

Gourmet 821

Chapter 821

[The skies, the seas, the land.]

[The greatest and strongest sword that can split the world has appeared.]

[This Sword...]

[...has cut even the Eight Pillars.]

The entire Athenae was turned upside down once again when these notifications rang all over the world. Even the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army in Edea stopped in the middle of their march when they heard these notifications. However, the notifications did not end there.

[Anonymous has grabbed the greatest sword in existence!]

The whispers among the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army grew louder and louder.

"The notification itself says that it's the greatest sword?" Valentino, the God of Shields and the one considered as Italy's greatest tanker, groaned. "I'd like to get hit by that sword at least once."

Meanwhile, cold sweat dripped down Master Archer Miao's forehead. Who in the world got their hands on that sword? There were quite a lot of guesses and assumptions amidst the players. None of them were sure who the owner of the sword was.

"Fortunately it's not the Food God."

"Whoever that is, I hope that they can deal with the Food God."

"New and strong players will always appear. There're also those unofficial rankers."

Food God Minhyuk was currently acting as Edea's commander. Master Archer Miao had clearly seen him amidst the hundreds of Hanwoos that came charging at them. She even saw Minhyuk turn around after Hanwoo trampled on them.

However, there was one thing that everyone was sure of. The players all over the world all felt envious and jealous. At the same time, there was also a great sense of anticipation and excitement.

There was an uproar in Joy Co. Ltd. The moment the players all over the world received the notifications, the officials of Athenae quickly checked on the situation.

"How high is the attack of the greatest sword in existence?"

"I can't believe that the most powerful sword has already made an appearance. Isn't this much faster than what we expected?"

There was only one thing that everyone was curious about. That was the item window that would usually be displayed in front of the player. However, because of the Player Confidentiality Agreement made with the executive-level players, they could not check the players' item window.

Joy Co. Ltd.'s conference room.

President Kang Taehoon groaned as he sat in front of all of the executives.

"It seems there will be quite a lot of God-rank artifacts that will be released soon."

With the appearance of the greatest sword, the production team would have to work and supply more God-rank artifacts.

"Well, that's a relief. It's just in time. We will have approximately fifty players that should reach Level 600 in a month's time."

Whenever someone obtained something special, the others would also be able to obtain something special too. If the high ranking players were lucky, they might be able to overtake the others if they could get a good reward among the special privileges after reaching Level 600.

The fact that Minhyuk had obtained the greatest sword in existence was already a huge variable on its own. However, it was still manageable since he was a non-combat class player. It would be difficult for him to handle the other combat players once they got their special privilege after reaching Level 600.

Not long after, they turned on the monitor. President Kang Taehoon nodded as he looked at the monitor. He said, "Display the Sword of Aeon's window."

"Yes."

Everyone looked at the screen nervously. With the clacking of one of the executive's keyboards, the item information window appeared on the screen.

(Sword of Aeon)

Rank: God

Requirements: God, the One that Lifted the Second Seal

Durability:

Attack: 2,354

Special Abilities:

- Increase all stats by 37%.
- Reduce all skills' cooldown by 30%.
- Passive Skill: Double Basic Attack Damage
- Passive Skill: The Greatest Sword
- Active Skill: Submission and Surrender
- Active Skill: God's Dual Sword Technique

Description: Aeon. This is a sword that has been sealed for so long that one could not remember when it was first sealed. Only its second seal has been lifted, the sword still cannot exert its full power.

The entire conference room was plunged into silence.

The attack of ordinary high rankers' swords usually ranged from around 1,600 to 2,000. However, the Sword of Aeon's attack far exceeded that.

A sword's attack would affect not only one's basic attacks, but also all attack skills related to the sword. Assuming that another player had the same conditions but using a different sword, with a 37% increase in all stats, they would be able to incur almost 1.5x more damage than normal.

Then, there were the skills attached to the Sword of Aeon. Some of the skills that appeared before had been deleted and replaced by new ones. However, the one that stood out the most was the Dual Sword Technique.

"Display the God's Dual Sword Technique."

Just like that, the effects of the God's Dual Sword Technique appeared in front of them.

"..."

"..."

Everyone was left speechless. Using the God's Dual Sword Technique was very difficult. After all, it was only possible if one had two God-rank swords with them. However, it was perfect for Minhyuk's circumstances. So, using the skill was already possible.

Still, that was not the most shocking part. Even though the God's Dual Sword Technique could only be activated for five minutes, the skill user's attack speed would increase by 70% during the entire duration. Even the power of all of the sword-related skills would also increase by 1.4x.

"..."

Everyone was speechless.

At that moment, Department Head Kim Dae-Il murmured, "It's just as we expected, no?"

That was right. It was still within expectations. However, not long after, the Story Team's Leader suddenly groaned. It seemed like he finally had seen through the crux of the item's description.

"Keheok!"

"What's the matter?" Kim Dae-Il looked at him in confusion.

The Story Team's Leader, with his shaky voice, said, "Please read the item's description once again. But this time, read it very, very carefully."

At his words, everyone turned to look at the description once again. Then, their eyes grew bigger one after the other. They finally noticed the crucial point.

[Only its second seal has been lifted, the sword still cannot exert its full power.]

"On— Only the second seal?!"

"It's not yet fully unsealed?!"

President Kang Taehoon and several other executives looked quite calm and collected. They already knew this fact.

Meanwhile, Kang Taehoon turned to look at the monitor once again. He watched as Minhyuk checked the Sword of Aeon with the God of Death and Hella, whose soul's extinction was approaching. Then, he said, "We have a bigger problem."

Everyone turned their attention back to President Kang Taehoon as he continued, "The Sword of Aeon has not even received any strengthening and reinforcement yet."

"I love you, Hella."

These were the words that Hella hoped and longed to hear for thousands of years. She knew that the man she loved was the reason for her death. Because of that, the man was drowning with guilt and could only avoid her. However, instead of an apology from her lover, what she wanted to hear from him were those words, and those words alone.

Hella's eyes shone with her tears as she looked at the God of Death as she gestured at the whole of Hell, vast, empty and lonely.

"Are you going to plant flowers?"

"I will think of you every time I look at those flowers."

"How about planting some trees too?"

"I'm sure that I will smile as I eat the fruits born from those trees while thinking about you."

"Will you remember me?"

"Forever and always. I will never forget you until the day that I disappear from this world."

That was right. Hella only wished to hear these words from the God of Death. After finally hearing those words, Hella could no longer hold back. She jumped into the arms of her lover.

The God of Death held Hella tightly in his arms. The warmth of her body and her unique scent that he had not felt for the longest time put the God of Death's heart at peace.

However, the God of Death could already see Hella's body shifting between a translucent state and her original state repeatedly. She truly did not have any more time left. She had to cross the River of Reincarnation now. Before that, there was something that the God of Death had to do first. He gently placed Hella down before turning to look at Minhyuk.

"..."

Minhyuk's breath hitched, his breathing turning ragged as pressure fell upon him.

Even though the God of Death's eyes looked empty, they still contained charisma that belonged to an absolute being. The God of Death was an Absolute God that even the Battle God, who ruled over all of the armies, could not control.

Then, the God of Death said, "How dare you take what is mine?"

"..."

“I will crush and destroy everything related to you. I will drag all those that you care about in Hell and make them into my slaves. I will make it so they will be forced to wander in Hell without being able to reincarnate.”

Indeed, the God of Death was truly capable of something like this. He had the power to make those words the reality.

Hella tried to say something but she promptly closed her mouth after a brief moment. Even though the God of Death loved her, this was something that she had no power to stop. In the first place, the God of Death was a vicious and ferocious being that no one could ever get close to.

“And I will deprive you, who entered Hell without my explicit permission, of the power to enter Hell once again.”

[The God of Death has banned you from entering Hell!]

[Once you leave, you will no longer be able to enter Hell anymore!]

The God of Death looked at Minhyuk coldly. He was different from the Battle God. He was a god that no one could get along with.

“The next time we meet, I will tear your body apart.”

It was an ill-fated relationship. Saving Hella was part of a quest. In other words, the rewards that he received would come with a price. Unlike the other gods, the God of Death did not have any interest nor did he have any favorable impression of Minhyuk.

“If you cook for Hella before she leaves, then I will turn a blind eye on this matter.”

This was not something that he asked just because he felt a sense of familiarity or was friendly with Minhyuk. The God of Death did this for the sake of Hella, the woman that he loved the most.

Minhyuk, on the other hand, was relaxed. In fact, he even chuckled when he heard those words. That was cool. For the sake of the woman that he loved, he was willing to become an ordinary man, even for a brief moment, and not the God of Death.

“Are you kidding me?”

Of course, in Minhyuk’s fashion, he had to snap back at him. The God of Death was doing this for his lover, and not for his own good. If that was the case, then he had to be the one to fight for his own benefits.

“Without anything in exchange?” Even though Minhyuk said those words, there was a soft smile on his face. Cooking for Hella was something that he also wanted to do.

“Let’s make a deal.”

Ring!

[Hidden Quest: Hella and Louis’ Parting Meal.]

Rank: A

Requirements: The one the God of Death asked to cook; the one that returned Velma’s ownership.

Rewards: You will be granted the Origin Authority: The One that Advances once.

Penalty for Failure: The God of Death will be hostile to you.

Description: The God of Death wants to have a final parting meal with Hella before she crosses over the River of Reincarnation. Satisfy them with one final feast.

Minhyuk was very surprised when he saw the quest window.

‘Did you just say Origin Authority?!’

The three greatest gods each possessed an Origin Authority of their own.

One of the Origin Authorities was the God and Knight that was now in Minhyuk’s possession, a skill said to be superior to any other skill in existence. As for the second Authority, it was in the hands of the God of Death.

‘The One that Advances?’

It would only be granted to him once. Minhyuk had no idea about what kind of power it was. However, the difficulty of the quest that was given to him was quite low. In fact, it was only at rank A. The dishes that he would cook would only serve as a decoration to make the parting of these two people more beautiful. It would be fine as long as Minhyuk did not do anything weird with the dishes that he would make.

‘This is definitely for business.’

Minhyuk saw the part in the requirements where he had to return Velma’s ownership. Of course, it was something that he was not sad to part with. After all, he already planned to send the Hell Horse back from the very beginning.

Leaving the messy things behind for a moment, Minhyuk began to cook. The dishes that he chose would definitely serve to change the atmosphere between the two parting lovers into something beautiful and romantic.

So, what was Minhyuk going to cook? It was none other than carbonara. Minhyuk boiled the spaghetti pasta while he stir-fried some bell peppers, button mushrooms and bacon. He also grilled some steak until they were medium rare.

Shwaaaaaaaaaaaa—

The two gods sitting by the side could not take their eyes off of the rising flames as the olive oil made contact with the pan. After he finished cooking all of the dishes, Minhyuk took a table and some chairs from his inventory and placed them in front of the two.

Both gods were unfamiliar with the dishes that he cooked, so Minhyuk had to explain how to eat them one by one. “Hold the steak with your fork and cut it with your knife.”

The God of Death followed his instructions, his hands moving awkwardly as he cut a piece of steak.

“Then, please feed this piece to Hella.”

“...”

The God of Death, who successfully cut a piece of steak, raised the fork and placed the food in Hella's mouth. Of course, Hella did the same. She rolled a mouthful of carbonara and delivered it to the God of Death's mouth. The two looked at each other, small smiles hanging at the corner of their lips.

When they finished their parting meal, the notifications rang in Minhyuk's ears.

Ring!

[You have completed the Hidden Quest: Hella and Louis' Parting Meal.]

[The God of Death will grant you the Origin Authority: The One that Advances once!]

River of Reincarnation.

Unlike the other sights in Hell, the area around the never-ending River of Reincarnation was covered with green grass and its beauty was breathtaking.

The River of Reincarnation was impartial. Once someone entered and crossed through the River of Reincarnation, all of the memories of their past lives would disappear. Even if they were gods in their previous lives, they would not know what kind of existence they would become once they were reborn.

Right now, standing in front of this majestic and beautiful River of Reincarnation was the God of Death and the first God of Farming Hella.

[Hella will perish soon!]

Hella's feet started to turn blurry. However, the two just stood together hand in hand and looked at the River of Reincarnation.

Then, Hella asked, "If you get reincarnated, what kind of being do you want to become, Louis?"

The God of Death looked at Hella. His voice sounded so soft, warm and gentle that one would wonder if he was truly the God of Death as he answered her, "A human."

"A human?" Hella looked at Louis in surprise.

Those that lived and sat in their position as gods would generally be reluctant to give up their place. Yet, the man beside her wanted to be an ordinary human being.

"I don't want to be just any human being." Louis smiled softly. "I want to be a human being born right next door to you."

"..."

"I will be born right next to you, grow up next to you, and chase after you. Then, when you come of age, I will confess to you. I want to be the kind of human being that will have two children with you, who look like you. I want to be the kind of human being that will do ordinary things with you, eat delicious dishes with you, and continue to walk and smile together with you once our children grow up and leave our nest."

“...”

“That’s my greatest wish.”

Tears streamed down Hella’s cheeks. She said, “Sniff. Make sure of it. Make sure that you’re born right next door and chase after me. Make sure to watch over me so that I don’t bounce off all over the place.”

“I promise you. I will make sure to do it even if it requires me to visit Athenae.”

“Pfft. What’s that?”

The God of Death wiped the tears off of Hella’s cheeks as she chuckled at his words. Then, Hella took one step, then another, and another, until she entered the River of Reincarnation. She turned around and looked at Louis with a bright smile on her face as she turned into a light that floated around like a firefly, before disappearing with the current.

[You have activated the Battle God’s Voice!]

In the sky above them, a beautiful picture was drawn. It was the picture of the God of Farming Hella and the God of Death Louis wearing ordinary farming clothes, holding their children’s hands tightly as they went home with their backs against the sunset.

Chapter 822

Hella disappeared after crossing the River of Reincarnation. However, she looked the happiest until she was completely gone.

The reason why Minhyuk triggered the Battle God’s Voice was not because of the God of Death.

‘I acknowledge and respect your firm determination and pride in turning the barren lands of Hell fertile and green.’

Hella had struggled for thousands of years and eventually disappeared. However, her efforts throughout the millennia deserved all the respect. So, he triggered the voice as a show of courtesy to the first God of Farming.

“...”

“...”

After Hella left, the two men were left with an awkward atmosphere. Perhaps it was only natural. The only reason why Minhyuk was able to talk to the God of Death was because Hella was there. Besides, the God of Death was considered the coldest god out of all the gods in existence.

However, this cold God of Death remained standing in front of the River of Reincarnation with a blank look on his face. The problem was an hour and thirty minutes had already passed since Hella had disappeared.

‘...No way. There’s no way that the God of Death is staring at the River of Reincarnation because he’s feeling awkward, right?’

When this question flashed in Minhyuk’s head, he had no choice but to open his mouth. After all, it was frightening to think that they would keep standing here forever like this.

“You know...”

“Hmm?”

Only after Minhyuk spoke did the God of Death turn to look at him. The moment Minhyuk saw the expression on the God of Death’s face, he knew that he had guessed right.

‘I knew it! I was right! He was pretending to look at the River of Reincarnation because he’s feeling awkward!’

Among all of the Absolute Gods, the God of Death was the most headstrong god. He was also someone that had not met many people in his long life. So, this meant that he was at a loss when it came to handling people and having conversations.

The God of Death’s legs, who finally turned around to look at Minhyuk, trembled slightly.

‘He stood in place for an hour and a half to look at the River of Reincarnation, of course his legs would feel numb,’ Minhyuk thought, a wry smile on his face.

Then, the God of Death said, “Give me your sword.”

“...?”

Minhyuk tilted his head in confusion when the god suddenly asked for the Sword of Aeon.

The God of Death seemed to know what Minhyuk was wondering about, and he explained, “The effects of The One that Advances can strengthen and reinforce your sword.”

“...!”

Minhyuk was shocked to hear that. The God of Death already had the power to lift the sword’s second seal. That was why it was very surprising to hear that he could even boost the power of the Sword of Aeon.

“Do you know what kind of sword the Sword of Aeon is?” The God of Death asked as he looked at Minhyuk nonchalantly, as if Minhyuk was an insignificant ant.

To be honest, Minhyuk did not really know. Usually, one would be able to learn about the story behind the artifacts that they obtained by going through a quest. However, in Minhyuk’s case, he was able to obtain the Sword of Aeon by choosing cooking ingredients from Rumacar’s Treasure Box.

Minhyuk immediately focused on the God of Death’s words. It seemed like the god in front of him knew the story of the sword and what kind of sword it was. However, the God of Death suddenly stopped talking.

‘Why did he stop talking?’

Minhyuk knew then that the God of Death would not tell him even if he asked. Perhaps the system had restricted the God of Death from divulging any information about the sword. Or perhaps the God of Death was just not in the mood to tell him about the sword. Either way, Minhyuk would not be able to pry any further. So, he just handed the Sword of Aeon to the God of Death.

“It would take three days for the power of the Authority to seep in and spread in the sword.”

“What...?”

It was unexpectedly long. The problem was it came at a time when Minhyuk had many urgent matters to attend to. He had to return to Edea and help the Allied Forces, whereas the unsealing of the sword was Minhyuk’s personal situation.

“Can it be done a bit faster?”

“Absolutely not. If you don’t like it, then give up some of your powers.”

Perhaps the God of Death’s reinforcement could make his sword truly stronger. Minhyuk estimated that the sword would unconditionally be reinforced by +1 every day for those three days. He did not think that it was correct to give up on the reinforcement and just go back to Edea like that. Besides, the reinforced and strengthened Sword of Aeon would absolutely exert a huge power once he returned to Edea with it.

“I understand.”

Fortunately, Edea’s Allied Forces and the Jade Emperor’s Coalition Army had not yet entered a full-on war.

‘They can survive for three days.’

He was sure that Edea’s Allied Forces would be able to hold out for that long. The God of Death grabbed the blade of the Sword of Aeon with both of his hands.

Drip, drip—

Red blood dripped from his hands and seeped into the Sword of Aeon.

[The God of Death has triggered the Origin Authority: The One that Advances on the Sword of Aeon in your possession.]

[The reinforcement of the Sword of Aeon has begun!]

[0%... 0.2%... 0.3%...]

Minhyuk looked at the slowly progressing reinforcement bar. Suddenly, he felt something suddenly vibrate in his inventory. When he took out the item, he could not help but wonder. The item that was vibrating was the Puzzling Seasoning Jar where Obren always slumbered.

“Obren...?”

Minhyuk looked anxiously at the vibrating Puzzling Seasoning Jar.

The day that Minhyuk left Edea to go to Hell was also the day that Obren left to do something. Obren had watched Minhyuk pass through the Gates of Hell, staring at the place where he disappeared from with a bitter smile on his face, before turning in the opposite direction.

“Have a safe trip, idiot.”

The stupid idiot would have to go to Hell to greet the God of Death, he could not help but worry. Then, Xuanzang approached him.

“Shall we go?”

Obren nodded. He remembered Xuanzang telling him to become the tenth Absolute God. The only way to do so was to kill the Jade Emperor and take over his throne. However, it was not as easy as it sounded.

‘It wouldn’t be easy for you to win against the Jade Emperor as you are now. And even if you win, you wouldn’t be able to take his throne.’

Master Xuanzang clearly knew that Obren was an outstanding character. However, that was the Obren of the past. In fact, even if it was the Obren of the past, there was a chance that Master Xuanzang would not see him as someone strong and powerful.

—You’ll have to get the Absolute God’s Necklace. It’s currently in someone else’s possession.

—Absolute God’s Necklace?

—It’s the necklace that someone, who wanted to become an Absolute God, has taken a long time to create. If you have this necklace, you will become the new Absolute God after killing the Jade Emperor.

—Then, who owns the Absolute God’s Necklace?

This was the most important thing. Who was the one that has been preparing for a very long time to take over the Absolute God’s seat? Obren was absolutely sure that it was very hard to deal with this guy. After all, this guy had been preparing to become an Absolute God.

—The people call him the Great Demon Verus.

—...!

Obren groaned when he heard the name Great Demon Verus. If Evil God Obren was the object of fear of many in the past, then the present had Great Demon Verus.

From what Obren had recalled, Minhyuk had sealed the Great Demon Verus a few years ago. The problem was that it was just a seal placed upon him on earth. The Great Demon had most likely already started to regain his power in the Demon World and was only waiting for the time of his awakening.

“We have to obtain the Absolute God’s Necklace in the Demon World.”

Master Xuanzang was someone that possessed special and amazing powers. He hung the beads that he usually turned in his hands on Obren’s wrist and continued, “These Buddhist mala beads will help to awaken your sealed powers.”

[You have equipped Buddhist Monk Xuanzang’s Buddhist Mala Beads.]

[You were once hailed as the Evil God. However, you are currently in a weakened state.]

[You will receive rewards if you kill evil beings while wearing the Buddhist Mala Beads.]

[You can immediately use the power of the Buddhist Mala Beads to remove the sealing force that has sealed your own powers. Or you can choose to wear the beads for a period of time and let it permanently absorb the sealing force and help you regain your powers.]

Master Xuanzang's mala beads could be considered as a mysterious and bizarre artifact. Obren could clearly feel a god-grade power coursing through it.

Then, Obren asked, "Why are you doing this?"

Master Xuanzang smiled bitterly and answered, "The Jade Emperor will definitely take advantage of the foreigners from the other continent's invasion to descend upon Edea himself. Do you think the Food God will be able to stop the Jade Emperor once that happens?"

"..."

There was a loophole in the agreement between the Battle God and the Jade Emperor. Although the descent of the Jade Emperor's envoys could be controlled, his own descent did not have any restrictions at all. Of course, if one looked at the cycle, the Jade Emperor could only descend for thirty minutes at most. However, he could easily wipe out all of Edea's Allied Forces in those thirty minutes.

Basically, Xuanzang was supporting Evil God Obren for the sake of Edea's safety. If Obren could become the Absolute God, then he would be able to bring peace to Edea.

"What a funny little monk." Obren, the dark-haired handsome man, giggled as if he found Xuanzang funny and interesting.

On the other hand, Xuanzang just kept silent as he drummed the muyu in his hands.

Tak— tak— tak...

"Namo Amitabha Buddha..."

As someone that could make the most rational judgment out of all of the kings in Edea, perhaps it would be safe to say that the Buddhist Monk Xuanzang was the most logical, but also the harshest character of them all.

"Since you want to protect Edea, then you have to come to the Demon World with me."

"Of course, I will go with you. I can come and go as I please in Edea."

"What a truly interesting power. Who are you?"

Master Xuanzang felt Obren's cold gaze. Obren was quick-witted, he knew right away that Xuanzang possessed powers that were beyond ordinary.

"It's just like what you said. I am a monk. So, my powers are bestowed upon me by Buddha."

"Speak any more bullshit and I will twist your head off."

Obren was the type of person that did not trust other people. His trust and belief was reserved for one person and one person alone, which was none other than Minhyuk.

“Open the path.”

Xuanzang and Obren went to a quiet and deserted place. The two of them entered the door that led to the Demon World the moment Xuanzang beat his muyu.

Thick demonic energy wrapped around the two as they crossed over to the Demon World. It was as if the thick and cloying energy was greeting them. Xuanzang, who suddenly received the pressure from the thick and heavy demonic energy, could not help but groan.

“Hey.”

“...”

Xuanzang, who had closed his eyes to try and stabilize his body from the heavy demonic energy that surrounded him, opened his eyes quickly.

“You said that no one would be at the entrance.”

“N— Namo Amitabha Buddha...”

Tak— tak— tak...

Master Xuanzang could not hide how flustered he was. What he intended to do with Obren was to take the Absolute God’s Necklace from Great Demon Verus, who was currently sealed and was in the form of an egg, without alerting anyone in the Demon World. However, there were around 300,000 demonic beasts waiting standing in front of them, as if they had been waiting for their appearance.

“The— The Lord Buddha would also make mistakes sometimes...”

“...”

Xuanzang knew that their plans had already gone awry and would probably go down the drain soon. From what it looked like, the demonic beasts waiting for them were at around Level 450~500. Perhaps the Great Demon Verus had set it so the Demonic Beast Army would be summoned once an intruder entered the Demon World.

Xuanzang only had a rough estimate of the extent of Obren’s power. However, even though he had been called the Evil God in the past, most of his powers were currently sealed. From Master Xuanzang’s point of view, there was no way that Obren could take on the 300,000-strong Demonic Beast Army on his own.

“Shall we turn back?”

They could just turn around and return. However, Obren shook his head and said, “Just give me five minutes.”

Xuanzang frowned. They would be very foolish if they did not run away right at this very moment. So, he persuaded, “No. If we don’t turn back now then...”

However, Master Xuanzang was not given the chance to finish his words as tens of thousands of the Evil God's Books floated in the sky and shone a dark light all over the area. When Obren took a step forward, black lightning bolts rained down upon the enemies from the books in the sky.

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang—!

The demonic beasts turned into ashes and disappeared without a single trace. Obren continued to walk amidst their collapsing ranks. Then, another book, which looked different from the other books, slowly rose to the sky.

[Book of Restrictions.]

[You have used the Book of Restrictions.]

[The power of the Evil God that has been temporarily suppressed and sealed has started to be unsealed!]

Vwoooooooooooooong—

Obren's dark hair fluttered with the wind and covered most of his handsome face. However, his dark eyes shone a dangerous glint from between the gaps of his hair.

Only then did Master Xuanzang realized, 'I— I have already measured his strength but it seems like he was still holding back?!'

Most of Obren's power had been sealed. This was the assumption that was deeply ingrained in Master Xuanzang's head. However, even though Obren's powers had been sealed, his current strength had already reached that of an Absolute God's power. It was only natural that he could still display this much power in a weakened state.

Then, Obren said, "Get lost."

Another Evil God's Book floated in the sky. Black flames burst out and burned the book down. Then, it turned into a huge meteor that was completely engulfed by the very same black flames that devoured the book.

Baaaaaaaaaaaaang—

The meteor shot down and devoured all of the demonic beasts on the ground, destroying everything until there was nothing left of them. The time it took to sweep away and destroy the 300,000-strong Demonic Beast Army was exactly five minutes.

Obren stood in the middle of the aftermath of his one-sided slaughter. Seeing him stand there, Master Xuanzang recalled the conversation that he had with Obren in the quiet and deserted place that they went to in Edea before coming here.

—You see, there's something I'm very curious about. If you become an Absolute God, then what kind of god would you like to be?

All of the gods had a role to play. Since he was an Evil God, it seemed like it was only appropriate for him to opt for the name God of Evil once he became the tenth Absolute God. If not that, then it would be even better to be called the God of Goodness. The choice was up to him and whatever path he wanted to tread on.

Obren thought for a moment before opening his mouth to answer that question.

—A Guardian God.

Chapter 823

Demon World.

Master Xuanzang and Obren made their way to where Great Demon Verus was. After Obren had wiped out the 300,000-strong Demonic Beast Army at the entrance, even more soldiers of the Demon World's Army had appeared to block their path.

Rex had used several demons to attack the Beyond the Heavens Kingdom, using the name of the God of Death. However, the demons that appeared back then were nothing but empty shells; they were not true demons.

‘When members of the demon race or demonic beasts descend on earth, their power would weaken greatly.’

In the Demon World, these demons would be able to exert power that could exceed someone at Level 700.

Master Xuanzang groaned. ‘We had planned to take away Great Demon Verus’ Absolute God’s Necklace without alerting or encountering any demons.’

However, Devil Uvall had appeared in front of them. A demon in the form of a black camel, Uvall led a huge number of troops of the Demonic Beast Army, just like any other of the 72 Devils.

‘...This is crazy.’

Master Xuanzang reflected after realizing his evaluation of Obren was not accurate before.

“Foolish bastards,” Obren jeered at them as an Evil God Book carrying the pattern of a sword appeared above his head.

Crackle—

A black sword appeared as the Evil God Book burned and disappeared into nothingness.

Crackleeee— Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang!

Obren moved swiftly and cut down the demonic beasts without stopping. At the same time, tens of thousands of lightning bolts fell down from the sky as the Evil God’s Books floating in the sky displayed their power. As it turned out, the power of the Evil God’s Book could easily trample even the demons from the Demon World.

Still, Obren’s power had been sealed and he was not invincible. Injuries, like tears, cuts and gashes, continued to appear all over his body. In the end, even one of his arms was cut off, disappearing without a trace as he clashed against Devil Uvall. Unfazed, his expression remained unchanged as he stabbed his sword deep into his opponent’s heart.

Crackle—

Obren looked silently at the demon that disappeared in a burst of flames. Then, he recalled a conversation that he had with Minhyuk.

—Obren, I will become an emperor.

—The emperor only likes to eat. Sooner or later, the empire will go bankrupt.

—What's wrong with an empire where everyone does not go hungry?

—All of the people will be happy. However, it won't be easy.

—I know. But I have you, right? You're going to stay by my side and help me become an emperor, right?

—What are you on about? You're on your own.

—Eeeeeeeh. Obren, help meeee~

—I feel like throwing up.

—...

Obren was very happy to hear that his friend had a new dream, which was to become an emperor. Although he did not say it out loud, Obren had made a vow then.

'I will help you.'

He would help Minhyuk to become an emperor, to not be trampled by the Luvien Empire's powerhouses, and most importantly, to eat delicious dishes.

Obren looked at his missing right arm as another Evil God Book appeared.

[You have used the Book of Recovery.]

[You can only use the Book of Recovery three times!]

[You have used the Book of Recovery to regenerate your broken and injured body!]

[You have used a lot of mana. You are now experiencing dizziness!]

Twitch, twitch—

Obren's right arm, which had disappeared without a trace, started to regenerate. At the same time, another set of notifications rang in his ears.

[Buddhist Monk Xuanzang's Buddhist Mala Beads are exerting their powers!]

The beads were an artifact that could lift the seal on Obren's power. First, they had to absorb the energy and force from the evil beings that he slain.

[You have gathered 3% of Unsealing Power!]

[If you keep the beads on for more than a week and continuously gather the Unsealing Power, it will help you recover your original powers permanently.]

[However, if you use the Unsealing Power within that week, then all of your Unsealing Power will disappear.]

Obren's arm completely regenerated. At the same time, his vision turned white. He immediately raised his hand and slapped his head to recover his senses.

"Are you alright?"

Obren raised his hand and stopped Xuanzang in his tracks. Then, he slowly leaned against a nearby rock to support his reeling and shaking body.

“Why don’t we hide for a bit and take a rest? It would be impossible to move further with the state of your body right now.”

“No. We have to move as fast as we can.”

That guy must be waiting for his return. Unfortunately, no matter how hard he tried to stand up, he still could not stand up.

“Look at yourself. You have to rest, even if just for an hour.”

Obren breathed roughly, his face turning ugly when he realized that his body was not listening to his commands.

“Wait. I’ll be fine after a short moment of rest.”

Although cold sweat was dripping down Obren’s forehead, he positioned himself to lean comfortably on the rock behind him. Then, he took out a book from his pocket.

Quickly, he became immersed in the contents of the book as soon as he started reading it. After a few moments, the cold sweat that was dripping down his face had disappeared. Even his complexion turned rosy.

“Hooooo...”

After a rough and long exhale, Obren’s condition stabilized. His expression even became more comfortable.

‘What in the world is that book...?’

Master Xuanzang looked at the book in admiration. It was too magical. It could instantly heal the exhaustion of someone that had lost an arm before. On top of that, Evil God Obren was someone that had the power to handle books. The power of the book that was in his hands would definitely be extraordinary. Xuanzang glanced sideways at the page that Obren was reading.

[The woman laid down on the magical creaking bed.]

[The woman hugged her blanket tightly, her body and her spirit in the throes of ecstasy.]

[Creak, creak... The sound of the bed was followed by her... groans and moans... her beautiful and slender waist...]

Glare!

Master Xuanzang’s eyes grew wide as he glared at Obren.

‘How can he read a book like that?! Isn’t he the Evil God? Why does he have such a frivolous and perverted book?!’

However, even though Master Xuanzang complained in his heart, he could not tear his eyes away from the book either. For some reason, he felt like his body was coming down with a fever.

Meanwhile, Obren, who was completely immersed in the book, savored each sentence on the page slowly, as if he was tasting fine wine.

“Can you please turn the page quickly...”

“...?”

“...”

“...?”

“...”

The two made eye contact with each other.

Everything would not go as smoothly as one originally planned. These words seemed to describe Obren and Master Xuanzang’s situation perfectly. After several twists and turns, the two finally reached the place in the Demon World where Great Demon Verus was sealed. The place was a shelter and it housed Verus’ egg, which was in the form of a heart.

[You have reached Verus’ Sealed Egg!]

[Great Demon Verus has transferred the ownership of the Absolute God’s Necklace to his first ranking Devil, Demon King Baal!]

Master Xuanzang felt his heart drop into the depths of despair when he saw the first to tenth ranking Devils of the 72 Devils guarding Verus’ egg.

‘This is the end for us.’

Xuanzang felt frustrated.

[Devil Baal. Level 775.]

[Devil Agares. Level 739.]

[Devil...]

[Devil...]

[Great Demon Verus’ special power is protecting the Devils!]

[If the Devils die inside the Demon World, they will be sealed and turned into eggs.]

[With time, the seal binding them will be lifted and they will return as Devils once again.]

Xuanzang never expected that the demons of the Demon World, especially the first to tenth ranked devils of the 72 Devils would be guarding Great Demon Verus’ egg.

‘Perhaps, they had been summoned after the commotion from earlier.’

Regardless if they had been summoned or they were stationed here from the beginning, their appearance made Master Xuanzang feel numb. Even so, and despite his legs shaking, Xuanzang still took a step forward and followed Obren.

“I have consistently gathered enough Unsealing Power to release my sealed power while we were on our way here.”

Obren had already gathered around 60% of the force to lift the seal on his power. This meant that he could use around 60% of his original power.

“Please stop your nonsense! Do you think you can be an opponent to those Devils with just 60% of your power?!”

It was quite strange. Xuanzang had been in constant fear ever since they stepped foot in the Demon World. However, the man in front of him was not.

Obren took a step forward and said, “Watch.”

[You have used the Unsealing Power!]

[The Evil God’s power has awakened! 60% of the original power of the Evil God has been released!]

“I am the Evil God.”

Vwoooooooooooooooooong—

The Devils in front of them groaned as a huge wave spread and covered the entire Demon World.

At the same time, the first ranked Devil, Devil Baal, sent his spear straight toward Obren’s heart.

[You have used your sealed power!]

[You can use your power for ten minutes!]

[All of your Unsealing Power has been used up!]

“...!”

However, at that moment, something unexpected happened. Baal’s spear, which was moving at a breakneck speed, stopped just right before it touched the tip of Obren’s outstretched finger. It was as if time stopped. Then, the spear flipped around and flew back to Baal, its sharp tip piercing through the Devil’s heart.

Crack—

“I was once the supreme of an era.”

“...?”

Baal looked at Obren in shock.

Just like that, both sides continued to fight for several days. Master Xuanzang underwent a rollercoaster of emotions as he watched the battle unfold in front of him. He would sometimes feel delighted, scared, and even frustrated.

Obren sustained injuries of varying degrees as he fought for days on end. Thankfully, he was able to properly utilize his two final chances of using the Book of Recovery, allowing him to last longer.

The problem was that Obren's Book of Recovery no longer had any available use. On top of that, he had not been able to kill a single one of the Devils present, all because of the Great Demon Verus' egg.

[Great Demon Verus' Egg has doubled the Devils' Recovery Rate!]

The Devils were beings that originally already possessed a high recovery rate and defense. In fact, the one that was more admirable was Obren for being able to endure a fight against them for several days.

'If all of his sealed power had been released then...'

Gulp—

Master Xuanzang gulped dryly. However, in the end, Xuanzang was left hugging Obren's body, which was littered with several severe injuries and was almost torn into pieces. The only thing that had been keeping the two of them alive for two days straight was the power of Buddha that was used to create an absolutely invincible barrier around them.

"...Do you still think the same way?" Master Xuanzang asked Obren. He was asking if the Evil God still did not have any intention of running away.

"..."

Obren, with his ragged body, lay inside the barrier and looked up at the Demon World's sky. Obren no longer had the power to lift even a single finger. Although a few days had already passed, his body still remained riddled with wounds. It was not recovering at all. Meanwhile, the Devils had already recovered and were now waiting for the barrier to disappear, before attacking the two.

The result of him forcefully utilizing the Evil God's Books had caused this situation.

"You're already dying."

"..."

"Let's go back. Let's go back and find another way, hmm?"

Master Xuanzang was helpless in this place where the power of Buddha did not have much influence. He felt that they should go back. If they did so, they would still be able to find a way to survive and live. However, Obren was far too stubborn and insistent.

Obren tried his hardest to open his lips slightly and say, "I... pr... promised..."

"..."

"I... will... pr... otect..."

Xuanzang's heart throbbed painfully.

'An unknown and strange fate brought about by the relationship created by a mere human and the Evil God.'

Perhaps, Obren's fate was far too great.

'I cannot see through his fate. My abilities are lacking.'

Then, Obren's eyes slowly closed.

'Is this the end? Does this mean that I can no longer protect the weak brat?'

At that moment, the idiot's face appeared in Obren's mind.

This story happened quite a long time ago.

While Minhyuk was working in his office, Obren suddenly awakened from his long slumber in the Puzzling Seasoning Jar. Obren leaned on the sofa and looked at Minhyuk worriedly.

"Are you doing all of the work in the kingdom?"

Minhyuk smiled faintly at Obren's question. He said, "It's because I am the king. If I run and work hard like this, then everyone will definitely be happy."

"You're too naive. I have to stay by your side."

"You'll protect me?"

"...What are you on about?" Obren said as he looked at Minhyuk in confusion.

Minhyuk stood up and looked out of the window. Then, he asked, "But you know, Obren... You're quite strange."

"What are you talking about?"

"Why do you think that you're the only one doing the protecting? I'll protect you too."

Grin—

Obren laughed incredulously. "A weak guy like you?"

"Yeah! I will definitely protect you. And Obren, you have to remember this. Do not give up on your life for my sake. I would not be grateful if you do that. Besides, aren't you afraid to die?"

"...Yes, I'm afraid."

Obren smiled wryly. It was natural for most to be afraid of death.

"Let's be honest. There's no one in the world that's not afraid of death, right?"

"..."

Obren did not say anything. However, a bright smile appeared on his face when he returned inside the Puzzling Seasoning Jar as he recalled the words that Minhyuk told him.

'I'll protect you too.'

There was a wide smile on Obren's face as he lay down on the ground and looked up at the Demon World's sky.

“Haa... Haa...”

Although his breathing was heavy, the bright smile on his face did not diminish. Master Xuanzang knew that Obren’s death was fast approaching. However, he could not help but wonder why the Evil God was smiling so brightly like this.

‘Thanks.’

Obren was grateful that he was able to live because of Minhyuk. He was grateful that Minhyuk offered to protect him, even though he was hailed as an Evil God.

‘I’m afraid.’

Just like what Minhyuk had said, Obren was afraid of death, of eternal rest. Alas, slowly, ever so slowly, Obren’s eyes started to close. Everything around him started to grow quiet.

“Obreeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeen!!!”

Just then, a desperate and frantic voice that called his name rang in his ears. Although everything was very blurry and foggy in his head, he could still hear the notification in his ears.

[The person in possession of the Puzzling Seasoning Jar is approaching you!]

The voice sounded frantic, like the cries of a child crying for his parents.

“Obreeeeeeeeeeeeeeeen!!! Where are youuuuuuuuuuuu?!!!”

“...”

Obren felt glad that he would be able to see the owner of that voice. At that moment, he felt a strong will to live.

As the Evil God, Obren had always pretended to be a noble and lofty being. He always made it appear as if he was greater than anybody else. However, someone still offered to protect him. For once, Obren wanted to rely on someone, on him. He wanted to let his guard down and rely on him, because it was him.

Twitch—

Obren’s fingers started to twitch and move. Although he was the Evil God, he still opened his mouth to say these words aloud.

“I... want... to... live...”

His voice sounded too soft. However, Obren squeezed the last of his strength to shout as loud as he could.

“I want to live! Please save me!!!”

At that moment, blazing flames appeared and devoured the entire Demon World. Even Master Xuanzang could not believe his eyes even though he was witnessing it in front of him. The source of those flames was a gigantic horse engulfed in black flames.

“Hihihihihihihing!”

“Hihihihihihihihihihing!”

“Hihihihihihihing!”

Minhyuk rode atop the gigantic horse engulfed in black flames, with hundreds of thousands of Hell Horses galloping behind him and burning everything in the Demon World.

Obren smiled faintly. The only person that he could trust and rely on, who he could show his weak side to, was none other than Minhyuk.

Chapter 824

While the God of Death was infusing the power of the Origin Authority: The One that Advances into the Sword of Aeon, Minhyuk saw the Puzzling Seasoning Jar shake and tremble.

“Obren...?”

Before Minhyuk could voice out his doubts, notifications began to ring in his ears.

[Vassal's Voice has been triggered!]

[Your vassal, Obren, is in danger.]

[Obren's HP has fallen below 3%.]

Vassal's Voice was a skill attached to the Forgotten Monarch's Crown. It could report the status of three designated vassals whenever they were in danger and how his vassals got in danger.

“...”

The shock brought about by the notifications made Minhyuk feel numb all over. He was so shocked that he could not move or make a sound.

‘Obren...?’

Obren was the Evil God. He had displayed his might during the episode with the God of Death, where his original power had been completely unsealed, and swept away millions of powerful men with Kronad. Minhyuk had always regarded Obren as strong. To him, Obren was stronger than anyone else. However, this powerful Obren was now on the verge of death.

Thanks to the Vassal's Voice, Minhyuk found out about Obren's situation.

[Your vassal, Obren, fought against the first to tenth ranked Devils in the Demon World.]

[He's currently being protected by Master Xuanxang's barrier, but it would only last for three days.]

[However, Obren no longer has any means to recover.]

Minhyuk was left confused when he read the words Demon World in the notifications.

‘Why are you in the Demon World?’

Of course, Minhyuk was aware that Obren left with Master Xuanxang to welcome new changes in himself. However, he also knew that Obren was only willing to do so because it would help him and protect him.

Minhyuk bit his lips. ‘Obren, I will protect you too.’

At that moment, Minhyuk recalled a skill that Hell Horse Velma possessed.

‘Transcending Space.’

Transcending Space allowed the user to go to any place that they wanted in one breath. Basically, Velma could go anywhere, even places that she had never gone to before.

Minhyuk had not yet returned the ownership of Velma to the God of Death. However, if he used Transcending Space with Velma without explicit permission from the God of Death, then his already bleak relationship with the God might fall apart completely.

“God of Death.”

“...”

The God of Death, who was still infusing the power of the Origin Authority into the Sword of Aeon, glanced at Minhyuk.

“I have someone that I want to protect. May I borrow Hell Horse Velma to save him?”

The God of Death silently stared at Minhyuk for a very long time. Perhaps the look in his eyes was similar to what the God of Death had when he tried to protect Hella, that was why he did something that he would not do normally.

“...Remember this.” The God of Death looked at Velma, who had curled in on herself as she sat down on the grass. “Velma is the mother of all Hell Horses.”

Minhyuk instantly understood what the God of Death meant. To call for Velma meant that he was also activating all of the Hell Horses.

However, Minhyuk did not make a move right away even after he had received the God of Death’s explicit consent. He still had three days left to prepare. Obren had left his side to obtain a stronger power. However, during the process, he was forced to his knees and collapsed. This meant that Obren needed greater power.

Minhyuk took out the three ingredients that he obtained from the first God of Farming Hella; the Shining Bean Sprouts, the Noble and Lofty Zucchini, and the Energetic Bean. Minhyuk stared at the three God-grade ingredients before putting the zucchini and the bean sprouts back in his inventory.

Even if he used all three of the God-grade ingredients in his hand, it would not guarantee the appearance of a God-grade dish. Besides, it was hard to find a dish where all three of the ingredients could create a great combination. Finally, as Obren’s friend, Minhyuk knew that the man loved to eat tofu.

—What a strange dish. They’re made from mere beans but they taste delicious whether you stir-fry them or boil them.

Minhyuk recalled the bright and happy smile on Obren’s face as he ate the tofu that he gave him before.

—Obren, I’ll make some sundubu-jjigae[1] next time.

—Sundubu-jjigae?

—It's a jjigae made from tofu that is softer than ordinary tofu. It's also very hot and spicy!

Obren had turned his head to hide the smile on his face back then.

—Well, I'll take your sincerity into consideration and eat it.

However, Minhyuk had been very busy since that time and had never had the chance to make some for Obren. So, Minhyuk would cook it for him now. Before everything else, Minhyuk checked the beans' information first.

(Energetic Bean)

Ingredient Grade: God

Special Effects:

- It restores the energy that has been lost from exhaustion.
- This can help those that have grown old, those that have lost their power or those that have their powers sealed.

Description: It might just be a single bean but the moment it makes contact with water, it will multiply to how much is needed for your dish. The beans produced by this single bean are special beans that have restorative and anti-aging effects. It has the power to return those that consume it to their prime.

This was also one of the reasons why Minhyuk chose to cook sundubu-jjigae.

The first thing that Minhyuk did was to place the bean inside the aging jar. Making tofu would originally take at least eight hours. However, true to its name, the aging jar could ignore that time, and ripen or age whatever was placed inside it, like kimchi, doenjang, gochujang or soy sauce.

[Please set the amount of beans that you want.]

After hearing the prompt, Minhyuk set the amount of beans that he needed. Once he had set everything, the aging jar was almost full with beans. Then, he covered the jar and let the beans soak in water.

Minhyuk took out the beans that had aged in an instant and took out his Gorac's Millstone. He immediately sat down in front of the millstone. Then, he placed the soaked beans inside the hole in the center of the millstone. After that, he grabbed the handle and began grinding.

Rrrrrrrrr— Rrrrrrrrrr—

At first it seemed like he was able to grind the beans well. However, a frown soon appeared on Minhyuk's brows.

'In the end, this ingredient is still a God-grade ingredient.'

Minhyuk realized something after cooking several God-grade ingredients so far.

'There is no God-grade ingredient that exists in the world that is easy to cook.'

Little by little, the beans started to break apart, producing white bean water that dripped down the sides of the millstone.

[Grinding the Energetic Beans in the millstone will be 100x harder and longer than ordinary beans!]

Minhyuk just continued to turn the millstone and grind the beans.

Rrrrrrrrrr, rrrrrrrrrrr—

The beans started to struggle as he turned the millstone to grind. It might sound ridiculous but Minhyuk could clearly feel the beans trying to push the millstone away. At some point, Minhyuk, even with his high STR, was forced to hold the handle of the millstone with both hands just so he could turn it around.

Cold sweat started to drip down his face. His arms started to tremble from the strain. However, he could not stop.

‘I don’t have much time.’

Either the barrier would melt away, or Obren’s HP would drop to zero. Regardless, he would die. Minhyuk had to finish cooking before any of that happened.

Just like that six hours passed by, and bled into twelve, then into twenty-four. But Minhyuk did not stand and just continued to turn the handle of the millstone in his hands.

“...”

Although he was not showing it in his expression, the God of Death was shocked.

‘He’s the one chosen by the Battle God.’

As he continued to watch Minhyuk, he thought, ‘I get why chose him.’

Perhaps this evaluation could be considered as the highest praise that one could get from the God of Death. However, Minhyuk did not feel the God of Death’s gaze. This was because he had already fallen into a deep trance. As he lost track of how much time had passed, the notification rang out.

[You have ground all of the Energetic Beans!]

Immediately after all of the beans had been ground, Minhyuk went through several processes and began making soft tofu. The process of making soft tofu and tofu was generally the same. The only difference was that soft tofu did not harden and coagulate like ordinary tofu. Because of that, soft tofu could be much easier to digest than ordinary tofu and was much more comfortable to eat.

After making the soft and jiggling tofu, Minhyuk quickly began to cook. He would use the soft tofu to make seafood sundubu-jjigae. He threw some clams, squid, and shrimps in the earthen pot together with the soft tofu.

“How many... how many days have passed since I started?” Minhyuk, who had not taken a sip of water since he started making the tofu, asked after the contents of the earthen part had started to boil.

“It has been two days,’ the God of Death answered.

His mouth parched and lips dry, Minhyuk stood still for a moment as he chugged down a bottle of water. Then, he began to focus on the sundubu-jjigae.

Oil from the chili pepper started to float around the pieces of soft tofu. Minhyuk cracked one open and placed it in the middle of the sundubu-jjigae.

[You have completed the Seafood Sundubu-jjigae.]

[Extreme Trance. It's a dish that contains your 'love for your friend,' 'dedication for him,' and 'will to never back down' poured into it!]

[Due to the effects of Extreme Trance, the buff effects have become even better.]

Finally, the dish was completed.

Minhyuk listened to the notifications that constantly rang in his ears as he thought, 'Obren, this dish is for you.'

Aside from cooking this dish, another reason why Minhyuk did not immediately take Velma and rushed to where Obren was currently at was because he did not want to put pressure on the man. Besides, Minhyuk knew that he himself would also be under extreme pressure once he went there and would not be able to cook properly in a situation where Obren was helpless.

"Hihihihihihihihing!" Velma cried loudly as Minhyuk rode on her back.

Then, the God of Death said, "Come back right away. I won't wait for you."

The Sword of Aeon's final reinforcement would soon be finished. Minhyuk nodded in response to the God of Death, despite his blunt words. He crouched down and told Velma, "Velma. Use Transcending Space. Our destination will be the Demon World."

"Hihihihihihihing!!!"

With Velma's loud and ferocious cry, the Hell Horses scattered all over Hell began to gather around her. Then, she charged to the sky and opened a path. Following behind were all of the Hell Horses that she had summoned. Just like that, Minhyuk and Velma ran through the path and made their way to the Demon World.

Everything was burning. The demons and the demonic beasts tried to stop the galloping Hell Horses that run rampant inside the Demon World. However, it was to no avail. They just burned from the heat of the flames that covered the Hell Horses the moment they made contact.

A small smile appeared on the dying Obren's face.

"Hihihihihihihihing!" Velma, who stopped just right in front of the barrier, raised her hooves and threatened the Devils that were inching closer.

"Hihihihihihihing!"

"Hihihihihihihing!"

"Hihihihihihihing!"

The hundreds of thousands of Hell Horses gathered around the barrier. At the order of their mother, Velma, the Hell Horses released their blazing flames at the same time. Clusters of flames fell down from their bodies and exploded, forcing the Devils to retreat.

“Obren,” Minhyuk called out, his hands touching the barrier as he looked at the man who was slowly dying.

Minhyuk had heard it clearly. He had heard Obren shouting that he wanted to live and that he wanted him to save him.

“...Why... why are you... so late?”

Minhyuk felt relieved when he confirmed that Obren was not yet dead. Seeing him appear, Master Xuanxang hurriedly terminated the barrier. Minhyuk quickly approached the two while casting ‘Let’s Have a Meal’, erecting another barrier that would protect Obren once again.

After doing all of that, Minhyuk took out Mandala’s potion and poured it slowly into Obren’s slightly parted mouth.

[Obren has received very severe injuries that even Mandala’s Potion cannot cure!]

Gulp, gulp, gulp—

That was what the notifications said. However, at the very least, the potion was slightly effective. After all, Obren, who did not have any energy to lift a single finger, was finally able to move.

The pale Obren slowly sat up. He said, “Why are you so late, idiot?”

“...Sorry,” Minhyuk answered, a small smile on his face as he looked in front of them.

He could see Velma leading the Hell Horses to push the Devils back with their blazing flames. However, he knew that this situation would only last for a brief moment. In fact, even if millions of Hell Horses appeared here, they would still be unable to do anything against the Devils inside the Demon World.

“Velma, let the Hell horses return.”

“Hihihihihihing!

The Hell Horses began to retreat after hundreds of them had been slaughtered by the Devils. Even Velma was asked to retreat. After all, there was only one person that could fight and kill all ten Devils together.

“Obren, enjoy your meal.”

Minhyuk placed the earthen pot containing sundubu-jjigae in front of Obren along with piping hot rice. Then, he held out a spoon to Obren, who was looking at the dish in front of him.

“I told you that I would make it for you before. I’m sorry, it took so long.”

Obren stared at the sundubu-jjigae for quite some time. Then, he heard Minhyuk’s raspy voice saying, “Thank you for calling out to me, Obren.”

‘Thank you for not carrying it all by yourself. Thank you for calling out to me to help you.’

Obren smiled faintly as he looked at Minhyuk. Then, he said, “That’s enough. You can go now. We’re both going to get busy.”

“...”

Minhyuk understood what he meant. ‘I believe I can take care of this on my own now.’

If someone knew about this, they would be very shocked. After all, the Devils present were ranked first to the tenth. On top of that, there was a chance that Verus might awaken. There was no way that a single person would be able to deal with the ten Devils along with the Great Demon.

However, Minhyuk knew who the person in front of him was. He was one of the Eight Pillars, the Evil God that had once threatened the entire mankind before.

“I’ll just watch you eat before going.”

Obren smiled as he looked at the jiggling soft tofu in the steaming pot of sundubu-jjigae. The moment he ate a mouthful, a spicy and hot flavor instantly spread in his mouth.

‘It’s... delicious.’

He sighed in admiration as he mixed the eggs, which were not yet fully cooked in the soup, with his spoon. Although the color of the soup turned a bit dull with the mixing that he did, a different flavor spread in his mouth when he ate another mouthful.

‘The flavor has become richer. I think that’s the correct word to describe it?’

Obren smiled softly as he scooped a spoonful of white rice before taking a sip of the soup. Of course, he also did not forget to scoop a lot of soft tofu to go along with the rice and the soup.

The soft tofu glided softly around his mouth before sliding easily down his throat. The faint smile on his face grew clearer and clearer with every bite of the dish. Sometimes he would eat the sundubu-jjigae with rice. There were also times where he would take the clams out and enjoy their contents one after another.

Scratch— scratch, scratch—

Soon, the sound of his spoon scratching the bottom of the earthen pot could be heard. Obren had finished his meal very swiftly.

Badump, badump, badump, badump—

Meanwhile, Verus’ egg that was in the form of a heart suddenly began to thump wildly. It seemed to have realized that Minhyuk was in its vicinity.

[Great Demon Verus is in a turbulent state!]

[Great Demon Verus has noticed your existence! He is overcome with rage!]

Shwaaaaaaaaaaaa—!

Red blood dripped down from the egg and slowly encroached upon the Demon World.

[Great Demon Verus' Wrath has boosted the strength of the Devils!]

[All of the Devils' attack has increased by 11%!]

[The Devils' recovery rate has grown better.]

[Great Demon Verus has summoned the Demon Corps!]

Thump, thump, thump, thump—

The entire Demon World shook and trembled.

‘There's at least a million and a half troops coming this way.’

That was how many demonic beasts and demons were marching toward this place. Master Xuanxang, who realized the situation that they were in, felt numb all over.

However, Obren just said, “You're still not going?” Then, he smiled at Minhyuk and slowly stood up from his seat.

In a blink, almost two million demonic beasts have arrived, their roars resounding loudly in the area. The Devils also stepped forward and glared fiercely at Obren.

Swoosh—

Minhyuk released the barrier created by the Let's Have a Meal skill. There was a sharp glint in Obren's eyes as he looked at the enemies beyond the slowly melting barrier.

Vwoooooooooooooooooong—

At the same time, there were countless notifications ringing in Obren's ears.

[You have eaten the Seafood Sundubu-jjigae!]

[The dish is Legendary Grade!]

The seafood sundubu-jjigae that Minhyuk made might sound a little lacking. Some might even think that it was not enough for them to escape this very dangerous situation. After all, the dish was a mere legendary grade dish. However, the beans had anti-aging properties and had the power to restore one's energy and vitality. In other words, it was a dish that could rejuvenate whoever consumed it, its buff effect allowing one to return to their peak state.

[The seal on your power has been temporarily lifted! You can use your entire power during the buff duration!]

This effect was more than enough.

Rumbleeeeeeeee—

Even though Obren's power had just awakened, the entire Demon World could not take on the pressure and was forced to tremble and shake from his majesty. The terrifying pressure made it harder for them to breathe while the ground shook under their feet.

Then, at that moment, the Food God's Voice resounded all over the Demon World.

[The true Evil God...]

“Hihihihihihihihing!”

Minhyuk rode Velma, who had opened the Hell's Gate. Before he closed the threshold completely, Minhyuk turned to look back at Obren, who was facing the two million strong Demonic Beast Army and the ten powerful Devils.

At that moment, millions of Evil God's Books appeared in the sky. Then, millions of lightning bolts and streams of flame shot down and slaughtered the demonic beasts that were marching on the ground below them.

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang—!

Obren stood in the middle of the dazzling storm. He turned to look back at Minhyuk, a faint smile showing on his handsome face.

Relieved, Minhyuk turned back and went on his way back to Hell as he finished the words that he wanted to say using his Food God's Voice.

[...has awakened.]

Chapter 825

Millions of flies would not be able to deal with a single person. That was how strength and power worked. It would not matter how many there were, they would be helpless in front of those that were truly powerful.

Crack, crack, crack, crack, crack—!

The demons and demonic beasts were more powerful than they were on earth. After all, they were on their home turf, the Demon World. However, with every lightning bolt that fell down from the sky, a huge number disappeared without a trace. Just like that, millions of lightning bolts devoured more than two million troops of the Demonic Beast Army.

Obren walked with elegance and grace, passing by the lightning bolts that continued to fall down from the sky. Of course, sending out millions of lightning bolts also consumed a huge amount of Obren's mana.

Devil Marbas roared loudly when he saw how Obren had obliterated so many of them in one go, "Graaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!"

Devil Marbas was a lion with a black mane and the most hateful power. Everything that Marbas touched with his paws would rot.

Obren stared at Marbas, who shot forward with his front paws aiming for his body. However, Marbas' front paw stopped right before it touched Obren's face. No matter how hard Marbas tried, he just could not move.

"All I need is to stop you from touching me, right?" Obren muttered as hundreds of Evil God's Books aimed at Marbas and shot lightning bolts at him.

Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh, swoosh—!

Marbas burst apart without even being able to scream, turning into a tiny egg the shape of the heart just like Great Demon Verus. Obren stepped forward and tried to crush the egg, but he received a notification.

[You cannot destroy a Devil's Egg that has started the sealing process!]

Obren smacked his lips as he began to fight against the other Devils. After fifteen minutes, the devils had all been sealed, turning into tiny eggs that spread all around him.

“...Ah.”

Master Xuanxang was once again left in awe at the majesty and greatness of the one hailed as the Evil God.

‘*He's just like...*’

At one point, he even thought that Obren was an Absolute God. Perhaps the name *Absolute God of Slaughter* would even be fitting for him once he became an Absolute God. However, Xuanxang knew more than anybody else that Obren wanted to be a *Guardian God*.

Meanwhile, Obren picked up the items that the devils dropped.

[You have acquired 32,315 platinum.]

[You have acquired a fragment of Devil Baal's Spear.]

[You have acquired the Ore Platinum.]

[You have acquired 23,513 platinum...]

[You have acquired the material: Marbas' Mane.]

[You have acquired the Blessed Instantaneous Movement Parchment.]

[You have acquired the Demon World's Red Pig.]

[You have acquired the Demon World's Oily Beef.]

Including the drops that he obtained after killing the demonic beasts, he had obtained around three million platinum worth of items.

Whenever Obren picked up a cooking ingredient, a small smile would flash on his face.

“Are you going to give everything to Minhyuk?”

Obren nodded slightly. Just thinking about how happy Minhyuk would be once he received everything was enough to make him feel good.

Once he had dealt with all of the dropped items, Obren approached Verus' egg and placed his hand on it to obtain the Absolute God's Necklace.

Crack—

At the same time, a strange force flowed from his palms to his arms.

[Searching for the Absolute God's Necklace inside the sealed Verus' Egg!]

[The search will take more than eight hours!]

Obren clicked his tongue, his expression turning ugly after realizing that his right hand was stuck inside the egg for such a long period of time. Then, he clicked his tongue and pulled out a book

from his inventory. As expected, the book was Aruvel's new work, *The Woman and the Magical Creaking Bed*.

The Jade Emperor's Coalition Army, led by the kings that fought actively during the Battle of Thrones, had looks of delight when they finally saw the fortress walls of Edea's Allied Forces. They might have lost a lot of troops because of the turtle ships, Minhyuk's tactics, as well as Hanwoo and the bombs, but they were still standing tall.

The Jade Emperor's Coalition Army cheered. They felt like all the hardships that they had experienced so far were being washed away by the notifications that rang in their ears.

The quadruple increase in EXP Acquisition and Artifact Drop Rate was already a huge advantage. However, there were still the Jade Emperor's Coins. There were three types of Jade Emperor's Coins—bronze, silver and gold. Bronze coins were worth 100,000 gold in the shop while Silver was a million, and Gold was one platinum. In other words, they would be able to acquire gold just by hunting one soldier and obtaining a coin.

"Uwaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!"

"Uwaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!"

"Uwaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!"

Loud cheers erupted from the Coalition Army.

Meanwhile, the top high rankers—Master Archer Miao, Kentaro, Valentino, Xu Jiaqi, and many more—looked ahead with firm determination on their faces. They vowed to succeed and force Edea to fall.

This battle was a completely separate matter from the matter of *ethics and morality*. They were players. They had to make a profit. Besides, from their point of view, this was just a quest.

Vwoooooooooooooooooong—

The loud blare of a horn resounded from deep within Edea's Allied Forces and signaled the start of the war. Both sides charged forward and came to a clash.

The remaining number of the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army was around ten million or so. On the other hand, Edea's Allied Forces only had half of that number. On top of that, the players had a huge advantage over NPCs in the form of *skills*.

Rumbleeeee—

Master Archer Miao shot her missile-like arrows, which turned into hundreds of arrows in the air, piercing through the soldiers standing by the fortress walls before thrusting straight into the ground.

Crackleeeee—

Then, the arrows which had struck the ground erupted in flames that devoured an area of three meters. In just an instant, flames covered the walls of the fortress.

Master Reflector Xu Jiaqi looked at the tens of thousands of magic and arrows pouring down from above the fortress.

[Reflecting Mirror.]

[The mirror compresses all of the skills and attacks together. Then, it will reflect back to the opponent right away.]

A mirror the size of a gigantic Hanwoo appeared on the battlefield. All of the arrows and magic attacks sent by Edea's Allied Forces were sucked inside the mirror.

“...!”

“...!”

Edea's Allied Forces looked very flustered.

Then, the next moment, the mirror shot back all of the magic attacks and arrows that it had absorbed earlier.

Stab, stab, stab, stab, stab, stab, stab—!

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang—!

The commentators watching the scene could only sigh.

[The Jade Emperor's Coalition Army will win the first bout!]

[The players' extraordinary powers are pushing Edea's Allied Forces back!]

[However, Edea's Allied Forces are using the fortress to defend against their attacks. As long as they can maintain a proper strategy, it is possible for the battle to move in their favor!]

The walls of Edea's fortress were suddenly crowded with the troops of the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army.

Thud, thud, thud, thud, thud—

The players banged on the fortress gates like crazy. As if answering their calls, the gates opened. However, the *true Hanwoo* was right behind it.

Thud, thud, thud, thud, thud, thud—

“Mooooooooooooooooo!!!”

This time, the Hanwoo that they were facing was completely different from the clone Hanwoos from before. Hanwoo grew to a size of fifty meters as he pawed the ground in preparation for Hanwoo’s Charge.

“Keuaaaaaaaaack!”

“Uwaaaaaaaack!”

“A— aaaaaaaaack!”

[With the appearance of Hanwoo’s Charge, the tide of war favors Edea’s Allied Forces once again.]

[We can roughly estimate the number of players crushed by Hanwoo’s Charge. From what I can see, it seems to be around 400,000.]

[Hanwoo is an indispensable existence when it comes to large-scale battles.]

Edea’s Allied Forces wanted to protect their lands, while the Jade Emperor’s Coalition Army came to make a profit. Both sides fought in this war with their own agendas in mind. Either way, this was a large-scale battle and it would last for quite a while.

The battle lasted for more than three days.

ATV Broadcasting Station’s PD Kim Daeguk could clearly see how their ratings began to drop after the battle with Edea’s Allied Forces began.

“It’s still dropping,” one of the employees muttered bitterly.

“It’s because the situation right now is not much different from what the players had expected. In the first place, the viewers only wanted to see the performances of the top high rankers. Now that they have seen how they overwhelmed Edea’s Allied Forces, most of them would leave the broadcast. Besides, if things continue like this, Edea’s fall will come sooner or later.”

The top high rankers had already revealed their presence and showed off their strength. The viewers, having seen how they wielded their AOE skills and revealed their hidden lethal skills, were already starting to leave in search of other things that could attract their attention.

“One look and it’s obvious that the overwhelming advantage belongs to the Jade Emperor Coalition Army.”

One of the reasons was the appearance of the Jade Emperor’s Envoys during the three days of non-stop battle. The envoys did not appear all at once; instead, half an hour apart from each other. Every time one showed up, they would slaughter more than 100,000 of Edea’s Allied Forces before going back. This completely wrecked Minhyuk and Edea’s Allied Forces’ tactical strategies.

There were currently nine million surviving troops of the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army while Edea's Allied Forces only had around two million left.

'If there are no reversals any time soon, then they will continue on their road to their downfall.'

At first, ATV Broadcasting Station's ratings had reached 15%. However, it then fell to around 11% now and was still continuing to fall. Just then, something special happened.

[Another being that has reached Level 600 is born to the world!]

"...!"

The one that achieved Level 600 was enough to become a huge issue in the world. Joy Co. Ltd. had announced that there would be more than fifty people that would be able to reach Level 600 within a month.

However, that announcement was made less than a month ago and no one had appeared as of yet. That was why the person that achieved Level 600 now was quite precious. On top of that, the player that reached Level 600 appeared on Edea's battlefield.

They looked at the monitor and saw the one that achieved Level 600 using a loudspeaker to blast his voice and say...

[I have!!!]

The roar of the newly minted Level 600 player, a new powerhouse, resounded in the battlefield.

[...reached Level 600!]

The one that roared in such a spectacular fashion was none other than Italy's God of Shields, Valentino.

Whenever a player reached Level 600, they would receive various rewards and special privileges, including stats benefits that could allow them to become 1.3x stronger than before.

"PD! Our ratings have increased to 14%!"

"The viewers are swarming in to see Valentino wield his new powers!"

However, the surprise did not end there. Another notification rang in everyone's ears.

[Another being that has reached Level 600 is born to the world!]

"...!"

"...!"

From the broadcasting station's point of view, this was a very welcome notification. All of the station officials looked at the monitor silently. At that moment, one of the players raised their hand. It was holding a bow.

[Uwaaaaaaaaaaaaah!]

[Miao! Miao! Miao! Miao!]

The one that reached Level 600 next was none other than Vietnam's Master Archer Miao.

“The— the viewership ratings have surpassed 22%!”

“Viewers are swarming in at an alarming rate!”

It was only natural. After all, two players had achieved Level 600 at practically the same time. It was even on a battlefield where a lot of people were present!

For the Jade Emperor’s Coalition Army, these notifications were almost assurances of their victory. However, for Edea’s Allied Forces, they were signals of their imminent defeat.

Then, just like everyone wanted, Valentino showed off his new powers.

[God of Shield’s Cry!!!]

The monitor showed the scene of Valentino flying to the skies. Tankers were usually characters that lacked attack skills. However, that was no longer the case for Valentino. The moment he threw his square shield, it grew around fifty times its normal size and moved like a boomerang, sweeping away the troops of Edea’s Allied Forces.

Of course, Master Archer Miao could not lose to that display. She immediately showed off her new skills.

[Guided Lethal Shot!]

[Swoooooooooooooosh—!]

Accompanied by a loud and violent sound, an arrow shot forward and pierced through all of the enemies that blocked its path. Then, the arrow suddenly swerved and changed directions just when it was about to collide with the walls.

“...!”

The one that the arrow aimed for was none other than the Great Sage, Heaven’s Equal, Sun Wukong.

[Keheooooook!]

The guided shot pierced through Sun Wukong’s chest. PD Kim Daeguk could not help but groan when he saw Sun Wukong stagger.

“It— it’s an attack with a 100% success rate! The damage also seems to be incredible!”

What kind of power did they get after reaching Level 600?! Just when the thought flashed in their heads, Valentino triggered another powerful skill.

[Bentino’s Shield Wall!]

A gigantic shield appeared and protected the Jade Emperor’s Coalition Army. It was so large that it looked like a mountain, and completely prevented all of the attacks sent by Edea’s Allied Forces.

“This is crazy.”

This was PD Kim Daeguk’s honest opinion. The power might be temporary but this mountain wall-like shield was enough to thwart any attack from the enemies.

Then, at that moment, Master Archer pulled the strings of her bows once again.

“The ratings have gone over 25%!”

Master Archer Miao murmured more.

[Guided Lethal Shot!]

The arrow flew toward Sun Wukong once again!

“It— it’s a skill that can be used continuously?” PD Kim Daeguk groaned.

Everyone was appalled when they saw the arrow fly once again. They all knew that Sun Wukong would die with this arrow. But before the arrow could pierce through Sun Wukong’s heart, something unexpected happened.

Flutter—

A masked man wearing a black robe that covered his entire body flew up. At the same time, God’s Voice reverberated throughout the entire battlefield.

[Since the beginning of the world, he has always been the master of all weapons.]

PD Kim looked at the monitor in confusion.

‘Who’s this person that jumped up and stopped Master Archer Miao’s arrow? He dares to stop the arrow of someone that has reached Level 600?’

However, something very shocking happened. The man’s sword split Master Archer Miao’s arrow in half.

[Thud!]

Then, as the man stood in front of Sun Wukong, tens of thousands of weapons of all kinds, from spears to swords to iron maces and arrows, appeared and floated around him. This man was the master of all weapons.

[He is the first Eight Pillars’ Class, the Master of All Weapons.]

[I am...]

The man slowly pulled the mask covering his face to reveal his identity. It was Alexander, the Supreme of the past.

At that moment, the tens of thousands of weapons that floated around him got sucked into his sword. Alexander’s sword floated lightly before shooting toward Bentino’s Shield Wall.

Crack, crack, crack, crack, crack—!

The moment it came into contact with the barrier, the power of tens of thousands of weapons ran rampant and tore apart the barrier that Valentino created. Finally, Alexander’s God’s Voice uttered the end of his words.

[...the Supreme.]

“Our ratings have exceeded 40%!!!”

The viewership ratings of ATV Broadcasting Station skyrocketed!

Chapter 826

There was no one among the Athenae players that did not know who Alexander was. He was among the best of the top rankers and was once hailed as the Supreme.

Alexander remembered clearly how frustrated he was in the Supremes' Plain after failing to clear the Eight Pillars' Class Weapon Master's Class Change Quest over and over again. The difficulty was just too high for him.

Back then, Alexander only had one chance left. If he failed, then he would not be able to change his class to Weapon Master. On top of that, his level would drop by at least ten levels.

For high rankers, a decrease of ten levels was equivalent to their downfall. It did not matter how outstanding or powerful the ranker was, they would still be pushed out of the top 1,000 in the rankings and it would be extremely difficult for them to recover.

That was when *he* approached him.

—*Shall we have a meal?*

He was the man that Alexander was chasing after. This man had been weaker and less known than Alexander before. But at some point, *he* grew rapidly. Unexpectedly, the man that Alexander was chasing after was the one that lent him a helping hand.

—*What I want in return is something simple. Help me and the Beyond the Heavens Kingdom.*

Alexander actually wanted to say no. After all, Minhyuk's defeat in the battle in Edea and the Beyond the Heavens' fall with the war against the Luvien Empire might happen at the same time. Even if he did not make a move, the current Supreme might fall at any given moment.

On the other hand, he did not like that. Alexander actually knew the reason why. Minhyuk's existence was giving him the determination and the driving force to run faster and to chase after him. On top of that, he might also climb to the ranks of the Supremes if he gained the power of the Weapon Master.

So, Alexander accepted Minhyuk's request and ate the meal that he prepared. After that, he cleared the Eight Pillars' trial. Back in the present, he smashed Valentino's Shield Wall.

Slash, slash, slash, slash, slash, slash, slash—!

Whatever weapon it was, as long as it existed in the world, they were under the control of Alexander. Just like that, tens of thousands of weapons shot toward the Shield Wall and ripped it apart.

Valentino looked surprised as they watched Alexander gently land on his feet. In fact, he was not the only one that was surprised. The entire Jade Emperor's Coalition Army was taken aback.

[A— Alexander...?]

[It's Alexander.]

[Alexander, who gave up the throne of the Supreme, has— has just invoked the 'God's Voice!']

[After he invoked God's Voice, Alexander declared himself as the 'Supreme!']

[That declaration obviously has a lot of connotations. Perhaps it is a declaration aimed at Food God Minhyuk. Now, the ‘Throne of the Supreme’ is mine again!!!]

[From what I heard, ATV Broadcasting Station’s viewership ratings have soared beyond 44% now!!!]

[Aaah. That should be the natural result. Everyone is waiting to see the changes of Alexander after reaching Level 600. And that’s not all. As he declared that he is a Supreme, he also declared that he’s standing on Edea’s side!]

[We still don’t know who the true Supreme is. I don’t know if this is the right expression to describe the situation.]

[Two Supremes are protecting Edea!!!]

Mumble, mumble, mumble—

A commotion broke out among the Jade Emperor’s Coalition Army.

The notifications about the new Eight Pillars’ Class, the Weapon Master, had actually rung quite a while ago. Everyone had tried to guess who it was, but none of them knew, until now.

Then, someone said, “I— I knew it... Alexander must be the owner of the greatest sword in the world!!!”

“Wh— what?!”

“He’s the owner of the sword that has cut even an Eight Pillars?!”

“Come to think of it, Alexander’s sword has changed, right?!”

Alexander’s sword had definitely changed, which served to prove the assumptions of all of the people present.

“That’s right. Since he’s a Weapon Master, then that means that he can handle the greatest sword in existence, right?”

“He definitely got the sword from one of the Eight Pillars when he changed his class to Weapon Master.”

“That’s crazy. Then, does that mean that Alexander has become the true Supreme?”

“...”

Alexander was left speechless. Yes, it was true that his sword was given to him by the previous Weapon Master. However, that was the only thing that they got right. Everything else was wrong.

Alas, it was not just the people present that were wrong in their assumptions. Even the viewers that were watching the broadcast of this battle were cheering loudly, thinking that they had finally discovered the truth!

‘Alexander is the owner of the greatest sword in existence!’

“...”

Was there even anything that he could say in this situation?

Meanwhile, Valentino gulped dryly. He had awakened just now. The notifications that rang in his ears and the power coursing through his veins were proof of that.

[Congratulations! You have achieved Level 600.]

[Your achievements will be known to the world.]

[Rewards will be given to those that have reached Level 600!]

[All five of your basic stats will increase by 16%.]

[Your physical and magical defense will increase by 40%.]

[Your defensive skills will get 40% better!]

[You have reached Level 600 as the God of Shields!]

[The God of Shields recognizes you as his successor!]

[You have acquired the God of Shields' 'Divine Shield Arts.']

The notifications clearly told Valentino that he was almost 1.4x stronger than before. Especially with the addition of the Divine Shield Arts' Bentino's Wall, which had the following effects:

[Bentino's Wall.]

[Bentino's Wall, the size of a castle's wall, will protect you and your allies!]

[You have an additional 8,000% defense!]

[Bentino's Wall has a duration of three minutes.]

[Using the skill will destroy 1 point from your STM.]

Valentino was the new God of Shields and had a higher basic defense than any other tanker in existence. On top of that, Valentino's Bentino's Wall had an additional 8,000% defense. It would be very hard for any high rankers to even put a scratch on him.

Although Bentino's Wall could only be activated for three minutes, it would play a huge role when used in a battlefield where every minute counted.

Unfortunately, Alexander broke it apart so easily.

"Alexandeeeeeeeeer!!!"

It was a roar of shame, a roar that made all of the troops of the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army freeze on the spot. However, there was one thing that they kept in mind.

"We have two Level 600 players on our side."

"No matter how strong Alexander is or how he is the king of the kings in the Battle of Thrones, he would not be able to deal with two Level 600 players."

At that moment, Master Archer Miao pulled the strings of her bow while thinking, '*Sun Wukong would have been dead if it weren't for him.*'

She felt like it was a pity. However, if she could just kill Alexander, the results would still be the same. Miao, with her hands pulling on the strings of her bow, walked out the crowd. Of course, the same was true for Valentino. They both know that fighting against Alexander with numbers was meaningless.

A subtle smile appeared on Master Archer Miao's face as she said, "Guided Lethal Shot."

"...!"

"...!"

"...!"

The same skill that almost drove Sun Wukong to his death was invoked.

[Guided Lethal Shot.]

[Your arrow, with a 100% certainty, will pierce through your enemy's vital point. Additional 7,000% attack will be added to the shot!]

[You can shoot the Guided Lethal Shot for a total of four times within three minutes after the initial skill activation!]

As mentioned above, the Guided Lethal Shot could be shot four times in a row. In other words, it could take down four rankers upon activation.

Riiiiiiiiiiip—

The deadly arrow pierced through the Supreme's chest.

Staaaaaaaaab—

[Your HP has dropped below 80%!]

"..."

Alexander looked at the blood dripping down his chest.

'As expected...'

He smiled bitterly. It was not just him that grew stronger. If it was the Miao from before, her one-shot kill skill would have only decreased his HP by around 8%. That was not the case right now. Still, Alexander was unafraid.

"Uwoooooooooo!" Valentino roared, a brilliant and golden light covering his body as he charged forward with his shield.

[Bentino's Aggro.]

[Two of your enemy's attacks will be forced to hit your shield!]

It was a skill that would drag the enemy's attack unto his own square shield. It could easily nullify an attack aimed for someone else and could be used effectively against stronger opponents aiming for weaker ones.

Alexander's sword grazed Valentino's shield lightly. That was the first one.

Clang—!

Then, another one...

Clang—!

Regardless of where Alexander aimed, his sword still hit Valentino's shield. At that moment, Master Archer Miao moved swiftly, her arrow aiming for Alexander's back.

Ping— Ping, ping, ping, ping, ping—

Alexander's expression remained unchanged, his amazing control allowing him to evade the arrows aiming for him.

“Exploding Shot.”

Baaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaang—

Then, Miao shot an arrow toward his feet, causing a huge explosion that sent Alexander flying through the air. Valentino did not miss the opportunity. He quickly jumped above Alexander and raised his shield to swing at him.

“God of Shields' Wrath!!!”

Vwoooooooooooooong—

A shield that glittered brightly like a diamond swung down toward Alexander's head. If this attack hit Alexander's head, then it would deal critical damage and would incur twice the amount of damage inflicted. That was to say that the damage of the attack, which had an additional 6,000% attack, would double.

Tap—

The tip of Alexander's sword gently tapped Valentino's shield.

[Bentino's Shield has been temporarily rendered useless!]

[You will not be able to use Bentino's Shield for one minute!]

“...Huh?”

Valentino was left in shock. The only thing that made contact with his shield was the tip of Alexander's sword. However, his shield, Bentino's Shield, had lost all of its function, including its attack and defensive skills. But that was not all.

[The Weapon Master's Transcending Limits has been activated!]

[Sword Mastery Skill's Level has exceeded Level 9!]

[Sword Mastery Skill's Level has achieved MAX Level!]

[Sword Mastery Skill's Level has transcended the limits and has reached Level 10!]

[Sword Mastery Skill's Level has transcended the limits and has reached Level 11!]

[Sword Mastery Skill's...]

[Sword Mastery Skill's...]

[Sword Mastery...]

[Sword Mastery...]

[Sword Mastery Skill's Level has exceeded Level 20!]

[Sword Mastery...]

[Sword Mastery...]

[Sword Mastery Skill's Level has achieved Level 22!]

What was a weapon mastery skill? Mastery was a *passive skill* that all players possessed. Swordsmen would have sword mastery, archers would have bow mastery, mages would have staff mastery or wand mastery and many more. Basically, every single person had a mastery skill.

Whenever the mastery skill grew, the player would gain additional strength in their physical and skill attacks. For example, if one had a Sword Mastery skill, then when the skill grew, it would greatly increase the power of all of the person's sword-related skills.

Transcendental's Mastery. This was the power of the Weapon Master. The notifications that rang before, and would rang from here on out, was proof of the greatness of this skill.

[You have temporarily achieved Sword Mastery Level 22!]

[Your sword will have 75% additional attack and skill attack.]

[All of your sword related skills will be 1.4x stronger.]

[Whenever you swing your sword, your critical hit rate will double!]

[The Transcending Limits' duration is three minutes!]

A black haze slowly rose from the blades of Alexander's sword. Seeing this, Valentino, whose Bentino's Shield had lost all function, quickly pulled out his sub-shield. However, Alexander had already narrowed the distance between them, his sword cutting through Valentino's shield and inflicting damage upon his body.

[Your HP has dropped below 80%!]

"Keuaaaaaack!"

Valentino was very shocked. He was the God of Shields and that meant among the people present, he had the highest HP and defense. He was even almost 1.5x stronger than before. However, more than 14% of his HP was shaved off by just one of Alexander's basic sword attack.

The problem was Alexander was swinging his sword non-stop.

Stab, stab, stab— stab, stab, stab, stab—

Alexander moved swiftly and gracefully, his sword stabbing Valentino's body all over.

"I can't lose like this!"

[God of Shield's Will.]

[Your HP and MP has recovered to 100%!]

Valentino's morale was greatly uplifted after his HP had recovered. In response, Alexander opened his mouth and said, "Reckless Strike."

Slash, slash, slash, slash, slash—

Reckless Strike was Alexander's frequently used successive attack skill. It could instantly unleash twenty three strikes with additional 1,500% attack. With Alexander's Sword Mastery at Level 22, the additional attack of the skill had increased to more than 3,000%.

The Reckless Strike devoured Valentino's whole body, forcing him down on his knees.

"Keuaaaaaaaaa..."

Alexander swiftly swung his sword and cut off Valentino's head the moment he fell down.

Rumbleeeeeeee—

At that moment, Master Archer Miao sent out an arrow that turned into a tornado, which almost overturned the ground.

Cracklee—

Alexander, who was in the middle of the storm, received continuous damages. Of course, Miao took this opportunity to unleash her skills relentlessly.

"Exploding Arrows."

Hundreds of arrows shot toward Alexander.

Clang, clang, clang, clang—!

A sharp and murderous glint, like that of a hawk's, appeared in Alexander's eyes as he cut down the arrows coming his way. Then, he pointed his sword at Miao.

"Weapon Eruption."

Miao saw several weapons appear around Alexander. Then, these spears, swords, iron maces, maces, great swords, katanas, and many other weapons shot toward her.

Stab, stab, stab, stab, stab—

Slash, slash, slash, slash—!

The weapons that pierced through her body immediately exploded upon contact.

Baaaaaaaaaang—

A huge pillar of dust bloomed as the explosion erupted. When everything settled down, not a trace of Master Archer Miao was left.

Alexander, who was standing in front of Edea's Allied Forces, looked at the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army with a strange look on his face.

[A— Alexander forced two players that have reached Level 600 to log out!]

[We have just witnessed a scene that will, without a doubt, prove that he's once again the Supreme!]

[He's literally the 'Supreme!' He's Athenae's Supreme!]

[Breaking news! From what I hear, ATV Broadcasting Station's viewership rating has exceeded 50%!]

There was not a shred of doubt on the faces of all of the viewers that watched Alexander fight. Now, Alexander was truly the Supreme.

At the same time.

[The One that Advances' Authority's Bestowing Time has ended!]

[Sword of Aeon has been successfully reinforced and strengthened by +3!]

The one that was sitting on the throne of the Supreme was handed a far more stronger Sword of Aeon.

Chapter 827

Could one person change the tide of war by himself? The answer that Sun Wukong would give to that question was... *It's possible*. However, if a battlefield's flow was filled with nerve-wracking bouts and clashes, then a single person could only affect the tide of war for a *brief moment*.

'He took the heads of two of the enemy generals.'

The man named Alexander took out two of the key figures of the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army. Because of that, the flow of the battlefield started to lean toward Edea. However, the most important thing here was that Alexander was deep inside the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army. In other words, he was standing among the players.

[How many players have Alexander cut down now?!]

[I only counted up to 600 before losing count. I can't keep up anymore.]

[The interesting fact here is that Alexander is not even using any of his skills to deal with the players!]

[I think there's a passive skill in action here. See there, every time he swings his sword to attack the other players, dozens of swords would shoot out of his body and cut down the enemies around him.]

[I'm in awe.]

[Currently, the viewers from all over the world that enjoy Athenae are tuning in their TVs or using their smartphones to watch Alexander dance in the battlefield and sit on the new Supreme's throne!]

[From what I know, the average level of the players in the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army is over Level 450.]

[At the very least, these players can be considered to be high-level players in Athenae. However, they are easily being cut down by Alexander's sword.]

[On the other hand, our viewers have one question in mind.]

[After Alexander killed two of the Level 600 players, he has not used any of his skills.]

[There are only two scenarios that could prompt this reaction. One would be because he is preparing for the appearance of the Jade Emperor's Envoys. Even if it is Alexander, there is no way for him to deal with all of them when he is already exhausted even with all of the skills in his arsenal.]

[Then, what's the second scenario?]

[He's probably waiting for the actual person sitting on the Supreme's throne.]

[I can feel my heart beating wildly. The one challenging the throne of the Supreme and the one protecting his throne. This is very exciting.]

It was just as the commentators predicted. Alexander was no fool. He did not need to show off all of his strength when fighting against the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army, especially when the Allied Forces were sufficient to stop their advance.

Besides, it was also true that he wanted to show Minhyuk how much he had changed and how he had become the new Supreme. However, he would not compete against him here. Once he and Minhyuk fought side by side, the entire world would definitely recognize who the true Supreme was.

There was one thing that Alexander recalled, it was something that happened in the Supreme's Plain. Minhyuk had not cooked for him because he merely wanted him to help Edea's Allied Forces.

—*We are rivals, Alexander.*

Minhyuk had no way of predicting how strong Alexander would become once he became the first player with an Eight Pillars' Class. That was why Minhyuk put forward one condition.

—*Tell me one of the best skills once you obtain your new class.*

Minhyuk needed to increase the power of his rival. However, that did not mean that he would willingly do that without any condition put forth.

For high rankers, especially those that awakened some new powers, it was considered a huge weakness to have just one of the skills that they obtained be leaked to somebody else. However, Alexander accepted Minhyuk's condition and told him about one of the special skills that he had obtained.

The skill that he willingly shared with Minhyuk was *Weapon Cloning*, a skill that proved that there was no weapon that the master of all of the weapons in existence could not handle.

Basically, it was a skill that could replicate the weapon equipped by the target designated by the skill user and allow him to use the replicated weapon for five minutes. It could even copy a weapon's special ability and attack. However, artifacts that had been cloned before could no longer be replicated again.

Rumbleeeeeeee—

[The Gates of Heaven have opened!]

The Jade Emperor could send 30,000 of the Heavenly Army to Edea once per day. However, that was only the case before the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army arrived. A lot of changes would be implemented once the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army reached Edea's Allied Forces' fortress. These were the changes:

1. *The Jade Emperor can now send 50,000 troops of the Heavenly Army once every day.*

2. The envoys can descend for thirty minutes once a day and use their special powers once when attacking Edea's Allied Forces.
3. The Jade Emperor can participate in the battlefield once.
4. The envoys will descend all at once.

Everything was written in accordance to the agreement made with the Battle God. However, there was one thing that one should not forget. It was that Minhyuk, as Edea's Commander, had received special privileges that none of the people present here knew.

As the Gates of Heaven opened, 50,000 strong troops of the Heavenly Army began to pour out. Seeing this, Alexander hurriedly turned around to leave the battlefield. The Heavenly Army was something that Edea's Allied Forces had to deal with.

However, something unexpected happened.

[Edea's Commander, Minhyuk, has used the special privilege that he had obtained!]

[He has used the special privilege, 'Mediating the Agreement'!!!]

"Mediating the Agreement?"

Joy Co. Ltd.'s conference room.

Everyone inside the room gulped dryly.

"Did it just say Mediation of Agreement?!"

"He hasn't used his special privileges until now..."

As Edea's Commander, Minhyuk could use the *Special Privilege Shop*. The more Edea's Allied Forces killed their enemies, the more items the Special Privilege Shop would have. He could use the shop to reinforce Edea's Allied Forces or distribute potions to his army. However, Minhyuk had not used any of his *Special Privilege Points* and had been gathering them until now.

The *Special Right to Mediate the Agreement* was an item with the highest price in the shop. Unfortunately, there was a problem with this item. One had to consult with both the Jade Emperor and the Battle God before any changes could be made to the agreement.

"Didn't the Production Team make it so the Right to Mediate would become meaningless?"

The Production Team Leader nodded his head in agreement to Team Leader Park. "In the first place, the Special Right to Mediate the Agreement would be similar to trash. After all, one has to get the mutual consent of both sides before any changes could be implemented."

President Kang Taehoon rubbed his chin in thought. This meant that Minhyuk would be throwing something out as *bait*, which had to be something the Jade Emperor would find to be acceptable.

[The Right to Mediate the Agreement and the changes that Player Minhyuk has made will be delivered to the Battle God.]

[The Battle God has started to mediate the agreement with the Jade Emperor!]

[The discussion for the first clause to the mediated agreement has begun!]

[Changes to the portion of the agreement about the Jade Emperor 'being able to send 50,000 troops of the Heavenly Army once every day' has been proposed. The suggested change is 'being able to send 200,000 troops of the Heavenly Army all at once. However, he would no longer be able to send any other troops once these troops had been sent out!']

"This... is he crazy?"

Department Manager Kim Dae-Il was in shock. He could not believe that Minhyuk proposed that the Jade Emperor send all 200,000 of the Heavenly Army troops all at once in exchange for not being able to send anymore.

This proposal could be said to be disastrous. However, if one looked at it in the long run, they could see that it would be very disadvantageous for the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army. After all, the enemy would no longer be able to send any more after all 200,000 troops had been sent all at once.

The issue was that the boost in power between the 50,000 strong troops and the 200,000 strong troops was very different. In addition, there were more than nine million troops from the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army present on the battlefield. If the 200,000 strong troops of the Heavenly Army appeared at this point, Edea's Allied Forces would definitely fall within two days.

[The Jade Emperor has presented a counter to the suggested changes in the first clause of the mediated agreement!]

[The proposed change would change it to 'being able to send 250,000 troops of the Heavenly Army all at once. However, the Jade Emperor would no longer be able to send any other troops once these troops had been sent out!']

[The first clause of the mediated agreement has been discussed!]

[The Jade Emperor will be able to send 250,000 troops of the Heavenly Army all at once. However, after sending out the troops he will no longer be able to send any more of the Heavenly Army Troops!]

"..."

"..."

From their point of view, Player Minhyuk seemed to be digging his own grave. That was not the end of the changes.

[The discussion for the second clause of the mediated agreement has begun!]

[Since the Jade Emperor can send 250,00 troops of the Heavenly Army all at once, Player Minhyuk has requested that he be allowed to use his single-use Summoning Parchment!]

"A single-use Summoning Parchment?"

"Who is he going to summon?"

"Show the Beyond the Heavens Kingdom's situation on the monitor."

They hurriedly displayed the scene at the Beyond the Heavens Kingdom. They were just in time to witness how the Luvien Empire appeared and were charging toward the Beyond the Heavens Kingdom.

Who would Minhyuk summon? Would it be Commander Brod? Or maybe Great Demon Elpis? Perhaps he would summon Spear God Ben?

“Even if he summons Brod right now, it wouldn’t be enough. Brod wouldn’t be able to deal with 250,000 troops of the Heavenly Army if they appear all at once.”

In fact, the Jade Emperor felt the same thing. Minhyuk currently had a restriction. It was basically *impossible for him to summon his vassals*. And since he did not have the *Right to Summon* he would also be unable to bring in the NPCs from the continent. So, that brought the question of who he was going to summon once again.

[The second clause of the mediated agreement has been discussed!]

[Player Minhyuk is now allowed to use his single-use Summoning Parchment on the condition that whoever he summoned can only stay in Edea for thirty minutes!]

[The agreement between the Battle God and the Jade Emperor will now be changed and adjusted!]

[The changes will be applied right away!]

The officials of Joy Co. Ltd. could clearly see how the changes were applied. The 50,000 troops of the Heavenly Army that were coming down from the Gates of Heaven had now grown and become 250,000 in numbers.

“...What in the world is he thinking?”

This time, even President Kang Taehoon was completely clueless about Minhyuk’s plans.

[According to the clauses of the Mediated Agreement, 250,000 troops of the Heavenly Army will now descend!]

Rumbleeeeeeeee—

The sky was ripped apart as 250,000 strong troops of the Heavenly Army charged forward. Edea’s Allied Forces had to lose 150,000 of their men just to deal with 30,000 of the Heavenly Army troops before.

“Ah... aaaaaah...”

The appearance of the 250,000-strong enemy troops was enough to plunge the Allied Forces into despair. All of them were left speechless as they watched the Heavenly Army march through the Gates of Heaven.

[The Jade Emperor looks at you with a sneer on his face.]

[The God that you believe in has abandoned you.]

“...”

“...”

Did *he* make a deal with the Jade Emperor? How could he take away even the smallest odds that were in their favor?

Even Sun Wukong had to groan. “Why in the world did you do that? Why...”

He just could not understand. They already had no means to stop the 50,000-strong enemy troops, but Minhyuk had even made it so there were 250,000 soldiers from the Heavenly Army.

Meanwhile, the Jade Emperor’s Coalition Army were delighted. It was like a pie fell from the sky! Just like that, the Heavenly Army troops charged forward and began to slaughter the troops of Edea’s Allied Forces that were guarding the walls of the fortress.

“A, aaaaaaaaack...!”

“Keuaaaaaaaack!!!”

Hundreds of thousands of Edea’s Allied Forces were easily swept away by the enemies.

‘What were you thinking?’

Alexander had a hard time understanding why Minhyuk decided to do it this way. He had never heard the man make use of a tactic that would put his allies at a disadvantage. He stood at the edge of the walls and looked down at the soldiers of Edea’s Allied Forces being killed one after another.

“Great— Great Sage, Heaven’s Equal!!!”

“A, aaaaaaaaack!”

“Keuaaaaaaaack!”

“Give— give us an explanation!!!”

“Can we— can we really trust him?! That god?!!!”

That was right. These were the thoughts that flashed in the minds of all of the people of Edea. Some even thought that Minhyuk might have been on the Jade Emperor’s side from the start.

The 250,000-strong army clung to the walls of the fortress and began to climb up. In just a blink the screams of the soldiers echoed throughout the fortress as the Heavenly Army slaughtered them.

Shwaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa—

Then, a harsh and unforgiving rain began to fall on the battlefield. The soldiers’ screams and wails gradually grew smaller as the rain echoed loudly.

At that moment, Sun Wukong looked up at the sky.

“...Why?”

Was everything a lie? They already knew that foreigners were inherently greedy in nature. Perhaps *he* was truly on the side of the Jade Emperor. Or perhaps he just wanted to package himself nicely so that he could benefit off of them.

However, Sun Wukong remembered clearly how *he* cooked for his dying wife and how he came alone to Edea.

—We will win. We will use all means and methods available to us and win. After that, please become my people, my friends and...

At that time, *he* had looked at Sun Wukong with firm determination in his eyes.

—...my soldiers.

—Help me become the emperor and make Beyond the Heavens into an empire.

“...”

The screams of the soldiers echoed in Sun Wukong's ears despite the roaring rain and the memories that flashed in his ears. Then, he shouted, “He has not abandoned us! Do not give up! Do not back down! Fight back!!!”

The soldiers of Edea's Allied Forces squeezed out their energy and fought back despite the rain that fell on the battlefield.

Rumbleeeeeee—!

At that moment, lightning struck the ground as thunder roared and rumbled in the sky above them. With a flash of lightning, the voice of Edea's Commander, Minhyuk, resounded on the battlefield.

[Summon.]

Everyone focused on the sound of his voice. ATV Broadcasting Station's PD Kim Daeguk could even be seen gulping dryly as he watched the scene on the monitor. Who was he going to summon in exchange for allowing 250,000 of the Heavenly Army to descend all at once?

“Whether it's Brod, Spear God Ben or Elpis, none of them is worth trading their small chance of winning by allowing those 250,000 troops of the Heavenly Army to descend.”

One of them was not enough. Perhaps they would only have a chance if all of them came. So, that begged the question, who was he going to summon?

[Battle God.]

“...!”

With those words, ATV's viewership ratings that had stagnated at 50% began to soar once again.

Chapter 828

During the battle between the Destruction Monarch and the Battle God, the Battle God, who was known as the greatest Absolute God, almost crossed the brink of death. Back then, Minhyuk saved the Battle God using *Gaerna's Life Elixir*. On that day, Minhyuk received a promise from the Battle God.

[The Battle God has bestowed upon you the Summoning of the Greatest Absolute God.]

[The Summoning of the Greatest Absolute God can summon the Battle God twice.]

This was the reward that the Battle God had bestowed upon Minhyuk, which had not been broadcast to others.

Rumbleeeeeeeee—

The sky cracked open once again as a god riding a white warhorse galloped mightily amidst the raging storm, the crackling lightning, and the rumbling thunder.

Clack, clack, clack—

Everyone held their breath as the greatest Absolute God made his appearance.

[This... Was this what Player Minhyuk was aiming for?!]

[A player has summoned the strongest and greatest Absolute God among all of the Absolute Gods, the Battle God?!]

[Perhaps Player Minhyuk was given an opportunity to summon the Battle God because the Battle God had promised himself that he would answer his call.]

[Since this was something that no one knew, it will definitely be a huge variable in this battle!]

[We have to pay attention to the fact that the Battle God is the ‘God that Rules Over the Greatest and Strongest Army!’]

As an individual, the Battle God boasted a force that none of the other Absolute Gods and ordinary gods could ever compete against. However, that was not the only reason why the Battle God was hailed as the greatest Absolute God. It was because he was the God of All Armies and was the one that ruled over the greatest, and most powerful, army in existence.

With the descent of the Battle God, he emitted a powerful pressure on the Heavenly Army on the ground.

[The Battle God’s Majesty.]

[The Battle God’s Majesty takes control of all of the armies that are against him!]

[All of your stats have dropped by 14%.]

[Your attack hit rate has dropped by 40%.]

[Your physical and magical defense has dropped by 40%.]

[Your resistance to abnormal statuses has dropped by 50%.]

The 9.25 million troops that consisted of the Heavenly Army and the players all received a debuff.

Crack—!

At that moment, another lightning bolt struck the ground. When the flash of light disappeared, an army of more than two million garbed in white full plate armor appeared right behind the Battle God.

[The Jade Emperor has sent 250,000 strong Heavenly Army troops but Player Minhyuk has sent the Battle God!]

[The greatest Absolute God, the Battle God, can summon the millions of troops under his command.]

Not long after, the Battle God and his army began to sweep away the Heavenly Army that had invaded the fortress.

Crackleeee—

A blazing white flame engulfed the blade of the sword of the Battle God. As he swung his sword, the hundreds of thousands of enemy troops that blocked his path were devoured by white flames and turned into ashes.

[Edea's Allied Forces have defeated 700,000 of the Jade Emperor Coalition Army!]

[According to the agreement made between the Battle God and the Jade Emperor, special privileges and benefits will be given to Player Minhyuk, the commander of Edea's Allied Forces.]

[Edea's Allied Forces have defeated 500,000 of the Jade Emperor Coalition Army!]

[According to the agreement made between the Battle God and the Jade Emperor, special privileges and benefits will be given to Player Minhyuk, the commander of Edea's Allied Forces.]

[Edea's Allied Forces have defeated 810,000 of the Jade Emperor Coalition Army!]

[According to the agreement made between the Battle God and the Jade Emperor...]

Even the Heavenly Army that threatened and made Edea's Allied Forces shrink from fear were rendered helpless in front of the Battle God and his army. This time, it was the Heavenly Army's turn to be swiftly and easily swept away.

The commentators had realized that Minhyuk intended to sweep away as many enemies as possible during the short amount of time that the Battle God could stay summoned in Edea.

Only twenty minutes had passed but more than two million of the Jade Emperor's Coalition Army had already disappeared. On top of that, the Battle God had deliberately targeted the *Heavenly Army*. Meaning, all of them had already turned to ashes and disappeared a long time ago.

[The Jade Emperor is furious!]

For the first time, the Jade Emperor was furious and could barely contain himself. He had lost 250,000 of his Heavenly Army and could no longer send anymore after he agreed to Minhyuk's proposals.

By the time the summoning duration ended, the Battle God had slaughtered three million of the enemy troops. Before the Battle God returned back to the heavens, he looked at the devastated and exhausted troops of Edea's Allied Forces.

"The one that you believe in is doing his best for you."

The Battle God's words rang in the ears of the people that denied and hated the man even for a brief moment. They cheered loudly in response. However, those cheers died down the moment the Battle God disappeared.

[The Jade Emperor is furious!]

[The Jade Emperor has sent all of his envoys down to Edea!]

Crack, crack, crack—

The sky was ripped apart once again. At that moment, a talisman fell from the crack in the sky and shot toward the fortress.

Baaaaaaang—

The fortress shook.

[The battle in the land of Edea is now coming to an end.]

[The Jade Emperor has used his one and only chance to send all of his envoys all at once.]

[The Jade Emperor's three envoys are all gods. They're not just mere gods, they are all combat-class gods.]

“Uwaaaaaaaaaaaaah!!!”

The Jade Emperor's Coalition Army also charged toward the fortress after realizing that the battle was now coming to an end. The walls of the fortress, which remained sturdy despite the countless attacks from the players, shook with one talisman from Daoist Heron.

Slash—

With one attack from a man that wielded a woldo, the walls of the fortress were easily destroyed. The man that cut the fortress walls was none other than Envoy Ferro.

“You've made the Great Heavenly Father furious.”

Up until this point, Ferro had only stood still and watched the situation knowing that doing this would lead to a massacre. Unlike Viel, Ferro and Daoist Heron were both reluctant to massacre and slaughter the residents and soldiers of Edea. They did not have any inclination or interest in killing people.

However, the Great Heavenly Father, the Jade Emperor, was now very angry. He grew furious after he was humiliated and lost 250,000 of his Heavenly Army troops all at once.

‘The Jade Emperor will descend soon.’

Before he descended, they had to force the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal, Aaron, and Zhu Bajie, along with the soldiers of Edea, down to their knees.

When the walls of the fortress fell apart, the soldiers of Edea charged forward. However, Ferro just looked at them nonchalantly.

“Uwaaaaaaaaah!”

“You damn envoy bastards!!!”

“My Annie! Spare my Annie!!!”

“You bastards are no god!!!”

Thousands of soldiers charged furiously.

Swoosh—

Slash, slash, slash, slash, slash—

However, with one swing of Ferro's woldo, the lives of thousands of soldiers ended.

“Charge!!!”

“Edea's fall is just around the corner!!!”

At the orders of Qingdao Kingdom's King Xu Jiaqi, the players began to charge and enter the fortress. At that moment, the players that climbed the wall caught sight of the kingdom that Edea's Allied Forces had been protecting.

"So this is the Kingdom of Rama..."

The players were delighted when they saw the beautiful Kingdom of Rama that had been protected by the walls of the fortress since the war began. *Greed* stained the faces of all of the players present. They could not even see the trembling figures of the residents of Edea that were hiding behind the walls of the fortress.

At that moment, Zhu Bajie stabbed one of the players that was looking greedily at the Kingdom of Rama, with his trident.

Staaaaaab—

"Force everyone that has climbed atop the walls of the fortress down!!!" Zhu Bajie hurriedly ordered the soldiers. They had to protect the people, the residents of Edea, that were hiding behind the fortress walls.

"Hey, you boar."

"..."

Zhu Bajie's expression crumpled. He might be a pig but that did not mean that being called that would put him in a good mood. However, when he turned around to look at the one that called him, he could not help but freeze.

Standing right behind him was the most ferocious, cold-blooded and brutal envoy, Envoy Viel. He was someone that regarded the lives of all of the residents of Edea as insignificant as that of a bug's life. Meanwhile, Daoist Heron and Envoy Ferro continued to sweep away the soldiers of Edea on the ground.

Zhu Bajie gripped the handle of his trident tightly.

'I promised.'

He promised that he would protect the soldiers. He promised that the residents did not need to worry. However, the soldiers were dying and the residents were wailing.

"You bastaaaaaaaaaaaaard!!!"

Zhu Bajie was also one of Edea's powerhouses. He was a strong character that was above Level 600, possessing power that could break down mountains. In fact, legends about how he broke an entire mountain with his trident were spread all over Edea.

Slaaaaaash—

Zhu Bajie pointed his trident at Viel.

Ping—

However, Viel stopped it with just the tip of his sword.

"Hiiiiiiiiik...!"

No matter how hard Zhu Bajie pushed his trident, he could not make it move any further.

“What a savage.”

Thud— thud, thud, thud— Slash—

Viel used the hilt of his sword to stab Zhu Bajie’s acupoints, stopping him from moving as he pleased.

Draaaaaaag—

After stopping him from moving, Viel grabbed Zhu Bajie by the arm and dragged him around while cutting down the soldiers of Edea that blocked his path. Not long after, Viel dealt with Aaron, the king of the Kingdom of Eden, and blocked all of his acupoints too.

Thud, thud, thud, thud, thud—

He also dragged Aaron along before throwing the two to where the residents of Edea were.

Flaaaash—

Viel moved swiftly. He charged to where Hanwoo, the Bull Demon King, was and stopped him from attacking Ferro by blocking his acupoints too. Of course, he also flung him to where Aaron and Zhu Bajie were thrown earlier.

Finally, he moved to where the Great Sage, Heaven’s Equal was. Just like before, he completely overpowered Sun Wukong before blocking his acupoints.

“Ugh!”

Unable to move, Sun Wukong helplessly fell on the ground.

Viel looked around him. The kings of Edea were all rendered useless, unable to move with their acupoints pressed, while millions of the residents of the land wailed in fear.

Then, he said, “Remember this. You are the ones that killed all of your soldiers.”

Viel turned to look at Ferro and Heron with a smirk on his face and said, “Do you know why we dragged our feet in this war when it was so easy to deal with you in the first place?”

“...”

Viel looked at the four kings that he held captive.

“Because we find it interesting.”

“...!”

“...!”

“...!”

“It’s because we find it interesting to watch bugs like you twitch while you dream of fighting against the Great Heavenly Father and his Envoys.”

It was the truth. The moment the three envoys appeared, the tide was easily turned over.

“Uwaaaaaaaaack!”

“Keuaaaaaaaaack!”

“We— we can win!!! Back o... Keok!!!”

The four kings trembled as they watched Viel grin viciously while the screams of their people rang behind them.

“The hope to win, the resiliency and insistence to never back down, and a path, albeit small, to victory. Don’t you think that it’s fun to see your faces when all of these are robbed from you?”

Viel giggled, his laugh sounding so strange and bizarre to anyone’s ears.

“This feels good.”

Yes, that was right. Viel was feeling good as he soaked in the screams of the people that he regarded as bugs.

“Haaaaaaa.”

A bright smile appeared on Viel’s face as he savored the scent of blood that lingered on the battlefield.

“Unhand His Majesty right this instant...!”

Viel turned to look back at the resident that dared to interrupt him from savoring the pleasure brought to him by this battlefield.

“You are all just my playthings. I can deal with you with my finger alone.”

Baaaaaaaaang—

The head of the resident exploded. However, the explosion did not end there, like the interconnecting webs of the spider, it spread all over the place.

Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom—

Just like that, thousands of people died.

“You— You bastaaaaaaaaaard!!!”

Zhu Bajie’s eyes grew bloodshot, his mouth bleeding as he bit his lips tightly from the frustration and helplessness. Even Sun Wukong’s eyes were filled with helplessness and despair. However, the Bull Demon King’s eyes were different.

“That look.”

Viel took a step forward and approached the Bull Demon King. This was the man that killed Rumacar, one of the Jade Emperor’s envoys. Then, he raised his sword and smacked the Bull Demon King in the face with its hilt.

Baaaaaaaaang—

“Go on, show how afraid you are.”

However, there was no fear in the eyes of the Bull Demon King. In fact, he even stubbornly raised his head.

Baaaaaaaang—

“Shouldn’t you bow down and save your people? Nope. They’re no longer your people, right?”

Baaaaaaaang—

“Beg me. Worship me. Bark like a dog.”

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang—!

A madman, that was what Viel was. The crazy lunatic grabbed the face of the Bull Demon King.

Baaaaaaaang—

But then, at that moment, someone was sent flying to the sky. This someone was none other than Ferro. Alexander could also be seen chasing after Ferro.

Alexander began to push Ferro back. Perhaps out of all of the people present here, the only one that could fight against the gods was Alexander.

“Fufufufufufufufu! Look at that, someone is giving you hope over there. I don’t like that!”

Yes, that man was definitely strong. He was strong enough to kill one of the envoys. However, there was only one of him. Viel, who gripped the bleeding head of the Bull Demon King, giggled. Suddenly, Daoist Heron appeared right next to him.

Why did Heron come here? A talisman flew out of his hands and sucked in all of the residents of Edea that were hiding all over the place. Just like that, he had gathered the millions of residents of Edea and forced them inside the talisman.

Thud, thud, thud—

“Great— Great Sage, Heaven’s Equal?”

“Your Majesty? Your Majesty Zhu Bajie?!”

The residents of Edea could clearly see how the kings that they served were rendered helpless, bound by something that made them unable to move.

“Naive kings,” Viel spoke coldly. “Bark like a dog or I will kill everyone right here and now.”

Heron took out ten more talismans.

“Ah, don’t forget to shout: Long Live the Jade Emperor!”

“...”

Hanwoo turned to look at the crying residents of Edea. Then, he looked at the man named Alexander, who was fighting against Ferro. However, he knew that there was no way that the situation that they were in would improve.

The Bull Demon King stared silently at Viel. Only when Heron moved to burn the talisman containing the residents of Edea did someone open their mouth.

“I— I will do it.”

Zhu Bajie loved and cared for his residents. However, Viel shook his head. He was not the one that he wanted.

“He has to be the one to do it.”

Viel clearly remembered the bastard named Minhyuk that attacked and injured him. He wanted the Bull Demon King, who served that bastard, to kneel and worship him.

Crackleeee—

The burning talisman slowly floated in the air.

“Uwaaaaaaaaah!!!”

“Aaaaaaaaaah!!!”

“N— no!!!”

The Bull Demon King gently closed his eyes as he listened to the cries of the residents. Then, in a low voice, he said, “Long... live...”

“What? Say that again. Huh? Ahahahahahahaha!”

Viel could not help but cackle when he heard the Bull Demon King’s admission of defeat and praise of the Jade Emperor.

“Kuhahahahahahahahaha! Louder! Huh?! Let all of them hear!!!”

“Long live...” the bleeding Bull Demon King opened his mouth once again. Then, he took a big breath. Before he knew it, his acupoints that had been blocked were slowly turning loose.

“Long live His Majesty Minhyuuuuuuuuuk!!!” The Bull Demon King shouted as he hugged Viel’s lower half and charged forward.

“That’s no fun.”

Viel looked down at the Bull Demon King, who held his legs and pushed him back. Then, he raised his sword and tried to stab Hanwoo’s back.

Vwoooooooooooooooooong—

[The Millennium Lion’s Sword is resonating!]

[The Millennium Lion’s Sword loses its power in front of the Greatest Sword!]

That was when his sword lost its sharpness and momentum.

Chapter 829

The viewers all over the world that were watching the battle in Edea were more interested in what Alexander was doing, than watching Viel capture the four kings of Edea and try to kill the residents of the land.

Alexander was the Weapon Master, the first person to have ever received an Eight Pillars' Class. The viewers firmly believed that Alexander received the *greatest sword* from the previous generation's Weapon Master.

[Alexander! Quick! Take out the greatest sword!]

[If Alexander takes out and awakens the greatest sword, then he might even be able to kill Ferro, right? Hahaha.]

[Woah. What are the effects of the greatest sword?]

[I really want to see the item window of the greatest sword.]

[As expected, the greatest sword is different. Can you see how that envoy named Ferro is being cut down by the sword? The cuts and slashes are cleaner than the cuts and slashes made by normal swords.]

[Oh! You're right.]

When many started to speak as if it was the truth, the rest of the people began to believe them.

God-rank weapons were divided into two different grades, low grade and high grade. It was true that Alexander's *Weapon Master's Morphing Sword* was among the best of the high grade God-rank swords. It was also because of his sword's outstanding force that everyone was led to believe that his sword was the *greatest sword*.

Alexander, who was battling fiercely against Ferro, frowned.

'We might be on equal footing now but... I might be the one being pushed back soon.'

All of the skills of the Eight Pillars' Class Weapon Master's Skill Tree that Alexander had were still at Level 1. The fact that he could fight Ferro on equal footing despite his skills only being at this level was enough for all of the players to admit that he was truly the best.

Then, at that moment, Alexander suddenly could not see through Ferro's skilled moves.

'...'

Alexander could tell that this attack would definitely leave him with serious injuries. However, he could not fight back against it. Ferro swung his woldo sideways to slash Alexander's back.

Slaaaaaash—

However, something very surprising happened.

'It doesn't hurt?'

Even the decrease in his HP was far less than when he received Ferro's ordinary attacks. However, Alexander did not dilly-dally. He quickly widened the distance between him and Ferro.

Ferro stared at his woldo, which was resonating and vibrating wildly, and exclaimed, "...It's afraid?"

"...!"

Ferro could tell that his woldo was afraid of something. Alexander also looked down at his sword.

[The Weapon Master's Morphing Sword is resonating!]

Tremble—

Alexander's sword resonated and vibrated in fear, no, in terror.

[The Weapon Master's Morphing Sword loses its power in front of the Greatest Sword!]

'Did it just say the Greatest Sword?'

Alexander's breath hitched.

'Does this mean that the owner of the greatest sword has appeared here?'

Alexander hurriedly looked around. He could see that all of the weapons and defensive equipment of everyone that fought in the war in Edea had lost their power.

"What... What the hell?!"

"My sword's attack dropped to 1?! Even my shield's defense has dropped to 1?!"

Alexander continued to look around him as a huge commotion broke out on the battlefield. Only then did the viewers finally realize that something was off.

[It said that the greatest sword has made its appearance. But... wasn't Alexander using that sword from the very beginning?]

[That's right. But I haven't heard any notifications like that before.]

[Then... does that mean that the owner of the greatest sword is not Alexander, but someone else?]

Alexander's gaze searched all over the place. Who in the world was it? Who was the master of the greatest sword in existence?

Then, at that moment, a very shocking notification rang in the ears of everyone present.

[Edea's Commander Minhyuk has appeared on the battlefield!]

"...!"

"...!"

"...!"

The entire world was left reeling in shock.

Piiiiiiiiing—!

The Jade Emperor's Envoy Viel thrust his sword toward the back of the Bull Demon King, who hugged his lower half tightly and pushed him back. However, his sword could not pierce through the Bull Demon King's back.

Although Viel's Millennium Lion's Sword was able to scratch Hanwoo's back a bit, it was obvious that the sharpness and momentum of the sword had disappeared.

[The Millennium Lion's Sword is resonating!]

[The Millennium Lion's Sword loses its power in front of the Greatest Sword!]

Viel looked at his trembling sword in doubt. However, a grin soon spread in his mouth. Viel was fully aware of the identity of the man that took the greatest sword. It was none other than that f*cking man that was called the *Food God*, the very same god that brought him shame and disgrace.

Flap, flap, flap—

Caaaaw— caaaaaw—

Hihihihihing!

The birds flapped their wings and flew away while the horses raised their hooves in fear.

“Where the f*ck are you, f*cking worm?!”

The cameras zoomed in on Viel's face as he looked around.

At the same time, the viewership rating of ATV Broadcasting Station, who had the exclusive rights to broadcast the battle in Edea, soared once again.

[Currently, ATV's ratings have broken through 55.8%!]

[With the notifications about the entrance of Edea's Commander in the war and the appearance of the Greatest Sword that rendered all weapons and defensive equipment useless regardless of enemy or ally, it's bound to increase, no?]

[All of the viewers are focused on their screens. They are trying to determine whether it was just a coincidence or not.]

Just when Viel was looking for Minhyuk, someone made an observation.

[U... Up there!!!]

Minhyuk came shooting down like a meteor from the sky above.

Baaaaaaaaang—

Slash, slash, slash, slash, slash—!

In his hand was the Sword of Aeon carrying the symbol of *Destruction* on its blade. At the same time, Destruction's explosion engulfed Viel.

“...”

No groan escaped Viel's mouth despite the downpour of lightning strikes that fell upon his body.

“Bastard!!!” Viel shouted as he moved in a flash. He had been looking forward to this day. He definitely would have the Sword of Aeon in his possession. Once he got his hand on the Sword of Aeon, he would cut down the Jade Emperor and become the god of the new world.

Slash, slash, slash—!

Viel narrowed the distance between him and Minhyuk and swung his sword so quickly that Minhyuk was left with no chance to react.

[Viel's attack failed!]

[Viel's attack failed!]

[Your HP has dropped below 99.5%!]

Viel did not do much damage to Minhyuk. That was only natural. Even an ordinary wooden sword would have 100 attack. However, right now, Viel's Millenium Lion Sword only had 1 attack power. There was no bite. In fact, even an ordinary stone lying on the street would probably have a higher attack than his sword.

'It would probably be around 70 if checked.'

“...”

Viel looked at his sword in confusion. Even if his sword only had 1 attack power, he would normally be able to cut down his weapons with his strength and skills alone.

However, the difference in power between Viel and Minhyuk was not the difference between heaven and earth. On top of that, the Sword of Aeon's passive skill *The Greatest Sword's* effect would not have an overlapping effect on weapons and artifacts. In other words, the weapons and defensive gear that Minhyuk had equipped on his body, which had lost their power in front of the Sword of Aeon earlier, had already recovered.

To put it simply, Minhyuk blocked the attack of a master, who was using a branch, with his God-rank armor. This was actually the reason why Minhyuk could confidently appear in front of Viel like this. However, this also meant that he needed to quickly finish the war within this short time of reprieve that was granted to him.

“Snake's Bite.”

Viel's sword stretched out and slithered like a snake, biting and digging through Minhyuk's defenses as he cast his skill.

Clang—

However, it was easily blocked by Minhyuk's armor. Viel's expression grew ugly.

The commentators also noticed something.

[No way. It's true?]

[Minhyuk is the real owner of the greatest sword in existence?!!!]

[Just now, we clearly heard the loud and crisp ‘clang—’, right? That was the sound of Player Minhyuk's armor blocking Viel's sword.]

[The fact that Player Minhyuk's armor can block Viel's sword means that his defensive equipment did not lose its power and function.]

[This must be the truth. Player Minhyuk is the owner of the greatest sword in existence!]

Envoy Viel was no fool. He would not fight Minhyuk after realizing that his attacks could not do any damage to him.

‘These effects are temporary.’

Viel immediately turned away after realizing this fact. No one would say that Viel was a coward even if he did this. After all, one would be stupid to fight against an opponent when their attack did not work at all.

However, Minhyuk would not let Viel be. He immediately chased after Viel, who laughed when he saw this.

‘Although I can’t kill you right now, that does not mean that I won’t be able to evade your attacks.’

The problem was the attack that Minhyuk triggered was a skill with a 100% attack success rate.

“Sword of Absolute Death.”

Baaaaaaaaaaaaang—

Hundreds of lightning bolts fell down from the sky and struck Viel’s body.

Crackle, crackle, crackle, crackle—!

‘Monster...’

Minhyuk looked appalled as he stared at Viel. His defensive equipment obviously only had 1 defense. However, no scream or groan escaped his mouth as the Sword of Absolute Death fell upon him.

But Minhyuk was not aiming to kill him with the Sword of Absolute Death. What he was after was the abnormal status *Stun* that Viel would be afflicted with.

Just like that, Viel was left in a stunned state.

“...!”

Viel’s expression grew ugly when he realized that he could not move. Minhyuk grinned when he saw him like that.

There was actually a skill that Minhyuk could not use when he fought Viel the last time. That skill was the power of Minhyuk’s teacher, the man that used the most outstanding swordsmanship. The skill was none other than Valen’s Thousand Swords.

Thousand Swords was a skill that would be triggered *upon a successful critical attack*. Minhyuk grabbed the Sword of Aeon with both hands and stabbed it into the stunned Viel’s chest.

Staaaaaaaaab—!

One had to remember that the Sword of Aeon was the greatest sword in existence. It was the sword with the highest attack.

Viel looked at the blood dripping down his chest as the sword pierced through his chest.

“You m*th*erf*cking bastard...!”

[Thousand Swords.]

[Upon a successful critical attack, a thousand swords with 50% of the original basic attack power's damage will randomly stab the enemy!]

A thousand swords rose in the sky and shot down toward Viel's body at the same time.

Cold sweat dripped down Viel's forehead at the sight. His equipment's defense was still at 1. Of course, as a Named NPC, his HP volume was very high. However, the skill was affected by the effects of the Sword of Aeon.

“Sky's Guardian.”

Although he was in a stunned state, his mouth could still move! At that moment, the power of the Jade Emperor appeared and surrounded Viel's body.

[Sky's Guardian.]

[The Highest Sky protects you!]

[All attacks' success rate drops by 70%. The damage that you will receive will be halved.]

Envoy Viel, who found a loophole, instantly triggered the skill to halve the damage that he would receive.

Stab, stab, stab, stab, stab, stab—

The thousand of swords that fell from the sky pierced through his body, an act that almost turned him into a hedgehog.

However, Minhyuk was biting his lips.

[Your attack has failed!]

[Your attack has failed!]

[Your attack has failed!]

As expected of a god. Minhyuk never thought that Viel could trigger a skill in that short period of time to halve the damage that he would receive.

Minhyuk was in a hurry. While he was casting the Thousand Swords, he was also preparing to cast the Food God's Swordsmanship.

[Sky's Shield.]

[You can defend against all of the enemy's attacks for one minute!]

“...!”

Alas, a blue pillar of light fell down from the sky and wrapped around Viel's body. It was a skill that had the same effect as Minhyuk's *Absolute Defense*.

‘Damn you, Jade Emperor!’

Minhyuk might not know this, but among the envoys, Viel was the only one that could borrow the power of the Jade Emperor. This was not the Jade Emperor's way of intervening in the war. This was something that only Viel could do because he had the *authority* to do so.

“Why do you think I turned around and ran from you?”

“...”

Blood was spurting out of the cuts and slashes that the Thousand Swords had inflicted upon Viel. However, the wounds were recovering at a speed that was visible to the naked eye.

Fwoosh—

Viel walked with his sword hanging on his hand.

“Didn’t I say this before, you are our playthings. I just did that to give you that ray of hope, a small hope that you can win. That’s so I could revel in the delight of trampling on those hopes and dreams.”

Viel did not borrow the *Jade Emperor’s Power* in the beginning and only used it now. Right now, he was also showing the same behavior and actions that he showed before. He wanted to show Minhyuk that he was just playing with them.

“Even if you have the greatest sword in existence, what can you do if you can’t reach my body?”

Minhyuk’s expression grew ugly when he heard Viel’s jeering.

[The Millennium Lion’s Sword has started to regain its original power!]

Viel cackled. Everyone, including the viewers and Minhyuk, held their breath as they listened to him laugh. Viel moved like the wind as he held his sword that had regained its sharpness and momentum.

“Beast’s Charge.”

Viel’s movement and attack speed increased by 1.3x in an instant. He used an amazing and awe-inspiring swordsmanship that could even be said to be comparable to the swordsmanship used by the Sword God.

Slaaaash—

Minhyuk did not have any time to avoid the attack. Viel had suddenly appeared behind him.

Slaaaash—

Viel’s sword moved swiftly, leaving behind afterimages as he slashed Minhyuk’s entire body.

“Keuack!”

[Your HP has dropped below 80%!]

Minhyuk was both in awe and terror by his shockingly high attack. Then, Viel suddenly appeared above Minhyuk.

Vwoooooooooong—

Minhyuk hurriedly raised his Sword of Aeon. However, it was already too late. Viel’s sword had already stabbed several parts of Minhyuk’s body.

Stab, stab— stab, stab, stab— stab, stab—

[Your HP...]

[Your HP...]

[Your HP...]

[Your HP...]

The Supreme was rendered helpless. Amidst his scream, the people thought that it was better to give the throne of the Supreme to Alexander. Of course, the viewers and commentators were also rendered speechless by Viel's display of power.

[Are you saying that he is the Supreme?]

[He has the greatest sword in his hands but he can't even cut down a god?]

[It's not that Player Minhyuk is weak, it's just Viel who is too strong, no? Viel is even being protected by the Jade Emperor. He is even using the Jade Emperor's authority while he is attacking Minhyuk.]

[Come to think of it, whenever Minhyuk hunts or kills someone, there will always be people like Brod, Spear God Ben or Obren by his side. Perhaps, as an individual, he is not worth being the candidate to be an emperor.]

[That's true.]

[It's not that he's outstanding, it's the people around him that are outstanding. Is there even someone that does not know that? Hahahahahahaha. Look at him. He can't even react to Viel's sword. He even allowed Viel to attack three times per second.]

[Ah...]

Viewers were saying that they were witnessing the fall of the supreme. Of course, most of them were just being sarcastic and instigating others because they could not even compare to Minhyuk. However, others could be easily swayed by what was presented to them. And right now, they were witnessing how Minhyuk was being brutally abused by Viel.

“Keuhahahaha... hahahahahahaha, keuhahahahahahaha!!!”

Viel laughed maniacally as he watched the bleeding Minhyuk stagger on his feet.

[The Sky's Shield has ended!]

But then, the Sky's Shield that surrounded and protected Viel disappeared. He laughed and laughed. He felt that there was no point to the barrier when his opponent was already bleeding and staggering on his feet like that.

However, at that moment, the staggering Minhyuk suddenly stood still. The hurried and despairing look on his face as he bled all over his body disappeared and was replaced with a calm and expressionless look.

“Hey. Are you finished now?”

“...?”

“Shit. It’s hard to get beaten and pretend to get hurt.”

“...?”

Viel looked at Minhyuk in confusion. The truth was, Viel was someone that could be easily intoxicated by his own display of power. He attacked and abused Minhyuk just with basic attacks because Viel firmly believed that he would be able to kill him with just his basic attacks.

And that was the problem. If Viel had used all of his skills and attacked Minhyuk with all his might, then he would have probably forced him to log out already. However, he did nothing and just used his *basic attacks*.

“It’s my turn now, no?”

Absolute Defense.

An absolute barrier that could last for seven seconds appeared around Minhyuk’s body the moment he recited those words. Compared to Viel’s skill, the duration of Minhyuk’s Absolute Defense might be infinitely shorter. However, his attack would definitely be more intense and more heated.

Clack—

Minhyuk took out a sword from his inventory and held it with his other hand.

[What— what’s that just now?]

[Even though I’m watching this with my very own eyes, I still can’t bring myself to believe it!!!]

[Is— Is this even possible in Athenae?!!!]

Black energy started to flow around the Sword of Aeon in Minhyuk’s right hand while a golden energy began to flow around the Continent Destroyer Sword in his left hand.

Then, a notification rang in Minhyuk’s ears at the same time as he equipped the two swords.

[Dual Sword Technique.]

[Your attack speed has increased by 70%!]

[You can now use two swords. The swords’ attack will not be affected and will not decrease!]

[Your skills’ power has increased by 1.4x!]

[The Dual Sword Technique’s effects will be triggered upon casting a successive attack skill. The skill’s damage will be doubled.]

Minhyuk held two swords in his hands as he began his judgment.

“Sword of Carnage.”

Chapter 830

Players were generally not inclined to use the Dual Sword Technique. There were reasons for it.

The first reason was it was generally impossible for players to equip two swords at the same time.

The only way that it could be possible was the *Two-Sword Mastery*. However, it had a condition set in place, where one could only replicate the sword that they had equipped, or use swords that were specifically made for it.

However, because of that condition, the sword's attack would decrease, only displaying around 40% of its original power.

The second reason was it was actually very difficult for players to use the Dual Sword Technique.

Players were unlikely to handle swords in their daily lives and had only ever held swords in this virtual reality game. To put it simply, they were already having a hard time holding a single sword. How could they hold two swords when they were already having a hard time swinging one?

Of course, there were a few exceptions. Those who were either talented and had good gaming sense, or those that had a good feel for the sword. There were also those among the ones that practiced kendo or martial arts for a long time, allowing them to have a good grasp of wielding dual swords. However, even these people had turned a blind-eye to the Dual Sword Technique.

In the end, it all came down to the first reason. These reasons did not mean that there were no players that did not hone their Two-Sword Mastery or utilize the Dual Sword Technique. However, due to the nature of their class, even if these people had excellent gaming sense, they would still have less attack when using the Dual Sword Technique.

It was no wonder the commentators were all in shock.

[He has two swords in his hands... One of the swords is definitely the well-known Continent Destroyer Sword!]

[The Continent Destroyer Sword, as we all know, is considered as one of the highest grade swords among the God-rank swords!]

[I'm sure a lot of our viewers are well aware of how amazing the Continent Destroyer Sword is when used by Food God Minhyuk.]

[As for the sword in his right hand... It's the Greatest Sword! The Strongest Sword among all of the swords that exist in Athenae!]

[Is this even possible?! Isn't Two-Sword Mastery originally a skill that can be used by either replicating the skill user's original sword or using a sword that was originally made for it?]

[But right now, Player Minhyuk is holding two different swords in his hands!]

It was not just the commentators that were in shock. The same was true for the viewers.

[Is it really possible to use two different swords when using the Dual Sword Technique?]

[Hey, hey. Isn't this a balance breaker?]

[No. Crazy. This shouldn't be allowed, right?]

Then, a fairly famous high swordsman ranker appeared among the viewers.

[Whether it's Two-Sword Mastery or the Dual Sword Technique, both skills incur huge penalties. Upon usage, one's attack speed and sword attack would drastically decrease. More importantly, Player Minhyuk is not a player that uses the Dual Sword Technique in the first place. This means that he is unlikely to swing his swords freely. Basically this will just be counterproductive.]

[Ah, that's right.]

[Right. Guys, the penalty for using Dual Sword Technique is really just too much.]

[Then, isn't that just useless?]

That was what everyone thought. However, Minhyuk did not care a single bit about what they thought. After all, what did the viewers and commentators think about him while he was being attacked by Viel earlier?

'Casting pearls before swine.'

They had definitely thought that he did not deserve to hold the strongest and greatest sword in his hand. Not only that, they also thought that Viel was so strong that he could not even show off the true power of the Sword of Aeon. But now, he was showing off the power of the greatest sword.

"Sword of Carnage."

The Sword of Carnage was originally a skill that would increase his movement speed by ten times and allow him to send out thirty eight attacks in a seconds. Each strike had an additional 2,000% attack and the power to ignore all of the enemy's defenses.

[Sword of Carnage.]

[The effects of the Dual Sword Technique have been added!]

[Due to the use of Dual Sword Technique, the skill's consecutive attacks have doubled!]

[Your enemy will be hit with seventy six sword attacks in a second!]

Minhyuk swiftly passed by Viel, both of the swords in his hands cutting his body.

Shwaaaaa—

"..."

Viel had already tasted the brunt of the Sword of Carnage's attacks. This time, it was very different from before.

Stab—

Viel's eyes suddenly grew wide when the attack successfully landed on his body. *'The— the damage that I incurred back then was...!'*

It was completely different. Minhyuk had eaten buffed dishes in Hell before coming here just so he could deal with Viel. On top of that, Viel was receiving the damage from the +3 reinforced *Sword of Aeon*. As of this moment, Sword of Aeon had 3,089 attack power.

Stab, stab, stab, stab, stab, stab, stab—

Blood spurted out of Viel's body as the consecutive attacks ripped and tore apart his flesh and bones. The god that all of the players feared was being violated and abused by the greatest sword.

[Wh— what? What was that just now?]

[The... the Sword of Carnage just cut Viel with more than 60 slashes!]

[What did I just see?]

[I'm definitely watching it with my own eyes but I just can't understand it.]

[Originally, one's attack power, speed or even their skills' power would lower if they used the Dual Sword Technique. But just now, the number of times that he cut Viel using his skill had doubled, right?]

[Maybe this is the power of the greatest sword? A power that we have never seen before?]

[...I don't know how to put it into words well. But we all have to keep in mind that using the Dual Sword Technique is something that not just anyone could use!]

Viel's entire body was filled with wounds. He was so furious that the veins in his eyes burst and made him cry tears of blood. This was a disgrace.

'How dare a piece of trash like you dare to hit me?'

"Bastaaaaaaaaard!!!"

Viel could be considered a true monster in every sense. The attack from before only shaved off around 40% of his HP. He was still very much alive and well.

He dashed forward madly and used his dazzling and majestic swordsmanship to try and overwhelm Minhyuk. Even his sword's attacking speed was beyond anyone's expectations.

Clang—

However, Viel's sword was easily blocked by the Continent Destroyer Sword, while the Sword of Aeon moved and slashed his chest.

Spuuuurt—!

"Hiiiiik...!"

Viel gritted his teeth as he continuously swung his sword. He looked like an eagle, who glided smoothly in the sky before swooping down to attack its prey. However, Minhyuk was able to block all of Viel's attacks. In fact, he even began to push the envoy back.

As long as Dual Sword Technique was still in effect, Minhyuk's movement speed would be 70% faster than normal. As it turned out, knowing that the Dual Sword Technique was a very difficult skill for players to use, the production team tried to compensate for this shortcoming by increasing one's speed by 70% during the skill's duration.

However, there was another important point.

[Th— That's crazy.]

[The Dual Sword Technique looks so amazing when used by Player Minhyuk!!!]

It was only at this moment that the viewers and commentators, who did not realize that Minhyuk was using the Dual Sword Technique, remembered something.

[P— Player Minhyuk...]

[He's someone that won against the Kendo Gold Medalist Carr before!]

[Player Minhyuk has a record of winning against Carr in an unofficial kendo match during their middle school days!!!]

[The greatest sword and the most outstanding swordsman has met! And their power has doubled!!!]

Then, one of the viewers piped in.

[Hey, where's that guy who said earlier that Minhyuk wouldn't be able to use the Dual Sword Technique?]

[Let me bury your head.]

It was just like the commentators had said. Minhyuk had held a sword since he was a child and had always shown how much of a genius he was with it. But that was not all. Minhyuk actually did several dozens of different exercises to go with his insane diet. Among those exercises was *Dual Swordsmanship*. In other words, having the Sword of Aeon in his possession was just like giving him wings to fly.

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang—!

The symbol of *Destruction* was branded on the blades of both the swords in Minhyuk's hands. With every swing of his sword, dozens of lightning strikes would fall down and engulf Viel. However, despite all that, Minhyuk was feeling anxious.

'Ah! This crazy bastard! Die. Please just die! Die!!!'

Alas, Viel's HP volume and defense was beyond anyone's imagination. Just when he thought that it would soon be over after he had beaten Viel for three minutes, a dreaded notification rang out.

[The Sky's Warmth.]

[All of your HP and MP has recovered.]

A warm light fell from the sky and helped Viel's body recover.

"...Ah."

Minhyuk staggered back. In just an instant, everything that he did went down the drain.

[There is only 1 minute and 30 seconds left in the Dual Sword Technique's duration.]

Minhyuk quickly estimated everything. If he gave it his all and used all of his skills and power, he would be able to kill Viel even though he was being protected by the Jade Emperor.

He quickly looked around. Sun Wukong, Aaron, Hanwoo and Zhu Bajie were all still standing tall. However, he could tell that they would all collapse soon.

Even Alexander looked very exhausted as he fought fiercely against Ferro, unable to break away from Ferro's world despite being an Eight Pillars' Class. Unlike Alexander, Ferro still looked very energetic.

'The Jade Emperor...'

Damn it. Damn it!

The bloody Viel cackled, his smile grotesque as he said, "Kghhk. Keuhahahahahahaha! Keuhahahahahahahahaha! That power of yours will eventually disappear. By that time, you won't be able to kill me. Did you believe that you could win? Did you believe that you could save everyone?"

Did you believe that you are stronger than me? That you are stronger than us? That you are stronger than the Sky?”

Minhyuk’s grip on his two swords tightened. It was just like what Viel said. No matter how hard he fought and struggled as long as the Jade Emperor was here, he would not be able to kill Viel. Besides, the Jade Emperor was also going to descend here. If by any chance, he was able to kill Viel, once the Jade Emperor appeared, everyone here would still die.

[Are you giving up?]

At that moment, a very familiar voice rang from the sky above them. At the same time, the Puzzling Seasoning Jar flew out of Minhyuk’s inventory on its own.

Crack, crack, crack, crack—

Minhyuk looked at the Puzzling Seasoning Jar that suddenly started to crack with a puzzled look on his face.

Clang, clang, clang—

In the end, the seasoning jar completely broke down.

[Using his own power, Evil God Obren breaks the restriction placed upon him to forever live inside the Puzzling Seasoning Jar.]

[Your vassal and lord relationship with Evil God Obren has been cut off!]

Minhyuk could not believe the notifications that rang in his ears. But as the sky turned dark, another shocking set of notifications rang.

[The Sky is collapsing!]

[The man that has forced the Sky to collapse is trying to become the new God!]

Then, the voice that rang before spoke again.

[Are you afraid of the Jade Emperor?]

“...”

To be honest? Minhyuk was truly afraid. He was afraid of Viel, who was being protected by the Jade Emperor. He thought that he would not be able to kill him, even if he tried his best.

[But, you know...]

The voice sounded warm and gentle. It felt like it was embracing Minhyuk gently.

[You should not forget that you have me.]

[You are my only friend and the only one that I will trust.]

Along with that, shocking notifications rang loudly in the ears of all of the people in the entire world.

[The man squeezes the Fallen Sky out of his throne. He chooses his name as the new Absolute God!]

[He will ascend to the throne of the tenth Absolute God!]

[However, the tenth Absolute God has not completely destroyed the Sky yet.]

[The one that wants to become the tenth Absolute God is temporarily taking over the Sky's power!]

[The tenth Absolute God has become a God for someone's sake. He became a God to help him and guide him on the right path.]

[The tenth Absolute God is Guardian God Obren!]

Obren spoke warmly.

[I will protect you for all eternity.]

[Absolute God Obren has become your Guardian God!]

A god that was stronger, more superior and greater than the Jade Emperor, had given strength to Minhyuk.

[The Guardian God has bestowed upon you his blessings!]