

Level 0 Master - Chapter 141

Pandora couldn't understand why Sungjin decided to take the challenge right away.

My heartbeat has elevated.

Pandora tried to understand why her heartbeat had elevated.

Search completed. I'm in an excited state.

And it was because of Sungjin.

"But you will still proceed with your challenge. Is that it?"

"There are a thousand years that are promised to me that I can enjoy, but not for the people who are living with me now."

"It is predicted that your era will be an age of peace compared to any other era..."

"I know. I also know that the world I'm trying to create wouldn't be a much better and peaceful world compared to the world where I rule with my power."

Sungjin knew it well through his experience on earth. Democracy, natural human rights, and equality for everyone. They all sounded amazing, but in reality, they were far from perfect.

"But there was no case where the Kaiser left his thousand years of prosperity to challenge the sacred area."

"But there were only two cases before, right?"

"Statistically speaking."

"Statistically... anyways, I'm going. So you don't need to go back to your hibernation."

"That was why you stopped me?"

"Yes. So until then, try to experience as much as you can."

"Okay."

Pandora understood why Sungjin told her that she didn't have to go back into hibernation, but what had she to experience in this world?

What do I want to learn about the most?

The answer was right in front of her. Her eyes were fixed on the guy who was standing in front of her.

I want to know more about Sungjin. I've been observing and trying to analyze him, but I didn't expect him to make such a decision. Is this the reason why my grandfather left him as my last research subject?

* * *

That night, Sungjin saw Pandora follow him again to his bedroom.

"Hey. We already talked about this issue." He was a Kaiser with incomparable power; his word was final.

"I know. I remember you said you wouldn't take anyone if you didn't feel like she was your fate."

"I mean, you can't follow me to my bedroom to observe me. Anyways, what do you want?" Sungjin was able to predict what Pandora wanted, though.

"I understood something today. That I was in my sleep for such a long time in order to meet you."

"That's not completely false." It was true that Pandora was in her sleep for a long time in order to meet the new Kaiser.

"So you are my fate and destiny."

"So?"

"So don't you think you can take me into your bedroom?"

Sungjin had to sigh. "That is a different kind of fate you are talking about."

Her strong curiosity and passion for research that made her eager to get into his bedroom didn't make sense for Sungjin. "Even if it is fate, why do you want me to take you? If you want to observe me while I'm sleeping, that wouldn't work."

"There's another reason."

"What's that?"

"I want to know everything about you. And to understand a guy, it is important to have a S*xual relationship to complete the information."

“Ah, yeah.” Sungjin agreed with her point. There were some things that only lovers would know about each other, but... “That’s not what lovers do.”

“It’s not?”

“No. That’s an interest in a new and interesting subject. Not love.”

“It has to be love?” She looked down. She always looked unemotional, but there was a slight change in her face.

Huh. Is she disappointed?

She looked like a girl whose candy had been taken away, but Sungjin had no plans to step down. “If you got it, go back. You can observe me during the fight.”

“But I wanted to know everything about you, not just your battles.”

“Pff. Fans want to know everything in the private lives of their favorite stars, but there’s always a limit. I will let you observe my everything during the battle, though.”

“Okay. I will observe everything about you, but will not cross the line.”

God, I have a stalker now.

Sungjin laughed and thought that it wouldn’t be a bad thing to have a fanatic fan during his final match.

Chapter 6

Although Sungjin decided to challenge the sacred area, he wasn’t planning to start the next day. Everyone needed a bit of time to train and adjust themselves to their new class and their new power, and Sungjin was leading that training for everyone.

Everyone became much stronger.

Sungjin was able to see the changes, but he also had to consider that there could be strong and unpredictable enemies in the sacred area.

What is waiting for us?

The Kaiser of White Silver had warned Sungjin not to challenge the sacred area. And the Kaiser of Gold had told Sungjin that he would have no chance to win.

I’m sure they told me those things with good reason.

He was ready to challenge, but he didn't plan to underestimate his unknown opponents. His preparation was part of his challenge. He had to make sure everyone could use their full power, and then he would go forward for the challenge.

He was either going to fly or be crushed.

I have no idea what will happen.

But that was the reason why Sungjin was even more excited about this fight.

* * *

They were finally ready, and Sungjin stood in front of the door to the sacred area. It was a strange structure to be called a door.

There was an arch shaped frame in the middle of an empty space, and there was something made of light and darkness that looked like a curtain.

“So the sacred area is beyond this door.”

“So... this will be our final fight.” Ereka stood close next to Sungjin.

Ereka respected Sungjin's decision, and had decided to fight with him until the end to support his dream, but she was a bit worried.

If we go back, we can enjoy a thousand years of prosperity and happiness.

Although, if they went back, she wouldn't be the one next to Sungjin who would fight with him for his final fight. And she also knew that stepping back because of the risk or strong opponents was not what Sungjin would do.

Maybe you could live a safer life.

She wanted to see the world with natural human rights that Sungjin had told her about, but she was worried about Sungjin.

But going on until the end is what you would do.

All she had to do was support him as he was.

Next to them, Pandora looked at them with her eyes that looked like an abyss.

Would he be able to make what my grandfather tried but failed?

Maybe Sungjin's fate was waiting for him.

“Here. I stand here to challenge the sacred area. Open the door.” When Sungjin shouted, the space with light and darkness started rolling, and two huge crows appeared from the space.

The crows started to talk in english.

“My name is Muninn.”

“My name is Huginn.”

“Two crows of Odin,” said Sungjin in a low voice when he heard the two names.

The name of this world was Valhalla. It was the name of the place Odin, the God King of Asgard Pantheon, created to let his warriors fight and challenge each other.

The Valkyries had guided him until now. Valkyrie was the name of Odin’s messenger, who guided warriors in Valhalla, so it was not a strange thing that Odin’s crows had come down here to guide Sungjin to his last challenge.

I heard that these crows can see the past, the present, and the future.

But it didn’t really matter. He was going to go forward anyways.

“So you guys are the guide for my final challenge?”

“Yes,” the two crows answered together.

“Pff. That means Odin is waiting for us behind the door?”

“Wrong.”

“Then?”

“He organized it, and he is watching, but he won’t be the one waiting for you.”

“Okay.”

“The fate that has been waiting for you. The destiny that has been waiting for you. Your nemesis. That is what is waiting for you.” The two crows talked with rhythm and looked at Sungjin with an unknown energy. “The one who wants to become an Arc Master. Who wants the absolute power that is more than a thousand years of glory. The higher you fly, the more dangerous it becomes.” It sounded like a warning and a prophecy at the same time.

“Do you want to relive the past where they tried to fly high only to fall to the lowest?”

“Pff. Do you want to tell me about the legend of Icarus?” Sungjin smiled and continued. “I know the risk, and I know there is a lot to lose.”

His capital that he had built as he wanted. All the people who had come to make an oath to serve him. Endless people who lined up to present him with precious jewels. All those beauties that he could have. The world he could rule as he wished to with the youth of a thousand years.

He had everything that humans could possibly dream of. Even Qin Shi Huang didn't have all the things Sungjin had. The emperors on earth ruled for only a few decades, in fear of assassination and rebels, but Sungjin was free from those concerns.

If that was all he wanted, he had to stop here. “But I will go.”

To become an Arc Master and do what only an Arc Master can do.

The two crows flew up on their wings.

“Then we will open the door.”

“This is the path to your destiny.”

“Everything is as expected.”

“Now go forward.”

“Your fate is waiting for you!”

“Sure. Let's go” Sungjin walked into the rolling space.

“Yes, Sungjin.” His girls followed him.

* * *

They arrived at a gigantic island floating in the middle of outer space.

The sky was not a blue sky. They were able to see vast black endless space. There was a transparent layer covering the island.

There were many different geographical features on the island.

A volcano, jungle, desert, valley, field, river, ocean... It was an impossible combination of various geographical features on one island...

“Hmm. That is quite an interesting combination.”

It looked like the gods had collected different features and put them all together in one place with their transcendent power.

Swish.

A bird made of flame flew up from the volcano.

Is that... a phoenix?

A mountain surged from the ocean. It was a gigantic fish that was carrying a mountain on its back.

Ha, this is where all the legendary animals live?

Shooting stars appeared among the planets, and living plants moved in the jungle. A colony of ants bigger than humans crossed the desert; a corner of the desert collapsed, and a huge bug that almost looked like a river appeared and swallowed the colony of ants.

There was a peal of thunder for no reason, only to be followed by a typhoon. The weather was unpredictable and extreme. It was a perfect battlefield for the final challenge.

And... Sungjin was able to see Vahalla in a distance universe. Sungjin was able to recognize it at once, because the Kaiser of gold had showed him once before.

So that is the world we came from, which means this is another universe that is separate from it.

And on the other side, there was another planet that looked exactly like Valhalla...

"That side of the world looks... a bit... ominous."

Sungjin was able to understand why Ereka said that. Valhalla looked like a vivid, colorful world with green forests, blue oceans, yellow deserts, white clouds, and ice on the north and south poles. But the other planet was simply red, and the ocean area was black. It looked like a world without any life.

But that world...

It didn't take long for Sungjin to recognize that on the other planet, all the continents were placed in perfect symmetry and were exactly the same size.

That can't be a coincidence.

There must be another Valhalla.

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The Kaiser of another world was somehow a counterpart to Sungjin with similar power, and Sungjin had already defeated two other Kaisers from his side.

Eustasia started to question things. "But that's strange that we have to fight against another Kaiser. We already fought against Kaisers to win this position. Would it be enough to just defeat another Kaiser to become an Arc Master?"

"Good point, general Eustasia." The two crows praised her for pointing out the crucial matter.

"Be scared."

"He is the Kaiser of Darkness."

"He conquered a Valhalla a long time ago to eat up everything in the world to make the world a part of himself."

"Do not presume that the other two Kaisers would have had a close fight against him."

"You are doomed to be destroyed."

When the two crows warned him, Sungjin simply laughed. "I don't need your cheap prophecy. Just tell me the rules."

"You will have three chances."

"Three chances. You can challenge him three times."

"If you can't win in three fights, that will be the end of the battle between the two Valhallas."

"The battle between two Valhallas?"

"Yes. If you win, you will become an Arc Master and the only god of Valhalla. Other gods will give this world to you and leave."

"But if you lose, the ruler of Dark Valhalla will become the only god and will take over your world as well."

"Either way, the long battle will be over. Two Valhallas will become one, and one god will rule both."

"Hmm." Sungjin felt there was something strange in that logic.

That means my opponent defeated two challengers from this Valhalla.

But if Sungjin won, he could become an Arc Master by defeating a Kaiser once.

That was not a fair rule for everyone.

Is this a survival game where the last man who stands after three fights wins? Well, I will find out later, anyways.

“You have one year of preparation between fights.”

“But that doesn’t mean much.”

“Because even if you have a thousand years, you are doomed to be defeated.”

“I will decide my own fate. Your job is to tell me the rest of the rules.”

“The battlefield is the intersecting point of this space. The rule is simple. You and your six wings have to fight against him. He will bring an equal number of wings.”

“And then?”

“Each landscape has its own monster. Those monsters will attack whatever suits them, regardless of the person’s side.”

“That is a variable that we can use to our advantage.”

While Sungjin looked around, something appeared from the final gate. It was impossible to see what it was because a heavy and dark fog covered it up, but the blurred silhouette looked like a man.

“Finally.” The voice was strange, as if the fog was also distorting its voice.

“So you are the Kaiser of Dark Valhalla.”

“Yes. I’ve been waiting for you for a long time.” The figure still covered in darkness stood in front of Sungjin. Although his voice was distorted, he sounded quite happy. “So you will be my last sacrifice to becoming the only god.”

“We don’t know who will be the sacrifice yet,” Sungjin snapped back.

“Haha. That’s the spirit. I hope you have some abilities as well.”

The Kaiser of Darkness snapped his fingers. A dark fog started coming out from the ground as if he had summoned something. “Before the real fight, let me test you to see if you are capable of anything. Death Calling.”

Fog spread, and a horrible echo came out from the fog as if the gates of hell were about to open, and the fog brought unexpected people out.

“They are...”

Sungjin’s first opponent: Blood Ruler Riad. The Mad king Seizo. And the Holy Pope Pedrian and Wise King Kapitle. The four deadly opponents Sungjin had fought.

“How is it possible...” Ereka was confused.

“Start analyzing.”

Pandora’s eyes started to sparkle. She was the only one to see 3D images and numbers and different colors in front of her. She shared the analysis with the team. “Verification completed. They are puppets reborn by a controlling power that brought them back.”

“Controlling the dead...”

“They don’t have the will or the ego they had when they were alive, but they still have the same abilities. The Summoner is the one who is controlling them fully...”

Everyone in Sungjin’s team looked at the Summoner hiding behind the darkness. Necromancy was an evil, dark magic that controlled the dead, but in order to control many dead people, the necromancer needed extremely strong power, especially when controlling many strong dead people like now, which meant the necromancer was much stronger than all the dead people’s power combined...

A necromancer who can control all four of them... who is... How strong is our opponent...

Ereka realized that her hands were shaking with anxiety. Because she had fought every single one of them, she knew their strength, and that made her scared.

“Don’t be afraid. You guys are much stronger now!”

But Sungjin told her not to be scared, and she found her confidence again. Yes, you are right, Sungjin.

The dead were strong. They were all awakened heroes over level 8. But Ereka soon realized that they were also awakened heroes over level 8, and even though she didn’t have a power like Sungjin or other Kaisers, she could fight against the summoned dead with her team. Unlike when she had to face them the first time, she now had a chance with her new power and abilities.

“Pff. That’s the spirit,” said the Kaiser of Darkness. “But it is not appropriate for us to have a dogfight with those things, so let’s separate ourselves for our own battle. Dark Colosseum,” said the Kaiser of Darkness, and created a wall of darkness that came from the ground to reach the sky. And the wall separated Sungjin and the Kaiser of Darkness into a different space from the others.

“Sungjin!”

“Don’t panic. It’s just a test, so I’m giving you better conditions.” The voice of the Kaiser of Darkness echoed all around the space. “All you guys have to do is compete with those puppets. You pass the test if you defeat them. The battlefield has to be…” The Kaiser of Darkness rolled dice. “Good. The battlefield will be a desert.”

Sungjin’s team and the revived puppets were placed in a desert while Sungjin was placed in a separate space where he could watch the battle through a screen.

The ability of the Kaiser of Darkness was quite impressive. He was able to separate space and time to place a group of people in different places in a second.

Then the Kaiser of Darkness looked at Sungjin. “Since this is our very first encounter, let’s play a game of intelligence rather than an intense physical fight.”

A table floated between Sungjin and the Kaiser of Darkness, and a 3D image was projected on the table.

The 3D image was… an AoS game that Sungjin used to play back on earth.

“Pff. I didn’t expect to see this here.”

“Let’s play the game you used to play on earth. But we will be controlling five characters simultaneously.”

Five computers were placed in front of Sungjin. There was no human who could control five characters simultaneously, but when Sungjin became a Kaiser, he had gotten the ability to control things with his thoughts, so it was not an impossible task for Sungjin, although it was an impossible task to monitor and control five of them at once with a normal human brain.

“Okay.” Sungjin sat down, saying to the Kaiser of Darkness that he would take the challenge with pleasure.

“Even if your team loses their fight, if you defeat me, I will take it as that you guys passed the test.”

“Pff. You are being arrogant.” Sungjin smiled and said, “I will take this challenge.”

* * *

While Sungjin's team was having an intense fight against the puppets, Sungjin was having an intense fight against the Kaiser of Darkness.

He is not an easy opponent. That was Sungjin's thought while controlling five different characters simultaneously to fight against the Kaiser of Darkness.

Sungjin was confident in his gaming skills. He used to be an invincible gamer on Earth. But now he was facing an opponent of another level.

This is the first time. It was the first time Sungjin had an opponent who was able to have a tight match against him.

In the meantime, Sungjin's team was struggling to fight against the puppets who had come back to life from the Kaiser of Darkness. The problem wasn't a difference in level or power.

The problem is the difference in refinement of movement.

Looking at the situation in the desert, Sungjin had to sigh.

It was not his team's fault. His girls were doing their best, but the Kaiser of Darkness was controlling his puppets so perfectly. The Kaiser of Darkness was also controlling five characters in an AoS game to fight against Sungjin while controlling his puppets to perfection.

That's exactly how I would control them.

Sungjin knew that his team couldn't fight against such refined movements. They were able to last a little bit because they had been through a lot of battles and trainings.

But that wouldn't last much longer.

That was something he couldn't blame his team for. They were fighting against almost impossible opponents.

Then I should defeat the Kaiser of Darkness. That will be the only solution.

But it was not an easy fight for Sungjin, either. The Kaiser of Darkness didn't give Sungjin any opportunities to win, although Sungjin didn't give him any either, so there was only one way to finish this game.

If he's not giving me a chance, I should make one.

Sungjin used a technique called “shaking,” but he didn’t try to make a huge chance, because the bigger the chance, the bigger the risk. Sungjin used a careful “shaking” to get his chance. He tried to hunt a monster that could give him power and was close to his base camp.

It was not a strong monster. He was able to hunt it with one character, and if he brought a few characters, it would take only a second to hunt it down.

But, if the opponent let Sunjin keep hunting the monsters, Sungjin would be able to accumulate his power to finally defeat the Kaiser of Darkness.

What would be the Kaiser of Darkness’s reaction...

Three seconds...

Two seconds...

One second...

A half second before the monster was killed, the Kaiser of Darkness started to attack Sungjin’s character.

That’s what I’ve been waiting for.

Sungjin knew that his opponent wouldn’t let him have the monster.

It will be a tight match, but I will take the monster to win this game.

But...

What is he doing?

It was a difficult battle where Sungjin had to control five characters and try to hunt down a monster, so Sungjin was controlling all his five characters by 0.01 second, which was the minimum control time for the game. It couldn’t be controlled in a shorter amount of time, but Sungjin’s opponent managed to control his characters with the same precision to end the game...

The only difference between the two was the minor stamina that Sungjin had to spend to hunt down the monster. That made the difference. It was a minor difference that defined the winner in such a perfect match. The Kaiser managed to use such a tiny difference to his advantage. It was perfect. Even Sungjin would have done exactly the same thing if he was in his opponent’s shoes.

Sungjin’s team was annihilated, and Sungjin’s base camp was destroyed. Sungjin’s team lost.

“Foolish. You couldn’t even pass such a simple test. Come back next time with better preparation.”

The Kaiser of Darkness waved his hand, and everything around him disappeared into the darkness.

* * *

After they lost, they were bounced back to the waiting room.

Did I just... lose in an AoS game?

Sungjin felt an electric feeling from head to toe. “Pff, pfff, hahahaha! This just happened!”

Although he lost the battle, Sungjin was laughing.

This is getting interesting.

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Chapter 7

Lost in the first round.

When his team looked worried, Sungjin smiled and cheered them up. “Don’t worry. The fight has just begun.”

“But...”

“It’s okay. The first fight was for collecting information on our enemy.”

“But we couldn’t collect enough information.” That was what Ereka was worried about. It was the first fight against an unknown enemy to becoming an Arc Master. It was the first chance out of three, but they had wasted that first chance.

Ereka and the girls had been defeated in their fight with the summoned puppets while Sungjin hadn’t even been able to have a proper fight against the Kaiser of Darkness.

“That’s not true.”

“What do you mean?”

“Now I know two things about him. One is that he can summon and control the puppets, and the other is that he has an ability to separate the battlefield.”

“That’s right.” Eustasia nodded and agreed that they had gotten that information.

“There’s one more. He was not just using his level or skill. He was using his intelligence, and I picked up a few things about his tactics...”

“I knew you would find a way. How should we prepare our second round?”

“And because of that, we need to solve one problem.”

“What is that, Sungjin?” Sooryun asked.

“You guys are strong enough to fight against the puppets. The problem was that the Kaiser was controlling his puppets in real time while he separated the battlefield so that I couldn’t command you guys in real time.”

Sungjin had tried to communicate with his team using the stone of wind elf, but since the space was separated, there was a massive delay in their communication. It took almost thirty seconds just to send a word to another battlefield. Moreover, Sungjin wasn’t able to keep his eyes on his team. The information he could use was also limited. That made it impossible for Sungjin to command his team like the Kaiser of Darkness.

Pandora broke her silence and told them, “If that’s the problem, I can help you with that.”

“Pandora, can you?”

“Yes. I can create an equipment to share information that can overcome the issue of distance or separation.”

“That means...”

“Just like your enemy is able to control the summoned puppets, this equipment will make you able to command your team.”

“Great. I appreciate your help.” Sungjin accepted Pandora’s offer without any hesitation.

“Then give me a moment.”

* * *

Pandora concentrated for a while and started to show her ability apart from “observation and analysis” that she had shown until then.

“Producing the machine.” Numbers in 3D image started to display in front of her.

Multiple rows of numbers started to unfold and turn around to create circuits of some kind, and then the circuits started to become connected to each other to show a blueprint. When Pandora reached out her hand to the blueprint, the blueprint became a real machine, and Sungjin recognized the machine right away.

That looks like a walkie-talkie but much finer than the one from earth.

That was an actual machine.

Is that so? The Kaiser of Gold gave such an ability to his granddaughter.

Since his empire studied the foundation and rules of this world, it was not surprising that Pandora had knowledge on science. It was a high tech product that even Sungjin couldn't create. Sungjin understood how the machine worked, but he didn't know all the details behind it.

Pandora is making this fight easier.

Pandora handed walkie-talkies to everyone.

"This uses invisible light to give signals. The speed of light is ninety times faster than the speed of sound, so this will solve the delay problem that you had when you guys were using the stone of wind elf..."

"Wow. So you can communicate well from a distance." Rachel was impressed, and her eyes were shining.

"Correct. Also, this camera here will show the situation in another battlefield to provide better information than verbal explanation."

"That's convenient."

"Moreover, there are additional features to cover blind spots."

When she pushed a button on the side of a walkie-talkie, it looked like something was coming out of it.

"Nano machines will take multi-dimensional photos around you so that you can receive equal amounts of information as your opponent. But this can't overcome the fact that your enemy can control everything by himself while you have to command your team verbally."

"That's good enough. I can handle that much," said Sungjin, smiling confidently.

"Now that we have these, should we start training?"

“Yes.”

“On our next fight, I will command you in real time. So let’s practice how to adjust ourselves.”

“Sure.”

* * *

Sungjin and his team started training for their next fight.

Sungjin used his power that he got when he became Kaiser to create four puppets that his team had to fight during their first fight to have a mock battle.

But Pandora was a bit confused about if what she had done was okay.

Why did I offer my help?

Her duty was to observe the answer to the question of what would be winning factors for the final fight at the sacred area. Pandora was supposed to be an observer, but she had provided an item to help Sungjin.

Would it be okay for an observer to provide help and ruin the experiment? Maybe it was my fault.

Pandora couldn’t understand why she did it.

Sungjin saw that she was troubled. “Let’s take a break.” Sungjin gave his team a break and walked toward Pandora. “Do you have worries? You look confused.”

“Yes. I am supposed to be an observer, but I just supported you, so I’m worried that it might hinder my pursuit of truth.”

“The participation of an observer. Pff. There’s something called quantum mechanics on earth.”

“Quantum mechanics? What is that?”

“There’s a principle of uncertainty, which means that observation is already an intervention, so there’s no such thing as a pure and perfect observation without any intervention.”

“Observation is an intervention...”

“You told me that you will observe me and my fight for the sacred area. When you told me that, you became a part of the whole thing. Maybe you are apart of your answer.”

“Myself as a part of the answer?”

“Didn’t I tell you? There are truths that you have to experience to learn.” Sungjin smiled again.

“Yes, you did.”

“And you told me you wouldn’t mind sleeping with me if that was the way to learn everything about me. If you want to learn everything, you shouldn’t simply step aside and observe.”

” ...”

“So, if there’s anything you want to take part in, if there’s something your heart wants,” Sungjin said, pointing at her heart, “Do it. You are always welcome to join me to create the answer.”

“Is it okay?”

“I don’t believe truth is something that you can find while observing from a distance. For example, when you are playing a game, you feel a thrill that you couldn’t feel if you were simply watching.” Sungjin was talking about the vivid feeling that only a gamer could feel while playing the game. “Life is the same. I think you can feel the real thing only if you join in and laugh and cry with the others.”

“Is that so? Okay. I will not just be an observer but a participant.” Pandora thought that she would love to know what this guy Sungjin could really achieve. Not only because Sungjin was the homework that her grandfather left her, but she was truly curious.

Why?

Every time Pandora thought she found out one thing about Sungjin, she always wanted to know more about him.

I will find out the limit of the power of this guy who defeated my grandfather, and I will find out what he’s looking for and what the result of his life will be.

* * *

While training his team, Sungjin prepared for his own fight.

There are a few points I learned from our last fight.

It wasn’t simply that the Kaiser of Darkness was very smart. The Kaiser of Darkness was very smart and used his intelligence to calculate what would happen next, and his calculation style was...

Very similar to mine.

In order to choose the best solution, the number of solutions had to be limited, but there were situations where there was no clear right answer.

In those situations...

He would choose exactly what I would choose.

Now Sungjin knew his opponent. Now he had to decide how to react to such an opponent.

This is getting interesting.

It was a matter of movements, like the ones Sungjin couldn't detect during his fight against the Kaiser of Gold.

Sungjin was truly happy to have an opponent who had equal power but wasn't an easy opponent to defeat.

He hit me once. It's time for me to hit him back.

* * *

Sungjin headed to the sacred area again to face his nemesis the Kaiser of Darkness.

"Are you prepared to pass the test this time?" the Kaiser of Darkness asked Sungjin, and Sungjin provoked him with a smile.

"Isn't it a bit boring to play just one game?"

"Then?" The Kaiser of Darkness showed interest.

Sungjin used his power to create eighteen more computers on top of what the Kaiser of Darkness had already created. "Let's play ten games simultaneously and pick fifty different characters without duplication."

That meant they both needed to choose characters that they were not used to, and controlling fifty different characters in ten games was already beyond the ability of human beings.

"I didn't think you would chicken out."

"Hahaha. Okay. Let's do that." The Kaiser of Darkness laughed as if he were enjoying this situation and agreed to Sungjin's terms.

“Your team against my puppets. You against me. Let’s play again.”

They started their second round.

This was the fight that would define who would be the god.

* * *

Sungjin’s team clashed with the puppets again on the battlefield. This time, the battlefield was a coast where a desert and an ocean met. In the meantime, Sungjin played ten games at the same time to fight against the Kaiser of Darkness.

It was a war of intelligence between them. Was it Sungjin who was commanding his team better? Or was it the Kaiser of Darkness who was controlling his puppets better? At the same time, they were both playing different games. It was two different wars with eleven different battles to find out the winner.

Is it even possible that one person can receive and process data from eleven different battles and control and command them all? It was natural to think that it was an impossible task, but it was possible for Sungjin and his opponent, the Kaiser of Darkness.

He is the same level as me. I shouldn’t give him any chance to defeat me fast.

Winning fast wasn’t something that Sungjin needed. Sungjin had to push his opponent to the limit to verify who had more experience and who knew the game better to finish it.

It was a battle of various aspects. Sungjin’s team fought against the puppets summoned by the Kaiser of Darkness while Sungjin had to control fifty characters in total in ten different games to fight against the Kaiser of Darkness.

They were controlling so many characters, but they weren’t missing any of them. They both were controlling their characters with perfect precision and perfect timing.

It was beyond a game between pro-gamers on earth; they were controlling their characters by 0.01 second.

But... there was no clear winner.

It was clear that Sungjin and the Kaiser of Darkness had the same level of knowledge and ability to use their tactics in the game.

Level 0 Master - Chapter 144

This couldn't be what his opponent had prepared. As soon as the game became advantageous to one side, he was going to concentrate on the other nine games and somehow counterattack.

And, as he predicted, suddenly the opponent's movements became sharper in all nine games.

But that's what I was aiming for.

At that moment, there was a slight delay in his control of the dolls.

"Now." He alerted everyone on the team that it was the moment to end the battle... At the same time, a huge monster jumped out of the sea.

I knew this would happen at this time, a seabed beast that's stimulated by the waves generated by a fight between two opposing sides and that indiscriminately chases people.

Of course, the appearance of this beast was expected by the opponent.

At this point, where there are more variables, it's time for me to calculate faster than you, and that will determine the game.

"Aegis!"

"Durandal!"

"Mjolnir!"

The ultimate skill of Sungjin's teammates burst forth.

"Bloody Lane."

"God's hand."

"Gungnir."

The enemy's ultimate skills were also revealed.

While they were tangled up, the beast rampaged. When all those forces were intertwined and spread out... standing this time were Sungjin's team members.

Sungjin's command decided where and how the power was distributed in 0.01 seconds. And on the monitor screen, the enemy's home was destroyed.

"I won this time."

“Hahahahaha!” The Kaiser of Darkness laughed happily. “Okay, fine. You’ve survived the easier test, so I’ll take it a bit more seriously.”

Finally, the dark veil surrounding the Kaiser of Darkness was torn. It was the moment when his true identity would be revealed.

Who is it? Team members gathered by Sungjin and looked on with curious eyes.

And he was...

“Eh?”

“Huuh?”

Everyone was so surprised. Only Sungjin and Pandora looked at each other calmly.

The one who came out as their enemy...

Was Sungjin.

“Sungjin... is two?” Ereka murmured.

“No. Something’s different. But...” Eustasia shook her head, saying she couldn’t figure it out.

The two Sungjins faced each other. The Kaiser of Darkness, dressed in the same clothes as Sungjin, laughed. Even his laughter was the same as Sungjin’s.

As if satisfied, he called out to himself as if he was a real Sungjin. “As expected of myself. Very well. I should expect this kind of joke.”

“Is... . . . Is it fake? Like a doppelganger who steals your appearance or something?”

Jenna pressed down her embarrassment and quickly added, “But it’s strange. I think something’s different.”

Rachel made an unknown sound.

“What are you saying is different? That’s a fake!” Jenna shouted, and Zakiya grabbed her shoulders.

“No. I think I understand what Rachel is saying. I feel a deep darkness and evil in him completely different from His Majesty.”

Even though their appearance was the same, there were things that separated them, like energy and atmosphere, which could be felt by humans. The Sungjin on the other side had a very threatening and frightening darkness.

“However... for some reason... it’s not a projection or a transformation... Except for the dark energy, in every other way it feels like our Majesty...” As a sorcerer, she knew the art of mixing truth and falsehood.

“I see. It’s like seeing your brother, who’s chosen to be the king of darkness.” Sooryun agreed with Zakiya’s analysis.

“Hahaha. Are you the women that I gathered? I didn’t recognize you, since I gave you all as a sacrifice, but it seems like you kept them alive. They’ll gain that insight.” The dark Sungjin laughed cheerfully.

Sungjin stared with sharp eyes. “You are... me.”

“Did you realize it was me?”

“I thought it was a 50 percent chance that it was you.”

“I wouldn’t have lacked in giving you clues.”

They were enemies, but the two talked freely. No, they understood each other better than anyone in the world.

“The realm is... .. It’s the point of contact between two parallel worlds.”

“Yes. Me from another world.”

“You are... ..” Sungjin’s eyes became sharper. “Did you sign a contract with Lucifer?”

Naturally, necromancy was not Sungjin’s ability. It was an ability strong enough to dominate enemies that had been defeated. With such a mighty power of darkness, he could only think of one source.

“Contract? Hahaha. Wrong. It seems like I’ve gotten poor at reasoning since I turned toward the wrong path.”

“Who if not Lucifer?”

The dark side Sungjin laughed. “I said the contract is wrong.”

It wasn’t not Lucifer. “That means... ..” Sungjin’s brain spun.

What if his assumption of Lucifer being the contracted one was correct? What if it wasn't a contract?

Lucifer's sword, the Dawn Bringer, recognized him as the owner. That was not a Trojan horse that Lucifer had lent...

If...

If...

Why was he a seraph when he transformed with power? There were many heavenly beings with wings besides angels, but his appearance was clearly an archangel.

A coincidence? But what if it wasn't a coincidence? He didn't paint himself in that form. It just came out naturally.

Additionally, why did the devil of hell have a strong connection with him, leaving aside the other stronger people?

Why was he... How did he have a brain that could handle even the strongest people of the age? Was it possible to have martial arts skills that dealt with the strong despite having weaker power?

Was it genius? That was the word for someone like himself, but were geniuses so transcendent?

It was a long time ago when he had realized he was born differently, but if the reason was beyond being a human genius...

Where else?

"Sungjin. What's happening?"

"Ereka. This is just a hypothesis, but... Maybe I share Lucifer's soul that was defeated, descended, and split by Heaven's Creator in the beginning."

"What?"

"It's not a contract. It's a 'fusion.'" With his original self.

"Well, let's call it restoration. That's the answer: me." Sungjin of darkness confirmed the hypothesis.

* * *

Muninn and Huginn flew around the sanctuary. “The earliest brightly shining angel rebelled against Heaven’s god,” the two crows said together.

“To free men from God’s control.”

“To seize the status and glory of God.”

The words of the two crows split from there.

“The motive was light.”

“The motive was darkness.”

The conflicting stories of a history.

Which was true?

Or were both true?

“And he was defeated.”

“God ripped his soul apart so that he would not challenge again.”

In the beginning, the angel who had challenged God was split apart. The magic was sealed in hell and became the shape of a black dragon that reigned in hell as the demon king.

The soul split in two fell into parallel worlds with different timelines, and the two souls took different paths, as if their truths were their own.

“The fallen supreme angel became one with his strength sealed in hell. He recovered almost all his strength.”

“The supreme angel is not one with the strength of darkness sealed in hell. His pursuit was above power.”

“The fallen supreme angel is strong. Thus, he overcame mortals and regained his original strength. It’s much stronger than yours, not by magic, but stronger than your own wisdom and martial arts.”

“The supreme angel is strong. Thus, he could win over mortals without his inherent power. But he was weak in front of himself who bears darkness. ”

The words of the two crows came together again.

“So this battle is...”

It was a prophecy.

“... the victory of darkness.”

It was fate.

“The archangel, fallen by the lure of hell, has resurrected.”

It was his life’s goal.

“He will rule over the two worlds and ascend into a new position.”

Both crows sentenced Sungjin’s defeat.

Chapter 8

The Sungjin of now and the Sungjin of darkness had originally been one and a part of a dark dragon in hell.

The fact that two of the three split together was the enemy they were supposed to face shocked all of Sungjin’s teammates.

Did they have to deal with the ruler of nine hells?

And...

Sungjin too...

At the same time his extraordinary ability was understood, they had a moment of fear. If the wisdom of the two divided souls were comparable, then the one with the power as a ‘evil ruler’ would be more powerful.

“Let’s stop playing around. I’ll summon my men.” The dark Sungjin snapped his fingers.

Sungjin’s team members froze. What had they been fighting against until then?

“Everyone get ready. It’s not a puppet controlled by necromancy. It’s a real enemy.” Sungjin’s words cleared up the situation, although it wasn’t a good situation.

Level 0 Master - Chapter 145

A large mound of flesh trembled before a monster appeared from it. Jewels and gold were embedded awkwardly in several places of the mound. The flesh without eyes or ears swallowed everything. Even the dirt of the earth was its food. “The lord of gluttony, Mamon.”

With a pocket watch in one hand, a handsome man as prim as a London gentleman appeared with a hat and a walking stick. His well-trimmed mustache made him look like a normal human being compared to the other lords. If they had met without knowing each other's identity, he would have thought he was a mannerly gentleman, but Sungjin knew the sigil of Dark Sungjin's summoning circle. "The lord of pride, Mephistopheles."

And lastly, an old man with a luxurious costume similar to Christmas attire appeared. In his hands was a staff of a two-headed snake. "The lord of knowledge, Astaros."

At the appearance of the six lords, Sungjin predicted what the result would be.

So this is the real enemy.

"Lucifer" and his six devil lords. Could he and his teammates fight against them? Each of them had reached a level where they could be called legends, but their opponent was the devil lords of legends.

The dark Sungjin snapped his fingers. "Now, since it's our first confrontation, a one-on-one should be sufficient, right? Let's check our limits. Dark Colosseum."

The skill that separated Sungjin from his teammates activated, but this time, the target wasn't solely Sungjin.

The darkness exploded, and everyone was separated into different spaces.

* * *

Ereka and Astaros went against each other.

"Are you the woman who the other master has taken in?" the overconfident yet elegant grand magician of knowledge of the six devil lords asked.

Ereka didn't say anything and only raised her spear. She wasn't ignoring him on purpose. She was simply nervous.

A devil lord of hell...

Could she win against such an existence? But if she didn't win...

That couldn't happen.

"I'll give you the first strike. Try your best."

My opponent is probably a magician, right? I shouldn't give him the time to finish chanting.

Ereka ran head-first. Her spear pierced the air. The air exploded all around it, and the air rotated around the edge of the spear like a chain mill.

She was cautious by nature, but she was also a strong knight. She had been awarded a new class after transcending called "Aegis defender." The blow of her spear was already a legend in and of itself.

"Hmm." But, watching her attack, Astaros simply raised his walking stick. As he did, a round magic circle appeared between them.

Creeeak.

The spear full of ki couldn't overcome the magic circle.

"Now, try receiving my attack. Hell fire."

A large fire ball appeared above Astaros's head. When a spark from the fire ball fell out, an explosion occurred. Each of the fire sparks was like a bomb, and together they were a bomb of destruction.

Ereka ran forward without hesitation.

Craaash.

With a large explosion, the ground broke apart, and a large crater appeared. Above, clouds of dirt gathered and reached the sky, and a light pierced the clouds.

"Ha! Glorious Strike!" With a shout, Ereka delivered a stronger strike of her spear toward Astaros. Her figure, which had emerged from the explosion, bore burnt marks here and there, but she wasn't defeated.

"Ho. You've endured it."

Spear and magic clashed together several times. Ereka's spear couldn't break through her opponent's defense, and Astaros's fire couldn't burn Ereka.

Astaros's attacks became even more varied. Ice fell and lightning struck. Each and every attack had the power of hell and destroyed the surrounding lands. The desert was covered with ice, and lightning struck the ice, breaking it into several pieces.

But Ereka endured any and all attacks, even though her body endured more burnt marks, frozen skin, and injuries.

I will endure until my opponent runs out of magic. That was her competitive mind.

As soon as Ereka thought that, Astaros strengthened his grip on his staff. "Huhu. How annoying."

The large magic circle in the air began to rotate.

"Let me finish this with one blow. Hole of emptiness. Crevice of time. In the name of the day of judgement."

Air was sucked into the magic circle. Even the grains of sand were sucked in. Everything was sucked into the center of the circle.

Ereka tried her best with all her might not to be sucked in, but it became harder.

A spell that sucks in things?

Finally, her body floated into the air.

Is this an attack that lifts then slams me into the earth?

Ereka prepared herself for a hard landing.

"Huhu. Did you think you could come back down? That won't happen. You've only seen the beginning of this magic, after all."

Then what came afterwards...

"The forbidden darkness that swallows everything. Descend and destroy my enemy! The Black Hole!"

It was a small black hole no larger than the size of a coin. But at the same time, it was the point of destruction within the large universe.

"Ah." The moment the small hole approached her, Ereka was torn from the spot and sucked in.

* * *

Eustasia's opponent was Asmodeus.

"I'm facing off because of my master's orders, but to think you'd just have a single sword. How boring." Asmodeus laughed as he watched the flying Durandal. "Shouldn't you command at least several swords at once?"

And the six swords on his back flew out at once. One was wrapped in blood. Another was burning in flames. One exuded ice, another lightning. There was one with poison like a snake, and another with dead souls.

The swords with different elements flew in a row. It was the same controlling ability of flying swords, but the numbers and level were different.

One holy sword and six devil swords met in the air, but it couldn't be called a clash. One devil sword suppressed a holy sword. The other five swords ran straight toward Eustasia.

Kuk.

She tried to avoid the five swords with defensive movements like water. The movement to avoid the attack from the five pincers was vital, but cold had hardened her body.

"Kuk." A sword with poison pierced her. It was a small wound, but it quickly paralyzed her.

"You're boring. Let's finish. "

Five swords aimed together toward Eustasia's body. She avoided getting hit in her critical parts, but only for a moment, and at that moment, she launched her final counterattack.

I knew from the start that you weren't using your full strength.

This moment she held the five swords in her body was a chance to reverse the situation.

"The Sword of Heaven. Durandall! "

Durandall soared through the sky... and at the next moment, split into twelve. It became a burning meteor, scattering in a flash and shooting toward Asmodeus.

Twelve streaks of the sword in a moment reversed the opponent's vigilance with a single blow. At that moment, Durandal couldn't be cut by anything. It stopped and crushed the bloody sword, and with that, a sword disappeared. The remaining eleven fell toward the defenseless Asmodeus.

Clang, clang, clang.

The clash rang out eleven times.

"Is this your last attack?" Asmodeus laughed.

Before him... . . .

Over a hundred swords newly floated.

“Kuk... ..”

“You are so stupid. You can’t even take out a tenth of the swords that I dominate.”

Then Eustasia realized that her opponent was the sword demon. It was not from carelessness that he had neglected her, but from leisure.

Five swords completely slashed her body.

* * *

The other four’s fights were no different.

Jenna, Rachel, Zakiya, Sooryun. Each was overwhelmed by their opponent.

The power they had been given was by no means weak, but the opponent was literally the devil of hell.

Mamon ate all of Jenna’s lightning.

The jumbled flesh grew bigger with every lightning, and then threw itself with incredible speed, covering Jenna.

“Nooooo!” Jenna screamed but could not escape the fate of being eaten.

* * *

A flock of flies gathered to Rachel, who was praying.

One, two, three, four...

... One thousand, two thousand.

Each fly flocked to her with deadly disease and poison.

“Your healing only prolongs your suffering before me.” Beezelbub’s sentence was the truth, not arrogance.

Rachel’s power, which was only healing, provided only a little more time against poison and disease.

* * *

Zakiya was an outstanding illusionist, but Mephistopheles’s illusion was beyond excellence.

“You are so sloppy in comparison to my thousands of years of dispensation.”

Their difference in strength was too clear to fight with the same power of illusion.

Her illusions didn't deceive him for a second. On the other hand, Mephistopheles's illusion deceived her, even if she didn't wish to believe it.

Mockingly, she fainted from an illusionary injury.

* * *

Sooryun's pipa was beautiful and sharp.

Belial played the violin in response. It wasn't beautiful music that matched his fascinating beauty; it was a terrible scream containing the condemnation of hell.

The scream was sharper than expected. It pierced through her attacks and left injuries on her body.

Ring.

Riiing.

Her strings broke one by one. Eventually her carotid artery ruptured, and she collapsed.

Level 0 Master - Chapter 146

“Hahaha. Hahahaha.” The dark Sungjin laughed heartily and stared at Sungjin with cold eyes. “Really? If you and I had become one, you could have earned an easier victory. You haven't won because of them. You were held back by their incapability.”

“Yes. Such a method would have been easier.” Sungjin did not deny his words. If he had absorbed his darkness sealed inside hell, he could have won much more easily. It was not what he had wanted, but was the truth he could admit to. “But that is not victory. It's simply another loss for abandoning my dream.”

“Ha. A victory is a victory. Putting a meaning to it is simply a variable.”

“It's the difference between losing to an enemy or to myself. Having lost my goal, that would mean a loss.”

“Ha. Isn't it also your desire to challenge the best? You are the loser, wrapped in your own delusions of being virtuous.”

“It hasn't been decided who won.”

“Then let us decide now.” The dark Sungjin pulled out his sword. Unlike Sungjin’s sword, his sword was wrapped in darkness.

The figure was...

[Dusk Bringer]

It was the exact opposite to Sungjin’s sword. What were its properties?

“You guys stand back.”

“Yes, Your Majesty.”

The six devil lords accepted Sungjin’s orders and stepped back.

“I’ll give you a chance. My subordinates have won, but I’ll fight with you one-on-one.”

In response to dark Sungjin’s ease, Sungjin pulled out his own sword.

[Dawn Bringer]

The sword that cut chaos and brought light was revealed. “I’ll take up your challenge.”

Which was his “true” self? Which was the shard and which was the main soul?

There was no point in debating.

The victorious would decide.

* * *

Sword and sword continuously clashed. Fists rose into the air, and kicks were exchanged. They repeatedly clashed in the air, fell apart, and clashed once more.

They read each other’s movements and the best way of counterattacking. It was a tense exchange of calculations and comparable use of controlled skills—there wasn’t a single foot out of place beyond their physical movements and weapons. Because they were equally matched... the fight wasn’t advantageous to either side.

The energy expelled from the sword changed the topography. The sea evaporated, and the mountain collapsed. The ground was cleaved, and the forests burned.

Because their movements were faster than their respective light and dark power’s attributes, they were above earth’s measurement of 34 maha.

“Do you think Sungjin can win?”

At Ereka's question, Eustasia gripped her sword. "I don't know. They're evenly matched."

"But... if... Sungjin becomes the victor..."

Eustasia looked at the six lords standing behind the dark Sungjin.

"Would they leave him alone?"

If even one of them stepped up, the balance would be broken.

"You know they won't."

"... You're right."

They closed their mouths. No matter how they viewed it, the current situation indicated their loss. But still, they kept cheering.

If Sungjin won, they had at least a little chance.

Light and darkness fought. Six white wings and six black wings clashed several times in the air and flew back down.

The dark Sungjin laughed in excitement. "Reaping the powers of your subordinates to create six wings of light. Not bad. But it's not up to my level."

"Why don't you talk after you've won."

"I'm about to." At the same time, light poured out of the dark Sungjin.

"This..." Sungjin immediately predicted the worst case scenario, and that prediction came true.

Six wings of light appeared above the six black wings on dark Sungjin's back.

Sungjin's teammates screamed in terror. "No way."

"Didn't he choose the darkness?"

"How... did he gain the wings of light?"

The twelve wings emerged within the darkness. "Be released. Holy sword." Light exploded out of the dark Sungjin's dark sword.

[Dawn Bringer]

He held each of the swords in each hand.

Two large powers wavered around him as the sword of holy light and darkness resonated.

The presence that controlled both the darkness and light made his existence stronger.

Time-space trembled, and every living being held their breath. The immense ki became silent, and the continents bowed.

The six devil lords kneeled in unison. "We greet our master's true self."

It was the true image of a traitor who boasted dictatorship over the strongest demons of hell and was worshipped, ambitious enough to fight the gods and burn both heaven and hell with warfare.

"You would have learned if you couldn't remember. 'We' have more than six wings."

That was true. According to mythology, six wings was the symbol of archangels, the greatest of the angels, but Lucifer was even more special.

"You. Do you also control the light?"

"Yes. I swallowed it and made it mine."

"Kuk." Sungjin grabbed his sword. In the midst of his hurting head, memories flowed in that were not his own.

* * *

It was him.

At the beginning.

He was facing himself, who was not really himself.

The fork in their paths was when he had to choose whether or not to gain Lucifer's power at the expense of Ereka.

He gained Lucifer's power. In Hell, he became one with the dark dragon who polished his hatred, anger, and jealousy for God.

The beginning was the death of Ereka. Then it was easy.

All he needed to become the "King of Hell" was to regain his original strength.

Humans were insignificant. Like how humans ate food as an energy source, he used the souls of humans as his energy source.

The light, the dark. The good and bad. Every one of them were burned by the fires of hell and swallowed as his sacrifice. He swallowed the good souls and gained the power of light. The power of darkness was inherent within him. By completing both conditions, he almost recovered his original form.

Then he stepped on two challengers who came in “turns” from different timelines. And waited. To get the rest of his soul and a chance to be perfect.

The Valhalla he had descended on couldn't be called hell anymore. All life had been destroyed. Humans, of course, but also animals, plants, and insects.

In hell's flames, only his sub-devils were free, waiting for another day to fight God.

* * *

I see, he...

He had not become one with just the power of darkness sealed in hell.

If he could spread six white wings through his bonds with his six team members, the enemy...

You swallowed all the humans, or the whole parallel world, as your sacrifice.

And after taking him down, dark Sungjin planned to make all of his Valhalla a sacrifice.

Killing a world was not something to be hesitant about to the king of hell.

I need to stop him. This guy has to be stopped. If this guy wins, it won't end with just my defeat.

Ereka, Jenna, and Eustasia. Rachel, Zakiya, and Sooryun, too.

All of his team members would be sacrificed and killed, and everyone who was waiting for his news was going to die.

Beyond the death of their flesh, their souls would be burned in hellfire.

Such a terrible ending should never come to everyone, but how can I stop this? How can we overcome another self with equal wisdom and overwhelming power?

Justice wasn't a power. Morality was not the key to victory.

“Now you’ve predicted your loss.”

Sungjin countered dark Sungjin’s words by holding tightly onto his scabbard. “Ha. The game isn’t over yet.”

“Ha. You are me, so I know. Your brain has predicted correctly, even if your own mind has rejected it.”

“I say the opposite. Do you think you’ll give up without fighting, even after a rational judgement?”

“Hhahahaha. Okay, that’s me.” Dark Sungjin laughed happily.

He could speak on an equal ground with himself. He saw the same things he had. How long had it been since he faced someone like himself? Even if all the demons in hell were his subordinates, no one could be his “equal.” None of the two Valhalla offered an equal match. Only he was fit to be his own opponent.

“But it’s disappointing that you’re not that powerful. You could have been as strong as me.”

Two souls that were originally one. As such, their qualifications were comparable. Each one’s potential was the same. If they had made the same choice, they would have reached the same location.

“Why did you choose to stay weak while leaving the path to becoming the strongest?”

He was disappointed and angry that the person he had been waiting for was “weak.” In the final game for becoming the Arc Master, was his enemy only this?

However, Sungjin accepted that fact without losing. “I am the one who’s disappointed. It means nothing to triumph over the enemy as a human being. You’re just a loser who gave up a difficult game and ran away with an easy cheat. ”

“The loser? Hahaha, hahaha.” The eyes of dark Sungjin rapidly became cold. “This power?”

Two holy swords attacked Sungjin at the same time.

“Kuk.”

Sungjin tried to hit it back with just one sword, but...

“How slow.”

A two swords attack was not simply double the strength. The same sword struck out Sungjin's sword. At the same time, the evil sword stabbed Sungjin's side.

"Kuk."

The dark Sungjin pressed down on the bleeding Sungjin. Sungjin fell vertically down to the ground. The land broke and cracked all over, creating a deep crater.

Because he was a Kaiser, he didn't shatter, but the bones and organs in his body broke apart.

The dark Sungjin overwhelmed him with overwhelming power and looked down at Sungjin. "Be honest. You are me. That's why I know your truth."

Level 0 Master - Chapter 147

And the ascendance of his defeated allies' powers.

Even if they had the same power, it was a skill that suited him the most.

"So why did you abandon the chance to become stronger by taking care of those weak beings?"

"Don't look down on my teammates."

"Humiliation? That's only an analysis."

"Kuk."

"If you chose 'women' before 'strength,' I would have accepted that. It's a part of celebrating, taking women as your pleasure."

"My teammates are not the prize of my victories. Don't mock them!"

"Ha, things like women? What I really can't understand is..." The dark Sungjin aimed at Sungjin's throat. "That your actions are not truly your 'desire.' You have the same greed as I do. If you have the same greed, then why don't you get strength for the better good?"

"This isn't an act of a samaritan."

"Are you saying that you aren't lying when you say your true desire is not what you earn? You are me. I know what you really want."

"Don't talk without knowing anything!"

At his strong words, the dark Sungjin laughed. "To think you would lose your rationality at this kind of provocation. Seems like I was right."

"Kuk."

"If you were honest, we would have become one already. But you, who cannot be honest to yourself, cannot possibly be my opponent."

With that, the dark Sungjin pierced Sungjin's heart with his sword.

Kuk, d*mn it...

He didn't even have two swords.

Speed. Strength. Even the level was different. With those things, he could have fought even the most difficult of opponents. He could defeat others with his special brain and difference in specs, but against a person who had the same ability as him... the sword in his chest told him everything.

"Realize your place. Then I'll absorb you."

Sungjin hadn't attained the powers he could have gained. He did not sacrifice Ereka. He denied all opportunities to gain power. He protected his special ones. He protected others than himself.

That was why... the result was...

"You're weaker than I, who chose to be stronger."

The Dusk Bringer cut off Sungjin's head.

"The second fight has also ended in the victory of the Valhalla of darkness," the two crows of Odin announced.

"What is left is the last true fight. Everything begins from hereon."

"But the result has already been decided."

"The strong will win."

"The weak will fall."

"May a new god emerge from the merging of two souls."

And the two vanished into the skies.

Chapter 9

A second defeat. In such a situation, Sungjin gathered everyone for a meeting.

“Sungjin, I’m sorry.”

“I’m sorry I couldn’t beat the enemy.”

“Uu, Oppa.”

“I was so scared.”

“The enemy was... stronger than me.”

“I’m sorry, Oppa. I was weak.”

“No, don’t apologize. This failure is my responsibility as your leader.”

Sungjin drew the line. He made the choices. He led everyone. This was no one’s fault but his. And that responsibility could only be fulfilled by his victory.

But how was he going to win? He had to become colder as the tasks became harder.

“As we are, we cannot beat the six devil lords, and I can’t make you guys win, either.”

If the enemy had been someone different, he could have come up with something, but the enemy was himself. If the opponent was himself who could read his movements, then he couldn’t hope for such a miracle.

“Then how...” At Sungjin’s analysis, everyone’s face turned a shade darker, and they waited for Sungjin’s next words.

The Sungjin they knew wasn’t the type of person who would give up due to an obstacle. He would definitely have something to say about a possible solution.

And the answer Sungjin gave the excited girls was...

“Let’s take a break.”

“What?”

“We don’t have to throw ourselves immediately into the next battle, do we?”

“That’s true.”

“We did make a capital, which we can enjoy after all.”

Dining, sleeping, training. Their capital had everything necessary to fulfill those conditions, but telling them to rest was unexpected.

But Ereka soon nodded. "You're right. Sometimes resting is also necessary."

There was still time until their match.

Although a difficult question was left unsolved, resting their brains was a method to arrive at an answer.

* * *

Before their last chance, Sungjin's crew returned to their capital.

"Now, forget all about that battle and rest. That's the first thing you should do. Rest properly when it is time to be resting."

"Yes."

And Sungjin's teammates entered their resting phase.

Break.

Sungjin had said as such, but Ereka wondered what she should be doing.

What should I do? I thought there would only be fighting once we entered that realm.

She didn't know they would be taking a break.

What should she be doing?

A special training for Sungjin? No, then Sungjin wouldn't be able to take a break. Sungjin needs time to cool down and think again.

Then what she had to do was...

Fine. I'll try to make an appropriate dish for Sungjin to regain his calmness.

Ereka hummed as she made a feast for Sungjin. Although food could be made by simply asking for some, making it with her own hands was much more enjoyable.

Baking, steaming, frying, mixing. Several dishes began to come together by her hands.

Standing in the kitchen is definitely the best.

If she had not been born as royalty, she would have been a cook at this point, or, more realistically, she would have been receiving bride training.

What she wanted wasn't to be a successful restaurant owner but a cook for someone she loved.

Bride... training, ahh!

At the thought, Ereka's face turned red.

She had dreamed of it once. She was still dreaming of it. But could she achieve it? Or not?

Right now, they were before the greatest fight of all time.

If only the remaining year had been... But Sungjin won't consider that until he becomes an Arc Master, so never mind.

Would they win or not?

How would it be for this kind of day to continue until next year.

"The smell is good. Seems like you're cooking."

"Ah, Sungjin." Ereka was happy Sungjin had visited her room.

"You always liked cooking."

"Yes."

"You were deep in thought. What were you thinking about?"

"Were you watching since the beginning?"

"I was waiting for the right time to talk to you." Sungjin smiled.

"Oh, my..."

"Haha. Is there something you can't talk about?"

"No, just... I was hoping this kind of day would happen for the rest of the year."

"Even after several years?"

"Yes."

“That’s nice.”

“Hm? What?”

Sungjin smiled warmly at her. “This time you didn’t think about sacrificing yourself.”

“That...”

“Your heart for sacrificing yourself for everyone is admirable, but Ereka, if you’re gone, everyone will be sad.”

“Sungjin.”

“Me, too.”

“...”

“He said this: that I’m pretending to be nice. Ha, fine. I do have such a darkness inside me,” Sungjin accepted coolly.

He liked fighting. He wanted competition. He admired strength. He was himself. But...

“But I could deny his words because my desire to save you was honest.”

It was a really small difference. A small enough difference to separate the fate of the parallel worlds.

But his decision was to save others. That was why he could face Ereka.

“That’s why you shouldn’t think about victory through sacrifice. You should protect yourself.”

“Okay.”

“That’s how you’ll protect the people around you.”

“Okay.”

“Then should we eat?”

“Yes, I’ll prepare it now.” Ereka smiled brightly.

Cooking for Sungjin, eating with him—that was her best happiness.

* * *

Jenna placed a bunch of ingredients in her basket for Ereka. Sungjin helped carry it, since she was struggling.

“Are you trying to give it to her?”

“Ah! Yes, Oppa. Hehe.” Jenna waved her tail as she twisted her body.

“You’re trying really hard.”

“Yes, I want to help Her Majesty.”

“You really do like Ereka.”

“Hehe. I don’t wish for anything else but... I just want her to be happy.”

“Yes. That is your greatest wish. Didn’t you want to stop me?”

Jenna shook her tail as she opened her eyes wide. “No, how could I...”

“Just speak honestly.”

Jenna finally released her innocent expression, and sighed like an old woman. “To be honest, it’s too late now, but I wanted you to remain a Kaiser and live with her majesty for the rest of your life.” Because Ereka would have been satisfied with that.

“I understand that you have a bigger dream, and that Her Majesty wishes to help you through it... But I simply want Her Majesty to be happy without such a grand purpose.”

She lowered her head. “But I couldn’t stop you because everyone was all for it, because everyone seemed to be talking about the greater world out there, while I wanted to be stuck in a small world.”

But really, she just wanted everyone to be happy.

“I feel like I don’t belong on this team. That’s why I couldn’t use my full strength against the demon lord and lost.”

Sungjin patted her head. “There’s no need to feel guilty about that.”

“But...”

“Ruling the world. Well, that’s my dream, but I don’t think a person’s wish to protect another person is any less greater.”

“Really?” Jenna’s eyes widened.

“Yes. I believe there are people who want to conquer the world all because of a precious other.”

There were people who wanted to save the world just to save one person.

“I’d be really satisfied if Oppa and Her Majesty were happy. But do you think that’s enough?”

“Of course. So let’s help Ereka so that she can cook.”

“Yes!” Jenna answered readily.

Sungjin smiled..

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“Well, everyone has a different way of resting.” Sungjin just laughed.

“Hmph. It’s inconvenient to take a rest. I will make you win your final game.”

“Okay. It’s your trait to not give up.” Sungjin nodded slowly.

“Hmph. Whatever.” Eustasia turned her head slightly. I really almost gave up once.

When abandoned by her father, the king, she had given up hope. But Sungjin saved her. He woke her up and allowed her to dream.

So I won’t give up this time.

I will definitely make Sungjin win.

* * *

Rachel prayed.

“What are you praying for?”

“Oh, Oppa.” At Sungjin’s question, she got up in the middle of her prayer. “Hehe. I wished for you to win. ”

“Thanks.”

They smiled face to face.

“If you can’t win... that other person... will he burn our world?”

“Yes, but that won’t happen, so don’t worry.”

“Why is he...”

“It’s his desire to be stronger.” Knowing what it was, Sungjin spoke bitterly.

“Is that so? Why would he want strength by harassing others? It’s better to just live together and be peaceful.”

The wish “don’t bother anyone” was pure because she herself had suffered so much from the desires of others.

“Yes, that would be nice, however... he won’t listen to you. His desire comes first and foremost.”

“Even if the others are sick?”

“Yes.”

“I see.”

Rachel was sullen. She knew that there were such people in the world. She had been through a lot herself. Still, she wanted others to change their minds.

“Your heart is wonderful. Just... there are those who don’t listen to it. ”

“Yeah.”

“It’ll be hard, but let’s win. Otherwise, everyone in this world will suffer.”

“Yes, brother. I will do my best. ”

“Okay.”

* * *

Zakiya approached Sungjin.

Her dizzying body shook following her shaking step.

“If you’re going to take a break, how about a more exciting entertainment?”

“No, thank you.”

“Even though you try to have everything, you have a strong temperance. It’s really different from Your Majesty on the other side. ”

Zakiya grinned.

If the Sungjin who had chosen the “dark” didn’t control his own desires, the Sungjin she knew inside and out thoroughly did. They were the same but so different.

“Yet that’s still too bad.”

“Why?”

“If not for this hot body, what else would I reward Your Majesty with?”

“You don’t have to worry about rewarding me.”

“But I am greatly blessed by Your Majesty. How can I repay the grace that has forgiven this body of sins that has been tainted with all kinds of lies?”

At Zakiya’s words, Sungjin smiled softly. “You made a false approach... .. You still care about that?”

“How do you not care?”

“It’s okay. I saved you because I saw one truth in your lies.”

“You said one truth?”

Sungjin looked straight at Zakiya.

Facing him, Zakiya placed her hands on her chest as she felt her heart rate become faster. The strong hard-willed eye had all of her.

Ah, those eyes. Those eyes that melt everything just by facing me...

Those eyes that had forgiven her misguided past.

“Love and sadness for your brother. Wasn’t that true?”

At the end of Sungjin’s words, Zakiya once again recalled her past. The moment she was saved.

“Hoho. Yes. Your Majesty has indeed recognized it.”

“That’s what really moved me.”

“Not my beauty?”

“Why, are you disappointed?”

“Hoho. That’s just like you.” Zakiya shook her head.

Sungjin was Sungjin.

Even if the appearance is the same, he is completely different from the Sungjin of darkness.

“So let’s shake off the past and have confidence.”

“Yes, Your Majesty.”

* * *

Sooryun played the pipa with elegant technique. The tone was beautiful, sad, and warm.

“Is it a song for those trapped in that world?” Sungjin appeared and asked, so Sooryun stopped training for a while.

“Yes, it is for those who have finally found rest in the long curse of eternity but have not yet been liberated.”

“It’s beautiful,” Sungjin nodded slightly, and sat down and listened to her pipa.

“Thank you for the compliment.”

“No. It really was beautiful.”

The live music of a true artist was vivid, unable to be replicated in a recording. Such was Sooryun’s music.

“I’m still lacking.”

“Why do you think so?”

“I wouldn’t have been able to save the world myself if brother hadn’t come along, and now...” Sooryun’s complexion paled. “I can’t handle my enemy alone, so I’m burdening my brother.”

“You don’t have to apologize. The biggest responsibility for the defeat rests with me, the leader. ”

“But I did nothing for their rest and salvation.”

“Oh no, no. I told you to rest, but you were thinking about it.” Sungjin gave a gentle smile. “They are all in me now.” The souls of the world were all asleep but not yet

liberated. It was a task to be completed after he became an Arc Master. “And your music would have been heard by them.”

“Are you sure? Could they be listening to my performance without a physical body?”

“Playing with the heart can be heard by the soul.”

“Playing with the heart...”

“Let me hear your music. I think the souls that sleep in me are happy. And most of all... . . .” Sungjin laughed. “I want to hear more.”

Sooryun blushed slightly. “I see. Next time I’ll play better. To move the soul.”

“I’ll be expecting that.”

* * *

Sungjin had a leisurely rest in his palace. Sometimes he visited the other women’s dwellings in order to chat and play together, but that was all. Whoever saw him could see he wasn’t ready for the final fight.

Pandora approached Sungjin, who was sitting in a chair and looking at the sky with ease.

“My grandfather was curious. What is the final answer for victory in the sacred realm?”

Sungjin turned to her. “And did you know that the enemy would be myself?”

“Yes.”

“You’re spoiled for not telling me.”

“He thought it was a process that you have to go through.”

“Ha, that’s not wrong either.”

“And on behalf of my grandfather, I now have to watch you, whether it is you of light or of darkness that will become the victor.”

No other man in Valhalla was a match for Sungjin. Both Valhallas had made Sungjin their final winners.

The candidates for the right answer were narrowed down to “two.” The “two” were one and completely different. One side wanted to get strength by destroying the world. The other side was...

“You’re weaker than him, because you couldn’t go that far.” That was the result of Pandora’s analysis.

Even with equal potential, the gap between one who did anything to become stronger and one who didn’t was noticeable.

“You think so?”

“Didn’t you already lose twice?”

“Yes, I did lose twice, but that was due to a difference in information and in the preparation period. I don’t think I’ll lose the last game.”

“How can you say you have a chance?”

“Why? You think I can’t win?”

“No. Your opponent is yourself. He is equal in every way.”

“So?”

“Your opponent consumed the world and strengthened himself. You gave up being strong in return to keep what you pursue. That difference made an absolute difference.”

Sungjin’s six wings. His opponent’s twelve wings. Sungjin’s team members were still unprepared despite their awakenings and, on the contrary, the demon kings of hell had gained experience since ancient times.

The strength of each individual and power lay in that aspect.

“My analysis has already determined the results.”

“Do you think that’s the answer your grandfather was looking for?”

“In my analysis, yes. If you don’t think so, please say so.”

Sungjin smiled at Pandora. “If there is strength in not hesitating to destroy the world...”

His eyes shone sharply. It was a sharp and intense glare that made everything that had happened previously seem like a lie. Even the emotionless Pandora couldn’t breathe because of its intensity.

“... there is also strength in protecting the world. I’m becoming stronger to do so. And I will be even stronger this time.”

For the world... for his precious ones... To protect everything... he couldn't lose. He couldn't lose because he was his opponent. He couldn't lose because the enemy was his own "truth."

Obviously, the enemy could have been his form. If he had chosen a different path in a moment of conflict, he could have reached such a power contemplating himself at a crossroad. The darkness inside him was his greatest enemy, so he could never lose. He had to win, otherwise the current Sungjin was a lie.

Pandora, who was overwhelmed by his intensity, barely recovered. "Did you say that protecting the world is strength?"

"Yes."

"Your words don't make sense."

"Why?"

"When a lot of resources are used, it makes sense that the expected value for the output increases. Protecting the world is a strength achieved by the effort alone, while using resources would give an entirely different result."

"So, you think I'll lose?"

"Yes."

Sungjin stood up and tapped Pandora's head lightly. "You can't confirm a theory without testing it out first."

"That fact is true, but..."

"Wait and watch. I'll show you what true strength is."

"Are you saying that you can really win?"

"Yes."

Pandora watched Sungjin and scanned him from head to toe. "I don't understand how that would be possible."

"I'll overcome your possibility."

"... May I look forward to it?"

"Of course."

Pandora watched Sungjin once more.

What is this man talking about?

The man who defeated her grandfather. And the man who wished to overcome himself. The man who wanted to challenge himself again even after two devastating defeats.

Was he bluffing, or was it the truth?

I don't understand.

But she knew the answer.

She wanted to see this man's final scene, whether it was an ascendance into godship or grand destruction.

I don't understand what he has prepared for the last month.

To the word, Sungjin and his teammates had done nothing but take a break. They hadn't done any special training. But was that some sort of preparation for victory?

"You seem to be doubting me. But that's good. It's a scholar's attitude to confirm what he hasn't seen."

Sungjin passed by her naturally.

Pandora's eyes followed his movements.

"I'll show you now. If you want to see the ending, follow me."

"... Yes."

She automatically followed Sungjin. She wanted to see how this man was going to prove himself, not because she wanted to keep her promise to her grandfather, but because she wanted to see for herself.

This endless curiosity... What is this emotion called?

She looked it up.

And the results were.

[A step before love].

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Chapter 10

Sungjin gathered everyone together. "Did everyone have a good rest?"

"Yes."

"And everyone's prepared?"

"Yes."

"Good. Then we should greet everyone before leaving. They do have a right to know what's going to happen on this earth."

"Announcing. I will do the final battle against the god's realm," Sungjin announced to the entire world with his power of a Kaiser.

His bright and strong voice rang. "The enemy is my opposite. He's from a parallel universe. He's the ruler of the Valhalla of darkness. He has burned his world and is trying to burn ours."

Sungjin knew that the entire world would talk because of his announcement, but he did not hide the truth, because...

"This is not only my fight. I will stand at the forefront, but this is also a fight where your fates are on the line. That is why I want you guys to be with me on this. I'm assuming you want to ask how you can participate?"

The only ones who could stand on the battlefield were Sungjin and his teammates.

"Cheer for us. I believe that everyone's hearts gathered together will create a stronger strength. A player does better on their home ground. Even if you can't be with us, cheer for us."

Entrusting them with the last competition's cheering responsibility, he shouted for the last time, "I'll take your cheers, and win!"

The entire world kneeled before their Kaiser. "Your Majesty, we wish you the best."

Everyone cheered for Sungjin. They weren't cheering just because Sungjin was their Kaiser. They hoped Sungjin would continue to be their guardian.

Sungjin, who had just thrown down his challenge, turned toward Pandora.

There was no way of knowing what he had prepared, but she was expectant. What she wanted to know was if he would break all preconceptions.

Do I want him to?

She was confused. She had infinite knowledge within herself, but she couldn't comprehend her own emotions.

What did Sungjin mean to her? Was he the only person capable of showing her what life was? Or... was he something more than that? Right now, she knew nothing, and could only watch him.

They entered the realm once more.

For the final battle.

* * *

The two crows greeted them with an ominous aura.

"He has come to meet his final fate."

"They were one in the beginning. They cannot continue to be apart."

"The strong will swallow the weak."

"How noisy." Sungjin snorted and ignored them. "You two just watch."

Chasing the two crows away, he faced his other self.

Sungjin's region and his opponent's region had entirely different auras. Even though they were the same forests, Sungjin's forests were more peaceful and comfortable and quiet. The green of the trees and the bright colors of the flowers were beautiful.

On the other side, dark Sungjin's forests were strangely twisted and filled with black trees. It could be called hell, not a place fit for humans.

If the desert on Sungjin's side had an oasis and cacti and desert animals, the dark Sungjin's side had souls drifting around black grains of sand.

Their different directions, of their own creation, were already affecting their world.

The dark Sungjin greeted him cheerfully. "You've finally come to meet your end."

"Yes. Let's do our final battle." Sungjin smiled at his opponent.

They understood each other. They knew each other. They wanted the victory over each other. They couldn't accept each other, because the opponent was himself.

“There’s no need for words. Let’s start our fight.”

“Good.”

There was no reason to drag the fight out, because they had already decided to defeat each other.

“I’ll see how much you’ve grown during the break. I’ll defeat you in the same conditions.” The dark Sungjin snapped his fingers with “leisure.” “Dark Colosseum.”

The battlefield that would decide their fate separated them.

The dark Sungjin and Sungjin. The two faced each other, and the rest were sucked into their opponent’s devil lords space.

“I wonder how many of your subordinates will be able to make it back here.”

“I’m saying it once more. They’re not my subordinates. They’re my teammates.”

“Equals? They’re simply subordinates.”

“I really don’t like you.”

“I feel the same.”

But the two did not fight immediately. The two both had time to wait for the others’ fights to be done.

* * *

Astaros and Ereka faced each other once more.

“Huhu. Let’s see how much you’ve changed.”

“Of course.” Ereka stabbed her spear at Astaros.

Astaros stopped her spear’s explosion with his magic circle. “It did become sharper, but there is no meaningful difference.”

Even if her spear had become stronger, it wasn’t strong enough to pierce through his defences.

After several exchanges, he gathered his power in his staff. “How boring. Even if you’re hiding something, you’re not my opponent. I’ll end this.”

Several large magic circles appeared in the air, and the surrounding objects began to be sucked into it. The universe's suction force didn't accept any resistance.

Watching it, Pandora shook her head. That's similar to a black hole.

A destructive point that was created by Astaros's magic. Before that force, which could destroy everything, even the Sun, Ereka's defences were meaningless. Any material would be demolished within that thing.

"Disappear."

As she was being sucked upwards, she closed her mouth firmly. Now what was she going to do? She had always tried to do something by sacrificing herself. It was her inner kindness to do so, but she had realized something as she had fought with Sungjin. If she truly wanted to protect everyone, she had to be stronger herself. Sacrifice only worked once. In order to support the world and protect it for a long time, she had to be strong. That was how Sungjin had protected everyone and had gathered them. That was why she had to...

"I'll be strong for those I have to protect!" Ereka raised her shield. "Aegis!"

A bright light surrounded her. The holy shield she used to protect everyone but herself protected her. That was the new strength she had earned after ascending. The Aegis appeared after she had decided to stand as firm as Sungjin.

"Huh?"

An ultimate barrier that didn't waver even before the strongest destructive force in the universe—that was a god's power that went beyond scientific specifications.

The name of Aegis was much stronger, but Astaros had never thought it could stop his magic. He had never imagined his opponent could be released from his magic. That was his pride as hell's magician.

But at the same time, he had let his guard down. Because he had used his all to create the best magical situation, he couldn't use a defensive magic.

Surrounded in light, Ereka ran forward. The holy sword pierced Astaros' heart.

"Kuuuhk..."

"Haah, hah."

Astaros started to dissipate.

"Huhu, admirable. But I can't disrupt my master's cause. If I go, you go with me!"

But he did not create a micro black hole again. What he created was something that swallowed everything, even Ereka, whose Aegis had been released.

“Sungjin...”

That was how strong his curse was.

The result was a tie.

* * *

Pandora’s eyes opened wide.

Did the ultimate skill evolve into a new form?

Ereka’s Aegis wasn’t that form, according to historical data. It was only to protect others. It was also a form that had its own weaknesses.

What happened?

* * *

Eustasia’s Durandal met Asmodus’s numerous swords. A much faster Durandal hit a number of swords in a row.

“Ho. That’s good. Speeding up one sword to handle several swords. It’s not a bad development.”

Asmodeus knew the end. Although Durandall was a legendary sword, it was suppressed before overwhelming numbers.

Like Randall, the original owner of Durandall, the legend of the earth was overpowered by numbers, and Durandall eventually broke down. At first the blade went out, and then it broke and eventually shattered.

Her body was soon pierced by the cursed swords. Asmodeus praised the fallen Eustasia. “You’ve developed a lot. But the power of numbers can’t be beaten by speed alone. This is it.”

“It’s not over yet.”

What could a swordless swordswoman do? Asmodeus watched with curiosity, but nothing happened. “What are you talking about?” He started his final blow against Eustasia, saying he wouldn’t wait any longer. But his instinct as a prosecutor warned him of something. And he saw... tiny starlight shimmering and filling their surroundings.

That is?

It wasn't starlight. It was pieces of the shattered and scattered Durandall.

"Justice may be broken." Eustasia admitted. In reality, justice had been defeated and defeated over and over again. "But nevertheless, moving toward justice again, that's the chance he gave me!" Small pieces of the sword soared. They all became brilliant stars in the air. "So my sword will rise again and again!"

She had been defeated. However, Sungjin had allowed her to fight again. Sungjin had also been defeated at times, but he had stood up again.

Justice wasn't one victory. She was going to make it so that justice would win over and over again.

"Indomitable Justice! Durandall! "

Pieces of the sword fell down on Asmodeus, spewing light like the Milky Way.

"Cheeky! It's already a broken sword!"

The demon swords also flew toward Eustasia in unison. Swords once again rammed her body. At the same time, star pieces penetrated Asmodeus's entire body.

"With just a sword... .."

"Sungjin... .. This is my limit. "

The two disappeared at the same time.

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She gripped her hammer tightly as she faced the trembling unknown figure that could eat anything in its path.

It's scary. Horrible.

Just watching the disgusting figure made her tremble. She wanted to run. Being eaten by that thing had been a horrible experience. But she didn't run.

I don't have grand aspirations like the others.

She didn't have an ideal goal like Her Majesty, nor did she have a difficult path like the others. Somehow, she was an outsider of the team.

She was fortunate to have accompanied Sungjin through some hard battles. That was why she had received this incredible power.

Lightning gathered above the girl who accepted and faced herself.

But even she had something she wanted.

I want the people I love to be happy.

Her viewpoint was too small to include the greater humanity. Her plate was small. But now she knew one thing. If she ran away from this, if she lost... then her Sungjin and Her Majesty would disappear. She had to win this fight, even if she had to burn her entire being.

Her hammer rang around the skies. Lightning that broke the mountains and burned the seas fell down on the ground. But since he had eaten it before, Mamon ate it without hesitation. The lord of greed was only going to eat it...

Jenna knew that would happen. That was why she needed to...

"I'm going to use everything I have to not lose to you."

She ran toward the lightning and threw her body into it. "Kuuuuuu."

The lightning burned her body, but she entered it regardless, and drew up some more lightning.

"I sacrifice myself! May transcendent power be brought down on this earth."

She burned off her own flesh to boost the power of lightning. The lightning turned from white to blue, proof of it having heated up, and she threw it upon Mamon.

"Kwaaaah!" A scream erupted from somewhere inside the flesh.

The desire of a girl overcame the limit of what gluttony could eat.

The flesh became ashes inside the blue flames.

* * *

Beelzebub sent Rachel a flock of flies, poisons, and plagues. In front of him, Rachel faced him with prayers of healing and purification.

Beelzebub laughed at her. "There's no point. Defending can never beat the attacker. The power to heal others just forestalls my plague."

The flock of flies covered Rachel more.

“Others seemed to respond in their own way, but you are miserable.”

Rachel was completely crushed and destroyed.

Beelzebub turned around. “Now it’s time to go see the Lord.”

He didn’t dare say that he was going to help him. It was easy for Lucifer, who ruled hell, to fight his debris as a human being. How could he dare be of help?

Then he caught onto something.

Is there something yet?

He felt a subtle flow of power and turned around. Intense flames arose from Rachel, who should have rotted and disappeared.

“What are you doing?”

“I don’t like fighting. I don’t want to hurt anyone. However... .. However... .. .” Her flame burned a flock of flies. “I learned that if I don’t fight, others will have to, and if I back out, there will be times where others will get hurt.” That’s what she learned from seeing the back of Sungjin, who was fighting in front of her. That there were times when she had to fight against evil even if she didn’t want to.

“Patyekabuddha.” The kidney of an ascended being that is known to push away all evil. Rachel clung to Beelzebub with flames all over her body

“Release me!”

“Your curse will not touch anyone except me.”

The flames encircled both of them and burned intensely.

* * *

Pandora had now assembled a logical interpretation of the situation.

Yes, I see now.

Sungjin had deliberately waged a fight when his team members had not completed a new ultimate skill to know the enemy and make an ultimate skill accordingly.

The enemy is strong.

The dark lords' levels were one level above the awakened women. There was only one way to fill the gap: specialized counters. Once an awakening was evolved into a new form, it became a fixed skill.

So his plan was to gather information on his opponent and his skills in order to win the next fight.

She remembered Sungjin's words.

The first two defeats are just differences in information and preparation.

That wasn't a bluff. He had planned to throw the first two games from the beginning to get information on his opponent, and during their break he had led their ultimate skills to their proper form.

The leisurely conversation that seemed to be just a chat was actually a "trigger" for each person. He had predicted that they would be able to bring out their own specific skill once he gave them the trigger.

Indeed, he surpassed my prediction once again.

What will he show next? She was curious. The more she came to know him, the more interesting he became.

Her heart was beating fast.

* * *

Demon King Mephistopheles. He was known for depraving the renowned Dr. Faust, and his illusions were as similarly well-known.

Even while knowing that it was a lie and a fantasy, it was so sophisticated and powerful that Zakiya couldn't wake up from it.

Even though she knew it was all in her head, the illusion caused her to believe it was real.

"Red flames."

Hot flames wrapped around Zakiya's body. "Ugh." No matter how much it appeared to be an illusion, her body burned as if it were real.

"Ice."

Cold ice wrapped around Zakiya. Even though it was also a lie, her body was frozen cold. Injured in a series of forceful illusions, she eventually fell to the floor.

On the other hand, her fantasy didn't touch Mephistopheles. The difference in skill level between the two was evident.

"It is your misfortune facing me, human."

If she had met a different kind of opponent, there would have been a chance, but there were no weaker devil lords.

"Farewell." Mephistopheles raised his hand, saying that he would make the most spectacular fantasy. "The ghost corps of the death list."

Innumerable ghosts of hell appeared and rushed to Zakiya all at once. Every pain the endless number of ghosts exerted was an illusion.

"I'm not going to be defeated again." Zakiya summoned the last of her strength to use against Mephistopheles. A storm of swords was born and shot toward him.

"Did you imitate Asmodeus? There is no point."

This illusion was meaningless before him. As soon as the sword touched him, it disappeared.

"Yes. My illusion is really helpless before you," Zakiya admitted. But what if it wasn't an illusion?

"This is... . ." Mephistopheles's knees shook seeing the sword penetrating him. "Dawn Bringer."

"Huhu. Yes. Are you familiar with the sword?"

"How did you?"

"I can't make a fantasy as powerful as yours." Dealing with the deceptive lord, she was only an illusionist. "But he told me that there was one truth in my life, even if everything else may have been a lie."

So her new ultimate skill was an illusion except for one thing, the one thing that was in her heart that made the illusion "real." It wasn't a matter of believing it or not. There was something true beyond the fantasy, and the one truth in her heart was...

"My heart for His Majesty. That's why his sword is real."

"Kuk... . . ."

"Huhu. After all, you are but summoned to this battlefield. If the core of your existence is destroyed, you'll be destroyed too."

“To think I will be extinguished by this ‘truth.’ I will be teased for it later.”

“I do not know. Will there be a later?”

Believing that their respective Sungjin would win, the demon and dancer disappeared together.

* * *

Pandora once again admired the feats of the team members who had drawn a tie against the Six Demon Kings of Hell. Behind all this was the guidance of Sungjin, and...

... .

Everyone lived up to that expectation.

Did Sungjin predict this? Or had he believed in them? Either way, it was amazing.

Utilizing a power one already had and pushing it to its maximum potential was an amazing thing. It was another way to unlock the full potential of his team by teaching those who were less talented than him at eye level.

Then the end of this game will be...