

O Summoner 161

Chapter 161 - The Real Hidden Dungeon Boss

[You have successfully defeated the mini-boss Magma Titanoboa.]

[You have gained experience points.]

[Your soulbound Saena has leveled up.]

[The Evergreen Raid party has been given a temporary buff "Born of the Earth"]

Adrian who saw this notification sat on the ground as his stamina bar was once again severely depleted. He did check on the rewards or the loot dropped by the Magma Titanoboa and saw that it were a belt, shoes and a bunch of raw materials that Adrian could not even bother checking out as it was all alchemy or blacksmith materials.

Mariposa was the first one to approach the bundle of items and picked up the belt and the shoes and headed towards Adrian. She then placed the two items in front of Adrian.

"You deserve these items. You basically carried the team through this ordeal. I will also not accept it if you return it to me. If you will not use it then you better just throw it away as we will not accept it." Mariposa stated.

Adrian was speechless and could only bow in thanks. He wanted to give it back as he does not want to go back on his word. Seeing how resolute Mariposa was, Adrian just gladly accepted it. It would be rude to not accept the gift of others no matter their circumstances.

Adrian finally saw the two items of beauty that caught his eye.

Item: Magma Titan Boots

Tier: Epic

Type: Armor (Feet)

Effect:

- Movement Speed + 15%

- When standing on earth or magma, the user will get 15% damage buff to all his attacks. This effect will disappear after ten seconds that the user is not standing on earth or magma.

- Skill: Magma Walking

Durability: 500/500

Description: Boots made from the hide of the Magma Titanoboa that is said to be one of the biggest snake monsters to ever roam the land. It is excellent for people who love the earth and fighting on places such as volcanoes. You will be able to walk on magma if the skill is activated.

Skill: Magma Walking

Type: Active Movement

Effect: Be able to walk perfectly on top of magma or any hot surface and not be damaged by it.

Mana Cost: 15 mana per second

"Oh! This is an interesting effect. But the damage buff is what makes this boots really good."
Adrian thought and equipped it.

The boots looked like the skin texture of the Magma Titanoboa that made it look cool. It was cool in Adrian's eyes but all of his friends know that this guy does not have even a shred of fashion sense. The next thing he equipped was the belt.

Item: Magma Titan Belt

Tier: Epic

Type: Waist (Accessory)

Effect:

- Strength + 30
- Endurance + 20
- Skill: Grounded

Durability: 350/350

Description: A belt made from the skin of the Magma Titanoboa that makes the wearer love the earth. It is said that it cannot be easily loosened so think in advance if you want to go to the bathroom or eat.

Skill: Grounded

Type: Passive

Effect: The user cannot be knocked back, knocked up or pulled by any enemy as long as the skill is not on cooldown.

Cooldown: 30 minutes

Adrian was very happy with this passive as this will offset the shockwave for boss type monsters when they become berserk. He will no longer need to waste time moving towards the boss as this would make him unable to be thrown away by the shockwave. That is the case as long as it is not on cooldown when that type of scenario happens.

The rest of the raid members that could move picked up the remaining items. When everyone was patched up and ready to embark, Mariposa gave a pep talk.

"I hope that you guys are not discouraged by the difficulty of a mini-boss. The pride of our guild must not be questioned in times like this. We must always be ready for any type of scenario. I hope this raid has been a learning experience for all of you as it has been mine." Mariposa stated and a cheer erupted from the raid members.

"Let us set off to the next area." Mariposa commanded.

As the group was travelling to the next area. Adrian checked up the buff that was given to them when they defeated the Magma Titanoboa.

Buff: Born of the Earth

Effect: Receive 30% less damage from skills that have earth attribute damage.

Duration: Active as long as the bearer is at the hidden dungeon Calcite Bedrock.

This was the buff that made Adrian a bit scared because a dungeon will not give a buff this strong. This buff only signified one thing and that was that the opponent has earth attribute attacks that deal high damage. Adrian was both afraid and excited because he loved the rush he gets from battling.

Adrian's reaction speed was getting more and more sharpened with every battle he partakes. This is one of the reasons that Adrian loves to battle so much as it increases his familiarity with his virtual body by a lot. Think of it as sync rate and as Adrian battles more difficult opponents then he improves.

They whole raid group walked for about thirty minutes but have not encountered any other monsters. This made them tense up and be alert for any kind of surprise attacks. There are usually only two reason if there are no monsters encountered.

One reason is that the habitat could not support any kind of life. The second reason and the most horrifying reason is that a very strong monster lives in that area where it could drive groups of monsters away by itself. This is usually the case for boss type monsters which is the reason it is the only monster in an area except if it is a commander type boss monster.

Mariposa who also observed the oddity finally spoke.

"Everyone be vigilant. We are probably near the boss monster now." Mariposa stated.

The whole raid party then stayed vigilant and silent across the trip fearing that they catch the boss monster's attention. Adrian though ordered Sirius to scout ahead as the latter could use the shadows as a means to escape danger if he ever encountered it.

Sirius dove towards his shadows and disappeared from view. Five minutes later, Sirius immediately told Adrian that it had finally seen what looked like the boss monster. Sirius told him that it was inside a room where there was multiple lava falls. It also looked like it was sleeping as it was curled its body up.

Adrian wanted to see the boss monster but he still did not possess the skill to borrow the senses of a soulbound. Skills like those were available only to summoners that complete their second job class advancement. Adrian still told Mariposa what Sirius managed to find as the boss was the most important enemy inside a dungeon.

"Everyone be ready as the boss is near out location. We will prepare a surprise attack against it as it is currently sleeping. We will hit it with our most powerful spells and charge towards it when it suddenly wakes up." Mariposa commanded.

The raid group moved towards the dungeon boss stealthily as they did not want to wake it up and miss the chance for a free chance at hitting it with skills. Sirius then emerged from the shadows and he told Adrian that the boss was just ahead.

The raid party emerged from a hole that was only about ten feet tall. Kanlaon had to polymorph in order to fit in. The raid party finally saw the raid boss but all they see is a giant hunk of rock like a

mountain. Adrian though stared at the boss with eyes wide open. He was also alarmed by what Kanlaon told him when they entered the passage.

"Master, I sense the presence of another dragon." Kanlaon stated.

Adrian was expecting a drake but he did not expect a full blown dragon to be in front of him.

Monster: Calcite Rock Dragon (Young)

Level: 110

HP: 100,000,000 / 100,000,000

MP: 10,000,000 / 10,000,000

Description: Earth dragons are said to be dragons that are born from the type of earth its body is made of. Earth dragons are said to be walking fortresses as they have very bulk frames and immense vitality. It is said that the ground shaking is a result of a rampaging earth dragon as their very footsteps can shift the earth.

Adrian immediately told Mariposa this news and even she was shocked. No guild has ever raided a dragon before and it was explained in the lore that dragons were pinnacle creatures. Even if this was still a young dragon, a dragon was still a dragon. Even she was amazed by Kanlaon that is levels below any of her soulbound.

"Everyone, the boss is a Rock Drake so be careful. Start your spells after I apply the Soundproof scroll." Mariposa told the raid party via the chat.

Adrian was stunned because Mariposa did not tell the truth. But given the situation, Adrian agreed with what she did because knowing that they were up against a dragon might discourage the other members.

Chapter 162 - Rocky Battle

Mariposa tore a scroll and a wave of calming energy enveloped every raid party member. This was the scroll that could void an area of sound for a given duration. Adrian then immediately took note of this as he might sell scrolls like this. He could make talismans with similar effects and it might sell like hotcakes.

The damage dealers were channeling all of their most powerful spells. Adrian wanted to do the same but he believed that Vortex would not even carry the huge dragon. Its weight might as well be ten tons or more. Also if he ever successfully sucked the dragon in the Vortex, the others would miss their spells.

Adrian just summoned his twin dagger Psyche Armament. This Psyche Armament had the execute skill but it was still a good way to deal damage to the rock dragon at close range. Adrian then saw Mariposa summoning a gigantic bee and Adrian sort of recognize this giant bee that has a crown.

It was familiar but not at the same time. Adrian then remembered that it was player named Mariposa that bought the very first thing that he put up in auction. The giant queen bee now looked much different than before as it now looked fiercer and larger than before.

The giant queen bee suddenly glowed and ten giant bees with lance like stingers appeared. The giant bees then did something like a formation and something like lightning connected each one of them. It seems they too are building up power for an attack.

Alder was also using something like an ultimate attack. Adrian could see that the elementals were giving power to the arrow that was notched in the bow. The arrow was shining with different colors. Each color representing a different element.

Adrian then looked towards Cersei and a black flame was swirling below her feet as she was chanting something. Adrian then smiled wryly as he does not have a very powerful single target spell that only damages. He wanted a skill like this so that if he ever encounter a situation like this then he has something to use.

Adrian did not actually idle but kept casting Quantum Spacemine on the general area of the sleeping rock dragon. Adrian also secretly used nether energy to strengthen the skill so that Netheros Bane would infect the boss monster. The drop in stats would make the skills of others to hit harder and increase the damage.

The silence was then lifted after sometime and Mariposa commanded.

"Let it rain." Mariposa stated for all to hear.

Adrian also detonated all the spacemines. Although the damage was only in the ten thousands per five spacemines, he still managed to damage it a lot because he managed to make fifty. The real use of it was to apply ten stacks of Netheros Bane.

[You have dealt 107,547 damage to the Calcite Rock Dragon.]

It did not take long for the immense rain of skills to hit the sleeping Calcite Rock Dragon. Alder released the arrow that was packed with four types of elements. Cersei finally stopped chanting and magic circle appeared below the rock dragon that was wider than its body. Black flames suddenly erupted from the magic circle and surrounded the rock dragon.

The giant bees finally also started their attack as what looked like a red laser was fired by the queen bee. It traveled as fast as lightning towards the rock dragon as it was actually the second attack to damage it. Kanlaon also fired its breath attack towards the rock dragon while the armored dragonfly used supersonic attacks towards it.

When all of the attacks of the players hit the sleeping rock dragon, it woke up and immediately released a roar accompanied by an earthquake. The raid players was suddenly off balance but they already fired off all of their skills towards the rock dragon so the earthquake was just a minor inconvenience.

The earthquake was not detrimental but the roar was devastating to the others.

[You have heard the Dragon's Roar.]

[You have not been affected by fear as you have resisted.]

[Your stats have not been weakened due to not being affected as you have resisted.]

The others did not look as well as they looked more sluggish than before. The healers immediately used their purifying skills in order to cleanse the members. This was the dragon roar skill that will be available to Kanlaon once he becomes level 100. Although Adrian was excited to get this skill for Kanlaon, he focused on the match at hand.

He immediately darted towards the emerging rock dragon and he finally saw its full body. It looked like an ankylosaurus that was fifty meters high. Its top part was covered in spiky white rocks that shimmers when light comes in contact with it. It had a tail and the end of it looked like a Morningstar with white rocks as its spikes. The stomp of the dragon would shake the earth a little bit so Adrian had too time his running correctly.

"Sirius use Phantom Rush" Adrian commanded via the soul link.

Sirius then vanished from everyone's view and all they saw was shadows or a silhouette attacking the rock dragon. Sirius attacks were not dealing much damage as the scales of the dragon was difficult to penetrate.

"Kanlaon only fire your breath attack at one spot" Adrian commanded.

Kanlaon immediately spew its breath attack at the right side of the rock dragon and his attack seemed to be effective enough. Kanlaon was dealing good damage to the rock dragon but it was still in the five digits. Adrian was once again reminded of the toughness of dragons and he was very thankful that he had once of his own.

Adrian along with the other melee attackers all charged towards the rock dragon. Due to its immense size, it would not be possible for the rock dragon to react in time for everyone that is attacking it. Adrian reached the right leg and tried to stab it but all he heard was a clang.

The dragon scale was too tough to even pierce with his dagger. The other melee players tried as well but their weapons either broke or lost a lot of durability. The barrage of attacks earlier only damaged the Calcite Rock Dragon by 15% of its total health.

That was completely absurd as those barrage of powerful hits would usually deal at least 50% health damage to ordinary boss monsters. It seems dragons are not called one of the pinnacle creatures for nothing. The rock dragon looked visibly annoyed of all the pests attacking it as there were numerous flying insects trying to pierce its scales.

At first, the rock dragon tried to shake them off and stomp its feet for those attacking its lower body. But it finally was visibly annoyed by another of its kind that is attacking him. Kanlaon's attack was visibly damaging the scales of the rock dragon that its breath was attacking repeatedly.

The rock dragon finally swung its tail towards Kanlaon in an attempt to kill the dragon that was harming him the most. Adrian who saw this immediately reacted and cast Chrono Shift on Kanlaon. The spiky tail was quick despite its heavy looking size but Kanlaon evaded it thanks to Adrian's timely buff.

The rock dragon saw that its attack was evaded by Kanlaon and it roared at the latter. Kanlaon roared back as if saying that it will not be able to intimidate him. The rock dragon raised its right foot and stomped hard on the ground.

All of the others that were firmly standing was suddenly knocked up and all of their channeled skills were cancelled. Adrian was protected due to the passive of his belt that prevented him from being displaced every thirty minutes.

Adrian then used both first and second skill of the twin daggers which was Soul Emergence and Soul Impale. Adrian teleported to the part where Kanlaon continuously damaged and immediately

plunged his dagger at that location. He easily pierced the scales as it was already severely damaged by repeated attacks.

The rock dragon emitted a cry but it was not loud and it looked like it was surprised rather than hurt. The rock dragon sensing that an ant was actually on top of it suddenly spun its body like a spinning top. Adrian held on for dear life as he was sent on a ride.

"This is dizzying! Blegh!" Adrian reacted.

Adrian really held on as he did not want to be thrown away and be suddenly hit by the huge spiky tail. That was an experience that would really hurt. All the melee players could not attack during this period as they risk being hit by the spiky tail. All the projectiles were also being deflected or blocked by the force generated by the spinning.

Adrian could no longer keep getting spun so he blinked out of there. He reappeared on the ground after two attempts and let out rainbows from his mouth. The rock dragon finally stopped spinning after one minute and stared at Kanlaon as it still considered him the biggest threat but it had to cull the bugs first.

The rock dragon then opened its mouth and its whole body emitted a brilliant light that travelled to its mouth. Mariposa who saw this immediately shouted.

"Everyone take cover! It is releasing its breath attack!" Mariposa shouted as butterfly wings emerged from her back as she scattered to safety.

Chapter 163 - Decimated

The Calcite Rock Dragon's body started shining in a bright light while its mouth formed something like a sphere of pure white light. After what looks like the rock dragon has collected enough energy, it fired its attack at the members of the raid group that scattered.

Adrian blinked towards the back of the rock dragon as that was the safer side. He was followed by the other melee players as they too know that would be the safe side. The range damage dealers or priest desperately scrambled away from their projected direction of the breath attack.

The Calcite Rock Dragon fired its breath attack to where the other raid party members was grouped up. The others were picked up by the giant royal guard bees but not all of them. One of the tanks immediately stepped up and used a skill.

"Sacrificed Resolve" the burly man who was the leader of the tanks.

The wide beam that was supposed to hit an area of suddenly condensed to the location of the burly man that activated the skill. All the other tanks looked at him with deep respect.

"Everyone! You must succeed!" the burly man stated with a smile on his face and then he disappeared into particles.

The burly soaked up all the damage of the dragon breath and in turn he was killed. He sacrificed himself in order for many others to live. The skill he used was a skill that a Guardian job class gets when they reach level 100. The skill diverts all the damage in a wide area towards the user in exchange for the casters life. It also prevented the user to be revived so they will not be able to resurrect with a skill.

"Should I rewind back time so that he can revive?" Adrian thought as he wanted to test it out but decided not to.

Adrian did not want to reveal any more cards for the time being.

"They do not need to know more of my skills as I already revealed plenty enough that Mariposa has been observing me for the duration of the raid." Adrian thought to himself.

The rock dragon looked severely drained from releasing that breath attack. The rest of the raid party became even more determined to kill the dragon. But one comment had a severe impact on all of them.

"I do not think that thing is a rock drake. Even though only question marks shows up when I inspect it, I swear that the one we are fighting is not a rock drake." Alder commented which reached the ears of some raid party members near him.

When Mariposa heard Alder's comment, she wanted to strangle that noisy kids neck but she decided to remain silent about the latter's comment.

"Everybody attack it now! It looks weakened." Mariposa shouted.

The raid members who heard that diligently attacked the rock dragon but there was still the seed of doubt planted on their heart. Adrian always attacked the side where Kanlaon softened up whenever the latter finished firing its breath attack at it.

Mariposa who noticed what Adrian is doing spoke up since the latter was dealing a decent amount of damage.

"Range damage dealers, attack the location that Equinox is attacking if you can." Mariposa commanded.

They looked towards the location on the rock dragon's body that Adrian was attacking and noticed that the scales were either charred or peeling off. They immediately knew that it was a weak spot but they also knew that it was a tough task to hit that exact spot. The spot they were talking about was only about one and half meters in diameter.

Adrian was also burning a lot of essences and mana just to blink or move himself to that spot. The rock dragon even tried ramming Adrian to a wall so that he could kill the bug that was clinging to its body. The rock dragon was intelligent enough to not strike itself with its tail in that area as it knows that it was badly injured in that spot.

"Kanlaon could you make repeatedly attack another area on the other side. Sirius help Kanlaon." Adrian commanded as he kept stabbing the injured area.

Kanlaon heeded the command and moved in to the other side with Sirius diving in the shadows to look for an opportunity to attack. Although the tanks tried stunning the rock dragon with their Shield Bash skill, they could only stun the rock dragon for about 0.2 seconds. Even if they stun continuously, they could only amount to 1.8 seconds which is not a lot of time.

The rock dragon was immediately annoyed by Kanlaon attacking it at another area and a wolf sneakily attacking the spot that the flying dragon attacks. It finally got so annoyed that it raised its two front legs up in the air. It then immediately slammed both of its front legs onto the ground.

The rock dragon not only created an earthquake but white spiky rocks emerged from the ground. The spiky rocks traveled in front of the rock dragon like a raging tsunami of white spiky rocks. The tanks who saw that could only brace themselves for impact and hope that the attack will not be able to kill them.

Adrian immediately used this opportunity to attack the area once more as the longer they battle the rock dragon then they will seriously be wiped out. Adrian saw the attack as it crashed to several unlucky people that was not able to hide behind the tanks. Those unlucky people were two healers and four of the players that need to contribute to the raid.

The six players were not killed but they were dangerously low and were lying on the ground as they were stunned. A new game mechanic added was that if you get damaged by an attack for about more than 50% of your health then you will become stunned for a duration. The six unfortunate players were also bleeding and losing a huge amount of health per second.

The tanks and healers are about to move towards them but the rock dragon charged towards those who are injured. The two assassins wanted to save the two damaged healers because those two would be much more important right now than the four under leveled players.

The two assassins did not even reach the injured players as the rock dragon was just ramming the white rocks it created. The rocks would then shatter and be sent as projectiles towards anyone near them. The rock dragon as if relieving the stress of being attacked by bugs, it trampled the area where the six players lay with immense pressure.

The others who saw this paled. They did not want to imagine what those that were trampled like a bug experienced. It seems that the rock dragon is really angry at them. It gives meaning to the saying that "It is okay to play pranks on a drunk but not to someone who just woke up.

The raid party or what is left of it was now facing the wrath of a grumpy rock dragon. They did not even bring it down past its 50% health. They have yet to experience its berserk state and now they were feeling more terrified of the unknown than ever before.

Mariposa then started an offensive as she was currently the highest leveled damage dealer in the party. She started using spells that released small insects and she directed them towards the rock dragon. Her beetle died due to shielding her from the attacks of the rock dragon so she is left with offensive soulbounds.

Mariposa once again spread her wings and released something like a spore. The spore came in contact with the remaining party members and healed them with stamina restoration effects. The small insects that she released all came towards the rock dragon and searched for soft flesh and burrowed into the flesh of the rock dragon.

"Those bugs will weaken the immune system of the boss monster. Those who have status conditions skill aim it now!" Mariposa commanded with intensity as she was draining her mana just to continue summoning small insects as spells to damage the rock dragon. She was only able to deal damage in the hundreds range per second so she is losing more mana than dealing damage.

This battle was now more difficult as the damage dealers have been lessened so the drop in the health of the rock dragon was not as fast as before. Thankfully, the Calcite Rock Dragon looks like it has high cooldown skills as it did not use another skill in the past twenty minutes that the raid party was struggling.

The rock dragon would use its spiky tail as a weapon to attack the raid members it could reach. Three tanks had to soak up the damage of the tail and it would always leave them at 25% of their maximum health despite buffs.

Chapter 164 - Taking Action

"The rock dragon has been infested by my pests so it will have lowered immunity for the time being so if you have any skills that could afflict status conditions then now would be the best time." Mariposa whispered to Adrian.

When Adrian saw those words, he could not help but smile as this will definitely increase the chances of his plan being successful.

"Saena release the plague towards the Calcite Rock Dragon." Adrian commanded via the soul link.

Before making the talismans, Adrian went to locations that had different status condition inducing environments. He would get himself afflicted by this status conditions and make Saena absorb them to store it in her body. Adrian thought that this would be useful to the boss monster of the raid.

Currently, Saena could store three different types of status conditions so Adrian afflicted himself with three different types of torture. Adrian had to go to a forest that had poisonous mushrooms and had to eat them raw. He was even throwing up different colored liquids and his face was turning purple before ordering Saena to take the poisoned status away from him.

The other status conditions that he gathered was deep sleep where he had to go to a place filled with dream lilies and sniff them continuously. The last status condition was weakening that cut your stats by 50%. Adrian went to a world that was full of tiki statues that could talk and get cursed at for a full hour.

Adrian definitely endured all of them because of his 50% resistance to status conditions that will nullify the status conditions from time to time. You could say that he went above and beyond just to acquire powerful status conditions to afflict a normal raid boss but thankfully he did as the boss was actually a dragon.

"Saena, afflict it with the poison first. Drop it at the wound so that it has a higher chance of afflicting it." Adrian commanded.

Saena flew towards the wounded part of the rock dragon and spit a purple looking substance at the location. The purple liquid splattered on the rock dragon's wound and it even sizzled a bit and showed something like a face full of anguish. The rock dragon felt something wrong and immediately roared and rubbed its right side towards a wall.

The rock dragon looked like its right side was itching so much that it even dunked its right side on lava.

[Your soulbound Saena has successfully afflicted the Calcite Rock Dragon with Category II Toxicity.]

[The Calcite Rock Dragon will lose 0.1% of its maximum health every thirty seconds. After every ten minutes, the health loss will be doubled until it reaches 5% maximum health loss per thirty seconds.]

If Adrian's math was correct then after an hour, the rock dragon would lose about 1.6% of its maximum health if they survived or an hour. That is if they manage to survive that long as the banging of the rock dragon's body on the wall would make stalactites fall and random lava being launched to them.

Monster: Calcite Rock Dragon

Health: (53% out of 100%)

The poison was doing its work and the rock dragon was also damaging itself bit by bit by attempting to scratch its poisoned body area. Adrian immediately used his Soul Seeker skill and shot his right dagger to the rock dragon. This was the perfect moment to mark the rock dragon as it was stationary and did not even bother deflecting the attacks that is aimed towards it.

The dagger successfully marked the head of the rock dragon but Adrian did not activate the second option of the skill yet. Adrian wanted to wait for the dragon to drop below 10% health before doing so that he could execute it and finish the raid. All Adrian had to do now was wait for that golden opportunity.

Mariposa saw what happened but squinted her eyes because she did not see the rock dragon take damage from Adrian's attack.

"Saena release the Debilitating Curse on the Calcite Rock Dragon." Adrian commanded.

Saena once again flew close to the rock dragon and released a dirty looking wind full of black smoke towards it.

[Your soulbound Saena has successfully afflicted the Calcite Rock Dragon with the Debilitating Curse.]

[The Calcite Rock Dragon's skill Earth Dragon's Might has reduced the weakening effect to 10%.]

Adrian was shocked by this and disappointed because the curse was greatly reduced from its original 50% to a puny 10%. He wanted to curse at this rock dragon's tenacity but his eyes caught something disturbing. The rock dragon was actually shrinking in size when its health dropped to 50%.

All of the raid members suddenly felt something was off. Normally, a dungeon raid boss would go berserk at this point but this rock dragon was different. The rock dragon shrunk in size to about three meters and it was encased in something like a cocoon made of the white rocks its body was made of.

Adrian checked its health once more and was speechless.

Monster: Calcite Rock Dragon

Health: (50% out of 100%)

The rock dragon's health was not decreasing. Mariposa saw it and was suddenly hit with a foreboding feeling. She felt that if they do not do something then a disaster will fall upon them. The status conditions were still affecting the rock dragon but its health was strangely not decreasing.

Suddenly when Adrian checked again....

Monster: Calcite Rock Dragon

Health: (50.1% out of 100%)

"Its health is regenerating! Hurry and yank it out from its cocoon!" Adrian shouted in panic.

Noticing Adrian's panic all the others did not care about their well-being and started damaging the cocoon that even the healers fired off their damaging spells at it. Kanlaon would bash and fire its breath at the cocoon attempting to break it. They were all desperate to yank out the rock dragon from its healing cocoon.

If the rock dragon heals to full health then they would no longer have any chance to clear this raid. The health of the rock dragon was rising by the minute that it was encased so Adrian had to think fast. The only idea that popped into Adrian's mind was to activate Soul Seeker in order to damage the rock dragon from the inside.

"I guess that I am left with no other choice! Soul Seeker!" Adrian shouted.

Adrian's body became misty and he suddenly became like an apparition. He shot towards the inside of the cocoon and pierced something. He did not know what that something was but he was sure it was flesh. A pair of glowing green eyes then stared at Adrian maliciously.

The scary thing is that the glowing green eyes looked like human size eyes. It did not look gigantic and Adrian could feel breathing just in front of him. Before Adrian could use Blink, he was suddenly choked by a huge hand. This hand held his neck with ease and Adrian struggled to break free.

The other raid party members were doubtful if anything happened as it suddenly became quiet. A rumbling sound was then heard and the cocoon made of white rocks exploded. The fragments came flying to all directions prompting the defenseless ones to hide behind a tank.

When everyone regained their sight, they could not believe their eyes. Equinox, who they thought was monstrous, was actually being choked by a buff looking man with green eyes and armor made of white rocks. Kanlaon and Sirius who saw their master struggling charged towards the man in white rocky armor.

The onlookers thought that the buff looking man would get damaged by Kanlaon. To their surprise, the buff looking man punched Kanlaon's face and the latter was actually sent flying towards a wall. Sirius who was charging next appeared behind the buff man using a portal and attempted to bite the buff man's head off.

Sirius was about to succeed but the buff man immediately slammed Adrian with Sirius' airborne body. The two were sent flying and crashed toward the ground. The two even left wakes on where they landed. The onlookers were dumbstruck but they knew that this was no ordinary buff looking man.

Adrian managed to open his eyes and sucked in a breath full of air. He coughed for a bit before looking upwards in the sky. There Adrian could see the buff man floating in the air and ignoring the laws of physics. Adrian though was thankful that the water barrier activated and negated the damage he took from crashing.

Adrian immediately drank a potion and cast Invigorate to heal his two soulbounds that were severely damaged. Adrian was definitely sure that it was not a man or an intruder that snuck inside the hidden dungeon because the name of this man was shining in a reddish gold color.

Monster: Calcite Rock Dragon (Awakened)

Health: (40% out of 100%)

"Yup! That is not a Rock Drake." Alder commented to make light of the situation.

"Shut up!" Mariposa and Cersei both exclaimed angrily.

Chapter 165 - Take Our Time

Adrian once again checked the status of the Calcite Rock Dragon and was relieved somewhat.

Monster: Calcite Rock Dragon (Awakened)

Health: (39.8% out of 100%)

Status: Category II Toxicity, Weakened (20%), Berserk

Adrian is thankful that the white armored buff man which is the rock dragon is still affected by poison and the weakened. But knowing that it was still weakened made Adrian shiver. It was weakened to 20% and yet the monster still hit like a truck. Adrian was afraid that he would have just turn into particles by now if it was not weakened.

He looked towards the rock dragon gain but it was no longer up in the air. A scream was then heard from somewhere. Adrian turned his attention to where he heard the scream and saw that the rock dragon is choking another person.

The rock dragon is choking a tank that unfortunately activated its taunt towards the former. He was probably ordered to do it so that the others may know the abilities of the rock dragon. The tanks health was visibly dropping but Cersei seemed to cast a curse on the rock dragon.

"Curse of Infestation" Cersei stated.

A huge wave of flying leeches appeared from a magic circle that Cersei summoned and latched onto the body of the rock dragon. The rock dragon did not bother swatting them because its skin was still of a dragon's despite using human form.

"Petty tricks for mere insects." The rock dragon spoke to which all of the raid party was surprised.

"It is better that you underestimate us. So that you will be less vigilant." Cersei teasingly replied as if she already expected the boss monster to be able to speak.

"You hide your weakness behind a façade." The rock dragon rebutted.

"Do I? My babies have already done their job." Cersei said with a bit of a chuckle.

The flying leeches that were summoned did not penetrate the skin of the rock dragon. After a few seconds of failing to penetrate the skin, the flying leeches just exploded and afflicted the Infestation status condition on the rock dragon. The flying leeches that exploded scattered their bacteria on the rock dragon which is the reason why it became afflicted by Infestation.

[The Calcite Rock Dragon has been successfully afflicted by the Curse of Infestation.]

[The Calcite Rock Dragon will lose 0.1 of its health every ten seconds.]

The Curse of Infestation is Cersei's most powerful curse that she can afflict. Normally, the skill should be chanted for one hour but Cersei used the option of her witches' hat. Cersei's witch hat has an option that can store one spell of hers and be cast immediately. This was the trump card she prepared for the dungeon raid.

Witches have really powerful curse but the downside is that she must be alive for it to continue afflicting the target. If Cersei dies then even her powerful curse will be dispelled. The rock dragon noticed something wrong with its body apart from the poison and weakened status effect. The rock dragon was visibly irritated and popped the head of the tank like it was a balloon.

The rock dragon charged towards Cersei like a bolt of lightning. The rock dragon was then blocked by a tank that suddenly appeared in front of it. The tank looked determined and ready to sacrifice herself for Cersei. All the remaining raid party members already knew the situation they were in and knew that all they needed was to buy time.

The female tank blocked the charge of the rock dragon but she was not prepared for the intense force the attack carried. She was flung dozens of meters due to the force that the attack carried. Luckily, she was not killed by it and was only badly injured.

Other tanks would then take turns stopping the charge of the rock dragon. The tanks would even be buffed by the support players so that they could receive the attack of the rock dragon easily. Adrian also helped by casting Chrono Lag on the rock dragon before he hit the tank which greatly reduced the force.

Currently Adrian was not the focus of the rock dragon and is taking healing from Saena. Kanlaon dropped in a pool of lava and has yet to surface. Adrian knows that Kanlaon was alright but was probably knocked out cold. Kanlaon must be at the lava pool and is currently sleeping because of the intense knock on his head.

Sirius was also badly injured and could not stand. Saena was giving her all to heal Adrian and Sirius to a decent health but the two were suffering from a healing reduction. The healing was actually cut by half due to this so Saena was expending a lot of time healing the two.

Adrian still has the deep sleep status condition but he cannot afflict the rock dragon with that. Deep Sleep only activates for targets that are above 50% health. Adrian wanted to afflict the boss with this first when the boss raid started but it just so happens that the boss was asleep. He could only save this status condition for a future battle.

The tanks are doing their best to hold off the rock dragon but they are receiving tons of damage just to do so. The healers are also chugging up mana potions so that they could keep up the healing for the tanks. Slowly but surely, the remaining players were shaving off the health of the rock dragon. The damage dealing classes would fire off a skill or two just to damage the rock dragon.

Mariposa was also looking for a perfect time to attack with her soulbound. She wanted to attack but she thought that protecting Cersei right now were top priority. If Cersei gets targeted, Mariposa will gladly sacrifice her soulbounds just to keep the former safe. This raid's success is now hanging on the fact that they survive for a given amount of time.

"Ragh!" The rock dragon released a battle cry that created a shockwave that knocked people back.

Its armor started shining once more and it was forming an orb of light in its hand. It was releasing incoherent mumbling like kame or something. The players were not paying attention to what it was mumbling because they recognize that orb of light. It was reminiscent to the breath attack that it did earlier on except its power is compressed.

The players could feel the power building up from the orb of light and immediately went on the offensive. They released their offensive attacks on the rock dragon but it was not even flinching and just soaking up the attacks. Adrian who saw this immediately enlarged his gauntlets and shot himself towards the rock dragon despite still being low in health.

Adrian could clearly see the immense energy that the orb of light carried due to the nature of the Daemos to perceive energy. Adrian knew that anyone hit by that beam will be immediately vaporized. If the beam will just fire straight then it would not be a problem. Adrian had a foreboding feeling that if the beam hits any surface then it would produce something like an explosion which would decimate all the remaining players.

Adrian formed his fists into a knuckle and tried to punch the rock dragon so that it will crash to the ground. It was a good attempt but sadly Adrian was the one repelled. It felt like he punched a mountain or something as the dragon did not even budge. It was him that was sent crashing down instead.

"No other choice then. Sirius use Portal Assault and then Ragnarok." Adrian ordered.

Sirius heeded the command and entered a portal. A few seconds later, Sirius reappeared next to the rock dragon but the latter did not pay any attention to the former. Sirius then activated Ragnarok and the rock dragon suddenly felt that there was a tyrannical aura behind him.

The rock dragon panicked and then fired off the beam it was collecting on his hands despite not being fully charged.

[Your soulbound Sirius has been dealt with catastrophic damage.]

Sirius was hit by a beam of light and his body was even pierced. Sirius failed to deal damage to the rock dragon and was sent crashing towards the ground. Sirius did not die from the damage of the beam but the rock dragon followed Sirius to the ground.

The rock dragon kept on pummeling Sirius so that it could kill him. Adrian who saw this scene charged like a madman to save Sirius. He even used Blink to shorten the distance even more. Adrian who saw his very first soulbound being thrashed around could not keep his cool.

"Ahhh!" Adrian used Assault Charge and empowered it with all his soul essence and nether energy.

The rock dragon that kept pummeling Sirius to the ground saw the person charging towards it and felt the dangerous energy. The rock dragon stopped pummeling the already weak Sirius and ended the latter's life with a stomp.

[Your soulbound Sirius has died.]

When Adrian saw these words, he could not control his emotion and flew into immense rage. He activated Blink to immediately shorten the gap between him and the rock dragon. Adrian reappeared in front of the rock dragon and the latter did not react in time as a fist full of intense energy welcomed the latter's face. The rock dragon was sent flying by Adrian's attack which once again stunned everyone.

[You have created a special skill through an interaction.]

Chapter 166 - Nether Soul Strike

[You have created a special skill through an interaction.]

[You have created the skill Nether Soul Strike.]

The rock dragon was sent flying and Adrian managed to deal damage equal to 5% of its current health. The damage might not be much but it was greatly helpful in this situation. The more health that they could diminish in a short amount of time then the higher their chances of succeeding. Adrian did not check his skill yet as he rushed to Sirius' location.

Monster: Calcite Rock Dragon (Awakened)

Health: (25.8% out of 100%)

Status: Category II Toxicity, Weakened (20%), Berserk, Curse of Infestation

"The decrease in health is still too slow." Mariposa stated.

"Everyone! We will now focus on attacking the boss monster. Focus all your resources on damage. Healers will focus on healing the tanks that will soak the damage while those who can deal damage will burst the boss. We will lose in a test of patience with the boss." Mariposa commanded while activating a skill.

"Hive Mind." Mariposa stated.

A mark appeared on Mariposa's and it connected to all her soulbounds including the giant royal guard bees that was summoned by the giant queen bee. If anyone were to see what she was seeing then it could be described as multiple field of visions and thoughts. Thankfully, insects are simple minded creatures so she does not overlord her brain capacity.

The Hive Mind skill is a special skill that is given to an Insectomancer when they reach level 100. It allows them to command their soulbounds or any insect that they summoned without verbally issuing the command. She moved the royal guard bees to attack the rock dragon.

Now that she was personally commanding them, the giant royal guard bees were moving much more different than before. She was also using the giant queen bee to buff the royal guard bees so that they deal more damage. A flurry of attacks would be dealt to the rock dragon that just emerged from the crater that formed when he was sent crashing down.

While the other players were bombarding the rock dragon, Adrian tried reviving Sirius using his skill Rewind. Adrian was supposed to do that but Kanlaon spoke to the former using their soul link.

"Master, big brother said not to revive him. He already felt the backlash of his skill so he will not be able to be useful to this battle." Kanlaon told him.

Adrian did not cast the skill and replied with, "Okay. I understand. Where are you right now?"

"I am currently surfacing. The lava lake is much deeper than I anticipated. I also brought something cool as a souvenir. It is very shiny." Kanlaon replied.

Adrian then composed himself as it was not ideal to charge recklessly anymore. He did not want to expose his revive skill to others. That skill will definitely invoke chaos if the members of top guilds know about it. A revive skill was too much of an allure for any professional gamer.

Adrian needed to mold his Vortex skill somehow in order for it to only damage the rock dragon. In order to do that he needed to control the small exploding star that he generates using the skill. The last time he practiced that, he was swallowed instead and now he knows what his enemies that were sucked inside the black hole feels like.

"Anyways, hurry up and surface Kanlaon. Saena help the tanks. I will fight the rock dragon with all I have." Adrian stated using his soul link.

"I should not hold back on the skills that I already used in the siege. Plus, that freaking rock dragon is a monster that I alone could not defeat. The other members are doing a fine job reducing its health. The rock dragon looks irritated though so it might release another skill." Adrian muttered to himself.

Monster: Calcite Rock Dragon (Awakened)

Health: (20.5% out of 100%)

Status: Category II Toxicity, Weakened (20%), Berserk, Curse of Infestation

The health of the rock dragon suddenly plummeted below 20%. Adrian who was running towards it was suddenly blown away because a shockwave is once again generated by the rock dragon.

"You mere insects are giving me a harder time to crush you like the bugs you are. You might have escaped my attack earlier but now will be different." The rock dragon shouted.

The white armor in his arms suddenly morphed into two thick sharp white claws. The rock dragon decided that pulverizing the intruders was far lenient of a punishment. He wanted to skewer then using his very own claws made of hard crystal.

The rock dragon was about to charge at a tank player that used its taunt skill at it. But it suddenly felt sluggish for a second. Adrian is then accelerating towards the rock dragon using his Chrono Shift. He even further boosted it by using Quantum Repulse to increase the force pushing him from behind.

It did not take long for Adrian to reach the rock dragon's body and he immediately punched its body. The force was adequate but only enough to knock the rock dragon back by an inch. The rock dragon was about to retaliate but Adrian used Quantum Cascade earlier on and set himself as a target with Saena as the epicenter.

Adrian was pulled towards Saena and he timely evaded the rock dragon's sudden swipe. It might consume lots of mana but being safe from damage was better than getting damaged heavily. The other raid members did not let go of this opportunity and fired off attacks at the rock dragon once again.

Adrian once again chugged mana potions to restore his mana so that he could use skills. He once again charged at the rock dragon as it was being distracted. He did not do what he did earlier but instead used his new skill to appear behind the rock dragon.

Skill: Nether Soul Strike

Tier: Legendary

Type: Skill Combination

Effect: Coat your weapon with nether energy and soul essence then Blink towards the target to deal damage. This attack will deal 80% mixed damage and 20% true damage. The damage increases depending on the amount of nether energy and soul essence consumed.

Mana Cost: None

Cooldown: None

Soul Essence Cost: Dependent on the user

Nether Energy Cost: Dependent on the user

Restriction: An active charge of Blink must be consumed for this skill to be used.

Currently, Adrian only had ten soul essences and fifty nether energy so it would not be as powerful as before. Still, the attack did quite a lot of damage and decreased the health of the rock dragon by 1.5%. The rock dragon turned its head to meet the attack head on so the small increase in damage is probably the strike on its face.

The raid party was not pouring all their resources into damage which decreased the health of the rock dragon little by little. It did not take long for the rock dragon's health to drop to the 10% mark. The raid party members can see their success just around the corner but it might have been too early to be happy.

The rock dragon once again produced a roar and its body started shining once more. Its green glowing eyes became red with anger. Adrian checked the status of the rock dragon just to be sure what was happening.

Monster: Calcite Rock Dragon (Awakened)

Health: (9.8% out of 100%)

Status: Category II Toxicity, Weakened (20%), Berserk II, Curse of Infestation

"It actually enhanced its berserk mode! This is a first that have heard of this. Even the forums have no information on a berserk boss increasing its Berserk to Berserk II. Does this mean that its stats are tripled?" Adrian mumbled.

The rock dragon's armor shined brightly and it even grew a spike ball tail that is similar to its tail in its dragon form. Adrian saw this and immediately took out his One Chance Talisman that could block deadly damage. Adrian did not blink when using this talisman as he saw the carnage that the rock dragon did before his very eyes.

The rock dragon could now easily tear apart the giant royal guard bees and it even managed to kill another tank player. It was clear as day that the boss became much more powerful than before and he did not want to expose his revival skill so the epic talisman is the best option.

A golden light enveloped Adrian before he jumped towards the rock dragon. The rock dragon was no longer responding to the taunts of the remaining tanks but it could still deflect skill shots that were fired towards it. The only thing that could damage it now was close combat attacks but those close to it suffered being torn apart.

Suddenly, a dragon head surface from the lava and roared. Kanlaon was now ready to join the battle and immediately used its breath attack towards the rock dragon. The rock dragon did not bother evading and the others thought they could now win but a dome made of white crystal emerged from the ground to shield the rock dragon from the attack.

The raid members thought that Kanlaon's attack dealt heavy damage to the rock dragon but they suddenly saw a white crystal dome when Kanlaon's attack died down. The dome then cracked and the rock dragon continued its slaughter. They thought that hope was lost but a black, gray and white mist suddenly covered the battlefield.

"Nether Domain" Adrian muttered.

Chapter 167 - Is That A Core?

The black, gray and white mist rolled towards the battlefield and Adrian's Nether Gauge was instantly full. Whenever Adrian summons the Nether Domain, he can empower his attacks using 100 nether energy for a duration of 20 seconds. He was basically empowered whenever he summons his Nether Domain.

[All your skills will deal 50% more damage for the duration of Nether Domain.]

[Your stats have been doubled for the duration of Nether Domain.]

[The Calcite Rock Dragon has been affected by Paranoia. All its skill shots have a 50% chance to miss.]

The raid party members could see inside the mist but they did not have the status boosting effects that Adrian is given. The Calcite Rock Dragon felt a weird sensation that it has not felt in all of its life being alive. The rock dragon felt like death was just beside it. It felt that death was claiming its soul to drag to the underworld.

Adrian's body looked like it was becoming part of the mist as it was becoming incorporeal. Adrian also felt like his body was rejuvenated whenever he summons the Nether Domain. His body feels like it is more comfortable whenever it bathes on the energy of the Nether Domain. His body looked like it was blurring in and out of existence.

Adrian also looked like the mist is attached to his body to complete his overall look. His giant gauntlets is also coated in a shadowy aura so he looked much more dangerous than before. Adrian immediately empowered all his attacks for the bashing of the rock dragon. He will really enjoy this.

Adrian immediately punched the rock dragon and unlike before, the rock dragon actually got knocked back by a meter. Although the force was great, the damage was not probably due to the increased stats. Adrian only decreased about 0.6% of the rock dragon's health.

With Adrian's doubled stats, he can now fight face to face or at least try to with the rock dragon. All Adrian needed to do was whittle down as much health as he can from the rock dragon. He only had twenty seconds for the buff so he did not waste anything and attacked the rock dragon.

Adrian made use of all the attacks that he could hit in the given amount of time. He made use of his Blink skills and Nether Soul Strike with 100 nether energy. He finally managed to bring the rock dragon down to four percent health. He wanted another get in another hit before the twenty second mark but the rock dragon shielded itself with its white rock dome once more out of instinct.

The rock dragon felt being oppressed the whole time it was inside the Nether Domain. When its defensive skill went off cooldown, the rock dragon immediately used its defensive skill. It wanted its preserve its life a little bit longer despite the poison and curse that was eating it away.

It was an organism's basic instinct to survive even if it is already dying. The rock dragon held onto its life despite fleeing away from its grip. The rock dragon knew this too but its instinct overrode it and its instinct wanted it to live longer. Alas, the white rock dome crumbled as even defensive skills must not be indefinite.

The only good news was that the Nether Domain receded and that Adrian no longer had stat boosts with unlimited nether energy. The dome shattered and the rock dragon wanted to get some distance but what greeted it was a face full of fire and frost.

The rock dragon did not expect it or rather it did not sense Kanlaon's presence. There is one simple explanation why the rock dragon did not sense Kanlaon's presence. Adrian immediately used Soul Form Transformation on Kanlaon to hide the latter's presence.

[Your soulbound Kanlaon has killed the Calcite Rock Dragon.]

[You will receive 100% experience due to being a top contributor to the raid.]

[You have leveled up.]

[Your soulbound Kanlaon has leveled up.]

[Your soulbound Saena has leveled up.]

[You have received 100% experience points.]

[Due to being the top contributor to the raid, you received an additional reward an Epic Weapon Treasure Chest and Epic Armor Treasure chest.]

[You have gained the skill Soul Recall.]

Adrian immediately sighed with relief when he read the notifications he received. Even the other party members looked extremely exhausted. They were mentally exhausted due to the immense fight that just transpired. All of them had to sit on the ground and gather their thoughts on the battle.

The rest of the group did not even bother picking up the loot because they were busy assessing their selves. The players who participated in this raid now discovered their lack of skills and their weaknesses. They were inadequate if they compared themselves with the guests that the guild advisor Cersei invited.

The Evergreen guild members now knew that without their guest then their chance of succeeding in the raid would have been 20% at best. Their chance for succeeding the raid skyrocketed due to the guest they invited. Even if they are silent, they are very grateful to Equinox who was now checking the drops with a red and blue haired kid.

They doubted their eyes because the dragon soulbound was nowhere to be found but their Vice Guild Leader was already flying towards Adrian.

"Little Equinox, why don't you pick an item or two from the loot pile. I am sure the other will not protest. You are the top contributor for this raid so please pick from the loot pile." Mariposa stated in a kind big sister voice. It was as if she threw away her fierce leadership side from a few moments ago.

"Okay then. I thank you for the grace that you have given to me. I will be shameless then." Adrian stated as he went towards the pile of loot that the rock dragon dropped.

"I thought he would reject but it seems something caught his fancy. That is good then at least it made my job easier." Mariposa thought.

Mariposa then shifted her look towards the little boy with red and blue hair. She was very sure this was the dragon soulbound that Equinox has. When she first saw this dragon, her skin tingled because of the aura Kanlaon carried. This red and blue haired kid gave her the same feeling so she was very sure of this fact.

Adrian already wanted something from the loot pile but did not know how to ask for it. Thankfully, Mariposa approached him and told him to pick one or two items from the pile. Adrian felt like a winner because not only did he get two epic treasure chests, he also gets to pick two items from the pile.

"I already know one of the items that I want. Luckily, the Calcite Rock Dragon dropped it." Adrian thought as he picked up the first item that he wanted.

Item: Calcite Rock Dragon Core

Tier: Legendary

Type: Material

Effect: Using this dragon core for crafting will imbue the item with powers and abilities that are the same to that of the Calcite Rock Dragon. Using this item on a soulbound will give it a chance to get earth dragon properties or skills. The effect increases when the soulbound is draconic in origin.

Description: A core that is the source of power for the Calcite Rock Dragon. The Calcite Rock Dragon boasted incredible defense and wide area earth elemental skills so any items that used this core will get similar properties. It is said to be difficult earth dragons because they blend well with their surroundings and rare even hunt other monsters.

"I pick this one." Adrian stated.

"Are you sure?" Mariposa asked.

"Yes. I am sure. Why are you asking?" Adrian replied.

"It's just that when I appraised the item, it just told me it was a rock. I do not want you to be on the losing end since you contributed greatly." Mariposa stated.

"Yup. I have a use for this stone so do not worry much." Adrian replied.

"If that is the case then I will not press you any further. Take another one just in case. The boss did drop lots of items." Mariposa stated giving Adrian more of an assurance that she could really not see the value in this stone.

"I am fine with just two items. The others also worked hard and need to be compensated so I cannot be too greedy." Adrian stated but what really was on his mind was, "This dragon core is the best item here anyway. All the others are just epic in rank."

Adrian searched for another item that tickled his fancy and he saw it. He almost exclaimed in pure joy but he composed himself so that he does not give away the importance of the item.

"It seems my luck stat played a part in dropping this item." Adrian thought.

Item: Gem of Earth

Tier: Rare

Type: Runestone Fragment

Effect: Imbues the socketed weapon or armor with properties related to earth. For weapons, it would imbue it with one passive skill and one active skill. For armor, it would imbue resistance and a passive skill.

Description: This Runestone is considered as a fragment of a runestone but it could be equipped due to its peculiar nature. This runestone is one part of a greater runestone which consists of six fragments. Gotta collect them all.

Chapter 168 - Fruitful Rewards And Upgrade

"I think that is all the things that I want." Adrian stated to which Mariposa was surprised.

"Why not take a few more? Or take the blueprint for the armor set?" Mariposa asked.

"I am not a blacksmith so that is not useful for me plus it looks like the materials for that armor set is scarce. I already took what I want anyways. The rest are yours." Adrian stated.

"I see. If you say so then I will not force you but at least take half of the total dropped money from the raid." Mariposa stated as she gave Adrian a thousand gold coins.

Adrian expressed his gratefulness for Mariposa's generosity. He already got a legendary items from this raid and even several epic items. In Adrian's eyes, this raid was not just a complete success but a festival because of the number of items he received.

Normally, one person getting two or more items would be called favoritism but Adrian deserved it for this one. Adrian said his goodbye's to Mariposa and the others as he would be busy for the succeeding missions. He still had to retrieve two more crown fragments of the undead king.

"Thank you for allowing me to participate in this raid. If you need me then please do not be shy to ask for my help. If I am not in an important mission then I will help you guys regardless. You guys have given me lots of rewards for this raid. Thank you!" Adrian stated as waved each of the remaining raid party members goodbye.

"Take care and call us if you need help again." Mariposa replied.

"Do not hesitate to call this Big Sister. I will always reply." Cersei teasingly said.

Adrian then left the party and was automatically transferred out of the raid. He walked towards the spatial fracture that led towards the Paradox Plane. He wanted to upgrade his current growth type items with the harvest he made from the dungeon. Adrian sealed Kanlaon and Saena because they looked tired and needed rest.

Adrian was about to step inside the spatial fracture when a candle shot out from his inventory. At first Adrian was alarmed because he thought it was an attack but no one was around. Adrian was about to lower his guard but then he remembered what that candle was for.

The Goddess of Night gave Adrian this candle to warn him that her former envoy that betrayed her was near. Adrian suddenly looked around but no one was there. Sweat suddenly trickled from Adrian's face as he knows that the enemy was near.

Adrian was about to look behind him but claws made of shadows suddenly pierced his body. He did not even have time to react as the attack happened so fast. Luckily, the lifesaving talisman activated and Adrian was left with one health from the attack.

Adrian decided to jump towards the spatial fracture instead of seeing the form of his aggressor. Another attack would trigger his revive but most importantly, his Glamour wore off and he was now in his full demon form. If the Evergreen members or any other player were to see him now then his hiding will be all for naught.

Adrian grabbed the candle and jumped inside the spatial fracture. He did try to turn to look at the former envoy of the goddess of night but all he saw was a porcelain mask. More specifically, the body was made of shadows and the porcelain mask was the only feature of the body that could be distinguished.

Adrian took a mental note on where he encountered the former envoy as he will challenge it when he is strong enough. The former envoy was strong as it immediately brought Adrian to one health. It might have been a skill but nevertheless, one must not be careless a second time to avoid danger. He was lucky this time that the talisman saved him.

Adrian put his middle finger up before he completely vanished from the view of the former envoy. The former envoy of the goddess of night tried to strike at Adrian once more but he already vanished.

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Adrian appeared in the Paradox Planes and looked at this body if he was damaged once again. He sighed with relief when he saw that his body was intact and his health regenerating. He was now level 100 so his new stats have been adjusted. He wanted to check it out but his new skills and upgrading his items took priority.

Adrian observed from his previous dungeon raid that his rare rated growth items cannot catch up anymore to high leveled dungeons. Plus dungeons in the range of above a hundred normally drop 1 or two epic tier items. Adrian opened the two epic treasure chests that he received.

The items that he got were both epic rated which was an epic rated sword and an epic rated heavy armor. He cannot use both but he can feed it to his growth items so that it evolves to next rank. Adrian also combine the Gem of Earth with the Gem of Water giving a big boost to his armor. His demi-gauntlets are now much more domineering weapon than before. His weapon could compete in damage with level 150 weapons.

Item: Twilight Demi-Gauntlets (Growth Type) (Character Bound)

Tier: Epic (Upgradable) (can be upgraded by assimilating better weapons)

Type: Summoner Weapon

Description:

A Soul Glove destined to be worn by the Champion of the Twin Gods. It was forged by the God Arts and Craft, Haephaesto, at the request of the Twin Gods.

Effect:

- Intelligence +50
- Strength+40
- Dexterity+40
- Agility+40
- Soulbounds summoned get 10% damage buff
- 2% of the damage dealt by Soulbounds will heal the summoner
- Damage Modifier: 750

Slots:

1. Rune of Explosive Force
2. Transforming Rune
3. Empty

4. Empty

5. Empty

Item: Asmodian Battle Uniform (Growth Type) (Character Bound)

Tier: Epic

Type: Light Armor (Upgradeable) (can be upgraded by assimilating better weapons)

Effect: Physical Damage Reduction- 25%

Magical Damage Reduction-25%

HP+1500

HP Regen+100%

Water Damage Resistance + 10%

Earth Damage Resistance + 10%

Slots: 1. Gem of Water and Earth

2. Empty

3. Empty

Adrian now looked cooler than before. His demi-gauntlets are now releasing specs of dark light whenever he moves them. It looked like black pixie dust while his armor changed greatly. The asmodian battle suit now has white and golden lines that made it more regal looking. Adrian looked like a demon prince due to his armor's new look.

"The only thing missing is a cloak and a headpiece then I am all good in terms of items." Adrian murmured and then faced the sad reality.

Adrian was ecstatic with the power he was given from the upgrades but drop down on the ground due to the upgrade requirements for his weapon and armor. The upgrade requirements for his weapon and armor was ten legendary rated weapons and armor. He was basically crying while looking defeated. The other daemos are already used to this scene so they do not bother asking Adrian what was wrong.

"My future wallet. I should have gotten more from the loot pile if I knew it would double. This game Is unfair. You cash grab game company!" Adrian cursed to the wind. He then returned to being happy again a few minutes later.

Adrian was very happy with the new stats that he received. Players level 100 and above gain five stat points per level. Adrian gains ten due to his double stat point passive that every Daemos has. The stats gained per numerical stat value also increased. One point in Vitality now gives 100 health while one point in Intelligence gives 50 mana. This rise in stat gain is the reason why there is a big barrier for high leveled players and low leveled players.

Name: Equinox

Race: Daemos(Half Asmodian)

Species: Netheros (Greater Demon)

Title: Champion of the Twin Gods, Undead Killer(Expand)

Job: Soul Summoner

Sub Job: Scribe (Beginner)

LVL: 100

Exp: 15.7%/100%

HP: 22,500 / 22,500

MP: 15,750 / 15,750

VIT: 220+5

STR: 220+85

INT: 265+50

AGI: 210+40

DEX: 215+45

END: 209 + 20

Available Stat points: 0

Hidden Stat: Luck +10 Wisdom +30 Persistence +1

Adrian could also not wait for all his soulbounds to reach level 100 because they would be more powerful than before. He then remembered to check the item that Kanlaon took from the bottom of the lava pool. It was a red orb that was pulsating heat and just by touching it, Adrian could feel the warmth it brings.

Item: Orb of True Fire

Tier: Legendary

Type: Weapon / Material

Effect: All fire type abilities or skills will be boosted by 30%.

Description: Not much is known about this orb or how they are made. It is rarely seen in the outside world because fire type monsters eat this treasure to evolve and gain stronger fire type abilities. Some theorized that it was naturally made by the world or that it is the goddess of fire's tears that she shed during the War of the Gods.

"I cannot use this." Adrian said with a pout.

Chapter 169 - Soul Recall

Adrian is looking at the Orb of True Fire in his hands with a sad expression because he could not use it for himself. He did not want to sacrifice this item for his weapon upgrade because he could use this item on Kanlaon. This item was a weapon and material hybrid.

Items that are both classified as a weapon and material are rare and hard to find. It is rare because you could use it as is or find a blacksmith to craft a better weapon. The only downside is that once used for crafting then it will lose its classification as a material. This is what makes items like these unique and hard to find.

"Summon: Kanlaon" Adrian stated and a magic circle appeared.

Kanlaon's magic circle had a dragon insignia that is like his silhouette with runes that radiated red and blue light. Adrian was always amazed by the design of the magic circles in this game. Aernas even told him that once he becomes an Advance rank Scribe then he could edit magic circles which greatly excited him.

"You called for me Master?" Kanlaon stated.

"Here. You deserve this. You are the one who found it after all." Adrian stated and was about to hand out the Orb of True Fire but he suddenly got a system notification.

[Do you want to use the Orb of True Fire for your soulbound Kanlaon? Yes or No]

Adrian's hands froze midway because he thought that this was a crafting material not a consumable material. If that was the case then this item was extremely rare. Too bad Adrian does not have fire related abilities but increasing Kanlaon's strength is also considered as increasing his strength so he was not mad about it.

Adrian happily used the Orb of True Fire on Kanlaon. Kanlaon's body was suddenly engulfed in flames but it did not hurt him rather he looked like he enjoyed the feeling. The orb on Adrian's hand suddenly had the dragon insignia on it and then it turned into particles to combine with Kanlaon.

The fire engulfing Kanlaon died down and from Adrian's view he looked the same. The only thing different now was that a floating red orb was revolving near Kanlaon. In a simple analogy, Kanlaon was the planet and the red orb was the moon. The red orb floated freely around Kanlaon and it looked awesome in Adrian's eyes at least.

"Since I am already feeding you expensive stuff then I might as well give you another one." Adrian said as he took the Calcite Rock Dragon Core from his inventory.

"Here eat this. Say Ahhh." Adrian instructed and Kanlaon happily opened its mouth like the former was feeding a baby.

Adrian observed if there were any changes on Kanlaon's body but there was no noticeable change. He looked at the evolution interface and there was no indication that Kanlaon unlocked a new evolution route.

"So three elements are not enough for Kanlaon to evolve. The elements that I am missing now are wind, light and darkness. I can find wind dragons when I gain higher levels but light and darkness dragons are either non-existent or one in a million. I will just tackle this problem when I have the time." Adrian murmured to himself as he sealed Kanlaon once more as the latter is not fully recovered yet.

"Now let us look at the skills that I got from the Gem of Earth. Oh! The runestone became epic tier nice." Adrian thought as he looked at the skills.

Skill: Protection of Geb

Tier: Rare

Type: Shield

Effect:

Passive: As long as the player is in contact with the earth, the player will generate a shield equal to 10% of your maximum health that can block all types of damage. If the shield is broken, it will take one hour to generate another one.

Active: Summon a dome of earth to cover you and protect you from any type of damage for the duration.

Duration: 2 Seconds

Cooldown: 1 day

Cast Time: 1 second

It seems this was the skill that the rock dragon used to protect itself from Adrian's attacks. No wonder it dropped this runestone. Although the rock dragon's duration was five seconds long, beggars can't be choosers. Adrian was satisfied with this skill and his defenses increased once more. A summoner that is difficult to kill is a headache.

He then looked at the skill he got when he reached level 100.

Skill: Soul Recall

Tier: Legacy

Type: Summoning skill

Effect: Open a portal from a random death realm and summon an entity to fight for you for the duration of the skill. The summoned being will have its level adjusted to the summoner's level. Once the duration ends, the summoned entity will return to its death realm and all experience points gained by the summoned entity will be transferred to the summoner.

Duration: 1 hour

Mana Cost: 5000 mana points

Cooldown: 2 hours

Cast Time: 10 seconds

Adrian was very excited with this skill as he can finally have temporary summons. He wanted to try it out on the Paradox Planes but Ascalor warned him not to test space warping skills in the Paradox Planes. If something went wrong, Adrian could potentially rip a portal to another world. Ascalor told him that the space around the Paradox Planes is volatile which is why spatial rifts are placed in one location instead of being scattered.

"I will just test it out when I raid the other places for the crown fragment. Hopefully, I can find it easily. Maybe I should head out when I can summon Sirius but raids of high levels are much more difficult compared to that of raids for low levels." Adrian muttered.

Adrian then contacted all of the people on his friend list except for Cersei. He contacted his three childhood friends, the father and daughter elemental and Creepysoo. Adrian only sent them two sentences but they all accepted it in just a matter of seconds.

"Can you help me with a raid for a dungeon above level 100? Details will follow later."

All of them replied enthusiastically in just a matter of seconds. They too were looking for a raid since they were all nearing level 99. Adrian logged out first as he was being called to eat. He also thought to bring his big sister if her level was high enough. Adrian would give her a bus ride.

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During mealtime...

"So sis, what level are you now?" Adrian asked to her sister that looked dazed while eating.

Mina was eating like a robot and looked like she did not hear Adrian's question.

"Mina! Your brother asked you a question." Adrian's mom said which brought Mina back to earth.

"What was your question? Sorry, I did not hear it." Mina asked.

"I asked what level are you right now." Adrian

"Oh! I am level 92 right now. Why are you asking?" Mina replied.

Adrian almost choked and had to drink a glass of water so that he could swallow. Adrian's head suddenly started finding a logical answer to how that happened as she only started the game recently. Several mathematical equations and formulas appeared on Adrian's head until he found the answer.

"The almighty fifteen hour daily limit!" Adrian thought.

Adrian then had a glint in his eye and then was about to speak to his mother.

"Mom..." Adrian said.

"No." Adrian's mom replied.

"But I barely said anything yet." Adrian retorted.

"You were going to ask me something about giving you money or something related to that game." Adrian's mom replied.

"She is a Psychic!" Adrian thought while shocked by his overactive imagination.

"Alright then, if the treasurer does not approve then you must go to the source!" Adrian thought.

"Dad..." Adrian said.

"Ask your mother for permission." Adrian's dad replied.

Adrian acted like he was shot in the heart due to the sudden block his dad made. His parents looked at him funny because their son was clearly overreacting.

"So you take acting classes now huh. Eat your food." Adrian's mom replied.

Adrian sat there deflated and looking lost when he saw someone more lost than him and it was his sister.

"What is up with her?" Adrian whispered to his mother.

"Judging by her actions and her absent mindedness then I can only make one guess." Adrian's mom replied with a slight smile.

"Okay... you know I do not like to be kept hanging so spill it my beautiful mother." Adrian replied.

"I still will not give you money for your game. Anyways, it is crystal clear that your sister is in love." Adrian's mom replied with her slight smile now forming into a big smile while looking at Adrian's dad.

"Uhuh...so any idea on who is the unlucky guy?" Adrian asked and then a back of a spoon suddenly hit his hand.

"Ouch! That hurt." Adrian replied.

"Who do you mean by unlucky huh punk?" Mina asked Adrian with a smile that did not look like a smile.

"Yes. Tell me Mina, who is this guy?" Adrian's mom teased.

"I am done eating. Thank you for the food." Mina said as her face flushed red and she hurriedly went to her room.

"You were acting like her when we just met." Adrian's dad interjected.

"Stop it. Not in front of the kids." Adrian's mom bashfully replied.

"Okay. I am done eating too. Also get a room." Adrian said as he hovered himself towards his room.

Chapter 170 - Finding The Last Two Fragments

Adrian logged back in the game and immediately summoned his soulbounds. He wanted to level up his soulbounds to level 99 so they could level up to 100 after the raid. Since all of them are now level 96, it will only take a few more grinding for that to happen.

Adrian is glad that the last two probable areas are located in Nebulon which is the main world. If it was located in other worlds then Adrian would have a difficult time bringing them there. He can't just bring them with him to the Paradox Planes or find the portal in the main world.

Adrian found the spatial fracture for the next area that he has collected information about. This time he is the northern region of the central continent. It was cold as an ocean was just separating both the northern and the central continent. It was not a normal ocean but a frozen ocean so if anyone was daring enough then they could reach the northern continent by foot.

Some dared to do just that but some were unlucky and plunged into a cold ocean. Some could not bear the cold climate and froze to death on the way. If they were lucky they might encounter a Torigo which is one of the human settlers up in the north.

Sometimes the Torigo would go to the central continent to barter for food or any other necessities. Although they are friendly people, they are also fierce warriors because only the strong can survive in a frozen tundra. If you manage to be extremely friendly with them then they might escort you to the north but that was it. You are going to fend for yourself once reaching the northern continent.

Anyways, Adrian and his soulbounds arrived at what looked like a mountain covered in snow. If Adrian was right then there should be a city below this mountain. He read in the forums that this mountain is called Mount Nieve. The city below is called Snowport due to being near the frozen ocean.

The undead that sprung up here in this mountain are peculiar due to them having frozen elemental attack properties. Instead of zombies, it is read as Frozen Walking Corpse. Adrian is seeing one right now as they littered the place. The only problem now is finding the entrance to the dungeon.

Adrian does not know where the entrance would be located so his only option now is to search for it. He wanted to check if the Frozen Walking Corpse would have an area where they pop up but the

way they spawn was interesting. The Frozen Walking Corpse would respawn by emerging from the snow as if those that died and was buried in the snow rose up to exact vengeance.

Adrian then speculated that the dungeon would probably be hidden inside the mountain. He was so upset because the whole mountain was covered in snow. He did think of burning the mountain snow using Kanlaon's breath but that would make a loud ruckus.

The city lord might send guards and find the cause of the disturbance if he did exactly that. His only choice now is to earnestly search for the entrance.

"Yeah...I am just going to blow away the snow using Quantum Repulsion." Adrian muttered.

So Adrian used all his in-game time that day just plowing snow in order to find the entrance. Kanlaon and Sirius would kill any monster that will attack them while Saena was sealed because she got frostbite. She was shivering the whole time so Adrian had to seal her for the time being.

Adrian was a bit fine but even he felt the cold building up. He would consume an item he purchased from Jianna that is called Warmth Pill. This pill generates heat inside the body but it only lasts for three hours and its effects diminishes over time. Adrian had to return to get a new batch from Jianna whenever he runs out of stock.

"Maybe I should ask for help now from Creepysoo. He might be able to know of what is happening here as he is an undead after all." Adrian thought and proceeded to ask for help from his undead player friend.

Creepysoo replied that he will be there in a few seconds so Adrian continued plowing the snow. He might find the entrance if he kept digging through the snow. Hard work always pays off in the end so he might luck out and find it.

Adrian was plowing through the snow when he suddenly felt an anomaly in space near his area. He then saw a wraith looking undead come out with a small pale faced boy. The wraith bowed towards Adrian and then to the pale boy before entering the tear in space and disappearing.

"Sorry that we are a bit late. It seems that when people of your kind is in an area, you guys unconsciously strengthen the fabric of reality or so. It is too mind blowing to me so I do not know half of what Du'an just said. All I learned is that to not use space attribute magic around your kind." Creepysoo cheerfully stated.

"Uhuh. I forgot that we did that so I guess it was difficult to pinpoint my location and transfer here. Anyways, we need to do something about your look." Adrian muttered as he cast Glamour on Creepysoo.

Creepysoo's look did not change but his skin tone now looked healthier than the deathly pale color it previously had. Creepysoo who saw that Adrian casted a skill on him was astounded by the change in his look even though it is small.

"Ooh. So this is what you used to turn human like." Creepysoo excitedly stated.

"Do not get too excited. It will perish if you get critically injured." Adrian stated.

"Anyways, I called you here because I think that a fragment is hiding somewhere around here. Look at the undead that are spawning here. They are obviously unique. I got the other fragments on

locations with unique undead so maybe this location has one. Thankfully very few players visit this area as they normally get frostbite in just a few minutes." Adrian replied.

"Still we should not be careless as it might get unwarranted attention if they find out that we are of a different race." Creepysoo replied.

"Oh! It seems you matured quite a bit since we last met. Last time, you just blurted out everything that you know." Adrian replied teasingly.

"Well, a streamer player managed to unlock the Dark Elf race and he was apparently hounded by players. I do not do well in front of mobs of people so I do not want that to happen to me. He was constantly asked on how he unlocked it and such that he stopped streaming." Creepysoo stated.

"So another reason for me to not go with my original choice to become a streamer then." Adrian blurted.

"You wanted to be a streamer big bro?! I advise you not to because all your secrets will be revealed but you can go another route and upload videos on AtlasTube. Lesser money but generally safe as you can hide your face and names by editing the video." Creepysoo stated.

"I see. I will take your advice to heart. Enough of that then. Do you have an idea on what is the mechanism here on this mountain?" Adrian asked.

"I can feel undead energy but it is mostly from the roaming undead. I can feel something but it is faint. It feels like something is blocking me from sensing it. It is probably cloaking its power from me. It also probably hid itself from Du'an because I sensed nothing when we came." Creepysoo replied.

"If we move to the source, can you feel it better?" Adrian asked.

"Probably but that is not a guarantee." Creepysoo replied.

"We do not have any leads on this point so point us to the direction. We will protect you. Do you get frostbite?" Adrian stated.

"Undead do not get status conditions like fear, frostbite or stun and we have unlimited stamina. We do suffer a lot from holy attribute damage though." Creepysoo replied.

"Nice racial characteristics. All we have is Origin Magic and the inability to use any other magic other than that." Adrian said.

"I mean that is cool in and of itself. You are like godlike as your magic can influence the fabric of reality like bam bam." Creepysoo retorted while doing superhero poses.

"It is more complicated than that and a lot of restrictions. Like for instance, we must not travel to the past. If we do, we must not change the past as it might upset the present and change the reality we know today." Adrian explained.

"Awesome! You can travel towards the past." Creepysoo replied with sparkling eyes.

"Not me though. Only an elder in our race can. He wields time magic like he was born to use it." Adrian replied but then snow they are walking upon suddenly shook.

Sensing danger, Sirius immediately pushed Creepysoo out of the way while Adrian jumped back. The snow suddenly started forming into a gigantic body reminiscent of a golem.

"It seems we are going the right way." Adrian stated as they prepared for battle.