

Overgeared 141

Chapter 141

During the three day journey towards the Grey Forest on the outskirts of Bairan, Grid constantly worked Jude and the soldiers.

He instructed them to fight the monsters who were drawn by Malacus' Cloak. However, the Bairan monsters had a minimum level of 100, while the Grey Forest monsters had a minimum level of 120. It was hard for the level 70~80 soldiers to fight them. There were the sounds of suffering.

But Grid was firm. He never gave orders for the soldiers to retreat. They were forced to fight, even if they had to die. He gave almost no breaks. In the end, the soldiers couldn't refuse his commands and were forced to fight with a real determination to die. Indeed, they almost died several times.

The soldiers no longer regarded Grid as a hero. They thought he was the devil.

Initially, the soldiers thought that this expedition was to torment them. But none of the soldiers lost their lives to the monsters. Every time the soldiers were on the brink of death, Grid and the knights saved them.

This repeated for three days, and the average level of the soldiers increased to 90. Jude always fought in the lead and managed to reach level 110.

'Certainly... NPCs are different from users.'

Grid realized some new facts. Users gained 10 fixed stat points every time they gained a level, while NPCs randomly acquired a minimum of 6 to a maximum of 20 stat points. Every time Jude levelled up, he got at least 16 stat points. Indeed, Grid was interested in a Grade A NPC.

Grid was encouraged.

'Yes Jude. Grow quickly. Then become my faithful dog.'

The next day, the party finally reached the Grey Forest. From here, the atmosphere became strange. The spirits of the soldiers that had grown under Grid's direction faded away in an instant.

"I-I'm sorry but we can't move any further."

The start of the forest was covered by a poison fog generated by the poison flowers. A radius of 300m was filled with poison. The soldiers and knights naturally shrunk back. They were five meters away from the poison, but their skin was already irritated. They could feel their health deteriorating in real time.

Romeo judged that stepping into the forest without a Rebecca priest was nothing more than suicide.

"It is unreasonable to beat the Guardian of the Forest with this group. It's impossible to reach the Guardian of the Forest itself. It's great that we reached here, but we can only turn back..."

The knights and soldiers stood still and didn't move. Grid didn't force them.

'The poison flowers' poison fog does 350 damage per second.'

Putting aside the knights, the soldiers had less than 3,000 health. If he forced them into the fog, they wouldn't even be able to move 100m before dying. Grid worked hard to train them, so he didn't want to lose them like this.

'I have to go ahead.'

The poison flower wasn't simply a poisonous plant. It was a level 160 carnivorous plant that attacked anything that came into its range with its tentacles. It was the object of complete terror for travellers and monsters.

But the flowers weren't a threat to Grid. The tense Grid put a hand into his inventory. He was planning to take out Dainsleif in order to get rid of the poison flowers.

"Jude?"

Jude was silent as usual as he walked forward towards the fog. He was heading towards the poison fog that scared even the knights!

'Indeed! He's a person that I am paying attention to!'

Grid was filled with anticipation. What would Jude use to break through the poison fog? He watched with curious eyes. Then Jude finally stepped into the fog. Jude's health gauge started to decline at a tremendous pace.

But Jude didn't care. He groaned and kept advancing. Then he fell down onto the grass.

"...Eh?"

Grid was perplexed by the unexpected development. Then the soldiers were in an uproar.

"Ah Captain! He moved without thinking and is digging his grave!"

"Let's go rescue Captain quickly!"

"Shit, we have to go into that poison fog? We'll die as well!"

"Uhh... Will Captain die like this?"

Jude's poisoned gauge was falling quickly. The helpless soldiers were forced to watch as their captain died in front of their eyes. Grid noticed his mistake.

'Wasn't he stupid?'

Despite repeatedly gaining levels, Jude's intelligence was still stuck at 11. There was also the unknown skill with the ominous name of 'I have no idea.' The reason Jude went into the fog wasn't because he had a means of breaking the fog, but because he had no idea. Grid belatedly discovered this fact and hurriedly moved.

'I can't lose him like this!'

"Viscount!"

Romen and Deck cried out. A viscount was throwing himself into poisonous fog just to save a mere captain? They couldn't understand Grid's behavior.

Deck shouted in an urgent voice, "Sir Romeo! If the viscount dies, then we are finished!"

"Come on...!"

But it was too late. Grid's movement speed was superhuman. The moment Romeo and Deck thought to stop him, Grid was already in the middle of the poison fog.

"Drink it quickly!"

"...?"

His vision became cloudy. A terrible pain filled his body. Jude thought he would die like this. Someone suddenly ran up to Jude and raised his body. Then Jude was fed a potion? The person was Grid.

"...?"

A noble was willing to risk his life to save a commoner? Didn't nobles consider soldiers to be meat shields on the battlefield? Grid was different from the nobles that Jude had met. Why was he different? He was curious, but Jude's intelligence couldn't infer the reason. So he was just thrilled.

Then he made a stupid look as tentacles from the poison flowers flew towards him. The tentacles were like flying birds, but none of them could reach Jude. It was natural. How could level 160 monsters exert their power in front of Grid?

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Wave!"

Swords of light moved in all directions around Grid. The tentacles flying towards Jude were destroyed and dozens of poison flowers screamed. Then the poisonous fog started to disappear like a lie. Jude made a stupid expression and admired Grid's skill.

'Strong.'

Clean air started pouring into the poisoned lungs. His innate health meant Jude was quickly freed from suffering and he raised his body. Then he bowed to Grid.

"Thank you."

These words were too simple towards someone who saved his life. Grid was embarrassed for a while.

'He really is stupid.'

He told Jude, "It's good to be brave, but you should think before moving forward. You don't have 10 lives, right?"

"...Um."

Jude nodded like he understood. But the expression was too subtle. It was like he didn't understand what it meant. Grid felt uncomfortable. He couldn't help feeling anxious. It wasn't a difficult demand. Grid just asked him to be careful. But how stupid was he to not understand?

Then the knights and soldiers ran up to them.

“You’re safe!”

They gazed at Grid with admiration.

“It’s amazing that you can sweep up dozens of poison flowers all at once! This is the majesty of the hero who defeated Malacus!”

“The acting of rescuing the captain is the epitome of all nobles and knights!”

Romeo and Deck started to praise Grid. The soldiers who misunderstood Grid as a devil once again recognized Grid as a hero.

“Viscount is the best!”

“Thank you for saving the captain!”

The cheers from the soldiers and knights! Grid smiled at them, but it had an ominous feeling.

“How is it? If you are with me, you can easily defeat the Guardian of the Forest.”

“...No, that...”

Despite the fact that Grid had shown his greatness, the knights and soldiers still reacted skeptically to beating the Guardian of the Forest.

Grid didn’t care. He was willful from the beginning, so he just started moving forward again. The knights and soldiers were forced to follow him. Then the party encountered something in the center of the forest.

“Humans! No humans in forest! Humans pollute forest! No forgive humans!”

It was a goblin lord. Most goblins were around one meter tall, but he was around two meters tall. And his strength was beyond imagination. As a level 180 field boss, he was an intermediate boss that had to be defeated before meeting the Guardian of the Forest.

He summoned dozens of hobgoblins. Grid identified this and began conducting his troops.

“This is the final training before we defeat the Guardian of the Forest! Three soldiers will mark one hobgoblin, while the knights and Jude will look at the entire battlefield and help those in danger. Once the goblin lord starts acting strange, it is the precursor to an earthquake. At that time, spread out and minimize the damage!”

The goblin lord had the same attack pattern as the Guardian of the Forest.

The goblin lord summoned hobgoblins while the Guardian of the Forest summoned golems. The goblin lord also possessed the same wide range earthquake technique as the Guardian of the Forest.

That’s why Guardian of the Forest raid parties tended to meet the goblin lord before meeting the Guardian of the Forest. Grid had familiarized himself with the process and responded as calmly as possible.

Then!

The knights and soldiers marked the hobgoblins according to Grid's instructions, while Grid approached the goblin lord. Then he used Pagma's Swordsmanship, Kill, in order to suppress it.

[Critical!]

[The Holy Light Gloves option effect is activated, causing you to attack the target five times.]

[You have dealt 302,555 damage.]

[You have defeated the guard of the Grey Forest, the goblin lord!]

[2,600,100 experience has been acquired.]

[The Goblin Lord's Club has been acquired.]

[The Goblin Lord's fang has been acquired.]

[Your level has risen.]

"...Ah."

The critical strike combined with the Holy Light Gloves' option and Kill was a blow that managed to cause the level 280 griffon boss monster to fall into a critical state. Therefore, it easily took care of the level 180 goblin lord.

Of course, this wasn't his intention. Why was the power of his items applied at such exquisite timing?

"Hiik! Humans! Scary!"

The hobgoblins ran away with fear while Grid was feeling embarrassed. Grid grasped the situation.

'Damn, I should've taken off the gloves.'

Grid felt regret over missing the opportunity to train the troops, while the knights and soldiers were baffled.

'Is that a human?'

'Ridiculously strong...'

"The Guardian of the Forest. It's time to hunt it."

In the midst of the chaos, only Jude was moving forward without thinking.

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A few months ago, Grid had owed money to creditors. He suffered all types of persecution under the Mother's Heart is Happy employees.

He did hard labor every day in order to pay back the interest and practically lived as a slave with no signs of a better life. He couldn't even dream of being loved by others, or enjoying himself over a bottle of soju.

But now it was different.

Grid had got a legendary class and barely succeeded for a while. However, now the debt had been completely cleared and he became rich.

Since the Malacus raid, he produced the Thorn of Deep Grievance for Ibellin and earned 4.61 billion won in revenue. He still had 2.95 billion won left, despite paying 5% of the gold sales commission fee to the item trading site, paying off his family's remaining debt, and purchasing a car.

Nowadays, Grid could eat chicken once every two weeks. He could eat one chicken in one meal without having to share. Now that he could enjoy such luxuries, he wanted to collect 10 billion won to buy a piece of land and build a residence!

But before starting that, he thought he needed to produce Failure first. Then he moved to purchase blue orichalcum, which was the main ingredient of Failure. However, there were no blue orichalcum at the auction site in the game or on the Internet.

It might be because no users had raided the Guardian of the Forest, or the drop rate of blue orichalcum was low, or another blacksmith had bought the blue orichalcum. Grid didn't know the exact reason why there were no blue orichalcum for sale. But he knew the answer to obtain blue orichalcum.

Wasn't it a simple task to collect them directly from the Guardian of the Forest raid?

'I obtained three blue orichalcum when selling the Sword of Self-transcendence to Administrator Vladi... I need 12 more blue orichalcum to produce Failure.

And...

Grid was currently in front of the Guardian of the Forest.

"Here."

The deepest part of the forest. There was a huge crater where the forest used to be. Grid started to observe all the topographic features, including the trees tinged with grey ash.

'The soldiers don't have enough cover to depend on. The trees will be crushed like cookies... It will be a frontal confrontation.'

Grid wasn't particularly worried. As long as the knights and soldiers marked the golems summoned by the Guardian of the Forest, he could defeat the Guardian of the Forest in that gap. But the knights and soldiers were afraid.

"E-Excuse me Viscount... Shouldn't we go back now?"

"Please save us! If I die, my wife and children will be sad!"

"I'm still young..."

Despite Grid showing his strength on the way here, the morale of the knights and soldiers was still low. In the end, Grid threw off the broad-brimmed hat he had been wearing. Then he wore the Holy Light Crown and pulled out the Commander's Sword to raise his dignity stat.

“The Guardian of the Forest? Didn’t I get rid of Malacus, who filled the world with terror? You just have to believe in me. Yes?”

“O-Ohhh...!”

Grid’s current dignity stat was 364 points. If he added 200 points from the Holy Light Crown and 30 points from the Commander’s Sword, his dignity stat neared a huge 600 points. This was comparable to the dignity stat points held by the top NPCs that represented each nation, even if they weren’t kings. The general soldiers as well as the knights, Romeo and Deck, couldn’t help bowing to Grid.

"I have great faith in the viscount. We will follow you with no more complaints."

"Okay."

The troops fell silent. Grid felt satisfied and started to look around again.

‘By the way, why isn’t the Guardian of the Forest appearing? Shouldn’t it appear now?’

Grid had confirmed the raid timetable through a website in advance. Today was the day that the Guardian of the Forest was supposed to respawn, and the timing was right as well. He also had to be careful of other raid parties, so he had deliberately hid his face and identity with a hat.

But when he arrived here, there were no raid parties and the Guardian of the Forest couldn’t be seen.

‘Don’t tell me the site is a scam?’ It was a paid membership site. Grid was angry since he had paid 130,000 won in order to check the raid timetable. ‘I trusted it because it has a lot of members...!’

Grid was convinced that he had been cheated of the price of six chickens and kicked a rock furiously. Then the small rock started to shake loudly.

Jude clapped with wide eyes, “Amazing. The rock you kicked is dancing.”

“That’s not it...”

The knights and soldiers became frantic. The rock that Grid kicked was moving and growing larger? Like a turtle hiding inside its shell, it was the moment when the crouched up Guardian of the Forest fully emerged.

However, it was a little strange.

“What is this guy?”

Grid was confused. Originally, the Guardian of the Forest should be over 5m and large. However, this one had a height similar to Grid and was sleek looking.

‘Isn’t it like a human?’

There were five fingers and toes on each extended limb, just like a person. Except for the back that was made of hard rocks, the whole body was composed of transparent ores and flashing above its head was the name ‘Awakened Guardian of the Forest.’

“You, what are you?”

He tried to measure the combat power but it was ????. There were only question marks. Grid instinctively perceived the danger and became alert. Then the Awakened Guardian of the Forest narrowed the distance in an instant.

Kwaang!

There was a storm in the aftermath of his movements. The ash scattered all over the place and the roots of the trees were shaken.

Peeng!

It was like watching Regas. The Awakened Guardian of the Forest aimed a sharp kick. Then Deck, standing next to Grid, coughed up blood and turned into light.

[The knight Deck has died.]

“Crazy!”

Killing a level 185 knight in one blow? Grid hurriedly exclaimed, “Avoid it! Especially Jude! You absolutely must survive!”

The knights and soldiers wouldn’t be any help. The tense Grid put a hand into his inventory. The black greatsword was pulled out and Dainsleif showed its majestic appearance.

It had now been 47 days.

Grid had promised to make a new armor for Vantner. Following Pon and Ibellin, he was fortunate enough to be the third winner of Grid’s production item.

‘Now I can be born again as an overgeared person!’

When armed with the strongest armor that Grid would produce, his defense would be sufficient and he could run amok! Vantner was excited. It wasn’t an exaggeration to call him the most delighted person in the world.

But what was this? An absurd thing happened. Grid abandoned the armor production for a quest? Then there was no news.

From that day, the time of waiting begun. Vantner waited every day for Grid to return. A fortnight passed and he waited indefinitely. Whenever he walked the street, he would frantically look if he heard any grumbling. If he saw an Asian man, he would think it was Grid.

Grid didn’t return until a month and two weeks later. Vantner wasn’t able to contact Grid because the guild chat and whispers were blocked. It was enough to make Vantner curse. He honestly didn’t know how many times he insulted Grid.

But as he waited for Grid, Vantner fell in love.

Then four days ago! Grid returned to Winston as Vantner dreamed of. Vantner’s long wait would be repaid.

'I can finally get my armor...!'

Vantner was thrilled to tears. He ran off to meet Grid, like he was reuniting with a lover. Then he became frustrated. Instead of producing an armor, Grid suddenly announced his marriage. It was also to Lady Irene who Vantner had been longing for!

On the day of the wedding ceremony, Vantner was in turmoil from the unexpected developments and couldn't hide his hostility towards Grid. Rather than bringing up the wait, he was angry at Grid taking away Lady Irene. Then he became drunk during the wedding, cursed Grid, and was kicked out.

He regretted it the next day. He realized that he had lost control. Irene was just an unrequited crush, so how could he be angry at Grid for taking her away? Vantner felt ashamed and sorry. He was worried about Grid's reaction.

'Surely he won't refuse to make my item?'

He was well aware of what a narrow-minded person Grid was. So after the wedding, he stayed for three days at Khan's smithy. He wanted to apologize to Grid for his actions and to ask for the production of his item.

But Grid never showed up in Khan's smithy after his marriage. Khan knew the reason why. But he wouldn't tell Vantner Grid's whereabouts, no matter how he asked.

"Hey, look Old Man. Why won't you tell me where Grid went?"

"Didn't you swear at Grid on his wedding day? I don't want someone like you becoming involved with Grid."

"Hah, really..."

Khan was a twisted old man. There was a reason why he was a good fit with Grid. Vantner failed to find out Grid's whereabouts for three days and eventually asked Jishuka.

-Master, can you go and see Irene?

-You want me to ask about Grid's whereabouts?

-Yes...

-Okay. I also think that now is the time for Grid to work.

The Tzedakah Guild recruited Grid because they needed his blacksmith abilities. Grid also joined the guild to act as a blacksmith. As the guild master, Jishuka had to remind Grid of his duties.

She went to see Irene. Then she was shocked by Irene's words.

"Huh? Grid... No, Viscount Grid has gone to defeat the Guardian of the Forest?"

"Yes. He said that he wants to defeat the Guardian of the Forest for our sake. Isn't he like Prince Charming? So cool."

"...This is a headache."

Like other games, Satisfy was a thoroughly competitive society. All users and guilds struggled for their own interests. One of the easiest ways for a guild to profit was to control a hunting ground.

Guilds controlled hunting grounds where honey flowed and prohibited outsiders from entering. This was called guild monopolization. It was a natural occurrence. The Tzedakah Guild also controlled two hunting grounds around Bairan without opening them to outsiders.

The first place was Ruger Dungeon where monsters over level 250 appeared, and the second place was the Grey Forest where the Guardian of the Forest appeared.

The Guardian of the Forest was very strong. It was a level 245 field boss, but it was stronger than a dungeon boss. Its stats were abnormally high and it had a wide range of CC and summoning skills, making it very difficult to deal with.

It also possessed a passive skill to reduce physical damage and along with its natural defense and health, it took the current Tzedakah Guild at least three hours to defeat it. But Grid only led 100 soldiers and two knights to the Guardian of the Forest raid.

It was also during this cycle!

‘The Awakened Guardian of the Forest is several times stronger than the normal Guardian of the Forest.

Blue orichalcum is a mineral born with the power of moonlight and the Guardian of the Forest. Was that why? The Guardian of the Forest and blue orichalcum were very sensitive to moonlight.

Once every four months, the two full moons would rise at the same time and the blue orichalcum, which made up most of the Guardian of the Forest, would show an infinite power and awaken the guardian.

Right now, it was the awakening cycle. Four months ago, the Tzedakah Guild wasn’t aware of this and was annihilated after challenging the Awakened Guardian of the Forest. The Awakened Guardian of the Forest had significantly less health and defense than the normal one, but it exerted overwhelming attack power and agility.

‘It is much stronger than a pope, who was a priest. This time, Grid can’t avoid death.’

Even the Tzedakah Guild have given up on the Guardian of the Forest raid during this awakening period. Therefore, they didn’t bother controlling the Grey Forest. They planned to try the Awakened Guardian of the Forest raid in four months.

No matter how she thought about it, the odds of Grid succeeding in the raid alone was 0%.

‘This is better.’

If Grid ever participated in the guild’s community, Grid would’ve found out that the guild monopolized the Guardian of the Forest raid and would’ve been able to ask for the blue orichalcum that he wanted.

But he didn’t. His ignorance of the guild community and his insistence on personal activities led to this. Jishuka hoped that Grid’s habit would be fixed. She wanted him to realize the importance of the guild community with this incident and hoped that he would refrain from personal activities in the future.

In front of Khan’s smithy.

“Really, that Grid...”

Vantner clicked his tongue after receiving Jishuka’s explanation through a whisper. He wanted to help Grid, but it was impossible because he was too far away.

‘He will be angry from the experience loss after dying and might not want to make my item...’

A man arrived at the smithy while Vantner was feeling worried. Khan, who only treated Vantner badly, enthusiastically welcomed the man.

“Ohh! Hasn’t it been a really long time? Has it been a few months?”

"It’s good to see you. Has My Liege been well?"

"Huh, you haven’t heard the news about him these days? He’s become tremendously successful. Now he is once again on a brave raid..."

Khan suddenly paused in his conversation and whispered in the man’s ears. What was he saying? The man was happy.

“As expected from My Liege... Really amazing. He tried to run away from the frostlight orc chief and now he is raiding a monster alone? I will go to meet him.”

The man said goodbye to Khan and exited the smithy. Then he blew a whistle, riding the drake that was called and soaring into the sky.

Vantner was confused.

“I’ve never seen that ID among the rankers who use drakes as pets.”

Was a new rookie popping up again? The stagnant Vantner became frustrated.

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???

The combat power displayed above the Awakened Guardian of the Forest’s head was made of only question marks. If this were Grid from a few months back, he wouldn’t have been able to guess why and probably would’ve thought it as a bug and grumbled about it.

However, now he was different. After many incidents, Grid had calmed and matured almost to the point of unfamiliarity. His thinking power finally belonged to the category of normal people.

‘Is this implying that its combat power is too high for my insight?’

Peng!

"Ah, is my scouting broken? What’s with your immeasurable combat strength?"

Grid was reminded of a scene from an old manhwa. His insight had worked on the pope, so this meant that the guardian in front of him was stronger than the pope.

“How rotten... I came here to play but I met a strong enemy.”

Grid had defeated the pope and obtained the legendary battle gear set, so he was much stronger than before. He had planned to easily defeat the Guardian of the Forest. Then what was this awakening mode?

Grid wasn't aware of why the Guardian of the Forest awakened and why it was at this time. But he didn't panic. He thought about it calmly and positively.

'It will be a tough fight, but I think that it will work out well. Doesn't it seem like the guardian will give a lot of blue orichalcum?'

The ash grey forest couldn't dim the light of the blue orichalcum on the awakened guardian's body. If he could obtain all those blue orichalcum, wouldn't he be able to make two Failures?

'I will collect it!' Grid wanted to take out a pickaxe. However, he needed to first neutralize the guardian. 'I can't be too excited or I might miss the jackpot. Let's not attack carelessly and wait for a chance.'

Grid was a greatsword lover. Except for the Ideal Dagger that he made for a quest, he had always used a greatsword since starting Satisfy until now. He was confident that he had a higher understanding of a greatsword than most users did.

All out power! Deadly blows!

"Phew."

Grid grasped Dainsleif tightly and took deep breaths. He waited for a moment. The awakened guardian stared at Grid, then a red light flashed in its eyes. It made a posture like a sprinter, then quickly narrowed the distance towards Grid.

Grid timed it.

'One. Two. Now!'

It was perfect timing. As soon as the awakened guardian ran into Dainsleif's attack range, Grid released all his tensed muscles.

Kwaang!

An explosive sword strike! Dainsleif caused a dark red afterglow as it accurately struck the guardian's chest.

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 5,700 damage to the target.]

The awakened guardian's health gauge was reduced around 1/100. Grid was convinced.

'Just like the size is several times smaller than the original, its defense and health are reduced as well.'

Monster types could be divided into the main categories of: attack, defense, support, and balance. While it was possible to classify them in more detail depending on species, attributes, skill, etc, these were just the basics.

The Guardian of the Forest was a typical defensive monster. As a peak golem, it possessed both abnormally high defense and health. On the other hand, the Awakened Guardian of the Forest was undoubtedly an offensive monster. It was obvious that it was an aggressive monster when its health was reduced by 1/100 by a single blow, as well as the fact that it killed a knight instantly.

'The advantages are its fast speed and high attack power.'

This was a good thing. Grid could exert overwhelming attack power, so he found it more comfortable to deal with offensive types compared to defense types. It was possible to take care of the opponent quickly.

"I will kill you in an instant."

The awakened guardian was stronger than the pope? He was also stronger than the pope. Grid's eyes were filled with confidence. But he still remained calm. His head was cold while his chest was hot.

"..."

Grid didn't move first. He waited for another chance, just like before.

Peeng!

Indeed. As an offensive type monster, the awakened guardian was aggressive. It didn't learn and aimed for a frontal attack again.

'Now!'

Grid calculated the perfect timing for a counter. He swung Dainsleif the moment the awakened guardian entered his range of attack.

Chaaeng!

This time, it was a vertical slash. The heavier blow fell upon the guardian's shoulders.

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 6,380 damage to the target.]

Kik.Kkikikik.

The awakened guardian was hit and let out a strange noise. It paused for a moment before heading directly to him again.

'Hehe, you idiot. Is your IQ in the single digit~?'

On the other hand, Grid believed that his IQ was in the double digits! He prepared for the third counter. He once again swung Dainsleif with proper timing. But this time, there was a completely different result.

The same move no longer worked. The awakened guard avoided the attack by moving its upper body the moment Grid struck. Then it moved around Dainsleif towards Grid's side.

'The same stupid lunge was a fake?'

A chill went down Grid's spine. A monster using a trick! Then the guardian rotated, gathering the centrifugal force before kicked Grid's face.

[You have been hit by a lethal blow!]

[You have suffered 13,090 damage.]

"Kuheok...!"

This wasn't a skill. It was just a kick. In other words, a simple blow. Except, that "simple blow" made him instantly lose a third of his health. This was twice the damage that Grid could deal with his critical attacks. Considering Grid was also equipped with legendary equipment, it was a stunning sight to behold.

[The effect of Doran's Ring has been activated.]

[The option of the Holy Light Armor has been activated.]

[19,635 health has been restored.]

"Damn bastard!"

The broken nose bone was restored and the nosebleed disappeared without a trace. However, Grid's anger didn't fade. Falling for a monster's tricks? Grid didn't expect to be so stupid! Then Grid fired Pagma's Swordsmanship, Link.

Pipit!Pipipipi-!

17 swords of light covered the awakened guardian's body. But it didn't do much damage. The awakened guardian surprised him by avoiding nine of the strikes.

'Fast!'

Grid panicked as the guardian leapt into the air like a martial artist and evaded. Then it flew above Grid's head and its heel descended. Grid hurriedly defended.

Jjejeong!

[The durability of +5 Dainsleif (Reproduction) has been reduced by 37.]

'As expected from the blue orichalcum!'

Dainsleif was made of black iron, one of the finest minerals, and the durability hadn't been damaged until now! Except for adamantium, its body was composed of blue orichalcum, which was known as one of the best minerals.

"I'll kill you! I will tear your body to shreds! Blacksmith's Rage!"

Grid didn't shrink back. Rather, the momentum around him became stronger.

[Blacksmith's Rage has been activated. Your attack power and attack speed will increase significantly for 20 seconds.]

Chaaeng!Chaeeeeeng!

The onslaught of the excited Grid began. The awakened guardian defended by crossing its arms. Grid's attack speed after Blacksmith's Rage was used was so fast that the guardian couldn't counterattack.

Grid kept up this momentum.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Wave!"

It was impossible for the awakened guardian to defeat against the waves being emitted in every direction.

[You have dealt 10,300 damage to the target.]

[The target's attack speed has reduced.]

The awakened guardian stumbled like its body suddenly became heavier. It quickly corrected its posture but it was already too late. Grid accumulated a lot of combat experience and he wasn't going to miss this moment.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Kill!"

Kuoooooh-!

A powerful killing intent filled and suppressed the air. Romeo and the soldiers watching the battle from the bushes were scared, urinated or fainted. The awakened guardian also flinched in response. It perceived great danger from the black energy around Grid's greatsword.

Kwang!

The awakened guardian struck the ground with its feet. Then the earth suddenly started to vibrate. One of the AOE skills possessed by the Guardian of the Forest could also be used in its awakened form.

"Ugh."

Grid was immune to status conditions, but what about when the entire earth was shaking? He lost his balance. The subtle collapse of his posture dropped the accuracy of Kill significantly.

[Your attack has missed.]

'Damn!'

His strongest move had missed? Grid was shaken. Then the guardian, who avoided Kill, started to fight back as it struck Grid's body with both fists.

Pepepepeok!

The number of blows was higher than Link. The fists that could even crush steel slammed into Grid. It was the sight of a full-scale beating.

"V-Viscount Grid!"

The soldiers screamed. The volcanic ash blown by the wind pressure interfered with their sight, but they thought that Grid was being turned into a rag.

"We have to help. Our savior... He will die."

Jude jumped to his feet. Romeo stopped him before he could go forward.

"Viscount Grid is safe! We will just interfere!"

Romeo's words were true. At first glance, Grid seemed to be standing firmly on the ground. He never collapsed, despite being hit by the awakened guardian's strike dozens of times. Meanwhile, the awakened guardian stopped punching. It seemed to think Grid was dead.

However, reality was different. Golden discs were flashing from within the ashes? The golden discs appeared in front of the guardian.

Kikik!Kik.

The awakened guardian belatedly noticed that it had been the golden discs that it had been hitting so far.

Kwaang!

It nervously kicked out at the discs. Then it flinched again. It kicked with all its power, but the golden discs floating in the air didn't even move.

"...You."

The two golden discs swirled and moved in different directions. Then it was revealed that Grid didn't receive even one wound.

Grid frowned. "Did you avoid my attack using such a shallow method? Are you pretending to be a smart golem? Huh? Damn bastard."

Float.

Grid's body rose in the air. This wasn't a temporary rise. It was the 'Fly' magic attached to Braham's Boots. Romeo and the soldiers were in a daze.

"Heok! The viscount can use magic?"

"I don't know!"

Romeo was confused. He heard from Earl Steim that Grid was Pagma's Descendant, so how could he use magic? It was also senior magic!

'Does that mean Pagma could use magic? Or is Pagma's Descendant an existence that transcends Pagma...!'

Teong!

There was a disturbance from the side and the awakened guard jumped as high as possible. It had planned to grab a hold of Grid before he escaped. But the attempt failed. The height that the guardian could jump was 4m. Grid had already flown above 5m.

Grid scoffed, "Try to trigger another earthquake, you stupid bastard. It is useless to trigger an earthquake when I'm in the sky."

A person in the sky had an advantage over those on the ground! In the grey sky, Grid started dancing among the volcanic ash that was like snow.

“Pagma’s Swordsmanship.”

Grid’s sword dance usually lasted from 1.5 to 3 seconds. But this sword dance lasted two times longer than that. It was natural. This was because he was using two sword dances in succession.

“Transcend, Link.”

[The new skill fusion has succeeded.]

[Fusion skill ‘Transcended Link’ has been created.]

[Your intelligence has increased by 10 due to the successful fusion of a new skill.]

[Transcended Link]

A sword dance that transcends imagination and is more dazzling than a butterfly’s wings.

You will temporarily be in a transcended linked state.

A total of 20 strikes will be launched, dealing 150% attack power with each hit.

Every time a target is hit, they will be stiff for 0.1 seconds.

* This skill doesn’t share a cooldown with Transcend and Link.

Skill Mana Cost: 1,600

Skill Cooldown Time: 15 minutes.

"Eh?"

Grid was simple.

If he switched to a ranged mode with Transcend to double his attack power, then used Link, the original 800% attack power of Link would be doubled by the ranged attack. He thought it would be effective, so he connected the two skills.

However, the actual result was a skill fusion and its power was beyond imagination.

Kwakwakwakwakwakwakwang!

The deepest part of the Grey Forest. There was an outpouring of black energy swords in the sky of forest where the Guardian of the Forest had lived for hundreds of years.

Chapter 144

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 183,900 damage to the target.]

The fusion skill Transcended Link did more damage than Kill. In addition, it also caused the status condition of stiffness. It was the birth of a new special move.

Kiyaaaaah!

The awakened guardian screamed with pain from the profound blow. Then notification windows flashed in front of Grid.

[Pagma's Swordsmanship has reached a higher ground.]

[The level of Pagma's Swordsmanship has increased.]

[Pagma's Swordsmanship]

Lv. 2

-When the skill is deactivated-

You can become one with the sword at any time. Increases physical attack by 30%, critical hit rate by 20% and critical damage by 10%.

* This effect is only applied when a sword type weapon is equipped.

* The skill consumes no mana.

-When the skill is activated-

Become one with the sword. Wave, Restraint, Link, Kill, Transcend and Transcended Link. You can unleash a total of six sword techniques.

* The effect of the deactivated skill will be lost.

* 20 mana is required to activate the skill.

* Once deactivated, it will take 10 seconds until the skill can be activated again. Nothing will be consumed when deactivated.

"This is good."

His physical attack power, critical hit chance, and critical damage when Pagma's Swordsmanship was deactivated had increased by 10%. It was comparable to the Advanced Weapon Mastery skill that only rankers above level 240 could acquire. No, it was more than that.

'I am sorry that it is only applied when deactivated, but...'

He only activated Pagma's Swordsmanship whenever he used active skills such as Wave, Kill, and Link. Unfortunately, all of those active skills had a long cooldown time. Due to this, the time he activated Pagma's Swordsmanship was very short, and Grid looked forward to the deactivated effect in the future.

Kuweeeeeeh!

The awakened guardian roared. Its health gauge was reduced by one-third. It cried out for Grid to come down to the ground and fight.

"You want to kill me?"

Grid scoffed from the sky. Now that the level of Pagma's Swordsmanship had risen, he wanted to go down and test out its power. But why should he make things harder for himself?

"It is up to here."

Suuuuuh.

Grid took a high-grade health potion and started to unfold his sword dance again. He did two sword dances in succession. He was aiming for a new skill fusion. This time it was Transcend and Wave. Grid had no doubt that the fusion of these two skills would result in a powerful skill like Transcended Link.

"Transcend, Wave!"

Grid was filled with anticipation. But there was no skill fusion. The effects were the normal skills.

Kukukukung!

The black energy swords poured down from the sky like a waterfall in every direction. It was a very threatening attack for the awakened guardian. It used all the hard minerals and rocks on its body to form a shell.

[You have dealt 15,800 damage to the target.]

[The target's attack speed has reduced.]

"This."

The skill fusion might've failed but Wave's attack power was doubled due to Transcend. The shell was badly damaged.

'It seems only some of the sword dances can be fused... I will take care of this first, then experiment later.'

The ones he wanted to try fusing most were Transcend and Kill, or Link and Kill. If the fusion was possible, it would be a skill that went beyond the power of Transcended Link.

But the cooldown time for Kill was 400 seconds, even with the 20% decrease in cooldown time from Braham's Boots. The experiment had to be postponed because the cooldown time of Kill wasn't over yet.

"Blacksmith's Rage!"

Grid's attack power and attack speed rose! He wielded Dainsleif with all his strength.

Pepepepeong!

Depending on the angle with which Grid swung Dainsleif, sword energies with different shapes were fired.

It was impossible for the guardian to evade due to having its movement speed slowed by Wave. the Awakened Guardian of the Forest was unable to defend against all attacks with its shell and started to scream again.

“Amazing!”

“Viscount Grid is invincible...”

Romeo and the soldiers were thrilled. The powerful Guardian of the Forest was being one-sidedly turned into a turtle inside its shell. Grid truly seemed to transcend human limits. But this transcendent dignity was only temporary.

[The duration of Transcend is over.]

The cooldown time was 50 minutes, while the duration was only 30 seconds.

“Pant pant...”

After constantly attacking for 30 seconds, Grid stopped and suffered from the stamina loss. Despite his high persistence stat, he was exhausted and gasping for breath. However, his expression was relaxed.

‘It is almost over.’

The awakened guardian only had a quarter of its health left. After being hit by Transcended Link, it started to use its minerals as a shield, but it was useless. Grid’s power in Transcend mode was so overwhelming that its health kept falling.

The cooldown time for Kill was almost over, so it was time to finish this. Grid recovered his breathing as he slowly descended.

“I will collect it.”

Grid was ready to take out his pickaxe. However, he overlooked the fact that night was coming.

Kikik.Kkikikikik.

Grid descended to the ground because he believed that he had caught the awakened guardian when it suddenly made a strange sound. As the surroundings darkened, the red eyes turned blue and the blue orichalcum on its body started to turn purple.

“What? What are you trying to do?”

Grid frowned as he sensed the change. Then there was an explosion of magic power from the transformed awakened guardian.

Kwaaaang!

“Ouch!”

The explosion seemed like it would blow the entire forest away. Grid was blown away by the aftermath of the explosion just before he landed on the ground, then he rotated several times as he was thrown into the forest.

Ku tang tang tang!Kwa kwang!

“Ouch...”

Grid fell onto some rocks and shuddered with pain. He was covered with volcanic ash that poured from the shaking trees. Grid spat out the ash in his mouth and cursed.

"That crazy bastard... Eh?"

Grid murmured as he rose from his spot.

Kwang!Kwang! The speed of the awakened guardian rushing through the forest couldn't be compared to before. But Grid didn't feel any tension.

Jjejeong!

The rotating pavranium defended against the fists and kicks of the awakened guardian.

The awakened guardian attempted to strike through gaps in the pavranium, but the wall of defense developed by the pavranium was absolute. They successfully defended against the awakened guardian's lightning speed attacks.

Grid snorted. "Isn't it amazing? This is the power of items."

Kiyaaaaah!

The awakened guardian yelled like it didn't like his words. Then a blue flash emerged from its open mouth.

Jeeong!

The pavranium shook as they blocked the flash. They became stiff and didn't move, just like when they defended against Jishuka's arrow. This was bad. Grid's face tensed for the first time.

Kikik.Kik.

The awakened guardian made a sound like it was laughing and shot past the pavranium. Grid didn't stay still. He defended against the kick flying towards his abdomen with Dainsleif.

Chaaeng!

[The durability of +5 Dainsleif (Reproduction) has been reduced by 46.]

'What?'

Before the change, Dainsleif's durability had dropped by 37 when he defended against the guardian's attack. But now it dropped by another 20%. Looking at this numerically, it meant that the guardian's attack power had increased by 20%.

'What is this?'

Grid was confused by the strengthened guardian before noticing the darkness that was around him. It was night. He recalled some of the descriptions written about Failure.

'Attack power +20% in dark places.'

'Due to the nature of the blue orichalcum, it becomes stronger in the dark.'

"...Should I have come in the morning?"

After entering the Grey Forest in the afternoon, he had wasted time by hunting monsters, including the poison flowers and goblin lord.

Chaaeng!Chaaeng!

"How rotten!"

Grid pledged that next time he would come in the morning, as he defended against the awakened guardian's onslaught. Dainsleif boasted a maximum durability of 500. It was experiencing continuous durability loss and started cracking.

During that time, pavranium recovered and started to protect Grid again. However, the guardian had already found the method to disable it. It fired the blue flash at the pavranium again.

"Damn! Damn!"

Grid's personality started to be revealed under his confusion and agitation. He lost his coolness. The awakened guardian stretched like it was making fun of him. Kik. There was a strange noise like a laugh.

It was an obvious provocation!

"You dog bastard!"

The moment that Grid was about to completely lose control of his thinking power.

[The effect of the composure stat is activated.]

His 400 points in composure showed an effect. Grid instantly recovered his cool thanks to it. A greatsword user focused on attacks that used its weight to deal damage.

Peeeeok!

Grid didn't defend against the flying fist.

[You have suffered 7,300 damage.]

Immediately after the hit,

"Ohhhhhh!"

He swung his greatsword with all his strength.

Kwaang!

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 7,700 damage to the target.]

Peeok!

[You have suffered 7,250 damage.]

A hit once again.

[You have dealt 3,900 damage to the target.]

He hit back.

"Yes, let's see who dies first!"

Grid was originally a person whose control sucked. His combat method was simple. Hit, be hit, drink potions and hit again.

[You have suffered 7,140 damage.]

[You have dealt 3,920 damage to the target.]

[You have taken a high-grade health potion. 8,000 health will be restored.]

[You have suffered 7,300 damage.]

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 7,810 damage to the target.]

[You have been hit by a lethal blow!]

[You have suffered 15,600 damage.]

Hit! Be hit! Drink potion!

Then at this moment,

[The effect of Doran's Ring has been activated.]

[The option of the Holy Light Armor has been activated.]

[23,400 health has been restored.]

The power of his items was revealed.

Kkik?

The awakened guardian panicked. The more it fought the intruder, the weaker it was becoming, while the intruder seemed the same.

Buuong.

The guardian was disadvantaged every time it was hit, so it became cautious. It avoided the big greatsword and tried to counterattack when Grid's back was exposed. Then it was surprised. It was because Grid had been moving in one direction, but he suddenly turned towards the opposite direction.

Chaaeng!

The guardian flinched as it was hit in the waist.

Tong! Grid's right foot left the ground. He used that reaction to raise Dainsleif, which was stuck in the awakened guardian's waist.

Kwajak!

The body of the awakened guardian was thrown into the air. Unlike the past, Grid now had some level of control.

“Pagma’s Swordsmanship...!”

He planned to trigger the final blow while the guardian was defenseless in the air.

Kiyaaaaah!

The guardian’s survival instincts woke up! It didn’t want to die alone so it instead aimed the blue flash from its mouth towards Grid.

“Kill!”

Peeeeeeong!

The greatsword shattered the head of the awakened guardian.

Puooook!

The blue flash pierced Grid’s heart.

[A legend doesn’t die easily. You can resist all attacks for 5 seconds with a minimum of health.]

Grid lived.

On the other hand, the awakened guardian’s head was destroyed and turned into grey light. Blue orichalcum ore was scattered all over the place, seeming more beautiful than any jewel in the moonlight.

[Under two full moons, you have defeated the Awakened Guardian of the Forest!]

[14]

[3]

[The Amethyst Shield has been acquired.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level...]

[You have reached level 200!]

[Your stats have awakened and the unique features of all stats will improve.]

“...How rotten.”

Flop!

The joy of gaining levels and items only lasted for a short moment! Grid flopped down without any hesitation. Then he started lamenting on the ground. The enemy was so strong that he had focused on the battle and forgot about the pickaxe. It was a matter of huge regret for him.

Chapter 145

Grid started appraising the items he acquired after the struggle with the awakened guardian.

[Blue Orichalcum]

Orichalcum is a mineral born with the power of moonlight and the Guardian of the Forest.

It is impossible to erode the Guardian of the Forest's magic power, but it has the best hardness and strength among all minerals.

It is lightweight and becomes much stronger in darkness.

* Advanced blacksmith skills are required to smelt it.

Weight: 3

[Purple Orichalcum]

A mineral that can only be obtained when the Guardian of the Forest has awakened under two full moons.

It holds a unique magic power that boosts attack power and magic power. But unlike the blue orichalcum, its strength is extremely poor.

It isn't suitable as a raw material for battle gear. However, it is a good material to use for making accessories.

* The blacksmith skill must be mastered to smelt it.

Weight: 1

[Amethyst Shield]

Rating: Epic

Durability: 200 Defense: 200 Magic Resistance: 200

A beautiful shield that shines purple, red or black depending on the angle. It is a symbolic piece that is awarded only to the head of the Red Knights.

It is an item lost three years ago when Piaro, who was framed as a traitor by Asmophel, fled to the Eternal Kingdom.

The third prince of the Saharan Empire is looking for this shield. It is recommended that you bring it to him.

Conditions of Use: Red Knights Leader.

Weight: 350

[A hidden function doesn't exist.]

"I'm getting goosebumps."

Grid noted that the awakened guardian dropped exactly 14 blue orichalcum. He shuddered at the thought. A total of 15 blue orichalcum ores were needed to make Failure. However, only 14 blue orichalcum ores were dropped, as if someone knew this and wanted to mess with him.

"I would rather it give a lot less than 15 than to be teased like this and missing just one ore of blue orichalcum.."

What if he hadn't obtained three blue orichalcum from Administrator Valdi a few months ago? Wouldn't he be lacking just one material to make Failure?

"It is enormous."

Grid calmed his agitated heart and turned to the purple orichalcum.

'Accessories...'

Grid currently had two accessories. One was Doran's Ring, while the other was the Ring of Pledge obtained from his marriage.

[Ring of Pledge.]

Rating: Unique

A token of eternal love.

You will be in a 'happy' state when you are with your spouse. Movement speed will increase by 8% and all stats will increase by 30 points.

* Depending on your spouse's liking, the emotion when you are with your spouse will change. Happiness, joy, contentment, normal, dissatisfaction, depression and hate. There are a total of seven emotions, and the Ring of Pledge can have different effects depending on the emotions.

If you spend a hot night with your partner while wearing this ring, the experience of all skills will rise by 10%.

* A hot night is only available once a month.

When wearing the ring, the affinity of all NPCs of the opposite sex other than your spouse won't easily increase.

If you are caught by your spouse not wearing the ring, your spouse's liking will fall by 90% and their chances of becoming pregnant will decrease dramatically.

Weight: 0.1

Doran's Ring had proven its effectiveness several times and was certainly a fraudulent accessory. But the Ring of Pledge was different.

The additional effects were only applied when he was with his spouse, and the increase in skills experience was only available once a month. It also wasn't easy to accumulate affinity with NPCs of the opposite sex if he wore this ring.

To be honest, he didn't need to wear it unless he was with Irene. But Grid had no intention of taking it off. He didn't want to take the risk, since Irene's liking would drop significantly if she discovered it.

He was usually an unlucky person, even if his luck had increased these days. Let's not take the ring off.

Rather, the NPC could get pregnant? Satisfy went this far with the simulation? Grid thought it would be fun in many ways.

'Discovering my child's talents, educating them and helping them grow...?'

But it took more than a decade to raise a child. Considering the disparity of female users, the second generation system didn't seem to play a very important role.

"Um... I should create a necklace with the purple orichalcum."

He could wear multiple rings, but only one necklace. Therefore, the performance of necklaces was overall better than rings. Grid easily made a decision.

"Okay, okay. A necklace is good."

He would need the help of a jeweler to make the accessory. He decided to ask Khan for a recommendation, then he looked over at the Amethyst Shield.

"This is a quest item."

It was the thing he was most nervous about. Grid remembered when he met Piaro in Kesan Canyon after obtaining Pagma's Swordsmanship.

'He wanted to punish Asmophel, who framed him as a traitor.'

Asmophel was in the Saharan Empire.

'Someday, I will visit the third prince in the Saharan Empire... At that time, I will meet Piaro and proceed with the Asmophel quest.'

The Saharan Empire was very far away. It couldn't be reached easily, so Grid placed the Amethyst Shield in a corner of his inventory for the future.

Romeo and the soldiers approached.

"Are you okay?"

They were worried. They witnessed with their own eyes that Grid was hit by a powerful flash before the awakened guardian died. They had expected Grid to die. Grid assured them of his safety.

"Have you forgotten that I received the blessing from god? I can't die." After his simple and clear answer, he patted Romeo's shoulder with a sad expression. "Deck's death was a shame. I'm sorry I couldn't protect him."

Grid sincerely meant it. He was friends with Khan and his wife was Irene, so NPCs were like humans to Grid. Deck was a promising young knight, so it was tragic that he died here.

Romeo was in tears, "His bravery will be remembered by everyone here."

Deck had saved the lives of many soldiers on the way here. The soldiers silently promised that they would never forget him. At that moment, the sharp cry of a beast was heard from the sky.

"What is this?"

"G-Gargoyle?"

A huge shape could be seen in the night sky. The flapping sound of the wings seemed like a griffon or gargoyle at first. Then the red body was revealed by the moonlight. It was a drake. An adult drake could grow up to 4m and they were rare monsters so strong that the griffons and gargoyles couldn't be compared.

They was a lower branch of dragons that even had the nickname of King of the Sky. There was a surprising figure on its back.

"My Liege, have you been well in the meantime?"

It was Huroi, who obtained a second class thanks to Grid. There was a heavy wind as he landed. Then Grid greeted him, "Hasn't it been a while? You have grown a lot."

Grid eyed Huroi's combat power. 10,000. It was 2,000 more than Knight Romeo.

'He is over level 200.'

He was ahead of others despite having the non-combat class of orator. Despite his excellent gaming talent, he was affected by the limitations of his class. Now that he had his second class, he was able to stare at the position of ranker.

"This is all thanks to My Liege."

In the past, Grid hated Huroi. But not anymore. His perception changed after the two-man raid.

Grid smiled at him, "I'm glad that you didn't forget about me. You should repay my grace by serving me."

"Huh?"

Indeed, it was a reunion after a long time. It was around 4~5 months in Satisfy time. Huroi wanted to talk to Grid about what they had been doing in the meantime. He wanted to explain how he got the drake and his fantastic adventures. He also wanted to hear about how Grid became the husband of a noble lady.

However, Grid wasn't interested in talking. There were only around 100 users among the two billion in Satisfy who could control a drake, the strongest pets.

"Go hunt the frostlight orcs."

"...?"

Why did he need to go hunt mobs? Grid explained the reason to the confused Huroi,

“Don’t they drop sylphid scales? I need you to gather at least 28. While the drop rate is low, you should be able to collect it if you hunt for 10 days or so.”

Grid planned to make the invisibility cloak. The correct name was Hooded Zip Up. It required 20 sylphid scales in order to produce it. Before obtaining Pagma’s Swordsmanship, Grid hunted for sylphid scales but had to give up after only obtaining 12.

While he had to give up, now Huroi had come.

‘I will create two: one for my use and one to sell to others.’

"..."

Huroi recalled the hellish memory of being held in Winston’s dungeon for almost 200 hours.

‘Grid showed up when I was in despair and offered me the hand of salvation.’

He also recalled the frostlight orc chief raid.

‘I was stunned and about to be hit by the orc chief, then he protected me.’

The more he looked, the bigger Grid’s help was. He would be pleased to repay the favor.

“Then I will go.”

It was a tremendous bleeding to be tied to one hunting ground for 10 days when he was aiming to be a ranker. Therefore, Huroi was ready to leave with no delays. Grid stopped him.

“Walk instead of flying.”

“Huh?”

Grid pointed to Romeo and the soldiers, “If you fly, they won’t be able to follow you.”

“What...?”

"Take these people and train them while hunting."

"..."

“You don’t want to?”

“...No.”

In the end, he was forced to walk on the ground despite having a drake. It would waste a considerable amount of time. Was that all? He was also supposed to be the soldiers’ babysitter. But there was nothing he could do. He had sworn to repay all that Grid had done for him.

The descendants of Blue Wolf didn’t take oaths lightly. Huroi intended to faithfully carry out Grid’s orders.

“He has good timing.”

Grid hummed as Huroi and the soldiers left. He wanted to make the Hooded Zip Up, but the drop rate was so low there wasn't much merit in hunting them directly. It would waste too much time.

He was grateful that Huroi appeared when he did.

'Sooner or later, I will make you a good item. So don't be too upset.'

Grid had a lot of room to spare after getting rid of his debt, so he was much less selfish than before. He had no intention of one-sidedly having Huroi do everything for him. Sooner or later, Grid was planning to give him a surprise.

"Now... First of all, I need to make Failure."

Grid's body rose in the air. It was much slower than the drake, but his flying speed was still fast. The destination was Khan's smithy.

A few hours later.

A man appeared in the deepest part of the Grey Forest. He looked at the place where the traces of battle still hadn't disappeared.

"What? The Awakened Guardian of the Forest isn't at a level that the Tzedakah Guild can defeat."

Had someone within the top 5 of the unified rankings arrived here before him?

"Tsk, I wasted my time thanks to this. I can't come here every four months, so I missed my chance."

The man who disappeared into the forest had the ID of 'Agnus' above his head.

Chapter 146

Grid returned!

As soon as she heard the news, Jishuka rushed to Khan's smithy from Winston Castle.

'Is he in a very angry state?'

She imagined that Grid would be very frustrated by the Awakened Guardian of the Forest.

'In the future, he should pay attention to the guild community.'

She judged that it was a perfect opportunity to teach Grid about refusing even the basic communications and to fix his habit of doing personal actions. But what was this?

"Jishuka? Why are you here?" Grid had a bright expression.

'Why isn't he depressed about failing the raid due to lack of information?'

Jishuka was surprised by his unexpected appearance and asked, "Did you do the Guardian of the Forest raid?"

"How did you know? That's right."

"...Were you successful?"

"Of course." Grid replied like it was no big deal.

'What? Did the Guardian of the Forest not awaken?'

Grid complained to the bewildered Jishuka, "But why did the guardian awaken? I suffered because it was a bit too strong."

"Huh?"

Jishuka was at a loss for words.

'He really beat the Awakened Guardian of the Forest? With no more than two knights and 100 soldiers?'

It seemed like a lie. Jishuka dubiously opened the guild information window. Then she checked Grid's level. Grid had been level 180 just yesterday, and now he was level 200. The fact that he succeeded in the Awakened Guardian of the Forest raid wasn't false.

'It's outrageous.'

She knew that the legendary class, Pagma's Descendant was fraudulent. Apart from having a legendary blacksmith skill, Grid could demonstrate a level of combat similar to rare combat classes and could wear any equipment.

Just that. That alone was a scam. However, the fraudulent legendary class was more than her imagination.

'Isn't one Grid bigger than the sum of all our guild members?'

She calculated that it was impossible to defeat the awakened guardian with the current power of the Tzedakah Guild. But Grid succeeded in the raid alone.

Jishuka was mistaken. Reality was different.

The reason that Grid could take care of the awakened guardian relatively easily was thanks to pavranium and Braham's Boots. He was able to win because he blocked the guardian's attacks with the pavranium, then he attacked the defenseless guardian from the air.

What if Grid fought against the entire guild? He couldn't shield himself from all the attacks with just two pieces of pavranium, and he wouldn't be able to defend against firepower in the sky. There was the five seconds of invulnerability, but that couldn't last long against so many people.

The Tzedakah Guild were powerful and composed of a variety of classes, allowing them various tactical combinations. It would be too much for Grid alone to overwhelm the Tzedakah Guild. But Jishuka didn't know the details and misunderstood Grid.

'This is beyond a balance collapse. Isn't it at the level of a bug?'

She started to worry. There were some spies from the Yatan Church in Bairan Village. She didn't know when there would be a massive raid from the Yatan Church in retaliation for defeating Malacus. Was it okay to let Grid's power be used as just a blacksmith in this situation?

Jishuka felt greedy for Grid's combat ability.

"Grid, do you want to migrate to Bairan...?"

"Jishuka."

The two people spoke at the same time. Grid wasn't interested in what Jishuka had to say. He didn't give her a chance to speak as he continued.

"If there isn't anything special, can you go? I personally have something to do."

"..."

Grid was the guild's blacksmith. He was obliged to produce their items. But he kept doing personal activities. Jishuka felt like shouting, but she suddenly changed her mind.

'There were no conditions when he joined and I promised him freedom, so maybe he will leave if I push too much?'

Jishuka bent over slightly. She slightly emphasized her chest. She had grasped from the beginning that Grid was vulnerable to large breasts.

'I will make him out of his mind first.'

She thought it would be simple to make Grid dazed, but he didn't even blink. He had lost his virginity, so breasts didn't affect him as much as before.

"What? You aren't going?"

"Eh? Y-Yes. I'm going." Jishuka turned red with embarrassment before his reaction was too cold. She covered her chest with both hands and ran away from the smithy. "Bah, what is this? Was he better as an idiot?"

Two months ago, Grid was stupid, stingy, and easy to handle. But now that his personality had changed, he was hard to deal with. It made her sad.

"Just because you have become a little big? Idiot!"

Jishuka walked down the street and angrily kicked a flower pot. She was a beautiful and famous celebrity, and she acted in public, so rumors spread in minutes. There were even articles on the Internet.

[Tzedakah's guild master creating a disturbance on the street.]

[According to the testimony of a witness, a man is believed to have broken her heart.]

[(Column) Jishuka is sexy even when angry! Let's explore her charms!]

[Jishuka's love is the martial artist Regas?]

[Jishuka has received a Hollywood love call...]

The day was filled with gossip about one of Satisfy's two beauties, Jishuka.

However, Grid was inside Khan's smithy and didn't know what was happening out in the world. He wasted time due to Jishuka's arrival, so he quickly moved towards the furnace. Then he took out the hammer he had been using for a long time.

[Unknown Blacksmith's Hammer]

Rating: Epic

Durability: 350/350 Attack Power: 70~80

Odds of Making a Rare Rated Item: +17%

Odds of Making an Epic Rated Item: +7%

A blacksmith's hammer made by a craftsman with great skills and potential, but his experience and reputation is somewhat lacking.

This is a hammer produced by the craftsman himself, so it isn't suitable for other blacksmiths to use.

Conditions of Use: Pagma's Descendant

Weight: 80

'This is lacking.'

Currently, he had 17 blue orichalcum. He only had one chance to produce Failure. Grid wanted to raise his odds as much as possible.

'Failure is a supreme weapon. I have to finish it with the highest rating.'

That's right. Grid wanted to complete Failure with a legendary rating.

[Failure]

Rating: Unique ~ Legendary

Failure was an item that was guaranteed to have a unique rating when produced. The basic performance was fraudulent, so a unique rating didn't change the fact that it was an absolute weapon.

However, human greed was endless! Grid would feel like it was lacking if he completed it with a unique rating.

'I'll finish it with a legendary rating.'

What was the key to making a legendary rated item? Grid had produced thousands of items. He always did his best. He invested at least 20 hours into making one item. However, the experience of obtaining satisfactory results was small enough to fit in one hand. He only made three legendary items, while normal and rare rated items emerged like a factory.

'I have to increase the chances of making legendary items.'

What did he need to do? It was to make a legendary rated hammer.

"Let's make a hammer."

It had been a long time since Grid used blacksmith tools instead of a greatsword.

Ttang!Ttang!

Once started, the flames in the furnace never turned off. Grid also didn't stop his hammering. Grid solely devoted himself to the task, regardless of whether it was day or not. Due to the heat from the fire and Grid's enthusiasm, it seemed like Khan's smithy was on the brink of an explosion.

"There will be no guests."

Khan was concerned about disturbing Grid's concentration, so he locked the doors of the smithy. Then he did his best to assist Grid.

Time passed.

The five hammers that Grid produced were rated normal, rare, epic, rare and rare. Grid was frustrated by the repeated failures. However, his mentality had matured and tried his best to the end without shaking.

Then on the fifth day. The item he wanted finally came.

[Legendary Blacksmith's Hammer]

Rating: Legendary

Durability: 550/550 Attack Power: 130~150

Odds of Making a Rare Rated Item: +30%

Odds of Making an Epic Rated Item: +20%

Odds of Making a Unique Rated Item: +8%

Odds of Making a Legendary Rated Item: +1%

* The amount of experience acquired for production related skills will increase.

A blacksmith's hammer made by a craftsman with great skills and potential, and is accumulating his experience and reputation.

This is a hammer produced by the craftsman himself, so it isn't suitable for other blacksmiths to use.

Conditions of Use: Pagma's Descendant

Weight: 50

[An legendary rated item was produced, so all stats have permanently risen by +25 and reputation throughout the continent has risen by +1,000.]

It was the moment when Grid's fourth legendary item was born after the Sword of Self-transcendence, Divine Shield, and Thorn of Deep Grievance. Grid frowned, rather than being pleased with the result that was obtained faster than expected.

"It isn't much."

He couldn't help being disappointed. The 20% chance of making epic items and 8% chance of making unique items were high enough that they couldn't be ignored. He was pleased by this outcome. However, he wasn't pleased that the chance of making a legendary item only increased by 1%.

'I don't think that a 1% increase will actually help... No, no. This is more than I expected.'

Grid thought about it positively as possible. Considering the number of items he had made so far, his chances of making a legendary item had been less than 0.1%. Having this increase by 1% would clearly have a great effect.

Based on simple calculations, one out of 100 items would be legendary rated, so wasn't this good? The probability had skyrocketed compared to the thousands he needed to make in the past.

'It's only the odds, but it's a lot better than before.'

Grid didn't delay. After five days of work, his concentration was at its peak.

'Now...!'

Grid held the Legendary Blacksmith's Hammer. Then he started smelting the blue orichalcum.

Ttang!Ttang!

His skilled hammering was repeated. The blue orichalcum was delicately tempered.

"Ohh!"

Khan was amazed. As Grid hammered, the form of a blue shark slowly appeared on the anvil. Was this hot smithy the cool sea? The shark was lively enough to give off the illusion.

'It is unbelievable.'

The transparent shark-shaped greatsword was amazing. To Khan, it was far more creative and practical than anything made by the dwarves.

Ttang!Ttang!

Grid's hammering didn't stop until the sun fell and the moon rose and became faint again.

[The Legendary Blacksmith's Patience skill has been activated. Concentration, stamina and defense will rise to the extreme for one hour.]

Then when the chickens were crying at dawn.

[The Legendary Blacksmith's Breath has increased the effectiveness of your production items]

Grid had a rare bright smile.

[Failure]

Rating: Legendary

Durability: 1,090/1,090

Attack Power: 1,040~2,166 Defense: 80

* Agility +50

* There is a low probability of blocking the enemy's attacks.

- * There is a certain probability of activating the '5 Joint Attacks' skill.
- * There is a high probability of activating the 'Cutting' skill.
- * The skill 'Bisect' will be generated.
- * There will be a fear effect if the enemy is more than 20 levels lower than the user.
- * Attack power +20% in dark places.

It's a weapon designed by a legendary blacksmith. It's a greatsword, but its cutting ability is excellent because of its unique shape. It resembles the predator of the sea, a shark, and gives fear to enemies. The small blades spiking from the sword will increase the defense.

Blue orichalcum is used as a material. Its lightness means the attack speed doesn't fall. Due to the nature of the blue orichalcum, it becomes stronger in the dark.

User Restriction: Level 300 or higher. More than 5,000 strength. Advanced Sword Mastery level 8 or higher.

Weight: 550

Pachichik!Pachichik!

On the lower edge of the wide sword, the name 'Grid' started to be written in cursive. It was the moment when the item that Grid first created as Pagma's Descendant was revealed to the world.

Chapter 147

'I did it!'

Grid was successful and felt greater joy than ever.

All the legendary items he had made so far. The Sword of Self-transcendence, Divine Shield, and Thorn of Deep Grievance were clearly excellent, but not enough to be called the best. They weren't a match for the unique rated Dainsleif made by Albatino.

But Failure was different. The item was directly created by Grid and was an undeniably superior weapon. Dainsleif? It was enough to throw Dainsleif to the dogs.

"It's different." Grid was convinced. "Now I am the best."

He had the strongest armor set and now he was holding the strongest weapon. Wasn't he invincible?

'Oh my god... Who would've imagined the day would come when a talent-less gamer like me would be like this?'

It was new. Before becoming Pagma's Descendant, he had played hard for a year and only reached level 80.

"In the end..."

Grip. Grid formed two fists! All of the emotions he had suppressed started to emerge as he shouted.

"I'm a winner!"

Top rankers? Game geniuses? They were all destined to be helpless in front of the power of items.

"Hahahahat! Aren't I raising my level too quickly? The system isn't as good as items. Pu~hahahat!"

If they found out why Grid was laughing, the rankers who were hunting would become angry.

"Blood Witch Yura? Our next encounter will be different! Now I am better than her? Puhahat! Kek! Kek! Huh?"

Grid was laughing like crazy when he confirmed the notification windows in front of him.

[You have proven your potential by making five legendary items.]

'This?'

The explanation of the Legendary Blacksmith's Craftsmanship said that something special would occur when five legendary rated items were made. The notification windows in front of Grid kept updating.

[You have grown enough. You are no longer a nameless blacksmith.]

[All future items you make will be engraved with your initial 'G.']

[It will become known all over the world that Pagma's Descendant has been born.]

[Your potential is blooming.]

[The penalty that occurs when an item's usage conditions isn't met is reduced by 15% per rating.]

[The penalty of an item's options being reduced by 50% when an item's usage conditions isn't met will disappear.]

[The speed of item understanding will become two times faster.]

It was good thus far. The fact that the penalties when wearing items that he didn't meet the usage conditions were reduced was tremendous. Grid felt like he would have a heart attack from the joy. But...

[Your growth has deteriorated due to the blossoming of your potential.]

[The amount of stats acquired when making items will drop.]

[You won't acquire any additional stats in the future when making items with a rare rating.]

[You won't acquire any additional stats in the future when making items with an epic rating.]

[When unique rated items are produced, all stats will permanently rise by +4.]

[When legendary rated items are produced, all stats will permanently rise by +10.]

"..."

So far, Grid was awarded +2 to all stats when making a rare rated item, +4 to all stats for an epic item, +12 to all stats for a unique item and +25 to all stats when making a legendary item. But what was this?

His potential blossoming(he read it as depleted), caused the amount of additional stats obtained from making items to drop significantly.

“Dammit...!”

It caused damage in the long-term. It wasn't just damage, but huge damage.

“Ahhhhhhh! These damn operators!”

Why were they making the boundaries of a legendary class so blatant? This was a balance patch for Grid, but he couldn't help screaming. Meanwhile, the notification windows were being renewed.

[The class of Pagma's Descendant will be revealed to the world. Do you want to register for the rankings and announce that you are Pagma's Descendant?]

If it was the Grid in the past, he would've said YES because he wanted to be a celebrity. But now it was different.

“I don't want to.”

The famous people in the Tzedakah Guild, including Jishuka, suffered from huge crowds wherever they went. Grid witnessed it several times and now he had no desire to be a celebrity.

‘In the first place, it's more profitable to make money from items than from the broadcasting fees.’

[You won't be registered in the rankings.]

[The information for the Legendary Blacksmith's Craftsmanship skill has been updated.]

[(Witness of God's Weapon) Legendary Blacksmith's Craftsmanship Skill]

Lv.3 (87.1%)

Produce equipment items that you know how to make.

You can create the production methods for a new item with the ‘Legendary Blacksmith's Creation’ skill.

You can produce myth rated items.

There is a high probability of producing rare~ epic rated items.

There is a certain probability of creating unique rated items.

There is a rare probability of creating legendary rated items.

There is a very rare probability of making myth grade items.

* All stats of a production items will increase by 17%.

* When unique rated items are produced, all stats will permanently rise by +4 and reputation throughout the continent will rise by +150.

* When legendary rated items are produced, all stats will permanently rise by +10 and reputation throughout the continent will rise by +500.

* When myth rated items are produced, your reputation throughout the continent will rise by +1,000.

* Something special will occur with every five legendary items created. (Currently 5/10)

"... This is real. It really isn't a joke..."

The skill description was miserable compared to before. Grid noted that special effects would occur every time he made five legendary items.

"Legendary items? I won't make them."

The special events seemed to be a balance patch.

'In fact, it isn't quite rotten.'

There were advantages, such as the reduced item penalties. The next special effect might be even better. As he was trying to think positively, the final notification windows appeared.

[You currently have 11,830 reputation throughout the continent. You can use the Reputation Store when your reputation reaches over 30,000.]

[Reputation Store]

A special store for all users. It is possible to purchase goods with reputation.

There are many rare items, so please be sure to use it.

The store's location will periodically change.

The system notified him of the existence of the reputation store only after the reputation that could be obtained from making an item dropped? Wasn't this deliberately making fun of people?

Grid's face turned red, "These operators @\$&*(!~\$#@#*!"

"..."

After making the strongest item. Khan watched Grid as he ran amok in joy and then anger.

'It has been a while since I've seen this...'

S.A. Group's headquarters.

Yoon Nahee and her team members were watching the monitor. They watched the moment when Grid made the legendary rated Failure. The team members let out sounds of admiration.

"Wow, amazing. A legendary rated item popped up straight away?"

"He normally makes normal and rare items, so isn't his luck good these days? He's a late bloomer. Kilkil."

Yoon Sangmin spoke from a corner. "Now that he has obtained the strongest legendary weapon, the balance will collapse rapidly."

Team Leader Yoon Nahee shook her head. "Rather, the balance will be adjusted."

The monitor changed to Grid's viewpoint. They were able to see the list of notification windows that were being updated.

"He now acquires less stats and reputation when making an item. Well, isn't this too delayed?" Yoon Sangmin sneered at Grid.

The team members wondered.

"Don't you know? Satisfy's system has already been established. Unless a new episode or event-driven quest is added, there is no need to add a patch to the existing system."

"Then what is this? Is this skill change scheduled?"

Yoon Nahee nodded, "That's right. Pagma's Descendant isn't a pure combat class. Its combat ability is lower than other legendary classes, but it can't grow infinitely by enjoying the stat boost effect. Well... Based on the current situation, I don't think that his combat ability will be pushed in comparison to the other legendary classes..."

The problem was that Grid was an unlucky person. According to supercomputer Morpheus' predictions, Pagma's Descendant should've made five legendary items three months ago and not gained as many stats.

But Grid was so unlucky that he couldn't make legendary items. No matter how hard he tried, he only made low rated items. Therefore, Grid had a much longer stats-synergistic effect than Morpheus predicted, turning bad luck into good luck.

"I don't know if he is lucky or unlucky..."

By this time, the whole world started to shake. It was the aftermath of the shocking message that appeared to all users who connected to Satisfy.

[A successor to Pagma's techniques and will has emerged. He is the only legend in the world who can produce legendary items.]

Breaking news, breaking news, breaking news! A feast of breaking news. The media in each country made a fuss.

[Who is Pagma?]

[Pagma, a legendary blacksmith and master of the sword!]

[Is Pagma's Descendant a legendary class?]

[It is estimated to be a legendary thanks to the phrase 'legendary.']

[The only legendary item maker!]

[The first legendary class out of two billion users has appeared!]

[(Column) What is the power of a legendary class?]

[The 1st ranked blacksmith Panmir, 'I am not Pagma's Descendant.']

[The top guilds are already in action to find Pagma's Descendant...]

[Is Pagma's Descendant the creator of the Special Jaffa Arrow?]

[The possessor of the third epic class, Katz. 'Pagma's Descendant? The legendary class is just a blacksmith. It's nothing in front of the Blood Warrior. I'll give him enough money to become my personal blacksmith.' Katz' arrogant remark!]

It was at the level of panic. The reaction was different compared to when the epic classes were announced. The S.A. Group judged that the atmosphere was being overheated from one topic and took action.

"Immediately activate the quests for the national competition in the game. It will disperse people's attention." Lim Cheolho commanded.

At that moment, a new notification window appeared in front of all users in Satisfy.

[In two months of real time, a national competition will be held in honor of each country. Participants will be recruited. Prove your abilities by completing in-game quests.]

The gaze of the media started to shift.

[Various event quests have been created in the game. There are special rewards just for participating in the quests?]

[The S.A. Group's national competition will be hosted in South Korea!]

[The national competition will include events like a boss raid, PvP, pet marathon, breaking through a labyrinth, various production games, siege, etc...]

[Chairman Lim Cheolho. 'If you are selected as a national representative, there will be tremendous rewards.']

[(Column) The first legendary class, Pagma's Descendant. Will he also participate in the national competition?]

[What country is Pagma's Descendant from?]

[The country that Pagma's Descendant belongs to will be the national champion.]

In the end, the attention of the press and public opinion once again focused on Pagma's Descendant.

At Khan's smithy.

Grid was doing his own work, regardless of the world's interest. It was due to Jishuka's request.

"It is highly likely that there will be a war with the Yatan Church. We need your skills. I hope that you can produce items for all guild members within a month."

"One month? Hey, then I won't have time to participate in the event quests."

"Omo? Do you plan to compete in the national competition? Can you cope with the storm that will happen once your identity is revealed? Pag.ma's De.scend.ant?"

"...It is too annoying."

The most desperate person was Vantner.

"Grid! My armor!"

[You have learned how to make the Wave Armor.]

[Wave Armor]

Rating: Rare ~ Legendary

Rare Rating Information:

Durability: 420/420 Defense: 531 Movement Speed: -8%

* Reduces the damage received by 40% if your health is above 90%.

* Increases defense against cutting attacks by 15%.

Epic Rating Information:

Durability: 455/455 Defense: 575 Movement Speed: -7%

* Reduces the damage received by 45% if your health is above 80%.

* Increases defense against cutting attacks by 20%.

* There is a small chance of invalidating the cutting attack.

Unique Rating Information:

Durability: 493/493 Defense: 631 Movement Speed: -6%

* Reduces the damage received by 50% if your health is above 70%.

* Increases defense against cutting attacks by 25%.

* There is a certain chance of invalidating the cutting attack.

Legendary Rating Information:

Durability: 574/574 Defense: 694 Movement Speed: -4%

* Reduces the damage received by 60% if your health is above 60%.

* Increases defense against cutting attacks by 30%.

* There is a high chance of invalidating the cutting attack.

As armor made of black iron, it is several times lighter and stronger than steel.

There is a wave pattern on the entire armor to deflect the enemy's attack.

User Restriction: Level 240 or higher. More than 500 strength. Advanced Heavy Armor Mastery level 2 or higher.

Weight: 1,920

“Okay, I understand, I understand.”

Grid finally returned to his responsibilities. He would be stuck in the smithy, but he wasn't frustrated at all.

'Anyway, I am the best.'

Unlike other rankers, he didn't have to rush around and hunt. For the time being, he would concentrate on making money and having a leisurely time. Grid enjoyed the feeling of being in seclusion, like a martial artist hermit.

Meanwhile, a long limousine arrived in front of Shin Youngwoo's house. The owner of the limousine was a person Youngwoo knew all too well.

Chapter 148

By the end of February.

The spring vacation of the Young Ladies High School was also ending. Sehee's new semester of her second year in high school would start in a few days, so she was studying hard today.

Hobbies? Travel? Dating? She had no interest at all. She simply enjoyed leisurely activities like jogging in the morning and yoga in the evening. Even that was just to maintain her condition for studying.

Sehee only devoted herself to studying. Why was she so obsessed with studying?

It was because of her brother, Youngwoo.

Her brother didn't have any talent in studying and he didn't stand out in any particular field. His only advantage was his patience, but after he went to university, she became worried about his future because he became lazy.

She expected him to improve after going to the army, but he actually worsened. Rather than going back to study, he fell into a game called Satisfy and got into debt. Their parents were worried. The two of them sighed because her brother's future was becoming dimmer every day.

'I have to take care of Oppa.'

Was it because she grew up watching her pitiful and useless brother? Sehee grew up at an early age because of her brother. In middle school, she became determined to look after her parents and brother.

'I'll study hard on behalf of Oppa. I will succeed and become responsible for my parents and Oppa.'

Unlike her brother, Sehee was talented. She was a good student, went to the prestigious Young Ladies High School and had top grades in the nation. Her ultimate goal was simple. She planned to graduate from the best university, get a good job, earn a high salary, and support her parents and brother.

'Oppa can believe in me.'

She continued studying while thinking so. However, a problem occurred not long ago. Her brother changed. Her brother suddenly become economically self-sustaining in a certain area.

That's right, it was Satisfy. Ironically, it was the game that ate some of her brother's youth. Her brother succeeded in the game and cleared his debt. He repaid not only his debt, but their father's debt as well. Then he gave their parents hundreds of millions of allowance for their comfort.

One day, her brother said to her, "In one year, I will buy a 10 billion won building. We can rent it out and our family can live happily for the rest of our lives."

Sehee was proud of her brother who succeeded in changing. She was delighted. On the other hand, she was also worried.

'It isn't a bluff...'

He had the ability to afford it, but her brother had bought a 800 million won foreign car as soon as he made money. She knew that rich people often lost their wealth due to a lack of economic sense. Sehee was worried that her brother would quickly lose his wealth. In addition, she was also concerned about his relationship with girls.

'If he is too ostentatious...'

There were many women who would be attracted to a man driving a 800 million won foreign car. But wasn't her brother someone with no dating experience? He would be easy to fool.

"Sigh... I would feel more comfortable if I am with Oppa."

She wanted to watch over her brother 24 hours a day. Sehee had an unusual obsession with her brother, probably because she had been taking responsibility for him for several years already.

"Huh?"

She was sitting at her desk when she turned her gaze towards the window. It was noisy outside.

'Is it a celebrity?'

Men, women and children were making a fuss on the street. Sehee approached the window to see what the fuss was about. Then she frowned.

'Why is she here...?'

She had a bad feeling.

000-0 Street, XX Neighbourhood, Geumcheon-gu.

The neighbourhood consisted of ordinary people, but it had been noisy lately. It was because an expensive foreign car appeared in front of the Shin house, whose occupants operated a vegetable store. The residents of the area were interested in the car and examined it.

"That is the 13th model from B Company. It is 800 million won."

"Wow, I'm shaking. Shin ahjussi, did he sell a lot of cabbages? How did he afford this car?"

"It looks like his son is driving it, not Shin ahjussi..."

“Eh? Doesn’t he usually dress in sweats like an unemployed bum? Where did he get the money to drive a car like this?”

“He must’ve won the lotto.”

“Kung... He paid off his debt and bought a car like that, I think he really did win the lotto.”

“I won’t be able to afford it even if I die working~ Life is unfair.”

“Well... I buy five lotto tickets every week, but I never win... Perhaps I should buy 10 tickets every week.”

The weekend. The residents were walking in front of the Shin family’s house. There were many people enjoying the spring weather, and they continued commenting on Youngwoo’s car. Then a vehicle entered the neighborhood. The eyes of the residents’ widened.

“What is this...?”

It was a large limousine that was 8.5m long. The ordinary people stared as the gorgeous white car stopped in front of the Shin house. It was the moment when the locals forgot about B Company’s 13 series.

Clink.

Three burly men descended from the vehicle. Two of them looked around, while the other one ran to the back seat and opened the door. Then a woman appeared. The woman boasted such overwhelming beauty that the flowers lining the street faded at once. It was like she was the only thing shining in the world. The scenery seemed grey beside her.

“Wow...”

“That woman?”

The residents captivated by her unrealistic beauty belatedly realized her identity. She was Yura, who was praised as the ‘Jewel of South Korea.’

A frenzy occurred.

“Wow! I can’t believe it! Yura! Yura!”

“Yura unni! Please sign this!”

“A photo! Can I have a photo?”

“Yura! Will you marry me?”

“Ahh... I never thought the day would come when I can see Yura in real life... I don’t care if I die right now...”

“She is even prettier than her photos. Truly a goddess.”

It was the level of a riot. People started to rapidly gather after hearing the noise. But the three bodyguards that came with Yura were the aces of the industry. They efficiently occupied the space,

allowing three people to control dozens of people. Thanks to this, Yura was able to ring the doorbell of the Shin home without being disturbed.

"Heok... Why is Yura at the Shin house?"

"D-Don't tell me...?"

The people's imaginations ran wild. The Shin family's unemployed son! Could he have a special relationship with Yura? Was it due to Yura's financial power that the Shin family's useless son could drive an expensive car? There were all types of speculation, but it didn't last long.

"Yura wouldn't like such an ugly person..."

"Of course. If Shin-ssi's son and Yura were on an uninhabited island alone, Yura still won't look at Shin-ssi's son."

"Then what is Yura doing at the Shin house?"

The gates of the Shin house opened.

"What are you doing at my house?"

An irritated voice was heard. People's eyes focused on the owner of the voice. It was the Shin family's daughter. People admired her.

"Wow... She's acting like that towards Yura."

"That... Even entertainers on TV seem ugly next to Yura..."

"The two people look like a picture."

"Maybe Yura is here to see her. Is it strange for beautiful people to hang out together?"

"That's right."

No one was thinking calmly. They were half out of their mind as they spoke.

'Noisy.'

They attempted to take photos. Sehee felt burdened and brought Yura into the house.

"Come in."

"Thank you."

"Now, what is your purpose for coming here?" Sehee asked with curiosity as she locked the gate.

Yura looked at the small garden planted with camellias and replied with a smile.

"I came to see Youngwoo-ssi."

"..."

Sehee didn't feel good. She didn't hide her hostility.

“Why is a great person like you trying to meet Oppa? In the first place, how do you know him? What is your relationship?”

Yura was a genius. But that didn't apply to relationships. She responded without realizing the meaning behind Sehee's questions. "I met Youngwoo-ssi while playing Satisfy. I got friendly with him while playing lovers."

"Playing lovers?"

"It was a very short, but fun game."

Sehee no longer heard Yura's voice. Only the word 'lovers' went through her mind.

'Oppa said he was playing hard to make money, but he is actually flirting inside a game? I have been busy studying for his sake and never even held a man's hand.'

Sehee's complexion changed. She was so irritated that tears filled her eyes.

"I originally planned to enhance Failure and my armor but..."

Grid knew what he had to do. He had no intention of relying on his existing items. He learned from the Awakened Guardian of the Forest that his defense wasn't sufficient, even if he was wearing a legendary armor set. Grid was planning to use his class effect of 'increased probability of item enhancement' in order to strengthen Failure and his armor.

'I want to use these items for as long as possible... Even if it costs a lot of money, it's better to take the risk. I have to buy all the enhancement stones in the auction house.'

But before that, he needed to make Vantner's armor.

"I can't postpone it any longer..."

Thanks to his quest, the marriage ceremony, and the Guardian of the Forest raid, the armor had been delayed for nearly two months. Grid didn't have the heart to delay it any longer. He looked at the method to make the Wave Armor.

"Good good."

The Wave Armor was indeed a great item. In particular, the first option gave an excellent defense effect.

'It's less than the Holy Light Armor.'

The default defense of the Holy Light Armor was better than Wave Armor. The Holy Light Armor also reduced physical damage by 40% and magic damage by 50%. Considering the other options and set item effects, the Holy Light Armor was actually a few times better than the Wave Armor. However, the Holy Light Armor was limited to 'Franz,' so it was like an exclusive item for Grid.

'If I want to sell armor, the Wave Armor is better.'

Once all the guild members had their items, he would produce a large amount of Wave Armor and sell them to rankers. Grid was excited about acquiring the Wave Armor production method for free.

Ttang!Ttang!

The hammering sound was light. Grid was enthusiastic about producing it and worked with a high degree of concentration.

After approximately three hours.

Vantner came looking for him. Grid felt his presence but kept hammering.

"What, Mister? Didn't you say you were going to pray?"

Vantner scratched his head. "I want to watch my armor being finished... Heheh, is it okay if I watch?"

Vantner had been waiting for almost two months, so he was very excited. Grid understood Vantner's anticipation.

"It's fine if you are quiet. Sit over there and watch."

"Thank you. I'll be praying to the gods that it's a legendary item."

Vantner fell to his knees. Then he joined both hands together and really started to pray. It reminded Grid of Cassus when he made the Divine Shield.

'The Vatican is stable...'

There was no news that a new pope had been elected.

'Didn't I forget to seal Isabel's spear? Perhaps Isabel will die and it's my fault? I'm sorry... Well, one day she will come for it to be sealed.'

Grid started concentrating on hammering again.

Ttang!Ttang!

The tempered black iron and mithril steel plates on the anvil were gradually assembled in the shape of armor. Vantner's excitement soared as he prayed.

'Please...! Please let it be finished with a legendary rating...! I'm praying to all the gods in the world! Please please please let it be a legendary rating!'

As his prayer was reaching its peak...

"This... My sister is calling."

Then Grid's hammering suddenly stopped?

"Huh? What?"

Vantner was confused as he failed to identify the new situation. Grid put his hammer and the armor he was making back into his inventory.

"I'm sorry. My sister is calling me, so I have to go."

Grid thought it sounded urgent.

"...?"

Vantner doubted his ears. He thought Grid was playing around. But it wasn't a joke.

[The guild member 'Grid' has closed his connection.]

"..."

Grid disappeared from in front of him. Vantner stared at the flames in the furnace for a long time before screaming.

"You bastard! You are deliberately playing with meeee!"

"It's noisy, so get out."

"Ugh... Uwaaaack!"

Vantner was kicked out by Khan and ran to the hunting grounds. Then he swung his axes at monsters while thinking about Grid.

Chapter 149

-Oppa, come out! Quickly!

"What's going on?" Youngwoo received contact from outside and hurriedly emerged from his capsule. "Sehee?"

This was the first time Sehee prompted him to log out since he had started making money in Satisfy. How urgent was the situation for her to do something so unusual?

'Perhaps it's a robbery?'

Youngwoo had a timid nature.

He was four times as affected by horror movies when compared to normal people, and he couldn't walk alone at night unless he was drunk. He panicked whenever he looked into the eyes of someone who was slightly scary. If a burglar entered his home, he would think about fleeing rather than protecting the house.

But!

'Now it's different.'

He had lived through all the suffering, and his confidence was currently soaring due to his endless successes. In the first place, he would've been courageous if it was for his family.

Snap.

Youngwoo opened the closed door and shouted, "What bastard dares? I will kill anyone who puts their hands on my sister!"

He would protect Sehee, even if the burglar was armed with a knife! Then Youngwoo stiffened like a stone statue.

"Hello."

"...Eh?"

Youngwoo was stunned. Rather than a robber, a familiar beauty was inside his house.

"Don't you really care for your sister?" The beauty said with a smile.

She was sitting facing the flushed Sehee. Sehee was happy, but she spoke as curtly as possible, "Oppa, what? What did you imagine? Anyway, I'm not involved in this. Can you not advertise yourself as a sis-con?"

Finally, Sehee looked at the beauty with a winner's expression. 'There is no room for you between a brother and sister.' She seemed to be saying. The beauty smiled at Sehee like she was cute.

"What...?"

On the other hand, Youngwoo was stunned and rubbed his eyes several times. Then he repeatedly confirmed the beautiful woman who was sitting across from Sehee.

'Why is she in my house?'

Yura. Why was the jewel of South Korea in a shabby place like this? It didn't seem real.

'I don't know why she's here, but she's really pretty.'

Yura was wearing a pale yellow jacket over a V neck t-shirt that revealed her collarbone. She had good posture, confident eyes, delicate gestures and clear pronunciation. Her overall impression was that of a noblewoman.

Approximately two seconds. That was how long Youngwoo lost his spirit to Yura before shaking it off. He might be deceived by external factors, but his feelings towards Yura weren't so good. He shook his head and moved towards the sofa. He sat down next to Sehee and faced Yura.

"Why did you come to my house? By the way, don't you know too much about me? Are you a stalker?"

Yura's eyes narrowed.

'He has changed.' The Shin Youngwoo who she met on the way to the alumni reunion would've shrunk back from her. He acted like a sinner and couldn't even look her properly in the eyes. But now he was different. He was dignified instead of shrinking back, and he gazed straight into her eyes.

"You look like a completely different person."

"I hope you mean it in a positive manner."

Even his manner of speaking was different. Yura smiled and replied, "I like the current you."

'She likes it?'

Yura was one of the best beauties on Earth, and was powerful and successful at the same time. Such a great woman said she liked the current him, so he couldn't help feeling joy.

'The glory of my family... No, no. It isn't good to be in the heart of such a strange woman.'

Yura had a stalker temperament, so Youngwoo replied to her as coldly as possible. "I don't want to be in your heart."

Yura wasn't fazed. She looked at Youngwoo's whole body.

"You have gained weight. It's really good compared to before. Your basic skeleton is good, so you look nice."

It was true. In his debt-ridden days, he couldn't feel the pleasure of eating full meals. He played games all day, skipped meals and didn't exercise, so he was underweight. But now that he was wealthy, he ate all types of delicious foods.

He enjoyed food like a gourmet, and got the idea that he wanted to live a long life to enjoy his riches. He sometimes jogged with Sehee in the morning, and before he knew it, he reached a normal weight.

Compared to his previous appearance, he was now slightly above average? It was a huge development.

"I feel like I can depend on you right now."

"What?" Youngwoo was embarrassed by Yura's remark. "What is it? Tell me clearly. You, why did you come to someone else's house? I don't like this situation. Quickly cut to the chase."

'Well done Oppa!'

Sehee was delighted as she watched the two people. Unbelievably, Yura seemed to be one-sidedly following her brother. Meanwhile, her brother was indifferent to Yura. Why was a woman that the world admired so obsessed with her brother, and why was her brother treating Yura like this?

Sehee honestly couldn't believe it, but she still enjoyed watching her brother's attitude. "I will prepare some tea."

Her brother was trying to dump a woman. Sehee found this hilarious and smiled as she headed towards the kitchen.

Then Yura finally cut to the chase, "I would like you to participate in the national competition as a representative of South Korea."

"Eh?"

What was she saying? Youngwoo subtly reacted and Yura explained the situation.

"This is an unofficial offer from the South Korean government. They want me to set up a national team so that South Korea can achieve a good score in the upcoming national competition that is starting May 1st and will last four days."

Yura was one of the top 5 rankers in Satisfy. She was a global star, so it wasn't strange that she had a link with the government.

"I understand the matter, but why me? Don't you tend to overestimate me?"

"I am convinced that you have the first hidden epic class."

The second epic class was known to be obtained by Agnus while the third epic class was Katz. Only the first epic class hadn't been revealed yet. Youngwoo was aware that the first epic class was the 'Duplicator' Euphemina, but Yura didn't know this. Youngwoo had survived her strongest magic in the past, so she misunderstood and thought he had an epic class.

"As you know, South Korea was a powerhouse in games decades ago. In most game competitions, South Korea's professional gamers and teams won the championship, while the rankers in all RPG games were Korean. But that is just the glory of the past... Koreans aren't doing well, especially in Satisfy."

"I have read about it before... Koreans don't have a physical presence?"

"As it happens, yes. It is a problem facing all Asians in general."

Sehee misunderstood the conversation from the kitchen and came out quietly. She sat on one side so that she wouldn't interfere with the conversation. Yura thanked Sehee for the tea and continued.

"The South Korean government wants to regain some of the glory of the past through this national competition. Right now, the gaming industry is competitive. The South Korean government wants to revive our competitive gaming power... In other words, they want to build the image of a country powerful in Satisfy."

"They want to obtain a good record in the national competition?"

"Yes, but it's really hard."

"Why? Aren't you 5th on the unified rankings? One person can participate in three events in the national competition. Isn't it enough for you to participate in three events and earn three gold medals?"

This was the first time that the national competition was being held, so only eight countries were participating. Earning three gold medals would be enough to enter the top rankings. Youngwoo thought it was simple, but reality wasn't so clear.

"There are seven people stronger than me in PvP, and boss raid and labyrinth breakthrough aren't my specialities. The production related competitions are for production classes only, so they are out of the question."

"..."

"The pet marathon will end up being between drakes, but there is no Korean user who owns a drake, so we have to give up on that. The remaining events are the siege, target processing, sword drawing and treasure hunt. Among them, the only one where I can win a gold medal is target processing. The siege is also my specialty, but it is difficult to obtain a medal because the Korean team is too lacking."

Youngwoo, who had been listening quietly, finally asked a question, "You, don't you seem useless?"

"..."

Youngwoo casually stabbed her in a sore spot. Yura eyebrows' twitched before she started frowning. Youngwoo continued without caring.

“Is this true? No, why are there seven people stronger than you? Aren’t you 5th on the unified rankings? Shouldn’t there only be four people stronger than you? In addition, you are the Eighth Servant so you should’ve obtained special powers. I thought you were strong enough to be one of Satisfy’s three pillars?”

Yura recovered her cool and explained.

“It’s true that I’ve obtained the status of Eighth Servant. By sacrificing my divine power stat to God Yatan, I can acquire new dark spells and my combat abilities have risen dramatically. But the world is huge. The rankings aren’t the only measure of strength. In fact, you aren’t a ranker. Given the number of unlisted rankers like you, there are probably at least 10 people stronger than me.”

“Hrmm... Who are the people stronger than you right now?”

Yura listed them without hesitation. "1st ranked Kraugel. 2nd ranked Zibal. 3rd ranked Chris. 7th ranked Agnus. 8th ranked Hurent. 11th ranked Bondre. 15th ranked Hao. That’s it.”

"I know that Agnus has an epic class, but the the 8th, 11th and 15th ranked?"

“Yes. Their levels are lower than mine. But they are monsters in combat. Although they are unimpressive compared to Kraugel.”

“Is Kraugel that great?”

“I have seen him hunting many times and he is beyond common sense. He is a person who draws out the maximum result with minimal movements at all times because his field of view is large and he can accurately calculate things like damage, skill cooldowns, as well as reading the pattern of movements and countering. People call me a genius, but Kraugel has several times more talent for the game.”

“Wow... He sounds amazing.”

He said so, but Youngwoo was thinking differently. So what if he is excellent at these things?

‘It is nothing in front of the power of items.’

The truth of RPG games was items. As Youngwoo was ridiculing Kraugel, Yura asked him politely.

"I need your strength as the first epic class. Please participate in the national competition and demonstrate your skills. The government has promised high incentives if you win a medal, so it won’t be bad for you.”

Youngwoo’s ears pricked as he heard the word ‘incentives’ and he was troubled for a moment.

‘I want to participate... But it will be annoying if it is revealed that I have a legendary class... Ah, perhaps?’

Youngwoo asked Yura, who was waiting for an answer with a serious posture. “Is it possible to participate while hiding my ID?”

“You can’t. Your identity must be thoroughly proven to enter the competition.”

It was expected. Youngwoo changed the question. "Then what about the pet marathon? Is it possible for inanimate objects to participate?"

"... Inanimate objects?"

"An inanimate pet."

Pets were pets. Pets. Animals. In other words, a living creature. But inanimate?

"An inanimate object isn't a pet."

"The inanimate objects have an ego. They absolutely obey commands."

Inanimate objects with an ego?

"Is it like the golems made by great magicians?"

"The concept is roughly like that..."

"Roughly?"

"Anyway, the pet marathon is basically a competition between drakes. They will bite at all the competition until the destination is reached. My pet doesn't have the concept of stamina, so it can tease other pets and win the marathon. I will win the gold medal. The condition is that I don't appear before the public."

"Huh?"

"Pretend that my pet is your pet. Don't worry, I will pilot it. Of course, all benefits that you receive for the gold medal will be mine. Okay?"

"...I honestly don't care about credit. Do you have a pet that is equivalent to a high grade golem with an ego?"

"If you don't believe me then go home and connect to Satisfy. I will show you."

"Okay. I will connect and send you a whisper."

Yura got up. She told Sehee that the tea was delicious and headed for the front door. Youngwoo opened the front door out of courtesy. Then Yura gazed at him and gave him belated news.

"There is something you should know. By now, Bairan Village should be ruined."

"What?"

"Neberius, the Fourth Servant of the Yatan Church, has determined the coordinates of Bairan Village due to the spies he sent. Using Mass Teleport, he has led a large army, including the Fifth Servant Balak, to invade Bairan Village. The Tzedakah Guild is either already wiped out or on the brink of annihilation."

"..."

Yura raised a finger and pointed it at Youngwoo's heart. "Didn't I say that I wouldn't kill you when war broke out between the Yatan Church and the Tzedakah Guild? This time I have paid off my debt."

'It can't be.'

Youngwoo checked the time. It had been 40 minutes or so since he logged out from Satisfy. That was two hours within Satisfy.

"Did you time your visit with the Yatan invasion?"

"Yes. You said you didn't care about getting caught up in the war. Isn't this good?"

"...I'm not sure."

It was annoying. In the first place, his relationship with the Tzedakah Guild didn't require him to get involved in wars. Youngwoo was a blacksmith of the Tzedakah Guild, not a soldier.

"Then I'm going now."

"Wait."

"What?"

Youngwoo stopped Yura before she was about to leave.

"The Fourth Servant... Does he have the ability to give God Yatan's blessing?"

Yura shook her head. "Only the First Servant can give God Yatan's blessing. Why? Do you have a quest?"

"What if I do? Can you help?"

"It's hard. I am the Eighth Servant, but I haven't met the First Servant. And aren't you hostile to the Yatan Church in the first place?"

"Indeed... I understand."

Yura left. Youngwoo immediately returned to his capsule and logged into Satisfy.

{Shit! Kill, the killing doesn't end!}

{Faker's group, we are facing Neberius. His magic will be sealed when we draw his attention.}

{This is Toban. Balak is so strong that I can't last much longer. Where is the support from Regas and Pon?}

{The senior followers are focusing on Pon and Regas. I'm supporting with magic, but it seems hard for them to leave.}

There was an uproar in the guild chat window. The situation was so dire that few people noticed Grid logging in.

{Ah... How rotten. Being Jishuka's protector is very arduous. If only Grid made my armor... Damn.}

It was Vantner. Grid smiled widely.

"You can play an active role if you have armor?"

Certainly, only Vantner's weapons were good. It wasn't just Vantner. Not surprisingly, many of Satisfy's rankers were armed with items not suitable for their level due to a lack of top quality items. Grid was one of the few people who could overcome this scarcity.

"I will deliver the armor."

Grid opened his inventory. Then he pulled out the Legendary Blacksmith's Hammer and the Wave Armor that was on the verge of completion. The guild had endured the enemy's ambush far longer than Yura predicted, but he still initiated a quick and deliberate hammering.

Chapter 150

There were various hunting grounds for level 100~200 users in the vicinity of Bairan Village. Thanks to that, there was a steady floating population of users. However, the population was small, so the development speed was slow and there was the big city Winston in the area, so users were reluctant to live in Bairan Village.

The number of residents, including NPCs and users, was only around 500 people.

But!

The event effect of Grid and Lady Irene's marriage meant that Bairan Village was enjoying a boom. Over the past week, a large number of people moved in and there were now around 5,000 people in Bairan Village. The Tzedakah Guild used their funds to hire technicians in the north to quickly build homes and facilities, as well as experts in various fields. Thus, the village was rapidly developing.

"It's a completely different scale from when I came last month."

"Yes. There were only a few small houses and stores, and now there are big buildings?"

The users who visited Bairan after a long time were impressed. Hundreds of workmen were setting up buildings, making it a spectacular sight. Once all the buildings were completed, it seemed like Bairan could be called a city.

"Despite the rapid development, the security is excellent."

"This is managed by the Tzedakah Guild. What crazy person would mess around with the Tzedakah Guild?"

"I'm envious of the Tzedakah Guild... Don't they have the best estate among all the guilds? They will be sitting on a cushion of money very quickly."

"This is all thanks to Lady Irene's marriage. The marriage happened with exquisite timing for the Tzedakah Guild."

"Who's her husband?"

"How should I know? Probably some noble."

The streets were flooded with people, despite the fact that most users were at the hunting grounds. If NPCs were included, there were approximately 2,000 people always in residence.

“Eh? What’s that?”

“I’s terrific magic power.”

Among the users doing their business, the high level magicians turned their attention to the sky. The Tzedakah Guild had built high buildings in Bairan. Magic power was being generated at the tallest spire of the castle that stood in the middle of the village.

At first, the scale seemed small, but rapidly expanded. Then the identity of the magic was determined. It was the precursor to a mass teleport.

“Wow... Isn’t that only available for third advancement magicians?”

“What is this? An event?”

"Oh, right! It’s an event!”

“Kyah! what is this?”

It was amazing. Hundreds of rays of light were fired from the movement gate and fell like a meteor towards different part of the village. The users were excited because they thought it was a special event in connection with the national competition. But their cheers turned to screams in seconds.

"The infidels, punish them in the name of God!”

"Show the fools the greatness of God Yatan!”

Kwaang!Kukwakwang!

The identity of the people who fell from the rays of light were the Yatan believers. There were more than 1,000 of them. Black magic was used everywhere, instantly filling Bairan Village with poison fog.

"H-Hik...!”

“Aaaaack! H-Help me!”

The buildings that the Tzedakah Guild invested time and money in were eroded in an instant. The pretty flowers and green trees blooming on the streets became black and corrupted. There were fires everywhere and blood flowed like a river, making it like hell itself.

“What the hell is going on?”

The average level of the users in Bairan Village was 140. As of February 20XX, Satisfy’s users had an average level of 93, which meant that users in Bairan were fairly high levelled. However, the Yatan followers had a minimum level of 160. Around 1,000 such people appeared simultaneously, as well as 200 high ranking elders that were at least level 200.

"Don’t fight! You will just die if you fight!”

"Damn! What is this?”

Of the 2,000 people residing in Bairan Village, only half of them were users. The other half were NPCs that lacked combat capabilities.

“This is divine punishment!”

“Kyaaaaak!”

"Die! Infidels!"

"Ugh!"

It was a sudden raid. The Yatan Church' followers were overwhelming. The NPCs died in an instant while the users went on the defensive.

“Shit! Logout!”

“I will leave as well!”

The users who were already attacked by the followers weren't allowed to log out, because they were judged to be in combat, but the other users logged out quickly. Thus, the number of users fighting against the Yatan followers was less than 300.

“Wah...”

“How rotten! We are outnumbered! Outnumbered!”

The 1,000 Yatan followers fought. They attacked everyone they saw, regardless if they were NPCs or users.

“Save the people!”

Helplessness! A force that swept everything away! The victims grew as the Yatan believers were like surging waves. But the one-sided damage didn't last long. It was thank to the Tzedakah Guild's excellent response.

"What? Someone dares attack in my area? Kyaaack~ spit!"

Toon was easily controlled by Jishuka due to his simple nature. He was head of security in Bairan Village and led the knights and soldiers.

"All of you protect the people. Kyaaack~ spit!"

He ordered the knights and soldiers, before spitting out of habit and jumping into the enemies alone. The Yatan followers? They were just a joke in front of a rare class who was 35th on the unified rankings, 'Beasts of Prey' Toon.

"King of the Beasts!"

Toon crossed his long arms equipped with wristblades and used a skill. Then his body changed into a lion. He was almost twice as large as an ordinary male lion.

"Kuang!"

"Heok!"

“Aaaaack~!”

The Yatan followers started to scream. Every time the enormous lion's paws were swung, bones would break. In addition, the fangs chewed on skulls, killing the believers.

"Shackles of darkness will press on your body!"

While their peers were being attacked, the elders used black magic to summon magic shackles. Then they tied up the body of the great lion.

"Lord of Heaven!"

Toon was unable to endure the dozens of shackles and used another skill. Then his body became smaller and turned into an eagle. The shackles became too loose and Toon escaped through the gap. Then he descended from the sky and his beak pierced the head of a follower. At the same time, he changed into a lion and roared.

"Kuweeeeeeh!"

"Kiyaaaaak!"

Dozens of believers had blood pouring from their ears as they sat down. Toon attacked the necks of the people in pain and they turned into light.

"Kuhahahaha! Rejoice! Fighting is fun!"

"Mister Toon... His personality is strange, but his skills are great."

On the walls. Laella, the 2nd ranked mixed magician, stared blankly at Toon who was facing the enemies alone before grasping her orb. It was the Dark Magic Orb that was acquired after the Malacus raid. Laella amplified her magic by borrowing its power and fired magic towards the Yatan followers surrounding the soldiers.

"Wrath of the Red Witch."

Kakakakak!

A powerful pillar was fired in a straight line. The bodies of the believers were instantly burned. The soldiers were saved and thanked Laella. Then they moved and started to save the people.

The east gate.

"Hrmm, are you the cream of the crop?"

Vantner, who had been hunting with a grudge against Grid, ran over after receiving the command. He saw three users dying in front of him.

"Go to hell and become God Yatan's eternal servant!"

The elders of the Yatan Church wore black robes and were shouting at the users. Vantner rushed forward and wielded his twin axes.

"Keook!"

The bodies of the believers were cut in half and they turned into grey light. The saved users were thrilled.

"Thank you!"

"The number one guardian knight, you protected us! I will boast about it on the Internet!"

"You're as strong as rumored, Vantner!"

"Hehe, it isn't such a big deal... Huh?"

Vantner had suffered for a while due to Grid treating him as an insignificant person, so he was pleased about being praised by the users. He was scratching his bald head and laughing when he found Jishuka on the roof of a three-storey building.

Three Yatan elders were approaching behind her while she was busy shooting at the believers. Unlike the ordinary believers, they were wearing robes of different colors.

'High ranking believers!'

Vantner moved quickly. Then he successfully saved Jishuka, who expressed her disapproval.

"Aren't you late?"

Jishuka's white teeth contrasted with her tanned skin. Vantner gave her a thumbs up and shouted, "Leave it to me and just kill all of them!"

"Okay."

Swaeek!

Truly an expert archer. He couldn't help admiring her marksmanship every time he saw it. The arrow flew 100m and pierced a follower who was about to murder some residents. Then she fired towards the roof of another building and turned five people chanting a spell into a skewer with only one arrow.

"This is the basics."

Jishuka was satisfied with her abilities.

"Magicians! Kill the magicians!"

Five high ranking believers moved at once. Their targets were Laella and Zednos, who continued to cast magic from the walls. Then a cold voice was heard in their ears.

"You should always watch your back."

"...!"

The believers screamed. Someone was behind them?

"Suddenly...? Keok...!"

"Cough!"

Faker. He slit the throats of the five high ranking followers. Blood poured from their throats and the believers collapsed.

“Next...”

Sururuk.

Faker turned his gaze to one side and disappeared using his Stealth skill.

‘I don’t need to worry about the others.’

The north gate.

A boy with a pretty appearance like a girl stood there. He listened to the screams coming from all directions and moved to one side.

Inside a burning mansion. There were people present.

“S-Shit...! What is this? Does it make sense to come to this village, only to die? This is truly unfair!”

"All my hard earned experience will drop..."

"Why do I have to die in this village? Please help..."

Four high ranking elders were driving six users into a corner. The users were seriously injured and about to die, so they were crying or begging for their lives.

Tadat!

Ibellin’s running speed increased. He moved through the open door and jumped on a chair on one side. He fell between the users and believers. Then he pulled out a flamberge that was like the thorny stem of a rose.

“You alone?”

“Who are you?”

Ibellin replied to the believers, “Overgeared No.2.”

It was the name that Vantner gave him. Recently, Vantner had been sarcastically calling Pon Overgeared No.1 and Ibellin Overgeared No.2. Ibellin loved this name.

Seokeok!

The strongest flamberge, the Thorn of Deep Grievance was wielded. The followers reacted quickly and avoided a deep injury.

"This wound... Heok?"

A follower’s face turned blue. It was because the small cut was bleeding in an unbelievable manner.

“A magic sword!”

The followers retreated, on guard against the Thorn of Deep Grievance. Ibellin didn’t let them go. He chased after them persistently.

"It isn't a magic sword. It's just cursed."

Puk!Seokeok!

Due to its distinctive shape, the sword move bizarrely, making it difficult to gauge the scope of the attack. Blood rose like a fountain as screams echoed in the house.