

Magic System in a Parallel World

- Chapter 106: A-Rank Monsters |

Chapter 106: A-Rank Monsters

After harvesting the Vampire Bats' wings and mana cores, Leo continued to walk towards the other side of the cavern.

"By the way, I intend on going as deep as this cave goes. I want to see what's at the end of it." Leo suddenly said.

Nina frowned and quickly said, "That sounds incredibly risky, even more risky than taking on the goblin's nest with just two people, especially when we don't even know what's there. What if we encounter A-Rank monsters? Or worse— S-Rank monsters."

"We should be able to handle A-Rank monsters, right? I mean, look at how effortlessly we have been dealing with B-Rank monsters." Leo said.

"You cannot compare B-Rank monsters to A-Rank monsters, Leo. The disparity between their prowess is akin to the disparity between your magic talents and mine. Monsters between F-Rank and B-Rank are considered 'ordinary' monsters while A-Rank monsters are considered 'elite' monsters."

"For example, while it may take 2-4 ordinary B-Rank Adventurers to deal with a single B-Rank monster, it could take at least 20 ordinary A-Rank Adventurers to deal with a single A-Rank monster. Most B-Rank and below monsters can only use one or two magic spells and are limited to Tier 3 and below magic spells, but A-Rank monsters can use up to 5 different magic spells with Tier 6 magic being their limit."

"I see... By the way, what do people consider an 'ordinary' Adventurer? Surely, if someone can reach A-Rank as an Adventurer, they can't be ordinary."

"No matter what rank you are, there will always be some that will stand out more than the others. For example, there are A-Rank Adventurers that have high talents and the potential to become S-Rank, and then there are A-Rank Adventurers that barely made it to that rank and are destined to remain as A-Rank forever. The latter are what most call 'ordinary' Adventurers while the former are considered the top Adventurers of their respective rank. Do you understand?"

"Yes, I understand." He nodded.

"Anyways, I think it's too dangerous to go any deeper than this, but if you have already decided to get to the bottom of this cave, I will follow you."

"Thank you. I won't forget this." Leo said.

Now that they had decided to see the end of this cave, they no longer lingered around the cavern and continued walking deeper.

"By the way, how many points would an A-Rank monster give? 10,000 points? 20,000 points?" Leo suddenly asked.

"Over 100,000 points. It depends on the monster since the prowess of A-Rank monsters vary greatly from each other. For example, some A-Rank monsters could have 10,000 magic power while others can have 50,000 magic power."

"I see..."

"What do you think, Lilith? Are we strong enough to fight A-Rank monsters?" Leo decided to ask for her opinion next.

"If you use magic, yes, but even then, you'll only be able to handle the weaker ones at A-Rank. Don't underestimate their prowess. Just like Nina said, they're on a whole other level compared to the monsters you have been fighting recently."

Sometime later, they encountered a large monster that looked like a lizard, but it was wearing an armor made of rocks that covered its whole body.

"A Stone Lizard, huh?"

Once he identified the monster, Leo approached it while keeping his eyes on its movements.

When the Stone Lizard suddenly tilted its head back, Leo immediately jumped to the side.

Phew!

A projectile the size of a human's head flew out of the Stone Lizard's mouth the moment Leo moved, traveling as fast as a bullet and creating a hole on the ground where it struck.

After dodging the attack, Leo continued running at the Stone Lizard.

Once he was close enough, he imbued his sword with his mana before striking the Stone Lizard.

The sword penetrated through its stone armor and went straight into its body without any resistance.

The Stone Lizard released a painful cry, but Leo wasn't done, as he continued to strike its body until it stopped moving.

'His sword can penetrate even a Stone Lizard's stone armor like it's nothing...' Nina swallowed nervously as she stared at the Stone Lizard's corpse that was riddled with sword marks.

Over the next three hours, they would encounter more Stone Lizards and Vampire Bats.

As for the Crystal Golems, they have yet to encounter a single one.

Several more hours later, they reached the end of the cavern, and it was back to being a narrow path.

"We didn't encounter a single Crystal Golem in the end." Leo said as they approached the tunnel.

"Why do you sound disappointed?" Nina raised her eyebrows in a questioning manner.

"I guess I wanted to fight it." He shrugged.

Lilith chuckled at his words and said, "It wasn't long ago when you would rather avoid fighting monsters. Now you're actively searching for them."

"I guess I have grown accustomed to fighting monsters and this world in general a little." He smiled.

Once they entered the tunnel, Leo and Nina immediately noticed something different about the path.

"The ground is slanted... Looks like we're going down." Nina said.

As they went deeper into the cave, the ground became more slanted.

After walking for about ten minutes without encountering a single monster, they came to a sudden dead end— at least that's what it looked like from a distance.

"Wait... Is that a dead end?" Leo focused his eyes to get a clearer look, and sure enough, he could see a wall at the end of the path.

"I'll go take a look." Lilith said as she flew ahead.

Once she reached the end, she turned to look at Leo and shouted, "It's not a dead end! There's a sharp turn over here, so it only looks like one!"

"Actually, I think I see something..." Leo said to Nina after hearing Lilith's words.

"To think there would be such a sharp turn here... I'm surprised that you'd managed to see it from back there." Nina mumbled in a surprised voice at the turn.

"I guess I have pretty good eyesight..." Leo said with a stiff smile on his face.

"Anyways, let's continue."

Nina nodded, and they continued traveling down this weird tunnel.

Chapter 107: A-Rank Monsters(2)

It took several hours and many turns, but Leo and Nina eventually made it to the end of the turning tunnel.

"Let's rest here for a bit." Leo suggested when they reached the end of the tunnel, which led them to another cavern.

"This place seems much more spacious than the previous area. I can't even see the ceiling from here." Nina said as her head tilted all the way back from trying to locate the ceiling.

"I'm not surprised. We did travel miles to reach this point." Leo said.

"I'm going to scout ahead." Lilith said before flying off again.

"Here's some food." Leo handed Nina some high-quality MRE.

"Thank you."

After consuming the food, Leo asked Nina, "How is your potion supply?"

"I still have plenty of mana and energy potions. What about you?"

"I'm a little low on mana potions, but I have plenty of energy potions," he said.

"Do you want me to give you some of my mana potions?"

"No, it's fine. I don't really need them."

"Then let me know when you do." Nina said.

"I will."

Sometime later, Lilith returned to report her findings, "I couldn't see any monsters or traps, but there's a lot of minerals and ores. I don't know much about them, though."

"Is that so..."

Leo turned to Nina and said, "Since we don't know what's ahead of us or what to expect, let's walk slower, and I want you to stay behind me."

"Okay." She nodded.

"Are you ready?"

"I am."

"Then let's go."

They left the tunnel and entered the massive cavern.

Since they didn't know which direction to go, Leo decided to follow one side of the wall until they reached the exit. This way, they would avoid getting lost in the middle of this vast cavern.

Furthermore, his only goal was to reach the end of this cave and fight whatever was there to complete the special quest.

After following the right side of the cavern walls for an hour, they came to a sudden halt when they noticed a large figure up ahead.

"What kind of monster is that?" Leo asked Nina in a whispering voice.

"I'm not sure... I can't see it well from here."

"Let's get a closer look."

They slowly approached this figure until they could see it clearly.

This figure looked like a lizard from a distance, but when they looked at it for a little longer, they noticed that it had two massive wings.

"Please tell me that's not a dragon..." Leo said in a trembling voice, as he was very familiar with their figure.

"A dragon? That's not possible. Dragons should be much bigger than this— at least from what I heard. Judging by the size, it should be a—"

"A wyvern." Lilith suddenly said.

"—wyvern." Nina finished her sentence at the same time.

"Wyvern...?" Leo mumbled.

"I'm not sure what type of wyvern that is, but most wyverns are A-Rank monsters." Nina said in a nervous voice.

"It's a Black Wyvern. They're classified as A-Rank monsters. In terms of prowess, they're on the weaker side compared to the majority of wyverns out there." Lilith, on the other hand, recognized the monster.

"Do you think I will be able to defeat it?" Leo asked her.

"If you use magic and with the help of Nina, yes, you can defeat it," Lilith nodded.

"What should we do? It's blocking our path. If we want to continue going this way, we'll have to deal with it." Nina asked him after a moment of silence.

Leo narrowed his eyes at the wyvern and said, "We're going to fight it and defeat it."

"And how are we going to do that?"

"I'm going to use magic. However, this will mean that we won't be able to record the fight since I have to keep the fact that I can use magic a secret."

"That should be fine since it's not a requirement to record our fights. However, some students might question our legality if we rank too high without any video footage." Nina said.

"Who cares about what the other students think? As long as they don't have proof that we cheated, there's nothing they can do about it."

"If you say so..."

"Also, give me a moment to prepare." Leo said to her before opening up the Artifact Shop and quickly purchasing a weapon for 420 Magic Points.

[Void Staff: Increases the magic power of all dark magic by 35%]

He decided to purchase this artifact to increase his chances of defeating the Black Wyvern.

'Let's hope this won't erase one of my swords because I am equipping another weapon over its slot..' Leo prayed to himself as he equipped the Void Staff.

"Alright, here's the plan. We'll summon all of our skeleton mages in advance, and then we're going to overcharge our spells. After we launch our attacks, we will have the skeleton mages bombard the wyvern just in case it manages to survive our attacks."

"I understand." Nina nodded with a serious look on her face.

The both of them summoned a total of 25 skeleton mages the following moment.

While the skeleton mages were on standby, Leo would take his time overcharging his Void Spear while Nina overcharged her own magic spell.

Several moments later, when they were at their limit, Leo and Nina attacked the unsuspecting wyvern with their overcharged spells.

Boom!

Their combined magic power created a massive explosion as well as causing the cavern to tremble like an earthquake.

However, they were not done, as the skeleton mages launched their own attacks at the wyvern the following moment.

The skeleton mages' attack could not be compared to Leo and Nina's combined power, but it should be enough to finish off a heavily injured wyvern.

Magic spells continued to rain down on the wyvern for a few more moments before stopping.

"Alright, let's check its condition." Leo said a moment after the attacks stopped.

Nina nodded, and they approached the cloud of dust together.

Chapter 108: Overkill

The cloud of dust caused by the bombardment of magic spells eventually settled, allowing Leo and Nina to take a clear look at the condition of the Black Wyvern.

"Holy shit..." Leo muttered in a shocked voice after seeing the scene before him.

"..." Nina was speechless.

After the surprise attack, the Black Wyvern had sustained so much damage that it had become unrecognizable, and its body was only a fourth of its original size, as the rest of its body had been destroyed during the attack.

"I think we overdid it..." Leo muttered after a moment of silence.

"You used the Tier 2 magic spell, Void Spear, right?" Nina suddenly asked him.

"Yes, what about it?"

"...It's too powerful."

"That's only natural, since I overcharged it." He said.

"No, that was unnaturally powerful even with overcharge. For comparison, I used a Tier 4 magic spell just now, and even when overcharged, it would not have been able to create such a powerful explosion, which means it was mostly caused by your Void Spear..."

"As long as you continue using magic, we'll be able to hunt A-Rank monsters. Rank 1 won't be unachievable any longer. However, it will definitely make people suspicious since we won't have any footage of us fighting A-Rank monsters."

"That's fine by me. Like I'd said, I don't care about what the others think. I only care about getting first place in this training course!" Leo said.

While Nina's skeleton warrior harvested the Black Wyvern's mana core, Leo checked his watch to see how many points he'd gained from the kill.

"150,000 points! The Black Wyvern gave us 150,000 points!" He exclaimed in excitement.

In just a few moments they had acquired what would normally take a few hours of grinding B-Rank monsters to acquire.

"Alright, it's decided! Once we see what's at the end of this cave, we'll return to this place to hunt these Black Wyverns!" Leo suddenly declared.

"Okay." Nina had no problem with his decision. In fact, she was excited about it.

After harvesting the mana core, the skeleton warrior handed it to Leo, whose eyes widened the moment he saw the size of the mana core.

"This thing is huge!" He exclaimed.

The mana core was larger than even his own head, and it weighed around 100kg or about 220 lbs.

"How much money do you think this mana core will fetch for?" He asked in a dazed voice.

"You can probably get a few million dollars for this mana core." Nina said.

Leo swallowed nervously after hearing her words.

"A few million... I'll be freaking rich soon! Hahaha!" He laughed out loud once he realized that he was going to be rich after he returned to the city.

"Alright, let's keep going." Leo said a moment later.

"Wait." Nina stopped him.

"Hm?" Leo looked at her with raised eyebrows.

"Even though its corpse is badly damaged, we can harvest its claws. They'll also fetch a good amount of money."

"I understand." Leo retrieved his sword and began cutting its claws.

Once he was done, he tossed them into his Spatial Ring.

They continued their journey shortly after.

Over the next several hours, they would encounter a few more Black Wyverns. Of course, they repeated what they did the first time with one exception— they no longer summoned skeleton mages since that would be an overkill.

"Is there nothing besides wyverns in here? Not that I am complaining..." Leo said after killing their 9th wyvern.

"Look, we're back in the top 50." Nina showed her watch to him.

"If we continue at this rate, we will definitely achieve top 3."

"Just top 3? I thought you said we would get rank 1."

"It's possible, but there are surely other teams out there that are hunting A-Rank monsters right now."

Leo sighed, "As expected of a prestigious academy. The school is filled with monsters."

"And you're one of them, perhaps even the biggest one in this whole academy." Nina mumbled in a low voice.

Several more hours and Black Wyverns later, Nina started staring at Leo with a puzzled expression.

"What's wrong?" he asked her.

"How come you don't need to drink any mana potions? I should have more mana than you, yet I have to drink a mana potion every four hours."

"Oh, I have naturally high mana regeneration." He gave her a random excuse.

"..." Nina became quiet afterward for some reason.

"Leo, you should probably calm down. You look incredibly suspicious right now." Lilith suddenly said to him.

"Huh? What do you mean? How do I look suspicious?"

"Have you already forgotten what the Headmistress told you? Everyone that came to this world from another world were all monsters with unfathomable talents. If you keep showing off, she'll suspect that you're one of these people." Lilith explained.

"So what should I do? Make myself look less talented? That's easier said than done."

"I know, but you should still try."

"Alright."

After walking for many hours, they finally found what appeared to be the end of the cavern, but this new path was vastly different from the others.

"This is... a staircase?" Leo mumbled as he stared at the staircase before him.

"Looks like it... And it looks fairly old. It's probably been many years since someone last used this staircase." Nina said.

"Let's go down and see what's on the other side." Leo said a moment later.

"Okay."

They began descending the staircase the following moment with Leo walking in front of Nina.

'This sort of reminds me of the Labyrinth I explored with Miss Camille.' Leo suddenly recalled his first experience inside a Labyrinth and its long staircases.

Several minutes later, they eventually reached the end of the staircase.

After exiting the staircase, they entered an underground hallway, and at the end of this hallway, there was a massive gate with a complex design on it.

"T-This place is..." Leo's eyes widened when he saw the scene before him, as the giant doors and the eerie aura it emanated reminded him of a boss room from a Labyrinth!

Chapter 109: Empty Boss Room

"What a weird place. Why would something like this be inside a cave? Not to mention at the very bottom of it." Nina muttered after seeing the place, but she didn't appear to realize that it looked exactly like a boss room that could only be found in Labyrinths, which was natural for her because she's never been in a Labyrinth before.

However, Leo immediately recognized the gates and the ominous aura that squeezed through the cracks between the gates and permeated the hallways.

"This is a boss room! I am sure of it!" He said to Nina.

"A boss room? Like the ones you find inside a Labyrinth? So this was a Labyrinth the whole time?" Nina was shocked to learn this information.

"I'm not sure if this place is a dungeon or not, but this is definitely a boss room. I have seen those doors before when I explored a Labyrinth with Miss Camille."

"What should we do? We're not supposed to enter Labyrinths without warning the teachers first."

"I think it's a little too late for that." Leo shook his head. "And I am not going to go all the way back just to let the teachers know. Since we're already here, we might as well clear it."

"Okay." Nina nodded.

"Are you sure? If the monsters in the previous area were all A-Rank monsters, there's a chance that the monster behind these gates could be an S-Rank monster." Lilith said to him.

"By the way, S-Rank monsters are 100 times stronger than A-Rank monsters. You'll definitely die if you encounter one in your current state."

Leo swallowed nervously after hearing her words."

"Wait... Can you scout ahead? Enter the room and see what kind of monster is lying inside." Leo said to her.

"Sure." Lilith nodded before disappearing into the gates.

She returned a few minutes later and said, "I couldn't see any monsters inside, let alone a boss."

"Could the boss be hiding somewhere?" Leo asked.

"No, that's not possible. The room on the other side is actually quite small, so I was able to look through the whole place, yet I didn't find any bosses."

"Hmmm..." Leo pondered.

"Alright, let's go inside." He said a moment later.

"Ah, but before we do that, let's get some rest first. I want to be in peak condition right before facing a boss."

Leo retrieved his tent and opened it right in front of the boss room.

They went inside to relax in the shower and eat some high-quality food.

After that, they went to sleep in their sleeping bags.

They woke up 8 hours later.

"Can you check inside the boss room again?" Leo said to Lilith after waking up.

"There's no need. I looked through it multiple times while you slept. There's no monster inside."

"An empty boss room... Is that even possible? I thought all Labyrinths collapse after they are cleared."

"This place might only look like a boss room." Lilith said.

"I guess we'll find out in a bit." Leo said.

Sometime later, they closed the tent and prepared to open the gates.

"I'm ready whenever you are." Nina said to him.

"Then I'm opening it now."

Leo proceeded to push the gates open with his bare hands. Despite its massive size, the gates were relatively light and easy to move.

After opening the door just enough for them to walk through, they entered the room.

Bang!

The doors suddenly shut behind them.

The uneasy feeling in Leo's guts grew stronger with every passing second.

"It's really empty. This place is also smaller than I expected." Nina said as she looked around the small circular room.

The interior of the room was about the size of a medium-sized ballroom, and there didn't appear to be any places for monsters to hide at glance, much less bosses.

"Is this place really empty?" Leo wondered out loud as he looked around the room with Nina staying close to him just in case.

However, before they could do much, the atmosphere in the room suddenly changed.

Leo immediately noticed this change due to his enhanced senses.

"Something is coming! Be on guard!" He warned Nina, who quickly began preparing to summon her servants at any moment.

"Over there!" Lilith shouted as she pointed to the center of the room, where the figure of an old man had suddenly appeared.

However, there was something strange about this old man— something off.

His body was flickering, almost as though it was a hologram.

The flickering eventually stabilized itself. When that happened, the old man turned to look at Leo and Nina.

"Welcome to my Labyrinth, potential successors to my legacy. I am called Edgar Darkmore, but most people address me as 'Elder'."

'Elder...?' Leo raised an eyebrow after hearing this familiar name.

'That's right... Miss Camille's S-Rank artifacts also mentioned the name 'Elder'.' He quickly recalled.

"What is going on here, Senior Darkmore?" Leo asked him.

"I reckon that you'd just asked me some questions. Unfortunately, I won't be able to answer your question, as this is just a recording that I'd created before I perished from this world." Edgar said.

And he continued, "But fret not, as I will explain everything that you need to know so that you won't become completely lost!"

"If you don't already know my identity, allow me to give you some more information about my background. First and foremost, I am an outsider. I wasn't born into this world. Instead, I somehow traveled to this world from another world. In other words, I am an Otherworlder!!"

"An Otherworlder...?" Nina mumbled in a dazed voice as she stared at the hologram with a baffled look on her face. This wasn't her first time hearing such a term, but because this term has always been associated with evil and hatred, she couldn't help but feel scared.

'Holy shit... What the hell is going on?' Leo wondered inwardly.

'An Otherworlder just like Leo, huh? This is getting more and more interesting!' Lilith chuckled.

Chapter 110: Edgar Darkmore

"In case you don't know me, allow me to give you a brief explanation about my background." Edgar said.

"I was born in a world ravaged by monsters, one that's similar to this one, and I thought that I had met my end after being killed by a powerful monster, but when I opened my eyes, I found myself in this unknown world."

"I was weak and pathetic in my old world, but in this world, I had the power and the opportunity to do whatever I wanted. I studied magic extensively, learned how to craft artifacts, and even created my own unique magic spells. However, I was not content with just having power. I wanted to use my power for something— I wanted everything, so I decided to try and rule the world."

"My conquest went smoothly at first as I conquered large countries and powerful families. I had all the wealth and women in the world. Unfortunately, I made a mistake, which ended my conquest, and now I am dead."

"You must be wondering why I am telling you this. It's simple. I want you to know about me before you accept my legacy."

"Legacy...?" Leo mumbled.

"You are probably wondering about my legacy, so I will give you a quick rundown. My legacy is basically everything I once owned. My artifacts, my wealth, my magic spells— everything that I have acquired during my conquest is my legacy, and I am looking to pass it down to someone worthy."

"Of course, I am not telling you to continue my conquest. What you do with my legacy is up to you. I simply don't want it to collect dust and rot away."

"You're probably thinking that this sounds too good to be true— that there might be some ulterior motives behind all of this. I don't blame you for having doubts since Otherworlders are generally hated and not trusted by the people of this world. If you don't want to trust me, there's nothing I can do, as a dead man cannot force the living to do something they don't want to."

"With that being said, my legacy isn't free for taking either. If you want my legacy, you will have to chase after it, fight for it, bleed for it, and risk your life for it. In 5 minutes, the teleport magic in this room will activate. If you wish to acquire my magic, stay in this room. Otherwise, leave this room. I wish you the best of luck, Worthy One."

The hologram of Edgar Darkmore disappeared from the room the next second, leaving Leo and Nina utterly speechless.

A few moments later, Nina turned to look at Leo and said, "You're not going to accept his legacy, are you?"

"I'd be lying if I said that I am not interested in it..."

"Don't do it, Leo! These Otherworlders cannot be trusted! Every time they appear in this world, the world is thrown into disorder! He's definitely trying to trick you into some kind of malicious scheme using his legacy as bait!"

"I understand your skepticism, but what if he's telling the truth? If we acquire his legacy... I cannot even begin to imagine the power we can acquire. After all, he was strong enough to almost conquer the world if not for some mistake, right?"

"Leo..." Nina stared at him with a worried look on her face.

"If you don't want to do this, you can wait for me outside. I want to see for myself if this legacy is worth it." Leo said after a moment of silence.

Nina gritted her teeth before shaking her head, "No! I am coming with you!"

"Are you sure? You don't have to force yourself."

"I am not forcing myself. I have already decided to follow you no matter where you go. Also, I want to be there to stop you if you decide to do anything stupid."

Leo smiled and nodded, "Alright."

Five minutes later, the floor to the room suddenly began glowing with a bright light as a large magic circle appeared on it.

"This is teleportation magic..." Leo tried to memorize the magic spell as fast as he could, but it was simply impossible for him to do so in such a short time.

Leo and Nina disappeared from the room shortly after.

When they reappeared, they found themselves inside a dimly lit and massive chamber.

"Where are we? Did we leave the cave?" Leo looked around with an alert face.

"No, we're still underground. Look at the walls. I think it teleported us to a secret area somewhere inside the cave." Nina said as she prepared to summon her servants at any moment.

"Leo, over there!" Lilith suddenly pointed at an altar that was located in the center of this chamber.

"Wow, what is this thing?" Leo approached the 10 meter tall altar that appeared to be made from some kind of smooth material, almost like jade, but it was pitch black in color.

Lilith suddenly flew to the top of the altar.

"Leo, there appears to be some kind of artifact up here!" She said after seeing the object sitting on the top of this altar.

"Really?! Wait a moment... This seems a little too easy. Is this a trap?"

Lilith looked around the altar and shook her head, "I don't see any traps."

"Leo, there's a magic circle right beneath this altar. You probably can't see it without the Spiritual Eyes, though." Nina suddenly said.

"Oh? Do you recognize what kind of magic circle it is?" he asked.

"No, I have never seen anything like this before. However, I can tell that it's a trigger-type magic circle, so it will activate by itself if a certain condition is met."

"How troublesome... What do you think we should do now?"

"I think we should just look around for now."

"Alright."

The two of them proceeded to walk around the enclosed chamber that didn't seem to have any paths or entrances. In other words, they were trapped inside this underground chamber that could only be accessed by the teleportation magic.

