

The Herb King

The Herb King #Chapter 211 – 220

Exhausting the Enemies - Read The Herb King Chapter 211 - 211 Exhausting the Enemies

Meanwhile, in the periphery of the valley near Vale City.

Lexter Ford commanded his soldiers to build a temporary camp and let them take a rest. They were already close to Vale City so it was necessary to let the soldiers have an ample amount of sleep so that they can fight in their best shape.

“Send some men to scout the area and tell our men to sleep in shifts.” Lexter Ford felt unsettled for some reason. Their journey was too smooth that it felt so wrong. They didn’t even encounter a scouting team from the Leone Empire.

“Yes, Grand General!”

After his men left, Lexter didn’t enter his tent. He surveyed their surroundings with narrowed eyes and he only looked away after not sensing anything abnormal. “Why do I feel restless?” He muttered to himself as he frowned.

He stared at the dark sky and then outside their temporary camp. It was so dark and he could only hear the eerie blowing of the wind.

He then went back to his tent and grabbed his adjutant who was guarding outside. “Something is wrong. Increase the number of guards and tell them to keep their eyes peeled!” He said.

His adjutant saluted as soon as he got the command. “Yes, Grand General!” The man then left.

Suddenly, Lexter sensed a large number of auras moving in the eastern direction of their camp. “Enemy attack! Prepare for battle!” He shouted loudly, instantly waking up the soldiers who had just fallen asleep.

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He then headed straight into the eastern part of their camp and told his soldiers to be on high alert.

The soldiers of the Ford Empire stared warily at the darkness, but they failed to discover anything.

Lexter also noticed that the auras he sensed earlier vanished. "They left?" He muttered as he furrowed his eyebrows.

He then commanded the soldiers. "I want a hundred of you to follow me. The rest will stay here and stand guard."

Lexter led a hundred men to carefully check the area. He brought them to the place where he last sensed the auras, but when they arrived, they saw the bodies of their scouting team. All of them had gaping wounds on their necks, a clear indication that they died in just one blow. Whoever killed these scouts were either stronger than them or they were skilled assassins!

"Take their bodies back to the camp and send five thousand men to search the area!" Lexter commanded in a cold voice.

"Yes, Grand General!" The soldiers answered.

Lexter stared in a certain direction with narrowed eyes. The enemies moved quickly and quietly. They weren't even able to catch their tail. From the strength of their aura, Lexter believed that those guys were Level 3 Espers who are experts in assassination.

He never would have thought that the Leone Empire would actually initiate an attack on them.

"This looks like a premeditated attack. I have underestimated the Leone Empire..." Lexter muttered with a dark look on his face.

"Commander Ramiel, we have already dispatched the enemy's scouting unit. We are now retreating into the camp." A voice sounded from the Communication Rune.

"Good job! Leave the place immediately and take a rest in the camp. Let the second team prepare to take action!" Ramiel commanded over the Communication Rune.

"Yes, Commander Ramiel!"

Ramiel kept the Communication Rune inside his trousers pocket. He then stared at the man in front of him and said while laughing coldly. "The first team has eliminated the scouting team of the Ford Empire. They must be furious now."

Aethelwolf nodded his head as he tapped his fingers on the table. "The death of their scouting unit would make the soldiers of the Ford Empire furious. They would be on high alert because they would think that there are enemies around the corner. This would make them unable to sleep and even if they could, the second team will disrupt their rest. Their soldiers wouldn't be able to bring out their full fighting prowess if they

are exhausted.” His plan was to make the enemies tired and weary, while most of their soldiers were resting. They would then engage in frontal combat the next day against their fatigued enemies.

Since they were outnumbered by the Ford Empire by more than twice, they needed to fight against them with a clear strategy. This would increase their chances of winning despite the overwhelming disadvantage in numbers.

Ramiel nodded his head in agreement. “Sir Aethelwolf, I’ll take care of the matters here. You should take a rest.”

Aethelwolf shook his head and smiled. “I wouldn’t sleep on such an eventful night. Leave and stay with your men. You have to be there for them to feel at ease.” He patted Ramiel’s shoulder.

“Alright.” Ramiel bowed to him before he left.

After Ramiel went out of the tent, Aethelwolf headed outside and sneakily left the camp. However, noticed that someone was following him. When he turned his head, he saw Aenwyn looking at him with a relaxed expression.

“Where are you going?” Aethelwolf furrowed his eyebrows while looking at her.

The elven princess glanced at him calmly and replied. “I should be the one asking that.”

Hearing her words, Aethelwolf shut his mouth and just allowed her to follow him.

Aenwyn stared at Aethelwolf’s back in surprise. This guy was so adept at concealment that she couldn’t even sense his presence. If he didn’t deliberately slow down for her, she would have already lost sight of him. ‘Just how strong is he? I thought that he only has an item that conceals his strength.’ This this time, she was certain that Aethelwolf wasn’t just a normal Level 4 Esper.

Aethelwolf stood on a branch of a tall tree and looked down at what was happening beneath him. It was dark, but everything was as clear as day to him.

Aenwyn stood beside him and she used her perception skills to watch the scene below.

212 Lexter’s Rage

The person leading the second team was Harold Reynolds and he led his team to the less guarded area of the Ford Empire’s temporary camp.

Using hand signals, he then ordered his soldiers to shoot their arrows into the tents.

Thousands of burning arrows illuminated the dark sky.

Suu! Suu! Suu! Suu! Suu!

The arrowheads were covered in flames and oil, and the moment they came in contact with the tents, they fiercely burned.

The soldiers of the Ford Empire hurriedly summoned their world essence to put out the fire and prevent it from spreading. Chaos ensued and the soldiers started to panic because the fire couldn't be extinguished easily.

Lexter's expression darkened as he looked at the burning camp.

His adjutant walked towards him and reported in a solemn voice. "They coated the arrowheads with a flammable material and only Level 2 Espers could extinguish them."

Veins protruded in Lexter's face as he watched the panicking soldiers. He then opened his mouth and shouted angrily. "Don't panic! Move away from the burning tents and bring the injured to the Doctors!" He then moved his gaze to his adjutant and commanded in a gloomy voice. "Send more men to search the area and kill the bastards who did this!"

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His adjutant nervously nodded his head. "Yes, Grand General!" He then hurriedly left to deliver his command to the soldiers.

"Who is the damnable bastard that planned this?!" Lexter watched their camp as it was engulfed in flames. Rage boiled within him and he couldn't wait to tear off the person responsible for this chaos.

Meanwhile, Harold was retreating with his troops. He then issued a whistling sound and when the soldiers heard this, they all stopped in unison.

Harold gave them a hand signal and everyone immediately shot another rain of burning arrows into the camp of the Ford Empire.

Suu! Suu! Suu! Suu!

This time, the enemy was prepared and they swiftly activated the Defensive Runes that they brought with them which deflected the burning arrows.

"Enemies ahead! Kill them!" An angry shout echoed in the valley and Harold Reynolds immediately commanded his troops to retreat.

They already accomplished their task and they were told not to engage in combat so Harold unhesitatingly retreated with his soldiers.

Their enemies failed to catch them and they could only return with their heads down.

The Leone Empire totally played with them this time and they weren't even able to retaliate. They already have casualties on their side, but not a single soldier of the Leone Empire has been killed yet.

When this news was reported to Lexter, he flew into a rage. "A bunch of trash!"

Meanwhile, Aethelwolf and Aenwyn were watching the scene with interest on top of a tree.

"Those guys allowed us to see a good show. Should we reward them?" Aethelwolf chuckled.

They could still hear Lexter's furious shouts which added more amusement for them.

Harold and his subordinates arrived at the meeting point after more than an hour of running.

Ramiel and the others were already there to fetch them.

"Good job, Sir Harold! You guys should go back to the camp and take a rest. We'll stand guard here." Ramiel said.

Harold heaved a sigh of relief. "You heard him boys! Let's go back to the camp!" He was a bit tired from all the running.

Ramiel watch them leave with a relaxed expression. Everything has been going well for them and this was a good sign. "Sir Aethelwolf's plan is marvelous! Now, the Ford Empire's camp should be in chaos and they wouldn't be able to rest properly after those sneak attacks." He muttered.

"You're right. We are lucky that we have Sir Aethelwolf. Without him, we would still be in Lion City thinking of a possible solution to this war." The old man, Aurus Rayden, sighed.

The tactics that Aethelwolf taught them seemed simple, but no one would have thought of them as easily as Aethelwolf did.

"Stay alert, old man! I'll leave the night duty to you." Ramiel patted the old man's shoulder before he left.

Aurus pointed at his back as he complained. "You! How could you let this old man stay on guard?!"

Ramiel merely waved his hand at him and the old man could only curse him. "Damn that rascal!"

In the Dustin Empire's temporary camp.

George Dustin, the leader of the Dustin Empire's army was an Arch Duke. He is a peak stage Level 4 Esper proficient in using the spear.

He is a man who stood six feet tall. He has a lean figure and he was only wearing a light armor. He wasn't that old, but a portion of his hair had already turned gray.

At this moment, George Dustin was getting impatient since he still hasn't received a piece of news from the Ford Empire's side.

He grabbed his Communication Rune and called Lexter Ford. The call was connected and he could hear the shouting of the soldiers on the other side. "What's happening there? Why do I hear your soldiers shouting?" George asked with furrowed eyebrows.

"We were attacked by the Leone Empire! We will continue as we had planned. Just wait for my signal and stay out of their sight." A rage-filled voice echoed on the other side. George could sense the fury in the other party's tone and realizing Lexter's predicament, he didn't make things difficult for him.

"Alright, but don't make me wait for too long." George said before hanging up the call.

"No wonder that guy has been silent. It seems like the Leone Empire has already discovered them. If the plan goes well, they should be sending a large portion of their troops to support Vale City, and when that time comes, I will lead my army to capture Lion City!" George muttered with a malevolent smile. He then went back to his tent to prepare his items.

He had no idea that they were already spotted by the Leone Empire.

The next day, the camp of the Ford Empire finally stopped burning.

The normal soldiers felt so tired that some of them sprawled on the ground. They weren't able to sleep last night because they stood guard in case the Leone Empire would attack once again. However, no one came after the burning incident and they ended up wasting their time.

Lexter's expression was still dark and gloomy. He stayed up all night, waiting for the enemy to attack, but the damnable bastards didn't come.

"We continue our march!" Lexter shouted.

The soldiers complained in their minds, but they didn't dare voice out anything. Lexter Ford was known for being brutal even to his subordinates so no one dared to cause a ruckus.

Everyone moved into their positions and followed behind Lexter who was riding a Level 3 magical beast mount.

Everyone was on edge, especially after what had happened last night. The soldiers warily scanned the surroundings to check if there was an enemy hiding.

"Grand General, the path ahead is clear. We noticed a large camp about two miles away from here. From the number of their tents, they have approximately fifty thousand soldiers." A scout reported to Lexter.

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Hearing this, Lexter frowned as he thought deeply. He knew that Vale City only had fifty thousand soldiers. That means, no reinforcements were sent to them yet. 'Are they underestimating our Ford Empire?! Let's see if you still dare to underestimate us after we destroy all of you!' He thought angrily.

"What's the terrain over there?" Lexter asked the scout.

"It's at the center of the valley. They constructed a stone wall and there are twenty watchtowers armed with ballistas." The scout answered.

"Where are the other scouts?" Lexter narrowed his eyes as he looked at the scout.

"They are still-"

Puchi!

Lexter stabbed the scout with his sword and the scout smiled strangely at him before he shouted. "The Grand General is attacking his own people!"

In his rage, Lexter grabbed the man's head and tore it off his body. He then crushed the decapitated head under his boot, sending blood and brain matter all over the ground.

"You are too strong to be a scout..." He muttered to himself. This guy was a Level 3 Esper and all the scouts he sent to observe the path ahead of them were only Level 1 Espers.

The soldiers were stunned when they witnessed this scene. Why did the Grand General attack their scout?

When he noticed that some soldiers were clamoring, Lexter frowned as he said. "This is an enemy soldier posing as our scout! Don't be fooled by the enemy!"

The soldiers didn't relax after hearing this and they couldn't help but look at the people beside them.

Seeing this, Lexter's mouth twitched in annoyance. "Dammit!" He cursed under his breath.

Suddenly, he felt that the ground was trembling. He looked up the mountains and saw huge boulders rolling towards them. "Activate the Defensive Runes!"

Rumble! Rumble!

The soldiers also noticed the boulders and they shakily activated the Defensive Runes.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

The Defensive Runes produced a shield of light that prevented the huge boulders from flattening them, but because the inscriptions on the runes were merely made by Level 1 and Level 2 Engravers, they couldn't withstand so many attacks. Cracks formed in some shields and it made the soldiers anxious.

Soon, more boulders rolled down from the top of the mountains, causing the earth to shake intensely.

"Enemy attack!"

"Use your shields to protect your bodies!"

"Don't move out of the formation!"

Lexter didn't let the boulders kill his soldiers. There would be major casualties if he didn't make a move.

He jumped down from his mount and unsheathed his sword. He then waved his sword, sending dozens of wind blades that destroyed the boulders.

Looking at his mighty figure, the soldiers of the Ford Empire recovered their courage.

Lexter ignored the cheering of his subordinates. He lifted his head and looked at the mountains. He saw thousands of people suddenly appearing with bows in their hands.

"Raise your shields!" He hurriedly shouted.

The soldiers quickly raised their shields after hearing his commands and a rain of arrows blotted the sky before falling to them.

Suu! Suu! Suu! Suu!

Suu! Suu! Suu! Suu!

Some normal soldiers who were too tired to lift their shields turned into sieves as the arrows penetrated their bodies.

“Ahhh!!!”

“Heellp!”

“I’m shot! Help me!”

Anguished cries echoed but they soon died down as more arrows fell from the sky.

Even the Defensive Runes they brought with them started breaking and only the Level 3 Runes managed to remain intact.

After the final arrow struck them, thousands upon thousands of cavalries suddenly appeared on top of the mountains and sprinted toward them. They were riding the most ferocious breeds of Equus, making the soldiers of the Ford Empire restless.

“Cavalries!”

“Shields! Spears!”

“Move into formation!”

The person leading the cavalry was a stern-looking old man who was a mid stage Level 4 Esper. He was holding two broadswords that were almost as tall as an adult male. He brandished the two broadswords with ease, killing the soldiers that pounced on him.

Lexter dashed in the direction of the cavalry leader. He had to stop their momentum!

However, the cavalry did a U-turn and retreated into the distance.

Lexter only managed to slay a few dozen slow enemies.

“Fuck*ng bastard! Fight with me!” He bellowed.

“Charge!” Lexter pointed his sword in the direction that the cavalries retreated into. He then jumped back to his mount and urged it to move.

Soon, he caught sight of the cavalry unit and he also saw the enemies camp further ahead. Their camp was surrounded by stone walls and there were more than two dozen watchtowers equipped with ballistas.

Seeing this, Lexter pulled the reins of his mount. "So you guys are hiding here!" He muttered coldly. Now that the enemies were in his sight, he was confident that he could crush them with their overwhelming numbers.

The cavalry unit led by Einar went inside the camp as soon as the huge gate was opened and after all the cavalries entered, the soldiers hurriedly closed the gate.

Seeing this, Lexter wasn't worried. He turned his head to his army and called out. "Summon Gustavo!"

He didn't forget the conversation he had with Gustavo last time. The guy had already promised him that he will lead the front.

Not long later, a grim-looking Gustavo walked towards him. "Grand General!"

Lexter waved his hand and said. "Gustavo, you have made a blunder in the Leone Empire and failed your task. His Majesty might have forgiven you, but you still have to redeem yourself if you want to go back to the Ford Empire. Lead your men and join the frontline unit!"

Gustavo was already expecting this so he wasn't surprised. He just felt bitter that he had to be treated like this even after working tirelessly for the Ford Empire. "I'll follow your commands, Grand General." He lightly lowered his head to hide his bitterness.

Lexter grinned as he looked at Gustavo. "Go and command the troops."

"Yes, Grand General!" Gustavo turned around and stepped forward. He then called the remaining subordinates of the Northern Viper Group as well as the frontline unit. The collective number of his forces was now seventy thousand soldiers, but most of them were just ordinary soldiers so they could only serve as cannon fodders.

While Gustavo was planning how to breach the stone walls of their enemy's camp, Lexter decided to take a short break. Although he looked fine, he still expended a bit of world essence earlier to save the soldiers of the Ford Empire.

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Meanwhile, on the other side, Ramiel gave Einar a thumbs-up for his splendid performance. This old man was always silent, but he has some skills with the broadsword. "I have underestimated you, Sir Einar." He said to the old man.

Einar merely nodded his head at him.

Suddenly, two people walked towards them. They were none other than Aethelwolf and Aenwyn.

“At this moment, the enemies are exhausted so we should use this opportunity to strike them. Ramiel, tell your guys to fire the ballistas and the catapults. Let the archers fire their arrows as well. Once all our ranged weapons are used up, send out the light infantry and the heavy infantry. You should send them in this formation...” Aethelwolf explained to him in great detail and Ramiel kept on nodding his head like a diligent student.

“I’ll follow your arrangements, Sir Aethelwolf. I’ll take my leave now.” Ramiel bowed to him and left to execute Aethelwolf’s suggestions.

When he saw Ramiel leaving in a hurry, Aethelwolf chuckled. “I didn’t know that I had a war maniac under my command.”

“You seem like one yourself.” A calm and angelic voice echoed beside him.

Hearing this, Aethelwolf was stunned and he started to doubt himself. Was he also a war maniac? He wanted to deny her words, but for some reason, he enjoyed looking at their enemies suffer. ‘Perhaps she might be right...’ He thought to himself.

In the Lion City camp, Duke Baron stared at the first prince with a blank look on his face. “Your Highness, why did you not go with Sir Aethelwolf and Sir Ramiel? Didn’t we already discuss that you will join them?” He was a bit exasperated by the prince’s relaxed attitude. They were at war, but it seemed like Prince Renz wasn’t treating things seriously.

Prince Renz didn’t have his usual lazy appearance. He had a dignified look on his face as he replied. “You’re right, Sir Baron. I was supposed to go with Sir Ramiel’s group, but since Sir Aethelwolf is already with him, I think there wasn’t a need for me to be there. Besides, the Dustin Empire would attack the capital soon and we need more soldiers here.” He wasn’t worried about Vale City at all. He believed that as long as Aethelwolf was there, Vale City would never fall.

Duke Baron felt the sudden change in the first prince’s temperament and he felt as if he was looking at a different person. This guy was known as a drunkard by everyone so it was surprising to see him act all serious. “Your Highness, with all due respect, even if the Dustin Empire attacks us now, they wouldn’t be able to breach Lion City.” As he was speaking, he noticed the Two Lion Sword tied on the prince’s waist. This was the symbol of the Leone Empire’s power and stability, but it was now in the hands of this slovenly prince.

Prince Renz frowned after hearing the duke’s arrogant words. “Sir Baron, don’t underestimate the Dustin Empire. I heard that they have been training a new flying unit in their army for several years now. Do you know about it?” The prince asked sharply.

Duke Baron furrowed his eyebrows, but he still nodded his head. "I've heard about their Ice Wyvern Battalion. They have one thousand Level 3 Ice Wyverns and the soldiers riding them are also Level 3 Espers. That battalion is the strongest fighting force of the Dustin Empire." He answered. As a Duke, he knew of some valuable information related to the other empires so he had some knowledge about the Dustin Empire's Ice Wyvern Battalion.

Prince Renz sighed and shook his head after hearing the Duke's words. "What you have is a piece of outdated information, Sir Baron. The Dustin Empire was heavily nurturing this battalion and their numbers had already increased to five thousand! Other than that, the man leading them is George Dustin, a peak stage Level 4 Esper. He is an Arch Duke of the Dustin Empire and a member of the Dustin Imperial Family! That guy's mount is a Level 4 Ice Wyvern! Do you know what that means?!"

Duke Baron was stunned into silence by the prince's words.

"That means the Dustin Empire has an aerial superiority. Our Leone Empire doesn't even have its own aerial unit so we wouldn't be able to hold them off. The only way to fight back against their Ice Wyvern Battalion is to use the defensive might of our Lion City. We have tall walls equipped with the most fearsome weapons and runes! This is our advantage over them so we have to use it well!"

Duke Baron was speechless as he looked at the first prince. Was this still the guy who always looked lethargic and tired?

"As for why I stayed here, you need my strength." Prince Renz paused and revealed his aura to the Duke which made the latter stunned.

"Peak stage Level 4 Esper! How could this be?!" Duke Baron stared at the prince with a dumbfounded look on his face. He never would have thought that the man known to everyone as the drunkard prince was actually a terrifying expert!

"Please forgive my impertinence, Your Highness!" The Duke lightly bowed his head to show his respect. He finally knew why the emperor left the family heirloom to Prince Renz. It wasn't to prevent a dispute between Prince Christopher and Prince Calvin, but because Prince Renz was the only person suitable to hold it!

Prince Renz patted the Duke's shoulder. "We should reorganize the army to prepare for the Dustin Empire's attack."

After the prince's reveal of power, Duke Baron became more respectful to him. "Yes, Your Highness! I'll inform the commanders right away!"

Prince Renz nodded his head.

Seeing that the prince has gone silent, Duke Baron used the chance to excuse himself. He bowed to Prince Renz and left.

“What’s happened on your side, Sir Aethelwolf?” The prince stared into the distance with a deep look on his face.

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Meanwhile, in the estate of the Urgel Household. Julie Irish was busy organizing some documents when she heard the knocking on her door.

Knock! Knock! Knock!

Julie Irish put down the documents and said. “You may enter.”

Grace entered her study and looked at her sister who was buried in a pile of documents with a hint of pity. At such a young age, her elder sister had to handle a lot of matters for their household.

When Julie Irish saw her younger sister, she let out a smile. “Why did you come here?” She asked as she poured herself some coffee. “Would you like some?”

Grace declined her offer and said. “There is a letter for you from an anonymous sender.” She took out a piece of paper that was sealed with the Urgel Household’s imprint.

Seeing this, Julie’s face turned serious and she immediately took the letter from her younger sister’s hands. “Let me see it.”

Grace was surprised by her elder sister’s impatience. It was rare to see her act like this since her elder sister was a calm person. The contents of the letter made her more curious. “Sister, where did that come from?” She asked.

Julie Irish looked at Grace and answered. “Do you remember when I said that I was investigating the Maynard Household?”

Grace nodded her head.

“This letter is from a subordinate I sent to observe them.” Julie Irish said before opening the letter. She read the contents carefully.

After reading everything, she crumpled the paper and burned it with her world essence.

“Why are you investigating them? You weren’t interested in them before.” Grace didn’t know why her elder sister was investigating the Maynard Household and when she saw the seriousness on her face the moment she read the letter, it made her even more suspicious.

“Sit down first.”

Grace sat down and looked at Julie Irish silently.

“Do you know Enrique Maynard?” Julie Irish asked.

Grace pondered for a moment after she heard the name and she eventually nodded her head. “He is the son of the Maynard Household’s family head. From what I know, Sir Enrique Maynard is a Level 3 Blacksmith.”

“Enrique Maynard is dead and this person is Aethelwolf’s friend. I investigated the Maynard Household to help him know the truth behind Enrique’s death.” Julie Irish said.

Grace smirked when Aethelwolf’s name came out of her sister’s mouth. “Ah, so it was for Sir Aethelwolf. I was wondering why you are suddenly doing something strange.” She knew that her elder sister has a complicated relationship with Aethelwol. Grace wasn’t sure if her elder sister liked him, but she was definitely showing interest in that person.

Julie Irish glared at her and continued. “Recently, I heard that Enrique was murdered, but it was covered up by the Maynard Household. Strange right? After investigating further, I found out that the culprit is actually one of the heirs. When I told Aethelwolf about this, he suspected that it was done by Joseph and he ended up guessing it correctly. It was indeed done by Joseph Maynard. Without Enrique in his way, the Maynard Household would end up in his hands. As for the contents of the letter, it’s like this...” Julie Irish paused before she continued. “Aethelwolf asked me to investigate a man named Chris Maynard. Apparently, this guy is the manager of Enrique’s weapon shop. Turns out that Chris is still alive and is being held captive by the Maynard Household as the suspect of Enrique’s death.”

Grace felt her head aching from the complicated events happening in the Maynard Household. “So that guy Chris is being framed, and Joseph who is the true culprit of the murder is still walking in broad daylight. Did I get it right?”

Julie Irish nodded her head. “I have to inform Aethelwolf about this. Chris is also one of his friends so he has to know about this.” She said urgently.

Hearing her words, Grace shook her head and said. “That won’t be possible. I heard from Janrose that Sir Aethelwolf left the Lassiter Household’s estate with Olivia. She said that they went to the camp outside Lion City.” Janrose was her classmate so they talked a lot about private things and this was something they discussed.

Julie Irish stood up in surprise. "What is he planning to do there? He even brought his daughter with him."

Grace shrugged her shoulders. "Don't ask me. I also don't know why."

Julie Irish kept the documents inside her drawer as she said. "I have to tell him the information before it's too late. Chris might not be able to survive in the prison of the Maynard Household." She then walked out of the room with quick strides.

"Hey! Wait for me!"

In the valley outside Vale City, the battle between the Ford Empire and Ramiel's fifty-thousand soldiers has already begun.

As the commander of the frontline unit, Gustavo first sent the normal soldiers to test out the waters. He also did this to exhaust the enemies, but his soldiers were already so tired after the repeated attacks of the Leone Empire's soldiers so most of them collapsed after getting struck by arrows.

The casualties on the side of the Ford Empire steadily increased as the battle continued, while only a few unlucky soldiers of the Leone Empire died since they were protected by the stone walls.

This lopsided battle went on for several hours and more soldiers died on the battlefield. The corpses of the fallen soldier littered the ground, creating a terrifying image when seen from an aerial view.

"This can't go on. Our soldiers would lose their morale if I don't do anything! Dammit!" Gustavo cursed anxiously as he looked at the battlefield.

Seeing their predicament, Gustavo stood up and shouted a series of commands. "Send the Espers to support our troops and tell them to breach that stone wall as soon as possible! They must open the gates so that the rest of our soldiers can enter!"

Their only hope to turn the tides was for someone to open the gates of the stone fortress so that their soldiers could advance.

Soon the Espers started moving and they joined the battlefield. Upon their arrival, the soldiers of the Leone Empire were being pushed back!

The Espers were like lions who entered a farm filled with lambs. They were slaughtering their enemies with quick movements.

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Suddenly, the Leone Empire's soldiers started retreating and Ford Empire's soldiers used this opportunity to scale through the stone walls using long ladders.

However, soldiers abruptly appeared on top of the stone walls and threw large stones and molten iron at the climbing soldiers.

"Ahhh!"

"Help! I'm burning! Ahhh!"

"It's so hot! Ahhh!! Help me!!!"

Screams of pain echoed amidst the fierce fighting, but neither side stopped.

Meanwhile, Aethelwolf and Aenwyn were looking at this scene above the mountains. They both had indifferent expressions on their faces as they watched the bloody war.

Aethelwolf already experienced his first battle in Barden City, but the scale in today's war was many times bigger compared to what he experienced back then.

"I used to look down on you humans for always fighting amongst yourselves, but I can't say that now." Aenwyn muttered ironically. She found out that even the elves would fight amongst themselves for benefits. This was proven after her brother staged a rebellion against their mother, the Queen.

Aethelwolf glanced at her and didn't say anything. He just turned his gaze back to the battlefield.

The battle was still at a stalemate, but the Ford Empire's side was losing more soldiers. Because of the Leone Empire's territorial advantage, they managed to fight back ferociously against the Ford Empire. Even the Espers sent by Gustavo were helpless against their fearsome ranged weapons.

Behind the stone walls, a soldier bowed to Ramiel and reported with a grim voice. "Commander, our arrows are running low and the special giant arrows used to load the ballistas are almost used up. The catapults are still usable, but the number of large stones we prepared will be consumed in one hour if the rate of usage continues."

Hearing this, Ramiel and the other commanders furrowed their eyebrows. Some of them showed anxious expressions and only a few of them could remain calm. After all, they could only maintain their slight advantage because they were prepared, but if their arrows were used up, they would be forced to fight the enemies in melee combat.

A middle-aged general stepped forward and solemnly said. "Sir Ramiel, just give me the command and I'll lead my Flame Tiger Army to the frontlines!" If Aethelwolf was here, he would have recognized this man for he is General Gavin. Last time, when he

followed his father to the battlefield in Barden City, he helped the Flame Tiger Army fight against one of the top leaders of the Northern Viper Group.

“I’ll also join the frontline unit.” An aged voice echoed and everyone saw an old man wearing an eyepatch. This person is General Robert and he is the oldest general of the Leone Empire. He is well-respected in the empire because of his accomplishments and even the imperial family was respectful to him.

After seeing that General Robert and General Gavin were both willing to face the most danger, the other commanders felt ashamed of themselves.

Ramiel raised his hand and the crowd immediately quieted down. “Our scouts noticed the light infantry of the Ford Empire and their approximate number is around seventy thousand. Most of them are composed of normal soldiers so their fighting prowess isn’t that strong. Our frontline unit will be confronting them soon. The forces of General Gavin and General Robert aren’t enough to fight against them so I will go to the battlefield myself!”

Hearing this, the commanders were stunned.

“Commander Ramiel, we need you here in the camp! You can’t go out personally!”

“Commander, no one else would be left to command the soldiers if you’re not here!”

Voices of disagreement drifted into Ramiel’s ears, but he ignored them. “This is a command from your Legion Commander!” He shouted harshly which immediately silence everyone.

Ramiel wasn’t acting rashly by doing this. In fact, he had thought things through.

Among the Level 4 Espers present, he was one of the weakest. They needed to preserve their strongest force for the climax of the battle.

“While I’m away, Sir Harold will take command. Make sure that you guys will listen to him!” He gave them a hard look as he said this. He then turned his head to General Gavin and General Robert as he said. “You two, follow me! It’s time for us to make a move!”

“Yes, Commander!” General Gavin and General Robert answered in unison.

Harold and the others could only stare at the three receding figures with heavy looks on their faces.

217 War Continues

“Place the traps in the entrance and prepare our javelin unit! Shields forward! Porcupine formation!” Ramiel issued a series of commands and the soldiers snappily executed them.

The porcupine formation was something that Aethelwolf taught them. The soldiers would form a box shape with their shields to protect everyone inside the formation and they would slip their long spears through the gaps between the shields. When they were training, they thought that it was silly and useless in the face of Espers, but when they executed the formation, they found out that it was effective with the support of Defensive Runes.

Meanwhile, the javelin unit was already prepared. They lifted their javelins over their shoulders as they stared at the giant gate.

On the other hand, General Robert’s army which was composed mostly of dual-wielding infantry soldiers was on standby.

The combined number of their soldiers, including General Gavin’s Flame Tiger Army, was only around twenty thousand and they would be facing seventy thousand enemies!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The gate of their camp was being fiercely bombarded by their enemies and it was already showing signs of breaking apart.

Looking at this, the soldiers of the javelin unit tensely held their weapons. The moment the enemy breaks through the gate, they would immediately throw their javelins at them.

Legion Commander Ramiel, General Gavin, and General Robert stared at the gate with cold expressions on their faces.

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BANG!

The gate was finally blasted into smithereens and a large number of attackers entered. Their maddened shouts echoed throughout the camp, making the soldiers of the Leone Empire a bit nervous.

“Javelin Unit, kill them!” Ramiel shouted in a booming voice and as soon as he said the command, the soldiers of the Javelin Unit threw their sharp weapons with all their might toward the attackers.

Suu! Suu! Suu!

The first attacking soldiers of the Ford Empire cowered when they saw thousands of javelins thrown in their direction.

“Noo!!”

“Ahhh!!!”

However, most of them ignored the threatening volley of javelins. They charged through without fear while holding their swords and shields.

Puchi! Puchi! Puchi! Puchi!

A huge number of the attackers were penetrated by the javelins, nailing them in place! Some of them were still alive and they cried out in pain.

“H-Help!”

Despite their cries for help, no one offered any assistance. This was war and a slight mistake would cost them their lives so everyone was careful.

There were some attackers who managed to evade the fearsome javelins, but they were eventually killed by the soldiers who were in porcupine formation.

“What kind of formation is that?!”

“How can we kill them?!”

More and more attackers entered and they all saw the horrifying rain of javelins as well as the impenetrable porcupine formation.

Suddenly, Vhincet, one of the Vice Leaders of the Northern Viper Group, arrived at the scene and he also witnessed what was happening. “Raise your shield and scatter! Attack!” He shouted as he charged along with his soldiers.

“Kill!”

“Kill!”

Vhincet wasn't the sole Level 4 Esper who arrived to support the frontline unit, there were four more experts who came with him. The strongest among them was even a late stage Level 4 Esper!

Seeing the arrival of the experts, Ramiel and the other two nodded at each other before making a move. They decided to confront the five experts!

Vhincet smirked coldly when he saw this. "There are just three of them! Let's kill them and take their heads to the Grand General!" He shouted vigorously.

The other four experts laughed coldly as they took out their weapons.

Soon, the experts started clashing and their battle was so intense that it caused the ground beneath them to fracture!

General Robert was facing the late stage Level 4 Esper and an early stage Level 4 Esper. He was strong, but because he was fighting against two enemies, he found it hard to counterattack. He could only try to parry the attacks of the experts.

Ramiel was also facing two experts and one of them was Vhincet who was a mid stage Level 4 Esper. The guy was one small level stronger than Ramiel so he was also at a disadvantage.

On the other hand, General Gavin was facing another mid stage Level 4 Esper.

Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!

Vhincet frowned as he looked at Ramiel. The man was weaker than him in terms of level, but they couldn't push him back at all. He was like a solid fortress, unbreakable and mighty.

Ramiel was equipped with Aethelwolf's unique creations so he was able to fight tooth and nail against two experts.

He brandished his mace like it was nothing. Each movement of his mace created a violent wind that threatened to slice through his enemies!

Bang!

The expert who was together with Vhincet was struck by the giant mace which instantly smashed his head.

Seeing the sudden death of his comrade, Vhincet was shocked to his core. The sheer power behind Ramiel's mace was so intimidating that it made the hair all over his body stand on end.

Vhincet quickly pounced toward Ramiel when the man was still propping his mace. He raised his weapon and aimed for Ramiel's neck!

Clang!

Ramiel managed to block his attack with his shield and the resulting force of their clash created a shockwave.

Vhincient felt his hand vibrating after his attack was blocked.

“Dammit! This guy is so hard to kill!” He muttered coldly as he glared at the heavily armed Ramiel.

While the experts were fighting, their soldiers were also engaged in a fearsome battle. Their loud battle cry echoed throughout the battlefield, shaking the nerves of everyone.

Blood and mutilated body parts littered the ground.

The death toll increased as the fearsome battle between the two sides continued.

The once peaceful valley became the graveyard of these brave soldiers.

Soon, the sun disappeared and the sky was enveloped by darkness. However, the horrible collision between the two armies didn't stop...

218 George's Impatience

George was getting impatient. He still hasn't gotten any news from Lexter and today was supposed to be the day that they would discuss their final plan. However, Lexter showed no signs of calling him.

When evening arrived, his Communication Rune suddenly lit up. He immediately activated the rune and a calm voice soon echoed. “George, let me apologize first for not being able to call you on time.” He could hear Lexter's apologetic tone on the other side and this made his anger subside.

“The reason why I can't make the call earlier was that we were battling with the Leone Empire's army. The bastards prepared some traps for us and many of our soldiers were killed so you have to be careful out there. Maybe they have already discovered your tracks as well.” Lexter warned him in a solemn tone.

After hearing his words, George nodded his head. “I know. I have already dispatched thousands of scouts to monitor our surroundings. As soon as they discover someone from the Leone Empire, we would be notified right away.” Suddenly, he frowned after saying those words. He could hear the fierce fighting over the Communication Rune. It was already late at night, but the other side was still in battle with the Leone Empire.

“It seems like your boys are quite busy over there.” George muttered.

“We have underestimated the military might of the Leone Empire. Who would have thought that they actually have a brilliant strategist in their midst? It is because of that guy that we lost a lot of soldiers. I really want to meet that guy.” There was a hint of curiosity in Lexter's voice.

“A strategist? That’s indeed surprising. By the way, did those bastards ask for reinforcements? My men are starting to get restless and they are dying for some action.” George asked.

“Not yet, but they should be close to reaching that point. They have some fearsome warriors on their side so it’s taking a bit of time to penetrate their camp. I’ve sent a spy to Lion City and I’ll inform you once they send reinforcements to Vale City.” Lexter replied.

“Alright. I’ll wait for your good news.” George dropped the call after that. He was slowly getting impatient, but he didn’t blame Lexter since he also noticed the peculiarities of the Leone Empire’s army through their conversation.

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Meanwhile, Lexter was seated inside his tent when he heard the voice of his adjutant.

“Grand General, I’m here to deliver a report.”

Lexter adjusted his uniform and said. “Come inside.”

The adjutant entered the tent and he saluted as soon as he saw Lexter. He then walked towards him and handed him a piece of paper. “Our frontline unit has breached the gate of our enemy’s camp and they are still fighting with their melee unit now. We have forty thousand casualties on our side. Approximately twenty-seven thousand of our soldiers have died and the others are either seriously injured or mildly injured. They are now resting in our medical tents...”

While the adjutant was speaking, Lexter was reading the piece of paper that contains detailed information about their losses. He found it surprising that they had so many casualties on the first day of the war. What made him even more shocked was that their frontline unit was only facing twenty thousand enemy soldiers! That was less than a third of their number and they were still on the losing end!

“What kind of bullshit is this?! Even with our huge advantage in numbers, we are still losing?! We even lost one Level 4 Esper! Goddammit! What is Gustavo doing?!” Lexter shouted angrily.

The adjutant could only lower his head in silence.

“Tell Gustavo that we need to crush the twenty thousand advance force of the enemy. Send him another twenty thousand soldiers. You can send our Iron Elephant Army as well. Let’s see if those bastards still won’t die!” Lexter muttered with a dark look.

Hearing this, the adjutant couldn't help but raise his head in surprise. "Send the Iron Elephant Army? But Grand General, they are our best fighting force. It would be bad if we lost a lot of them..."

Lexter glared at the adjutant which scared the latter. "Just follow what you are ordered to do! Leave!" He dismissed the adjutant.

The poor guy immediately left his tent.

After the adjutant left, Lexter fell into silence. He knew the quality of their soldiers. Although the soldiers he sent to Gustavo were mostly comprised of ordinary men, there were still thousands of Espers among them. This kind of lineup should have been enough to kill twenty thousand soldiers, so how did the Leone Empire survive until now?

'Did they send their experts to fight against those ordinary soldiers?'

'No. That's not possible. Their strategist is a cunning person so he shouldn't have made this kind of stupid mistake. The only possibility is that they used some kind of tactic once again to balance out the difference in number.' Lexter frowned as he thought of this. A strategy that could defy the huge difference in quantity was by no means easy to formulate. This time, he started to feel a hint of fear toward their strategist.

At first, he wanted to meet this person and invite him to join their Ford Empire, but he suddenly wanted to kill that guy to prevent future troubles from appearing.

"Once our Iron Elephant Army strikes them, those bastards would certainly retreat and call for reinforcements. I'll ask Gustavo to capture some of the Leone Empire's high-ranking officers and ask them who their strategist is." Lexter muttered to himself as he stood up from his seat. He then got out of the tent and looked at the battlefield.

It was dark, but he could still hear the violent clashing of weapons from afar. He even wondered how those soldiers were fighting in the darkness.

The Espers were fine since they could use their superior eyesight to see what was happening in the darkness, but the ordinary soldiers weren't the same.

"Tomorrow, we will gain the upper hand." He muttered in a calm voice.

In the middle of the evening, Ramiel returned with General Gavin and General Robert. They weren't able to kill any of the remaining four experts and those guys retreated after knowing that they wouldn't be able to kill them.

Ramiel was unhurt because he was protected by a Unique-Rated armor and he even has a Unique-Rated shield that almost made him unkillable.

On the other hand, both General Gavin and General Robert were covered in injuries. Although they only had superficial wounds, they still hurt a lot.

“Commander Ramiel, General Gavin, General Robert! It’s good to see you guys back! We were worried about you!”

“You guys should head to the medical staff and have them tend to your wounds!”

The others were guilty when they saw the wounds on General Gavin and General Robert. They could already imagine how fearsome the battle was when they saw the degree of their injuries.

“We heard from the scouts that Commander Ramiel eliminated one of their Level 4 Espers!”

“Our commander is mighty!”

Their faces were filled with admiration as they said this.

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Ramiel remained calm under their praises. He was neither sad nor happy about today’s battle. In fact, he was not satisfied with his performance. He could have killed Vhincant, but the other party managed to escape from him. It was so infuriating the more he thought about it.

Seeing that Ramiel was silent, the others didn’t dare speak. They could sense that he was not in the mood to speak with them.

A moment later, Ramiel turned his head to the two injured generals who had fought with him. “You two did great today. You should go to our medical staff and have them look at your injuries. You need to recuperate since I still need you two in the next few days.” He muttered to them.

When they heard Ramiel’s words, they felt a bit embarrassed. They were on the defensive earlier and they couldn’t even inflict serious damage on their opponents. It was a far cry compared to Ramiel who killed one Level 4 Esper. However, they were happy that they were of help to him.

“I can still fight, Commander! These injuries are nothing!” General Gavin said confidently.

Ramiel patted his shoulders and the guy immediately winced in pain.

The others chuckled when they saw him acting tough, but they also admired his bravery. General Gavin was only an early stage Level 4 Esper, but he definitely had the guts of steel! They felt ashamed of themselves as they thought about this.

“General Robert, please take him to the medical room.” Ramiel shook his head with a smile.

General Robert nodded his head. “Yes, Commander.” His admiration towards Ramiel increased significantly after today’s battle. He never thought that their Commander was actually so strong despite his level being lower than most of the Level 4 Espers present.

The old general supported General Gavin as they left.

While looking at the two, Ramiel suddenly said. “Those two fought hard today, but they wouldn’t be able to fight in their best state with their current condition. Tomorrow, there will be another violent battle against the Ford Empire’s experts, I need you guys to help me.”

“Commander Ramiel, this old man is done resting. I will go with you to the battlefield tomorrow!” Aurus said.

Harold Reynolds also stepped forward and said. “I will go with you as well, Commander! There is no use for me to stay here. I will only feel restless if I stay in the camp.”

“Me too! I won’t stay in the camp this time! I want to fight!”

“I will go too!”

This time, all the commanders present offered their assistance.

Ramiel smiled when he saw this. He then shifted his gaze to a stern-looking old man who had remained silent all this time. “What about you, Sir Einar? Do you want to join us?” He asked respectfully.

This old man was a new member of the Lassiter Household, but Aethelwolf valued him because of his work ethic. However, the reason why he respected this old man was because of his strength! Now that he possesses the items given by Aethelwolf, it could be said that he was the strongest man in their camp with the exception of Aethelwolf and Aenwyn whose whereabouts were unknown.

Einar looked at Ramiel and nodded his head. “Just leave someone to protect the young miss.” He replied.

“No problem! I’ll send a team of guards to protect the young miss.” Ramiel agreed without hesitation.

The other commanders were a bit surprised by how their commander valued this old man. They knew that he came with Aethelwolf and he was someone from the Lassiter Household. They also witnessed some of the old man's abilities when he led their cavalry unit, but they didn't see him use his full strength so they had no idea how strong he really was.

Ramiel scanned the people inside the tent and said. "Tomorrow, we will execute the next part of the plan. This is crucial since we have to make the Ford Empire and the Dustin Empire believe that we are waiting for reinforcements so we need to collaborate well with the chief's army. Everything must be done carefully to prevent our enemies from becoming suspicious."

The commanders were already informed about the plan so they nodded their heads seriously.

"Yes, Commander!"

Ramiel took out his Communication Rune and called Duke Baron.

The Communication Rune lit up and the Duke's voice soon drifted into their ears. "Commander Ramiel, how's everything on your side?"

"We managed to tide through without any major problems. Chief, we will execute the next part of our plan tomorrow." Ramiel replied solemnly.

"Oh? Is it finally our turn to fight? We are ready! Just call me if there's anything urgent." Duke Baron's voice contained a hint of excitement.

"Yeah. Good luck to all of us!" Ramiel said before he dropped the call.

"The rest of you, return to your tents and take a rest! There will be a tough battle tomorrow!"

"Yes, Commander!"

In the camp of the main army in Lion City, Duke Baron kept his Communication Rune with a cold smile on his face.

"You seem to be in a good mood, Sir Baron. What did Sir Ramiel say?" Prince Renz looked at him with an amused expression.

Duke Baron turned his gaze to the prince and chuckled as he nodded his head. "Your Highness, Sir Ramiel told me that we are now executing the next part of Sir Aethelwolf's plan."

Hearing this, Prince Renz also started laughing coldly. “So it’s finally time for us to make a move, huh?” He couldn’t wait to decimate the Dustin Empire who came with malicious intentions. He was also eager to show the world his true power!

“Let’s see who would dare to attack our empire after we drive off the Ford Empire and the Dustin Empire! I believe the other neighboring empires are also watching from the sidelines. If we win this war, no one would dare to take us lightly anymore.” Duke Baron snorted.

Prince Renz nodded his head in agreement. “You are right. This war will be beneficial for us, but we must not forget that without the sacrifice of our soldiers, we wouldn’t be able to accomplish anything. Make sure that the soldiers are properly compensated and the families of our comrades will get three times the compensation and they will receive more benefits from the Leone Imperial Family! I will also make sure that their children will be admitted to the Mystic Arcana Institute of Magic.”

“Yes, Your Highness!” Duke Baron answered without hesitation. He was happy that Prince Renz was placing more importance on their warriors. He also admired the prince for his benevolence and depth of mind. Once the news about the benefits received by the soldiers was made public, the citizens would be more loyal to the Leone Empire and the Leone Imperial Family would be respected by everyone. He was certain that more soldiers would apply to the main army when that happens. It was like killing many birds with just one stone!

The next day, thirty thousand soldiers from the Lion City army camp marched in the direction of Vale City. They marched in broad daylight so some travelers and merchants saw them.

This news immediately entered the ears of the spy sent by Lexter Ford and he hurriedly reported it to the Grand General.

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As soon as the call connected, he eagerly reported. “Grand General, Lion City sent thirty thousand soldiers to Vale City! They left early this morning! I have already confirmed this and they are indeed headed to Vale City. The person leading them is Prince Renz, the indolent first prince of the Leone Empire! He even brought their elite force, the Black Lion Army!”

Meanwhile, Lexter Ford who heard this news abruptly stood up from his seat in his excitement. He then started laughing. “Good! Good! Good!”

“Good job! Monitor their movements and send me another report tonight.”

“Yes, Grand General!”

Lexter disconnected the call.

There was a cold smile on his face as he muttered. "I thought I still had to go to Lion City after this, but it seems like there is no need for such troubles. That damnable fool of a prince is actually sending himself to my doorstep."

The real reason why the Ford Empire initiated this attack was that the Divine-Rated artifact in their possession was destroyed in an accident. They even tried to restore it, but the restoration failed. After the failure to restore their Divine-Rated artifact, Lexter Fors suggested hiring the service of a Level 5 Blacksmith from another empire, but this was immediately rejected by Emperor Ludwig Ford because it was very dangerous for this news to be exposed. Once the other empires learned that they have lost their Divine-Rated artifact, the Ford Empire would face their covetous eyes and they would even be potentially attacked. Before it would come to that point, the only option left for them was to attack another empire and steal their Divine-Rated artifact. It just so happened that the Leone Empire was the perfect prey for them.

"Grand General! I'm here for a report!"

Lexter Ford came back to his senses when he heard the voice of his subordinate.

"Come in." He said.

A soldier entered the tent and reported. "Grand General, our Iron Elephant Army is already in formation. They are only waiting for your command to make a move."

Hearing this, Lexter nodded his head. "Tell Gustavo to lead the Iron Elephant Army!" He commanded in a stern voice.

"Yes, Grand General!" The soldier nodded his head respectfully before he left the tent.

As soon as the messenger left, Lexter took a seat and adjusted into a more comfortable sitting posture.

Soon, his laughter echoed inside the tent and even the soldiers outside could hear this.

In the medical room of Ramiel's army, Aethelwolf and Aenwyn decided to visit the injured soldiers. Their arrival sparked the curiosity of the Doctors and nurses on duty, but they were too busy to ask them questions.

Aethelwolf stared at the soldiers with a calm look, but he inwardly sighed. Despite the current advantage they hold, there were still some casualties on their side.

At this moment, hundreds of soldiers were inside the medical room and all of them had varying degrees of injuries. Some only had minor wounds, but there were also those with serious injuries.

Seeing this, Aethelwolf shook his head as he muttered. "Let's help them. I know that you high elves could borrow the power of nature to use a healing skill."

Aenwyn looked at him in surprise. "You know a lot of things." She said.

Aethelwolf chuckled in his heart. 'How could I not know? I know all your skills...' He thought to himself in amusement.

He then grabbed an idle Doctor and handed him a big box which surprised the man.

"What is this?" The Doctor asked him.

"Just some pills. Give them to the seriously injured soldiers. We will handle the ones with relatively minor injuries." Aethelwolf replied to the Doctor before grabbing Aenwyn with him.

They then started helping the soldiers. Aenwyn used her healing skill, while Aethelwolf took out his spare medicinal herbs.

In truth, Aethelwolf could also use a healing skill to treat the soldiers, but he didn't want to use up his world essence in case an emergency comes up. He could only use the medicinal herbs he saved up.

Their presence lessened the burden of the Doctors and nurses.

Aenwyn could borrow the power of nature to heal others, but it consumed a lot of world essence so she was quite slow in treating the soldiers. However, the soldiers who were healed by her treated the elven princess as their goddess and thanked her repeatedly. Their previous misconceptions about the elves also changed after receiving her help.

Meanwhile, Aethelwolf was leisurely smearing medicinal pastes to the soldiers. He already knows a lot about the herbs of this magical world so treating these soldiers who were only mildly injured was just a piece of cake to him. If he couldn't even treat these guys, he would be ashamed of his identity as the herb king in his previous life.

"Thank you so much, sir! Thank you so much for saving my life!"

Aethelwolf smiled at the grateful soldier. "You don't have to thank me. I'm merely doing this as a citizen of the Leone Empire." He said.

The surrounding soldiers looked at him in admiration when they heard his words.

“Sir, could you please tell us your name? We really want to thank you.” One of the soldiers asked. Most of the soldiers here weren’t from Lion City so they could identify who Aethelwolf was. They only thought that he was a skilled Doctor because of his proficiency in using medicinal herbs.

Hearing this, Aethelwolf gave them a warm smile as he replied. “My name is Aethelwolf. Aethelwolf Lassiter.”

“Aethelwolf? Why is this name so familiar...”

“Right. I seem to have heard this name somewhere...”

Suddenly, the eyes of the Doctors and nurses bulged as they looked at Aethelwolf. “Are you Sir Aethelwolf Lassiter from Lion City, the youngest Level 4 Alchemist in our Leone Empire?!”

Aethelwolf nodded his head as he chuckled. “That’s right.”

After seeing him nod their heads, everyone gasped in surprise. A Level 4 Alchemist actually came to the medical room in person to treat the injured soldiers! It was so hard to believe it, but the evidence was already in front of their eyes.

“So it’s Sir Aethelwolf! Now, I finally remember!”

“Thank you so much, Sir Aethelwolf!”

“Thank you so much, Miss Elf!”

Everyone thanked Aethelwolf and Aenwyn once again.

Aethelwolf turned his head to the elven princess and whispered to her. “These guys are grateful to you.”

The elven princess didn’t say anything, but she suddenly let out a smile that dazzled everyone inside the medical room. Her smile was so beautiful that they had even forgotten the injuries in their bodies.