

Gourmet 871

Chapter 871

With the war, the peace talks with the other kingdoms and empires, the ceaseless efforts to develop the Beyond the Heavens Empire, the battle with the Luvien Empire, and meeting Helenia through the new episode, Minhyuk was exhausted. At this point, Minhyuk felt like having two bodies would still not be enough.

Minhyuk's face was complex as he walked out of the Athenae Connection Capsule. Lee Jinhwan, who saw him stagger out, called out to him, "Minhyuk."

"Ah, Doc. I'm fine." Minhyuk smiled faintly.

However, Jinhwan supported him and looked at him worriedly. "Minhyuk, I think you need a good rest."

"I'll be fine once I nap after working out."

"No. I believe you need to take a longer break than that."

"You know that I can't take a long break. There's so much work left to do. I have to prepare for Helenia's appearance. I have to prepare for the battle against the Luvien Empire. I have to... *mumble, mumble...*"

Lee Jinhwan sighed as he listened to Minhyuk. "How about talking for a bit?"

Minhyuk looked confused at the doctor as they sat together on the sofa.

"Do you have a lot of work to do in Athenae? Can you tell me about it?"

Lee Jinhwan knew mostly about what usually happened in the Athenae game. However, he was Minhyuk's doctor and needed to understand what was happening entirely. So, Minhyuk began to tell his story. He told Jinhwan about how he felt helpless after meeting Helenia recently and the pressure and the need to go even further that started to weigh down on his shoulders.

"I don't have time. I'll take a short breather and..."

"Minhyuk." Lee Jinhwan, who finished listening to Minhyuk's story, fixed his horn-rimmed glasses and continued, "What was the reason you started playing the game Athenae? Did you start playing the game so that you could build an *empire* and become Athenae's *supreme*?"

"Huh? Of course not. I started playing to help curb and cure my eating addiction. However, the people that are relying on me..."

"Why do you think that they are only relying on you? Minhyuk, even if you put down your burden and let go for a bit, those people can handle it."

"..." Minhyuk turned silent as he listened to Lee Jinhwan.

“When we first started the game, before you established your kingdom, you would often tell us about the delicious dishes you tried. And we can see that it made you happy, Minhyuk. But now? Whenever you log out, all you say is how busy you are.”

Lee Jinhwan felt very sorry that this transition happened like that.

“Yes, your eating addiction is improving. However, it’s not completely cured yet. Do you remember what you said to me when you first played this game, Minhyuk? You said, *‘I will play this game and have fun!’* But are you having fun now?”

Minhyuk could not open his mouth to answer that question. It wasn’t fun. He wanted to argue, but the words were stuck in his throat.

Then, a voice rang somewhere else. “Doctor Lee Jinhwan is right. Minhyuk, didn’t you promise me back then that you would play this game and have more fun than anybody else?”

It was Chairman Kang Minhoo. Kang Minhoo could see how the pressure on Minhyuk grew heavier as he grew even further in Athenae. As someone who became the head of a group in his early thirties, Kang Minhoo fully understood the feeling. He once thought that the company would only be able to function if he was present all the time.

“It’s okay to let things go every once in a while. Please remember that you’re not the only one supposed to carry this burden alone. It’s a burden everyone must carry, fair and square.”

After listening to his father's words, Minhyuk turned to look at Jinhwan. He saw the doctor nodding in agreement, a faint smile on his face.

Minhyuk pondered deeply. *‘What’s fun for me is...’*

The main reason he started playing this game was what he found interesting and fun, which was food. Minhyuk soon nodded. He smiled and said, “I’ll try to let things go and relax every once in a while.”

Kang Minhoo and Lee Jinhwan felt relieved when they heard those words. The two watched Minhyuk stand up to return to his room and sleep.

Minhyuk, who had taken a long and deep sleep after a long time, felt refreshed. For the first time in a long while, Minhyuk let himself breathe and rid himself of thoughts. Because of that, he was finally able to sleep well. However, that did not mean that he had let go completely.

‘I still don’t know what will happen once Helenia descends. Can I go out and eat something delicious? Can I have fun in Athenae once again?’ Accompanied by these complicated thoughts, Minhyuk logged back inside Athenae.

He still had not checked and confirmed the rewards he received from Helenia. However, the moment he accessed the game, Haze immediately came to his office.

“Your Majesty. Conir has left.”

“Conir did?” Minhyuk felt anxious when he heard that Conir had left. He considered Conir his younger brother, whom he needed to protect and take care of.

Seeing Minhyuk’s expression grow both serious and uneasy, Haze said, “Your Majesty. Conir is strong.”

“What?”

“He is stronger than we think. He left because he also wanted to grow further.”

Only after hearing those words did Minhyuk understand.

Haze continued, “Your Majesty, I know that you feel responsible for everything. However, that does not mean that you have to do everything on your own. Just as Conir left to grow further, we are also doing our best to protect our Beyond the Heavens Empire.”

Haze’s words were similar to what Minhyuk’s father and personal doctor, Lee Jinhwan, had told him earlier. At this point, Minhyuk had already realized he was suffering from the pressure.

After lightly scolding Minhyuk, Haze said, “Your Majesty, Conir had left you a present just before he left.”

Then, she went out for a bit. When she came back, she was holding a bowl of ramyeon that was plated nicely inside a bowl. It was none other than Green Onion Ramyeon.

“He also told me to tell Your Majesty, *I hope that Your Majesty will be able to enjoy this like you used to.*”

Conir said the words like you used to, which meant that he had also sensed Minhyuk’s changes. Only at that moment did the facts hit Minhyuk deeply.

‘I see. I didn’t have to carry everything on my own. I can eat delicious dishes and enjoy the game like I used to.’ Minhyuk felt more relaxed, a small smile curling at the corners of his lips.

Since the ramyeon was a Green Onion Ramyeon, it was only natural that a generous amount of green onion was sprinkled on top of it. One could tell the soup would taste very refreshing with just one glance.

Minhyuk lifted the bowl and took a huge gulp of the soup. “*Sluuuuuuuuurp!*”

The moment he sipped, a burst of hot, spicy, and savory flavors danced in his mouth. Surprisingly enough, the hot, spicy, and delicious flavors were well-matched.

“Kghhkhk...”

As expected of the skills of the Master of Ramyeon, Conir. After tasting the soup, Minhyuk quickly grabbed his chopsticks and clamped a considerable mouthful of noodles, with several chopped green onions peeking from their gaps.

“*Sluuuuuuuuuuurp!*”

Just like that, he put the warm, spicy, and chewy noodles in his mouth all at once. Of course, he slurped another mouthful of noodles.

“Sluuuuuuuuuurp!”

Minhyuk ate the noodles delightfully before focusing on the well-ripened kimchi beside the bowl. He quickly clamped some kimchi and put it in his mouth.

Crunch, crunch, crunch—

Minhyuk could not help but be in awe at the burst of flavor that accompanied every bite of the dish.

“Sluuuuuuuuuurp!”

Just like that, he almost finished the bowl of ramyeon.

“Conir, this rascal.” Minhyuk felt his nose turn sour as tears slowly welled up in his eyes.

Conir knew that one bowl of ramyeon would not be enough for Minhyuk, so he prepared some leftover rice. The boy’s kindness warmed Minhyuk’s heart, but that was not all. Minhyuk could tell that this ramyeon was very unusual.

‘This tastes really, really good?’

In fact, it tasted so good that Minhyuk could not help but sigh in admiration with every bite.

After finishing the noodles, Minhyuk quickly dumped the cold leftover rice into the spicy and hot soup and pressed it down with his spoon. Once the rice was fully submerged, he scooped a spoonful and put it in his mouth.

“Kgghhk...!”

As expected, cold leftover rice was perfect for ramyeon! The cold rice, which mellowed down the heat of the soup, created a fantastic harmony with the spicy soup. After he finished everything, he quickly grabbed the bowl and made sure to drink the last drop.

“Haaaa...” Minhyuk sighed, his eyes closing as he smiled in satisfaction. The meal was the first that he had enjoyed in a long time. He was also pleasantly surprised that Conir, the boy he thought should be cared for and cherished deeply, had made such a great bowl of ramyeon.

Strangely enough, he felt quite relaxed after eating the ramyeon. And the reason? It explained itself not long after.

[You have eaten the Green Onion Ramyeon.]

[The dish is God grade.]

[The chef that made this dish cooked for you with all his might.]

[Cooking Master’s buff effect has been added.]

[Your distracting thoughts have disappeared, leaving your mind a clean slate and allowing you peace of mind.]

[You will earn special rewards whenever you do what you want, what you find fun and interesting, and what makes you happy.]

[The buff will last for twenty days.]

[You have eaten the Green Onion Ramyeon and became happier and more satisfied than anybody else.]

[All of your stats have increased by +1.]

“...!”

It was indeed an extraordinary and unusual dish. Among the God-grade dishes that Minhyuk knew, this was the first dish that could bestow rewards for doing something.

Minhyuk was in awe of the God-grade dish that Conir had made for him. Thanks to the boy, Minhyuk grew more relaxed and was finally able to think clearly.

‘Come to think of it, I’m not the only one doing my best.’

If he went outside, he could see the people of the Beyond the Heavens Empire working their hardest and taking their lead in developing the empire further. Even the executives were doing their best for the future of the empire. Since everyone was doing their best, it would probably be okay for him to leave some of his burdens behind.

“Your Majesty, no one will blame you if you go out to find something delicious and eat to your heart’s content. Everyone would be happier if they saw you do so.” Haze’s words gave Minhyuk more confidence.

Minhyuk smiled softly. Once again, he hoped to play this game to have fun and eat many delicious things like before.

Poof—!

At that moment, a bright light flashed as a being appeared before Minhyuk. The being was none other than the new addition to their family, the Spirit of Life.

“Grrrr...”

As mentioned before, the Spirit of Life took the form of a white wolf pup. Of course, spirits also had the power to change their appearance and could look like fairies and elves. But it seemed like the Spirit of Life was happy with this form.

The Spirit of Life blinked his bleary eyes before flying straight into Minhyuk’s embrace. Minhyuk gently rubbed and caressed his fur.

‘I would have never thought of this if it was me a few hours ago.’

A few hours ago, he had been thinking about how he could revive and revitalize the Beyond the Heavens Empire with the Spirit of Life. But now? It was different.

‘How can I be able to eat something more delicious?’

Minhyuk named the Spirit of Life *Rumble* because he kept on releasing this rumbling purr. And just like he expected, Rumble was an exceptional being.

- Active Skill: Seed Creation
- Active Skill: Quick Growth
- Passive Skill: Rumble's Wrath
- Passive Skill: Faerification
- Passive Skill: The One that Embraces Rumble

- He will grow when he does something that he truly enjoys.
- He will grow whenever he learns about new things.
- As Rumble grows, he will be able to receive special skills.

Rumble was someone that even the Great Spirits had to show courtesy and respect. However, he was currently only at Level 1. It seemed like Minhyuk had to help him grow and develop. According to the description, Rumble would be able to grow up if he *did something that he enjoyed*.

Minhyuk grinned. "Rumble."

"Grrrr, grrrr?" Rumble purred, his head tilting in confusion.

Then, Minhyuk said, "Shall we go around and play with mud? Ah. Of course, if our dear Rumble finds it hard or boring, you can stop whenever. So, shall we?"

"Grrr, grrrr!"

When Rumble heard that they would play around in the mud, the cute wolf pup puffed up his chest and pretended to look dashing and majestic.

"I will now tell you the position that you will have from today onwards."

"Grrrr, grrrr!" Rumble purred in delight.

"Your job is..."

"Grrrrr!" Rumble urged Minhyuk to tell him quickly.

"You will be the Beyond the Heavens Empire's *Farmer Chief*. The Farmer Chief protects the fields and can do fieldwork better than anybody else!"

"Gr- Grrrrrrrr!" Rumble's eyes grew wide, a sparkle appearing in those dark orbs. *Protect*. The word itself carried a great and lofty meaning.

Rumble quickly climbed up on Minhyuk's shoulders. Then, like a dashing and majestic lion looking down on all the animals atop his stone hill, he roared, "Groaaaaaaar!"

The Great Spirit of Earth Rend had the most gentle attitude among the Great Spirits. He was also the one with the most sensitive and meticulous personality. It was difficult for him to descend on Earth from the Spirit Realm. However, he made it possible by sacrificing a portion of his power.

Rend, who transformed into a normal human being, descended on Earth. Why? Well, the reason was simple.

‘The Spirit of Life... The Great One...’

The Spirit of Life was the only being to save the Spirit Realm. Even the Great Spirits, hailed as the gods of spirits paled compared to him. He might be currently in the form of a wolf pup, but in the future, he would become the greatest and the coolest Great Spirit that would unite all spirits in the Spirit Realm.

Rend came to earth to see the Spirit of Life. He was quite worried that the wolf pup would be uncomfortable living in the land of humans.

‘My pickaxe...’

Rend willingly offered his Pickaxe that Can Make Any Land Fertile because Minhyuk was someone who would stay by the side of the Spirit of Life. Rend believed that Minhyuk knew about the Spirit of Life’s greatness and that the man would respect and revere the wolf pup.

Even so, Rend was still worried. Just to make sure that nothing was amiss, Rend came here to visit the Spirit of Life. The moment he sneaked into the Beyond the Heavens Empire, Rend instantly felt the Spirit of Life’s power. He quickly followed the power and came in front of a wide-open field where the farmers were working very hard.

‘How come he’s here...?’

A noble and majestic being like the Spirit of Life should not be in a place like this, right? Rend looked around in confusion as he held the blanket he had prepared earlier in case it was cold tighter.

“Grrrr, grrrrrr!”

Then, he heard the Spirit of Life’s cries at that moment.

Swoosh—

Rend’s head whipped toward the direction where the sound came from. However, what he saw shocked him to his core, and he dropped what he was holding.

Thud—

The Spirit of Life, who would unite all spirits in the Spirit Realm and lead the noble and majestic Great Spirits in battle, was running around in a dashing and imposing manner. However, the thing that shocked Rend was the name that was written on the necklace that was hanging on the Spirit of Life’s neck.

[❤️??Farmer Chief Rumble❤️]

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The Great Spirit of the Earth Rend, who had the mildest and gentlest personality among all the Great Spirits and was also the most timid and sensitive, dropped what he was holding and looked at the Spirit of Life in shock.

‘Farmer Chief Rumble...?’

What did the word *Chief* mean? The term *chief* referred to a person who led a group.

‘Right. The position of chief suits the great Spirit of Life.’

However, Rend, who could not understand why the great and mighty Spirit of Life had to be the Farmer Chief, felt anger surge at the top of his head. They couldn’t even wait to embrace and care for this great and noble being, yet this human dared to turn him into a *farmer*?!

“Rrrrrrrrrrrrr...” As if to prove that he had indeed become a farmer, Rumble continued to gather his strength. He looked like a beast, showing off his majesty as he searched for something.

To others, Rumble might look like nothing but a cute wolf pup. However, in Rend’s eyes, he was the future king of the Spirit Realm. Rend watched their future king continue to gather his strength and power. Then, as if on cue, seeds formed around him. The seeds instantly burrowed deep into the ground the moment they were created.

“...As expected of the Spirit of Life.” Rend was in awe.

The greatest beings in the world all have one thing in common: the power to create new life, just like Rumble created seeds a few seconds ago.

However, Rumble was still not done. He added some power to the seeds burrowed deep in the ground. This power was none other than the active skill: *Quick Growth*.

“Grrrrrr! Grrr!” Rumble purred as he stared at the patch of land where he had planted the seeds he had created.

Then, something unique happened. The tiny seed cracked apart as a small sprout broke from the ground. This sprout grew until lush and vibrant leaves were hanging from its stems.

‘What an amazing ability...’ Rend was speechless, amazed by the sight of this superb power. Nothing was more difficult than creating something out of nothing in this world. Not long after, a man came running from afar. Rend’s palms clenched into fists when he saw the man.

“My dear Rumble, did you make something delicious again?!”

The man was none other than Minhyuk, the emperor of the Beyond the Heavens Empire. Rend thought that the man was the owner of a pure and clean soul. However, with just one look, he could see the greed in the man’s shining eyes as he ran toward the Spirit of Life.

“Good job, Rumble.”

Rend could not accept what he was watching.

‘Did he just pat the head of the great and noble Spirit of Life?! That is a being that someone cannot touch so carelessly like that!’

After patting Rumble, Minhyuk grabbed a hoe and dug up what the Spirit of Life had created.

Thud, thud, thud, thud, thud—

A pumpkin sweet potato came out of the ground, which looked delicious and fleshy.

“It’s pumpkin sweet potato! Keuhahahahahahahahaha! My dear Rumble is the best! Keuhahahahaha!”

“...!”

Rend clenched his fists even tighter when he saw the greedy light flash in the man’s eyes when he dug up the pumpkin sweet potato.

‘I will not let you go...’

The Great Spirit of the Earth was the one that ruled over millions of Earth Spirits. Although he assimilated with Minhyuk, he only showed a small portion of his power.

He could easily create a powerful earthquake and lay an entire empire to waste. He could also lead the Earth Spirit Army and invade the Beyond the Heavens Empire. He could even choose to demolish all of the buildings and facilities in the Beyond the Heavens Empire. After all, they were made of earth and stones, right?

Some of his power might have been sealed because he came down to earth, but that did not mean that his majesty and power as the Great Spirit would disappear completely.

‘I won’t let you go...’

Just when Rend was about to step forward, he saw Minhyuk wrap the sweet potato, which grew from the seeds that Rumble produced, in foil and put it directly in the fire, blazing underneath a cauldron. Then, Minhyuk sat under a tree and called out to Rumble.

“Rumble!”

“Grrrr! Grrrr!”

Rumble immediately ran and jumped into Minhyuk’s arms. Minhyuk rubbed and patted Rumble before asking, “Rumble, are you having a hard time?”

“Grrrrr! Grrrrrr!” It was like he was saying, *‘I’m strong and brave! This is not difficult for me!’*

Minhyuk tightened his hold on Rumble and continued to ask, “Rumble, if you find it difficult or you suddenly think that it’s boring and you don’t want to do it anymore, then you don’t have to do it, okay?”

Minhyuk was very happy that Rumble became the *Farmer Chief*. After all, Rumble’s ability to create and grow seeds fast was cheat-like.

The crops produced from the seeds that Rumble created using his Seed Creation skill, like *Life's Sweet Potato* or *Cabbage*, carried the name *Life*. These crops could also help farmers suffering from chronic fatigue regain vitality and ease exhaustion upon consumption.

But that was not all; thanks to that, Minhyuk was also able to eat a lot of delicious dishes. And the ingredients that he tasted? Of course, they were all more delicious than regular ingredients. However, everything depended on *Rumble*. If he wanted to do it, then they would have it; if he did not want to do it, then Minhyuk would not force it.

Rumble tilted his head cutely at Minhyuk. Then, he jumped out of Minhyuk's arms and circled him a few times before jumping back into his embrace.

"Grrrrrrrrr...!"

He even stuck his tongue out and smiled as if he wanted to show Minhyuk he was having fun.

[Rumble is having a lot of fun working on the field!]

Minhyuk stroked Rumble's fur and said, "Everyone has their role in life. Those roles allow them to fill each other's shortcomings and live life more comfortably. Thanks to you, my dear Rumble, many of the people in our empire will be able to eat more delicious things and live more energetically."

"Grrrrrr! Grrrrrr!"

”

[Rumble begins to understand the logic of the world.]

[He understands the logic about why people live together.]

[Because he enjoys new things and understands new logic and reasoning, Rumble's EXP rises significantly!]

[Rumble has leveled up.]

[Rumble has leveled up.]

[Rumble has leveled up...]

His level increased by four in one go!

Rumble was like a pure and innocent child. But now that he had come to the Beyond the Heavens Empire, Minhyuk would teach him many things regardless of whether he stayed with them for a few months or a year.

[The One that Embraces Rumble.]

[Your total HP volume has increased by 0.2% because you have allowed Rumble to experience new and fun things and realize the world's truth.]

"...!" Minhyuk was very shocked.

According to the description of the passive skill, The One that Embraces Rumble, one could obtain permanent rewards once they help Rumble experience fun and interesting things in the world or help him grow even further.

‘This is crazy.’

The 0.2% increase in his HP volume was far more valuable than anything else. This was especially true for a high-ranker like Minhyuk.

After waiting a bit, Minhyuk removed the sweet potatoes wrapped in foil that he had grilled under the cauldron.

“Hoo! Hoo! Hoo!”

Despite the cotton gloves that covered his hands, Minhyuk still felt the heat pass through his hands. Even so, he still could not wait. Once he removed the foil, the slightly burnt skin of the baked sweet potato greeted him. And when he peeled the skin off? The golden yellow flesh of the pumpkin sweet potato revealed itself amidst the steam that rose because of the heat.

After carefully peeling the pumpkin sweet potato, Minhyuk tore off a piece and handed it over to Rumble.

“Grrr! Grrr!”

The moment Rumble tasted the sweet potato, his eyes grew wide. He even spaced out for about five seconds. He seemed very impressed with its flavor.

Minhyuk smiled as he looked at the still steaming and mouth-watering pumpkin sweet potato.

“Fwoo! Fwoo!” Minhyuk blew on it before taking a massive bite from its golden yellow flesh. *“Hot! Hot! Hoo–”*

The moment he took a bite, heat instantly filled his mouth. However, the sweetness immediately coated his taste buds once he rolled it around, and the heat dissipated. The sweetness of the baked sweet potato filled his mouth with every bite of its golden yellow flesh. After taking a few bites, he took out a bowl of chilled and frozen dongchimi and took a huge sip.

Gulp, gulp, gulp, gulp, gulp, gulp–

“Keuhaaaa!”

Minhyuk was happy. This taste, this flavor, was why he played this game.

‘That’s right. I played this game to eat and to have fun.’ Minhyuk smiled as he rubbed his chin, his back slowly leaning on the tree behind him.

‘Hmmm.’

Why was Minhyuk rubbing his chin? Well, there was only one reason.

- The DEX stat will triple.*
- Crop yield will increase by 60%.*
- Vitality will increase by 30%.*
- Active Skill: Cry, Pickaxe.*

- Active Skill: *Unconditional Harvest*
- Active Skill: *The One that Rules the Earth*
- Passive Skill: *Barren Land into Fertile Land*
- Passive Skill: *Swift Pickaxing*
- Passive Skill: *Crops with Good Flavor and Abilities*

This pickaxe that belonged to the Great Spirit of the Earth Rend was a God-rank artifact. However, there was a problem.

‘It would be great if Rumble could use it, but...’

If Rumble’s ability were combined with the pickaxe, he would become the strongest and greatest farmer in history. The problem was the Level 500 or higher requirement. And there was another problem. Rumble had to undergo *Faerification* for him to be able to use the pickaxe. However, Minhyuk did not want to force Rumble, and from what it looked like, the pup did not want to do so.

‘If someone can use it, then the crops growing in the Beyond the Heavens Empire will prosper and thrive. This means I will also be able to eat more delicious dishes.’

The ability that stood out the most to Minhyuk was the *Crops with Good Flavor and Abilities*. If this skill could be activated with its 0.8% probability and the crops were at least at a rare grade, the grade of the produce would increase by one level once it was harvested. Of course, the skill also has restrictions. It could only raise the level to Epic grade. Nevertheless, it was still the most incredible tool for the best farmer.

“Huh?”

When Minhyuk was lost in his thoughts, a man approached and stood before him. The man, who looked like a middle-aged man, reminded him of someone.

‘The Great Spirit of Earth?’ And, of course, Minhyuk’s assumption was correct.

“I have misunderstood you. I’m sorry.”

Minhyuk looked at Rend in confusion. Was he sorry because he suddenly came here?

The Great Spirit of Earth Rend only understood what Minhyuk was doing after seeing him hold and pet the Spirit of Life Rumble in his arms. Yet, he was pondering ways to overturn the Beyond the Heavens Empire.

‘He did not force him.’

Minhyuk did not force Rumble, or, in other words, the Spirit of Life, to become the Farmer Chief. The man had proposed it and explained why he suggested it to the Spirit of Life.

The Great Spirits hoped that Rumble would grow brilliantly to lead the entire Spirit Realm. The Great Spirit of Earth had never met the Spirit of Life Rumble before. However, Rend felt grateful and delighted that the Spirit of Life was having fun.

[Rend's favorability has reached the MAX level!]

This was one of Minhyuk's greatest weapons. Although he only moved and acted to be able to eat something delicious, he was still able to increase his favorability with the others.

"I also want to help the Spirit of Life."

"..."

As long as the Great Spirit was on earth, they could not exert their full power. In other words, most of Rend's powers had been sealed. However, that was only the case for their *attacking abilities*. In the first place, the Great Spirit of the Earth's power and ability to affect the land was so great that it would not matter, even if he lost a small portion of his power. This point was proven by the notification that rang in Minhyuk's ears.

[The Great Spirit of Earth's power engulfs Beyond the Heavens Empire. The growth rate and crop yield of all the fields and farmers will increase by 20%!]

At that moment, the corners of Minhyuk's lips curled. *'Fu- fufufufufu- The pickaxe seems to have found its master.'*

Unaware of the man in front of him's crafty thoughts, the Great Spirit of Earth Rend looked at Rumble with a faint smile.

The Great Spirits of Fire, Wind, and Lightning differed utterly from Rend. They were fully aware of how noble and great their existence was. Because of that, they grew arrogant. No one could make them curb their arrogance.

However, they were also very interested in how the Spirit of Life was doing. The first one to move was the Great Spirit of Wind, followed by the rest of the Great Spirits. They all took the form of humans and sneaked into the Beyond the Heavens Empire to check if the Spirit of Life was doing well.

"Why is there no news coming from Rend, that rascal!" The Great Spirit of Fire, a man with red hair, said.

The Great Spirit of Earth Rend was timid and naive. However, instead of ostracizing him and hating him for being different from them, the other Great Spirits treated him carefully. They looked at him like a child and embraced him.

"I know, right? Where did that guy go?" The Great Spirit of Wind, sporting long blue hair, added.

However, they all threw it at the back of their heads for the moment. They quickly visited the Spirit of Life while thinking, *'Is the great Spirit of Life doing well?'* The three Great Spirits followed the power of the Spirit of Life and were soon greeted with the sight of the Spirit of Life running around happily while working on the field.

[❤️??Farmer Chief Rumble❤️]

“...!”

“...!”

“...!”

Various emotions washed over their entire beings. However, the thing that surprised them the most was something else. They all turned to look at the lone man slowly digging with his pickaxe on the field. The man looked strange, with various vegetation sprouting all over his body. One look and they could tell that this man was someone that they were very familiar with. That was right. It was none other than the Great Spirit of Earth Rend. And Rend was now working diligently on the Beyond the Heavens Empire fields with his pickaxe in hand.

“Why- why are you here...?”

The Great Spirit of Earth Rend scratched his head and smiled awkwardly when he heard their question. Then, he held out his pickaxe, and with his slow and sloth-like voice, he said, “Do you want to join me...?”

“...”

“...”

“...”

The Spirit of Life, the being that would unite the entire Spirit Realm and lead the Great Spirits in battle, and the Great Spirit of Earth, one of the great and majestic Great Spirits, were working together happily in the fields of the Beyond the Heavens Empire.

Chapter 873

Land of the Gods.

The Battle God, sitting on his throne, was having a headache.

“Battle God, how can you abandon Nerva as your successor and choose the man called *Food God*?”

“What kind of existence is the Battle God? The Battle God will protect the Land of the Gods for a long time.”

“Battle God, he is a foreigner. Tell us! How can a foreigner lead the gods and protect the Land of the Gods?!”

“The Battle God’s Descendant has to unite all of humankind and even rule and control those that have rebelled against us, gods! Do you think that man can do that, Battle God?!”

“Food God? The Food God is nothing but a god that loves to eat! The worst part? He’s nothing but a Continental God! He’s less influential than the previous generation Sword God, Valen!”

The gods all kowtowed in front of him and shouted one after another. They had been doing this for days, but it seemed they were not getting tired yet.

The Land of the Gods was turned entirely upside down when Minhyuk established his *Beyond the Heavens Empire*, and the Battle God accepted him as his successor. Just like they said, the Battle God had to lead all of the gods to battle if the Land of the Gods was ever left in danger.

However, the main reason they kept on pestering the Battle God here was that these gods did not want to acknowledge a mere Continental God like the Food God, especially when the Battle God’s Sword *Nerva* was there. Why did the Battle God accept someone like him as his successor, who was nothing but a child compared to *Nerva*?

“This lord chose him because I have seen a much greater potential in him than in *Nerva*.” The Battle God had uttered these words a hundred times over.

However, the gods, who believed only what was presented to them, did not listen to him at all. Thus, the words of the Battle God held no sway with them since they were determined not to listen at all.

Then, the man who led most of these gods stepped forward. “Battle God!”

The Battle God frowned. The man’s name was Bentley, the *God of Dungeons*. Bentley was very influential among the gods. He was the god who created almost all of the dungeons in the present world.

“How about asking the Food God to go to *Argalis Dungeon*?”

“...!”

“...!”

“...!”

All of the gods, including the Battle God, were quite surprised by the suggestion.

What kind of place was the *Argalis Dungeon*? The *Argalis Dungeon* was not created by Bentley but by the Third Generation God of Dungeons, *Evas*. *Evas* was a master who made remarkable and outstanding dungeons of the highest quality. According to the records, *Evas* gathered several gods to create this dungeon, which resulted in bigger and better rewards for the dungeon. However, none of them knew about the dungeon’s rewards yet.

‘This was because no one has seen the last level of the Argalis Dungeon.’

What did that mean? Simple.

‘Everyone has died.’

The gods could live for eternity. Since they did not age, the only way for them to die was if they were killed. In other words, their physical body had to be damaged.

All forty promising, excellent, and continental gods in the Land of the Gods, that challenged the Argalis Dungeon had died inside.

“Just watch. Whoever comes out of this dungeon one day will be able to receive the praise and recognition of all of the gods. Not only that, they would also be able to gain a lot there. Perhaps they could also receive whatever they longed for inside that dungeon.” Bentley recited the words that the Third Generation God of Dungeons Evas had said when he looked at the Argalis Dungeon for the first time.

Many were tempted to try the dungeon mainly because of those words that Evas had left behind. However, those who tried their hardest all failed to conquer it.

“However, if they fail then everyone would witness their fall.”

Unlike the people and gods of this world, the foreigners were immortal beings who could come back to life even if they died. Bentley knew that foreigners would face huge penalties if they failed to conquer a dungeon.

“What Sir Bentley says seems to be the most reasonable solution.”

“Argalis Dungeon, huh? Argalis Dungeon is like the tomb of the gods. I will recognize him if he can come out of that place safely.”

The Battle God pondered for a bit as he listened to their words. *‘If he leads these gods that denied his existence in the future, they would just hold them back.’*

The Battle God was fully aware of that fact. However, he did not know if Minhyuk could successfully escape that dungeon. If he could, then these gods would no longer have anything to say.

Then, the Battle God said, “Is the God of Reputation here?”

“Yes, I’m here, Battle God.”

The God of Reputation was a god who could reward players and NPCs through various achievements, titles, and the like.

The Battle God ordered him, “If my successor comes out of that dungeon safely, then you must prepare a title *for him*.”

“...”

The God of Reputation was rendered speechless. The Argalis Dungeon was a place that even the gods could not break and clear. What kind of title should he prepare if the Battle God’s Descendant cleared it?

The Battle God did not explicitly answer the clamoring gods. However, the fact that the God of Reputation was tasked to create an exceptional title just for the foreigner to receive was enough of an answer.

The God of Reputation rushed out to prepare for the title.

[The Beyond the Heavens Empire's crop yield has increased by 30%!]

[The chances of harvesting higher-grade ingredients in the Beyond the Heavens Empire have increased by 25%!]

These were the notifications that Minhyuk heard when he returned to his office. All of this was thanks to the efforts of the Great Spirit of Earth Rend and Rumble. Rend even readily offered to protect Rumble as they worked on the field.

Of course, Minhyuk handed the pickaxe to him and spoke.

–Just imagine yourself growing and harvesting the crops produced by the seeds that Rumble created. What a wonderful sight, no? Not only that, you will also have the opportunity to get closer and be friends with the Spirit of Life.

Just like that, Minhyuk could seduce Rend with his sugar-coated words and successfully *turn the Great Spirit of the Earth into his farmer.*

‘Well, then, what should I eat next?’ Minhyuk thought, a small smile lingering on his face. He finally let go of the burden in his heart and let go of the operations of the Beyond the Heavens Empire to his friends and vassals.

At that moment, he remembered the words that Helenia had told him before. She had graciously offered to give him a reward if he could defend against her attacks. Perhaps she only offered such an enticing offer because she stood in a very high position.

‘It's the blunder brought about by the arrogance and confidence of the strong.’

Minhyuk quickly pulled out the notification window and scrolled through the countless notifications that he had not had time to check before.

[You have significantly contributed to protecting the human and elven races from Immortal Sorceress Helenia.]

[Helenia will now fulfill her promise.]

[The promised reward will now be calculated.]

[You have made a phenomenal achievement and have exceeded Helenia's expectations.]

[You can now acquire your reward. The rewards that you can obtain are divided into three categories.]

[Artifact rewards. Gold rewards. Class-specific rewards.]

[Please choose one of the three categories of rewards.]

When Minhyuk saw this, he could not hide his disappointment.

‘Why aren't there rewards related to delicious food?’

As Minhyuk expected, Helenia was a woman he did not like from the beginning to the end.

‘I don't need artifacts.’

His weapons and defensive artifacts were already excellent enough, and the same was true for his gold. The profits that he had made from the other kingdoms and empires before were more than enough to support the Beyond the Heavens Empire for quite a long time. Since that was the case, the only appropriate reward for him to choose was the third option.

“I choose the *Class-specific Rewards*.”

[Searching for Class-specific Rewards. You have two classes. Please choose between Food God or Battle God for your rewards.]

Normally, Minhyuk would have hesitated when choosing between his two classes. He would have probably thought, ‘*Should I choose the Battle God-specific reward for the sake of the empire?*’ But that was not a choice for his own sake.

Minhyuk believed that he had yet to discover all of the Food God's skills. Of course, he already had quite a lot of the Food God's skills in his possession. He had the Food God's Cooking, Create a Recipe, Ingredient Search, Everyone's Delight, Inversing Giddiness, Allurer's Cooking, and many more. However, Minhyuk never thought that it was already the end.

‘*The Food God has many hidden powers.*’

And perhaps there was a power there that would help Minhyuk enjoy his dishes more.

“Food God.”

If others heard him, they would be very shocked by the choice that he made.

[Searching for rewards related to the Food God class!]

[Searching... 2%... 7%... 15%... 28%...]

[Search successful!]

[You have acquired the Emerald Salt.]

“...?”

Minhyuk could not understand for a moment. The quest had just been created, but it was completed right away. However, it did not end there.

[All of your stats have increased by 1%.]

[Your DEX has increased by 3%.]

[Regardless of the dish grade, all the dishes you make will experience 0.4% better buff effects!]

“Wait! This... no way?!” Only at this point did Mihyuk understand what was happening.

[You have acquired the First Food God Ravier’s Final Dish: Snack Set.]

[Regardless of the dish grade, all of the dishes that you make will experience 0.5% better buff effects!]

[The

[You have gained 3,000,000,000 EXP.]

[You have leveled up.]

[You have leveled up.]

[Regardless of the dish grade, all of the dishes that you make will experience 1.5% better buff effects!]

[All of your dishes will be 2% tastier and more delicious.]

Minhyuk thought, ‘*Is this what you call Quest Skip...?*’

Among all of the quest types, linked quests had much better rewards compared to ordinary quests. This was because linked quests required much more time and were more challenging to clear. Also, if, for example, a linked quest was divided into three parts, one could not continue on to the next quest if they failed at the second part. Because of that, the rewards for the last part of a linked quest would always be far greater than the rewards of a regular quest.

However, Minhyuk was now skipping all of the quests related to the Food God that he had to do initially. Of course, the rewards also kept on piling in. It was simply amazing.

Finally, the quests came to an end.

[Helenia’s power has allowed you to reach the final quest!]

Ring!

The only thing that was different was that the description had changed into a video. At this point, Minhyuk noticed, ‘This quest probably has one of the Food God’s powers, *and it’s probably a power that far surpasses the Everyone’s Happiness skill.*’

Minhyuk had just assumed this but based on the rewards he obtained from the skipped linked quests earlier, there was a high chance that his assumptions were correct.

Then, Minhyuk said, “Start the video.”

At the same time, the scene in front of Minhyuk changed. Everything around him turned dark as a middle-aged man's soft and gentle voice rang in his ears.

[I only love eating.]

[I feel happiness, joy, and delight whenever I’m eating. Eating can also allow me to capture memories, love, adoration, and sadness.]

[That’s why I worked hard to become the god who loves to eat- the Food God.]

[When I became a Continental God, I was invited to the Banquet of the Gods.]

Although darkness completely covered his vision, Minhyuk felt like he could see the man's face for some reason. The man must have been excited and delighted at the thought of being able to meet other gods. He must have thought that he could now show the other gods that even though *eating* was the most mundane and trivial thing in one’s life, it could be considered the most incredible and unique.

[But when I entered the banquet, they pointed their fingers at me and told me I knew nothing but ‘eating.’]

The darkness slowly faded away only to reveal Ravier’s figure. Ravier was being surrounded and pointed at by many other gods.

[My face was slammed on the cold marble floor as they mocked me, saying that I was ‘barely a god.’]

Minhyuk felt like he also fell on the ground, his view changing and getting closer to the cold marble floor.

Thuuuuud—

At the same time, he heard and saw the gods laughing at him.

[I am the ‘God that Loves to Eat,’ so they mocked me and humiliated me by dropping all of the food on their plates on my face and forcing me to pick them up and eat them.]

Minhyuk’s eyes opened and closed just like how Ravier opened and closed them back then. Minhyuk’s vision shook as many gods mocked and laughed at him. Then, a god approached him and poured wine over his head. At the same time, the name of the god appeared in his head.

[God of Dungeons Evas.]

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At that moment, Minhyuk felt the same things that First Food God Ravier had. He felt those gods' mocking gazes and jeers while they told him he was a god who knew nothing but eating.

God of Dungeon Evas giggled as he poured wine over Ravier. Then, he said, “You do not have the qualifications. Don’t *even* think of taking another step into the Land of the Gods.”

Ravier, driven out by the gods right after those words rang in his ears, looked at the Banquet of the Gods with helplessness and despair. Minhyuk felt all of that. He saw the world through Ravier’s eyes and felt the emotions that wracked his entire body at that very moment. As the successor of the Food God, Minhyuk felt anger wash over him. He just could not understand it.

Eating. This was one of the most important things that one, whether they were humans or gods, needed to live and survive. It could even be said to be at the same level as the air that everyone breathed in. Without food, people would die of hunger. Food could bring happiness, delight, and excitement.

However, the gods ignored this fact and refused to accept this universal truth.

Clench—

Minhyuk watched everything through Ravier’s eyes as he clenched the dirt beneath his palms. He could feel the anger that wracked Ravier’s entire being. Not long after, Ravier left the Land of the Gods.

At the same time, the video changed. This time, Minhyuk was not viewing things through Ravier’s eyes. He was viewing everything from a third person’s perspective.

[Food God Ravier wanted to take revenge on the gods that ignored him.]

Ravier was sitting in front of his statue, inside his shabby Food God Temple, and making something. Minhyuk could not confirm what kind of dish Ravier was making because he was stuck behind Ravier and could only view the man’s busy back. Perhaps it was a poison that could kill anyone the moment it touched their mouths.

Then, Ravier’s figure scattered into the air and disappeared from Minhyuk’s view.

[Thousands of years later.]

Thud, thud, thud, thud—

Someone walked inside the shabby and dark temple filled with dust and cobwebs. Minhyuk could see the identity of the figure. It was *him*. Minhyuk had skipped most of this quest. That may be why this video was made and shown to him.

Minhyuk walked inside the temple and stood in front of the statue of Food God Ravier. At that moment, Ravier’s voice resonated in the otherwise silent temple.

[I was ignored.]

[Even after all this time, I still think the other gods will ignore and refuse to accept the ‘Food God.’]

This was a fact. If, by any chance, the one that became a Food God was not Minhyuk? What would have happened to that person? It would have been hard for that person to be as influential and as powerful as the Minhyuk of today was. Their stats might have reached quite a high level, but the chances of them not being able to get the position Minhyuk was standing at right now was high.

Minhyuk was strong not only because he carried the Food God class but also because his strength and power were cultivated through his efforts, various talents, and incredible luck. All of that came together to create who he is today.

[My successor.]

The *other* Minhyuk standing before Ravier's statue listened intently to the first Food God's voice.

[Make remarkable achievements and show those who have ignored and trampled on the Food God class how wrong they were.]

[Once you receive their approval and recognition, the dish I have made will judge them.]

Then, the video ended.

After he finished watching the video, a series of notifications rang in Minhyuk's ears.

[You can undertake the quest for one year.]

[You must reach at least 60% in the Achievement Rate during the one-year quest period.]

[Failure to reach at least 60% Achievement Rate during the one-year quest period will be considered a failure.]

[If you fail the quest, one of your Food God's skills will be randomly chosen and deleted.]

Fortunately, the quest period was quite long. Only at this moment did Minhyuk realize how amazing Helenia's rewards were.

'This was a linked quest that I don't know which level or what conditions I needed to meet before it could be triggered.'

Since quests like this often went on for a long time, the rewards he received from Helenia were very generous. Minhyuk also estimated that this should probably be the quest related to the Food God with the greatest difficulty, which meant that the rewards he would receive would most likely be very generous.

'Maybe I'll be able to get a power that will allow me to eat more delicious dishes?'

However, it was not that urgent. Minhyuk planned to take things slow and continue eating delicious dishes and ingredients with a light and unbothered heart.

'Should I visit Abel to find out where God-grade dishes are located?' Just when the thought flashed in Minhyuk's head, the voice of a very unexpected person rang in his ears.

[The Battle God's Voice wants to communicate with you.]

The Battle God is asking to have a conversation with Minhyuk. Of course, Minhyuk accepted. Not long after, the voice of the Battle God rang.

[Many gods doubt your qualifications as the Battle God.]

The Battle God began to tell him about the situation. According to the Battle God's words, he had been under much pressure from many gods since he had chosen Minhyuk as his successor. Of course, as the Battle God, his position was stable enough that it would not shake even if he were put under pressure.

However, the problem was Minhyuk was not the Battle God, but the *Battle God's Descendant*. And this situation would most likely become a massive issue for him. After all, these gods might just create tremendous obstacles and hinder Minhyuk's plans and development.

[So, they all made a vow with me. If you can successfully attack and clear the 'Argalis' Dungeon created by Evas in the Land of the Gods, they will acknowledge your qualifications.]

The Battle God continued to explain, telling Minhyuk that it was a dungeon challenged by many arrogant gods and that none emerged alive.

[If they acknowledge your qualifications, then a few gods might turn to your side. But for now, they are all supporting and pushing for Nerva.]

The Battle God continued.

[I tried to ignore their words as much as possible, but the God of Dungeons stepped forward and took the lead. So, I was left in a situation where I had to agree.]

"Wait." Minhyuk, who listened to the Battle God's words, suddenly noticed something unusual. "God of Dungeons? God of Dungeon Evas?"

[God of Dungeons Evas created that dungeon. The one I'm talking about, God of Dungeons Bentley, is his successor.]

Minhyuk recalled Evas's face in the video as he poured the wine over Ravier's face while giggling. It seemed like this dungeon was the masterpiece created by that hateful Evas.

"And that guy's successor is the one that has taken the lead in denying my existence and position, huh?"

Perhaps the successor of the God of Dungeons had heard Evas say that the *Food God* was a *trash-like* god. It seemed like the Food God's quest, and the Argalis Dungeon had quite a strange connection.

'If I can do this well, then...'

If Minhyuk could clear Argalis Dungeon, he may be able to get revenge for Ravier. That was not all. He would not only be able to make excellent achievements and clear the Food God's quest but also receive the acknowledgement and recognition of the gods.

However, Minhyuk still had to consider the most important thing: "Are you going to give me something delicious?"

[...]

The Battle God was left speechless for a moment when he saw Minhyuk prioritize food over getting the recognition of the gods.

"I'm just trying to earn a living here."

The Battle God soon answered.

[The rewards of Argalis Dungeon are known to be very special. Each gate carries a reward. And according to the records, clearing the final gate will give you the greatest reward.]

[Evas called the rewards a ‘dream.’ When you receive your reward, the things you imagine and dream of will come true.]

“If I were dreaming of obtaining the greatest sword, would it come true and become reality? Is that how it works?”

[It’s pretty similar. Even if you can’t be given the greatest sword in existence, the Argalis Dungeon will provide you with the best sword in the rewards list that it had.]

After hearing that, Minhyuk knew that whatever he dreamt of would come true as a reward. It was quite a unique and thrilling reward.

‘Ah, come to think of it. If I think of something that I want to eat, then...’

What Minhyuk wanted to eat was very simple. It was none other than food from a *Manhwa Cafe*. Minhyuk could imagine himself going to a manhwa cafe on a dull day off with a few 10,000 won bills in his pocket and ordering food while reading his favorite novel, *The Male Lead Only Eats*.

These days, manhwa cafes served delicate and exquisite dishes that could already be considered restaurants. They could make well-cooked ramyeon and chapagetti and even serve chicken mayo rice bowls with cold and refreshing cola on the side.

Minhyuk imagined himself with a book in one hand and his chopsticks in the other as he ate the dish non-stop.

“Hiyaaa...”

Gulp—

Minhyuk gulped down the saliva that almost dripped down his chin. Just the thought alone made him look forward to it. Then, he said, “I will go to the Land of the Gods. Please summon me there.”

God of Dungeons Bentley was a god that held a considerable influence among the gods. Bentley noticed that many gods were dissatisfied when they heard that the *Food God* became the *Battle God’s Descendant*. Feeling the same way, Bentley decided to rally the gods and protest.

However, as for the reason why Bentley was so against this? It was primarily because of the words left behind by the most outstanding God of Dungeons, Evas. The previous generation of gods would often leave behind words and stories for their successors. And Bentley had heard about the Food God from his predecessor.

‘The most useless and weak god in the world.’

Bentley heard that Evas trampled on and mocked the useless God Ravier in front of many other gods. It did not matter if Ravier’s actions after that were outstanding. What mattered the most was that he was nothing but a trivial god that could only be trampled under Evas’s feet.

Yet someone who sat in such a useless position became the *Battle God's Descendant*? This could not be. So, Bentley decided to drive the man to his death. And, of course, he succeeded in doing so.

“The Food God will challenge Argalis Dungeon.”

These words alone brought together many of the gods. Of course, the other gods had also heard about the Food God.

“The current Food God is said to be far superior than the previous generations of Food Gods. His might and prowess are said to be quite excellent.”

“He has killed one of the Six Monster Gods.”

“Of course, that was with the help of the Spear God and the Fallen Wretched Emperor.”

In the past, Minhyuk had completely trampled and smashed the Incarnation of Fire at the Banquet of the Gods. That point alone was enough for the other gods to acknowledge his power.

However, Bentley said, “A lot of gods at the level of the Spear God had challenged Argalis Dungeon. But what became of them?”

Many challenged Argalis, but none of them came out alive.

“Who is stronger between the Food God and the Spear God? Anyone who asked this question would know the answer, no?”

The answer that all of the gods would say was most definitely the *Spear God*.

The stories that spread in the Land of the Gods were told exactly as they happened. They heard that the Food God had killed one of the Six Monster Gods with the help of many people. It was true that he was strong. However, the fact that the others around him had contributed significantly to that feat was undeniable. As a result, they all assumed that he had no chance of successfully attacking the Argalis Dungeon, a place where even the Spear God-level gods could not escape alive.

The gods hurriedly ran to where Argalis Dungeon was. The place had not been visited or opened for a very long time, yet they were flocking in front of it after hearing that the Food God would challenge the dungeon. And when they arrived there, they were greeted by a fantastic sight.

The Food God was picking the mushrooms growing around Argalis Dungeon's entrance.

“Kghhk! I bet these mushrooms would taste good if you cook them in a mushroom hotpot!”

And he was even sporting a bright and pure smile, too. The gods were frozen stiff when they saw the man discard his dignity and majesty as a god. He did not even showcase any of the pride and ego of a god as he crouched down on the side of the road and dug the mushrooms out.

Minhyuk, who finished digging up the mushrooms, continued to pick up and harvest whatever edible ingredient he found around him.

“Hiyaaa. This would taste good in a sprout bibimbap!”

The gods shook their heads as they watched him shout in admiration after harvesting the ingredients from the ground.

‘This is the Battle God’s Descendant?’

However, no one was as flustered as Bentley was as of this moment.

Bentley had now replaced Evas and had taken over the management of the Argalis Dungeon. So, among everyone present, he was the most knowledgeable about the Argalis Dungeon. He even had information about the dungeon that he could not reveal to anyone. He was only qualified to hear that information since he was in charge of the dungeon.

Bentley was fully aware of the restrictions of the Argalis Dungeon. *‘Once you enter the dungeon, all potions, parchments, and other special items will be unavailable.’*

However, certain items utterly different from those mentioned above were allowed inside. These items were none other than the mushrooms, sprouts, and greens that Minhyuk was harvesting right over there. Those ingredients contained amazing healing and recovery abilities, and plenty of others.

At that moment, Bentley thought, *‘He knows.’*

The guy over there must have known the power hidden within these ingredients.

‘It seems like he’s much more unusual than I thought?!’ Bentley grew cautious.

‘Fufu. I can’t believe I could harvest many high-quality mushrooms and sprouts! Hehe...’

Meanwhile, Minhyuk was just happy that he could eat something delicious.

Chapter 875

Special Players Management Team.

The new employee, Lee Tae-Sung, was watching the Food God on his monitor. At first, Lee Tae-Sung did not like the Food God. But after watching his battle with Helenia just recently, he was won over by his strong will, persistence, and tenacity, and became very fond of him. He was very impressed with him now.

“Amazing... How...” Lee Tae-Sung himself did not notice it, but he was growing increasingly into the Food God.

He was also very familiar with the Argalis Dungeon, which even the gods could not clear. What were the most critical items in the Argalis Dungeon? They were none other than the mushrooms, herbs, greens, and sprouts growing around the dungeon's entrance.

“The gods are proud and arrogant.”

However, if they could only let go of that arrogance even for a bit and looked around, they would have realized that the mushrooms, herbs, and sprouts were growing more abundantly around the Argalis Dungeon, an area where no crops could grow well. If they had realized that and harvested these ingredients, then they would have had the chance to know the power hidden within them.

“The Food God must have known about it. That’s why he harvested them.”

Lee Tae-Sung felt that he was truly amazing. How could he see something that even the gods overlooked?

At that moment, Lee Minhwa, who appeared behind him, opened her mouth and said, “The Food God must have harvested them because they look delicious, hmm?”

“...?” Lee Tae-Sung looked at Lee Minhwa in confusion. Of course, he had heard himself about the Food God’s almost crazed love for food. However, was it to the point where he would willingly harvest mushrooms growing on the side of the road?

‘No, wouldn’t it be faster just to buy some with money?’

“There’s nothing more delicious than eating the mushrooms that one had harvested on the side of the road. Fufufu.”

At this point, Lee Tae-Sung realized that Lee Minhwa had completely become ‘*Food God-ified*.’ Only then did he recall that Lee Minhwa was the type of person who would order the *large* serving without any hesitation in restaurants that served dishes with choices of *small*, *medium*, and *large* servings.

“*Cough*. So, there weren’t any intentions behind the move.” Lee Tae-Sung groaned lightly. He had only seen Minhyuk fight right when he joined the team, so he did not know the man too well. “More than that, can he break it?”

Argalis Dungeon was said to have the highest level of difficulty and quality among all dungeons.

Hearing his question, Lee Minhwa only replied, “Who knows?”

No one could predict the results of this challenge. Then, Lee Minhwa turned to look at Lee Tae-Sung and asked, “You know that the rewards that the Argalis Dungeon will give are mainly focused on what *one wants*, right?”

“Yes, of course.”

“Then, do you know what would happen if the Food God reached the end of the dungeon while choosing rewards related to *food*?”

Her question tested how well Lee Tae-Sung had studied the materials provided by their company. And Lee Tae-Sung did not disappoint. He nodded. “One can reach and enter the Field of the Gods.”

“What exactly is the Field of the Gods?”

“It’s a place where any ingredient could grow and thrive. Everything from common vegetables and fruits to pork, beef, and chicken grow on those fields.”

“That’s right. And what are the effects of the ingredients that grew from those fields?”

Lee Tae-Sung pondered momentarily before answering, “Gold, stats, skills, HP, MP.”

The things that Lee Tae-Sung listed were all critical and essential effects for the players of Athenae.

“A place where you can get crops that will allow you to get that, that’s the *Field of the Gods*.”

When Minhyuk came near the Argalis Dungeon, he was delighted to be greeted with plenty of mouth-watering mushrooms, appetizing herbs, and sprouts. After he harvested all of the ingredients he could, he moved to enter the dungeon. However, he felt plenty of gazes falling on his body.

The gazes belonged to the gods. All of the gods, with the current God of Dungeons Bentley in the lead, mocked and laughed at Minhyuk.

“As expected, he’s truly a god that knows nothing except for eating.”

“He’s completely blinded by such ingredients even though he is standing before Argalis Dungeon. How can he act so vulgar like that?”

“There’s no way a god like that can clear the Argalis Dungeon.”

Minhyuk did not even bother to argue with them, deal with them, or say anything to them. All he needed to do was prove himself.

Unbothered by the stinging gazes of the many gods behind him, Minhyuk turned to enter Argalis Dungeon.

[You have entered the Argalis Dungeon.]

[Argalis Dungeon is the masterpiece the God of Dungeons Evas created!]

[You cannot use items like potions and parchments inside the Argalis Dungeon.]

[You can only revive for a total of three times inside the Argalis Dungeon.]

[There is a strange feeling washing over you!]

[You are the Food God.]

[The First Food God, Ravier, hates the God of Dungeons Evas, the creator and maker of the Argalis Dungeon!]

[The most outstanding God of Dungeons Evas is laughing and jeering at the appearance of the shabbiest and humblest god!]

After creating something like this, Evas could also be considered a master craftsman. It seemed like the soul of Evas, the master craftsman who created this masterpiece, was embedded deeply inside this dungeon.

Minhyuk, who watched Evas and his dungeon laugh and jeer at the Food God, thought, ‘...*I have decided.*’

Minhyuk decided the path that he was going to take regarding this matter. Even if Minhyuk died, he intended to punish the god that mocked and jeered at the Food God.

‘*How funny.*’

There were various jobs that people could choose from. Some might have jobs that were harder than the rest, while some might have jobs that made them earn less than others. But it was also because of that that one could buy and eat whatever they wanted to eat or drink even if they did not go outside of their homes. Yes, that was right. The balance of the world could only be maintained because everyone had their own job.

However, the behavior of the God of Dungeons Evas indicated his arrogance, feeling of superiority, and blatant disregard for the Food God. Because of that, Minhyuk needed to trample on whatever this dungeon had to offer. At the same time, he would take advantage of all its benefits and take it for himself.

But before he could take a few more steps, a series of notifications rang in his ears.

[You can receive an HP Recovery Effect from the Thick Shiitake Mushroom (3).]

[You can receive a Skill Enhancement Effect from the Korean Thistle (2).]

[You can receive an MP Recovery Effect from the Blue Water Parsley (2).]

[...Stretched Bean Sprouts.]

[...Abundant Shepherd's Purse.]

[The effects you can acquire from all of the items you have harvested in front of Argalis Dungeon will only take effect inside the dungeon.]

'Ho?'

Minhyuk might be restricted from using potions and parchments, but the ingredients he had harvested before the dungeon had made up for this and even taken on their role. When he checked the Thick Shiitake Mushroom, Minhyuk saw it could help him recover his HP to 100%. With these ingredients in hand, Minhyuk realized that his chances of successfully attacking the Argalis Dungeon had increased.

Minhyuk walked deeper into the dungeon and stopped when he saw a man with long blond hair fluttering under his helmet and a spear in hand upfront.

[Spear God Evoque.]

When Minhyuk saw the man, he felt familiar. *'Why does he look so familiar? Ah, right...!'*

In the Banquet of the Gods that Minhyuk had seen through Ravier's memories just recently, Evas was not the only one mocking and laughing at the first Food God. There was a man among them who had been drinking wine with a sneer on his face.

[You are Food God Ravier's successor!]

[You can feel Ravier's wrath washing over you!]

Minhyuk could tell that the video he had seen and the creation of the Argalis Dungeon were around the same time.

'Many gods must have helped Evas and have participated in the production of this dungeon.'

The current Spear God, Ben, had become Minhyuk's vassal. However, Ben had inherited the position of the Spear God from Aerdes. The Spear God standing before Minhyuk was most likely the previous generation Spear God.

Evoque approached him with an arrogant smile and said, "Are you his successor?"

Even now, Minhyuk was not sure if he could win against Spear God Ben in a fight. However, he thought he could make it possible by borrowing the power of his *buff dishes*.

"The image of him scampering off after being scared away by the gods is still vivid in my memories."

If they were talking about memories, Minhyuk clearly remembered that Ravier never ran away. They dragged him out. Ravier had always remembered and promised to get back at them in the future. And that future was now in the form of Minhyuk. If Minhyuk could see through the end of this dungeon, he would be able to reveal what Ravier had prepared for them.

"Why aren't you running away just like he did?"

The only thing that Evoque knew about Minhyuk was that he was the *Food God's Descendant*. He knew nothing of his growth process or the hardships that he encountered. Based on what the gods knew, the Food God was a god who only knew how to eat and knew nothing of fighting.

"Food God's Swordsmanship." Power surged within Minhyuk's body.

However, Evoque just stood leisurely, one of his hands holding his spear and the other resting on his back. His stance showed how much he ignored Minhyuk.

Vwoooooooooong—

Minhyuk, who triggered *Like the Wind*, appeared right before Evoque in the blink of an eye.

"Ho..." Evoque exclaimed in amazement as Minhyuk's sword swung at his neck. However, Evoque still had not made any moves. At that moment, a strange sound rang from behind them.

Clank, clank, clank, clank—!

Driven by instinct, Minhyuk stopped his attack and swiftly rolled to the sides.

Swiiiiiiish—

A chain sickle stopped just right before Evoque, the same weapon that attacked Minhyuk out of nowhere.

'Wasn't he the Spear God?'

Wasn't Evoque the Spear God? So, what was this chain sickle doing here, then? Minhyuk's eyes quickly followed the chains connecting to the sickle and saw that it was fixed to the walls with a hard and sturdy pin.

[Win against the 'Ego Chain Sickle' and 'Spear God Evoque' at the entrance of the Argalis Dungeon.]

“...” Minhyuk gulped dryly. He probably had a high chance of winning if he was just fighting against Spear God Evoque. But now, he also had to guard against the ambush of the Ego Chain Sickle.

“Hmm.” Evoque chuckled.

Nervous and tense, Minhyuk hurriedly ran to where the Ego Chain Sickle was connected. Then, he quickly hit the hard pin that pinned it to the walls.

Claaaaaaaaang—!

A loud and jarring noise echoed inside the dungeon. However, the pin remained pinned on the walls.

[The Ego Chain Sickle’s durability has dropped by 0.4%.]

“...”

At this moment, Minhyuk realized it would be almost impossible to destroy the Ego Chain Sickle while dealing with Evoque.

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

Of course, Evoque did not stay still. He swung his spear at Minhyuk’s body, against which Minhyuk defended by triggering the *Intangible Sword*.

Staaaaaab—!

The first strike stabbed Evoque in the chest. However, Evoque remained unperturbed, rushing swiftly toward Minhyuk while easily evading the invisible swords of the *Intangible Sword*.

‘*This is nuts...*’ Minhyuk could not hide how flustered he was. However, he was still able to find a gap in Evoque’s defenses. ‘*Now...!*’

Clank, clank, clank, clank—!

Just when he was about to trigger the *Sword of Frenzy* and stab his sword at Evoque’s heart, the chains of the Ego Chain Sickle wrapped around his ankles and destroyed his balance, forcing his sword to penetrate nothing but air. Before he knew it, Evoque was already right in front of him.

“I’m honestly surprised.” Evoque was quite impressed with Minhyuk.

The Ego Chain Sickle was something the guy had created by gathering the power of the gods. Minhyuk might not have been cut by the weapon yet, but Evoque could confidently say that the damage it could deal was leagues beyond his own. Most gods suffered at this point, unable to get through this first hurdle.

Minhyuk had obviously overcome their misconceptions and prejudices about the *Food God* and was a strong individual. But...

“Rampant Spear.”

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

In one swift motion, Evoque stabbed his spear at Minhyuk’s body dozens of times over.

[Your HP has dropped below 86%!]

[Your HP has dropped below 77%!]

[Your HP has dropped below 71%!]

[Your HP... 41%!]

[Your HP... 30%!]

[Your HP... 12%!]

[Your HP... 6%!]

[Your HP has dropped to 0!]

[You can now use one out of the three opportunities for revival inside the Argalis Dungeon!]

[If you choose to give up the challenge in Argalis Dungeon, you will receive a forced log-out penalty and have one of the randomly chosen 'skills possessed by the Food God' deleted.]

[You will not receive a forced log-out penalty if you choose to use a revival opportunity. However, if you use up all three of your opportunities for revival, your penalties will be multiplied by the number of times you have been revived and resurrected in the dungeon!]

Chapter 876

Minhyuk was left in shock after facing the Ego Chain Sickle and Spear God Evoque and being forced to log out at the entrance of the Argalis Dungeon.

'Spear God Evoque is stronger than I imagined, but the bigger problem is the Ego Chain Sickle.'

The Ego Chain Sickle was not only smart enough to know how to hold Minhyuk back but also fast enough to catch up to his speed. Minhyuk felt like he was not fighting a 1:1 battle but a 1:2 battle.

Thankfully, even though he was not allowed to check Evoque's status, anyone who entered the Argalis Dungeon was allowed to view the details about the *Ego Chain Sickle*. Minhyuk recalled the information he had seen earlier.

- With an ego comparable to an outstanding knight, it could intercept and hinder enemies in a variety of ways.*

- The Ego Chain Sickle has a 15% chance of ignoring all defenses, including Absolute Defense when attacking.*

- The Ego Chain Sickle has an 11% chance of dealing double the critical damage when attacking.*

- The Ego Chain Sickle can use Speed Increase and double its speed for five seconds.*

- The Ego Chain Sickle carries a buff effect. All recognized allies will have a 12% increase in their powers and abilities.*

The Ego Chain Sickle was created by the God of Blacksmiths at that time using all his might and power. You can obtain it if you tear it down.

The Ego Chain Sickle was genuinely crazy. Its attack and defense were already on par, even better, with Brod. Of course, considering Brod's overwhelming ability and skills, the chain sickle's ego would still be no match against him. However, if he were too reckless and allowed just a single attack from the Ego Chain Sickle, then he would suffer from a critical blow.

'The only way to break through this situation is with the help of a buff dish.'

Of course, Minhyuk had the mushrooms and herbs he had harvested from the beginning that could produce various buff effects. However, he had to think of a strategy that would allow him to deal with the Ego Chain Sickle and Evoque at the same time before everything else.

And no matter how hard he thought about it, Minhyuk could only think of using buff dishes to break through the situation. But there was one thing that he was stuck in.

'The Ego Chain Sickle has a 15% chance of ignoring all defenses, including Absolute Defense when attacking.'

In other words, the Ego Chain Sickle could ignore the barrier of Let's Have a Meal. Minhyuk would always become defenseless whenever he started cooking or whenever he ate, making him very vulnerable. And the solution to that was using the barrier created by the skill *Let's Have a Meal*.

'I have to deal with the two of them.'

However, just because the barrier would be ineffective did not mean that there was no way for Minhyuk at all. If he had to deal with two opponents simultaneously, their side also had to be two.

Minhyuk looked at the screen with notifications floating in the darkness and responded, "I will rechallenge it."

God of Dungeons Bentley was cackling. "As expected, the Food God is nothing but a trifling god. He lost without even being able to fight properly against Evoque."

The successor of the Food God died without even being able to fight properly nor land a single blow on Spear God Evoque. He even died from just one strike of Evoque's skill. Of course, the *Ego Chain Sickle* also played a considerable role, with its *12% increase in all abilities and skills* buff effect.

The first God of Dungeons, Evas, believed that any strong god could endure and beat Evoque. So, he decided to add the *Ego Chain Sickle*. According to the records, Evas made the Argalis Dungeon to allow the gods to challenge something.

However, that was not the case at all. Evas was a greedy god, and he had ensured that Argalis Dungeon's difficulty was extreme to the point that no one could break it. If Argalis Dungeon could not be broken or cleared, then his name would be remembered by the gods for a very long time. But that did not mean Evas' personality was that twisted and ugly.

‘He made it so clearing the dungeon was close to impossible. However, if one could successfully clear it, God of Dungeons Evas vowed to acknowledge this god.’

Gaining the recognition and acknowledgment of the God of Dungeons Evas meant that one would also receive the acknowledgment of the other gods. But that was not all. They would also have the chance to obtain the power he had hidden in the dungeon. What exactly was it? Even his successor, Bentley, did not know about it.

At that moment, the voice of the Battle God rang.

[The God of Reputation has finished preparing the title.]

In hopes of looking out for his descendant, the Battle God ordered the God of Reputation to create a *title* that he would add to the rewards that the Food God would obtain if he could successfully break through the Argalis Dungeon. And that title was completed right now. Bentley giggled as he wondered about the name of the title.

[What is the name of the title?]

[God Above God.]

“...!”

Bentley grew furious when he heard the name. Were they thinking of giving a title with the name *God Above God* to a trashy insect like the Food God?!

[No god has ever broken through this place. If he can successfully overcome such a dangerous place, then this title would not be wasted.]

Bentley soon came to his senses. Anyway, that god named Minhyuk would not be able to win that title. He believed that the Battle God could speak arrogantly in support of Minhyuk because he did not know that his successor could not even endure the Ego Chain Sickle and Spear God Evoke just a few minutes ago.

[Do you approve?]

Then, the Battle God’s voice rang once again. The truth was, it would not matter if the title were created just like that. Bentley could only use it as a reward for successfully attacking the Argalis Dungeon.

[We are also currently getting the approval of the other gods.]

The words that the Battle God uttered made Bentley realize that the title was quite an unusual one.

‘It’s to the point that one would need the approval of the other gods?’ But Bentley just smirked. It would not matter even if he gave his approval here. After all, that Food God Minhyuk could not get past Spear God Evoke.

[I will come and see you in person.]

Bentley had decided that there was no point in watching over Minhyuk anymore. He thought it was better just to go where the Battle God and the other gods, who approved of the title, were and let them know how wrong the Battle God’s choice was.

When Minhyuk opened his eyes, he saw Spear God Evoque once again. When he turned his head, he saw that the Ego Chain Sickle was slowly pulling itself out of the wall.

“You’re going to rechallenge this place?” Evoque stared at Minhyuk, who came back and did not run away. “I thought you’d tuck your tail and run away in fear?”

He had deliberately used his Pinnacle skill to kill Minhyuk all at once. Only through that way would the god in front of Evoque realize how weak he was. And if he could recognize that, he would be forced to run away.

“It seems like you’re much better than that guy; what was his name again? Ravier?”

Minhyuk did not opt to answer the man in front of him. Ravier had never run away. He had spent a long time cooped up in his temple, cooking alone as he promised to return and show them his worth.

Clank, clank, clank, clank, clank, clank—

The Ego Chain Sickle swiftly moved, its sharp blade aiming for Minhyuk’s back.

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

Minhyuk turned around to evade the chain sickle, constantly attacking him rapidly. Before Evoque could aim for his back and stage another attack like before, Minhyuk used Like the Wind and narrowed the distance between them.

“Sword of Absolute Death.”

Baaaaaaang—!

A bolt of lightning fell and hit Evoque without fail.

“Kghk!” Evoque gritted his teeth, shock evident in his eyes when he saw the massive damage he received.

The damage that could shock and terrify a god was the result of the combination of Minhyuk’s cheat-like stats, his skills and powers that were beyond god-level, and his outstanding and mighty Sword of Aeon.

Then, hundreds of lightning bolts fell and struck everywhere around Evoque.

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang—!

Evoque, whose vision was blocked after being stuck in the middle of the rain of lightning bolts, moved to counter, offset, or evade the attacks. If all else failed, he would try to endure it with his sturdy body.

When the rain of lightning bolts disappeared, and the thick cloud of dust settled down, he turned to look at his opponent. And what did he see? He saw Minhyuk hiding inside a barrier and cooking as fast as he could.

The scorched and burnt Evoque cackled. “The Ego Chain Sickle can pierce through any defenses.”

Minhyuk was fully aware of that fact.

‘If all potions and parchments are rendered useless inside the Argalis Dungeon, then the buff effects of the dishes I have made in advance are probably also useless.’

If that were the case, then all he needed to do was cook and eat as fast as he could, and then fight. However, that plan was made impossible.

Clank, clank, clank, clank, clank—!

The sickle of the Ego Chain Sickle attacked the barrier around Minhyuk.

[The barrier has an absolute defense.]

However, it did not deter the Ego Chain Sickle. It continued to attack the barrier.

[...absolute...]

[...absolute...]

[...absolute...]

[The Ego Chain Sickle has ignored the barrier’s Absolute Defense!]

Screech—!

A scratch appeared on the surface of the barrier.

[The Let’s Have a Meal’s barrier’s durability has dropped by 1.6%!]

As if spurred by something, the Ego Chain Sickle doubled its efforts and attacked the barrier of Let’s Have a Meal non-stop.

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

Although the probability of ignoring defenses was only small, it was able to inflict several scratches from its continued efforts.

“Your barrier will collapse in two minutes.”

At the rate things were going, the Ego Chain Sickle could indeed force the barrier around Minhyuk to collapse. Yes, it was just like Evoque said.

“Did you think you’re the only one who tried to do that?”

However, Minhyuk, who was busy cooking, just sneered. Evoque was different from the other gods. He knew nothing about Minhyuk except that he was the *Food God*. The fact that he was the emperor of an empire, that he had the most talented people around him, that he was a player, and that he had the best and strongest *weapon* in his hand were all unknown to Evoque.

“Viel.”

Creak, creak, creak, creak, creak—

Viel, whose joints were slowly twisting into place, appeared right in front of Minhyuk.

Click, click, click, click, click—

In a blink, all of the joints in Viel’s body twisted into place. Then, he slowly walked toward the barrier and kicked away the Ego Chain Sickle hitting the barrier like crazy.

Baaaaaaaang—!

The Ego Chain Sickle, pushed back a few meters by the powerful force behind Viel's kick, hurriedly charged toward the barrier again.

Baaaaaaaang—!

However, the results remained the same. After all, Viel was on par with Brod in terms of power.

Clank, clank, clank, clank, clank—!

Viel was able to skillfully deflect all of the Ego Chain Sickle's attack despite its rapid movements. In the end, Viel, as if losing his patience, grabbed the sickle part of the flying Ego Chain Sickle. This feat was only possible because Viel's hands were not made of flesh and were more like *hard and sturdy steel*.

With the sickle tightly grasped in his hands, Viel slowly walked toward the pin that stuck the Ego Chain Sickle to the walls and struck it with all his might.

Boooooooooom—!

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang—!

Evoque, who saw Viel attacking the pin of the Ego Chain Sickle, moved swiftly in annoyance as he stabbed his spear at Viel's back.

Crack, crack, crack, crack—!

Evoque's spear went through Viel's abdomen accompanied by the sound of something breaking apart. However, Viel just took a short glance at him. He grabbed the spear using his left hand which was not holding onto the sickle.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

He continued to slam the pin and the chains like crazy.

"This moron...!"

But no matter how hard Evoque tried to pull the spear away from Viel's abdomen, he could not just pull it out. If it were an average person, they would not have been able to hold the spear in their hands like that. Perhaps they would have already curled up in pain. However, Viel was a puppet doll, he no longer could feel pain.

Clank! Clank! Clank! Clank!

Slaaaaaaap—!

A loud noise echoed in the area as Evoque slapped the head of Viel, who ignored his strike earlier and continued to strike the chains and the pin with reckless abandon.

"..."

However, it continued just like before.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Evoque continued to kick, slap and punch Viel.

Craaaack!

A loud and strong slap forced Viel's head to turn to the side. However, he twisted his head back until it returned to its original position.

Slaaaaaaam—!

A powerful blow on his sides caused Viel to stagger, but he quickly returned to his original position.

Baaaaaaaang—

Several punches and hits landed on the back of Viel's head, but he continued to return to his original position.

Meanwhile, Minhyuk was cooking as fast as he could.

'Viel's recovery rate and durability are beyond anyone's imagination.'

It was only natural. After all, he was a god, a high-level boss, and a monster-class individual. But that was not his only redeeming point; his moves were divine. The fact that he could restrict Evoke and the Ego Chain Sickle's movements by holding onto their weapons was worthy of praise. Minhyuk knew he would never try something like that if he were in Viel's position.

Minhyuk glanced at Viel while his hands continued to move swiftly.

Thump! Thump! Thump! Thump! Thump!

"Argh! Argh! Argh!" Evoke shouted in fury as he smacked Viel on his head.

And Viel? He just kept on getting hit on the back of his head.

'...'

For a moment, Minhyuk took pity on Viel. Viel was once the most powerful man to rule over Edea. He was so strong that he could openly covet the position of the Jade Emperor, the heavens, and the skies. But now? He was continuously getting hit on the back of his head.

Boooooom—!

At that moment, a notification rang in Minhyuk's ears.

[The Ego Chain Sickle's durability has dropped to less than 50%!]

Minhyuk knew his opportunity to stage a counterattack was just around the corner. If Viel could destroy the Ego Chain Sickle, Minhyuk could clear this gate. Then, another dull sound reverberated in the area.

Thuuuuuuuuud—!

Viel, a god who once stood at the pinnacle of the world that suddenly became a tank, suddenly tilted forward. Minhyuk thought that Viel would once again raise the sickle in his hand and swing it down, just like he had done so far. But that was not the case at all.

'T- tears...?!'

Viel only had a small fragment of his ego left in the puppet doll. Yet Viel's eyes were growing misty. What were they if they weren't tears?

[Viel's Puppet Doll is feeling sad.]

[Viel doesn't want to move.]

At the same time, Viel's legs grew slack, firmly stepping on the chains of the Ego Chain Sickle.

Clank, clank, clank, clank—!

Finding the opportunity to escape, the Ego Chain Sickle immediately got out of Viel's feet and wrapped itself around its opponent's body.

'The moment Viel breaks, this barrier will collapse too.'

Minhyuk was now in a massive crisis.

Chapter 877

Clank, clank, clank, clank, clank—

The Ego Chain Sickle's attack power was on par with Brod's, perhaps even higher. Now that it was not being restrained, it began to strike the lifeless and listless Viel nonstop.

Bang— Bang— Bang— Bang—!

[Viel's durability has dropped below 75%.]

[Viel's durability has recovered by 3%.]

[Viel's durability has dropped below 72%.]

[Viel's durability has recovered by 3%.]

[Viel's durability...]

Viel's recovery ability was excellent. However, the damage that the Ego Chain Sickle could deal was so high that even Viel had a hard time enduring it.

[Speed Increase.]

[The Ego Chain Sickle's speed will double for five seconds!]

The faster Ego Chain Sickle frantically hit Viel, who continued to stand still.

[The damage received has been doubled!]

[Viel's durability has dropped below 52%!]

But that was not all; the Ego Chain Sickle could also trigger its double critical damage, an effect that could only be activated with a 12% chance, and tear apart Viel until he looked horrendous.

Even if Viel was destroyed here, he would be fully restored and could be summoned once again after a week. The only problem was that if Viel fell here, the Ego Chain Sickle would definitely come after the barrier protecting Minhyuk. And once that happened, the barrier would not be able to last for two minutes. For Minhyuk, who was only about to finish cooking, his odds would disappear.

At that moment, Evoque pulled the spear out of Viel, who was listless and defenseless. And the moment he pulled out the spear, Viel's durability dropped even lower. It was literally like adding salt to an injury.

[Viel's thoughts and ideas have been significantly reduced!]

Viel might only have a small fragment of his ego left, but even that tiny fragment of his ego was a part of him. He was once someone who ruled over the entire Edea and trampled on all beings. He was also someone who had dreamt of becoming the *Sky*. And, to be honest, he had all of the qualifications to become one. However, Viel was now forced under someone's orders to receive the damage on their behalf. Of course, he would be angry.

'How did I come to this point?' was probably what he, who once dreamt of becoming the greatest and the best yet fell and became a puppet, was thinking.

"Viel!"

Viel, who bowed his head, heard Minhyuk's voice in his ears. Although Minhyuk owned Viel now, he was the one who killed *Viel*, and that was something that even the puppet could not forget.

"You are the greatest god that I have ever acknowledged."

This was the truth. Viel was stronger than Spear God Ben. He was as strong, perhaps even stronger, than the Fallen Wretched Emperor Brod. And Minhyuk's words touched Viel, whose pride and ego had been hurt.

[Emperor's Authority.]

[The Emperor's Comfort has been activated!]

The main reason why Viel, who was only left with a small fragment of his ego, could focus on Minhyuk's words was because of the Emperor's Comfort. Why did the Emperor's Comfort get triggered? Viel might only be a puppet now; however, whether he wanted to or not, he could now be considered Minhyuk's Vassal. That was why the authority was triggered. Another reason was Minhyuk's CHA. Minhyuk's CHA had exceeded 12,000 points, which influenced his voice and added more charm and power.

"Are you just going to be trampled by a mere god like that?! The sword and abilities I had experienced when I fought you were far beyond what that god can display!"

Minhyuk did not lie. If one took away the Ego Chain Sickle, then Spear God Evoque was someone Viel could quickly kill.

"Do you no longer want to be the best?"

Viel glanced at Minhyuk, his sharp, lifeless puppet eyes giving the emperor goosebumps. That was right. Viel still wanted to be the best, even if he was nothing more than a puppet now.

"Does someone who wants to be the best, easily fall like that against the man in front of him?!"

In Viel's eyes, the Spear God was strong. However, the man could not overwhelm him.

Crack, crack, crack, crack—!

Evoque pulled his spear out of Viel's body in a blink. He stepped back all at once and stabbed his spear on the ground. "Die."

Rumbleeeeeeeeeeeeeee—!

The ground rumbled and twisted as the force that stretched out of Evoque's spear moved toward Viel. Viel's durability had almost reached the bottom.

[Viel's durability has dropped below 17%!]

Then, Minhyuk said, "Show me who you are, Viel!"

Viel, staring at Minhyuk, immediately turned around and triggered his skill. And the skill that he triggered? It was Viel's pinnacle skill, Sky's Roar. Minhyuk did not even have the opportunity to witness it in the past. This was because Viel firmly believed he could kill Minhyuk without using this skill. Besides, he had received the protection and blessings of the Jade Emperor back then; even his ordinary skills had power comparable to that of a pinnacle skill.

"Sky's Roar."

Shwaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa—!

A gigantic greatsword fell from the sky, stabbed itself into the ground, and quickly countered and offset the Spear God's power. Viel charged toward the greatsword.

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

An AOE attack skill engulfed an area with a radius of several meters. The attack brought forth shocking damage as it bombed Spear God Evoque.

"Keuaaaaaaaaaack!"

The Ego Chain Sickle swiftly flew toward Viel's head when Evoque's scream rang.

Thud—

Holding onto the joints that connected the chain and the sickle, Viel turned to look at Minhyuk. In just that short moment, Minhyuk had finished cooking and was already in the middle of eating the buff dish—none other than *Crunch Toast*.

[The bond between you and Viel has increased.]

[Viel's ego has grown slightly.]

Minhyuk hated Viel. And, of course, the same was true for Viel. However, Viel's fate was now tied to Minhyuk. It would be better for the two to cooperate than to hate each other. Minhyuk knew this all too well; perhaps even Viel, who only had a small fragment of his ego, also knew this.

"Ughh. Kghhk..." " Evoque groaned. After the Sky Roar's effects ended, his torn and ripped body was left in a haggard state. However, even if he was left in such an embarrassing state, he was still a god and still had a recovery ability beyond anyone's imagination. Just like that, the injuries that covered Evoque's body healed rapidly.

Viel glanced at Minhyuk's once again. He knew what to do now that his summoning time was about to end.

Clink—!

“Sky’s Frenzy.”

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

Viel’s sword moved swiftly, his attack speed drastically increasing with the skill’s activation as he attacked the Ego Chain Sickle.

Crack, crack, crack, crack, crack—!

Minhyuk, looking at the cracks that started to appear on the surface of the Ego Chain Sickle, continued eating his crunch toast. One bite, and the unique flavor of applesauce and the deep flavor of the crunch toast spread in his mouth.

‘This is truly the best dish to eat when one’s hungry.’

Of course, Minhyuk never forgot his reasons for coming to the Argalis Dungeon. His first reason was to eat delicious dishes. His second reason was to help Ravier let go of his resentment. His third reason was to obtain the Food God’s most significant power.

Crunch, crunch—

Minhyuk’s mouth was filled with the fantastic combination of cabbage, cheese, and ham flavors. He smiled in delight as he finished the toast in a few bites and topped it off with a cool and refreshing cider.

Gulp, gulp, gulp—

As the refreshing and bubbly feeling reached his throat, a series of notifications rang in his ears.

[You have succeeded in destroying the Ego Chain Sickle!]

[You have obtained the Ego Chain Sickle!]

At the same time, Viel’s figure disappeared. Another series of notifications immediately followed it.

[Double Food.]

[Double Food has replicated the dish and turned it into two!]

“Overlapping Delight.”

[Overlapping Delight.]

[You can now receive the effects of two dishes simultaneously.]

A rolling die emitting a golden light appeared above them.

Ring!

[The soul of Evas, the creator of the Argalis Dungeon, has grown furious after seeing a trivial and weak god dare to challenge his dungeon!]

[The soul of Evas, the creator of the Argalis Dungeon, cannot hide his anger after witnessing the destruction of the Ego Chain Sickle!]

[The soul of Evas has started the ‘Dungeon Activation’!]

[The soul of Evas has made Spear God Evoque 8% stronger!]

“...”

It was ridiculously absurd. Evas immediately interjected when the Food God, a god he had mocked and jeered at, pushed him to a corner. Of course, the First Food God Ravier also did not stay still.

[The soul of Food God Ravier stares at Evas!]

[Food God Ravier glares sharply at the cowardly, pompous, and underhanded Evas!]

Food God Ravier was most likely glaring at the Evas statue standing behind Evoque.

[Food God Ravier tells you to show it to them!]

[The power left behind by the First Food God, Ravier, is now being revealed through the current Food God!]

A number finally appeared as the golden die slowly turned to a stop.

[The die has been cast! You have rolled one!]

[The Overlapping Delight's buff effect will last for thirty seconds!]

[You have received the effects of the Epic Grade Bizarre Crunch Toast and the Epic Grade Crunch Toast!]

Minhyuk felt that he was unlucky after seeing that the effects only lasted thirty seconds. However, he believed that this was more than enough time. After all, he was a master at adding the desired effects to his dishes, choosing the ingredients that would boost those effects.

[All of your stats have increased by 3%!]

[Your physical and magical attacks have increased by 25%!]

[The first skill you will use will receive a +3 increase in skill level!]

Crackleeeee—

Huge blazing flames shot out from the blade of Minhyuk's sword. The fire covered a much longer distance than it originally could. Overlord's Technique, now the Supreme Overlord's Technique, had already reached the *God grade level*, meaning its power had significantly increased. But Minhyuk did not end it there. He applied the effects of the Overlapping Delight to this skill.

[The Supreme Overlord's Technique's level has temporarily increased by +3!]

[The Overlord's Fire, with an additional 14,000~18,000% attack, will attack everyone within a 260~280 meter radius!]

Crackle—

Evoque, who had recovered from his injuries to some extent, stared in trepidation at the blazing flames that slowly engulfed the dungeon.

God of Dungeons Bentley was in an excellent mood after he appeared in front of the Battle God and approved the title *God Above Gods* as a reward.

—*The Battle God's chosen successor has already died once inside the Argalis Dungeon.*

Of course, he did not forget to make a report while approving. It was a deliberate move to provoke and irritate the Battle God.

Bentley wanted to become the Battle God's Descendant himself. Although he did not have absolute and overwhelming power and might, he could create outstanding dungeons. He firmly believed his outstanding dungeons were enough to protect the Land of the Gods. And if he could combine his power with the Battle God's power, he would be the only candidate to protect and maintain the Land of the Gods.

But then, the Battle God spoke.

–You have approved the title as a reward because you have judged that it's impossible to obtain, no?

–How dare I make such judgments?

Although he said those words, there was an imperceptible smile on Bentley's face. After dealing with that matter, he warped back to the Argalis Dungeon. However, Bentley was left in shock when he came back.

[Evas' soul has activated the Dungeon 'Activation'!]

Evas created this masterpiece of a dungeon. Because of that, a portion of his soul was embedded deeply in it, which could be said to be his most significant and final masterpiece.

Bentley was fully aware that the *Activation* would only be triggered during emergencies.

“There's an emergency...?”

If there were an emergency, the gates the challengers had to pass would be reinforced and grow more difficult.

Vwoooooooooooooong–

At that moment, the entire Argalis Dungeon shook and trembled.

Baaaaaaaaang–

Ultimately, a portion of the dungeon collapsed as a huge pillar of flames soared to the sky. Bentley hurriedly took out the crystal ball to see the situation inside, where the Food God was facing Spear God Evoque.

Inside the crystal ball, the figure of a man walking amidst the black flames that devoured the entire dungeon appeared.

Thud, thud, thud, thud–

Bentley could faintly see the silhouette of the man through the blazing flames. It seemed like the man was holding two swords as he walked past someone lying on the ground.

Slash, slash, slash, slash, slash, slash–!

The two swords released hundreds of sword lights that slashed the person lying on the ground indiscriminately. The man subjected to the harsh and reckless attacks of the dual swords was

assumed to be *Evoque*. The man that Bentley thought to be *Evoque* tried to struggle against the crazy onslaught of attacks. However, in the end, his body slowly started to collapse.

Vwoooooooooong–

Crack– Crack, crack– Crack, crack–

Along with his fall, the gigantic statue of Evas standing behind him also began to crumble and fall.

The black flames slowly started to disappear. Once the fire disappeared, Bentley could finally see the entire situation. He saw the Food God standing before the collapsed statue with *Evoque*'s body lying behind him.

The Food God then moved forward, his foot stepping on the rubble left behind by the collapsed statue.

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Crack, crack–

That was the sound of the wreckage and rubble left behind by the collapsed statue being crushed under the feet of the Food God. Even after seeing it with his eyes, Bentley still could not believe it. However, the notifications that rang in his ears reminded him that this was the reality.

[The first gate of the Argalis Dungeon created by God of Dungeons Evas has been cleared for the first time.]

[Argalis Dungeon, the pride of God of Dungeons Evas, is a myth and legend.]

[The god who cleared the Argalis Dungeon is the god Evas ignored and despised- the 'Food God'!]

[The first reward of the Argalis Dungeon has grown better.]

[No one has been able to pass through the first gate of the Argalis Dungeon for thousands of years!]

[The gate's challenger had made more extraordinary achievements than the dozens of other gods that challenged the gate and died before him!]

[As the God of Dungeons, you must give the challenger an extra reward!]

[His outstanding 'achievements' will be known to all the gods of the Land of the Gods!]

[He is a Continental God and a successor of an Absolute God.]

Bentley's expression grew ugly when he saw that the Food God's *outstanding achievements* would be known to all gods. That was not supposed to be the case, especially since he had emphasized to the gods that he was a *trashy Food God*.

It was not only him. Even God Evas used to tell the other gods, "The Food God is a god that knows nothing but eating..." As Evas' successor, Bentley took the lead in mocking the Food God and denying his qualifications as the successor of the Battle God. Of course, part of it was because he was eyeing the same position himself.

However, the same Food God that he mocked and ignored had cleared the first gate of the Argalis Dungeon, which no other god could break.

‘How in the world was he able to break through the gate? One cannot clear the dungeon just because they are strong.’ Bentley just could not understand.

In the first gate, Minhyuk should have felt like he was dealing with two gods: Spear God Evoque and the Ego Chain Sickie. If he tried to attack Spear God Evoque, the Ego Chain Sickie would make a move and try to attack him or tie him down. This was why even the powerful gods suffered and died at the first gate.

However, there was something that Bentley and Evas had overlooked. And that was the fact that Minhyuk was a *player*. Players were different from ordinary gods. Most of the players might not even be comparable to gods; there were still a select few that had the potential to surpass even the gods in the future.

Gods were beings that were highly exceptional in *only one field*. But the players? They could learn a *wide range and variety of skills*. And it was not only that. They could also own a variety of artifacts that ordinary NPCs could not hold, just like how Minhyuk, as a player, owned *Viel’s Puppet Doll*.

Bentley’s already ugly expression grew dark at the thought of these notifications ringing in the ears of the gods and the entire world later. However, he still shook his head. *‘He will not be able to get through the second gate.’*

The Argalis Dungeon had five gates in total, and the first and second gates were the most difficult to clear. This was a trick that Evas had done when creating this dungeon. Generally, one would think that the dungeon’s difficulty would grow as one progressed. Hence, one would always believe that the first gate was the easiest. And, of course, even the gods believe this to be the case.

Evas took advantage of that thinking and made the first and second gates difficult. Then, he boasted to all of the gods that they *would not be able to cross the first gate* of his dungeon. There were even rumors about how *no one had ever been able to break through the first gate*, spreading among the gods. This was how the gods grew scared of Argalis Dungeon and how Evas had garnered their respect. And because of that, no one challenged it anymore.

Even if the Food God had broken through the first gate, if he lost in the equally tricky second gate, the gods would only care that he failed to clear the Argalis Dungeon.

‘If that happens then...’ Bentley thought of silencing him by claiming that the Food God had cleared the first gate through immoral and unscrupulous methods.

[The Argalis Dungeon’s challenger has chosen the first reward.]

[Argalis Dungeon is also known as the ‘Dungeon of Dreams.’]

[Please fulfill the ‘dream’ that the challenger wants to obtain.]

God of Dungeons Bentley could see the dreams that his opponent wants in his head. Before he drew the dream of the Food God in his head, he thought, *‘Does he want to receive a reward that will allow him to jump and become the Battle God?’*

Or perhaps he wanted an artifact or a weapon that even the gods would fear? He did not know what type the man wanted. Not long after, Bentley confirmed the *dream* that the Food God wanted.

“...”

Bentley doubted his eyes for a moment after he confirmed the dream.

‘His head is filled with nothing but food and eating!’

Goodness! Bentley has never seen anyone dream of something like this in his entire life. Since Bentley had the power to peek at others’ dreams, he would sometimes look at the goals of the humans in the land below them. He had seen plenty of dreams. Some dreamt of wealth, while some dreamt of power. But Minhyuk’s dream? Why was it filled with nothing but food?!

The flustered Bentley shook his head. “Right. Go on. Eat a lot.”

He would have a bad time in the second gate anyway. Only the strongest of the strong could break through the first gate. However, just because one was strong did not mean they could kill and hunt two rabbits at once, no?

Besides, Evas had used quite a lot of tricks in this dungeon. He even prevented whoever broke through the first gate from breaking the second gate. The thing that one needed the most in the second gate was none other than *DEX*.

Minhyuk, who cleared the first gate, received several notifications as he walked toward the next gate.

[Your

[Your achievements are being made known to the gods of the Land of the Gods.]

[Your Achievement Rate has increased by 34%!]

The Linked Quest: The Food God’s Achievement would only be considered completed if Minhyuk reached at least 60% Achievement Rate in one year. However, he could jump to 34% just by breaking through the first gate of the Argalis Dungeon.

‘Was it because it’s very easy to increase the Achievement Rate? No. That shouldn’t be the case.’

It was absolutely impossible to be that easy. After all, only if he could make an achievement that could surprise the gods would his Achievement Rate increase. As such, he had determined that it was not wrong to say that the first gate of the Argalis Dungeon was tough.

[By destroying the Ego Chain Sickle and successfully clearing the first gate, you can acquire the Ego Chain Sickle.]

[You can now obtain the rewards of the first gate.]

[If you imagine the dream you want to achieve, the dungeon will make it come true!]

‘The dream that I want...’

Minhyuk had not forgotten the reason why he came here. He closed his eyes and imagined what he had always been dreaming of. Minhyuk could not help the drool that started to drip down his chin at the thought of it.

[God of Dungeons Bentley is confirming your dream.]

[Your dream can be made into reality!]

[The God of Dungeons and the Food God are in a hostile relationship.]

[Since the Food God had broken through the dungeon's first gate, God of Dungeons Bentley has to reproduce your dreams and make it even better!]

And finally...

[Your dream is materializing!]

When Minhyuk slowly opened his eyes, the scene greeting him was the *Manhwa Cafe* he had always wanted to visit. Well, if he were to be honest, it was a bit different. Even if Bentley had seen Minhyuk's dream, it would still be difficult for him to completely reproduce the Manhwa Cafe's appearance. After all, he had never seen something like that in his life.

'Maybe it's more apt to call this a fantasy-themed Manhwa Cafe?'

Interesting books, which could be seen on the antique shelves of the imperial library, were piled up in one corner. There were also a considerable number of manhwas among them. Of course, there was a sofa where one could lounge with a table on the side.

Minhyuk looked at the books sitting on the shelves. *'It seems like Joy Co. Ltd. has worked with many publishers to make it possible for people to read many manhwas, comics, and novels in the game.'*

Because of that, quite a lot of manhwas and novels from reality were on the shelves.

'I heard that the novel in which the main character loves to eat was serialized as a webtoon. Ah, they also have it as a book here.' Minhyuk quickly found his favorite book, in which the main character loves to eat, and headed to the sofa. *'I heard that the author gained nine kilograms because he ate while writing this book.'*

He quickly returned to his main mission, which was to eat in a Manhwa Cafe, after entertaining such ridiculous thoughts. Minhyuk really wanted to try it. That was why he quickly sat on the sofa after picking up the manhwa book. Then, the food he imagined appeared in front of his eyes the moment he sat.

"...Wow." Minhyuk burst out in admiration.

Sshin ramyeon with egg, chapagetti with fried egg on top, chicken mayo rice bowl with fried chicken and mayonnaise, and kimchi fried rice with spam appeared in front of him. There were also hamburgers, fries, and a glass of cola with ice.

Following the etiquette for eating in a Manhwa Cafe, Minhyuk opened his manhwa with his left hand and grabbed his chopsticks with his right. The first thing that he picked was the noodles of the steaming, well-cooked ramyeon.

"Sluuuuuuuuuurp!" Minhyuk's loud slurp as he inhaled the noodles rang inside the quiet Manhwa Cafe. If this was in a true Manhwa Cafe, he would probably be able to hear other customers order ramyeon.

Minhyuk blew on the spicy and chewy ramyeon noodles before taking another big bite.

“Sluuuuuuuurp!”

Of course, he did not forget to eat the stir-fried kimchi served alongside the ramyeon.

Crunch, crunch—

The stir-fried kimchi added to the depth of the ramyeon’s flavor. After taking another bite, Minhyuk put down his chopstick and grabbed the bowl with his hand to sip the broth.

“Kghhk...” Minhyuk burst out in admiration after tasting the spiciness of the broth.

Just like that, Minhyuk finished the bowl of ramyeon. As he placed the bowl down, unexpected but very welcome notifications rang in his ears.

[You have chosen food as your dream reward in Argalis Dungeon.]

[You have eaten Ramyeon.]

[All five of your basic stats have increased by 0.7%.]

“...!” Minhyuk thought that this should probably be the case. *‘There’s no way that the rewards I will receive for breaking the first gate of a dungeon with extreme difficulty will just be normal and ordinary food.’*

Although Minhyuk's chosen reward might seem insignificant and trivial to most, the power hiding beneath it was beyond anyone’s imagination. After seeing the “You have eaten Ramyeon” in the notifications, Minhyuk felt like the other dishes would give him various powers.

This time, he turned his attention to the chapagetti. He quickly picked up his chopsticks and poked the yolk of the fried egg into the noodles, its golden yellow yolk dripping down. Minhyuk mixed the noodles well before taking a huge bite.

“Sluuuuuuuuuurp!”

”

The slightly sweet flavor of the chapagetti delighted his taste buds. At that moment, a side dish suddenly flashed in his mind: *‘When eating chapagetti, one really should also eat...’*

Minhyuk had not yet finished his thoughts, but the side dish that flashed in his head had already appeared in front of him. This side dish was *scallion kimchi*.

‘Kghhk. This is truly a place where your dreams come true!’ Minhyuk thought as he clamped some of the freshly made scallion kimchi. Then, he put it on top of the chapagetti. Then, he took a massive bite of the noodles.

Sluuuuuuuuuurp—

Crunch, crunch—

The crisp texture and refreshing flavor of the scallion kimchi along with the slight sweetness of the chapagetti gently spread in Minhyuk’s mouth. The harmony created by these flavors was so fantastic that Minhyuk could not help but shiver in delight.

[You have eaten Chapagetti.]

[Your total HP and MP volume have increased by 2%.]

Minhyuk, who finished eating the noodles before they got soggy, turned his attention to the kimchi fried rice and spam. He grabbed a spoon and scooped a huge mouthful of the kimchi fried rice with a small portion of the sliced ham. Then, he put everything in his mouth.

The crunchy and spicy kimchi met with the salty spam and created a fantastic flavor combination. The taste became even more perfect when he added a fried egg to his spoonful of kimchi fried rice.

[You have eaten Spam Kimchi Fried Rice.]

[The attack power of the best weapon in your possession has increased by 4%.]

It tasted good, and the rewards that accompanied it were also excellent. A percentage increase in the attack power of the sword with the strongest attack power in Athenae was something that Minhyuk could not buy with money or anything else for that matter.

Then, Minhyuk ate the chicken mayo rice bowl. It was topped with a dollop of mayonnaise and a sprinkle of seaweed powder. It also contained quite a large portion of fried chicken. When he took a massive bite of the dish, the slightly sweet mayonnaise, and the special sauce meshed well, creating this sweet and enchanting flavor that spread in his mouth.

Crunch, crunch—

The crispy and crunchy chicken added a dash of savoriness to the sweet combination of flavors. Of course, Minhyuk did not forget to eat it with the stir-fried kimchi on the side.

Crunch, crunch—

The stir-fried kimchi was a tad bit softer than regular kimchi, but it had a much deeper flavor, which was a cherry on top for this dish.

[You have eaten Chicken Mayo Rice Bowl.]

[The defensive power of the best defensive artifact in your possession has increased by 5%.]

Now, there was only one dish left- the hamburger, fries, and cola set meal. The hamburger, with its large chicken patty, reminded Minhyuk of Mama's Touch's Psy Burger[1].

'That's right. Mama's Touch's burgers are the best.'

The generous Psy Burger was so big that Minhyuk felt like his jaws creaked from the effort just by taking a bite. However, once he took a bite, his mouth was greeted with crunchy lettuce and a crispy chicken patty.

Munch, munch—

After savoring the sound of the crispy patty being chewed, Minhyuk took another huge bite. The smile on Minhyuk's face unknowingly grew wider with every bite of the burger. Then, he quickly grabbed some fries, dipped them in catsup, and placed them in his mouth. The salty fries and the sweet catsup created a fantastic harmony of flavor.

Minhyuk felt quite excited as he ate the burger. He was looking forward to the notifications that would ring right after. *'I wonder what rewards I would get this time?'*

Along with the delight and joy of eating delicious dishes, Minhyuk also anticipated the dish's effects on him. In a blink, Minhyuk finished the hamburger and the fries. Finally, he sipped the cold and refreshing cola with the straw.

“Kgghhk-!” Minhyuk burst into admiration as a tingling appeared in his throat after drinking everything. Then, the notifications rang in his ears.

[You have eaten the Hamburger Set Meal.]

[The God Above Gods title is not yet completed!]

‘God Above Gods?’

Minhyuk could not shake off the feeling that this title was far more impressive than all the titles he had obtained. He quickly checked the detailed information of the title.

Chapter 879

Absolute Title

- Can combine two God-rank skills.*
- There is a 5% chance of a 12% increase in performance and abilities when using a God-rank skill.*
- Passive Skill: God that Never Backs Down.*
- All stats +4%*
- All skills' cooldown time and MP consumption will be reduced by 10%.*

Minhyuk was impressed when he checked the detailed information about the God Above Gods title.

‘Wait, you’re telling me I can combine two God-rank skills with this title?’

Minhyuk had quite a lot of God-rank skills in his arsenal. If he had this title, combining the two skills would compensate for their shortcomings and make them even stronger. Of course, this did

not mean combining two skills would make them twice as good. However, if he could get the right combination, he could create a much more efficient and stronger skill.

‘If I can combine the Sword of Absolute Death and the Supreme Overlord Technique, then...’

It meant that Minhyuk would be able to create a better pinnacle skill. But there was a more interesting fact here. The title’s skill combination was not limited to attack skills. He could combine any skill that he wanted, including skills related to the Food God.

There was also the passive skill, God that Never Backs Down. It was a skill that could only be triggered during emergencies. It would only be triggered if the HP of the title bearer fell below 10%. Once activated, the title bearer’s HP and MP would recover to 50%, and their skill cooldown would reset and recover. But that was not all. If he obtained this skill, he would also receive a 4% increase in his stats and a 10% reduction in skill cooldown and MP consumption.

‘Of course, it’s already a great title.’

However, there was another reason why Minhyuk believed that the God Above Gods’ title was far beyond the other titles he had obtained. And that was the *Absolute Title* that it carried in its name. Minhyuk had never seen or heard of such a title since playing this game. And there was also the fact that the title was still *not yet completed*. The title would grow and be completed once he cleared the Argalis Dungeon.

‘Even though I have only cleared the first gate, the title already has this much power.’

Minhyuk could not even imagine how much power he would be able to obtain if this title was completed. With a bit of expectation, he began to move again. Then, he fell into another dream filled with delicious food.

‘There’s a valley stretching out right in front of me...’

In that valley, Minhyuk would cook ramyeon and grill some samgyeopsal while eating with his friends. For some reason, Minhyuk believed that ramyeon tasted more delicious after playing around in the water. Minhyuk entered the second gate with that dream in his mind.

[You are challenging Argalis Dungeon’s Second Gate.]

[Some gods were recorded as heroes in the Land of the Gods.]

[The Land of Gods was a land that was once filled with dangers and hardships. Many heroes had protected this land so the Land of the Gods could exist.]

[Among those heroes, there was one god that everyone knew the story of. And that was ‘War God Veyron.’]

In any place, there would always be heroes that have left their names behind in the annals of history. And if there were heroes, then there were stories. Their stories would be kept and told to the future generations.

[During that time, the Land of the Gods was at war with the Demon World.]

[The 72 Devils, led by Great Demon Verus, wreaked havoc and almost destroyed the Land of the Gods.]

[The war lasted for days on end. At that time, another race took advantage of the war and attacked the Land of the Gods. They were none other than the greedy ‘Black Dwarves.’]

[Unlike ordinary dwarves, the Black Dwarves were greedy, shallow, and petty. They also only specialized in crafting lethal weapons.]

[While the Land of the Gods was left in chaos as it continued to fight the war against the Demon World, the greedy Black Dwarves took hundreds of the titans that they had created and invaded the Land of the Gods.]

[Titans were war weapons created with the extraordinary blacksmithing skills of the dwarves. They reached around eight meters in height, had skin as hard as the gods, and wielded weapons on par with those of the gods.]

[Even the gods could not stop the Titans as they swung their gigantic swords at them.]

[However, the Black Dwarves were no fools. They knew they could not conquer and take over the Land of the Gods.]

[The place they were aiming for was where the ‘celestial dwellers’ lived.]

[The celestial dwellers weren’t gods. They were ordinary people who lived in the Land of the Gods. They were superior to the people of the earth but still inferior to the gods.]

[The Black Dwarves killed the celestial dwellers and took away their lands. They tried to use them as leverage to demand many things from the gods of the Land of the Gods.]

[Millions of the celestial dwellers died under the hands of the Black Dwarves. However, the Battle God, who was in the middle of the war with the Demon World, could not send the Divine Army to ward them off.]

[At that time, only one god stepped forward to protect the celestial dwellers.]

The scene in front of Minhyuk changed as the explanation rang in his ears. He saw the War God, whose face was covered with a helmet, kneeling before the previous generation's Battle God after being granted an audience.

“Battle God, please grant me the permission to go into war.”

“This lord does not wish for you to go.”

[The Battle God cherished the War God more than anybody else. It was to the point that he was willing to give up his position as the Battle God to him. That was why he did not want him to go there just to protect their ‘celestial dwellers.’]

“Battle God! I have to go. Can’t you hear the voices of our dying celestial dwellers?!”

The Battle God looked at the War God as he shouted at him.

“If you go there, you will die.” The Battle God shook his head. “Your life is far more precious than the lives of our celestial dwellers.”

“All lives are equal. It doesn’t matter if they are a god, a divine subject, or a human; their lives matter.”

[However, no matter how hard the Battle God persuaded him, he could not break the will of the War God. It was because he was this kind of man that the Battle God loved and cared for him.]

[The War God has an extraordinary power.]

[Of course, his power and might were exceptional. However, he was the one who trained the ordinary celestial dwellers and turned them into soldiers of the Divine Army.]

[The Battle God knew that the ones that the War God trained would be able to surpass his own Divine Army in the future.]

War God Veyron said, "Please bestow upon me the Divine Weapon. I will use the Divine Weapon to defeat our enemies."

[The Divine Weapon was a weapon created by the God of Blacksmiths long ago. It might look like an ordinary cannon, but its power and destructive capabilities far exceeded the gods' powers.]

[However, the Battle God knew only twenty Divine Weapons existed.]

'This is so he could drag the time.'

[The Battle God immediately understood what Veyron wanted to do. He was going to sacrifice himself. Veyron decided to sacrifice himself so the gods would be able to drive out the demons and Devils and come to rescue their celestial dwellers.]

The Battle God's lips opened slightly, but he could not bear to open his mouth to say it.

[The Battle God looked at the 'War God,' who showed no fear even in the face of his death. The Battle God might be the greatest, but this god in front of him had his respect.]

"You have my permission."

The War God bowed deeply at the Battle God before turning around. With the black horned helmet on his head and a black cape fluttering behind him, the War God walked with his head held high until he stepped out of the red carpet that lined the audience hall.

Minhyuk could not take his eyes away from the man.

[A few days later, War God Veyron fell on the battlefield and died a heroic death.]

Minhyuk saw War God Veyron standing above the walls and looking at the Land of the Gods with a small smile.

[Using countless tactics and strategies, he fought fiercely, accompanied by 350,000 celestial dwellers and the Divine Weapons in hand.]

[During the battle, War God Veyron realized that the Black Dwarves and the Demon World had joined hands.]

[The Black Dwarves aimed to kill all of the 'celestial dwellers.' After doing so, they would then work with the demons of the Demon World and 'kill the gods.']

[However, thanks to War God Veyron holding back the Black Dwarves for four days, the war ended with the victory of the Land of the Gods.]

[After they drove out the demons and Devils of the Demon World, the Battle God hurriedly led all of the gods, rescued the surviving celestial dwellers, and drove out the Black Dwarves.]

[Eventually, they found the body of ‘Veyron.’ There were clear traces of battle on his body, showing them that he fought fiercely and bravely until he took his very last breath.]

[Veyron died with his eyes wide open. However, his eyes remained sharp and strong. A testament to his bravery and determination to stop all enemies until the very end.]

Minhyuk, looking at Veyron standing atop the walls before the battle, shuddered at the small glimpse of his future that he had seen through the notifications.

‘He knew.’ Minhyuk was deeply impressed by the man standing in front of him. *‘He knew that he would die here.’*

However, even though he knew that he was still looking over the Land of the Gods with a small smile. It was true. He was truly deserving of the title of a hero- the hero of the gods.

‘Perhaps the Argalis Dungeon’s Second Gate’s task is to help Veyron and prevent him from dying?’

Of course, that did not mean that Minhyuk could change the past and influence the future. This was just the dungeon’s trial, which recreated the fierce and glorious battles of the past.

Minhyuk, who thought that all of the notifications regarding Veyron had already ended, suddenly heard a shocking and incomprehensible notification in his ears.

[You have a connection with the War God Veyron!]

[You can watch additional videos and hear explanations accordingly!]

The scene in front of Minhyuk changed once again.

The Battle God gently placed War God Veyron’s head on his lap, his hand slowly closing his eyes that remained open even after death.

[The Battle God looked at Veyron’s cold corpse and remembered their conversation.]

“Battle God.”

Swoosh—

The scene in front of Minhyuk changed in an instant. This time, he saw the two gods chatting happily as they walked in the garden.

When he saw the Battle God turn around, Veyron said, “Once the peace has been restored in the Land of the Gods, I wish to live with the humans.”

“With humans?”

“I have taught and helped many grow and develop in the Land of the Gods. I also want to share this power with the humans.”

“You... You’re a god that loves to give.”

“Hahaha. Is that so?”

The scene swiftly returned to the scene from before. The Battle God hugged War God Veyron’s cold body and said, “I will help you achieve your dreams.”

Then, something flashed in front of Minhyuk at a high speed. It felt like he was watching a zoetrope, those spinning lanterns that displayed sequences of drawings. The first scene showed the image of a mother giving her all to give birth to a baby inside one of the tents set up on the battlefield.

“Uwaaah! Uwaaah! Uwaaah! Uwaaah!”

The second scene showed the child, who was not yet four years old, witnessing the massacre of the royal army where he was born and raised.

The third scene showed the struggles of the four-year-old child as he wandered around the world and tried his hardest to survive.

And the fourth scene? It was the scene of the war orphan wandering like a beggar and encountering the long procession of imperial carriages.

The scenes that followed next flashed faster in front of Minhyuk. It showed how the child, the war orphan, followed the emperor and became a citizen of his empire. A scene also revealed how he held his sword and fought for his emperor and the kingdom. The child grew, becoming a soldier. The soldier then became a knight, and the knight became the commander.

There was also a scene where the commander shouted at the dozens of knights before him as he trained them. It also showed how he walked the battlefield with his knights and fought until he became a legend in the land of humans.

As he grew older, he eventually became the pillar of the empire.

“Uwaaaaaaaah!”

“Woooooooooah!”

“Aaaaaaaaaaaaaah!”

The child, now a stalwart man, stood atop the walls with a small smile as he looked at his emperor and the almost ten million-strong army in front. Then, a strong wind blew as he removed the horned helmet covering his face. The wind blew his hair away from his face and revealed his figure. This man was the reincarnation of War God Veyron, the hero of the Land of the Gods. And his name was...

Hound Amacar.

Chapter 880

[You can now view the Argalis Dungeon’s Second Gate.]

[To clear Argalis Dungeon’s Second Gate, you must help War God Veyron lead the celestial dwellers to victory.]

Veyron died in the line of duty. He and the celestial dwellers under his command fought fiercely and bravely before dying a heroic death. However, because they sacrificed themselves to hold back the Black Dwarves, the Land of the Gods could drive out the enemies. It was a pyrrhic victory.

‘*Amacar...*’ Minhyuk shuddered.

War God Veyron, who sacrificed himself to save the Land of the Gods, was recorded in history as a *hero* for a very long time and would continue to be known as such in the future. The fact that Amacar was his reincarnation made Minhyuk’s heart thump wildly.

However, he had one question: ‘*If I join that battlefield, will I be able to lead them to victory?*’

The Black Dwarves and the Titans were mighty beings. Minhyuk estimated their level to be around Level 680 or higher. Could adding one person truly change the war’s course on this battlefield?

‘*Argalis Dungeon’s level of difficulty is ridiculously high.*’

However, because Minhyuk could successfully attack and break the first gate, he knew it was not wholly impossible.

‘*I don’t need to turn the entire battlefield upside down.*’

Minhyuk guessed that Veyron and the celestial dwellers under his command had a *winning chance*, but an unexpected situation wiped them out. Just when the thought flashed in his head...

[You will now participate and enter the battlefield on the day Veyron was recorded as a hero.]

[You will appear on the battlefield as an ordinary celestial dweller. However, the effects of your armor, weapons, skills, and abilities will remain the same.]

[The effects of the Passive Skill: The Greatest Sword has been temporarily sealed!]

War God Veyron ran at the vanguard and traversed through the canyons with a bow slung on his back, a spear in his left hand, and a sword in his right hand.

“Retreat! Run as fast as you can!”

Veyron had always advocated and emphasized to the celestial dwellers that they should also undergo training to help protect the Land of the Gods. The celestial dwellers gathered on their own volition and trained under his guidance. War God Veyron had the power to help others unlock their potential and help them grow rapidly.

Veyron, who had trained these ordinary celestial dwellers to the point that they could rival the Divine Army, looked around and said, “...Quick- quick! Run quickly!”

“Don’t look back!”

Those that were running behind him all looked like they were prepared to face death. Of course, Veyron was the same. He did not intend to live past this battle. He only thought of giving it his all to protect the Land of the Gods, even at the cost of his own life.

“Keuaaaaaaaaack!” A loud and piercing scream rang from behind them. It was a scream ripped out of the mouths of two celestial dwellers after they were slashed by the greatsword in the hand of the eight-meter-tall titan made of hard steel.

Some of the Titans even grabbed the ankles of the fleeing celestial dwellers, pulling their limbs apart until they died from the strain.

“Kekekekeke!”

“Where are you going to run to?!”

The Black Dwarves, who looked quite similar to ordinary dwarves except for their black skin, sat comfortably behind the transparent glass that protected the titan’s cockpit as they jeered and laughed at the fleeing Veyron and the celestial dwellers.

Veyron shot an arrow at the black dwarf that laughed at them a few moments ago.

“Hiiiik...!” The black dwarf flinched in surprise.

Thump—!

However, the arrow failed to pierce through the transparent glass. It only left behind a tiny crack on the otherwise clear glass. The defense of the black dwarves’ titans was comparable to that of most gods. They were war weapons made especially to kill the gods.

“Kekekekeke! Moron!” The black dwarf cackled at the man called War God.

The one hailed as the War God could not pierce their defenses. However, Veyron nocked another arrow on his bow.

“Keke...?” The black dwarf suddenly felt that something was wrong. A tiny crack appeared on the transparent glass in front of him. And the arrow that Veyron shot? It was aimed at that very same crack.

Fwooooooosh—

Craaaaaaaaaack—

The arrow, which shot accurately through that tiny crack, soon pierced through the glass and stabbed straight through the laughing black dwarf’s head.

Creaaaaaaaaak—

Thuuuuuuuuuud—!

When the gigantic Titan charging at the forefront and chasing after the fleeing celestial dwellers suddenly collapsed, the other Titans following right behind were forced to step on the Titan and lose their balance. Just like that, they fell one after another. Although Titans were tough, sturdy, and strong, they were sluggish.

“Haa... haa...” Veyron gasped as he watched the Titans run frantically after them. Although he bought some time for them, their enemies quickly narrowed their distance.

What else could they do? Everything that they were doing was to buy more time. No one would call Veyron a coward for retreating and fighting in this manner. After all, he only had around 350,000 celestial dwellers under his command to fight and deal with hundreds of Titans and thousands of black dwarves. Besides, War God Veyron had already tied the black dwarves down in this place for four days.

Veyron, who had been running nonstop, stopped when he reached the end of the cliff. Then, he quickly dashed through the soldiers and ran to the rear. He looked at the Titans running wildly toward them.

If it were someone else standing in front of them, they would have probably felt like their limbs were numb from the heavy pressure and majesty that these Titans were showing off. However, the one standing in front of them was Veyron. Veyron looked at his enemies with a nonchalant and indifferent gaze as he lifted the spear.

Baaaaaaaang—!

Then, at that moment, the bombs that were stuck in the cracks of the cliffs around them exploded. The explosion soon spread like wildfire in a prairie.

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

A thick cloud of dust rose in the air as the canyon collapsed, burying the charging titans underneath huge rubbles. The celestial dwellers cheered after seeing the titans get buried underneath the rubble.

“Waaaaaaaaaaaaah!”

“Aaaaaaaaaaaaaah!”

“Uwaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!”

A bitter and wry smile painted Veyron’s face when he heard their cheers of joy. *‘I was able to buy a bit more time.’*

The celestial dwellers cheered. However, Veyron knew that titans were weapons that could not be broken or stopped by something like that.

Baaaaang—!

And just like Veyron expected, a titan’s steel arm punched itself out of the rubble. It did not take long for the rest of the Titans to crawl out of the debris.

‘It would take at least two hours for them to finish repairing the Titans. I will use that time to prepare for our last battle in Aembor Fortress.’

Aembor Fortress was an old fortress built around a massive dam abandoned for a long time.

“Everyone, run at full speed toward Aembor Fortress!”

“Yes, sir!”

Aembor Fortress.

Veyron stood at the fortress walls and looked around him.

“Are you alright?”

“I’m fine. I can still fight.”

“Your leg is broken. How can you even fight in that state?”

Soldiers, who seemed to have been friends for a long time, were talking. Some helped and worried about their friends, while others closed their eyes and prayed.

“Irunie... I will protect you,” a soldier prayed as he recalled the face of his wife, who was waiting for him back home. There was no promise of *going back home* in his prayers. He just prayed and promised to *keep her safe* and *protect* her and their child's happiness.

‘We will all die here. However, we will fight until the last minute and buy as much time as possible.’

Boooooooooooooom—!

The celestial dwellers began wielding divine weapons, shooting cannons through the wall gaps.

‘This will be our final resting place.’ Veyron and his celestial dwellers planned to use the divine weapons to defeat as many Titans as possible in this place.

The God’s Cannons could only be fired after gathering enough divine power. Once fired, even the tough and sturdy metal titans would be crushed under their might. Although they might only have twenty God’s Cannons, they were enough to kill the black dwarves.

When Veyron glanced to the side, he saw *it*. It was a magnificent masterpiece, around five meters larger than a titan. Its structure might be similar to a titan, but its quality was different. And its name?

‘Bless.’

Bless was one of the Weapons of the Gods. What was surprising about this was that Production Class Gods created it in the past.

‘They had been mocked and criticized for being weak and useless, unable to participate in war. To prove they could be as strong as the other gods, they gathered together and created this divine weapon called Bless.’

However, there was one problem. No one could operate Bless. The first and foremost reason was that Bless was too old and no longer operational. The second reason was that one had to have an extremely high *DEX* to operate this weapon.

The Production Class Gods weren’t fools. They knew a disaster would unfold if the Combat Class Gods could activate Bless, so they made it so they could only do so.

Thuuud— Thud, thud, thud—!

While Veyron recalled about Bless, the black dwarves finally finished repairing the Titans and were already charging toward them. It was frightening and spectacular to see gigantic titans charging toward the walls of the fortress.

Baaaaaaaang—!

The titans threw spears that stuck throughout the walls of the fortress.

Crack— Crack, crack, crack—!

Boooooooooom—

The entire fortress shook and trembled. But that was not the end. A gigantic spear soon shot toward the walls.

Baaaaaaaaaaaaang—

“Keuaaaaaack!”

“Aaaaaaaaack!”

“Keheoooooooook!”

The impact of the spear was as powerful as that of a nuclear bomb. With just one harpoon, more than a hundred celestial dwellers were swept away and killed.

Thud— Thud, thud, thud, thud—!

Veyron saw a titan charging with a six-meter-long greatsword and looked around him. Everyone was prepared to die. They might be afraid, but their determination was firm and solid.

“Until the very end.”

“Until the very end!”

We will protect the Land of the Gods and the home of the celestial dwellers.

With all his might, Veyron said, “Activate the God’s Cannons!!!”

The cannons all over the walls began gathering divine power at his cries.

Vwoong, vwoong, vwoong, vwooong—!

“...”

The God’s Cannons were so powerful that even War God Veyron was terrified of them. At that moment, the titan holding the greatsword jumped toward the walls.

Vwoooooooooong—

The cannon immediately fired at the titan that slashed at the walls with the greatsword.

Booooooooooom—!

The titan, who received the full force of the cannon, was forced to fly away.

Baaaaaaaaaaaaang—!

The huge impact that collided with the titan sent its body flying back. It was left stuck and crushed against the walls of a mountain a bit further away from the fortress. Sparks flew all over the titan's joints.

“...”

The God's Cannons were much more potent than Veyron had expected.

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

The God's Cannons constantly fired at the Titans charging toward the walls. Veyron was delighted when he saw the cannons render the Titans useless.

‘Perhaps...’

Perhaps they still had a bit of hope. Maybe they could live, too. And that tiny spark of hope also started to sprout in the hearts of the celestial dwellers. However, that hope was soon crushed into nothingness.

Bzzz... bzzz... bzzz...

Bzz... bzzz... bzzz...

The cannons that were just firing divine powers non-stop earlier suddenly stopped working one after another.

“What’s going on?!”

Someone immediately reported the situation to Veyron.

“The God's Cannons have malfunctioned. Perhaps it's because they're too old to be still operational.”

Perhaps this was only a natural outcome. After all, these weapons have not been used nor maintained for thousands of years. And because they came here quickly, they could not first send them for repair and maintenance.

“Go and fix it! Hurry!”

The blacksmiths hurriedly ran to repair the cannons. However, the answer that they received plunged them into the depths of despair.

“It- it cannot be repaired.”

“It's impossible for us to repair the items the gods have created.”

“...We have no other way.”

Veyron's expression grew ugly. They could not fall yet. They needed to drag it longer. If they fell at this point, the black dwarves would immediately go and fight with the gods. If that happened, the Land of the Gods would fall under the hands of the Demon World and the black dwarves.

Baaaaaaang—

However, the Titans arrived near them in just a blink and attacked the walls. Some of the Titans even started to climb up the walls. But that was not all. The specially produced Titans also jumped up on the walls and began to slash and hack at the soldiers with their greatswords.

Veyron heard the screams of the dying celestial dwellers, his eyes turning toward those who were waiting for his commands. They all flashed a small smile at him. Veyron also flashed a small smile at them as he looked up. He saw the birds flying away in the exceptionally blue sky above them. Veyron knew that this would be their final moments.

“Destroy the dam.”

The celestial dwellers nodded at his orders and began to move busily. Why did they choose this fortress? As mentioned before, it was surrounded by a massive dam. If that dam were destroyed, the river would flood and devour the fortress and the Titans charging at it.

Titans were vulnerable to water. Once they were submerged, they lost all function. It would take the black dwarves a few hours to repair and get them running again.

Several celestial dwellers stood in front of Veyron with switches in their hands. Even the others fighting fiercely stopped and gathered around the War God.

“You were still young and foolish when I first saw you.”

“Now, you have become a father and have matured.”

“When I first met Ells, he said he wanted to become one of those amazing Divine Army soldiers. You have already become one. And you are even greater than any other Divine Army soldier.”

“It’s all thanks to you, Lord Veyron.”

Everyone’s breathing grew rough and heavy. The soldiers were all pretending to be calm and forcing themselves to smile in the face of their deaths—however, the faces of those that they wished to see flashed in their heads.

The story of War God Veyron, the hero that protected the Land of the Gods, would now end here.

“Thank you, everyone.”

“Thank you.”

“For War God Veyron!”

“For the Land of the Gods!”

Veyron, holding a switch in his palm, closed his eyes. *‘You and I will all become heroes. Our story would turn into legends and myths.’*

Clang! Clang! Claaaang! Claaaaaaang!

But just when Veyron was about to press the switch, an unknown yet piercing sound rang in their ears. The sound stopped everyone from pressing the switch in their hands, and their heads turned to look toward where the sound was coming from.

There, they saw someone hammering away on the God's Cannon despite their imminent deaths. The man wore ordinary armor and a helmet distributed to the celestial dwellers.

"That's enough. You can stop now." Veyron thought it was this man's last stubbornness and perseverance to live. It felt like the man was telling him he would bet on the God's Cannons until the end. But despite Veyron's words, the man kept hammering the cannon, his swings growing stronger and stronger by the second.

Claaaaaang—! Claaaaaaang—! Claaaaaaaaaang—!

At that moment, a titan suddenly appeared and charged at the man hammering away. The titan tried to cut the man and the cannon in half with his greatsword.

Vwoooooooooooooong—

But then, everyone saw a faint smile flash underneath the helmet of the soldier, who had just finished hammering. At the same time, the broken God's Cannon began to gather divine power once again.

"...!"

"...!"

"...!"

Vwoong, vwoong, vwoong, vwoong—!

The God's Cannon shot the charging titan.

Baaaaaaang—!

The finished story of the heroes, who destroyed the dam as a last-ditch effort and were buried underneath the river, was beginning anew.