troops marching toward here?

*'What the hell should we do?'*

Why did they suddenly decide to attack? They also did not have any justification to wage war. After all, they were just constructing a building.

*'Something's strange.'*

However, no matter the cause, the fact that it was an emergency remained. Once the 180,000 troops arrived, they would kill everyone here, and even destroy everything that they had built.

*'Everything that we worked so hard for would be wiped out?'*

"We will fight!"

"This is tyranny! Those empires and kingdoms! Bastards!"

"Uwooooooooooooooh!"

Queen Aria was also flustered by the sudden turn of events.

"Your Majesty Aria, we have to quickly escape from here."

Aria looked at her escort knights in doubt. She asked, "I don't understand. If they were going to attack anyway, why not do it earlier? Why now...? If those empires and kingdoms did this, then they would not be able to escape the public's criticism."

Aria bit her lips in anxiety.

Rumbleeeee—

The ground began to shake. This was more than enough evidence to prove the rumors that more than 100,000 troops were marching here. Some of the 20,000 players logged out while others wailed in despair. However, Minhyuk and Kentaro stood firmly in front of them.

In a blink, a sea of black appeared and surrounded them, their weapons pointed at them and ready to fight. Minhyuk's lips were also pursed in a thin, straight line, tension evident in them despite his calm facade. But then, the man that led the group stepped forward and approached Minhyuk. Minhyuk looked confused when he saw the man stop in front of him. He voiced his doubts, "Yuuta's dad?"

"It's been a long time, Minhyuk."

He was the father of the boy, Yuuta, that Minhyuk met in the past. Then, the people that surrounded them all sheathed their weapons. That was when Minhyuk realized why he felt that it was strange, "Don't tell me..."

Yuuta's dad smiled brightly, "We all came here to help with the construction."

"We came to join you!!!"

"We're here to help!!!"

"Uwaaaaaaaaaaaaah!"

Only then did Minhyuk learn that the 180,000 troops were not enemy troops, but allies. Meanwhile, Queen Aria felt her body start to tremble as she thought, *'The man that won the hearts of this many people... How far can you go with your power?'*

#### Chapter 489: The King's Building

The rumors about the 180,000 enemy troops charging towards the construction site was something that they themselves had spread. This was because there were plenty of empire and kingdom troops that were snooping around Minhyuk's construction site and a single rumor about them coming to help would definitely bring about disastrous results.

So, the people that wanted to come to Minhyuk's aid and help in the construction site talked about ways to go undetected on the community sites. Seeing this, Yuuta's dad took the initiative to gather them and played a small trick that could cause distraction and disturbance among the other kingdoms and empires.

First, they spread rumors that Artha Empire sent troops to Yveno Kingdom. Yveno Kingdom sent troops to Artha Empire, while Artha Empire sent troops to Borto Empire. Just like that, they created disturbance among the other kingdoms and empires. With those rumors, the kingdoms and empires would have to spend some time to confirm the truth of the matter, which would give them enough leeway to arrive at the construction site. The other kingdoms and empires had no 'justification' to

stop the construction and once their troops had arrived at the construction site, they would have no other way to stop them from coming.

[A 180,000 strong group had appeared to help Player Minhyuk.]

[Some of them came to try his dishes, some came to join in and share in getting a new achievement, while the others came just to purely help Player Minhyuk.]

[This is a shocking and amazing sight.]

The commentators from all over the world were very shocked to see 180,000 people gather together to help Minhyuk. With that, the speed of their progress grew rapidly.

“Quick, move the stones!”

“If you work a bit harder, you’ll be able to get watermelon juice!”

“I’m really looking forward to the Spicy Braised Chicken for dinner, you know?”

The surprise did not end there. Minhyuk also prepared dishes for the Five Stars.

[You have eaten Spicy Braised Chicken.]

[During the 72 hours buff duration, all of your stats will increase by 12%, your DEX will increase by 19% and your painting skill’s level will increase by +2.]

Elise was very shocked after eating the dish that Minhyuk had made for her, ‘*My DEX will increase by 19% and even my painting skill’s level will increase by +2?*’ This was the best buff effect that she had ever experienced in all her life. It was not only her, all of the Stars had received tremendous buff effects.

*‘I’m in a better state than when I was in my prime.’*

*‘Unbelievable...’*

*‘I will be able to make the best sculpture in my condition right now.’*

The Stars were able to create better items, whether it was a painting or a sculpture, than the items that they produced in their prime.

“Gorfido. Let’s take advantage of your ability to create the sea.”

Gorfido, the man that would become the fisherman king, had a skill ‘Sea Creator’. This skill allowed Gorfido to create the sea and the creatures living within it. With this skill, Gorfido created a lake around the building.

Exactly nineteen days later...

[The building in honor of King Valex has reached 100% completion rate!]

[With the involvement of the Absolute Gods, the exact score could not be computed yet.]

[The Absolute Gods will send the kings and emperors from each of the neighboring nations to the building.]

[The Absolute Gods will look at the building through their eyes.]

[The higher the score the Absolute Gods give, the greater the rewards that you will receive.]

Minhyuk received an unexpected notification, *‘The kings and emperors will come here?’*

The kingdoms and empires served different gods. Minhyuk did not know much about the Absolute Gods, but it seemed like this case was an exception. From what he could tell, it seemed like the Absolute Gods would pass their orders via the ordinary gods to these rulers.

Minhyuk looked at the finished building in satisfaction, *‘They’ll probably be surprised.’*

The smile on Minhyuk’s face was filled with confidence.

\*\*\*

King Louvre was the one that brought King Valex to his death. He had a severe inferiority complex, so he asked the gossip mongers to create rumors and incite suspicions and doubt between King Valex and the Five Stars. This very same King Louvre was the first to reach the vicinity of the building that commemorated King Valex.

When he arrived there, he saw around 200,000 people near the building. KBTB broadcasting station only broadcasted the first eight days of the construction. No video was released after that. Because of that, the broadcasting stations from Japan, Korea and the rest of the world were very curious about the building.

*‘I know that God sent me here but I’m still speechless.’*

As mentioned before, King Louvre felt very inferior to King Valex. That was why he would definitely scrutinize and criticize every corner of this building. King Louvre believed that the building would be nothing more than trash and stepped forward with thoughts about how he would ridicule it.

Minhyuk appeared right next to King Louvre the moment he took a step forward. He said, “I will assist you.”

“Alright,” King Louvre agreed as he walked towards the building with his arms crossed behind his back. Using outstanding magic and meticulous arrangement, the building was completely hidden from the outside.

*‘How great can this building be that even the gods are interested in it?’*

King Louvre thought as he entered. However, his breath was stuck in his throat the moment he stepped foot inside.

*‘Heok?!’* Louvre gasped in shock the moment he saw the building. It was because the building was surrounded by glittering white lights and floating in the sky. That was not all, underneath it, as if it was enveloping the building, was...

*‘Isn’t, isn’t that a lake?!’*

It was not just an ordinary lake. The lake glittered an emerald light that reflected on the building. Everything in front of Louvre brought him in a daze.

*‘I’ve, I’ve never seen a building more beautiful than this in my life...’* However, he hid the thoughts in his mind and said, “It’s fine.” as he stepped foot on the stairs leading to the building floating in the skies.

Then, a notification rang in King Louvre’s ears the moment he stepped foot inside.

[You have entered Star Painter’s Elise exhibition commemorating Valex.]

A spectacular sight immediately greeted Louvre, *‘Isn’t, isn’t this the universe?!’*

With countless stars glittering in the darkness, the vast universe unfolded in front of him. The stars slowly floated in front of Louvre until it created a figure. Like a book flipping quickly, the scenes engraved in the universe changed. From Valex’s birth, to when he first held his sword, to when he first went to the battlefield, to when he worked hard to benefit his poor citizens, to when he first addressed his people, to when he became king, until he became friends with Louvre.

[Elise’s paintings have brought out the sincerity within you.]

[As an agent of God, you will be sincere and true the moment you enter the building.]

“Va, Valex...”

The scene of Valex smiling brightly as he held Louvre’s hand flashed by right in front of Louvre.

*Throb—*

Louvre felt his chest ache. Although Valex treated him sincerely as a friend, because of his own inferiority complex, he longed to deprive Valex of his growing and developing kingdom. Because of his greed, he did everything until he took everything away from his friend.

But even after doing all of that, he never felt happy. He blamed himself and wallowed in both regret and hate. However, everything was already done. There was no turning back for him anymore. In front of this painting, King Louvre felt like he was about to collapse from the pain. What was more... Elise’s painting in front of him...

*‘Is this truly a painting?!’*

...she painted the universe to show Valex’s life. The sight alone made his heart pound in both awe and admiration. As Louvre moved forward, the paintings also changed. The universe slowly disappeared, turning into the things Valex loved and cherished during his lifetime. Valex had always loved birds. And these birds that he loved were now chirping and fluttering their wings in the skies.

*‘The sculptures of Star Sculptor Berk...’*

The sculptures of the flowers that covered the place were blooming beautifully. Despite the fact that they were sculptures, these flowers still emitted a wonderful scent that wafted into Louvre’s nose. In fact, the sun above him was also a sculpture, yet it was shining brightly upon him. Louvre kept on walking further inside. The building itself was so beautiful that the only proper word to describe it was: otherworldly.

In the end, he reached the place where a large statue of Valex in his prime stood. The statue was wearing a golden robe. This golden robe, which passed through the hands of the Star Tailor, was more beautiful than any other king's robe in existence. Then, Louvre saw the small hill behind the statue. It seemed like that hill was where Valex was supposed to be resting. And finally, King Louvre, who stood there in a daze...

Thuuuud—

...could no longer support his body. He fell down on his knees and cried out, "Forgive, forgive me... I... I..." while bowing deeply. He kept on bowing to Valex for a long time.

The building that Minhyuk, the Five Stars and 200,000 people made, was beauty in and of itself. It was also something that brought about the sincerity within one's heart.

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After King Louvre entered the building, the rulers of three kingdoms and one empire arrived.

"This is ridiculous. King Louvre will never give a good evaluation on that building," Ephino Empire's Emperor Broden scoffed in annoyance.

*'Why do I have to come here personally just to see a building?'*

The other kings were also of the same mind.

"Let's just take a quick look and go back."

"The gods said that they would look at this building through our eyes so we have to scrutinize every nook and cranny. Of course, I'm sure everything in there is lousy. After all, the Five Stars are not the same as before."

The kings mocked openly, their faces covered with ridiculing sneers. How dare they challenge the gods! The broadcasting stations from all over the world reported this scene.

[It seems like the kings and emperors of the Japanese Server are quite unhappy.]

[That's only natural. After all, they're busy enough as it is but they still have to personally come here just to look at a building. And it's not even a temple that honor their own gods.]

[They will definitely not give a good score.]

Of course, the commentators could proudly and confidently utter these words because they did not know the true face of the building. Because of that, the general viewers also thought negatively of the situation.

[Weren't the Five Stars and King Valex the ones in the wrong? But they still expect these kings to give them a good score?]

[That's a huge contradiction.]

[But I'm still dying to see what's inside...]

Just when their worried voices started to echo in the area...

Step, step, step, step—

The kings and emperors waited with mockery clear on their faces.

*‘Come, tell us quickly that it’s trash.’*

*‘How dare they build a building that honors a mere human...’*

*‘Even I, an emperor, only thought of having a tomb to honor me, but never a building.’*

Just when these thoughts flashed in their heads, King Louvre appeared and said, “This building...” Everyone gulped nervously as they focused their eyes on Louvre, who turned to look back at the building with a bittersweet smile on his face, “...is the greatest, noblest and most beautiful piece of architecture that I have ever seen in my life.”

At the same time...

[One of the Absolute Gods that looked at the building through King Louvre’s eyes is now giving their score.]

[The Absolute God has thoroughly enjoyed looking at the building.]

[The Absolute God has given 100 points, the highest score possible.]

[The Absolute God has given a present for King Valex.]

Then, at that moment, a huge shooting star fell from the otherwise clear skies. The shooting star fell down and settled on top of the building, as it emitted a bright and shining light.

“...!”

“...!”

“...!”

“...!”

Everyone was so shocked to hear that a hundred points had been given. With that, the kings and emperors all rushed inside the building. When they came out an hour later, some were bawling while some were smiling happily. Then, another set of notifications rang in the ears of everyone present.

[One of the Absolute Gods that looked at the building through Emperor Broden’s eyes is now giving their score.]

[The Absolute God shed heartfelt tears while looking through the building.]

[The Absolute God has given 100 points, the highest score possible.]

[The Absolute God has given a present for King Valex.]

Then, another shooting star fell down from the skies.

[One of the Absolute Gods that looked at the building through King Alex’s eyes is now giving their score.]

[One of the Absolute Gods that looked at the building through King Lephos’ eyes is now giving their score.]

One after another, four shooting stars streaked through the skies and settled on top of the building. Then, once more...

[The Absolute Gods have been truly delighted and will now bestow their gift.]

The brightest, most brilliant, and most beautiful gift began to fall from the sky. This time, it was not a star, but a small sun. It fell down in the middle of the stars as a dark space surrounded them. The suns and the stars seemed to reflect the figures of the Five Stars and King Valex, who used to laugh and have a good time together in the past.

Then, the notifications rang not long after!

[You have seen the Five Stars and the Sun!]

[As the first person to witness the birth of the grandest and noblest building in existence, all of your stats will permanently increase by +1.]

[Your EXP Acquisition Rate will increase by 30% for two weeks.]

The notifications that rang were very shocking. Before the shock could die down, Queen Aria, who had always been watching on the sidelines, suddenly made her appearance and declared, "Five Stars, heed my words!"

"Yes, Your Majesty!"

"Yes, Your Majesty!"

"Yes, Your Majesty!"

"Yes, Your Majesty!"

"Yes, Your Majesty!"

The Five Stars hurriedly showed their courtesy at the queen. All of them had small smiles fluttering on their lips. They were sure that Aria would definitely acknowledge their hard work and give them credit after they built this building. Perhaps, they might even live together once again just like they did in the past.

But then, Aria said, "For creating a building in honor of King Valex without my permission, I am now expelling you from Eto Kingdom."

"...!"

"...!"

"...!"

"...!"

"...!"

Everyone was shocked. That was when they saw Aria looking at Minhyuk. Minhyuk, who was also looking at her, could see that Aria's body was shaking lightly.

‘*Don’t tell me...?*’Minhyuk already had an inkling of the reason behind her actions. Besides, her eyes were clearly telling him: *Please take good care of the Five Stars.*

#### Chapter 490: The New Tower Masters

Aria felt her heart thump like crazy. She wanted to take back the words that she said right away but she could not do that. She had hated them, yet they still used their skills and power and worked together to create their final work for Eto Kingdom. Keeping them by her side meant that she had no shame. Also...

‘*The Stars will shine more brightly if they’re with him and not with me,*’Aria realized that their place was not with her in the Eto Kingdom anymore. They must follow that man for them to shine even more brightly.

“Your Majesty!”

“I’d, I’d rather you kill me!!!”

“How, how come?!”

The Five Stars, with their heads down on the ground, screamed. They could not understand why they were suddenly expelled from the kingdom when they were supposed to be praised for their hard work.

“I will not take back my order. Leave the Eto Kingdom within a week,” Arya smiled bitterly.

“And every once in a while...” her voice got stuck in her throat, “...come and visit me.”

“...!”

“...!”

“...!”

“...!”

Only then did the Five Stars realize what Aria meant. She was sending them away so they could shine brighter than they could here. Aria then, with a tear dripping down her cheeks, smiled brightly at them.

“May you live a long life, Your Majesty!”

“May you live a long life, Your Majesty!”

“May you live a long life, Your Majesty!”

“May you live a long life, Your Majesty!”

“May you live a long life, Your Majesty!”

The Stars no longer asked her to take back her orders. They knew that she would not change her mind no matter what they did. All they could do was to answer her with all their might and give her their final courtesy. At that moment, a set of notifications rang for Minhyuk.

[The Five Stars can now be your vassals.]

[Star Painter Elise. She's a legendary painter that can make her art look alive.]

[Players that will migrate to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom will gain an additional 5% increase in DEX Acquisition Rate, 10% improvement on painting skill, and a dramatic increase in skill proficiency.]

[Star Chef Cord. He's a chef hailed to be the best in Eto Kingdom. Even emperors dreamt of tasting his dishes.]

[Players that will migrate to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom will gain an additional 5% increase in DEX Acquisition Rate, 10% improvement on cooking skill, and a dramatic increase in skill proficiency.]

[Star Tailor Ellen. Every cloth that passes through the hands of Ellen gains a special ability. He's the only one in the world with this ability.]

[Players that will migrate to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom will gain an additional 5% increase in DEX Acquisition Rate, 10% improvement on tailoring skill, and a dramatic increase in skill proficiency.]

[Star Sculptor Berk. He's hailed as the father of all sculptors. All of the sculptures that he made look like they're alive.]

[Players that will migrate to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom will gain an additional 5% increase in DEX Acquisition Rate, 10% improvement on sculpting skill, and a dramatic increase in skill proficiency.]

[Star Strategist Jarrod. He's a genius strategist and tactician famous for defeating tens of thousands of enemies with only 500 troops. Legend has it that having him was like having ten thousand troops in your hands.]

[Players that will migrate to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom will gain an additional 5% increase in DEX Acquisition Rate, 5% improvement on INT. Having him as your vassal will also produce outstanding effects like troops and kingdom strengthening and reinforcement.]

'*Crazy...*' Minhyuk was very shocked. All in all, just by having the Five Stars as his vassals, players that decide to migrate to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom would have a total of 25% increase in their DEX Acquisition Rate.

But was that all? Of course not.

'*Depending on their job, they will have a dramatic increase in their skill proficiency rate.*'

It was a completely ridiculous benefit.

'*This...*'

At this point, Minhyuk could already tell that all of the production class players in Asgan Continent would flock to Beyond the Heavens Kingdom after knowing these effects.

*‘This will revitalize Beyond the Heavens Kingdom...!’*

Minhyuk trembled in excitement. However, one should take note of one important fact. It was the fact that the rewards were not yet over. Then, a brilliant blue light suddenly shone and covered the entire building. At the same time, a notification rang for everyone present.

[Eto Kingdom’s King Valex has descended to visit the building that was made to honor him.]

At that moment, all of the NPCs present hurriedly bowed. Seeing this, the sensible players also followed suit and showed courtesy.

Swoooooooooooooosh—

The blue light seeped through the building and went deeper inside before rushing towards the skies and falling down gently, like snowflakes on a cold winter day.

“Uwaaaaaaaah...”

“Beautiful...”

The blue snowflakes immediately melted the moment it touched the people’s bodies. But surprisingly enough, instead of coldness, they were met with ‘warmth’.

[King Valex’s soul is very pleased with the building that honors him.]

[King Valex is thankful to everyone that participated in the construction.]

[Everyone that participated in the construction will receive EXP based on their contribution.]

[As the one in charge of the building’s construction, you will receive a higher EXP and greater rewards.]

[You have gained 3,000,000,000 EXP.]

[You have leveled up.]

[You have leveled up.]

[King Valex has bestowed you his blessings.]

[All of your stats will increase by 2%.]

[Your Physical and Magical Defense will increase by 10%.]

Minhyuk smiled in satisfaction after hearing the notifications. And finally, the long awaited notifications rang.

[You have achieved a splendid result and successfully won the bet against the Absolute Gods.]

[The Absolute Gods will now give you your rewards.]

[Your EXP Acquisition Rate will permanently increase by 27%.]

[You have acquired Vestagio’s Golden Crown.]

[You have acquired one God’s Ore Vlad.]

[You have acquired two God's Resetting Potions.]

[You have acquired Tonkatsu Ramen made by God.]

[You have acquired Soy Sauce Egg Rice made by God.]

[You have acquired Beef Katsu made by God.]

[You have acquired the Karaage made by God.]

[Among the dishes made by God only the 'Tonkatsu Ramen' has a special ability.]

Then, another set of notifications rang.

[One of the Absolute Gods clicks their tongue at the rewards that 'he' has bestowed upon you.]

[One of the Absolute Gods thinks it's ridiculous.]

[One of the Absolute Gods shoos 'him' away.]

[The Absolute God that bestowed the dishes smiles strangely.]

The Absolute Gods' reacted weirdly. After all, why did 'he' give food as a reward? However, Minhyuk immediately knew who bestowed him these rewards, *'It's definitely the God of Cooking.'*? Contrary to the Absolute Gods' expectations...

"Kyahaa! As expected, my rewards are dishes!!! Keuhahahaha! You really know me well!"

If they were standing in front of Minhyuk, they would definitely have question marks floating above their heads.

*'No, do you mean that the valuable artifacts and gold that we have bestowed upon you are nothing in front of food?'*

[One of the Absolute Gods urges you to check the other rewards.]

They thought Minhyuk's reaction was like that because he did not check the information of the rewards. However...

"Ah, that's too troublesome! Well, I'll go check it quickly then I'll eat my ramen~"  
Minhyuk immediately checked the rewards, as if he found the act to be annoying.

Vestagio's Golden Crown was a golden crown with no special abilities. However, it was an item that was made from pure gold and was extremely heavy. Its description also explicitly stated that one would be able to receive '1,011 platinum' if they sold it. In other words, it was a gold reward. There was also a resetting potion.

*'It's a bit special, huh?'*

The moment the potion was consumed, all of the player's stats and skills would be returned to its state at your specified time. Simply put, it was a potion that restored the players stats and skills to its original state.

*'This could be the best potion depending on how one uses it, right?'*

For example, one could immediately use this potion after incurring the penalty of using their pinnacle skills. Using that would mean that their stats and skills would be restored to their original state.

After checking, Minhyuk smacked his lips and said, "It's not bad." He looked like he was not interested in anything else aside from food.

[The Absolute Gods are looking at you incredulously.]

Ignoring them, Minhyuk quickly entered his cooking trailer.

*'This is so no one can ask me for a bite!'*

The actual King's Building Quest was already over. There was nothing else that he needed to do at the moment. So, he immediately took out the tonkatsu ramen and the soy sauce egg rice the moment he entered his trailer. He could already feel his thumping heart, his mouth watering at the thought of eating everything after all of his hard work.

Steam rose from the bowl of ramen, as he took in the sight of the white broth enveloping the green onion and bean sprout garnish, tender char siu, two pieces of soft boiled eggs, and seaweed.

*"Kgghk~ The God of Cooking really knows how to eat!"*

It was not just one, but two soft boiled eggs! The yolk even looked like it would flow down immediately. Minhyuk took out the plastic spoon and disposable chopsticks for eating ramen. He then took a sip of the white broth.

*"Wow~ The flavor is really clean and refreshing,"* Minhyuk burst out in admiration the moment the broth entered his mouth, a smile hanging pleasantly on his face.

Then, he immediately clamped a mouthful of noodles and slurped on it. The noodles were not the curly ones and were the long and white type but nevertheless, the sound that it produced was still divine, *"Sluuuuuuuuuuuuuuuurp!"*

The chewy and firm texture of the noodles widened the smile hanging on his lips the moment they entered his mouth. There was also the sound that accompanied the slurping...

Crunch, crunch, crunch—

...it was the sound of the fresh and crisp bean sprouts.

*"Kghhkhk~"*

Then, Minhyuk lifted the entire bowl, blew on it gently before slurping up a mouthful of the broth.

*"Kyaa~ That's so refreshing."*

This time, Minhyuk munched on a mouthful of noodles as he added two pieces of char siu on his spoon.

*'Char siu tastes best if you pair it with the ramen soup,'* he thought as he tilted the spoon slightly, allowing the soup to fill it up, before lifting it up to his mouth. The smile on Minhyuk's lips widened further the moment the tender char siu and the refreshing soup met in his mouth. They truly were the best combination.

Then, he turned his attention to the soft-boiled egg, partnering it with the noodles,  
“Sluuuuuuuuuuuurp~”

The smile on his face was extremely wide, but he just could not help himself. The harmony of the flavors and textures of the soft-boiled egg and the noodles were perfect.

After finishing the ramen, Minhyuk stretched his chopsticks towards the soy sauce egg rice. The soy sauce egg rice was topped with egg yolk, plain seaweed powder, chopped green onions, slices of beef and a drizzle of Japanese soy sauce.

The moment Minhyuk poked the yolk with his spoon, the yolk spilled over the rice below. Its bright yellow color coated every piece of rice the moment he mixed it. When he scooped a mouthful of the dish in his mouth, the mix of flavors from the yolk, the thinly sliced beef, and the other ingredients danced in his mouth. Whenever Minhyuk’s mouth turned dry from the rice, he would scoop up a mouthful of ramen soup and moisten his throat.

Minhyuk finished every last piece of grain and every drop of soup. He slowly went into a daze as a satisfied smile erupted on his face. He thought, *‘It’s really delicious. It’s truly the flavor of Japan.’*

Then, he dragged a glass of cold water towards him as he gulped its contents.

Gulp, gulp, gulp, gulp—

The distinct and greasy after taste of the ramen was instantly washed away by the cold water.

“Kgghk~”

Then, Minhyuk pulled a piece of tissue and blew his nose! After throwing this piece, he pulled a new piece and wiped the oil around his mouth. When everything was done, the notifications began to ring.

[You have eaten Ramen.]

[You have gained +5% on all of your stats.]

An additional 5% to all of his stats, was a tremendous increase in power considering Minhyuk’s stats. Everyone would feel satisfied and happy after eating something delicious and gaining stats, right?

Then, the notifications regarding the Absolute Gods, who were clicking their tongues at him about liking food instead of their rewards, rang.

[One of the Absolute Gods wipes their drool.]

[One of the Absolute Gods is begging the one who cooked the ramen to make one for them too.]

[One of the Absolute Gods is looking at you with a motherly smile.]

[One of the Absolute Gods is rubbing their stomach.]

[One of the Absolute Gods is in awe after watching your mukbang.]

Even the Absolute Gods could not escape the charms of Minhyuk’s mukbang!