

## **LOA Nobody 251**

### **Chapter 251 Second Stage Starts**

Once Amelia and Rebecca were both eliminated, Rio canceled his aura avatar and walked towards Valtor, who was panting heavily.

Rio had controlled his avatar to not show the blessing of gluttony to anyone, cause if anyone learned about this method, even those SS rankers and leaders wouldn't hesitate to come after him.

After all, all the high rankers had many strong blessings and many high ranked gods behind them, so a method which can let them use one of their strongest skills into a separate entity, who wouldn't want that.

Sure, if they knew the backlash of it, many might hesitate and give up, but even then, they'd like to take this method.

After all, if someone bound a blessing with too much power and too much backlash with their aura avatar, not only could they get rid of that cursed skill, but also get an avatar which could perfect that op blessing without any setbacks.

Anyway, until the gods come down and directly interfere themselves, Rio's all secrets were safe, unless he showed them himself. After all, there are too many loopholes and limitations by the world system, that this world yet has no idea about, not even the gods. And he knew exactly how to use them for his goals.

"How long?" Valtor asked as he forced his body to stand straight.

Though he didn't finish his question, Rio could understand what he meant. Valtor just wanted to ask how long it took him to reach that mastery over his aura.

After all, he had been training since childhood too, and both of them had even fought once while entering a dungeon. Even though Valtor lost at that time too, but it was a close match. And after that match, Valtor was sure he could defeat Rio someday if he tried hard.

Yet the feeling he got today, after facing that avatar, was like standing against an insurmountable wall. A mountain he could never cross and only look up to.

He hated this feeling.

If he couldn't defeat Rio, then he might not be able to defeat Shade guild. And if he can't defeat Shade, how was he supposed to get his father's guild, his own guild, Nexus at the top.

At this moment, he felt his determination waver. A seed of doubt and drop in competition rose in his heart - telling him, he'll never catch up. That he'll never succeed.

But then Rio's words echoed in his ears, bringing him back.

"8 years." Rio said honestly.

Counting from the time he woke up in this strange world, it had indeed been 8 years. Since the moment he decided to protect Amy and change his ending, everything he did, every choice, every decision, every move, it had always been for this.

"I will defeat you. One day." Valtor said, before being eliminated as Rio pierced his heart with a sword.

"Did we win?" The last remaining teammate from Rio's team, beside him and Katherine, stared at everything with wide eyes, and couldn't help but mutter.

"Not yet. One of them is still alive. And we haven't destroyed their core yet." Katherine said with a stoic face.

She had healed a little after resting for some time.

She closed her eyes as she replayed the match in her hand, guessing the strengths and weaknesses of everyone who participated. To see how she'd fare against any of them. And the conclusion she got, only forced a frown on her face.

'I need to get stronger.' She thought as she clenched her fists.

[Time left - 57 seconds.]

Rio looked at the time on his watch and sighed, why is it taking so long.

He waved his hand, and a bow from inside the barrier flew into his hands. He jumped up onto a stone pillar and stood there. Pulling the bowstring, he looked ahead, as his eyes glowed focusing on a certain direction.

A black arrow formed in his fingers, when he took aim and gently he released it.

-swish- trrrtrrr-

As the arrow left his hands, cutting through the air, only the sound of vibrating bowstring was left behind, and soon it broke in two pieces too.

Amaya, who was reading a book while sitting on a chair made of wood, looked upwards as she felt the disturbance in her surroundings. She looked at the sky which started to darken suddenly, and she just sighed slowly. "So it's over already." She whispered, as ripples formed in the barrier covering their base. But it didn't break, and the scene calmed down.

Yet before the calmness could settle in, another arrow hit the barrier, and the same scene repeated again.

In the 4th arrow the barrier completely collapsed and shattered in pieces.

Amaya looked upwards and saw a black arrow slithering in the air, as if a serpent was coming towards her. Without the interference of the barrier the arrow directly entered the space in their base. Amaya looked at the timer and saw only 5 seconds were left, so she created a barrier herself around the magic core, hoping to delay him. Yet after some time, she noticed the arrow didn't attack the core but fell down in front of her, with a note attached to it.

"What would be the fun, if everything ended just like this."

Amaya read the letter and smiled, as the match ended and a white light enveloped her senses, transporting everyone back to the quantum hub.

When Rio opened his eyes into the quantum hub, what greeted him was the silent stares of everyone around him. Though some matches were still ongoing, most of the eliminated students were glued to the screens of his match playing on replay.

[You happy now.] The notification from system appeared on his screen, when he glanced at Leon, who was still downcasted about how he was defeated. [There's no way fate's letting you play anywhere near the protagonist again.] System said, still feeling happy about Leon's death, but acting cold. "Who said I need fate." Rio said, and called Hela. "Your father's watching this match, right?"

[He is. He's quite happy with your performance.] Just in a moment, the reply from his goddess came to his ears.

"Tell him, I need a favor." Rio said, ignoring the chill he felt hearing her ghastly cold voice. The effect of her voice increases with her emotions, and now, she was probably feeling amused or happy.

[He says it'll be done.] Hela replied, before Rio could even say what he wanted.

'Knew it.' Rio thought and shook his head.

Experiment number 7 - Fate needs mediums to act out it's will. - is always right.' Rio thought to himself and turned his eyes towards the little fangirl of tricksters , professor Arabella.

When he looked at her, she turned towards him too. Their gazes met, and Rio just kept staring at her, until she smiled and nodded her head. Confirming to the request Loki probably suggested her.

'System'

[Yes host.]

'Be sure to use my points if Loki and Arabella fails somehow. I need to be on that team.' Rio said, as he looked at the front where random names for 10 students started to appear, who'll enter the second stage.

'This time let's not kill him easy and torture him a little.' Rio said and closed his eyes.

## Chapter 252 Shitty luck

When Rio opened his eyes again, he saw the clear sky up in the clouds. He was in mid air, his body falling down with the effects of slightly heightened gravity. He looked down to see the sea surface below.

As his body came closer to the sea, he noticed subtle changes in the water. The calm surface was disturbed as ripples started to form uncontrollably there. Soon the subtle ripples turned into a whirlpool, a vortex that seemed to pull him downward faster, threatening to swallow him whole, once he fell down. He used his aura to stabilize his body, as he noticed a shining eye at the center of the whirlpool. His instincts kicked in when he was close to touching the water surface. As some droplets landed on his face, he propelled himself away from the whirlpool using his mana.

-splash-

His body fell into the water with a loud splash and slipped away from the whirlpool and the giant eye instantly.

"That was close." Rio said, as he stood up on the water surface and brought out his sword. His feet were coated in mana, creating a barrier below them, making him float and not drown again. "Now let's see, what do we have here?" Rio said and started flying upwards to get a clear look at everything around him. He took a clear look and noticed which monster it was.

Whirlpool Wyrms, a sea serpent with light blue scales and spiral patterns all over its enormous body. Its eyes are chillingly luminescent, a ghostly black that appears in stark contrast to the blue scales and sea around them. It has a thin body built for speed and agility over raw power. At the end of its body, it has a shell-breaking tail designed to create deadly whirlpools.

By rapidly spinning its body, it generates powerful whirlpools underwater to trap and drown the prey that comes near it. Once caught in the vortex, its prey is inexorably pulled toward the Wyrms' gaping maw, ending their lives. It also strikes with blinding speed and can constrict victims in its muscular coils.

Aside from this, there was one more monster eyeing Rio - Sapphire Gazer.

A monster with a beautiful appearance from a distance, but deadly dangerous once close. It appears as a colossal, luminescent eye that seems to float in the depths of the ocean. Its iris is a deep and captivating azure, surrounded by a halo of sparkling, sapphire-blue patterns. The eye is eerie, enchanting, and casts an otherworldly glow throughout the surrounding waters - attracting its prey towards it.

The massive eye looks detached from the surface, from the body of any kind. Yet it is attached to a sinuous tentacle that extends deep into the dark sea. The tentacle is lined with bioluminescent tendrils that appear as ghostly extensions in the water, hiding its existence.

The Sapphire Gazer's primary method of hunting is its mesmerizing gaze. When it spots potential prey, the eye releases a captivating and hypnotic display of lights and patterns. Once its target falls under the spell, the tentacle strikes with blinding speed, ensnaring the helpless victim. Its grip is unforgiving, and its beak-like mouth which is in the center of the eye pupil, can tear through flesh and bone. The tendrils on its tentacle secrete a paralyzing venom, further ensuring that its prey cannot escape its clutches.

"Well, two of them working together. Should I say shit luck or a shitty system." Rio said as he prepared to leave instead of fighting these monsters. After all, Leon was waiting for him to be killed again, he can't just waste his time here.

Yet his body had just flown for a few feet when a new vortex appeared below him, pulling him inside the water.

"Great, another one." Rio cursed as he tried to move out of the water, but only ended up getting pulled further down the sea. Using his mana he tried to propel himself out, but it was a waste, as he sensed the first wyrm and gazer coming towards his direction too. Since avoiding them became a failure he could just fight them head on.

'System, buy me a skill that can let me fight in the water, and increase its mastery to the intermediate level.' Rio commanded system in his head, as he felt his mana draining to keep his breathing and body normal.

[Yes host.]

[Searching...]

[Loading... ]

'Remember, if you buy me something trashy or extra expensive, I'll mute yo ass for forever. Then keep begging me to unmute you by texting.' Rio further added, as he propelled his body to the side, closely avoiding a tail that razed the water surface at lightning speed. Yet the same attack came again hitting him from the back, sending his body spiraling down the sea.

[...]

[Found a suitable skill.. Tidal Grace]

[Increasing the mastery of the skill .. Amateur - Apprentice - Intermediate]

[Total cost 65000 points deducted.]

As soon as the purchase from the system finished, information poured into his body nonstop, and a warm current passed through his entire body.

Next second he felt his whole body lighter and his breathing returned to normal. The water didn't feel pressured anymore and his sight and senses returned to their peak even underwater again. He could see the wyrm moving in the vortex even without channeling mana in his eyes, giving him relief as he prepared his sword for the incoming attack.

"Let's end this now." Rio said and charged his body forward. His body moved freely in the water without any restrictions. He felt one with the water itself, and it was even smoother and easier than when he was on land outside.

As Rio watched the tail coming towards his direction, he dodged sideways, as he charged his sword with his technique and slashed it towards the wyrm's body. The attack cleaved through the water, striking the Wyrms's spiraled body.

The Wyrms writhed in agony, as its scales started cracking from the impact, but its tail remained an imminent threat attacking Rio nonstop. Using mana to create a blast below his feet, giving him enough speed to dodge the attack again. Gathering his aura over the sword, as the mana of nether started to form over the tip of his sword, Rio thrust his weapon with precision over the previous attack. The blade this time tore through the Wyrms's body, as dark blood started clouding the water.

The sword in his hand broke in pieces, as it failed to contain the power in his attack. Yet the battle was already over.

He grabbed the monster's scales with his hands and gave his feet a heavy push and propulsion, pushing him away from the explosion he knew was about to come. As his body moved backwards, a loud boom rang in the water, when the Nether blasted the monster's body from the inside. The shockwave sent him further back, but before it hit his body, he created a barrier in front of him, which dampened its effects a lot.

Stabilizing his body, he started moving upwards, when the first Wyrms and the Glaze reached him.

The Wyrms, seeing one of its kin slaughtered, started its attack with a deafening roar, and it spiraled, generating a vortex that threatened to consume everything. It moved in a way as it gave ample space to the shining eye in the center of it down below, not obstructing its vision.

The Sapphire Gazer with its colossal eye shining with a sinister allure, fixed its gaze on Rio. In a heartbeat, the world seemed to warp and twist under the hypnotic power of the eye. Rio's senses dulled, as his mind felt drawn into the captivating depths, asking him to explore that beautiful scenery at the center.

-snap-



"That doesn't work on me anymore." Rio said and snapped his fingers. The sound worked similar to a trigger, as his senses returned to his control again.

This was something he had created when he was fighting against the zombies in the corroded dungeon. The corrosion of the red sun had an effect on the senses and mind of everyone living there, so whenever he felt like he was losing control of his body, he formed a trigger which would jolt his mind back to normal. The snap was just that trigger. The moment he snapped his fingers, instinctively his body would send a flare of mana to his brain, giving it a shock, rebooting his senses. Similar to electric therapy.

It took a while and lots of practice, control and headaches, but now it had become a habit and an instinct, similar to muscle memory.

"Let's end this."

Focusing on the Sapphire Gazer, Rio swam directly toward its monstrous eye, hoping to deal with this pesky effects first, as it brought some unpleasant memories the longer he remained nearby.

## Chapter 253 Killing monsters and monkeys

Diving down the sea using his new skill, Rio moved towards the shining eye, the closer he got the more he felt pulled towards the Gazer. The hypnotic effects of this creature was no joke, and it could easily solve the awakers of C rank and below. Though the virtual reality test might've toned down the strength of these monsters a bit, but the overall effects of that drop down in skills would still affect the students more.

As the creatures weren't real and just chunks of data, they weren't gonna make mistakes cause they felt uncomfortable with their current state. If anything these monsters didn't feel anything and only acted based on fixed details, and they were all perfect. On the other hand, students who couldn't get a clear understanding of their new strength, were prone to make more mistakes.

Rio's straight slide stopped when he noticed the tail of Gazer coming towards his direction. Getting hit by that or even scratched by that was a sure death, as either he would be pierced, or his body would be paralyzed and sucked into Gazer's mouth - so the moment he noticed the movement of water beside him, he halted his flow and changed direction.

He watched as a sharp slash got created in the water in front of him. The tail or a tentacle, whatever you call it, moved past him at high speed. Rio slashed his sword the moment it came into his view, he wanted to cut it in two pieces in one strike, but due to the resistance of water and the Gazer's reaction speed, he only managed to leave a cut on it. The green blood left its tail and floated outwards in the sea as if it was some oil or something.

"Tsk" Rio clicked his tongue and pushed his body towards the downside, where he could now see Gazer's mouth and shark-like teeth covering his skin.

The mouth of Gazer was in the middle of its pupil, which was really weird and scary to look at. But ignoring the disgust, Rio kept slashing his sword, sending streaks of lights hitting the eye. Even though the skin of Gazer wasn't tough but it had self healing abilities and every attack he landed was healed next instant.

But Rio didn't stop and kept doing that while dodging the tail attacks from both the monsters. Not in mood to stay here any longer, he released his aura avatar and sent it to hold back the wyrm.

When the next time the tail came to hit him, Rio bent his body to the side, while using a barrier cover himself. The blow of that tail sent him hurtling towards the creature's mouth, who opened it wide open to eat his prey, yet the moment when Rio was about to fall down, he smiled and threw his ice sword with both his hands towards the monster's mouth. Using the element of water to give it proper direction, he made sure it fixed itself into the jaws of Gazer.

"Let's end it now.", Rio said, as he chanted a spell in his mind and threw the black ball of flame that appeared in his hand into the open mouth of Gazer.

Even underwater, the hellfire burned brighter and soon the roars of Gazer echoed in the sea. The screams of pain increased several folds when the hellfire came into contact with nether sword mana, left in the eye by Rio's sword slashes and in seconds it covered the entirety of the eye. Burning it completely.

The tail of Gazer kept hitting around the water for some time even after the monster's mouth was burned to cinders, but then it died down too.

Rio looked upwards at the wyrm who was getting toyed around with his avatar. After all, the shadow manifestation could dodge or parry all the attacks and the effects of drowning and getting pressured underwater vortex was no threat to the avatar - "Kill him" Rio gave a mental command to his avatar, and in just next few seconds the wyrm was severed in several pieces and dying the entire are blue.

He looked at the Wyrms body which disappeared in tiny particles and in its place was a blue dagger left floating. Taking it in his hands, he slashed it a few times in the water and noticed it was one of the artifacts the professor talked about. It released an arc of water slash every time he swung it using mana. Feeling satisfied with it, he took it and kept it. After all, his sword was broken in his fight with the first wyrm and even for the Gazer, he needed to create swords of ice to attack him. This one just came at the perfect time.

Rio dispersed the aura avatar and used the skill to move out of this water. Once he was out he used the light magic to vaporize all the water on his body and clean himself from any blood or other stuff.

Taking a look at his watch, these monsters had wasted over a minute of time for him. Looking at his watch, he noticed 2 of his teammates were already dead. By no surprise it was Pshintia and Ryosuke. After all, they were the weakest of the bunch and it was clear they'd die first if they met anyone else. He looked at the a green dot in a small circle on the map and turned his face there. That was Leon's position, the Token Bearer.

Covering his feet in mana, Rio ran over the water, moving in that direction. From how much the dot moved here and there on the watch, he guessee Leon was probably fighting with someone right now.

'Should I kill him and call it a misfire?' Rio thought and increased his speed.

[Won't that be too anti-climatic.] System said to him. After all, this was the last VR test and once he killed Leon that would be game over for him for today.

'You're right. Let's make him suffer a bit first.' Rio said and started running in the forest. Jumping from one tree to another, his feet didn't even touch the ground as he kept moving forward. It didn't take long for him, when he could hear the sound of fighting from the front. Surprisingly he also came across a bow artifact on his way. As these things were all spread all over the area, he grabbed it since he found it. He didn't find any other teams or students in the vicinity, so he couldn't kill them.

He stopped on a tree branch as he noticed the fight ahead. Currently Leon was fighting with 4 people from A-4 class. No one was strong enough to beat him, but they still challenged him as one of them was the idiot monkey - Zirrix Drakkar.

Looking at him, Rio remembered something Loki told him a few days ago, about beating the pride of that monkey god and so he decided to do just that. Not just to get Loki, but because he could see, slowly but surely Leon was getting the advantage in this fight. And if no one interfered he would win this fight in the next few minutes.

"Call it your bad luck, Zirrix. But can't really let you be a pawn that shows off the strength of Leon." Rio said in his heart and nocked an arrow on his bowstring.

Well it wasn't much of an arrow, but more like a tree branch he broke from the side. But using his wind element, he cut it from some places and made it sharper and simpler.

Taking aim, he looked at Leon and let go of his fingers. The arrow which left his hands, soob broke in 3, and they all moved forwards in different angles.

-kach kach kach-

The wooden arrows hit the 3 students besides Zirrix and Leon, and eliminated all of them instantly.

He picked up another arrow and shot it towards Zirrix after chanting a spell to boost its effects. Zirrix used the metal staff in his hands to block it. The staff was an artifact he picked up along the way, so it managed to stop the arrow's path, but before he took a calm breath and smiled, the back of the arrow blinked in red a few times and then created a loud blast, creating a big crater in the ground and destroying the nearby trees.

Zirrix, who got thrown away by the shockwave, coughed a few times and looked at the side, where he noticed he saw Leon, who was in a similar situation.

Yet he noticed between both of them was now a white circle line drawn, showing he was thrown out of the area, where Leon had to stay.

Before Zirrix could stand up, another arrow greeted him. One which landed directly between his legs and started blinking.

Seeing that Zirrix nearly lost his composure and shouted curses out loud, when another explosion drowned those words.

-kaboom-

Chapter 254 Bait and hook

"Where am I?" Zirrix opened his eyes slightly and looked around, only to see that the world was quite peaceful and green.

It was a beautiful scenery, and he felt refreshed.

But why does it look weird.

Those trees seem to be opposite, upside down.

Just when he was confused, he heard a voice that broke his train of thoughts

"So you're awake now?"

"Who\_" Zirrix said as he tried to stand up but found that his hands were free and he wasn't on the ground or on his bed.

He opened his eyes wide, as he looked up where a rope bound him from a tree and left him hanging, he tried to look for his staff or any other weapon to free himself, when the same voice echoed again.

"Try that, and my arrows won't miss the target next time."

'Rio'

Zirrix saw Rio's figure sitting on a tree top, where the branches around him had gathered together in a way that looked like a chair or table for him to sit upon. While he was leisurely sitting there, few wooden arrows floated behind him in a ring, constantly moving in a circle.

Zirrix waved his hands around, swinging his body backwards, trying to gain momentum and move upwards or use his strength to free himself, when an arrow grazed past his hands. Leaving behind a shallow cut.

Urgh'

Zirrix grunted in pain, as his brain recollected the scene where he was fighting with Leon and this guy sneak attacked them and he was thrown out of the bearer's circle.

As if he remember something, he quickly squirmed around and looked at his private parts, thinking if Rio blew them up with his arrows.

But thank goodness, they survived. Atleast his staff was still a staff.

"What do you want?" He asked.

"Nothing much" Rio replied with a playful smile seeing this monkey's dance.

Another arrow moved forward on his signal and stopped just an inch away from Zirrix's face. "Just hanging a monkey on a tree. It's normal right?"

"You... .." Zirrix was furious over the insult of his God, as his face started to turn red and purple. (Like a certain monkey's ass??)

Maybe it was because of him being turned upside down and blood flow, or being too angry and humiliated, but whatever it was, Rio enjoyed it.

And so did Loki.

Though Rio couldn't hear him, he was sure that trickster was probably enjoying this scene very much.

"Don't worry, I won't kill you. You're useless dead." Rio said and the arrow moved a bit lower and stabbed Zirrix on the arm, where the watch of the academy was.

"Just stay still like a statue and enjoy your time. I'll kill your teammates and send you all back together." Rio said, pointing upwards.

Zirrix tried to look at his watch but he found he couldn't see anything except broken screen. The arrow floating in front of him was the warning, if he tried to channel his mana or aura, so he could only stay still and hope his teammates would free him.

'Just wait, I'll show you what a monkey can do, when you make him angry.' Zirrix thought in his heart and shook his head as his brain registered the fact that he called himself a monkey.

"I could've handled it myself." Leon said as he dusted his clothes and stood up slowly. Looking at Rio who was enjoying his time, eating fruits from the trees and playing with the artifacts he got from those other students. Trying to see what effect they had.

From what he understood in his fight, all artifacts only had one effect. And now they were all in Rio's hands. Even the artifact he found when he first teleported here.

Leon wanted to get that back, but his pride didn't allow him to ask for it from Rio. And seeing Rio, who completely ignored him, not even taking a glance in his direction - it was obvious that he had no intention to give it back.

So he could just stare at him in anger.

[Calm yourself.]

[Don't pick a fight you cannot win.]

Apollo's words echoed in his head again, reminding him to be careful around Rio.

Leon knew it too, but he didn't know why, but every time he saw Rio, there was this indescribable feeling in his heart confusing him and occupying his mind.

Leon took a deep breath and decided to focus on healing his injuries and recovering some mana back.

[Apollo's watching.] System sent a message to Rio when Apollo started his conversation with Leon.

'I know.' Rio said and looked at Leon from the corner of his eyes. He didn't even need any scans or skills, he already knew all the habits of that bastard.

Shaking his head, he closed his eyes, rested his head on his hands and just waited there for some stupid to take the monkey bait.

On the other side,

"Some of our teammates are dead?" Heath, who was the student of Zirrix's class, said when he noticed a few red dots on his watch.

"According to the map, they died near the token bearer of class A-3." Another student replied.

"One of them is still alive. Maybe they're still fighting. We should go and help him too."

In class A-4 there were a few rankers and important characters of the plot too. Namely - Heath Lewis (the dragon halfling), Zirrix Drakkar (the monkey King's avatar), Moksh Blackwood (the second ranker) and Vanessa Belmont (Duke Belmont's daughter).



Currently other than Zirrix they were all grouped together.

They had a plan to group together once after teleportation and then start the fight with other classes.

At first it was all fine, as they all started moving together, but then Zirrix, who found 3 other students, changed routes midway and started the fight with Leon beforehand.

"If one is still fighting, then chances are that's Zirrix. His strength is the highest among them." Moksh said and a few others nodded their heads.

"I would've solved the strongest first." Heath replied, disagreeing with his classmates.

"Doesn't matter, let's go there." Vanessa, who was standing silent all this time, spoke up and next second flames appeared below her feet, projecting her upwards.

Leaving behind a charred ground in her place. Heath thought something as he glanced at the dots on watch, and then he used his mana too and ran behind Vanessa without saying anything.

Moksh looked at both of them with an annoyed expression. He looked at the other students who were staring at him with eager eyes, and he clenched his fists.

"Let's go." He said as he ran behind Heath's disappearing figure.

'What's the point of me being a leader, if you just wanted to do whatever you want.' Moksh cursed his team as he remembered the scene of their pre match meeting in hub.

All 10 of them had decided that he would be their team leader, so it makes coordination easy during the match.

Yet now first Zirrix, then Vanessa and now even that damned halfling ignored his command and ran off by themselves. Not even asking him for his opinion first.

'It looks like I need to teach them a lesson too later on.'

#### Chapter 255 Vanessa's vengeance (Vanessa Belmont - The Fire Fairy)

'System, is anyone coming yet?' Rio said, as he got tired of waiting for someone to pop up near Leon. Looking at the protagonist, he had already recovered around 60% of his mana already.

[A few]

[If you want to know who or how many, just buy some more features for me.]

'But you're too expensive.' Rio said and closed the shop panel that popped up.

[It's expensive cause it's useful.]

'Fine. Buy 10 low grade lottery coupons. Let's play some games until someone comes.'

[At Least buy a few high grade or top grade ones. You have so many points, why're you always acting like a cheapskate?] System complained from the bottom of its digital heart.

Seriously this host had so many points, yet he doesn't spend them at all. What a waste.

"If you want to sell something, increase the success ratio. 1% chance of getting anything good. Isn't that like throwing my money in a dump? Quantity over quality." Rio said to the system. "Come on, bring out the machine. I'm feeling lucky today. Maybe I can win that 0.1% chance this time."

Rio said and hearing his command, system sighed and closed all the blue screen panels and brought a big round machine, divided in 10 parts with different colors, with gift boxes covered with question marks.

'Come on, PNG gods, Jackpoteus and Slotara, give me something good, and I'll spare your lives when you come down.' Rio said in his mind. Remembering the famous gods of Arcadia, associated with the games of casinos, and pressed the green button.

-rolllll rolll rollll-

The machine started rolling, slowly picking up speed each second. And when all the circles came together and it became hard to see their difference, Rio pressed the red button, making the machine come to a halt instantly.

The big question mark floated up in front of him a few times, as a gift icon popped up from the machine and slid to his side.

"Open sesame," Rio said and touched the box. As it started unwrapping and then his reward came to his view.

[Better luck next time.]

"..."

[...]

"Fuck," Rio cursed as he slapped the system panel. "Let's try again. I don't believe all 10 of them are wasted." He said and at his command, 9 similar machines popped up and started rolling on his sign.

[Better luck next time ×4

[2 Low grade healing potion

[5 Low grade berserker pills

[100 gold coins

[10 Pink heart sticker

[1 Rusty dusty dagger

"..."

[In my defense, I already warned you it's gonna be trash.]

'Fuck' Rio cursed and stood up from his seat and threw the old dagger filled with rust and dust at Leon startling him.

Leon, who sensed something, opened his eyes. Seeing a dagger coming his way, he moved his hands to block it. But as soon as the dagger touched his hands, it actually broke and got dusted. Only leaving dust that polluted like a smoke near his face. Leaving a stinky rusty smell behind.

'Hate this dagger.' Rio said as he cursed the system again, after seeing this 'lucky lottery' reward showing its might.

???

On the other hand, Leon who just covered his nose and wiped his face, after waving the smelly smoke away, had question marks over his face. Not sure about what Rio wanted to do with that.

"Someone's coming."

Before he could make any sense of it, Rio's words sounded in his ears, and when he looked up, his figure had already disappeared in the air, and came down to the ground.

"So it is you." Vanessa muttered under her breath, as she saw Rio landing on the ground, and Zirrix hanging on a tree.

The moment she saw 3 of their teammates getting eliminated instantly, she had a hunch it was him. And after seeing that even the dot showing their last teammate's location didn't move from one place for a while, she was even more sure of her conjecture that Rio must have appeared there. After all, she knew her classmates strength through their last match and for them to be eliminated without any chance, only his name popped up in her brain. She also knew leaving one alive was just a trap for them, so they'd come here to 'assist' their teammate.

Yet she still came here without hesitation for two reasons - first, she wanted to know Rio's strength. Since that's what her father asked to know.

Blake family and Belmont family, both Duke ranked nobles obviously didn't get along very well. And the recent growth of Blake's had only meant more losses for her family. And since Rio is the heir to Blake family, knowing his hole cards and limits would only be more beneficial for them.

As for the second reason, it was because she wanted to face off against Rio herself. To see how she fares, and how much more she needs to improve, so she can kill him with her own hands.

'Don't worry Ken, I'll have your revenge soon.' Vanessa thought in her heart, as she clenched the spear in her hands and started running towards Rio.

No words, no greetings, not even acknowledgement or a nod to him or Zirrix - just direct attack.

With each step of Vanessa flames started to cover her spear and then her hands and feet too. With every step her speed increased and in the next instant, her figure was just a yellow blur in everyone's eyes. Leaving the charred ground with shallow smoke coming behind.

Flame Tether

Inferno Blast

Rain of Ember

Cinder Form

One by one, Vanessa directly used her ultimate skills from the beginning. Instantly a binding rope like flame appeared around Rio, to trap and capture him. As the ground below his feet incinerated the next instant. Creating a fiery blast and a black crater in that place.

Yet the onslaught of skills didn't stop. Next second, not giving any chance to Rio, she started raining down small fiery projectiles on him. As soon as the small embers of flames came into contact with the fire blast from before, it merged and created a new spell called 'Magma Magic'. Escalating the heat and temperature to an unprecedented height.

Yet that wasn't all, all these spells were just to keep Rio busy and give herself enough time to prepare for her final spell, Cinder form.

Vanessa's body was covered in scorching flames itself, and she looked like a living fire fairy at that moment. Who was ready to burn down everything that came in her path, and her road to revenge.

Cinder Form is an advanced magic spell, which demands a substantial amount of mana and focus from the caster, thus it cannot be maintained for long periods. Even using it at low level mastery and control is risky, as the chance of the user setting himself on fire and burning down are too high. Cause controlling these flames gets extremely hard over time.

But despite its limitations and obvious backlashes, Vanessa still used this self harming technique, because of the many boosts it gave her.

While in Cinder Form, the user gains increased speed and agility, utilizing the intense heat generated by the flames for swift movements. The user's attacks are infused with fire, dealing enhanced fire damage with each strike. The flaming aura provides some level of defense against physical attacks due to its scorching nature of negation.

"Die" Vanessa muttered under her breath, as she pushed her spear forward, ready to stab the heart of the black shadow still showing little movement in the sea of fire.

Yet what she got in response to her attacks, was a small chuckle and a scoffing sound. "Compared to your brother, the flames you have are just enough to light a cigarette for me." Rio's words sounded in the silent flames, and under Vanessa's eyes, she saw as he held her spear in his fingers and spoke again.

"Let me teach you something I told him a long time ago." Rio said and clasping the spear tightly in his hands. "If you're playing with fire, be ready to get burned."

As Rio's words finished, a small black fire appeared on his fingertips, soon spreading outward to the whole spear and then covering Vanessa whole in it.

[Damn you Hela. I'll kill you sooner or later.] Apollo cursed in his heart after seeing Rio using Hellfire again. While silently staring at Leon, who was looking at the scene unfolding in front of him with wide eyes just like him.

Chapter 256 Blackwood family - champions of mystic isles

Heath and Moksh arrived there just behind Vanessa too. While Heath started running towards Rio to fight him. Moksh looked at Leon lost in thought and jumped in his direction with a smirk plastered on his face.

"Go and help Zirrix." Moksh ordered the rest of his team through a sound spell and entered the circle of token bearer.

Leon was just staring at Rio who walked out of those high intensity flames without even a single scratch or burn mark. Even his clothes and appearance were clean and not affected by any fire or smoke.

His surprise turned to shock again as he watched Rio use that hellfire again and eliminate Vanessa in seconds.

[Watch out]

When he was lost in his thoughts thinking if he could survive or fare any better against that spell, when Apollo's words of warning came to his ears. Along with the foreboding sense of danger from his back.

Without wasting any time Leon directly jumped to the side, dodging the attack from Moksh by a hair's breadth.

Leon rolled on the ground twice and looked at the ground beside him where a crater was formed, as if the ground was split in two with that attack.

'Moksh Blackwood' Leon muttered as he looked at the man who attacked him.

'So he's not all luck' Moksh thought as he saw Leon dodging his attack.

Even though he didn't take Leon seriously, but he still did use 7 points of his strength in that attack since Leon managed to get first rank against him in the entrance exams.

Blackwood family is one of the strongest elite families of the human domain. They also had their own free guild called 'Dusken Blades'. They're also called 'Champions of Mystic Isles'. A treacherous territory of great dangers and mystery.

The Blackwood family is the one who has cleared the trials of those islands this time and holds the ownership of them.

(Trials for Mystic Isles open for every 25 years. And every major force from every race can compete to clear them. According to the rules set by the world powers, whoever clears the trials will hold their ownership till the next trial begins.)

Moksh looked at Leon and adjusted his stance and readied the magic wand in his hand. As he started chanting some spells in his heart and magic circle made with intricate patterns and various symbols and colors appeared in the air. Gathering and floating in front of him and back.

"Let's see if you really deserve your rank." Moksh said, as all the magic circles moved in a straight line and banded one over another. Creating a barrage similar to a large gun or rocket. Mixed with various parts, shining brightly.

'He's strong' Leon thought as he noticed Moksh taking the fight seriously from the get go.

For a second, Leon felt weird seeing this, as whenever he fought with someone before, they would start talking or taunting him first and then he would beat them and show his strength.



But looking at Moksh it seemed he won't get a chance to pretend to be a pig to eat a tiger.

'I'll just beat you , if I can't beat him.' Leon thought as he looked at Moksh. Hoping to take the anger of Rio out on him. He flared his mana, getting ready to use his ultimate spell and end this match instantly too.

His whole body started glowing in light, as the sun in the sky seemed to shine brighter just for him.

But just when he was in full swing to show off, he suddenly felt a sharp pain that ran through his body, making him cold all over.

Instantly his body and blood which was warming up due to the spell of 'Solar Stream' froze and calmed down.

???

Looking at his freezing body, where thin layers of ice formed over his hands and feet, a black line formed over Leon's forehead and a bad premonition rose in his heart.

Looking back in the direction which gave him the chills, he saw Rio was actually standing beside an ice sculpture.

After a few seconds, Leon realized it wasn't any sculpture but Heath, whose body had been frozen on spot.

Seeing the slight bumps on his back, Leon could see, it happened so fast that the poor dragon halfling didn't even have the time to transform or show his full might yet.

'How did he do that?' Leon thought and turned to looked at his own opponent, Moksh.

And he saw... .. nothing.

There was no Moksh, or Zirrix who was hanging through a tree, or his 3 or 4 other teammates who came to free him.

'He killed them all... .. So soon' Leon thought as he didn't see anyone there.

-shatter-

The shattering sound brought Leon back to his senses. Looking back he noticed, Heath was struggling under the ice.

A tiny golden glow started to shine under all that ice, giving it a beautiful glow. And soon the heat from the golden energy melted the ice over Heath's handsome face.

"It's not over." Heath said as his hands turned into claws and the small bumps of horns over his forehead, which were usually covered by the layers of long hair, parted sideways. As his blue horns grew larger.

"My turn" Heath said, and Leon heard him chanting a spell in dragon tongue. A language said to be inherently correlated to mana and magic.

Over Heath's head formed a whirlpool of air, as the mana in the air gathered over his body, destroying all the ice that trapped him to the ground.

Leon was surprised to see such fine control over surrounding mana. He now understood why dragon race is considered one of the strongest races on Arcadia.

Just some simple words of theirs can control all mana, and this was only when they used their bloodline powers.

Once any dragon reached S rank and awakened their domain, Leon couldn't imagine how anyone would be able to fight with them at that time.

Yet soon enough a scene, even more surprising than this one appeared next.

Leon saw a smile on Rio's face, and next with the sound of snapping fingers, he was horrified to see that all the violent mana that gathered around Heath turned into a steady stream and flew towards Rio, who consumed all of it like it was no big deal.

"You're right. It wasn't over then, but it's over now." Rio said and punched out with his hands.

A phantom of fist appeared in air and kept enlarging in size the more time and distance it passed. Until it finally landed on Heath's figure who was standing there stupidly.

(Heath eliminated too.)

Leon took a long breath, as the scene from earlier started playing in slow motion in his mind. Leon knew each of the ranker's strength, and the fact that 3 of them got eliminated in just one move made him doubt the reality of this situation.

"Wake me, when someone else comes."

While Leon was lost in thoughts, Rio's voice came to his ears again. As he saw the few tree roots giving way to Rio and creating another chair for him to sit upon.

Seeing Rio sitting in the sky with the relaxed expression, Leon only had a feeling that he lost something again. Yet he couldn't understand what, how or why?

## Chapter 257 Group Elimination

Few moments before

When Leon was fighting against Moksh, Rio stared at the halfling who jumped at him. Heath didn't speak, introduced or talk nonsense with him and directly stretched out his claws and ready to slash at Rio.

Maybe he would've taken this fight lightly before, but after seeing Vanessa getting eliminated instantly even after using her best skills, Heath dropped that idea.

'Let's see how many moves I can take.' He wondered in his heart, as he used the elements of wind and nature to increase his speed and strength.

Unlike others his age or in his class, Heath didn't have the arrogance or pride to hope for a win against Rio. Nor did he feel humiliated for a loss.

He was arrogant, extremely too, as it was the pride of the superior bloodline flowing in his veins - but he was also self sincere. He understood his level and strength, and there was no shame in accepting it.

After all, even if he ignored everything else, the fact that Rio was chosen by a primordial and had a higher rank than him was enough for him to let go of his ego. So he just wanted to use this spar to test his skills and check the difference between them.

As Heath charged towards Rio. He used his skills - Wings of the Wyvern, Claws of the Wyrms and Thunderous Stomp.

With a heavy stomp to the ground, his figure jumped high into the air, creating a crater below on the ground.

His hands turned into lethal claws. As sharp nails grew on the edge that could rip everything it touches to shreds.

Clothes on his upper back tore open as wings erupted from his back, growing in size. As the wings unfurled, he flapped them in succession, propelling himself faster and farther, creating air shockwaves that shook the trees in the surrounding area.

His movements became a blur, leaving only fleeting afterimages in his wake, a testament to his staggering speed.

Yet looking at him Rio had the same calm expression as before, thinking - 'So flashy and showy. What a waste.'

When Heath was close to Rio, he stretched his claws to attack him, trying to end this match in one slash, yet when he was within attack range, he felt a sharp pain in his chest as if he was hit by a powerful hammer and his figure flew backwards with the same speed.

If he hadn't used his skill 'Cloak of scale' which created a scale armor around his body to shield him prior to this match, he doubted he would have had time to react to this attack.

Yet despite the amazing defense that scale shield provided, Heath still felt the force behind that hit.

His figure rolled on the ground two times, before he used his wings to stabilize himself. Yet due to his own high speed before, his feet still got dragged over on the ground for a few meters before they came to a halt.

Two lines were left near his feet, a mark of his struggle.

"I call it 'The Scalebreaker Punch'." Rio's words came to Heath's ears when he finally stopped himself.

Heath saw Rio looking at his clenched fist with a look of approval. Like he was satisfied with this new 'skill' his hands created.

Heath wiped the trace of blood near his lips and looked below, only to see cracks forming on his chest, and he could only watch as the scale armor broke down and turned to light particles.

If it were the real world he would've surely felt immense pain or some backlash from that skill, but due to the sensors which kept the pain in check for this virtual match, he could still endure it without screaming or rolling down to the ground.

Feeling the loss of mana in his body and seeing the condition of his internal organs, Heath canceled his transformation skills and decided to use his mana for another skill called 'Draconic blessing' instead, which gave him slight healing and regeneration powers.

Yet before he could heal himself to get ready for his next attack, he saw the white haired boy in front of him waving both his hands, as a chilling air passed by him and froze everything in its place.

Including him.

"And this is called the art of ice"

Before his body completely froze and turned into frost covered sculpture, Heath heard those mocking words from Rio. And he clenched his fists in anger again.

'Not like this,' Heath said in his heart. Losing was acceptable to him, but never this easily and never this bad. Thus he decided to use a skill which he never used in the outer world till now.

-Dragon's breath

As one can understand from this name, this skill had the simple function to release a stream of scorching fire made out from pure mana and his life force, from his mouth.

Since Heath still hadn't mastered the art of complete transformation yet, or awakened his bloodline, his physical body couldn't control the long lasting aftereffects of this skill. And he could only burn his lifeforce to compensate it.

But since this wasn't the real world, and at best he would just get eliminated after using this skill, so he didn't care about those side effects and used it.

While Heath was doing his best to chant the skill and control it to break free from this thick ice, which he couldn't break free while standing stuck. On the other hand, Rio ignored the tiny amber glowing in his 'art piece' and looked at Moksh and Leon, who were both staring at him, struggling with the bone chilling cold.

The sudden wide range attack from Rio had successfully interrupted the magic duel of both Leon and Moksh. As Moksh, who was multicasting spells even suffered some backlash.

While the other teammates of class A-4 had already been eliminated. Including Zirrix, who was already hanging by little health.

While Moksh was busy staring and trying to control his mana to break free from the ice which reached till his legs, he didn't notice the small movements in his shadow behind him. And just when he managed to break the ice and was ready to take a step back and rush out of this skill range, he felt someone tied his feet and he fell down to the ground.

Yet before his body could hit the ground, a spike rose from his shadow and stabbed his neck, ending his life and eliminating him from this match.

[The firefly is shining bright.]

System said to Rio, as he canceled his aura avatar and looked back at Heath, who managed to melt the ice around his face and neck.

'Interesting' Rio said and didn't act to kill him, yet waited to see what this worm ?? could do next.

Not noting the smiling expression of his opponent, Heath closed his eyes and started chanting something in some weird ancient language.

His body was glowing in amber now, not sure if it was due to his skill or mana, or the backlash from these skills reducing his health.

'Dragon tongue' Rio said in his mind, when he noticed the movements of mana in the surrounding area. His lips couldn't help but curl up in a smile, as he felt the richness of mana in his vicinity.

[What a fool.] System spoke up in Rio's mind while looking at Heath like looking at some idiot.

There were not one, but many things wrong with what Heath did or wanted to do. Worst of them all was to gather evenly spread out mana from the environment and put it all over his head, right in front of the guy who basically lived over sucking thin mana from the air for two years in a dungeon.

And true to the system's thoughts, next under Rio's control over elements and mana, all of that magic flew over to Rio and got swallowed into his body.

'Delicious' Rio said, as he felt the high amount of mana into his body. Which was even higher than what this match allowed in the beginning.

"Thanks for the gift. But it's time to end it." Rio whispered and punched out, sending a projection of fist flying through air, which shattered the 'sculpture' and eliminated Heath.

"And this is called one punch \_ forget it. It's nothing." Rio was saying something but after remembering the bald head hero, and comparing his hair he gave up naming this 'skill'

With Heath dead it ended the hope of winning this tournament for class A- 4. As a token flew over to Rio's hands and rested near his waist.

#### Chapter 258 Extra fights

"Professor Osborn, there goes your team. Looks like you gotta train them harder."

Professor Arabella said with a smirking expression. Causing other professors to chuckle at her words too. While Osborn could just grit his teeth with a twisted expression.

'His power over mana is higher than

I thought.' Miss Freya thought and smiled. 'And so are his grudges it seems.'

Others might not notice or care, but Miss Freya had noticed the glint of anger in Rio's eyes when he looked at Leon or how he wasted his time and effort just to deal with him in this test.

'Looks like he's taking his anger for Lisa out on him. I should talk to him, once he's out.' She thought and looked at the other members of her class.



While Rio directly rushed for Leon, other members of all the classes were similarly rushing to protect their token bearers or trying to snatch from others they came across.

At this time two other groups of her class were fighting against other classes and the monsters they came across.

Rebecca, Amaya, Edward and Ryosuke were fighting against the class of A-5. Pshintia, who was with them had been eliminated a few moments ago, trying to steal the token from Elroy Morris, the token bearer of the opposing class. A master of illusions, and a villain in the .

Also another ranker from open entrance exams. Rank 13th.

While Amelia, Valtor and Katherine were fighting against monsters in a mountain terrain. They were all running towards the token bearer of class A-1 but they came across a boss monster on their way.

Some members of class A-1 were also dragged into their fight, while they were just waiting for the ambush. But the enraged boss monster sniffed their scent and attacked them too.

Their fight was interesting to watch as everyone not only had to watch out for a C- rank monster but also against the opposing classmates too.

"This is starting to piss me off." Amelia said, as she dodged the heavy paws of the monster and jumped back.

Though her rank was C- too in reality, but here in this match her mana was sealed till rank D from what she could feel. Plus all the blessings she had were locked so dealing with this single boss monster became hard. Not to mention that dealing with boss monsters was always difficult compared to normal monsters. And especially some monsters who were as defensive and had high regeneration as the one they were facing now - Grunter Hat.

A mountain ape-like beast with tough skin and erosion furs covering his whole body.

Grunter had high defense against physical attacks. While its black furs had the property of erosion, which could corrode any weapon that it touched.

Though the range of attack for this beast was primarily melle, but from time to time when it felt a threat, it would shake its head like a madman and release its furs from its crown like hat, in the surrounding area, and everyone would have to dodge and create distance again.

Giving the monster enough time to heal or change positions.

Long range elemental attacks or bow and arrow attacks were working and could take out this beast, and it would've been easy if only it were the beast that was the problem.

Jaesin, Firsjen, Levi and kuru - these 4 students from class A-1 were also troubling.

Jaesin, who had built a sort of hatred or grudge over Rio after what happened at the library, seemed to want to fight with Amelia very much.

Same was the case with Firshen, a Vampire from the Scarlett clan. He's Esme and Erza's cousin. And since learning that the spies his clan sent were actually playing slaves and house at Blake family instead of reporting back and finishing their missions - he too, had a grudge for Rio and Amelia.

As for Levi, she is someone from the too. But in the original story, she was Amelia's shadow.

Due to all the changes Rio made, her role and meeting with Amelia was ruined, and she never got the chance to join the Blake family. From what Rio learned, she's following his 'brother' in the Kevin. And had become his shadow instead.

As for the last guy called Kuru, he was just an unlucky extra, who got chosen for this test by luck.

"I'm going to finish these idiots first. You guys hold off the beast." Amelia said as she turned around and rushed towards the annoying elf, Jaesin. Who's been hiding in the trees and shooting his arrows to disrupt their flow and disturb them.

Firsjen had a twisted smile on his face, as he licked his lips and grew his fangs. His red eyes were shining bright with bloodlust as he lunged forward to intercept Amelia, but his steps halted when Katherine created chains made of ice to bind him.

"Argh" Firsjen grunted as he saw Amelia getting away from him.

He turned his attention to Katherine, only to see her leading the Grunter in his direction. And running away.

'Damn bitch' Firsjen cursed and seeing no chance to dodge the oncoming punch, he used one of his bloodline skills, Puppeteer.

Puppeteer skill allowed him to control anyone he had drank the blood off for a limited time. Obviously limitations are that the target shouldn't have higher rank or mental strength then the user. Nor any blessing or skill that can offset this control.

But Firsjen as the villain and the minion of Rio in the original , had enough role and strength to control the unlucky extra called Kuru.

Kuru, who was facing Valtor and was about to lose, suddenly found his body pulled by an unknown force and next second he found himself face to face against Firsjen.

"Thanks" Poor extra thought his teammate had saved him, but then he saw Firsjen's figure disappearing in a blink, as a massive shadow covered his body.

Before Kuru could understand anything the punch from Grunter arrived and turned him into meat paste.

Extras really aren't suitable to live a life.

Chapter 259 A villainess with yandere traits is a definition of a mad girl

Firsjen's figure arrived a dozen meters away from his previous position, and seeing the rain of blood which turned into light particles and disappeared, he breathed a sigh of relief. One second late and that would've been him.

"Vampires, always so predictable."

Before he took a moment to rest his racing heart, a mocking sound came to his ears, and before he understood anything, he felt a sense of dread enveloping him.

Sensing the danger coming from his back, he quickly turned around, just in time to see an arrow coming towards his neck.

He didn't think about his enemy, but raised his hands to block the oncoming attack, while moving backwards. With heightened senses that was a racial trait of noble vampires, even though he was caught off guard, he managed to grab the arrow in his hands, before it could hit his body.

"You missed." Firsjen said, when he noticed, it was Amelia who shot him.

"Did I?" Amelia said as her figure disappeared in space and came behind Firsjen next moment. "You're exactly where I need you." Amelia said as she released another arrow, directly stabbing Firsjen into his back.

Firsjen jumped from his original place and moved a few steps forward. He turned around and only then did he remember this girl had the ability of space. He ignored it before because she never used this skill in this match and he thought she was saving mana or didn't have enough mana to teleport.

But it was too late now. The arrow in his hands and the one on his back glowed red and created a loud explosion. Throwing him off balance and making him fall down to the ground.

The successive blasts made his health drop at a rapid rate and eliminated him from this match.

Before his figure completely disappeared, he looked at Amelia, his eyes glowing brighter in anger and hatred when he looked at her leaving back, which ignored his existence.

Amelia on the other hand, after dealing with the bloodsucker continued on her previous path and went to fight with the elf next, who was entangled with dealing with Katherine and the Grunter hat, who moved close to his hiding place.

Valtor on the other hand, had already eliminated Levi and joined hands with Katherine to deal with Jaesin first, instead of killing this beast. After all, this match wasn't about killing monsters, and they'd get nothing with their continuous entanglement with it.

With this 2 on 1 fight, it didn't take long for Jaesin to get into a disadvantage. He had to constantly change his positions and due to the boss monsters running rampant, who destroyed nearby trees and kept waving it around like some sort of mace. Even now when it was looking tired after their long fight, each step of this monster was making the ground tremble under its pressure.

If Rio saw this scene he would be sure to remember the scenes of King Kong running rampant in some Hollywood movie.

But at this time, he was also busy dealing with someone else.

Someone far more interesting and challenging than a little wild monkey.

A villainess.

And not just a normal villainess. But a villainess with a yandere tendency.

Lucille Lionheart - A proper bloodthirsty mad woman, whose psychology is hard to describe and impossible to understand.

When Rio read the original , he always wondered what kind of drugs, does the author has to be on to write such a character, or how much, does he has to hate the characters to write scenes where this girl killed them.

And currently this funny and psychotic mad girl villainess was fighting with Leon.

Reason, not for the match or to steal the token or anything - just cause this Leon guy ignored her and started fighting with another girl in front of her.

No, don't think she's jealous or is in love with Leon or anything. I told you, her brain circuit is hard to understand with a normal brain.

She was just upset for

???

Well , who knows.

Rio couldn't guess it, so he just stood aside and enjoyed the show. While playing around with Rubina, the tribal heroine and Damon, the pitiful plaything of the bullies. A few extras were also around, but since they were extras, Rio just killed them to avoid them being the limelight to spread the backdrop of Leon's strength.

After all, God knows which one of them will become the little brother or supporter of the protagonist further down the storylines. The little contact and impression they have of him, the better.

Not to mention, he also got some points for killing them. But truth be told that was just a waste, he even stopped paying attention to those things since he had too many of them anyway.

Damon, who was proficient only in poison arts and didn't have any other skills, was trying his best to get close to Rio and hurt him. But every time he got close to him, Rio would just wave his hand and send him flying backwards.

On the other hand, Rubina was attacking him close range. Her movements followed a weird set of animalistic patterns and guessing her next movement was incredibly hard.

She held a short dagger in her right hand, but that was probably just for show or scare. She mainly used it to draw feints and confuse him. Since she mainly used her left hand to attack him with fists or kicks.

These were all students of class A-2, which was under the guidance of echo empress, professor Mythila.

Originally in their class Damon held the token, and was the token bearer. He wasn't the strongest, but he was given the role since he had lots of skill that released toxins and poisons in the air. And since the token bearer just had to stay in a circle, their plan was just to keep Damon in a circle with poison all around him. Since he himself couldn't get poisoned and others who entered could be weakened or killed by that poison, he could keep the token safe.

But some time ago, two members of class A-5 came and stole it from him and then ran away.

This started a chase from Damon and his other classmates, which led them here, and into this battle.

Obviously Rio killed those two members of A-5 too and now he held another token in his hands.

That's why while this class's mad girl is busy on her rampage, ignoring her goal - others are trying to get their token back, so they can remove the debuff of no aura uses on them.

But it was easier said than done. And most of their members were already killed by Rio instead.

## Chapter 260 Heroes and Villains

"Come on. Atleast fight me seriously." Rubina said while huffing loudly. Her hands resting on her knees.

It's been a while since she started fighting against Rio, yet all he has been doing is just passively blocking or avoiding her moves. At best, sometimes he'll just try to imitate her moves and see if he can copy them and learn how she blocks them too - but that's about all. Not once he took this fight seriously.

She was the only one fighting against him, as Damon who was tossed around here and there countless times, finally couldn't take it anymore, and few minutes ago when Rio slapped him out again, he directly disappeared and didn't wake up again.

Originally after losing their token for more then 5 minutes, her class should've been eliminated. But Rio hanged the student who was their next token bearer to a tree and bound the token to his feet.

Now although the penalty of theirs was lifted, but they still couldn't run away or avoid conflict. So they can just bite the bullet and continue fighting.

Rubina's other classmates also came there following the location marked on their watches, but other than Lincoln and Lucille who were still fighting with Leon, everyone else was eliminated by Rio as soon as he saw them.

Leon who was trapped in the circle as game rules indicated had to constantly deal with not one but two top rankers.

Lincoln Korbil was just a stepping stone villain of the original . On paper, he was related to the Count rank noble family of Klishto city. But Lincoln's character was slapped in the face every time he appeared on chapters.

This guy was the main antagonist alongside Edward, responsible for crippling Leon 8 years ago during his awakening.

For a second, Rio wanted to deal with this villain, so Leon doesn't show off. But then he let it be.

After all, these kind of idiots needs to be villainised so our protagonist can create more troubles and more enemies to slap and slay.

Since Rio didn't want to toy around Leon himself, why not let these idiots always create problems for him.

As for the chance that Leon might get something good out of these conflicts. Humph, who can say that for sure.

Originally Leon who was on equal strength with Lucille, was supposed to be on losing side with the extra arrival of Lincoln. But his halo shined, and somehow when he saw Lincoln again, along with his past hatred, his power also grew. And he was able to hold off both of his opponents and sometimes even getting an upper hand.



But how can Rio let him kill his opponents easily. So every time, Leon was about to lend a serious injury on anyone, a misguided spell or some failed attack or some monster or person, would suddenly be thrown at him. Saving his enemies or distracting him.

And Leon could just grit his teeth and try again.

As for asking Rio to pay attention or any explanation. Sorry. Better not do it.

Cause when he did, the next time those misfired spells or attacks missed their target, they ended up hitting him directly harder instead.

"You have a technique similar to mine, right?" Rubina asked again as she charged at him in serpentine motion in zig zag pattern. As bursts of aura followed her steps and her speed increased even more.

"I've seen you use that in training rooms and spars. Why don't you use that instead of copying me?" Rubina asked, talking about Rio's Druidic Dance technique. In essence that technique is similar to the art Rubina's primitive tribe created after watching animals and living in forests all their life.

But as the reason of any protagonist's chance is, Rio's technique is still more refined and awesome.

As for him performing it in open training rooms, well he doesn't have many merit points to spare for always booking VIP facilities. So when he trained in those techniques, Rubina 'just happened' to see him.

"If you're itching for it so much, I don't mind killing you." Rio said with a smile and next moment his eyes turned sharp and Rubina felt like she was marked as prey by some fierce beast. Before she could come to her senses, she felt a presence behind her, turning around she swiped her feet in a kicking motion, as well as stabbing the knife in her hands backwards in instinct.

Thinking to stab him once he lost his balance after the kick.

but what she hit with her knife wasn't her opponents body, but empty air. While her leg felt like it just hit a wall.

Feeling the stinging pain in her feet, she jumped back.

But followed by her movements was a kick that sent her body crashing onto the nearby tree trunks.

Spewing a mouthful of blood, she forced herself to stand again, but the color on her body was already glowing in amber. In just one kick, her health which was still around 60% dropped below 20%.

"Was that enough?" Rio said, as he dusted his clothes, removing stains of Rubina's shoes.

"That's it." Rubina said as she forced herself to stand up and smile as she wiped the blood from her lips. It had to be said, this barbaric tribal girl was quite fierce and cruel to herself.

Rio watched as Rubina used some kind of secret technique or something which could boost her strength, but he didn't plant to interrupt her.

-trrrrcrrrr

He was planning to play around with Rubina again, when he felt tremors in the ground below, and looked in the direction of forest.

His eyes shone in silver as he looked at the restless birds flying in the air. Like they were running from something.

As moments passed the tremors on the ground grew more and more clear, and everyone else could feel them too.

When he was coming to find Leon after dealing with the sea monsters at the beginning, he had controlled a few small birds he came across and let them fly here and there.

He just wanted to keep an eye out if something unexpected happened, and now those little birdies played their role.

'Idiot' Rio thought as his eyes followed the bird's eyes' views on the entire forest and he saw who was responsible for this situation.

He saw in one direction where Rebecca, Amaya and Edward were coming towards his direction, while following behind them was an entire nest of monsters, and the students of class A-5.

While on the other hand, Amelia, Katherine and Valtor were leading the enraged Grunter towards him.

Rio recognized the overgrown ape at a glance, but he didn't know why Amelia needed to run away from it. Until he controlled the bird to fly down and saw the situation clearly.

He noticed green vines wrapped around the Grunter's hat tightly. Almost crushing his skull in their grip.

But that wasn't all, on the shoulder of this enraged beast, he noticed a figure standing straight.

A girl with a calm expression and white hair flowing with the wind.

She raised her eyes and looked at the flying bird for some time and then waved her hands.

'Saisha' Rio thought in his heart, as he felt a little headache when his connection with the bird was cut off forcefully.

'So she's here.'