Level 0 Master - Chapter 51

Although according to history, royal families often showed unstable relationships between parent and child.

Seyzo II, the mad king had been, in the end, a human who became gentle before his own daughter. And despite the risks and danger towards 'himself', he had raised his child.

He had a thought that perhaps the king saw himself in the positive girl who was born out of wedlock, but what was more important than the reason would be the final decision.

Even the mad king had been a human before his daughter.

Although now he had tried to kill her too.

"I acknowledge your valid reason."

She lowered her gaze.

A warrior had to use their sword in righteousness. Therefore, protecting the mad king with a realistic excuse did not give her a proper argument.

"I will not resent you for killing my father."

"But..."

"Still...I cannot participate in that fight."

Even her voice started wavering.

She was not ignorant as to what was right and wrong, but with a dilemma she could not resolve she became smaller.

"Okay. I will not talk further about this issue."

Sungjin resolutely closed the conversation.

"Won't you blame me for not differentiating emotions from war?"

"Even if it may be for the greater purpose, it's not my hobby to pit a child against their parents."

He grinned.

He did not bring out any socratic reasons or ethical arguments.

He closed the conversation with a word of his hobby.

Seems like I really cannot do anything about this.

Frankly, he had predicted that she would turn her mind.

Even if she was a rule-abiding warrior who found great importance in loyalty in a world where such actions were praised, beneath that was a heart for the country and, therefore, a heart for the people that composed the country.

So he had expected that she would be with him in the last battle.

But his predictions went out of line.

When there is not enough data, variables are prone to have mistakes.

Against Seyzo II, he had no choice but to fight with himself and his other teammates.

"I'm sorry I brought forth this situation to prevent you from going further."

She respectfully grasped the edges of her skirt and lowered her head.

It could be...that my situation...

She had argued that it was for the best, but perhaps it was arrogance which yearned to correct her father and the country under the name of justice.

In the past, she had said so proudly, but here she lost that confidence.

"Don't apologize. It's only the conditions and team members that have changed. Just because your personal emotions were entangled does not mean you have spoken falsely."

Sungjin did not ask her any further.

He simply reassured her.

"You really think so?"

"There's more than one justice in the world, and if it's about personal emotions..."

Sungjin pointed towards himself with his thumb.

"Mine is greater."

His motivations were truly the thirst for victory and conquering after all.

Before the man who had accepted her, even after fighting her so many times, Eustasia had no choice but to smile.

She could not walk the same path as this man.

She could not serve under a man who had killed her father.

She would not hate him but would relocate to a place where his power did not reach in the plains.

"But..."

"I'll tell you... one thing."

"What is it?"

"The power that my father has grasped is evil but strong. You can feel the difference almost immediately. That is a cheat item, which allows the wearer to possess a strength outside of his level's domain."

With simple brute strength or strategy or anything else.

"It's different from the devil sword of the Blood Ruler. That was a complete conquering weapon within the rules of the Devil's attribute. But this is an abnormal power that is forbidden."

"Don't worry. I've already faced it once before during the Blood Ruler's time. I'm not so weak as to fail by underestimating an eerie variable that the other threatens me with."

"If that's so, it's fine."

At Eustasia's words, Sungjin refrained from saying one last thing:

That just because he did not underestimate, did not guarantee his victory.

He simply used everything in his power in order to win.

As a winner.

As someone entrusted with others' lives.

Chapter 19

The day of the war came.

In the waiting room, Seyzo II muttered while winding black substances around his arms and legs.

"Kill every last one. Eat every last one. I will punish by eating and ripping and shredding everyone."

In the same waiting room, the other two kings, who remained standing, shivered in disgust, wariness, and fear.

Are we truly doing the right thing by allying with this bastard?

They had thoughts about simply abandoning this entire mission simply due to the instinctive otherworldly revoltingness.

But that was simply their emotions; once they thought about it rationally, this was a great chance.

Let's just hold our tongues. We will take back our lost lands and must win this fight to protect the ones we currently have.

And they felt by the last battle, if they fought by themselves, it would only result in defeat, one by one.

If Seyzo II brought forth a disgusting but strong and mighty power into this, there were only positive words about it, not negative ones.

For now, they would reclaim their lands and think of everything else after their victory.

It might even turn out to be a good thing.

With that victory, they may be able to conquer the Kingdom of Sevrantina. And when Seyzo II is consumed by his own power, his land would be free for all without a ruler.

If they ate all of that, they would have lands twice the size they currently had.

And if all else went fine by grasping the other kings' weaknesses, they would be able to achieve the great feat of uniting the four kingdoms.

Even if we may not like this bastard now, we will use him.

Even a mad person had his uses. It was befitting a king's plate to use such characters too.

They decided as such.

Their desires had turned into revolting greed.

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The camps of both sides were three to three.

It was the result of accepting Sungjin's proposal to fight with only the elites, leaving behind all the weak nuisances.

Sungjin's grounds finished their preparations.

The participating members were Sungjin, Ereka, and Jenna.

He looked at the two and said,"We'll fight according to plan."

"Yes, Sungjin."

"Yes, Oppa."

"If..."

Sungjin paused to take a breath.

"If a variable that you cannot account for appears, simply retreat."

He would have been able to guarantee his victory if it were the old Seyzo II.

But the ring of Forbidden Evil had too many unknown variables.

They had planned according to the original breadth of knowledge but would have to play by hand after understanding the unknown power.

"Yes, Sungjin."

"I won't push myself, Oppa."

You will enter in three seconds. 3... 2... 1... 0.

The battle began with the Valkyrie's announcement.

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If observed critically, it was not a formation where Sungjin could win.

The enemy was three level seven kings.

And Seyzo II even had powers that could not be considered level seven with the Forbidden Evil.

On the other side, Sungjin only had Ereka to contest King Ilkandii as the same level seven. Jenna, who was at level six, was a level below the same wizard occupant level seven, King Leoric.

And level zero, Sungjin, was obviously bound to fail in a matter of seconds against Seyzo II, even if he had the Sword of Heaven's Will.

And in those conditions, a preemptive attack.

It was a fight that simply could not be.

But Sungjin informed all of the heroes of the four kingdoms quite confidently to come.

It is a moment of history. I hope you all come and watch.

At the slight threat that he would watch the level of 'loyalty' with whether other heroes may come to watch or not, the kings of the three kingdoms immediately called for everyone to assemble at the same the traitors were being punished, so nearly everyone of the four kingdoms was there.

And the atmosphere...

That extra bastard...no, he might really win?

Of course, once analyzed, he was disadvantaged.

But it wasn't once or twice Sungjin had thrown that perspective completely off its hinges.

Once was a trick.

Twice was a miracle.

But a third even they did not understand, other than the fact that there was something to him.

So for the people gathered, their opinions were divided in half.

Half saying that this was reckless.

The other half saying that there had to be something unimaginable Sungjin would show, as by the mood he had set, and, therefore, should not judge so early on.

As I thought, does he have some sort of otherworldly power to manipulate the opponent's mind; his level being a hoax?

I heard that he had the power to foresee the future.

I heard that he had the power to manipulate fate.

Because no one could believe the defeat at a 'real' extra's hands, they exchanged conspiracy theories that seemed to make sense of Sungjin's summoned background.

Although all the rumors were wrong, it also meant that the heroes had a new perspective of him.

The mood of the extras was also different from the past.

There was worry prevalent as to whether Sungjin could really win.

"Still...wouldn't he be able to win like he always did?"

"Right? Even if we may not be able to see it, they would be able to see some path to victory, right?"

It was not to the point of 'faith'.

But at least there was a level of 'expectations'.

Lute grasped his hands together while talking.

"Sister. Let's pray for Master Sungjin's victory again."

"Yes, let's do that."

Nania smiled, suppressing her anxiousness.

Sungjin had protected them several times, their dreams and wishes on his shoulders.

He won against everyone who tried to step on it.

Every time it had felt like a miracle.

So let's not say there's nothing like impossible any longer.

Let's believe and believe and become his strength.

Their strength, which was only composed of prayers, would not have amounted to much, but they would still encourage him.

That's what she decided.

Eustasia, mingled with the other onlookers, watched the fight.

So many are wishing for his victory and praying for it.

She did not know whether justice existed within Sungjin.

She also knew there was no room left to take a step back and correct mistakes one at a time. She was not wishing for her father's victory at this point.

Father...

She was simply pitying him.

Where did it all go wrong?

She had thought many times as to whether there was a path to save her father. But there was no other path.

I don't even know what to pray for.

The arena the three players entered was composed of a large tunnel, both above and below, and in the middle was a forest. As expected, there were mid-level mobs within the forests, so it was an area that could not be ignored.

"As planned, Ereka the North, Jenna the South, and I will take care of the forest."

"Yes."

"Yes."

"In high possibility, North will have magician, King Leoric, as the enemy, and knight, King Ilkandii, down South. Seyzo II would probably go after me."

In the strange terrain, Sungjin predicted they would position themselves as thus.

"After that, according to plan."

"Yes, Sungjin."

"Yes."

"If you do as we've trained, you can win. Don't worry."

"I trust you."

"I'll do my beest!"

Sungjin's initial predictions went as planned.

At the North was King Leoric, the South, King Ilkandii, and Seyzo II graced the forest.

His observance, which had a one-sixth chance of succeeding, was truly special.

"It's not as if the victors have been decided but...as expected there is no weakness."

That was the evaluation of the heroes.

They were the same class but if Jenna had gone against King Leoric, she would have been oppressed on all sides. Similarly, if Ereka, who had the same level but a lack of experience, went against King Ilkandii in a one-to-one knight fight everyone predicted Sungjin would have lost quite stably.

But his perceptiveness, which gave some leeway by setting the different classes against each other, was truly remarkable.

Of course, the fact that his prediction was right on the first try did not guarantee his victory.

It made no difference from predicting they were walking to their deaths into a burning building if they could not overcome the difference in strength.

But who knows what else he has planned.

The people did not dare open their mouths rashly.

The risk of discussing a certain victor and having the other side win was too large.

Level 0 Master - Chapter 52

It was a situation where they would lose if nothing was used.

This was the thought of everyone when Sungjin smirked.

Now, time to turn the tables.

It was all according to plan.

Here. First, Ereka, as a knight, will handle the wizard, King Leoric, and Jenna, as a wizard, will handle King Ilkandii. The opponent will think this as an obvious plan. After all, there's only a chance of victory if the opponent's level is too high by pitting opposite classes against each other.

One week before the battle, Rittier objected against his plan.

But the opponent will try to change that.

Right. They may think we are all the same, but it would be more reassuring to fight against a person just below their level.

Then we should exchange...

No, there is no need. Pretend as if you are being defeated because you've missed the timing of repositioning yourselves.

Even so...would they let their guard down?

Rittier's worries were valid. Sungjin's strategies, until now, were to make the other player let their guard down and strike their weakest point as the opportunity presented. That was only possible because he was being looked down upon as an extra.

But as Sungjin was being recognized as something more than an extra, the opponents were being more careful.

Of course they wouldn't, Sungjin acknowledged coolly.

Then?

Until now I've only been using that strategy because it was the easiest. Now, I will show you something else.

He would not rely on the opponent's pride forever when aiming for the top.

I will push them to the point where they have no choice.

It was not because one was afraid, not because there was a lack of suspicion.

Humans ultimately decided for the best to the best of their abilities.

The control over information, the tweaking of understanding were fundamental to controlling the opponent.

Letting one's guard down or being too prideful were simply the side effects of it.

You may find my plans unsettling, but they would not let themselves be simply defeated by our hands. We will make them come to a decision without a choice. That's what we are aiming for.

The two existences that do not kneel to the might of power or its representative.

One who is both a genius and a military strategist, another who cleaves the heavens.

The moment where the winners are decided by the two powers at play.

Jenna suddenly stopped her magic and ran forth.

"Everyone attack!"

She closed their distance in a blink and burrowed herself into King Leoric's body.

"Wha. what!"

King Leoric was at a loss for words seeing Jenna who stopped her extreme magic midway and used a physical attack on him.

This was a face-to-face battle between wizards.

It was a binding contest as to whose magic was stronger. And a head-on contest between two extreme magics was very solemn.

But why does she attack physically in the midst of it?

Such magic!

It didn't matter. Wizard classes were next in line to knight classes in terms of their defenses against magic.

After receiving the attack, he could crush it with his Atlas Fist.

It was according to his thoughts.

The energy Jenna had expelled completely from her body was only a small attack to him, incapable of cutting off King Leoric's magic.

Such cheap tricks wouldn't work, he thought.

He was wrong.

The hammer hit him squarely in the middle of his abdomen.

"Khuk... khauuuck."

He collapsed while vomiting blood.

When the extremity and range of his magic spell were added together, there was no class that could go against a same-level wizard.

But because of that, they had a single weakness—they were easily distracted while creating the extreme magic.

Even so, they were level seven. They were usually not weakened at a surprise attack...

"Ha...hammer...what did you..."

The reason why Jenna's magic was centered around her hammer was also because she used it as a hereditary Vitium to the Shaman's position who served the god of war.

It was a well-known fact, so King Leoric did not regard it beyond Jenna herself.

Until he was beaten up, there was no point in asking.

"Hehe. It's a secret."

Jenna flapped her tailfin and threw down her hammer once again.

"Ugh."

This time the hammer hammered against his insides.

Smash. Smash.

Jenna kept beating King Leoric up without pause.

Before the attack, King Leoric could not do anything but watch his damage increase with a shivering body.

He could not understand.

How could a wizard abandon their magic for a physical attack.

And how could the physical attacks be so powerful.

Even if the object looked like a hammer, it was impossible for it to have high damage, but the inexplicable level of attack continued in a barrage.

"St...Kuk, stop... Keuuck...what do you think...as a wizard...Khuck."

"Ehe. Winning is all. Goodbye."

Jenna kept pummelling King Leoric with a bright countenance.

Finally, his body shattered into a million pieces. The body-double God had given him to use in this battlefield was proclaimed dead and disappeared.

"I woooon!"

Jenna's tailfin shook vigorously.

Ehe. Oppa was correct.

There was no chance of a level six beating a level seven in a pure one-to-one magical duel.

But that's why he wouldn't be able to avoid a head-on fight. He wouldn't be able to break out of the fixture of a purely wizard's fight.

After all, he was the type to have pride and positivity towards the class of a wizard.

Oong, but it's the truth that I'm one level weaker than him.

Right. So just this once, don't raise your spell power.

Eh? Then?

Use all your crystals to raise the attack power of the hammer.

Who would have thought. For a wizard to raise not her spell power but her attack power.

It was an unusual order, beyond shocking.

I... I can do that?

That's our path to victory.

This order was only capable of being issued by Sungjin who used to win by using a surprise attack in the first half of the spell power casting wizard's contest after raising the attack power in a row.

And in exchange, I also want you to learn basic martial arts from me starting now.

Will I be able to do well with just that?

Of course if a knight or warrior class runs at you, you would not be able to escape with just the basics.

But as a wizard, King Leoric did not know any physical fighting. The sweating and disgraceful movements did not befit a 'wizard' after all.

It will work. I promise.

Yes. I will try my best.

It really did work. Oppa truly is great.

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The places where the spear of destruction went by was pitiable.

In the middle of the ruins, Ereka barely stood with her armor destroyed. Beyond, even the trees that made up the forest were being destroyed.

It was truly a might that was frightening.

And...

"Kuohhhhhh!"

At the very end of the remains was a ghost of black mist, howling, with Sungjin, who was beside it, waving his hand in greeting.

"A... Abyssal Specter?"

Seeing the ghost which ran towards him with an evil glare, King Ilkandii's expression paled.

"This is not possible! The specter should not be there!"

At his shout, Sungjin smiled.

"I know. You can calculate up to that point."

He should have received information that I used the movements of mid-grade monsters.

And he would have been warned.

But this was an area where there were no monsters. He was too sly to miss the opportunity that was given to him and was therefore using his best attacks comfortably.

"That's why I brought them."

After attacking them slightly at the opposite side of the forest, he had dragged the monsters here at the right timing.

Specters compared the two enemies between Sungjin, who had ran away after attacking it lightly, and King Ilkandii, who threw a strong projection but was slightly off course.

Specter immediately decided that the latter was an enemy that should be eliminated first.

King Ilkandii swung his spear around at the ghost covered in black fog that ran towards him.

"Disappear you damned thing!"

But at his continuous attacks, the ghost was only further enraged and went after the king with a higher concentration. Sungjin watched the scene leisurely.

Ha. Abyssal Specter may be weak due to its intangible form but is strong against materialistic attacks.

Ordinary materialistic attacks did not even work on it. Some attacks went through if there was a Heroic Power embedded in the weapon, but it took a while to pin the ghost down.

The Abyssal Specter even had an ability to slow the opponent down, critical to a martial arts practitioner.

Even if one was a level seven knight, to catch it would take a year.

There was no time to wait.

"Ereka, let's do a joint attack."

Ereka breathed until her body had recovered.

After that one attack, her heroic power had diminished greatly, but it had not dissipated.

"Yes, Sungjin."

With the Specter, Ereka, and Sungjin's attack, King Ilkandii's wounds increased significantly.

A human only had two arms and to block three attacks at the same time was a demanding task. But even as he was being attacked, King Ilkandii shouted at the question that remained unresolved.

He did not find it strange that the Specter was there.

He also understood what Sungjin meant by 'bringing' it here.

It was a timing that was too perfect to be believed, but he understood that such luck may follow. What he did not understand was...

"This is impossible! You should have been captured by Seyzo II! You should not have the leisure to fight here!"

"I had none, so I made some."

With that reply, Sungjin attacked King Ilkandii's neck.

With that, the contestants came down to three to one.

Level 0 Master - Chapter 53

Strange-shaped monsters took the ray attack with their bodies.

The mad king's march was a ruthless one of huge military force.

The march of the mad king made Eustasia nervous.

I can't use the second method that I thought of here either.

Her second method was all three of them to go a side way to get rid of Seyzo II's headquarters while Seyzo II was heading towards them. It was a rare case but destroying the opponent's military headquarters was also a way to win.

But...

Although my father is alone, he would be faster to destroy our military headquarters.

All her plans were impossible. There was only one thing left.

A head-to-head fight against Seyzo II.

But it was impossible to defeat him through a head-to-head fight.

He was too strong to be defeated.

Will Sungjin overcome my calculations?

It didn't matter to Count Satirus.

I didn't expect two kings to be useful anyway; now it's time for them to see the fearful power of the forbidden evil.

Now the real game was about to start.

When the mad King Seyzo II wins, he will execute everyone to burn this land to the ground, so it would be mission accomplished. And if the extra wins...

That was exactly what he wanted. Seyzo II would be cornered and go crazy. All he had to do was to wait and watch. Either way, he was ready to run away at anytime.

Even with the strongest turret to protect their military headquarters, Seyzo II was three-faced.

Technically, it was a three-to-one fight, but in reality, it was a three-to-hundreds fight.

Countless monsters appeared in front of Seyzo II and started to attack them.

It was a grotesque but amazing scene to see more than ten thousand mouths showing their teeth, dripping corrosive saliva.

When the murky stream from the monsters swept, human beings disappeared without a trace.

Just like a tiny boat in the middle of a storm, three of them were seized and swept.

But then, a light came up.

"Aegis!"

Ereka activated her ultimate skill, and the bright golden shield protected Sungjin, Jenna, and the turret.

It was the power of God's dignity, given to the human from the goddess of protection.

It wouldn't let the ugly, evil monsters dare to approach.

But that noble shield had one fatal weakness:

The owner had to fight the danger by herself..

Aiming at the weakness, evil creatures moved, targeting Ereka.

But to react, Sungjin's team also made their moves.

Sungjin started to slay evil creatures with his holy sword.

The spear and the sword married to create a strong gateway that didn't let them pass.

But it was only a matter of time.

As soon as Aegis disappeared, they would be attacked.

Of course, they didn't waste their time.

Jenna made magic square under her and cast Thor's hammer.

The thunder roared, and lightening gathered.

The holy soldier, Mjolnir of the god of war, came down with white-burning light.

The gigantic hammer hit the ground covered with darkness.

"Mjolnir!"

The army of black evil creatures evaporated at once.

A perfect counterattack against a huge army, Jenna's ultimate magic was a real joker of Sungjin's team.

Did we win?

Their wishful thinking didn't last long.

"How dare you!"

While most of the evil creatures disappeared, layers of dead bodies made a dense protection for Seyzo II.

They couldn't get rid of the dense force around Seyzo II, and Seyzo II wasted no time resummoning.

Seyzo II's summoning skill was beyond ordinary; he was able to resummon against the ultimate magic.

But Sungjin wasn't going to give him the chance.

"Jenna, go!"

"Ok."

Jenna activated her second skill: A Thousand Breakthroughs. Jenna became an energy mass and rushed to Seyzo II. She burned the evil monsters around him and approached the shooting range to activate her third skill right:

"Light balls!"

Dozens of light balls exploded close range and blew up the resummoned monsters.

Finally, Seyzo II's body was exposed.

Jenna didn't miss the chance and held up her hammer. But...

Woosh.

Resummoned monsters coiled around her hammer and tied her arms and legs.

"Ahhhh!"

Jenna screamed; she had disgusting things crawling on her body, and Seyzo II started to laugh, triumphantly.

"You cocky thing. Die!"

But he was forgetting one thing:

Jenna wasn't alone.

"Glorious Strike!"

Ereka had been there, waiting for the right time to attack.

Her sword headed toward him, cutting the air.

The sword spurted heroic power and was aimed at Seyzo II, no longer protected by his army.

It was a glorious blow.

There was no chance of winning a long, drawn-out war against Seyzo II as he had limitless skill to summon, so Ereka decided to finish him while unprotected with a final blow.

Her plan was reasonable.

The few creatures just summoned were all over Jenna, and there was nothing between Ereka and Seyzo II.

"Royal Decree: Guard!"

Seyzo II opened his hand to create a wall with letters to stop her spear.

The two powers collided and exploded between them.

Ereka looked down.

"Ah...!"

Everyone was distracted by the evil monsters summoned by the forbidden evil, but Seyzo II was a level seven caster.

Although he was not as strong as the King Leoric, Seyzo II had three regular skills and an ultimate skill.

He exchanged his ultimate skill with the forbidden evil, but he still had three skills left.

And during this fierce fight, the effects of those skills were tremendous.

Ereka didn't stop. She attacked him with other skills without waiting.

"Golden Star Stream!"

Her spear attacked Seyzo II continuously.

The bright light of the spear attacked him eighteen times; Seyzo II didn't stand there but fought back.

"Royal Decree: Exile."

The shockwave pushed Ereka away.

Seyzo II's spell pushed her, cancelling Ereka's attack.

"Royal Decree: Shackle!"

Chains of letters and resummoned monsters tied her up.

"Willful Defense."

Ereka's heroic power exploded, blowing up the chains and monsters simultaneously.

But her heroic power didn't do much more than that.

Seyzo II's three magic skills were too strong and cancelled Ereka's continuous attack.

Jenna used all her skills.

Ereka used all her skills.

But Seyzo II was standing without any injury.

Their skills had destroyed his army, nothing more.

Seyzo II had endless power he could without cooling time, but Ereka and Jenna had to wait to reuse their skills. It was obvious Seyzo II would win in a long, drawn-out fight.

Ereka was able to stop it once, but the summoned black evil monsters started to cover her. She couldn't get rid of them this time.

But then, another attack hit Seyzo II.

A bright light from the holy sword came in a clean and sharp course, aiming at Seyzo II's neck.

It had not only been Ereka that jumped into the smoke from the explosion.

Sungjin had been there with Ereka when she was pouring everything on Seyzo II.

This was the one possible moment to attack Seyzo II.

Normally, Seyzo II's skill would have stopped Sungjin's attack, but in this moment, Sungjin was able to attack him.

They used every card to make this attack work.

This was their one shot to turn the battle around.

Sungjin's sword cut the flesh, broke the bones, and splattered blood, but...

The sword hit Seyzo II's left arm, not his neck.

"You!"

Seyzo II felt outrage that a mere extra touched his body, but with his reflex of level seven, he covered his neck with his left arm.

And there was no next attack; resummoned black monsters covered Sungjin's holy sword and tied his legs, so he couldn't run away.

"Hahaha, Hahahaha!"

Seyzo II was sure of his victory and laughed with madness

All three of them were covered with dark, evil monsters

It seemed like that was the end of this fight. Dark despairs made bizarre sounds to celebrate their victory.

It was an orchestra from hell.

* * *

Now, people waiting outside of the temple understood who was winning.

Sungjin's plan was great.

But Seyzo II's power was even greater, and he made all of Sungjin's plans useless.

Absolute power of Seyzo II was dominating everything

Maybe it was expected that Sungjin would take the upper hand despite their weak force, but this was an unexpected evolvement of the battle.

"Sevzo II..."

"Won..."

"This is the power of...the forbidden evil."

It was a fearful power.

They all knew that it was a power of madness, and it wouldn't have a happy ending.

But in this fight, it was clearly a strong power...or rather an absolute power.

"Hahaha. I knew that an extra couldn't compete with our king!"

A person reading the situation started to praise Seyzo II.

"The king has won!"

"Long live the king!"

The heroes from each kingdom praised their own king.

This was how it went.

Eustasia bit her lower lip.

It was her king's victory, but she could not celebrate it.

She worried how many lives Seyzo II would kill with that power.

I was hoping... that you ... would stop him...

Should I have stopped him?

But she knew she was not someone who could do that.

She was on the fence about whether she had to fight the king or serve the king; she couldn't be a useful force from Sungjin's side, not compared to Ereka or Jenna.

Now...people of this kingdom are doomed.

It was the fault of hers and her father's.

But she also felt bad for Sungjin.

If Sungjin was a hero with a level, he would have won.

But the gods didn't allow him to become a king of the four kingdoms because he was an extra, and he didn't have enough power to achieve that.

While she was looking at the sky, she sighed, and the people behind her dropped their heads in despair.

Sungjin kept his promise that he would come to save them but failed to win.

An extra...couldn't fight the heroes...

Building up a country for the people was just a dream.

[Blue team won.]

The Valkyrie announced the result.

It was not just an announcement of victory but also that the four kingdoms and the people belonging to them were doomed.

"Yeah, so the Blue Team won... wait.. Huh? Blue Team?"

One of the heroes realized something was wrong.

Blue Team was Sungjin's team.

He doubted his memory and looked at the screen again. There were Sungjin, Ereka, and Jenna in the heavenly light.

"What... what happened?"

This happened when everyone was sure the madness won:

With his right arm and both legs tied by the evil monsters, Sungjin stretched his left arm out and grabbed Seyzo II's wrist.

"What!"

Seyzo II thought it was a joke.

A grab from a mere extra could not damage him like a knight or warrior.

Sungjin didn't try to crush his wrist; instead, he held it up slightly.

And...

A beam from the turret hit his finger.

More specifically, the beam hit his ring.

Crack.

The ring was not broken by one blow.

But it distorted the contract and made the dark monsters fade.

The monsters didn't belong to this world.

The ring and monsters summoned by the sacrifices were not allowed to be in this world. So, when the contract that brought them to this world was weakened, the monsters faded for a moment.

"Noooooo!"

Seyzo II realized what had just happened and rushed back to wait for the recovery of the ring.

But the light of the holy sword pierced his heart first.

"Ugh..."

Sungjin attacked him as soon as his right arm was freed.

"I...I...you...mere..."

The bitter voice of Seyzo II was his last word before exiled from the battlefield.

The heavenly light lit up Sungjin, Ereka, and Jenna.

The Valkyrie came down in front of them.

[Blue Team won.]

The announcement echoed in the battlefield.

"We won!"

"We made it."

"That was close."

Sungjin smiled, looking at Ereka and Jenna.

He was on guard because he didn't know the real power of the forbidden evil.

And since he had struggled to fight against the Blood Ruler, he was thoroughly prepared this time.

It was extremely strong.

But...

It was not anything he couldn't handle, although he had to use every card he had and more.

[Gods acknowledge your victory and grand this nectar...]

The Valkyrie granted nectar for the three of them.

"Hurray!! Leveling up!"

"Thank you for letting me join you for the victory."

"We all fought together. You deserve this," Sungjin answered with a grin.

And he got the biggest booty from this fight: Although he wouldn't get a level, all the new conquered lands were now Sungjin's.

Level 0 Master - Chapter 54

Mr. Gunan smiled while telling Sir Todam the opposite of what he was thinking.

Other extras were excited as well. They were about to give up everything, but at the last moment, Sungjin changed it; so, their excitement multiplied.

To make the watermelon taste sweeter, it was better to put salt on it rather than sugar.

"Oh..."

"He won!"

"Hurray!"

Chapter 21

Eustasia was also deeply impressed.

... yes. He didn't have any more skills left.

Sungjin still had his left hand, the turret.

Did he consider that possibility and keep his left arm, using his right arm as bait? That's impossible.

Eustasia thought it was impossible. There was no such thing as 'maybe' in Sungjin's plan. Sungjin surely considered the maximum power of the forbidden evil and planned to use every last power they had with one-hundred percent of their force to fight against Seyzo II.

If I commanded his team, I would have done the same until the first half but would have ended up losing due to the endless power of the forbidden evil.

To bring out the best of the limited force would be the small difference between her and Sungjin that she couldn't overcome.

It was the difference between a smart general who used the perfectly-formed rules of engagement and a genius who used them while thinking one step ahead.

I'm impressed; I will congratulate your victory for now.

The massacre by Eustasia's father, the mad king, was stopped.

You're really strong.

The level didn't matter. The winner was the strong one.

Since he defeated everyone and took over all four kingdoms, Sungjin was qualified to become a king of the unified kingdoms. What he could do with the Holy Nation and the Golden Nation would be a matter for later; now, he had proved himself qualified to be a king. Eustasia could argue with nothing.

As a loser, she was praising the winner.

Bye. I will leave before I see you.

It would be awkward to face Sungjin because she knew that it was for everyone, and he just finished her father. She couldn't congratulate him for finishing her father.

Unlike the excitement from Sungjin's team, the waiting room of the three kings was in heavy air.

"We are really...defeated...?" King Ilkandi murmured in disbelief.

"No way! This can't be true!" King Leoric was also in denial.

The countries belonged to them; there was no way Sungjin had just won, taking away the country and power from them.

It was just impossible that a mere extra had taken their countries away from them.

"You're right. An extra can't become a king. We can't let that happen."

Despite the fact that he was the loser of the battle, Seyzo II was not in despair. His eyes were glaring with even more anger and madness.

"But...now...we have no other way."

King Ilkandi sat down in despair.

They had just lost all their lands, and now they were prisoners.

The status was not the biggest concern; without Sungjin's mercy, they couldn't even survive. Denying it wouldn't change their reality.

"There's still a way!" Seyzo II shouted out.

"What do you..."

"Whatever people say, I can't let an extra become a king! I will punish him! I believe you two would happily sacrifice yourselves for the bigger cause!"

"What are you talking about... What?!"

While they were trying to understand, Seyzo II raised the ring and shouted:

"I sacrifice myself!"

A dark stream filled up the waiting room, and before they realized it, King Ilkandi and King Leoric were swept into the stream.

Sungjin and his team heard the sound of an explosion from the temple before they even finished celebrating their victory.

"What's going on?" Ereka asked nervously.

"Everyone out." Sungjin went out hoping the sound was not what he thought it was, but the worst case scenario was waiting for him outside.

The waiting room of the purple team was gone, and a dark ocean was rapidly expanding the territory from the disappeared room. In the middle of the ocean, Seyzo II was laughing with absolute madness.

"An extra takes my kingdom away? Not going to happen! Come! My sealed evil monster, let's destroy this world!"

A black piece of meat coiled around him, as if protecting him, and the black ocean kept expanding.

"What's going on?"

"What is that?"

While trying to understand the situation, the heroes and the extras felt a bad omen.

There was a hole in the sky. From this dark hole, someone came down, connecting the dark hole in the sky to the black ocean on the ground.

The body slowly landed on the ground.

It was huge, truly gigantic.

The body didn't have a real form but looked like a globe with a diameter of a few hundred meters; it had countless mouths, and they gave the body a bizarre wavy movement.

There was an endless number of snakes coming out from the body. The snake-shaped things had mouths all over their bodies, and it was hard to tell which part was the head and which part was the tail or body. They looked more like tentacles.

This was a strange-shaped monster that didn't exist in this world. There were no such huge creatures, either on land or under the sea, and no such savageness or evilness could exist in this world.

While everyone tried to comprehend the situation, the evil monster started eating up things, and Sungjin quickly started to command.

"Everyone get ready! Wizards and archers attack it from the distance! Knights, warriors, and assassins find your formation! Supports, get ready behind! Low levels, get into your formation, and high levels, replace the missing positions!"

His charismatic voice caught everyone's attention right away.

"Take the wounded to the back. As soon as healed, come back to the position!"

The heroes didn't know what to do, so they followed Sungjin's command. This was also an order from the man who has all the territory of the four kingdoms.

"The extras, evacuate! Evacuate cities and towns nearby!"

With Sungjin's endless commands, the battle against the transcendent evil monster had started.

Count Satirus was watching and left with a big smile on his face.

Hahaha. Seyzo II has finally gone crazy enough to make his final move, all thanks to the stupid extra.

Sungjin did a great job to corner Seyzo II, and that only brought the catastrophe.

Sungjin's victory was an ideal plot. The king's madness didn't stop with managing or feeding the monster. Seyzo II sacrificed two kings' lives and his own soul to bring the body to this world.

It was impossible to manage the body, since it was a next-level evil monster, even among the outer beings.

When Seyzo II's existence is exhausted, it will disappear as well, but that will give enough time to destroy a lot of things.

The ally of the four kingdoms would be destroyed, maybe even disappear from the map.

I hope only the half would disappear.

So that his master would have something to conquer.

But if everything is destroyed that also means I followed his order.

Sungjin invited every hero from all four kingdoms to prepare for this situation. Since it was a fight against an evil monster outside of the battlefield, there was no limit to how many heroes could participate in the fight.

I was prepared, but I really hope this wouldn't happen.

He wished Seyzo II's forbidden evil was not something like this.

He was a genius but didn't have all the information of this world. There were a lot of things that he didn't know.

So Sungjin tried to plan for different possibilities. Although he didn't want this to happen, he was still prepared.

That was in his nature.

"Mjolnir!"

Thor's hammer was activated.

Thunder roared, and its power heated up the air; the ground recovered the normal flow of the power.

Jenna's skill was the best from Sungjin's team for a wide-range destructive power, and she was not alone; other wizards started to activate their skills.

Phoenix flew, and chunks of ice dropped.

The ground cracked, and a strong wind started to swirl.

Other heroes were also activating their skills and made their swords shine and their spears roar.

But

It was useless.

Although most of them were low level, a lot of heroes were there, and some had their ultimate skills. But still, nothing worked.

Every attack worked as it was supposed to, but the monster had abnormal regenerative power. It was not regenerating; it was something beyond words.

Gulp. Gulp.

The damaged shape of the evil recovered in a heartbeat. The dark body grew without stopping. A new mouth with sharp teeth regenerated. The speed of its regeneration was beyond the rule of nature.

Before heroes could reactivate their skills, the body was fully recovered.

When they cut one head off, two heads spurted back. When they cut two heads, four heads spurted back. Every attack was valid, but the regenerating power of the monster canceled every attack.

The fear started to overrule everyone.

Sungjin had to admit that it was a risky situation.

So this is my final challenge: to unify the four kingdoms.

It wasn't that Sungjin hadn't thought of this possibility, the problem was that although prepared, the fight was not going well.

Looking at Seyzo II's power, it was expected some evil monster like this would appear if the mad king decided to go crazy.

He was a level-seven hero, not an awakened hero of level seven. Sungjin knew there was a clear limit to the power that Seyzo II could bring.

That was the rule of this world and with that calculation, Sungjin defeated him on the battlefield.

But now, it was a fight outside of the battlefield, and he had brought all the heroes there to get ready.

Sunjin was using all his intelligence, but he was facing an absolute power that he couldn't fight against.

So, how should I manage this risk?

In this desperately dangerous situation, Sungjin's brain started to work in full capacity.

With madness, Seyzo II's voice came from the monster:

"Ah hahaha. Hahaha. The throne is mine. I will kill all the traitors! I invited this creature to punish you!"

His obsession and power on the throne had already overruled him with madness, and his desire was endless, just like the evil monster endlessly regenerating itself and eating up everything around it.

That's why the name of the evil was Infinite Greed.

"Now. Infinite Greed! Punish them!"

Hydra.

Even a hero who was a son of the god of wine couldn't kill it, so the evil monster had to be sealed. It was an evil monster that regenerated its head endlessly. When a hero cut a head, two heads spurted back; when a hero cut two heads, four heads spurted back.

The mythology says it had nine heads. Nine was the biggest number among single digit numbers, so it was not an actual number but a way to express the infinity.

It was an embodiment of the desire.

It would keep killing, eating, and swallowing, but the hunger wouldn't stop.

The endless desire would go crazy without no end.

"It's all mine! If you stand against me, I will kill you all! Eat you all!"

Seyzo II, who brought the forbidden power to the world, became one with Hydra and murmured.

* * *

The army against the evil monster struggled.

Considering the evil monster was not actually one thing but an endless army regenerating itself, maybe Sungjin's army was doing well.

Is this the power of the forbidden evil?

There was no way they could win; Sungjin was able to calculate that.

No way to win, not with any combination of possibilities, and he knew that if they dragged on like this, they would be the first to be exhausted.

But he didn't step back.

So other heroes couldn't retreat.

He could...run away now...

Sungjin had a portal stone, and if he didn't want to look like he was retrieving, he could simply pretend that he wasn't by saying, "Keep fighting; I will command you from behind," and run away. If he did that, the heroes could run away as well.

And then that would happen over time.

The evil monster that Seyzo II brought into this world was a self-destructive type. After time, the evil monster that didn't belong here would disappear; although, before disappearing, the evil monster would destroy countless towns and cities.

A lot of the extras would die, but the remaining land and people would still belong to Sungjin. With heroes alive, the military force would still be there.

He would lose a bit of wealth, but the gods already granted the crest of lands to him. But why was he trying to stop it with his life? Until when?

Sunjing already knew what other heroes could calculate, but that didn't stop him from fighting.

The black tentacles attacked him, and he cut the tentacles with his shining holy sword.

But, corrosive saliva splattered and burned his skin. Other heroes would have protected themselves, but Sungjin couldn't.

His body was covered with wounds, while his clothes became messy.

Fighting on the frontline, he was in the greatest danger but didn't order to retreat or to try to save himself.

Maybe he was not the strongest, but his presence was.

He was the pillar of this instantly-formed army and kept them together to fight against the monster.

But there was a limit to that as well.

The army couldn't fight against the monster any longer.

The winner was already decided, even before they started in a fight between an infinite evil monster and mortal human army.

Level 0 Master - Chapter 55

Everyone was equally important; still, some were strong, and some were weak. That was the difference between the heroes and the extras. That was the reality, and there was no denying it. Sungjin knew that as well. But he wouldn't allow the strong to use

their power and status to have privilege over others. To enjoy more privileges, one should contribute more. That was Sungjin's rule.

Some called it Noblesse Oblige; the nobility extends beyond mere entitlements and requires the person who holds such status to fulfill social responsibilities.

"If you want to keep your status with your money and power, you should fight here until the end!"

Sungjin's voice silenced all the heroes for a second. They seemed to have forgotten about the terrible sound from the evil monster.

"That... that..."

"Your status, bloodline, family tree... that doesn't matter! Only your act will define your status!"

But he didn't just pressure the heroes, Sungjin gave them a realistic solution:

"I'm not saying you should die here. If we are annihilated here that would be irresponsible, but we will fight until the last moment before we retreat. Then we will reform our army while evacuating the people."

Although he was fighting against infinity, he had no plan to run away and save his life.

He was ready to accept the inevitable damage, and there was no way he would allow anyone to compromise people's lives.

"That is the duty of the heroes; get ready to put everything as a hero!"

The heroes didn't know how to respond to Sungjin's order.

They still wanted to run away. It was clear how terrible and dangerous it would be if they had to fight until the last moment and risking their lives for the extras didn't make sense. But they were able to understand what Sungjin was trying to do. He was one step ahead of the merciful rulership, a rulership that a few heroes considered as nonsense.

The right is not entitled; it comes with social responsibilities.

They really didn't want to follow the idea or continue this terrible fight for the people. They were entitled to the noble right, and Sungjin was just talking nonsense. But running away from here wouldn't help them have a future. Sungjin was asking them to make a choice. Since he was not asking them to have an honorable death here, they thought maybe they should follow him; most of the heroes had no other choice and followed him unwillingly.

But...

There were some heroes who didn't.

Sungjin...

Ereka had tears in her eyes.

You are always the one who is leading me to the way.

She tried to follow the idea of the merciful rulership, but Sungjin was helping her follow the true way to create the ideal world. Sungjin was someone she wanted to serve with her everything.

I will follow you.

Rittier showed his respect by putting his hand on his chest.

You are the man I approved to be my queen's partner. That was a great speech.

Jenna shook her tail knife.

Oh. Sungjin, Oppa, and my queen have a long way to go...but...that is why Sungjin, Oppa is such a great man.

The evil monster made even louder noises, as if Sungjin's courage and spirit was upsetting it.

The scratching sound with nails would be music compared to the noise the monster was making. It was as if the noise was saying that it would destroy Sungjin's spirit and would keep spreading its evil.

Countless snakes started to attack Sungjin again, and shiny sword started to cut the heads. When it almost looked like the same old fight, a snake soared from the ground.

"Ugh."

Sungjin felt the snake's sudden attack from the ground, but his level-zero body was limited in speed. The black snake didn't miss the chance and attacked him from multiple directions, tying up his arms and legs and stopping his refined movements with his sword.

KU000000.

The monster made a high-pitched noise again, as if it was saying that it would kill and eat the courage.

It looked like it was enjoying destroying the light and turning hope into despair. The deep, dark desire seemed to be excited.

"Sungjin!"

Ereka tried to save him quickly but a bright silver light pierced the darkness.

"Sword in Mind."

It was Eustasia next to Sungjin with her bright hair that looked like moonlight.

"That was close."

"Thank you."

When Sungjin thanked her, Eustasia laughed.

"It seems like you need more people. Can I join?"

Ereka was surprised by Eustasia's question.

"Eustasia?"

"Give me my sword back. Let's fight together."

Everyone was surprised because she had denied to join them until now. But some heroes simply thought maybe she decided to join the mainstream for now.

If so, she should have joined when we started the fight. Why now?

And Ereka, who knew the secret, was surprised for a different reason.

Eustasia...

She couldn't even imagine how difficult it was for Eustasia to decide this. Ereka's father was very strict, but Ereka still deeply respected her father until now.

Thank you...I know it was not easy.

Sungjin looked at Eustasia for a brief moment.

"Thank you."

He didn't ask her if she was okay because he knew it was not an easy decision, but she made her choice.

Eustasia smiled instead of answering.

She was planning to leave and stay low-key because Sungjin had enough power and courage to conquer the four kingdoms and punishing her mad father would be justice.

But...

She couldn't be with the man who killed her father, so she tried to disappear.

Until...

She saw the terrible scene...

The scene that was engraved in her heart.

Great rights come with great responsibility.

That was the final puzzle piece that completed her decision to follow Sungjin.

She kept questioning if he had abilities because he was just an extra, but she experienced his ability and admitted that he was capable of conquering the four kingdoms.

But...

There was something more than that.

He had his power, and he had his leadership. But he had one more quality that made him deserving to be the king of the four kingdoms:

He was the only one who took care of the people while other kings abandoned theirs. Not just his people, but he tried to save everyone in the four kingdoms. With a sincere heart, he willingly took people's lives as his responsibility.

When the heroes were ready to run away from the gigantic evil creature, Sungjin, with the lowest level, fought against it.

Ah. That's right.

Eustasia looked at Sungjin.

Although he didn't have a crown on his head, he had his spirit to fight the evil. Without any jewelry to decorate his body, his wounds were showing who he was.

In the worst situation, she was able to see his true colors.

His will to protect everyone, that was the real quality of a king.

A country for the people. It was not a fake cause that an extra had advertised to conquer the world or a glory he had tried to force with his power.

It was his true cause that he was keeping with his life.

And...

Father...you gave birth to me...

All the power and luxury that Seyzo II was able to enjoy, the glory and honor that she was able to enjoy as a general came from the people. She knew that her father crossed the line a long time ago.

Now I know.

It was her responsibility to stop him, not only for the people but also to stop her father's sin before it was too late.

This is my responsibility as a daughter as well.

She activated her heroic power to remove her maid outfit and wear her shiny silver armor. Power or spirit was not able to change her mind, but a truthful heart changed it.

She smiled to answer the man who made her fall in love.

"No need. It is also for my father. I should stop him to help him."

"Okay, then let's fight together."

To protect people, Sungjin gave back the Sword of Heaven's Will to Eustasia.

"Thanks. Let's make it brief because we don't have time."

Eustasia kneeled in front of Sungjin.

"You granted me the sword; I give my life to you.

My king.

You are the one with

The power of the king,

And the leadership of the king,

With the heart of a king.

I accept you as my king.

My destiny will be with your kingdom.

You will take the glory.

I will take the hardship.

Every drop of my blood is to serve you.

Now I am your sword,

And your knight.

I will stop all the evil against your rulership."

It was an oath to the king that she had made to Seyzo II before.

But now, it was different.

When she made it to Seyzo II, it was a ceremony followed by the costume; but now, she was making her oath with her soul. It was a true oath, and she was proud to say that she was serving a great king. So now, she was able to proudly say the name of a dead knight who fought against a hundred thousand enemies to protect his country.

"Vitium Successio Roland the Paladin!"

He was a legendary knight with a legendary tale. When his king was betrayed by a retainer and attacked from the back by surprise, he protected his king and the kingdom with his life. The legend said there was nothing that his holy sword couldn't cut because a messenger from heaven gave him the sword to protect justice, and the light from the sword was shining for eternity.

The holy sword started to shine even brighter to show the letters on the body. The light from the sword was brighter than ever.

Everyone sensed the sword was finally showing its true nature it had been hiding.

"Do you have a plan?"

She asked Sungjin again, knowing that Sungjin had ordered to fight until the last moment before retreating.

Sungjin answered with a grin:

"Yeah, retreating is the last thing I want to do. I'm still trying to find a way to finish it here"

If not, a lot of people would lose their places.

His brain understood the cruel reality, but his heart didn't give up easily.

In this absolute despair, without any possible answer, he was still trying to find a way to save everyone. There was no giving up. That was how he fought against anything.

"What is the best solution for now?"

"Like I said, we need to rotate and keep our defense line. I was thinking of supporting the ambush from ten sides...but now you have joined. I think we can win. Am I wrong?"

"You think highly of me."

"No, I'm being objective."

"Okay. Then I will give you my real ultimate skill," Eustasia laughed.

"Your real ultimate skill? What are you talking about?"

Rittier asked her if her ultimate skill was the flying sword.

"She must have an ultimate skill that she couldn't use."

When Sungjin said it was not that she didn't but couldn't, Eustasia nodded thinking he was really fast.

"Yeah, I couldn't. I was talking about reality but wasn't sure what I was doing was justice, and the holy sword didn't allow me to use its real power."

That was her last secret.

People thought the flying sword was her ultimate skill, but that was only half the truth.

And she was about to use the full ultimate skill.

The ultimate skill was given only to the knight the holy sword accepted. The power was open to the knights who were true to the holy sword. That's why she was not able to use the power until now.

Eustasia knew that she could use it now.

The holy sword would accept her because the path she decided to take with Sungin was true justice.

She activated her heroic power into the holy sword.

"I ask you: This is a fight for justice, not for me but for the people I have to protect and for the people I'm fighting with; please give me the power."

She heard the answer in her head.

"My knight, I've been waiting for you."

Eustasia was surprised.

Did the holy sword... talk?

"The day you would follow justice without shame, this glorious day. Now, call my real name."

Oh, you've been waiting.

"Now, look. This is the true power of the Sword of Heaven's Will. I will let you find your way to victory with this power. Command me."

She showed the true ultimate skill to Sungjin, and it made Sungjin smile.

"As I guessed. Okay. Now we can win!"

All the heroes were confused. What could Eustasia's ultimate skill be? And even if it is a powerful one, would Sungjin be able to stop the infinite army of evil?

While everyone was confused with questions, Sungjin ordered everyone.

"Do you think it will work?"

When Eustasia asked him back, Sungjin answered.

"I trust you."

"Then I shall fulfill your expectation."

She smiled and held her sword.

"Get ready."

"Okay. Here I come!"

Level 0 Master - Chapter 56

The black ocean evaporated for a second, attacked by numerous kinds of power.

Countless heads were gone, and there was only the body left. But the undead body tried to pull out other heads.

This desire wanted death.

This evil wanted despair.

This injustice tried to destroy everything.

It refused to disappear and tried again to get its heads back and destroy everything.

At that moment, the silver knight shouted out the name to punish the evil monster.

"The Sword of Heaven's Will, Durandal!"

A pillar of light rose up to the sky.

The light pierced and scattered the cloud to show twelve holy swords.

It was a reflection from one sword, but there was no illusion.

Every sword was an embodiment of the light.

It looked like twelve shining stars in the sky.

It was the glorious presence of the sword given by heaven.

"Hereby I repeat my oath!"

A dozen swords lit up the evil covering the ground.

The evil wriggled with fear and roared when the light touched it, knowing it was facing its nemesis. Growling sounds echoed around it. Eustasia's voice stopped the sounds, and the twelve stars came down to the ground, one by one.

"I shall be brave facing evil."

The sword dropped on the evil. No, it was not a sword.

"I shall tell the truth." Shooting stars flew down.

Like justice from heaven, the sword attacked the evil from above.

"I shall protect the weak."

The light opened the way. Hydra stretched its heads with a roar of agony, expressing that it refused the punishment.

"I shall follow the right way."

But Hydra's movement was useless; the light cut and crossed the darkness, and Sungjin ran through the path made by light.

"I shall raise the vision!"

They made no promises and had no time to practice.

But Eustasia and Sungjin worked in a perfect harmony.

"I shall not pursue wealth, power, or status." Eustasia shot her swords as if she already knew where Sungjin was headed, and Sungjin ran as if he already knew which way Eustasia was going to attack.

"I shall live with pride and dignity."

A narrow path opened, only to close up right away. There was no way to stop or step back, but Sungjin was running without hesitation.

It was either a ruthless move, risking his life, or courage that would save everyone.

"Hence, my life..."

The eleventh path had opened, and Sungjin was finally able to see Seyzo II covered with the black flesh of monster on the other side.

"...would become the sword of justice!"

The twelfth sword showed its glorious light to be nailed down on the ground.

My dear father...goodbye.

That was the final blow of justice.

And to fight against it, Hydra concentrated its regenerating power to its core and created an evil wall of darkness.

A fierce fight of the light against the darkness.

Dark desire swallowed the bright justice of light.

And the light burnt the darkness.

At the last moment, a beam of light came out to burn the darkness, like a star's explosion before disappearing; and there was no darkness left.

But...

"Ah hahahaha!" Seyzo II laughed; he was sure he stopped the attack.

The darkness around him was gone, but the core was still there.

The sword stabbed around his heart.

If he was human, he would have already died, but he was not even bleeding. There was just some black liquid around the wound.

He was no longer human. He had given up everything to become one with Hydra and bared the attack from the twelfth sword.

It was a dreadful power, but he was able to stop it; now, he was reviving the ocean of darkness. A black wall of flesh started to cover him again.

The ultimate skill needed cooling time.

"I won!"

At that moment, Sungjin answered while holding Durandal:

"No. We won."

Eustasia had spent all her power, all her will, and even her spirit for the twelfth attack. Now, she had no power to even hold the sword.

Sungjin succeeded her will.

They collided a few times and stood against each other.

But they had the same end-goal.

A world where the people are safe from evil power.

A world where they could protect the people.

They wanted the same world; their hearts were connected.

With that heart, the holy sword answered Sungjin.

The master of the sword approved him as a true king, so the sword took him as its king to follow.

The holy sword shone with the justice from heaven, and the ocean of darkness lost its place under the starlight.

The light broke the symbol of the contract on the mad king's finger.

He couldn't have won by himself, Eustasia either.

But together, they were able to defeat this gigantic evil.

"Noooooo!"

The ring broke, and all the evil creatures summoned by the ring disappeared, one by one.

"Ghooooo."

Hydra was an immortal evil monster. Even the beloved son of the highest god couldn't kill the infinite desire, Hydra. It was an embodiment of the desire.

It was immortal but also sealed. Hydra didn't belong to this world; when it lost the core of the power that summoned it, it was exiled right away.

The ocean of darkness started to disappear.

The dirty flesh of it started to disappear like mist under the sun.

It was the end of despair.

The evil that was trying to destroy everything was finally punished by justice and disappeared.

A unified dream and the will of a boy and a girl stopped the madness of desire.

In the middle, there was just an old man losing his life as the contract with evil came to its end.

"My throne...my throne..."

Seyzo II was still murmuring when Eustasia approached him.

"Father, it is over now."

"Eustasia?"

"You don't need to worry about losing your power anymore," said Eustasia, holding him in her arms.

"Is it...now I can sleep without drinking..."

Like a baby in mother's arms, the mad king closed his eyes with a smile of relief.

The crown that was too heavy for him dropped from his head showing his white hair, weak neck, tiny shoulders, and stooped body.

Seyzo II's body shrank to show his bones, and he stopped breathing.

"If...there's an afterlife, I don't know how to atone for my sins..."

A tear dropped from Eustasia's eyes. She wished her father didn't have to be the king.

"I will help your atonement. Please...lose...your madness."

Seyzo II became black ash that scattered and disappeared.

He couldn't be in this world because he had unified with 'Outer Being'.

Nobody knew what kind of end he had to face, but nobody mourned for him.

No...

There was one person.

"I know he was an unforgivable tyrant."

Eustasia wiped her tears away to bow with one arm on her chest and the other on her back. It was a gesture of a general to show her gratitude.

"But thank you for giving me a chance to say goodbye."

She didn't want to deny what he had done was wrong. But still...

He was not a great father, but she remembered that he loved her with all his heart; although, it was a long time ago.

"I will be your sword, as promised."

It was not a commitment she was making lightly.

"I will join you to make this continent and this world become a merciful world for the people."

"Thank you."

"No, thank you for giving me a chance to make up for my father's sins."

Eustasia smiled with tears in her eyes.

"Now go; you need to lead as a hero who unified the four kingdoms."

"Okay. See you later."

To give her time to mourn, Sungjin went back to his army of heroes.

"We won!"

Sungjin announced the victory. It was not a mechanical voice of the Valkyrie, but the voice of a real man echoing the reality outside of the battlefield.

"H...hurray!"

"Hurray!"

Some hesitated. But when a few who realized what had happened started to cheer, everyone joined to celebrate.

Now, not only Sungjin's team but all the heroes agreed on one thing.

So, the four kingdoms are now in the era of this man...

He just slayed an immortal evil monster...

Is he a real...deal?

He may be a tyrant who took away their rights and talked about duties, but he was truly strong. Following him was the way to victory and fighting against him would be doom. There was no way to deny that this man, who slayed three kings, is the only king.

Heroes started to cheer for him more and more.

Epilogue

Unification of the four kingdoms.

Now Sungjin made it.

Now the four kingdoms became one, and Sungjin owned one of the biggest kingdoms in the continent, one with a third of the continent. That also meant that no one could say such a thing as a mere extra of level zero.

At least in public, anyway.

Sir Todam finally knew which book to publish and wrote the epilogue...

The extras were impressed and surprised that the hospitals were built, taxes were reduced, and heroes couldn't abuse them anymore.

They never imagined this kind of country could even exist.

Lute, a kid of extra class, chanted with excitement:

"See? Sungjin won! I will keep studying, so that I will become a great healer just like Sungjin is a great king!"

Nania smoothed down Lute's hair.

"Yes...study hard. I know you can make it."

She witnessed it as well. A level zero extra became a king and approved by everyone.

He didn't get it from his family or bloodline but with his own will and abilities. He built schools to help the extras study and train themselves.

Lute was really looking up to the king and trying his best to become someone like him.

Maybe...really...

Maybe he would become a healer in Sungjin's kingdom.

She always thought there was no way to overcome the cruel reality, and that made her an adult; but now, she was able to dream, maybe.

I would love to see that.

No hunger, no suffering from disease, being shown mercy. That was already great, but Sungjin was letting people 'dream'. Letting people dream that there would be a better future for them and their children.

The world was excited with the king from elsewhere.

Most of the heroes were not happy with the change but had no choice but to follow. No one had the courage to fight against the king who unified the four kingdoms.

They had to follow Sungjin's rule that rights come with duties and to have the rights, they needed to work for it.

Heroes with healing skills were assigned to the hospital, and heroes with magic worked for land reclamation or building the canal. They were complaining that they had to use their noble skills on such humble tasks, but they had to earn 'money' because they no longer had land for tax and labor of the extras.

But at least they could justify this as if to follow Sungjin's merciful rulership, not because they wanted to save their lives.

Sir Todam was busy working on the second volume.

Master Sungjin, who achieved the great task of unifying the four kingdoms, became the ruler of the great land and got an absolute power. With his power, he protected his people...any other king before him was not able to achieve such a thing. Among his works were schools...

Looking at it, Mr. Gunan had a hard time not wanting to punch him in the face.

Yeah, so I worked for nothing to plan the next book!

The king talked about merciful rulership. A noble couldn't abuse a "minor class" like him. But well, that was no use for Mr. Gunan now. People paying his salary were giving him a lot of pressure to support Sir. Todam to publish the second volume as soon as possible after the great success of the first volume.

My vacation...would be a dream...

He wanted to ask Sungjin not only to stop the nobles but to also stop the abusive writer as well.

As the owner of the four kingdoms, crests of the four kingdoms shone on Sungjin's arm.

Status report of your land.

Population: 63,270,000

Area: 720,000 km2

GBP: 149.5423 trillion dilent...

It is mine, but it's quite big, I must admit.

Considering the civilization of Valhalla, this was a vast population with huge territory.

It was not just the land and population.

Endless gold and jewels, food, resources, and castles all around the continent were all his.

But that wasn't all.

He had power for legislation, jurisdiction, and administration. It was beyond the power of presidents or prime ministers. There was also a line of heroes kneeled to thank him to let them keep their status, although not all of them were sincere.

Over 60 million extras were among his people.

He would have more on his way to becoming an Arc Master, and he already had massive power and responsibilities. It was more than just winning in the world the gods created for a game, these were real hefty responsibilities.

Thankfully, he had a new member who could help him now.

Level 0 Master - Chapter 57

"You want me to be a great general for you?"

"Yes."

"I can't train them to fight against an unexpected case like you."

"Regular but tough training would be enough."

If she could do that, Sungjin would be able to concentrate on other things.

The military plan was just for a big fight; on a regular fight, it was important to be prepared with a regular training routine.

Eustasia smiled and answered.

"Okay. I used to be a general so doing the same thing, but for you, is something I can do."

"Thanks."

"Don't mention it. I made an oath to serve you, so this is something I should do."

"About that: thank you for your gesture, but I just need a teammate. I will be the leader, but I am not planning to be your boss."

"Haha. Ereka told me about natural human rights. That is such an amazing idea," said Eustasia nodding, thinking that she was able to understand his acts and words based on the idea.

Not mercy from the top, but a world where everyone has their own rights. It's the right for the people to have hospitals and schools, to live like humans. She was surprised he was able to think of such a revolutionary idea.

Is it because he is from a fantasy world? It's just surprising, and that makes him even more charming.

"But as you have your own methods, I have mine. Since I made an oath to serve you as my king, we are not equal. If I can save only one of us, I would save you without hesitation," she explained that was the loyal knight's duty. It was a strong comment told nonchalantly; it almost sounded like a joke.

But everyone there understood she was saying it with such flat emotion because the decision was engraved deep in her heart.

She would be a loyal servant, just like she was for her father Seyzo II, or even moreso. Everyone understood that she would serve him with loyalty and love.

For Sungjin, her heart and support was the biggest treasure he had won from the war.

"Hmm. But still be casual?"

"You want me to be formal? If you want me to, I will."

"No no. This is good. We should be teammates."

"Hehe. I will keep it casual."

Unless it is a critical moment.

Eustasia hid her thoughts with her smile.

"Thanks."

Sungjin knew that he wouldn't be able to change her mind.

I shouldn't let that kind of moment happen.

He accepted her offer in his own way and smiled.

"Although it is a bit late, I want you to reward me with two things since I promised to serve you."

"Sure. I will do my best to give them to you if it's realistic."

"First, since you are my king, you should win."

The defeat of the idealist is not just a failure of one person.

"You must win because it's for the people who are following you, who are protected by you, and who died for you."

She was shining in an even brighter silver.

"You must win in every battle to come."

Few victories were not enough.

"You need to keep winning until you stand on top to create a new world."

That was her first demand.

She asked him to win to become the conqueror of this world and become a god called Arc Master and to start a new era.

"And for that end goal, you can use whatever you want from me."

"Ha. That's what I want."

He smiled and accepted such a heavy duty.

Becoming an Arc Master was his ambition and being on top of the world with his victory was his instinct. It was the dream he had had since he had come into this world. Using the power he got from his victory to protect people was something he had decided a long time ago.

Sungjin had experienced abuse by power, so he knew how unfair and upsetting it could be. Therefore, Eustasia's first demand was not even a reward; it was something that he wanted.

"What's the second one?"

"I want to be your woman."

He was the conqueror of the four kingdoms with the ability to achieve even bigger things. But this man suddenly lost his word.

"...what?"

"If you can make me one of your queens that would be nice, but I wouldn't mind being your concubine."

"Wait. Why?"

Sungjin wanted to ask why she wanted to become 'his woman'.

"Because you are already conqueror of the four kingdoms. Although I'm from a good family -but just noble ones- being a concubine is not an unfair thing. I don't want to ask for too much," Eustasia answered, misunderstanding Sungjin's question.

"No, not that part...I mean...why...marriage..."

"Why? Of course because I want to be yours."

"But we've never dated."

"What are you talking about? I know what kind of man you are. You made me dream with you, and I've decided to support you with my life."

That was her decision as a general.

"Isn't it natural to be your woman when I'm this devoted to you?"

Who else would she love when she decided to devote her everything for a man? She served Seyzo II as a general and a daughter, but she wanted to serve Sungjin as a general and a lover.

When she declared her reason, Ereka blushed.

Eustasia, I envy you.

Ereka had spent more time with Sungjin, but she was not able to be blunt like Eustasia. She barely asked him to marry her, and Ereka had no idea asking someone to marry her needed quite so much courage.

Sungjin realized that Eustasia was serious.

A marriage...

She didn't mind being a concubine...

That meant she wouldn't mind him doing whatever he wanted with her. Everyday, every morning, every night, whenever he wanted and whatever he wanted. She was telling him he could do whatever he wanted to fulfill his desire.

He was reminded of her fit body and in his imagination, they were already in the same bed, naked.

That's it, huh? Now it's my responsibility.

He was asking her to join him, to fight next to him, to protect this world where ninetynine percent of people were abused. That's why he had asked her to join him, but he said he wanted her. It was not her fault that she misunderstood his words.

Of course, as a man, he was attracted to her, even now.

Huh, this is...

He was flattered that an attractive woman was telling him that she wanted to devote everything to him. She was a strong, confident, and capable woman. She also had a warm heart for the people. If he wasn't flattered, something was wrong with him.

Deep inside, his inner voice was telling him to accept this offer, but Sungjin ignored that inner voice and said:

"I'm flattered that you think of me so highly."

He was very grateful and flattered

"But sorry, I can't."

"You told me you would, if realistic."

"That is not."

"Why? Am I not really attractive as a woman?"

"No. You are such an amazing woman."

"Then why?"

"I want to concentrate on becoming an Arc Master. I don't have time for a relationship."

He was a leader who had a responsibility to lead his team; if he decided to have a relationship that would give him another responsibility as a man. A marriage would give him even more responsibilities, so the relationship was out of the question.

It was not only because he had to concentrate on becoming an Arc Master; there was one more reason.

Sungjin quickly looked at Ereka discreetly.

He refused her marriage proposal.

She said it is okay now, but I think she still likes me very much.

Although he was not sure because there was an unclear line between love as a lover and as a teammate. Both of them were precious teammates for him, and he had to lead both of them as a leader. If he decided to date one, the other would feel excluded. He couldn't afford that risk. He decided to become an Arc Master and to treat his team fairly before entering a relationship.

"Oh. That is your decision."

Eustasia sighed and then started to laugh.

"Okay. You didn't even touch Ereka or even try to have a servant serve you in bed, so marriage was maybe a bit far fetched. Okay, I'll take that request back."

"Thanks."

"But!"

Eustasia poked Sungjin's chest with her finger.

"The game is on. I will make you fall in love with me and ask me to marry you."

"Hmm." Sungjin didn't know how to respond to that and scratched his cheek.

"I lost in battle, but I will win your love."

"Hahaha. Don't try too hard."

"Why? It's always exciting to try to achieve the goal," said Eustasia, laughing out loud.

Sungjin decided not to argue with her anymore.

This would be a tricky fight.

It was hard for him not making a move on such an attractive woman, but he had no plan to lose this game either.

* * *

While Sungjin was working on his grand plan looking at the map of the continent, the girls gathered in the tea room.

"Let's compete to see who can win his heart first."

Eustasia challenged Ereka.

"Let's not cheat or trick the other, but let's try to be as charming as possible and compete." When Eustasia challenged, Ereka bit her lip.

No, we won.

Ereka was reminded of what Sungjin had said when he defeated Seyzo II. They really looked like they were connected, as if they were meant to be together.

Am I losing this game? Should I ask for Sungjin's love? But I really love him more than she loves him.

Ereka shook her head and told Eustasia while pouring tea gracefully:

"No. I won't compete."

"What? Don't lie to me; I know you love him."

"I do. But that's why I don't want to compete."

"Why?"

"Because Sungjin said he wants to concentrate on his goal. If I try to have his heart it would distract him."

She wanted to support him from behind, providing whatever he needed. He was already fighting a difficult fight, and she didn't want to burden him more.

She promised to protect him and share all his hardships and pain. She didn't want to make his life more difficult than it was.

She wanted to just be there for him, where he could reach her whenever he needed her.

She wanted to let him know that she was there whenever he needed her, not pushing him.

"Then you would stay behind. I might become his first woman, and maybe he'll never take you as his woman."

Ereka hands trembled, and she spilled the water.

"Even if so..."

She continued putting her cup down on the table.

"I want to put Sungjin's dream over mine. So my answer is still no."

She wanted to make Sungjin's life easier, even if that made her life more difficult with a broken heart. When Ereka made it clear that she wouldn't compete, Eustasia tossed her silver hair.

"What do you mean not competing. That is so you, a siege warfare."

She sprung out of her seat.

"That is a great tactic for a siege. Ten out of ten. But I hate to work behind the scenes, so I will keep moving forward. We'll see who the winner will be."

"I told you I wouldn't compete!"

Jenna rolled her eyes with confusion thinking the world of adults is so complicated.

But inside, she was thinking...

Don't worry my queen! I will not let that happen!

She was promising Ereka she would be her support.

Whether Sungjin wanted it or not, there was another war happening around him, and the girls sensed this war was going to get bigger and bigger as Sungjin conquered more countries and saved more people.

He was a man who would conquer the world. It was natural that there would be a lot of girls, and they were hoping that Sungjin would realize love was as joyful as victory.

But they didn't know one thing: Sungjin didn't take one of them not only because of his goal and victory but also because he wanted to treat them fairly.

The misunderstanding was building among them.

The demidevil of the battlefield had no strategy on managing his relationships.

In the meantime, Sungjin was working hard on his plan with map of the continent.

Although he unified the four kingdoms, he was the weakest among the three forces of the continent.

He felt like he was Shu Han in Romance of the Three Kingdoms after losing Jingzhou or a dark horse in a soccer league, not a favorite.

But this was just a subjective difference in military force; he was sure that he would find another teammate to join him.

It's okay. I made Eustasia join, and I will get more people.

With the combined power, he would defeat the abusive power and move forward.

I should unify this continent to do that then head to the center. This is only the beginning of my journey to become an Arc Master. I will win first place in this league of gods, Valhalla.

<Hidden Story- Somewhere in Valhalla>

The battle result was reported to someone.

"Even the Infinite Desire was destroyed."

On the floating chess board in front of him, white pieces pushed all the black pieces off. The broken chessboard repaired without any crack.

"Forgive..forgive me. It was out of my power."

Count Satirus bowed down and couldn't look at the person in front of him.

"You were too lazy to finish the situation there and left. I can't forgive you twice."

An invisible pressure crushed him.

"Ugh...ugh...give...give me...o...one more chance..."

With a bone crushing sound, Count Satirus became a chunk of meat mixed with broken bones. The silhouette behind the water who got rid of the disappointing servant spoke with a quiet and low voice:

"The plan for codestruction was a failure. Tsk. I should sell it at a loss, but..."

Although he had lost a strong forbidden evil and secret treasure -the Ring of Infinite Desire- it didn't seem to bother him too much.

The chess board reorganized the pieces itself.

"Good. I will use it as is."

<The end of Level 0 Master Vol. 2>

Level 0 Master - Chapter 58

"Compared to the pain, this is nothing."

"Good. Hang in there. The king from the other world will save you. This is the future that the goddess promised you."

"Yes, I can't wait to meet him."

Rachel's eyes started to shine as if she was dreaming. Her dark eyes were pure and beautiful, like those of a child.

"Then I will be able to lay down in a warm bed?"

"Of course."

"I can eat my fill of bread as well?"

"Yes."

Her eyes shone even brighter when talking about her modest needs. On this dark and cold road, the only story that could soothe her was that of the king from the other world who would save her.

"I wonder what kind of man he is."

"Hmm. People say he is a handsome, friendly man."

"The goddess led me to him, so he would be the one to save me, right?"

"Of course. It was the goddess' word."

Kuga reassured Rachel who anxiously asked the same questions over and over.

"I can't wait to meet him and see what kind of king he is. Will he be tall or short? Relaxed or strict? Will he be loud or quiet? There are so many things I want to know about him."

"You will meet him soon."

"How should I greet him? Smile and bow? Or should I put my hands together? Would it be okay to hug him? Or Ugh... ugh!"

Rachel, chattering with excitement, suddenly stopped and fell, holding her chest.

"Ugh... Ahhh..."

Like a bird falling from its nest, Rachel shivered endlessly. She cried in pain and held her chest as if she wanted to tear her heart from it. She had no energy to scream and was forced to moan.

"Ugh."

She couldn't hold the lion anymore and fell to the ground. Kuga quickly stopped to hold her.

"Rachel..."

Kuga could only look at her with tears. Despite losing consciousness, the girl's pain remained.

"Ughhh!"

The extreme pain covering her body eventually woke her up with a blood bubble on her mouth. She continued losing consciousness, waking up over and over until she finally calmed down. She looked at Kuga desperately and asked him with her feeble voice:

"He could...surely...save me, right?"

From this miserable curse.

"Yes. of course."

"I want to...see...Sungjin...as soon as possible..."

Tears dropped from Rachel's eyes. Sungjin was the only one who could save her from this dark and cold journey.

Chapter 1

The area that used to be called the ally of the four kingdoms was now under one ruler: Sungjin. He came from the other world called 'the Earth' and conquered the heroes who refused to allow a level zero extra to become a king. Using his intelligence and a handful of team members, he had been victor over the powerful heroes, and everyone feared him.

Using that fear, Sungjin had changed from the feudal system, where heroes used to have land according to their status, to the bureaucracy, where people got their salary according to their duties. All the power was ultimately in his hands.

Many heroes were against this revolutionary reformation, but since they were Sungjin's prisoners they had no choice but to follow him.

Sungjin also established the legal system that forbade heroes with absolute power to abuse low-class extras. Historians categorize this era as a new type of rulership deemed Natural Human Rights. Everyone, even if they are extra, has the right to live with freedom.

It was a revolutionary idea one step ahead of the merciful rulership, the idea that heroes have to protect weak extras. Many believed the idea was putting the world order at risk.

In addition to declaring the law, Sungjin also enforced it. And now...someone was at trial for ignoring his law.

"Viscount, I told you not to take away the land of the people."

"It was not that...they used to have a shop on my land...I decided I wanted to take care of the land by myself..."

"No, it was abandoned land and you told them if they revive it they could stay there. As soon as they opened a market, you took it away."

"It was not that...the contract was over..."

"Even if the contract for a building or land is over, you can't raise the rent over the limit. If you refuse to extend the contract, you must compensate the tenant for their work that raised the value of the place."

When Sungjin read the clause, Viscount turned pale; he hadn't expected anyone to apply the law so strictly.

"Go and rest at home. Your fine is 10 times the amount of the damage."

"M...m...Master Sungjin..."

"Take him away."

"Forgive me," Viscount cried, but Sungjin ignored him and instructed Ereka:

"Take the fine and give it to the victims."

"Yes, Sungjin."

Looking at Viscount Mentis, other heroes broke out in a cold sweat.

That will be our fate if we disobey Sungjin's rules.

The fine would be 10 times the damage, and they would lose their status as heroes. Even an aristocrat like Viscount Mentis could become penniless.

"Isn't it too much to fine them 10 times the damage? Maybe you should just make them pay for the damage," Rittier suggested carefully; Sungjin just laughed.

"The abusive upper-class heroes are hard to spot. I can't go easy on them." Sungjin's explanation was not just for Rittier but for all the heroes who were there.

"So I have to make it clear, the price they will have to pay will be much higher than their deeds."

It was called Punitive Indemnification. Even Sungjin couldn't catch every abusive hero, and he made it clear that once caught, they would pay much more than the damage they caused; so even if they didn't care about justice, they would be careful to save themselves.

"Understood," answered Rittier bowing down with no question.

Other heroes will think twice before ignoring the new rules.

"Ereka, how are the new hospitals in the new territory?"

Ereka looked uncomfortable and answered:

"This is the first time in history so many hospitals are being built around the country. It will take longer than expected."

Sungjin's order was straight-forward: build hospitals for people all around the country. But even a well-funded, simple order wouldn't make them appear overnight. They needed new buildings, healers, and nurses. They also needed a well-organized infrastructure to supply equipment and medicines in order for the hospital to function.

It was easier in the kingdom of Sevrantina because the late king had prepared the base for the hospitals. It was a bigger challenge in the other three kingdoms because Ereka was starting from scratch.

"That's what I thought; take your time."

"This is the correct way to do this, right? I'm still trying to hurry for those in desperate need of a hospital right now," Ereka sighed.

"I understand, but Rome wasn't built in a day."

"Yes, Sungjin."

Sungjin looked at Eustasia.

"How are things in your department?"

"Training and gear is good. And..."

She put an Illusion Stone on the table.

"Here, this is the marine chart and the map I ordered."

The 3-D illusion from the stone showed detailed geography of each region and information on the ocean currents.

"Well done"

"Why do you need these? They don't even show our battlefields."

On Earth, every area could become a potential battlefield; here, they didn't study other regions unless assigned to it for battle.

"Is it for the trade?"

To revitalize the economy, they needed to promote trade and to do that, they needed to rearrange the trading route.

"Well, this and that," Sungjin answered with a grin.

That was the end of the national affairs meeting.

"Huh."

Sungjin breathed deeply. Although he was just overseeing things and letting others run the actual operations, taking care of the kingdom took a lot of time. Also, it was far-removed from things he liked to do, like fighting and games.

But I can't stop.

Whether he liked it or not, he was now the ruler of the four kingdoms and a lot of people were depending on him. While he didn't want to be an irresponsible king, he also didn't want to be a work-non-stop kind of king.

I'm glad I have such a great team.

They were great support on the battlefield and for national affairs. He looked at Ereka, Eustasia, and the others and smiled.

"Let's call it a day. Well done!"

Eustasia quickly approached him.

"That's it? Well done? It was a lot of work to complete the map and the chart, and we worked hard on everything else."

"Hmm, okay. What do you want?"

"The beach." Eustasia's answer was simple and clear.

"A beach...? You want to have a private beach?"

Sungjin was confused; he never thought she was interested in such things. Eustasia approached Sungjin and said:

"Let's go to the beach!"

"Oh. Now I get it." Sungjin finally understood.

"It's still a bit early; the water will be chilly. Is that okay?"

"What are you talking about? The weather is beautiful. It would be perfect."

"Hmm, you want a vacation?"

"Yes. That's not asking too much, is it?"

Sungjin hesitated for a second. Going to a beach together sounded like going on a date. Ereka sensed this and tried to stop Eustasia.

"Eustasia, Sungjin is busy; don't ask for too much."

"What are you talking about? We've been working tirelessly for forever. We deserve a vacation. This isn't asking too much; besides, he told us to ask him for whatever we want as a reward."

"You are right but..."

"And you don't want to?"

"I don't want to put anymore pressure on Sungjin..."

"He needs a break too. Wouldn't it be nice to go with him? Just imagine."

"That's..."

Persuaded by Eustasia, Ereka started to imagine the beach, surfing waves, basking in the white sand, and playing under the bright sun.

And...and...

Level 0 Master - Chapter 59

But she couldn't resist anymore.

Sungjin pulled down her swimsuit and exposed her body. She tried to cover herself with her hands, but Sungjin grabbed them. Ereka looked like a girl dreaming on a beach, but the thoughts in her head were X rated.

"Hmm..."

When Sungjin had seen Ereka excited about the beach, he scratched his head. He had arrived in this world in winter having finished the internal war in the kingdom of Sevrantina. He then unified the four kingdoms by spring. Up to that point, he had been busy reorganizing the unified kingdom.

The summer is coming, and we didn't even have a chance to go on a picnic.

"Okay. Let's go to the beach."

"Would... would it be okay?" Ereka held her hands together and asked him with expecting eyes.

"Sure. Let's take a break for a week or so."

"Th...then..."

"Let's plan to go on a vacation next week," said Sungjin standing up.

"Okay!"

Ereka's voice revealed her excitement.

"See? You love it," Eustasia said.

"Wow, the ocean, the ocean."

Jenna made waves with her tail knife.

* * *

Sungjin's girls were on preparation mode for their vacation.

"I have nothing to wear," sighed Ereka standing in her dressing room full of clothes. She felt bad for the people who only had two outfits to rotate through.

But there's...nothing I want to wear...

She wanted to wear something graceful but with an erotic touch. Something that was not obviously seductive but made a guy want to undress her; something not showing too much skin but that could provoke imagination; something that would eventually lead to a S*xy night.

Hmm...Then what about the lingerie...just in case Sungjin wanted to see it.

"You should thank me," Eustasia said while picking up her outfit next to Ereka.

"You're so excited now, why did you try to stop me?"

"I loved the idea, but I still didn't want to bother Sungjin."

"He would have said no if he didn't think it was a good idea. I don't think he's the type to feel pressured by mere words."

"You're right...but..."

"But this is our chance."

"Our...chance?."

"Yes, our chance to become his girls." Eustasia's answer surprised Ereka.

"Eu... Eustasia, be careful, people can hear us."

"Who cares? Is there anyone who doesn't know I want to be his wife?"

"But...."

"Worry about yourself."

"Why me?"

"I wouldn't mind becoming his royal concubine, but you want to become his queen."

"That's...Sungjin's own business...no, even if I wanted...I didn't have a chance to hold his hand...let alone date...that is...a bit..." Filled with embarrassment, Ereka couldn't finish her sentence.

Huh. Eustasia, I envy you.

She was too shy to even talk about it; all she could do was dream of a romantic relationship with Sungjin. On the other hand, Eustasia had no problem talking about it.

Ereka had forgotten that she had asked Sungjin to marry her once. She envied Eustasia.

"Okay. I'll take this." Eustasia picked up a super S*xy bikini made with minimal cloth. There was so little material, it looked like either a defective product or a revolutionary one.

"Isn't it a bit... too much?"

"That's why I should wear it."

"It's still a bit cold."

"Who cares? Do you wear your bikini to swim? No, you wear it to show off your body." Again, Eustasia had no problem talking about it.

"But...that is a bit..."

"What are you going to wear?"

"I was thinking maybe this one." Ereka's choice was a more conservative one-piece.

"That looks like a swimsuit for an eight-year-old child. Why do you want to waste your beautiful body?"

"I don't want to come off too obvious."

"Huh. As you wish. Just know, I am going to try and seduce him during this vacation," said Eustasia before she walked out of the room.

Ereka was left alone in the dressing room with her swimsuit in hand; she murmured:

This is...not too bad...

It covered her skin tightly and clearly showed the shape of her body. It was also a bit see-through when wet.

I'll bring it.

If Sungjin tried to make a move on her, she had no intention to stop him.

Having no idea what the two girls had discussed, Sungjin looked at the marine chart.

"Good, the beach we are heading to has a warm current, so we should be able to go into the water without problem." He started to imagine the beach.

We'll be in our swimsuits under the bright sun and be able to swim.

Sungjin started to imagine the girls in their swimsuits. Even in normal clothes, they couldn't hide their amazing shapes. They would look even better in their swimsuits.

Ereka had a perfect body with the golden ratio, while Eustasia had a tight and fit body. It excited him when he looked at them.

Stop it.

Although nobody was looking, he tried to restrain himself. They're going to the beach to swim, not for other things. It was just his imagination running wild.

Huh...I should be careful out there.

It was a brief daydream, but he was already excited. If he couldn't control himself, it would be obvious he was hard.

I should avoid that embarrassing situation.

They thought of him as a nice and reliable guy; he didn't want to make it obvious that he was just a normal guy with normal desires.

I want to be a gentleman. I'll save the imagining for when I'm alone.

Unlike a demidevil of the battlefield, he decided not to be prepared for what may be waiting for him at the beach. To develop the thought further was rude; also, he had no idea what the two girls were planning to do.

This was not the only thing he didn't know about.

"Ocean...the ocean..." Singing and shaking her tail knife, Jenna looked like a happy kid; she was very happy indeed.

The ocean is the best idea. Haha. The best place for the young couple to make a mistake.

Pretending she was innocent, she overheard Rittier's plan to guard their beach.

"It's a vacation of Master Sungjin and our queen. The path should be blocked around them, so that no one can disturb their vacation."

"Yes. sir."

"We should also be careful not to ruin the mood if they try to be romantic. We have an important duty to guard the area."

"Yes, sir."

Yeah, old man. I knew you would do something like this.

Jenna nodded her tail knife.

But that is a bit too basic.

It was a loyal move to try to let Ereka and Sungjin have their privacy, but that wasn't enough. Jenna called the head maids. The maids, in turn, talked to Rittier.

"Sir Rittier. It is not enough to give them privacy."

"Then?"

"It's the first time they've gone to the beach and the romantic possibilities are endless. We can't let the body of our queen get scratches from the sand of the rocks."

"That's true."

"So you should place nice and comfy beds at a few points."

"Sure."

"The location is an important factor as well. Let the queen stay next door to Master Sungjin and make sure there's a passage between their rooms."

"You're right. I hadn't thought of that," said Rittier blaming himself that he was not loyal enough to think thoroughly. Jenna smiled now that everything was set.

Unaware of the preparation going on, Sungjin packed his swimsuit.

It's been a while; I should warm up.

He wondered if the girls knew how to swim.

Hmm. If they don't know how to swim, should I teach them?

By holding hands...

Then my skin would touch their skin...

Our hot blood would make me...

No, I should stop.

He shook off his vulgar thoughts.

Maybe it was a mistake to go to the beach.

A mountain would have been better.

Sungjin was not afraid of the enemies but was afraid of his instinct in such a precarious situation. He worried he would make a mistake.

Huh. No way.

He had decided not to have any relationships, so he could focus on the battles. He didn't want to just take a girl with a momentary desire; he was committed to having a real relationship. But he also knew that if he made advances, the girls would follow his lead. He couldn't let that happen.

Stop. Stop it.

He repeated this to himself, but the S*x scene that was in his head didn't disappear easily. He was trying to stop himself, but he was a young man with hot blood; he knew he could handle both girls, or even more.

Concentration. Concentration.

With everyone's plans laid out, the day of the beach vacation crept closer.

Chapter 2

The day came, finally.

Sungjin and his team decided to go to Bellia Beach with its beautiful white sand and emerald-colored sea. It was famous for the way the golden light of the sun made white waves. Today, it was a private beach. It was a vacation for a king, a place where they could enjoy nature without any disturbance.

But none of them were looking at the beautiful beach. Ereka's heart was pounding thinking of her swimsuit in her bag.

When I get changed...will Sungjin like it?

It took a while, but she finally found something she thought he would like; she had also worked out hard for today. She was worried Sungjin might think her wet, white swimsuit was too much. She also considered the possibility that he might like it.

What if you tried to take it off to see the rest of my body?

She was too shy to make the first move. Next to her, Eustasia was smiling.

Hehe. I don't even have to get changed.

She was already wearing her bikini instead of undies, and it barely covering anything. She also planned to disrobe in front of Sungjin. She had also planned to keep Sungjin's eyes on her until they found a moment of privacy. She thought wasting their youth was meaningless.

Jenna was also anticipating her plan to succeed.

Haha. I know I failed in the mountain, but on the beach, it will be much easier. Now there's a passage between Sungjin Oppa's and my queen's room.

All she had to do was gently nudge Sungjin during the day, and it would hopefully lead them to have their private time at night.

Sungjin was trying to remain calm.

Hmm. I should be on my guard from now on.

Soon they would be in their swimsuits showing off their bodies. It would be impossible to decide whose was better. Like different kinds of food, there were different kinds of beauty in women. He was not sure he could control himself.

It was easier to control myself during battle...

During war, it was easy to control his mind by concentrating on the victory. But this was a vacation on a beach; his battle mindset wouldn't work here. He had to have fun with them.

I hope I'm not going to cross the line.

He looked at the two girls. Simply thinking of them in their swimsuits excited him. But then, the Illusion Stone he had packed started to ring.

"It's an emergency!"

It was Count Nar, the head of the department of health in charge of the public hospital chain, who sent the message.

"What's going on?"

"It's an epidemic!"

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"Yes, if it's not a strong curse, they should be fine."

"Count, did you find the medicine?"

"That..."

"That?"

"It's not a normal epidemic."

"In what way?"

"An aura of a curse is mixed within. It seems someone intentionally created this illness."

"Any guess who that might be?"

The Count hesitated several times before replying.

"Rupellion. This aura... only that nation deals with it."

"Rupellion...a few days ago, there was a report that something in the direction of Rupellion had exuded a strong magic aura akin to the level of a ritual."

"You're right," Eustasia confirmed beside him.

"Would you be able to compare the aura found in the epidemic to the one previously expelled?"

"I'll try."

The answer came back a moment later:

"They're the same."

"As expected."

Sungjin tightened his fist. They would probably deny accusations, but this evidence was proof.

This was not the first time Rupellion had been involved with something like this. The country believed their god, Angramainyu, was the only true god. Therefore, they believed their experiments on human bodies after releasing epidemic curses was justified. They were the only country that conducted these experiments.

Those Rupellion bastards.

He was thinking of proclaiming war on them after they were properly prepared. His goal was to become an Arc Master anyway. On top of that, he did not want to abandon Rupellion, a country clinging to a mad god.

But to think they made the first move.

Damn it. If you want to start a fight, do it properly, bastards.

Innocent people were being held hostage, and Sungjin's anger seethed even more intensely. He made up his mind that he would pay them back dearly.

"There's no medicine at all?"

"I apologize. We have been testing all kinds of medicine and searching for the counter curse; so far, nothing has worked."

"There is no way to heal..."

Sungjin went into deep thought before speaking further.

"Fine. For now, let's prevent the epidemic from spreading by quarantining the region. After the sequestration, divide the people into those suspected of infection and those who are healthy, and then call in the healers, especially the support class heroes; gather everyone with healing abilities. Make sure boiled water is used..."

Sungjin's didn't have a lot of medical knowledge. On Earth, he was nothing but a gamer. He had studied several diseases to deepen his knowledge of different strategies but that was about it. But by using basic knowledge of medicine from Earth, they may be able to lessen the impact of the epidemic; Sungjin could consider this a defensive move.

I should think of this as a siege.

He could better visualize his strategy if he thought of this as a healing game against illness. He would have limited materials, a limited workforce, and would be efficient with what he had in pulling out the hidden enemies.

Under his orders, the national organizations moved quickly. The girls gave up the seashore and swore on going the following year.

The heroes complained behind Sungjin's back about having to move for the extras, but they knew they could not go against his orders.

During all of this, a prayer meeting was held at the Holy Nation Rupellion's Fifth City District, Charlka.

A brilliant bell resounded in the heavens. Pure ladies threw flowers from their baskets. The clear sun blessed the holy day. The praising voices of the children's choir was immaculate. The solemn and regal atmosphere was so perfect people wondered if it was reality or fantasy.

A man wearing a white clerical collar walked down the velvet road. His collar was spotless and had golden embedments and a majestic appearance when observed closely. Every step he took spread the scent of flowers. He was one of the ruling fourth generation of priests, the great priest of white, Azika.

The other fourth generation priests, having already arrived, greeted him. They included the great priest of black, Pangnilin, the great priest of blue, Dahama, and the great priest of scarlet, Nerth.

Each priest had the highest artifact, and they were all level seven, experienced warriors. Each were in charge of a diocese the same size as the land Sungjin had conquered. It could be said that their powers were the greatest under the skies and above the people. Everyone in the nation bowed down before their strength.

"Welcome. Let us begin."

"Let my insufficient body serve this meeting."

Azika, the priest of white shouted, "Listen. Humans!" Without using a magical device, his voice spread to all corners. It was a power granted by their god to spread the word of his religion.

"In the beginning, humans were created by our only god, Angramainyu, to serve as his weapon. But humans, seduced by false gods, forget they are servants, which is why they should die! Do you not throw away your tools when they do not serve their purpose?!"

The Holy Nation Rupellion had a unique religion. They believed that the true god, Angramainyu, had made all humans, and all others would disappear on the day of judgment. Their core belief was that at the last ultimate battle, Angramainyu would win; those who had stood on the right side would survive while all others perished.

"But as our god is benevolent, he will give you all a chance to redeem yourselves."

Humans, originally bound for hell, can be saved. That was the true teaching of the Holy Nation Rupellion. And the method was to...

"To live in servitude towards the true god; this is the only way you can return to your original purpose."

Going against the gods was a human's most abominable sin. They were granted life to serve the true god as tools.

"If you do this, you will enter the true god's garden in your afterlife, where paradise offers you three harvests a year. It is a place where you can serve your god and never fear starvation."

A current Earthian might question whether it was truly a paradise, but to the people of Rupellion, it was a true utopia.

"You must all grovel. You must beg our god, and kneel before me, the prophet of god! Do you serve?"

"Inshangra!" the masses replied in unison, meaning 'god willing' in Rupellion.

"Inshangra!" the priests replied in unison. Even the heroes kneeled before the great priests.

"Now, I will show you what happens to a believer and the punishment that befalls a non-believer. Drag them here!"

With the white priest's words, part of the arena opened. The judges, wearing iron masks, dragged the sinners in on iron frames. The white priest stood before the first sinner.

The sinner could not move; his arm and leg bones were shattered; he was lying down on the iron frame breathing heavily. Between the ripped skin, blood congealed and flies swarmed about.

"What sins do these people have?"

"They were late to the holy weekend meeting."

"Ooh. Surely they were late to the holy prayer because they attended the night's meeting of the witches!"

The judges reported one by one.

"Yes, this person offered the egg born of morning and not dusk as his sacrifice."

"Ohh. It is heresy to not have offered the best!"

"Yes, this person fell moving bricks while constructing the new temple."

"Dropping a brick to build the holy temple on Earth...you must have been ordered by the devil!"

"Yes, this person..."

Infuriated, the great priest stomped his foot, and the ground shook.

"Unforgivable sins! Execute them all!"

The sinners lost hope. If even tardiness was unacceptable, no other sins would be forgiven. Although they differed in powers and preferences, the four priests had a common temper towards those who did not serve. There was no way anyone could be forgiven.

"Yes."

The judges ignited the fire in unison.

Shaa.

Suddenly, it began to rain. It was a bright day, but the rainfall doused the fires.

"Who dares..."

The great priests, incensed that something had interfered with the judgment, stooped down at once. The strongest people suddenly kneeled.

"We greet the blessed one amongst all humans."

They pressed themselves to the ground as if they had never reigned before.

The person who walked amidst them was a young man with a healthy body. He was dressed in no more than a worn toga, but his face was handsome and shook the hearts of all women. He had golden hair that cascaded to his chest and enhanced his beauty. His eyes were closed, but his walk was steady, radiating a mystique about him. For symbolic purpose, he carried a cane. His whole body had a power that overflowed.

He was the core of Rupellion. The one who lived and died by god's will. The one who helped god's mission with humbleness and humility, despite his position. He was the High Priest Pedrian. He was a consolidated duopoly with Eldorado, and was one of the two mountains Sungjin had to overcome on his path to becoming an Arc Master.

It was said that his youthful features were proof of god's blessing after his appearance 100 years ago as god's messenger.

"Stand."

At his gentle word, the priests stood.

"Did the prayer meeting end?"

"Yes, your Excellency. We were about to educate them using the sinners as an example."

The priests stood up but were clasping their hands together and bowing showing their utmost respect.

"Yes, I have heard their sins. But you see..."

He clucked his tongue.

"Why do you punish them? You all lack love. Love."

"We apologize."

The great priests bowed lower.

"Punishing these sinners shows your undying faithfulness towards our god. However, the deeper the sin the more we must forgive them with love."

The dying sinner found hope in these words.

Ahh, yes...the high priest speaks of love.

His sin was that he had been tired and slept in. He was usually punctual but had stayed up the night before with his lover. Tardiness was usually not a big deal but some bastard had reported it, which made it a big deal.

He thought surely a sin so small and unintentional would be forgiven.

"Their sins are so deeply embedded, if you kill them mercilessly how will they ever learn? Not only that..." The high priest pointed towards the masses.

"Those pitiful lambs will watch this light sentence and think these sins are mild not severe."

"We apologize."

"Do you understand? We must show endless love toward the pitiful masses. We must show them what occurs in the depths of hell, with love, so they will fear and beg forgiveness."

"Your servants were lacking."

"It's okay. Do better from now on; let me see you try." The high priest smiled benevolently as he sat down.

"Yes."

The priest of white, Azika's fingers touched the sinner's body. A mythical power shone and the wounds across his body healed at once: his broken bones reconnected, replacing congealed blood was new skin.

God's powers lay not only in punishment but also forgiveness.

To revive a person that was on death's doorstep with one touch was the power of the white priest.