

Overgeared 291

Chapter 291

[A junior vampire was vanquished.]

[4,901,000 experience has been acquired.]

[4,855,000 experience has been acquired.]

[An intermediate vampire was destroyed.]

[6,954,300 experience has been acquired.]

[6,899,000 experience has been acquired.]

The amount of experience from the vampires was more than expected. It was nearly three times as much as the desert monsters. This was a considerable number considering that the Overgeared members also got some experience for reducing the vampire's health.

This was also due of the experience buff potion.

'Reputation is worthwhile!'

It was the moment when wasting 25,000 paid off. However, he had no intention of challenging it again.

'I might draw a red pepper again.'

Grid vowed again. The battle wasn't very good. It was due to the resistance of the surviving vampires.

"Blood Transfusion!"

"Dark Missile!"

The vampires determined they couldn't beat Grid in a melee, so they opened the distance and used magic. Due to that, Grid's body became injured. There was a chance to completely resist black magic with the Holy Light Armor or counter the vampires' evasion with Lifael's Creation.

If it hadn't been for these two things, Grid might've become a cold carcass by now. The vampires were strong. It varied from individual to individual, but they were several times stronger than the Black Knights. In particular, the vampire's bloodsucking skill. They kept recovering their health. The answer was to smash them in one blow.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Link!"

For fusion skills like Linked Kill and Transcended Link, the higher the level, the greater the features. For example, Transcended Link received a penetration effect when it reached level 3. On the other hand, basic skills like Kill, Link, and Wave only increased the damage whenever their skill levels went up.

For example, while Link had a skill level of 5, it was weak in comparison to the power of the fusion skills. If the vampires were in a perfect state, they would've survived Link; however, they were now severely injured and were thus swiftly torn apart by Grid's sword.

Flash!

Once 50 out of 200 vampires had died, a pillar of light fell onto Grid's body.

[Your level has risen.]

[10]

Grid had already been on the verge of leveling up when he entered the building, and now he reached level 297. There were only three levels remaining before he reached level 300.

"Distribute my stat points."

Grid distributed the 10 points he gained into agility as usual. His stats distribution method was based on the great swordsman Piaro.

Strength 1: Agility 1: Stamina 0.7.

Piario was aiming to be a sword saint, so there was no way his stats would be a mess. Grid speculated that Piario's stats ratio was likely to be the perfect golden ratio. And his guess was right. As Grid's agility neared his strength, the power of his swordsmanship gradually increased.

Seokeok!Puk!

"Kuaack!"

His attacks became faster and more powerful than before, as he stabbed and slashed at the vampires. The vampires were dying at a faster speed.

[The Finest Tailcoat have been acquired.]

[Junior Vampire's Ring has been acquired.]

[Finest Tailcoat]

Rating: Epic

Durability: 120/120 Defense: 301

Charm +50

An essential item for stylish vampires.

This tailcoat is wonderful enough to capture everyone's attention. It also has excellent defense and can be used for protection.

User Restriction: Level 300 or higher. A man.

Weight: 120

[Junior Vampire's Ring]

Rating: Epic

* During normal attacks, 5% of the damage done to the target will be restored to you as health.

* This effect is only invoked once every 15 seconds.

A unique magic power dwells in the vampire's ring.

It is a ring used by junior vampires so the rating is low, but it is very helpful for the wearer's survival.

User Restriction: Level 280 or higher.

Weight: 1

The item drop rate of vampires was very low. If he killed 30~40 vampires, only one of them would drop an item, so it was the worst drop rate. However, the value of the items dropped was very good.

'Vampire accessories!'

Vampire items dramatically increased combat endurance and survival. They were very rare, meaning this was the first time Grid saw one since the launch of Satisfy.

'Let's try out the effect.'

[The Junior Vampire's Ring has been worn.]

Puk!Puk puk!

"Kuaack!"

"!...! To a human...!"

After being pierced by Lifael's Spear, the vampires were hit by Failure and the Doppelganger's Greatsword. The wounds Grid received from them slowly recovered. This was the greatness of the Holy Light Armour combined with the vampire's ring.

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 9,300 damage to the target.]

[5% of the damage has been absorbed due to the option effect of the Junior Vampire's

[The option effect of the Holy Light Armor has increased the power of recovery magic by 300%.]

[1,350 health has been restored.]

The effect was only triggered once every 15 seconds, but this was enough for Grid. Sometimes, the 5 Joint Attacks skill of the Holy Light Gloves was triggered, causing his health gauge to climb noticeably. Thanks to his items and skills, Grid's base damage was uniquely high.

"Kukukuk! Kuhahahahat!"

"Hiik!"

"V-Vampire slaughterer!"

Grid burst out laughing while wearing the Slaughterer's eye patch and mask, filling the vampires with terror. The situation had completely changed. The vampires on the first-floor were all killed by Grid, giving him experience and new items.

Before he knew it, Grid's experience gauge exceeded 20%. But he couldn't be pleased. He was worried about Elfin Stone appearing, and the vampires on the upper levels also started to gather. The upper floor vampires had a much higher level than the first-floor vampires.

"Stop!"

The Overgeared members stood on the stairs and intercepted the vampires' path. Rather than acting straight away, they made a defensive formation. It was to give Grid time to recover his health, mana, and stamina. Grid felt thankful and rested straight away.

Meanwhile, Vantner once again tasted hell.

"Ugh! I need to endure this again!"

Peek!Peek peek!

Kwajak!

Vantner cursed Malacus' Cloak. No, he lamented that he chose a tanker. It didn't fit his aptitude. He mistakenly raised this character, but he wanted to delete it and make a new character. As he was complaining, the Overgeared members lowered the vampires' health. Then Grid finished them off at the proper timing.

It took half a day to finish attacking one whole building, and Grid's experience gauge was up to 60%. This was a ridiculous growth rate considering it took the Overgeared members an average of two weeks to go from 297 to 298.

"Wow, it is faster than expected."

"It is natural. There are seven users in the top 20, as well as Huroi."

"That's true. Anyway, if we clear four more buildings in the future, you will reach level 299."

"The problem begins at level 299. The amount of experience needed to level up is four times as much as level 298."

"Considering it takes half a day to clear one building... You can achieve level 300 in five days?"

"Assuming that Elfin Stone doesn't appear."

"..."

The key was who Elfin Stone would use his skill on after reappearing. Vantner and Huroi had a one-time invincible skill that could invalidate damage, but the others were different.

"If one person dies, the balance of the party is disrupted, drastically slowing down the speed of the hunt."

"Well... It depends on luck. But why hasn't he appeared yet?"

It has been half a day since Elfin Stone first emerged. It was a long time considering he said he would be back.

“Well, it is good if he is late.”

The Overgeared members moved to the next building. In this building, a few True Blood vampires emerged.

[True Blood Vampire: Boras]

[True Blood Vampire: Rujul]

As named monsters, they were very strong. They were far superior to the 19th Knight, Fulito, and also had dozens of subordinates. Vantner felt a crisis. He inevitably had to use his invincible skill, Guardian's Power. It had a cooldown time of 48 hours, so one of the precautionary measures against Elfin Stone fell.

The party's morale fell. Huroi tried to encourage them.

"Don't worry. The next time Elfin Stone appears, I'll try to provoke him."

It was impossible. Elfin Stone appeared and used the skill instantly. It wasn't a skill that someone could deliberately draw towards them. But Huroi believed in his speaking ability.

"Words are faster than action. I will try to attract his aggro before he uses the skill."

"..."

Sooner or later, Elfin Stone's parents would be mentioned. The Overgeared members were now familiar with Huroi. They were grateful that Huroi wasn't their enemy. They shook just imagining what he would say.

[The True Blood vampire, Boras has been destroyed.]

[44,690,500 experience has been acquired.]

[A complete ruby has been acquired.]

[The True Blood vampire, Rujul has been destroyed.]

[45,900,000 experience has been acquired.]

[The Third Piece of ??? has been acquired.]

[Complete Ruby]

A gem that can be used as a material for top-rated accessories.

Weight: 2

[Third Piece of ???]

It can't be determined what this is a piece of yet.

A minimum of three pieces must be collected before it can be determined.

Weight: 15

The second building was completed. With the help of his colleagues, Grid was about to kill 150 vampires and two True Blood vampires to reach level 298. However, there was a feeling of disappointment.

'True Blood vampires have a chance of dropping elixirs.'

Drinking an elixir could permanently increase stats! If not, how good would it be if an intermediate or advanced vampire accessory dropped? It was clear that the Blood-sucking Third Piece of ??? was a unique item, but he didn't know if it was more or less valuable than elixirs and vampire accessories.

Then a notification window flashed in front of Grid.

[The cooldown time of the title skill 'One who Became a Legend is over.]

His invincible passive skill was restored.

'Now I can fight with more ease.'

He felt anxious when he didn't have this immortality. Just as Grid was sighing with relief...

"Didn't I say I would come back?"

An eerie voice was heard from above Grid's head.

[The master of the 13th city, Vampire Earl Elfin Stone has appeared.]

[A strong evil influence is making your magic power turbid. All types of spells and skills aren't available.]

[A vampire's gaze will subdue lower species. Your body is subjected to a strong oppression.]

"Elfin Stone!"

He was finally here. Huroi hurriedly opened his mouth.

"You..."

However, this time actions were faster than words. Huroi only managed to speak one word before Grid was swallowed up by a curtain of blood. Elfin Stone smiled coldly.

"I will come back soon. I will kill another person, and then another one the time after that! This will be repeated again and again. I will show you the extreme taste of fear!"

Suruk!

All traces of Elfin Stone disappeared. Grid trembled once he got out of the curtain.

"That crazy bastard!"

Why did he keep attacking Grid? Grid was grateful, but he felt very dirty.

Chapter 292

[You have been hit by a deadly blow!]

[You have suffered 68,300 damage.]

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

At level 200, one strength stat increased health by five, while one stamina stat increased health by twenty. If he added the 6,000 health from the Holy Light set, and the 3,000 health from the Man who has Touched Hell title, Grid had more than 55,000 health in total.

That was 6,000 points higher than Vantner, who already had a high amount of health due to his class characteristics. Therefore, Grid could be called the user with the highest health among the two billion users.

Despite this fact, however, Elfin Ston's attack contained an enormous power that wiped out all of Grid's health in one blow. The Holy Light Armor reduced 50% of magic damage, so this skill could truly be called a blow of death.

"Kuaaaak! That crazy bastard!"

Grid died again as soon as the cooldown time of his invincible passive ended, so he couldn't help being furious. He pulled his hair and stomped his feet. On the other hand, the faces of the Overgeared members were rosy. It was thanks to the positive hint they received.

"Elfin Stone's re-emergence cycle is 24 hours."

"Elfin Stone attacks the person with the highest number of stats."

"Elfin Stone is arrogant. He doesn't have any doubts about Grid being alive."

In other words.

"He will continue to attack Grid whenever he appears."

"This is ideal. If this continues, all of us will be able to live until Grid reaches level 300."

"We can prepare perfectly for the fight against Elfin Stone."

"..."

The biggest advantage of a virtual reality was the perfect implementation of the five senses. But this was a great disadvantage in battle. It hurt if the enemy struck you. It wasn't just their imagination, they really felt pain.

Suffering a large amount of damage at once was like being hit by a person's fist. Did he have to suffer from this terrible pain for the next five days until he reached level 300?

Grid was sad. He looked at his happy and laughing colleagues. He couldn't deny that this was a good thing. Grid calmed his mind and urged the members.

"Let's move on to the next building."

He was eager to reach level 300 quickly so he wouldn't be hit by that skill so much. Grid rushed ahead. The party members followed him to the third building. They had already cleared two buildings, so the cooperative play of Grid's group had developed. It was easier to kill the vampires.

Grid's experience gauge continued rising at a fast speed.

"I can sleep today."

He would return to strike terrible fear into the humans who dared invade his city. As soon as he arrived at his mansion, Elfin Stone changed into pajamas and put on a sleeping hat before laying down in a white coffin. He was happy imagining the humans who would be shivering with fear right now.

'Kukuk, they must want to die soon. But I have no intention of killing you all at once. Slowly... Hmmm.'

He was sleepy. Vampires were powerful existences but they were victims of the 'Curse of Idleness.' An average vampire slept for 20 hours and the stronger vampires slept for even longer. Elfin Stone was an earl, so he had to sleep for at least 23 hours a day and could sleep for a year straight.

"Hah."

Elfin Stone fell asleep.

Satisfy's 8th Development Team Leader, Ashley Tosun. He was one of the 33 scientists who built the virtual reality system with Lim Cheolho. In the company, he was known as the father of vampires. He was the one who made the vampires in Satisfy.

Of course, he also designed Elfin Stone. If enemies threatened the city, Elfin Stone would repeat the act of murdering the 'strongest being' every 24 hours for seven days. After losing seven of their strongest consecutively, the invading party would panic, lost strength and be destroyed.

However...

"This is crazy."

The 13th city had one of the highest difficulties among the 15 vampire cities. Ashley monitored the entry of Grid's party and was convinced that their expedition would fail. However, now he felt some doubts.

It was because Grid's immortal passive neutralized the characteristics of Elfin Stone. Elfin Stone wasn't able to distinguish the power of Grid's group, despite appearing there for the second time.

"This is really..."

The problem was that Grid's attack power, defense, and magic power were the highest among the party members. Originally, Pagma's Descendant wasn't a class that could be strengthened to such a degree.

The moment five legendary items were made, their stats growth would gradually fall and their combat power gradually weakened, making them more suitable as a production class. Grid was unlucky so it took a long time to produce five legendary items.

This was a factor that wasn't expected and as a result, Grid's stats were abnormally increased. Thanks to that, Grid succeeded in various raids and continued to grow stronger. The process was tough, but it was a good outcome for Grid.

"Maybe this... He might collect all the pieces?"

Team Leader Ashley had an expression of interest on his face. Following Lim Cheolho and Yoon Sangmin, another fan of Grid's appeared in the S.A. Group.

"Good!"

Grid's party cleared the third building. The profits from this building were tremendous. No elixirs or spellbooks were obtained, but one vampire's ring was acquired. It was regretful that it was just from a junior vampire, but it was millions of times better than nothing.

After a short discussing, the party chose Peak Sword as the owner of the ring. His offensive power as a swordsman was the best among the group, so he could maximize the effectiveness of the ring.

"I have a vampire accessory..."

Peak Sword was full of strong motivation as they challenged the hunting grounds. It was really good that he merged with Overgeared. Peak Sword's endurance in battle dramatically increased.

Hidden Sword. It was a class with a fatal disadvantage in that both general attacks and skills must go through the process of the sword being drawn, so the attack time was too long. However, the attack power and attack speed were both at the top.

The moment the sword hidden in the sheath was revealed, the target was already wounded. Now the vampires suffered from it.

"Kuak!"

"T-These humans...!"

The fourth building had a structure similar to a cathedral. There were coffins jammed together between long benches. It seemed to be a meeting place for vampires.

Taack!

The moment Peak Sword leaped over the benches and pulled his sword from his sheath.

Seokeok!

There was a flash of light and blood burst from a vampire's chest. It was very difficult to fight against this invisible and fast attack.

Jjejeong!Jjang!

Peak Sword didn't even allow a counterattack. He always held his sheath in his hand and used it as a protective shield. His health was maintained thanks to the vampire ring as he blocked the vampires' attacks and unsheathed his sword again.

Due to Peak Sword's actions, the fourth building was cleared faster than the third. Now Grid was level 299. It was estimated that his experience gauge would reach 20% after the next building.

'Okay, not long now.'

If his stats went through the third awakening, he would be able to beat Elfin Stone, who already attacked him twice. The moment Grid was imagining this, a notification window appeared in front of him.

[The cooldown time of the title skill 'One who Became a Legend is over.]

Originally this would be good news, but now it was a different matter.

"Damn."

Grid braced himself for the pain that was about to come. A blond man appeared above his head. It was Elfin Stone.

"Didn't I say I would come back?"

Puhahahak!

A red light swallowed up Grid. Elfin Stone was convinced that Grid had died and shouted.

"I will come back soon. I will kill another person, and then another one the time after that! This will be repeated again and again. I will show you the extreme taste of fear... Huh?"

The excited Elfin Stone shook his head. The number of humans.

'It is the same as yesterday?'

There were nine people yesterday and he killed one, so there should be eight people left? Thinking back, he felt like the number of humans on the first day was nine...

'I am mistaken.'

Elfin Stone smiled. There were no humans who could survive Extreme Blood Transfusion. The humans originally had 11 people. Elfin Stone believed in his skills rather than his memory.

"Now then. I will see you again soon."

"..."

Grid wanted to correct it to tomorrow, rather than soon. The party was convinced that Elfin Stone was very dumb after he disappeared. But in fact, Elfin Stone's intelligence wasn't low. Elfin Stone slept for 23 hours a day and was barely awake the rest of the time.

It was reasonable that he couldn't remember the exact number of Grid's party. Why would he need to remember how much prey there was? He didn't care about the numbers of Grid's group.

"Damn bastard..."

Grid cursed as the curtain lifted. His items' durability was already at its limit, and repairs were needed.

Ttang!Ttang!

The legendary blacksmith took out his hammer and repaired his equipment. The party members were envious of him.

If one's equipment was damaged during a hunt, then ordinary users would have to repair their equipment using the expensive Repair Tool Set. However, Grid could freely repair his items and even accumulate skill proficiency while doing so.

Grid promised again,

'Elfin Stone...! I will repay this disgrace and inflict double the suffering on you!'

[The duration of the Experience Increase Potion is over.]

"Ah, damn."

It happened after clearing the seventh building. His experience gauge hadn't reached 50% yet, but he heard the worst news.

'It seems like I have to attack three more buildings before I can level up.'

From level 299, the amount of experience required to level up increased by four times. He needed to kill the vampires without any rest. Elfin Stone appeared again when Grid was fretting. This was the fourth appearance. However, this time he was a little strange. He looked at Grid without attacking immediately.

'Why?'

Elfin Stone asked the nervous Grid.

"You, why are you still alive?"

"...!"

Grid's party were thunderstruck at the unexpected response. Maybe Elfin Stone would change his behavior pattern and kill them all. In other words, it was the worst situation.

'I'm not level 300 yet...!'

Unfortunately, it couldn't be helped.

'There is no way other than to fight.'

The moment Grid was about to summon Noe and Randy.

"Your parents must've had a hard time after giving birth to you!"

"W-What...?"

Huroi revealed his personality. Elfin Stone received a big shock and his handsome face distorted.

Chapter 293

Earl Elfin Stone woke up!

Then he found Grid's party today. He had killed one human every day for the past three days. However, it was strange.

'Isn't there the same number as yesterday?'

This time he wasn't mistaken. He counted yesterday, so he knew the exact number. The number of humans hadn't decreased.

'What is this?'

Elfin Stone questioned as he looked at Grid's group. It was to find out if the person he thought he killed yesterday was alive or not. But just as humans had difficulty distinguishing between beasts, vampires had difficulty distinguishing between humans.

Sniff sniff.

Sniff sniff!

Elfin Stone was unable to find Grid with his eyes, so he sniffed like a dog. He was looking for the smell of blood.

'This guy!'

Elfin Stone's gaze fixed on Grid. His air was rough, but he was a strong-looking fellow. In other words, he was definitely the one who Elfin Stone attacked yesterday. No, it wasn't just yesterday, but the first and second day as well.

Elfin Stone's eyes sank coldly.

"You, why are you still alive?"

How did he survive Extreme Blood Transfusion for three days in a row? He certainly wasn't an ordinary guy. This was a good guy.

'It was a close call.'

He almost missed a delicacy. It wasn't easy for him to realize that he almost destroyed good human blood. He was thankful for the human's survival!

'Should I try it once?'

Step, step.

Elfin Stone felt a strong appeal from Grid and moved slowly. Grid shook nervously as Elfin Stone approached.

"Your parents must've had a hard time after giving birth to you!"

"...!"

Even the lowest of humans thought about their parents. Then what about the vampires who recognized themselves as superior to humans? In particular, the True Blood considered their parent as a god.

Shizo Beriache. She was the one who gave them eternal life! She wasn't an existence that a mere human could disparage.

"This is the second time I have become so angry over the past 300 years!"

The blood rose to Elfin Stone's head. His face distorted in a terrible manner and he shouted.

"I will feed on all of you today!"

Kuwooooh!

Elfin Stone released his overwhelming magic power. It hadn't reached the level of a great demon, but it was several times stronger than the best rated demonkin. It was slightly above Hell Gao after his flesh was destroyed by Muller.

Grid and Peak Sword speculated from among the astonished party members. They had fought with Hell Gao, so they could more accurately assess Elfin Stone's strength.

'This is bad!'

Hell Gao had the fire stones weakness, but Elfin Stone was different. Grid observed him with the Slaughterer's Eye Patch, but he couldn't grasp any weak points. In other words, he was one of the high ranking bosses.

'Shit!'

Huroi's aggro was too much. He stimulated Elfin Stone more than necessary. He knew he would be severely beaten up one day because he mentioned the parents, but...

'Why is it today?'

Grid lamented, while Jishuka tried to encourage the party members.

"This is fine! There's a chance to win!"

The first reason they were afraid of Elfin Stone was his attack the moment he appeared. It was a level of surprise they couldn't cope with, and they had to assume that one person would die. But now the situation had changed. Elfin Stone was in front of them, so there was no need to fear a surprise attack. If they built a good formation, there was a chance...

"...Not."

The group had to shake their heads when Elfin Stone showed a formidable appearance.

"Blood Field!"

Puhahahak!

Magic power stretched out around Elfin Stone and dominated the land in a 30m radius. Grid's party was within it. To be precise, the party was adversely affected except for Grid.

[Your blood is influenced by Blood Field.]

[153 health will be transferred to Earl Elfin Stone per second.]

[All healing effects will be reduced by 80%.]

The people with the lowest health in the party were Jishuka, Zednos and Faker. Archers, magicians and assassins all had around 20,000~30,000 health. Losing 153 health per second was a huge pressure on them. They would lost two-thirds of their life in just two minutes.

Furthermore, this health would also restore Elfin Stone? It meant that Elfin Stone recovered 1,400 health per second.

"Such a scam."

"Fighting here means defeat."

The party tried to escape from the area of Blood Field. But Elfin Stone wasn't standing still.

"Blood Requiem."

Elfin Stone swung both arms. It was reminiscent of the elegant actions of a conductor. Then pillars of blood fell over the party members' heads.

Pepeng!Pepepepeng!

Blood Requiem! It didn't matter how many people were in the group. It was Elfin Stone's unique skill that attacked all enemies inside the Blood Field. The damage was at least 10,000! The wide area skill had incredible power.

"Kuack, how do we defeat that?"

"I'm going crazy."

The Overgeared members coughed up blood and took potions to restore their health. However, the 80% reduction in healing effects meant the potions weren't effective. Grid urgently summoned Noe and Randy.

He planned to have Noe eat Elfin Stone's stats and have Randy copy some of Elfin Stone's skills to increase the odds. But Noe and Randy couldn't play a role.

"I can't swallow the souls of noble True Blood vampires... I tried to swallow, but the curse of blood turned on me, nyang..."

Noe's short legs twisted and he flopped down. He was depressed that he couldn't help Grid. Randy also an apologetic expression on his face.

"I can't copy that target."

"Didn't you copy Pagma? Is Elfin Stone stronger than Pagma?"

That wasn't the case. There was the racial limitation and physiology that couldn't be overcome. The True Blood vampires were a superior species to doppelgangers, so it was impossible to copy them.

'Dammit.'

The trump cards he believed in had disappeared. It was a desperate situation. Elfin Stone summoned something while Grid was feeling frustrated.

"Iyarugt."

'Yakult?'

The pronunciation was similar to the 200 won drink that Grid enjoyed. But it wasn't a weapon that could be made fun of. From the handle to the blade, it was a smooth strip of red. Elfin Stone's slightly curved sword was made of blood stone and was so sharp it could cut anything.

Blood stone! If adamantium represented the world of the gods, blood stone was a mineral that represented hell. Adamantium occasionally appeared in the human world because the gods loved humanity, but blood stones were different. There had been little present throughout the history of the human world, so it was an unfamiliar mineral to Grid.

'This...!'

It felt a lot different from Pagma's words. If it wasn't Pagma, what blacksmith could make this type of sword? Grid was fascinated by the beautiful appearance and rational structure of Iyarugt, when he suddenly recalled the 'Third Piece of ???'.

It was because the color of the unidentified fragment was similar to the color of Iyarugt. Elfin Stone's white robes flapped amidst the bloody magic power as he declared.

"There has only been one being who survived Iyarugt. And there will be no one else in the future."

Chaaeng!

Elfin Stone's first target was Huroi. Peak Sword defended against the blood red sword. It was possible to predict the behavior.

"...!"

Elfin Stone's eyes curved up slightly. He was somewhat surprised that a human managed to defend against his sword. But that was it. Peak Sword recovered the sword that confronted Iyarugt, exposing a one second gap when it was put back in the sheath.

Seokeok!

"Ku...heok!"

The red sword moved through this gap and struck Peak Sword's shoulder.

'This is like Iyarugt is...!'

It was obvious that it was an ego sword. The ego sword showed its owner the best route. Peak Sword was able to tell. Elfin Stone's movements weren't optimized for swordsmanship, making it difficult to predict the sword.

Peeng!

Elfin Stone was wielding the sword at Peak Sword again when a spear aimed at his side. It was Pon's Mach Spear. But even that wasn't a big threat to Elfin Stone. Ordinary vampires could only turn all of

their body into smoke, but Elfin Stone could change certain parts of his body. His waist turned into black smoke and Pon's spear missed, then he swung his arm to counter.

"How the hell do we kill him?"

Pon grabbed his wounded chest and exclaimed. In the meantime, the other party members started the offensive. Flaming arrows, unpredictable kicks, swift daggers and powerful storms. Everything covered Elfin Stone.

Not even Elfin Stone could neutralize all these attacks. The Overgeared members standards were too high. However, there was no fatal damage.

'We will be wiped out if this continues.'

At a time when everyone was certain, Grid thought of a way to break from this situation. It was only possible because it was Grid.

Chapter 294

"What method...? How can we escape from the immediate crisis?"

Grid had numerous experiences with raids. He had raised his level through raids rather than hunting. Therefore, it was safe to say that he was crazy in an emergency. Furthermore, the bosses of Grid's raids weren't monsters that appeared with a "Kuwoohh!"

Satisfy had named bosses that exerted a big and small influence on the worldview of the game, and they overflowed with individuality. Perhaps that was why?

Grid had a very unique perspective about bosses. He didn't just concentrate on the combat patterns of the bosses like everyone else, he also considered their personality and background. The more he identified the boss' tendencies, the easier the raid was...

At the time of the Pascal raid, Grid hadn't haphazardly used his strength. The situation was designed to work in his favor. He was a professional. He would be the first job called 'raid expert,' who gave raid advice to various guilds and users. But it was a shame that Grid had no brains to turn this talent into money.

'Elfin Stone is the key to this situation.'

Grid thought about it. Elfin Stone was able to destroy their party at any time. But in the past four days, he only attempted to kill one of them. Why? It was surprisingly simple when looking at his nature.

'It was for fun.'

Elfin Stone repeated the same thing every time he appeared. He would let them experience extreme fear by killing one person a day.

'His aim is to see us scared and shivering.'

What if he focused on killing all of them at once?

'It would be futile.'

He would lose his toys and Elfin Stone didn't want that.

'I have to use this point.'

Grid's face darkened.

"Rapid Pressure."

Peeeeeeong!

As Grid was thinking, the Overgeared members were struggling. Elfin Stone's aggro was thoroughly taken by Huroi, so the party members left Huroi's protection to Vantner and focused on attacking.

The Overgeared members had different characteristics and could create a 120% synergy by connecting their skills. They were indeed users in the top 20 rankings, and were models for everyone.

In particular, Faker's performance was dazzling. It was difficult for even Elfin Stone to respond to his swiftness. The dagger caused blood to shed before he could turn his body into smoke.

However, Blood Field was the problem. Elfin Stone recovered over 1,000 health per second from the Overgeared members! His recovery power was phenomenal. It was estimated that his total health was 8 million. It was impossible to knock him down with the attack power of a few people.

"Lightning Kill!"

Kwajjjjik!

Regas' fist pierced Elfin Stone's chest. However, Elfin Stone didn't suffer any damage. He turned into smoke at the point of attack.

"This is the real thing!"

Regas rotated his body without recalling his fist. He aimed his heel towards Elfin Stone's head. It was an irregular and exciting attack.

"Kkuk...!"

Regas' strength was his unpredictable attack patterns. Elfin Stone didn't expect this type of behavior and groaned. On the other hand, Pon was rushing forward.

"Rain Spear!"

Pepeng!Pepepeng!

Pon leapt and repeatedly stabbed his spear. The spear poured down like rain. It was an unavoidable attack, as long as the whole body wasn't turned into smoke. But if the whole body was turned into smoke, there was a large delay and counter attacking was impossible. It was an act that Elfin Stone had to avoid.

"Blood Shield!"

Jjeong!Jjeejeeong!

Elfin Stone consumed some of his health to release blood, creating dozens of red shields. The spears and shields collided in the air.

Puk!Puk puk!

Faker approached in secret and repeatedly stabbed Elfin Stone in the neck. The higher the number of hits, the more damage that would be accumulated. Elfin Stone shouted.

"I'll have to deal with you first!"

"...!"

Faker was nervous. It was because Elfin Stone's gaze was no longer focused on Huroi.

Peeng!

Iyarugt glowed red, causing his ears to burst.

Chiing!

The Overgeared members instantly felt their ears ringing. This was the 'Blood Cry' skill attached to Iyarugt. The Overgeared members lost their balance and Elfin Stone used a skill.

"Blood Thorns!"

Puuok!Puuok!

Dozens of thorns emerged from Blood Field and stabbed Faker's thigh. Blood Thorn! The attack power wasn't strong, but it was the worst magic that polluted the blood stream of the target. Movement speed was drastically reduced, so Faker's swiftness was blocked.

Elfin Stone smiled and wielded Iyarugt. He wanted to cut Faker's head off. Just in time, flaming arrows came flying and stopped the action. It was Jishuka's cover.

"You are pretty good humans."

Elfin Stone was stimulated by the Overgeared members. Elfin Stone was in a better position the longer this went on.

Kwajak!

Elfin Stone lightly snapped an arrow. His current health was still at 8/10ths. On the other hand, the Overgeared members had their health reduced by at least one-third to a half. It was the power of Blood Field.

"If this continues, we'll be wiped out in two minutes."

Zednos restored Faker's movement speed with Blessing of the Wind, and spoke with a desperate expression. Vantner shrugged.

"I agree."

Elfin Stone's strengths weren't his attack power, magic power, defense, or speed. These were low compared to bosses of the same level. However, the reason he felt so strong was his unrivaled utility.

Wide area status damage, wide area defense and attack skills, wide area vampire skills, single target defense skills and so on. It seemed impossible unless all the Overgeared members were summoned.

Could they win even if Grid reached level 300? It happened when the party members were feeling doubts.

{Sacrifice Huroi. The reason why Elfin Stone is on a rampage is Huroi, so he will stop after Huroi dies.}

What nonsense was Grid speaking?

“...?”

Everyone except for Huroi frowned and doubted their ears. Regas evaded Iyarugt’s fierce attack and questioned Grid.

{Selling out our companion? Did I hear it wrong?}

Grid shook his head.

{No, you heard it properly.}

Pon shouted angrily.

{Don’t make us disappointed!}

Jishuka was the same.

{Grid, a man who sells out his companions doesn’t deserve to stand at the top.}

Peak Sword, Zednos and Faker didn’t give opinions, but they couldn’t hide their uncomfortable feelings. It was a natural criticism. But Grid wasn’t ashamed. He looked at all the members with dignified eyes.

“This is to protect more companions.”

That’s right. Grid wasn’t going to sacrifice Huroi for nothing.

‘Eight people will be saved by one sacrifice.’

Ordinary people couldn’t easily make the choice to sacrifice someone for the greater good. Especially if the person was someone precious. However, Grid was more pragmatic. Making decisions out of affection? Grid wasn’t the type.

“Cough!”

Faker was hit by an attack. Grid ran towards him and pulled out Failure.

Chaaeng!

The blue Failure collided with the red Iyarugt.

[The durability of the +9 Failure has decreased by 5.]

The strength of the blood stone was far superior to that of the blue orichalcum. Looking at just strength, it seemed to be above adamantium.

'The creator of Iyarugt is better than my current self.'

Grid clicked his tongue and sent a whisper to Huroi.

-Do you understand what I mean? You have to sacrifice yourself for everyone.

Huroi didn't hesitate at all...

-I understand, My Lord.

The reaction was as expected. This made Grid's heart ache even more. Grid smiled bitterly.

-Why don't you ever say it if you don't like something? I'm even more sorry if you are too good.

-I only follow My Lord's commands. If it's a reasonable order like right now, I am even more willing!

The loss of experience, item durability loss or item drop penalties after death were fatal to anyone. In particular, Huroi's combat power was low so his level up speed was slow. Thus, it was more critical. Nevertheless, Huroi was always willing to follow Grid's orders.

-I will surely get revenge on Elfin Stone. And I will make sure that you are compensated enough to make up for today's sacrifice.

-There is no need for compensation. It is my mission to sacrifice myself for My Lord and your precious people. I desire nothing in return. In addition, this situation is all my fault...

-I don't need you to take responsibility. And don't forget that you are also a precious person to me.

-...

Grid prepared his heart. He proposed to Elfin Stone, who was gazing at him coldly over the sword.

"I will hand over my companion who dared to mention your parents. Kill him to release your anger."

Elfin Stone couldn't believe his ears.

"Selling out your companion to save your life? Humans are truly dirty and ugly."

"So, you don't want to?"

A smile appeared on Elfin Stone's face.

"I want."

'Indeed.'

It was as Grid expected. Elfin Stone wanted to enjoy the game of hunting humans for a long time.

"Go and die."

Grid commanded as he treated from Elfin Stone, and Huroi took immediate action. He ran over to Elfin Stone. The people who saw him cried out.

"No!"

"What are you doing, you crazy guy!?"

The words were useless. Grid had already made up his mind, and Huroi followed Grid.

"I will kill you cruelly."

Puok!

Huroi didn't resist as Elfin Stone played with him like a toy. Blood Thorns pierced his ankles to restrict movement, while Iyarugt cut at his wrists so he couldn't hold a sword. Then the body was sliced up like steak, until he eventually hacked into the head.

"..."

The physical pain was nothing compared to the mental impact, but Huroi didn't even groan. His mind had been disciplined by spending hundreds of hours trapped in a dark dungeon.

"I can't look anymore!"

The Overgeared members were filled with righteous indignation. Grid warned those who were about to save Huroi.

"Don't be ridiculous and get out of here quickly. If you violate this command, I will expel you from the guild."

"..."

Grid lacked charisma. What did it matter how high his dignity stat was? He seemed frivolous because he only cared about money and glamor. But at this moment, he was different. He felt guilt and sorrow at forcing someone to die.

Grid tried to keep the emotions from his eyes as he made a strong expression. The qualities of a leader were slowly blooming. The Overgeared members calmed down and retreated.

On this day, Huroi died.

Chapter 295

"..."

As soon as they ran away from the area of Blood Field, a notification window popped up.

[Your party member Huroi has died.]

The atmosphere was heavy.

"Shit... There is a day when I have to sacrifice my companion to live..."

"This is the result of our lack of power. Let's take this opportunity to work harder."

The party members no longer blamed Grid. They knew Grid hadn't chosen to abandon Huroi because he wanted to. When they looked at it calmly, Grid's decision was right. No, maybe it was better. Thanks to Grid's decision, the rest of the party were able to escape the crisis.

He took the nature of the boss into consideration and created such a situation? It was the day they noticed that Grid wasn't evolving in just personality and abilities, but in intelligence as well. The present situation wasn't bad when they thought about it positively.

But Regas was still shivering.

"It would've been better for all of us to die, rather than sacrificing someone."

Originally, Regas was a sympathetic person who valued righteousness above all else. When Grid was still immature. Regas was the only one who respected and trusted Grid, who was ignored by everyone else. Thus, Grid could understand Regas' anger. But understanding didn't mean he could accept it.

"If you have time to grumble, kill more monsters. We now have to clear four buildings in 23 hours."

"...!"

Grid's group took an average of 10 hours to clear a building. This was a lot. The first two days, it took them at least 12 hours to finish a building.

There were many strong vampires in each building. In particular, those with more than two True Blood vampires were particularly dangerous. There were times when Vantner needed to use his invincible skill.

Now Grid declared that the strategy was to spend six hours per building. In particular, the number of people had decreased by one. In a way, it proved that Grid was the most enraged person about Huroi's sacrifice.

"Look. We'll be wiped out if we hurry. It will be unlucky if we encounter a party with more than three True Blood vampires, and if there is no rest..."

"Vantner is correct. We should maintain our previous pace. Don't you know that we can get more hurt if we're too hasty? Grid, I understand your feelings, but don't be too irritated."

Pon persuaded. However, Jishuka and Peak Sword's thoughts were different.

"No, we have to do as Grid says. Elfin Stone will come to us again tomorrow."

"If Grid doesn't reach level 300 by then, this situation will happen again."

The goal was set.

"More haste and more speed. We have to hurry."

Grid entered the new building and immediately aimed Transcend at the ceiling.

Kurururung!

There was a loud sound as the ceiling collapsed and dust covered the place.

Bump!

Kung!Kung!

There were piles of stones.

Kwaang!

Kwang!Kwang!

The coffins in the part of the hall with the collapsed ceiling opened simultaneously. Hundreds of vampires escaped and gazed around angrily.

"Who dares to awaken us from our sleep!?"

"These human scum want to die!"

"No, I want to kill you."

Grid held Failure and the Doppelganger's Greatsword with a cold expression.

'I am angry.'

His party members were here to help him with his quest. He was shaken by his helplessness.

"I...!"

Grid led the way. There was no stopping. The red light of the Slaughterer's Eye Patch shone in the darkness.

"! I'm going to become stronger!"

Yes, he would become strong enough not to experience this dirty feeling twice. The best! Grid finally had a goal to play this game. What was the one thing he needed? Numerous combat experience, level and senses. As well as the power of items.

"Ohhhhhh!"

Grid entered the middle of hundreds of vampires! In the darkness, Failure and Grid's Boots became more powerful. Now he was able to fight better than before he arrived in the vampire city.

He had struggled with a large number of enemies all day long and grew more proficient. But he should remain calm at all times.

"Kek! Ugh! H-Hik! Save me!"

"..."

Grid moved like a madman among the vampires and quickly became ragged. The party members had to struggle to clean up his mess.

Reidan Castle's resurrection point.

Pahat!

Huroi appeared with a burst of light. He looked fine considering that his body had been torn apart by Elfin Stone a while ago.

"Pant... Pant..."

Huroi's breathing was rough. His body was trembling like crazy. He had a strong mentality, but he hadn't experienced his body being hacked apart before. He breathed out as he shook off the shock and opened the status window. He checked his experience gauge.

'10%...'

The drop in experience was a huge 29.3%. From level 200 onwards, the loss of experience after death was in proportion to the level.

'Fortunately, no items dropped.'

It wasn't comforting. The durability of all of his items had dropped by at least 100 points. If Huroi was an ordinary user without Grid, he would've had to spend a lot of money on repairs.

"Huroi?"

Lauel ran over to Huroi. He was the busiest person in the guild. Lauel was tired.

"What happened?"

He knew of only two ways to escape from a vampire city. It was to kill the boss or die. There was only one reason for one member of the party to return.

"...You, did you die?"

Huroi nodded at Lauel's question.

"The boss is too strong."

"Please tell me the story."

There was no reason to hide it. Huroi told Lauel all the details of what happened in the vampire city. Lauel's reaction to the story was surprisingly bright.

"Grid used such a method? Haha! Incredible! Grid's brain wasn't just a decoration!"

"..."

Lauel was truly jubilant about Grid's growth. But this choice of words was inappropriate, so Huroi couldn't help glaring.

"Grid's expedition of the 13th expedition will end in failure. Maybe this time tomorrow, Grid's party will appear at the resurrection point."

The meeting room in Reidan Castle.

Lauel convened the former members of the Tzedakah Guild and delivered the news of Grid's party to them. The Overgeared members murmured at the desperate story.

Toban gritted his teeth, "I should've gone."

Toban was a paladin with divine power. He was the antithesis of vampires. But he didn't take part in the expedition because he was in charge of the yellow mithril mine. There were few people in Overgeared who could manage the workers, so Toban was an invaluable presence.

Lauel waited until the atmosphere calmed and opened his mouth again.

"As you know, pavranium is indispensable for Grid. The more pavranium that Grid obtains, the stronger he will become. So I will send an additional two people to support Grid's party."

Reidan, Bairan, Cork Island. These three territories must be managed so more support was impossible. Just sending two people as support was hard for Lauel. If only two people were missing, Lauel would have to reduce his sleeping time and managing the territory would become more difficult.

Toban declared, "I am going to join."

"Nope. Not you."

"Ik...! Think about it! I will be the biggest help to Grid's party right now!"

"I'm aware of that. But now that the number of miners is over 100 people, you can't leave."

"Then what about me?"

It was the human beast, Toon. Lauel shook his head again.

"Not you either. If you leave the guild while the main force is absent, the guild's attack power will drop to a dangerous level."

"Then who are you going to send?"

"Hrmm."

Lauel examined the Overgeared members. Including Huroi, there were a total of three people. Who could be a big help to Grid without taking away too much from the territory management?

Lauel struggled before pointing out one person.

"Ibellin."

"Yes!"

The flamberge master, Ibellin! He was delighted at being called. For the past few days, he had just been hunting the monsters near the mine.

"The second one... Hah." Lauel sighed at the thought. "No matter how I look, there isn't another useless person like Ibellin."

"You bastard!"

Lauel and Ibellin were still rivals from their days in the Ten Rookies. As the two people were fighting, somebody knocked on the door of the meeting room.

"Come in."

Lauel called out and a soldier opened the door.

“A guest has come.”

“Guest?”

What guest would come to the guild?

“Heok.”

“T-This is ridiculous...”

The Overgeared members were surprised. It was because they confirmed the identity of the guest.

“Nice to meet you.”

Even the voice was beautiful. White skin and black hair. A slender figure and neat impression that radiated charm. It was her, Yura.

Lauel smiled widely.

“Pant pant... Shit, I’m going to die now.”

The bloodstained Vantner cursed and screamed. The situation was desperate. There were over 100 vampires surrounding Grid’s current party, and there were also three True Blood vampires.

On the other hand, the eight people of Grid’s group were now ragged. Their health and mana was at the bottom and even their stamina was low, so it was difficult to raise a finger. It was the aftermath of hunting without any rest.

“It’s too much.”

“I wanted to slam my fist into that bastard Elfin Stone’s face. It’s too bad I’ll die before that.”

The party assumed the worst. Even Jishuka, who always encouraged the group, was silent. Grid stared at her chest that moved with every hard breath she took and tightened his grip on Failure.

Kwajak!

He squeezed out all his strength and aimed at the skull of a vampire. The vampires’ aggro fell on him and they simultaneously stared at Grid.

“Crazy!”

“Hey! How can the leader die first? We should be the first ones to die!”

The terrified party members moved towards Grid.

“Pant... Pant...”

Grid didn’t say anything. He kept panting as he wielded his sword towards the vampires. The only good thing was that Lifael’s Spear wasn’t affected by his tiredness and hovered beside him. Grid would’ve died sooner if it wasn’t for Lifael’s Spear.

"Sigh, one last rampage."

Vantner was stimulated by Grid and grabbed his shield. He had already consumed his invincible skill and couldn't even use basic defense skills. Potion? He took them every time the cooldown ended. The other members were the same.

"Die!"

The vampires unleashed an onslaught. The three True Blood vampires were at the center. Vantner wanted to block their attacks with his shield, but he was forced down. The other party members also killed two or three vampires before reaching their limits. They allowed attacks and their health quickly sank to the bottom.

"Jishuka!"

The enemies penetrated through the collapsed front line and aimed at Jishuka. Zednos squeezed out the last of his mana, but the wind failed to be of any help to Jishuka. This was the end.

"Hah... Hah..."

The party members could only await death. Just as the vampires were about to take away the last of their health.

Chaaeng!

There was a splendid pillar of light. It was the signal that someone had levelled up. That someone was naturally...

"You've been waiting."

It was Grid.

[Congratulations!]

[You have reached level 300 and achieved the third stats awakening!]

[For every point of stamina, health will increase by 25 and defense will increase by 0.9.]

[For every point of strength, health will increase by 7 and attack will increase by 0.6.]

[For every point of intelligence...]

...

...

[One of Pagma's Descendant's hidden pieces 'Sealed Ability' has been acquired.]

[The skill 'Item Combination' has been acquired.]

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[All resources will be restored to the maximum in commemoration of reaching level 300.]

It happened at level 100 and level 200. Health, mana and even stamina were completely restored, encouraging the party's morale.

"Very good."

Grid stretched and stood upright. As his wounds were restored by the level up, he declared to the vampires.

"You've been waiting."

The aftermath of the various stats awakening was abnormally high. It was beyond imagination. Even Grid was surprised.

Jjejeong!Jjejeok!

"...!"

The vampires were shocked. The person who was dying just a moment ago now swiftly attacked, showing ridiculous attack power.

"What is this...? Kyaack!"

The 20 vampires surrounding Grid immediately collapsed. The blue and jade lights flashed all over the place, while blood and flesh scattered. Death with one blow! Reign supreme! The words that could represent the present Grid were exaggerated. He was truly overwhelming!

"Oh my, look at this."

A mere mortal couldn't grasp who they were going against, it was unpleasant. A True Blood vampire about to bite Vantner stood up. Her name was Lexi. She had exceptional magic power and skill in blood magic.

"Give me a handful of blood. Blood Chain."

Puhahahak!

The blood emitted by Lexi split into dozens of stems and surrounded Grid. It was a wide area magic that bound and attacked the target, and was difficult to avoid. However, it wasn't a threat to the current Grid.

His enhanced agility and insight allowed Grid to use more sophisticated movements. He avoided the first two blood flows and used Revolve. The blood streams that should've wrapped around Grid reversed directions and covered Lexi.

"Kyaak!"

Who would've thought that she would be hit by her own attack? Lexi became an unexpected victim and screamed in pain. Grid neared where she was trapped and swung Failure towards her chest. There was no such thing as mercy to women.

Seokeok!

"...!"

Lexi's eyes widened with surprise. This human could damage the body of a True Blood vampire that was harder than steel? She looked at the huge wound on her chest and used a spell.

"Blood Shield!"

Using the blood spurting from her chest, Lexi unfolded multiple shields in the air and tried to open the distance. But it was useless.

Jjeejeeong!

The red shields were smashed by the jade greatsword. Pagma's Swordsmanship, Kill, aimed at Lexi.

"What is this...?"

Lexi tried to prevent it. She turned to smoke to prevent the dreadful greatsword precisely aiming at her pretty face. But...

Puok!

Lifael's Spear flew around Grid, defending against the vampire's attacks before aiming at Lexi's chest. The smoke was lost and Lexi's body was clearly revealed again.

"Eek!"

Lexi raised her arms and covered her face. Her appearance was pitiful, but her arms could exert a defense superior to steel shields. However, it was mere paper in front of the damage of Kill that came from the Doppelganger's Greatsword.

Peeok!

There was a sound like a watermelon cracking.

Crash!

A True Blood vampire might have eternal life, but even they were bound to die if they lost their heads. Lexi collapsed like a broken doll and turned into a grey light.

[The True Blood vampire, Lexi has been destroyed.]

[56,901,500 experience has been acquired.]

[The Sixth Piece of ??? has been acquired.]

[An Intermediate Vampire's Ring has been acquired.]

He didn't know exactly what the '??? Piece' was yet. He could only infer that it was a fragment of something made by the same mineral as Iyarugt. He wasn't sure if it was a jackpot, but the Intermediate Vampire's Ring was different.

[Intermediate Vampire's Ring]

Rating: Unique

* During normal attacks, 10% of the damage done to the target will be restored to you as health.

* This effect is only invoked once every 12 seconds.

A unique magic power dwells in the vampire's ring.

It greatly elevates the wearer's survival skills.

User Restriction: Level 320 or higher.

Weight: 1

It was able to absorb 5% more health than the Junior Vampire's Ring, and the cooldown time was three seconds shorter. Grid wore the ring without any hesitation. Unfortunately, its function didn't overlap with the Junior Vampire's Ring.

"I'm grateful for this."

Vampire items were very rare, so the Intermediate Vampire's Ring would be worth hundreds of gold.

Step, step.

Grid ran through the remnants of vampires and stood in front of the party members, as if protecting them.

"Everyone has suffered. Now you can rest."

"..."

The Overgeared members looked shocked. Grid's strength was more than they imagined, so they were speechless. He became so much stronger just from reaching level 300? It was difficult to tell how high Grid's total stats were.

"This guyyyy!"

The aggro of the vampires instantly focused on Grid after Lexi died. The two True Blood vampires were also mixed in. The Overgeared members were worried, but Grid was pleased. He was grateful that the prey came to him. Just as Elfin Stone saw hunting humans as entertainment, Grid had reached a point where hunting vampires could be viewed as entertainment.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Wave."

Kurururung!

The waves of energy! The vampires were swept away by a terrible pain and realized something. Humans weren't a subspecies. Their potential was even greater than the vampires. They weren't a species to be ignored and treated like cattle.

A black magician was more difficult to solo than attack classes because they specialized in debuff magic. Black magicians hunting alone was considered a penance. Most black magicians focused on party-oriented play.

But with the exception of special circumstances, more parties preferred buffers over debuffers. Black magicians couldn't easily find parties, making it difficult to find them in the rankings.

Except of course for Yura. She was a mythical figure who maintained her fifth spot in the unified rankings despite being a black magician. She was special. A genius among genii. She was evaluated like this, and many users yearned for her.

This precious talent suddenly visited Reidan. Lael and the Overgeared members couldn't help being excited.

"What brings a person like you to this humble city?" Lael asked her.

Lael also admired Yura. What guy wouldn't have a crush on a world-class beauty who was good at games? Yura smiled brightly at Lael and the Overgeared members, whose eyes were shining like lanterns.

Ahh, so beautiful and brilliant. They were convinced that her presence contributed to world peace.

"I want to join Overgeared. Youngwoo-ssi... No, Grid has already agreed, so please check with him."

"...!"

Yura's smile captivated Lael and the Overgeared members. They let out surprised yelps. One of the solo rankers, apart from Kraugel and Agnbus, was asking to join Overgeared! It was shocking but joyful.

"Welcome!" Lael shouted.

Yura thought that his words and phrases resembled Grid. Lael would probably be shocked if she knew what she was thinking. But it was the truth. The longer he spent with Grid, the more Lael resembled Grid.

Lael liked Grid from the bottom of his heart. But he didn't want to be similar to Grid.

The epic battle ended.

"Brilliant."

"Grid, you were cool."

"Kyah! Truly God Grid! Do you know God Grid?"

"Are those the only English words you know...?"

The Overgeared members were able to escape from the crisis and praised Grid. But the good atmosphere didn't last long. It was true that Grid was stronger than expected, but could he take down Elfin Stone?

Grid spoke to the worried party.

"Don't waste time on worrying. There is one hour left until Elfin Stone appears. In order to increase the odds, we need to recover as much stamina as possible."

Grid's state was the worst. The Overgeared members constantly supported him, but he fought against almost 100 vampires alone. His whole body was wounded and his items durability was low.

He wondered if he could fully recover his stamina before Elfin Stone appeared. However, Grid had a trump card.

[Item Combination]

Two items with a 100% understanding can be combined to enhance the performance.

The performance of the combined items will depend on the compatibility between the items.

* The combination retention time is limited to two minutes. Once this time limit is over, the items will return to their original appearance. At this time, the durability of the items will decrease by 50. This is consumed on a fixed basis.

* The time it takes for the combination to occur will depend on the structure of the item.

Skill Mana Cost: 1,000

Skill Cooldown Time: 6 hours.

What if he combined Failure and Lifael's Spear?

'It will be a great weapon if the advantages are maximized.'

Grid believed that he could create the strongest weapon that would defeat Elfin Stone. But he kept in mind that the combination time was only two minutes. In addition, he was anxious since the time it took to combine items wasn't precisely specified.

'I wish I could experiment with it.'

Newly acquired skills always made people excited. Grid shared the sentiment and wanted to try out Item Combination. But there was the cooldown time. He needed it when dealing with Elfin Stone, so he had to restrain himself.

'Well, it will be okay. I have a strong style.'

Grid evaluated himself and relaxed. Then he started repairing his items. There wasn't much time left before Elfin Stone's emergence.

Chapter 297

"What will happen?"

Three men were sitting side by side in a spacious living room that was like a playground. What was the identity of those enjoying the cool soju and spicy chicken feet while wearing 3D glasses?

They were Chairman Lim Cheolho, Director Yoon Sangmin, and Team Leader Ashley Tosun. They were major figures in the company. The reason why these busy people gathered in Lim Cheolho's mansion wasn't for a simple drinking party.

On the big screen, Grid's party would soon encounter Elfin Stone. Could they really succeed in the Elfin Stone raid? The three people wanted to check it out. There was a debate.

"In order to raid Elfin Stone, at least three third advancement healers are needed in the party."

The top priority was to neutralize Elfin Stone's Blood Field. But Elfin Stone took only 1.8 seconds to deploy Blood Field. It was difficult to block it from being activated, so it needed to be offset with continuous healing. A eight person party with no healers wouldn't be able to raid Elfin Stone.

The father of vampires, Team Leader Ashley, was confident.

"I don't know what would've happened if Huroi was alive, but the possibility of Grid's current party successfully raiding Elfin Stone is zero."

Huroi was able to maximize the attack power of the party members while maintaining aggro. Ashley thought that Grid was stupid for sacrificing someone so important to the party. But Lim Cheolho gave a different opinion. In the first place, Grid's party would've been wiped out if they hadn't sacrificed Huroi.

"In addition, the strength of Pagma's Descendant is far above what was originally planned. One of the five people who can cause miracles in Satisfy is Grid."

Grid wasn't the only special one in the party. Jishuka, Peak Sword, Pon, Regas, Faker, Vantner and Zednos. They had excellent control and senses, demonstrating a strength that was beyond the concept of levels and classes.

"Wouldn't they have the power to beat Elfin Stone?"

Yoon Sangmin ate a chicken feet and speculated carefully.

"I agree with both of you. But to be honest, I don't think Grid's party can succeed in this raid. The influence of Blood Field is too strong."

In the past, Yoon Sangmin cursed Grid for being stupid and frustrating. He was resentful that someone so stupid took one of the nine legendary classes. But now he was different. He watched the changes and growth of Grid that took place over a year, and now supported Grid. His wife didn't know it, but he was a great member of Grid's fan club. However, even Yoon Sangmin was skeptical about this raid.

Lim Cheolho's lips, which were swollen due to eating spicy chicken feet, curved in a smile.

"Then my odds will rise."

That's right. The leaders of the world's largest corporation gathered to bet on Grid. They seemed to have a lot of free time, but this wasn't the case. They weren't wasting time watching Grid. Grid was a special existence. They didn't want to miss the biography of a person who grew up through Satisfy.

The former 5th ranked Yura. She was the world's best female ranker who suddenly lost her ranking four months ago. What was the reason? This was still a big issue and caused curiosity among countless people.

Laue and the Overgeared members were exposed to the truth.

“Demon Slayer...!”

Yura joined Overgeared with the authority of the lord’s agent, Lael. The guild members weren’t familiar with her class. As many people guessed, she obtained a hidden class. It was also a legendary hidden class!

Lael and the Overgeared members were thrilled. The Demon Slayer class was written in gold, just like Pagma’s Descendant. But there was something odd.

‘According to Grid, legendary classes get their level reset to level 1?’

On the other hand, Yura was currently level 203. It meant she went from level 1 to level 203 in just four months. A typical user. No, it was three times faster than the growth rate of the strongest rankers.

‘It’s amazing.’

She was someone who maintained the 5th ranking as a black magician that was hard to raise. Acquiring a legendary class was like growing wings on her back. She used her innate talents, effort and the know-how she accumulated as the 5th ranked user to raise her level at a speed that exceeded common sense.

Lael and the Overgeared members were amazed, while Yura watched Reidan Castle’s resurrection point.

‘I was told Youngwoo-ssi would appear soon.’

She heard about what happened. The group of eight encountered a boss that was impossible to raid and would be wiped out.

‘I don’t think so.’

Yura was always watching Grid. She looked at all the stories related to him. Taking into account Grid’s growth and the features of a legendary class...

‘Youngwoo-ssi can produce results that others can’t imagine.’

Yura knew about Grid’s past. He had gone through all types of hardships due to a lack of natural talents and bad fortune. He had lived an unhappy life for 26 out of his 27 years and suffered countless wounds. Yura wanted him to no longer feel despair. She simply wanted him to be happy.

‘I will share my good luck. So please come back safely with a bright expression.’

Yura’s true heart was shown when Grid was in trouble.

Elfin Stone slept for 23 hours and his condition was the best. The day before, he tortured the human who dared insult Shizo Beriache and was able to get a good rest.

“Today I should work harder than usual.”

There were thousands of familiars who roamed the underground city that was Elfin Stone’s home. They became Elfin Stone’s eyes and ears when he was awake. Elfin Stone knew that Grid’s group had slaughtered the vampires in the city.

"The city will be completely destroyed in the near future if this is left alone."

Elfin Stone didn't care about the deaths of the ordinary vampires. He could always raise more. However, the True Blood vampires were different. Only Shizo Beriache and her immediate family could create them. They were precious resources. It was troublesome to lose them.

'I have to eat two people from today onwards.'

He would keep the black haired man alive until the end. He would leave the most delicious food to last.

'He sold out his companion, but in the moment when he accepts death, will he feel despair?'

It was fun to imagine the people crying. Earl Elfin Stone maximized his outward appearance by changing into a white tailcoat. He strolled out of his mansion. His destination was the location of Grid's party.

'Which one should I eat?'

In the thick darkness. Elfin Stone's red eyes burned as he sniffed. It was to distinguish between the members of Grid's party. He would hunt Pon and Regas today.

'It is better to get rid of those two first.'

In fact, the assassin called Faker was the most annoying. However, Regas and Pon were a little bit stronger than Faker. Their physical strength was good, so it would be annoying if they were left alive for a long time.

If he took care of them first, he could enjoy the slow hunt.

'Then I am going.'

Sururuk.

Elfin Stone turned into black smoke and completely assimilated with the darkness. He approached Grid like lightning, at a speed that far exceeded Faker's.

'Now! Give me your fresh blood!'

Humans were truly inferior. No one noticed that he was approaching above their heads. This stupidity was funny. Earl Elfin Stone ridiculed them and used Extreme Blood Transfusion. His target was Pon.

Puhahahak!

A blood curtain stretched out towards Pon. Now Pon would be destroyed and his health would become Elfin Stone's food. This was normal. However.

"I've been waiting."

"What...?"

Elfin Stone's eyes widened. The black haired man called Grid! The man behind Pon was staring at him?

'A human noticed my approach? This has never happened before.'

He didn't know what was happening. But it was too late. Extreme Blood Transfusion was already used and Pon would soon die. This was Elfin Stone's unshakable faith. But Grid broke that faith. Just like the other bosses that Grid hunted, Elfin Stone was forced to feel confusion.

"Revolve."

"...!"

It was an unbelievable sight. The Extreme Blood Transfusion heading towards Pon was caught by Grid's greatsword and turned back towards Elfin Stone?

"Heok!"

Extreme Blood Transfusion was the strongest magic. He couldn't avoid being wounded. Elfin Stone turned pale and hurriedly tried to turn to smoke. It was neutralized by the golden spear that stabbed his side.

"What is this...?"

Puhahahak!

The blood curtain swallowed up Elfin Stone. This process happened in a short amount of time. All the Overgeared members nervously waiting for Elfin Stone to appear were surprised. Grid suddenly moved and Elfin Stone fell wounded from the sky.

"Cough! Cough!"

Elfin Stone vomited blood on the ground. The face beautiful enough to captivate a man was distorted.

"You!"

The angry and confused Elfin Stone immediately got up. The terrible notification windows popped up in front of the Overgeared members.

[The master of the 13th city, Vampire Earl Elfin Stone has appeared.]

[A strong evil influence is making your magic power turbid. All types of spells and skills aren't available.]

[A vampire's gaze will subdue lower species. Your body is subjected to a strong oppression.]

The Overgeared members were helpless. At least two to three skills were sealed and all speeds reduced, so their minds and bodies felt very heavy. But Grid was fine.

[You have resisted.]

It was a resistance only given to legendary classes. Grid was able to exert his strength.

"Blood Field!"

Elfin Stone sealed some of the powers of the humans with his evil influence, and he didn't miss this gap to use a skill. No, he attempted to use it.

Puok!

“...!”

It was before Blood Field was completed. Grid rushed at a speed comparable to the assassin called Faker and stabbed his blue greatsword at Elfin Stone’s heart. His magic power flowed backwards and Blood Field was stopped.

‘What?’

This guy, he wasn’t affected by the evil influence? Grid gazed calmly at the disbelieving Elfin Stone. It was a cold look.

“My share ends here. After this, it’s Huroi’s share.”

In the past, Grid found it difficult to control his emotions. His personality was immature and he lacked social skills, often making him go on a rampage when he was angry, sad or happy. But now it was different.

The experience of sacrificing his close friend made Grid fully aware of what it meant to be ‘on top.’ Now he was able to stay calm, despite being filled with anger and a desire for vengeance.

Pit!

Pipipipipit!

Pagma’s Swordsmanship, Link.

The sword was wielded dozens of times without a time difference in an unshaken and sophisticated manner.

“Kuaaaaak!”

On this day, Elfin Stone screamed for the second time since he had been born.

Chapter 298

‘This is the ability of a human?’

Elfin Stone had existed for over 350 years. Over the years, he’d met countless humans. Among them were genii as well as those called warriors. But in the end, they were inferior. For Elfin Stone, humans were just prey to be hunted and eaten.

But his perception changed at this moment. Extreme Blood Transfusion, that couldn’t be seen with the naked eye, was blocked by a sword? It was outstanding. This person wasn’t inferior.

Elfin Stone’s face twisted.

‘It is like Braham said.’

Braham, the first one to give him anger and pain. Braham did all types of bad things and was eventually banished.

[Do you fail to understand my inquiring mind even until the end? Brethren, you are worse than humans. The humans you regard as livestock aren't lazy. They are different from us, they are always working and developing. One day a transcendent entity will emerge that will threaten us, and it will be a human.]

'That damn bastard...!'

Braham Eshwald, who studied human magic and vampire magic, sacrificing countless vampires in the process. Some of Elfin Stone's blood relatives were the lab rats, including his lover, Leah.

"Kuk... Kukuk..."

How hard had he worked over the past hundreds of years? In order to forget the terrible memories, Elfin Stone slept more and hunted to clear the wounds in his heart. Meeting these humans stirred up his memories again.

'It makes me think of Braham's disgusting face.'

He couldn't forgive Braham. Elfin Stone's eyes were full of hate as he glared at Grid.

"Your skills are decent, but in the end, you're just a human! You are my prey!"

Puhahahak!

Elfin Stone's blood gathered into a sphere. It shot towards Grid and caused a powerful explosion. It was the manifestation then explosion of blood. Its power was far above those of the continent's 10 great magicians.

'I can't avoid it.'

The blast range was too big. He had no choice but to defend. However, he wondered if he could completely absorb the damage with the Divine Shield. The moment Grid was about to take out the Divine Shield.

"I will protect the leader!"

Vantner embraced Grid and used 'Thousand Shields,' a skill that greatly reduced the power of magic, thereby reducing the power of Blood Explosion.

Peeeeeeong!

"Kuak! I'm dead!"

Even Thousand Shields couldn't completely suppress the force of Blood Explosion. Thousand Shields was destroyed by the explosion and Vantner suffered severe injuries from the contaminated blood scattered by the explosion. Grid raised his thumb from within Vantner's arms.

"Thank you. Although it isn't a great feeling to be in a man's arms."

"Kukuk! I'm not doing this because I like it! Now go!"

Vantner shouted with a laugh. The new version of Grid had already shot forward.

"You!"

Elfin Stone saw that Grid was fine and furiously fired Blood Missiles. The blood-guided missiles chased Grid and tried to block his approach.

'It's hard to shake off.'

The missiles were fast and relentless. Avoidance and interception was impossible. He couldn't protect his body with just Lifael's Spear.

'It can't be helped.'

Grid started his footwork. He planned to use Pagma's Swordsmanship, Wave, to shoot down the missiles. But at the moment, dozens of flaming arrows appeared from the rear.

Pepeng!Pepepeng!

It was amazing. They shot down all the missiles aiming at Grid. There was only one person in Satisfy with such bow skills. Expert archer Jishuka.

"Leave the cover to me."

Jishuka winked with a bright appearance. Grid's heart thumped as he kept moving forward. He narrowed the distance to Elfin Stone and declared.

"Kill!"

Kuwooooh!

'Isn't this crazy?'

The two greatswords that came flying at Elfin Stone! The dimension of the swordsmanship was different than before. Elfin Stone used Fly and tried to avoid it in the air. However, he couldn't fly because a strong wind pressure pushed down on his shoulders.

It was the influence of Zednos' Storm of Eternity. The original Storm of Eternity was a magic that completely restrained the target. However, Elfin Stone's magic resistance was so high that only some of his movements could be limited.

Of course, that alone was a great help to Grid. Grid realized. Yes, now he wasn't alone. He could count on the people with him.

'Now I...!'

He was stronger than ever!

Puooook!

"Kuk...! Kuaaaaak!"

The two greatswords penetrated Elfin Stone's chest. It was enough to drive him crazy. Grid alone was enough to make Elfin Stone feel alert, but the humans supporting Grid meant the battle was developing in an unexpected way.

It would've been different if Blood Field was deployed, but there was still 3 minutes left of the cooldown time. It was the worst situation caused by his failure to use the skill before.

"I will kill all of you in this place!"

Today would be different from yesterday. There were no negotiations. Using the blood from his chest as a medium, he blew Grid away with an explosion and called out.

"Iyarugt!"

Kiiing-

It was the advent of the red longsword. The moment that 'Blood Cry' cause the Overgeared members to lose their sense of balance...

'Now!'

Grid would also be affected by Blood Cry! Elfin Stone smiled and wielded Iyarugt. The red line crossed Grid's stumbling body...

"What?"

Elfin Stone was confused. Grid defended against his sword?

"Who the hell are you?"

Grid wasn't affected by his evil influence and he wasn't disturbed by Iyarugt's Blood Cry? Was this really a human? Grid confirmed Elfin Stone's shaken eyes and replied.

"Who will kill who?"

Grid scoffed. His gaze was focused behind Elfin Stone.

'Ah!'

Elfin Stone hurriedly moved his sword. But it was too late.

"The Price of Living."

Puk!Puk puk puk!

Faker's silver dagger pierced Elfin Stone's neck again and again. The Price of Living. It was a skill that did more damage according to the number of strikes. Yesterday, Elfin Stone had only allowed three strikes, but today was the worst. He actually allowed seven hits. This was due to Grid perfectly catching the aggro.

"Kuock... You rat bastards!"

Elfin Stone's health gauge naturally decreased as Iyarugt aimed at Faker. The aggro was changed to him due to the Price of Living. In a normal raid, drawing aggro could endanger the part. But this situation was different. It was because Grid originally had more utility as a damage dealer than as a tank.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Pinnacle!"

Seokeok!

Pinnacle was used. Elfin Stone paid a heavy price for looking away from Grid.

[You have dealt 210,900 damage to the target.]

'Not enough.'

Grid's expression became dark. This was because 5 Joint Attacks wasn't activated. Elfin Stone's current health was at 80%. This was the result of being hit by Extreme Blood Transfusion, Kill, Price of Living and Pinnacle.

Elfin Stone's health and defense was outstanding as a named boss.

'I was unlucky!'

If 5 Joint Attacks was activated with Kill, it would've been a fatal wound. However, he had the worst luck and 5 Joint Attacks wasn't activated at all.

'No, there is no need to worry.'

A smile appeared on Grid's face. He was reminded that he had companions to cover for his lacking luck.

"Sura Descends!"

Regas approached Elfin Stone's side and started his lightning assault. His destructive power at this moment was enough to make even Grid speechless.

Pepeok!Pepepepeok!

The shining punches and kicks that left an afterglow! Once Regas became an Asura, the true power of Grid's Lightning Duke's Knuckles started to explode.

[The 6th combo has been achieved!]

[The unique effect of the Asura class is activated, dealing 5,000 fixed damage to the target.]

[The effect of the 'Lightning Duke's Knuckles' has been activated, causing additional physical damage to the target.]

Peeng!

[The 7th combo has been achieved!]

[The unique effect of the Asura class is activated, dealing 8,000 fixed damage to the target.]

[The effect of the 'Lightning Duke's Knuckles' has been activated, causing additional lightning damage to the target.]

Kwa kwang!

[The 8th combo has been achieved!]

[The unique effect of the Asura class is activated, dealing 12,000 fixed damage to the target.]

[The effect of the 'Lightning Duke's Knuckles' has been activated, causing additional physical and lightning damage to the target.]

Jjejejeok!

[The 10th combo has been achieved!]

[The unique effect of the Asura class is activated, dealing 20,000 fixed damage to the target.]

[The option effect of the Lightning Duke's Knuckles is activated, deploying Lightning Beam three times.

Chaaeng!

[The 12th combo has been achieved!]

[The unique effect of the Asura class is activated, dealing 30,000 fixed damage to the target.]

[The effect of the 'Lightning Duke's Knuckles' has been activated, causing additional physical damage proportional to the target's maximum health.]

"Kuheok! Ugh! Kuak!"

Elfin Stone groaned. Regas opened up the power of an Asura and demonstrated a speed and power that couldn't be endured by even Elfin Stone. However, the disadvantages were that the duration was short and the after effect was large.

Regas's combo reached its peak.

"This is the last one!"

Kwajak!Kwajajak!

[The 15th combo has been achieved!]

[The unique effect of the Asura class is activated, dealing 100,000 fixed damage to the target and reducing defense and recovery by 50% for 5 minutes. In addition, Lightning Spear is used.]

Puooook!

"Kuaaaaak!"

90% of Elfin Stone's total screams occurred today. He was pierced by the lightning spear that fell from the sky and finally sat down. Lightning Spear. It was the Asura's ultimate move that disabled the target for 1.5 seconds.

"Heok... P-Please..."

Flop!

The drained Regas collapsed. He consumed a large amount of stamina at once, so he wouldn't be able to move for three seconds. It was up to his companions to fill this gap.

"Mach Spear!"

"Draw Sword, Blow."

“Phoenix Arrow!”

"Black Winds!"

The party members' ultimate moves poured out. Elfin Stone tried to turn to smoke, but Lifael's Spear was the problem. He was forced to allow the attacks.

“Good!”

Grid smiled with satisfaction and started his sword dance. Thanks to the party members, Elfin Stone's health had fallen to 45%, so Grid would use Linked Kill to ensure their victory. However, something unexpected happened.

“You dare...! You dare!!!”

Certain bosses became stronger once health fell to a certain level, and Elfin Stone was one of them.

Puhahahak!

Magic power stretched out around Elfin Stone and dominated the land. Blood Field, which Grid had previously blocked, was instantly used.

[Vampire Earl, Elfin Stone has opened up his real power. All of Elfin Stone's stats will rise and his recovery ability will increase by 300%.]

[Your blood is influenced by Blood Field.]

[153 health will be transferred to Earl Elfin Stone per second.]

[All healing effects will be reduced by 80%.]

The Overgeared members felt desperate as the notification window appeared before them.

"I will eat all of you."

Elfin Stone got up and declared. His red eyes were tinged with black. The feeling of intimidation was incomparable.

"...Now how should we defeat him?"

The Overgeared members were lost. They weren't sure how to deal with Elfin Stone, who had all his stats increased by Blood Field. As everyone was feeling desperate...

"Don't you know that I have a hidden power as well?"

Grid spoke meaningful words. Elfin Stone and the Overgeared members focused on him.

'A hidden power?'

Elfin Stone was nervous.

'Truly God Grid!'

'He had a trump card!'

The Overgeared members were delighted. As everyone's attention was fixed on him, Grid shouted.

"Item! Combi!! Nation!!!"

"...?"

Was it a cool animation like the transformation robots that were popular in his grandfather's generation. No, it was...

Ttang!Ttang!

Grid took out a hammer and anvil, before squatting down and starting to hammer. Honestly, it was ludicrous behavior.

"This person has become crazy from fear."

The previously tense Elfin Stone ridiculed Grid. The Overgeared members felt embarrassed.

Chapter 299

The premise of this raid's success was the obstruction of Blood Field. But in the end, that failed. Elfin Stone opened his real power and succeeded in using Blood Field. The chances of this raid succeeding declined exponentially. If Elfin Stone couldn't be defeated in the next three minutes, Grid's party wouldn't be able to avoid annihilation.

'I need more power.'

There was no room to be leisurely. Grid pulled out two accessories from his inventory.

[Dark Bus' Ring]

Rating: Unique

Durability: 15/15

A ring worn by the 7th Yatan Servant, Dark Bus.

The wearer's mana is constantly consumed, and the dispel function will depend on this.

* 50 mana per second will be consumed by the ring. If the consumed mana reaches 5,000 then you can use Skill Deletion twice in 10 minutes.

* If you lose more than 5,000 mana and Skill Deletion isn't used twice within 10 minutes, the ring will overload and explode. At this time, the wearer will suffer a deadly wound and the ring is permanently destroyed.

* Within 3 minutes of wearing the ring, the ring will disappear if you don't lose more than 5,000 mana.

* Skill Deletion is only used when the hand wearing the ring touches the desired skill.

* Skill Deletion doesn't apply to skills with a continuous effect.

User Restriction: Level 300 or higher.

Weight: 0.1

A thin black ring. There were severe restrictions on the use and the conditions were tricky. In particular, Grid's total mana was only slightly above 4,000. In order to properly use Dark Bus' Ring, he needed to take mana potions and use skills systematically. It definitely hurt in many ways, but...

'The performance is excellent.'

He had mastered the use during the process of beating Kamiyan. Grid wore the ring then pulled out small black earrings.

[Dark Bus' Earrings]

Rating: Legendary

Durability: 55/55

Earrings worn by the 7th Yatan Servant, Dark Bus.

A vehicle to summon a great demon, it has powerful black magic.

There is enough magic power to control the body and mind of the wearer.

* The skill 'Blackening' can be used every 12 hours.

* The maximum duration of Blackening is 5 minutes.

*The frequent use of Blackening has the potential to awaken you as a non-human being.

User Restriction: Level 300 or higher. Has a reserve of black magic power.

Weight: 0.1

The conditions of user were simple compared to the ring, but it was dangerous.

'I don't mind.'

If he didn't use it now, when would he use it? There was no point saving it. Grid wore the earrings without hesitation. Then he used the new skill he acquired after reaching level 300.

"Item! Combi!! Nation!!!"

Grid was expecting a cool scene from a movie.

Bam bam bam~ baaaam~

He expected a magnificent background music while the two items fused together nicely. But reality was a gutter.

[Take out your hammer and anvil.]

After the notification window emerged, his body moved and pulled out a hammer and anvil. Then...

[Put the two items to be combined on top of the anvil.]

"...?"

It was a completely unexpected coercion. Grid was baffled. However, he couldn't afford to waste time. He hurriedly did as the system directed. He placed Lifael's Spear and Failure on top of the anvil.

At that moment.

[Try to combine Lifael's Spear and Failure.]

Ttang!Ttang!

His body moved on its own again. Regardless of his will, Grid started hammering the items. Item Combination was a skill where forced motion was applied.

'I look stupid.'

Squatting and hammering during a battle? What type of skill was this? Grid inwardly cursed.

"This person has become crazy from fear."

"..."

Elfin Stone treated him as a madman. Even the party members had shame in their gazes. Grid felt embarrassed and like it was unfair. A notification window appeared in front of him.

[Analyzing the time required to combine the items. Please wait for a moment.]

[...3]

[...2]

[...1]

Ttiring~

[The analysis has succeeded! It will take 43 seconds to combine Lifael's Spear and Failure.]

[Keep hammering for 43 seconds.]

'This is crazy!'

A chill went down Grid's spine. He had to hammer for 43 seconds during a battle? Wasn't it asking the enemy to eat him? Furthermore, the opponent was the strongest boss.

'This is bad.'

The party members asked the pale Grid.

{What are you doing? Why are you hammering? Did you eat something bad?}

{Grid, no matter how desperate the situation, calm down and act wisely.}

He was treated as a completely crazy person. Grid explained the situation.

{These are the motions of a newly acquired skill. I need you to buy me 40 seconds.}

{...}

The party members frowned. A skill that had forced motions during a battle. It was also 40 seconds? It just sounded like nonsense. However, there was no reason for Grid to be joking. The party members checked on Elfin Stone.

Elfin Stone kept an eye on Grid.

"It's suspicious."

The blue greatsword and golden spear emitted a strong aura every time Grid hammered. Elfin Stone was nervous.

"I don't know what you're doing, but I won't let you."

Kurururung.

Powerful magic started to concentrate on the blood-drenched ground. It was the forerunner of Blood Wave, a magic linked with Blood Field.

"Protect Grid!"

On this cracking ground, the wave of magic power aimed at Grid. Zednos detected this and acted to protect Grid.

"Do you think you can stop me?"

Elfin Stone was overflowing with confidence. He had absolutely faith in himself now that Blood Field was deployed. And the reason for his faith was shown as the magic was deployed.

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

Waves of red magic sprang from the ground and flooded towards the Overgeared members. Vantner used Thousand Shields and Zednos triggered Wind Curtain. The two skills boasted excellent magic resistance, but it wasn't enough to handle Blood Wave.

Pepeng!

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

"Aack!"

"Ah! I will die!"

Thousand Shields shattered while Wind Curtain was scattered like an illusion. Vantner and Zednos were hit by Blood Wave and fell down. Blood Wave continued despite the actions of the two men.

The goal was Grid. Peak Sword interrupted.

"Draw Sword, Annihilate."

Seokeok!

The moment Peak Sword drew his sword, light gleamed and crossed Blood Wave. It was possible because Blood Wave's power was weakened by Vantner and Zednos' sacrifice.

“Okay! Eek?”

He protected God Grid! Peak Sword’s excited face suddenly distorted with pain. It was because his thighs were pierced by red thorns that emerged at his feet.

“Shit!”

Peak Sword’s movement speed significantly reduced. Elfin Stone moved past him.

“You...!”

Peak Sword couldn’t let him pass and put a hand on his sheath again.

[You have suffered 9,980 damage.]

"Kuaaaaak!"

The notification window was accompanied by intense pain. He wasn’t able to recognize it, but he was hit by Iyarugt.

"It’s natural to kneel before me."

Elfin Stone checked that Peak Sword was down and got closer to Grid. Grid saw it and checked the remaining time.

[27]

‘Should I cancel the skill?’

No, he couldn’t do that now. He would believe in his companions and wait.

“Don’t go.”

In response to Grid’s belief, the duo of Pon and Regas blocked Elfin Stone’s path.

Pepeng!

Pepepepeok!

The spear and unpredictable attacks aimed at Elfin Stone. But Elfin Stone was freed from Lifael’s Spear, so he could avoid their attacks by turning into smoke.

“Shouldn’t you understand the subject?”

Sususuk.

Elfin Stone’s body scattered as smoke before returning to its original form. The location was behind Pon and Regas.

“Ghost!”

The scared Pon and Regas aimed their spears and fists behind them. However, Iyarugt was faster.

Seokeok!

“Keook!”

"Kkuk...!"

The red sword slashed at Pon and Regas' chest. The two people suffered huge damage and had to take a health potion. However, only 20% of the potion's effect was applied thanks to the influence of Blood Field.

Pahat!

Faker appeared behind Elfin Stone, who was trying to deal the finishing blow to the duo. Elfin Stone was always hit by Faker's surprise attack, but now he was different. Faker's swiftness and stealth were useless in front of the fully powered Elfin Stone.

“Blood Tornado.”

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

Blood winds stirred around Elfin Stone's body. Faker wasn't able to attack Elfin Stone and was blown away.

“Too strong.”

Jishuka bit her lip as she fired arrows to cover her companions. Elfin Stone was too strong. She didn't know how to deal with him.

"Kuhahahaha!"

Elfin Stone ran wild like a fish that met water and finally burst out laughing. He felt great pleasure in knocking down the humans who dared threaten him.

“Now! Only the two of you are left!”

Grid was still hammering and Jishuka was protecting him. Elfin Stone's gaze was fixed on both of them. Around him were the collapsed Overgeared members. Blood Field was constantly taking their health and they would die within a minute.

“I will eat until I'm satisfied!”

Teong!

Elfin Stone leapt energetically and narrowed the distant to Grid and Jishuka instantly. Jishuka used Multi-shot and Dancing Arrows to try and slow Elfin Stone's momentum, but it was wishful thinking.

Seokeok!

Blood rose from Jishuka's smooth shoulders and Elfin Stone finally reached Grid.

"Iyarugt!"

Kiing!

The red Iyarugt responded to Elfin Stone's call and aimed for Grid. At the same time, the sword emanated an abnormal sharpness that seemed like it would stab right through Grid's armor.

“This is the end!”

Ttang!Ttang!

Grid was still hammering. Iyarugt was bound to be stabbed into his neck. The Overgeared members closed their eyes.

‘This is the end.’

They didn’t know what the newly acquired skill was, but it wouldn’t work since it took too long to activate. It was over. The Overgeared members were desperate while Elfin Stone was delighted.

[The items have successfully combined!]

The notification window he had been waiting for finally appeared. A smile appeared on Grid’s face.

“Blackening.”

Kuwaaaang!

Black magic exploded.

‘This power...!’

Amazement appeared on Elfin Stone’s face.

Peeeeeeong!

The gold-blue greatsword collided with Iyarugt and the earth shook. The ensuing blood that scattered came from Elfin Stone.

Chapter 300

[The items have successfully combined!]

[(Combination) Failure + Lifael’s Spear]

Rating: Legendary (Transcendent)

Durability: Infinite

Attack Power: 1,100~2,390 Defense: 100

* Agility +100

* Divine Power +400

* Fixed damage of +2,200 on each attack.

* There is a certain probability of activating the ‘Light Wheel’ skill.

* Attack power +30% against those with black magic power.

* There is a certain probability of blocking the enemy’s attacks.

* There is a high probability of activating the ‘5 Joint Attacks’ skill.

- * The skill 'Bisect' will be generated.
- * There will be a fear effect if the enemy is more than 15 levels lower than the user.
- * Attack power +30% in dark places.

A weapon that maximizes the merits of the legendary rated 'Failure' and 'Lifael's Spear (Reproduction)' after being combined by the legendary blacksmith G.

Conditions of Use: Pagma's Descendant

- * The combination time is 2 minutes.
- * This item can't be traded.

'Transcendent legendary...!'

The result was more than expected. The performance of Failure + Lifael's Spear was close to a mythical weapon. It was safe to say that Item Combination was one of Pagma's Descendant's ultimate techniques.

'It is a pity that the combination time is only 2 minutes.'

Anyway, this battle would be decided within a short amount of time. Elfin Stone would either be killed in two minutes, or Grid's party would be wiped out. This was the only outcome now that Blood Field was deployed.

Grid held the golden Failure. He revealed his power.

"Blackening."

Kuwaaaang!

Black magic stirred as Grid's skin became pale and the whites of his eyes turned black.

[Your black magic power has increased.]

[You don't have any black magic power. It will be replaced with demonic power.]

[While Blackening is activated, your species will change to half-demon.]

[As a half demon, your maximum health is reduced by 50%. Your attack power, magic power and agility will increased by 20% each.]

[All attacks will be converted to the black magic attribute.]

Blackening was a skill that greatly increased his combat related stats in return for half of his maximum health. Grid felt strength boiling inside him. However, his status was a little strange. His heart rate elevated and he had an excruciating headache. it was hard to breathe through the pain in his head.

'Why?'

A notification window popped up the moment Grid felt doubts.

[Your demonic force and divine power of the weapon opposes each other.]

[The divine power of (Combination) Failure + Lifael's Spear has doubled the strength of the demonic power.]

[All your attacks will have both demonic and divine power at the same time.]

[Whenever you hit a target with an attack, there is a clash between the demonic power and divine power, causing an explosion.]

[The demonic power will increase the power of Blackening by devouring the divine power.]

[Maximum health will drop by 50%. Your attack power, magic power and agility will increased by 10% each.]

It was an obvious mistake. He was so focused on gaining power to overcome the crisis that he didn't consider the compatibility of Lifael's Spear and Blackening.

"Ack...!"

The headache was getting worse. Iyarugt came running at his neck.

Chaaeng!

Failure's blade had a small blade reminiscent of a shark's fin attached to it. It blocked Iyarugt's sword. Grid didn't intentionally use his swordsmanship, relying on the power of the items.

[The option effect of (Combination) Failure + Lifael's Spear has been activated in order to block the enemy's attack.]

Kwaang!

A dark explosion occurred at the point where the two swords hit each other. Both Grid and Elfin Stone suffered damage.

[You have suffered 5,300 damage.]

[You have dealt 15,900 damage to the target.]

It was an explosion that contained demonic and divine power. Unlike Grid who had a certain resistance to both attributes and the Holy Light Armor which reduced magic damage, Elfin Stone was vulnerable to divine power and suffered greatly.

But the result wasn't good for Grid either. Grid's maximum health had fallen to 16,000 points, so 5,300 damage was fatal to him. Meanwhile, Elfin Stone's current health was 4 million. From his standpoint, the damage from the explosion wasn't that threatening.

However, Elfin Stone didn't know this about Grid. He thought Grid intentionally caused the explosion and felt a chill.

'Is this really a human?'

A human manifested demonic power and divine power while exerting a physical ability that was comparable to a True Blood earl. It was both transcendent and strange.

“What the hell is your identity?”

“...”

Grid didn't say anything. To be precise, he had no room to speak. He was barely maintaining his reason with this severe headache.

"Kuaaaah!"

It was like the roar of a beast. Grid approached Elfin Stone and used Kill. The speed and damage wasn't comparable to the past. It was a tremendous level. It was a fearful attack. Elfin Stone moved with all his might and succeeded in evading Kill.

'Dammit!'

Elfin Stone sweated as he barely avoided the attack.

'I felt fear!'

He was a direct descendant of Shizo Beriache. Yet he was scared of this unknown human?

'I can't tolerate it.'

Embarrassment boiled inside him.

Kwaduduk!

Elfin Stone widened the distance with Grid. If the two swords collided with each other, there would be an explosion. So he tried to use magic so that he wouldn't be damaged.

This was a big mistake. Grid had Pagma's Swordsmanship, Transcend. He was able to switch to ranged attacks and thus was safe from the explosion that occurred every time the attack hit the distant target.

Pepepepeok!

Explosions kept occurring around Elfin Stone as he was hit by a bombardment of energy blades.

[You have dealt 15,760 damage to the target.]

[You have dealt 16,400 damage to the target.]

[Lifael's Spear's option effect is activated, causing the skill 'Light Wheel' to be generated.]

[You have dealt 82,900 damage to the target.]

[The option effect of (Combination) Failure + Lifael's Spear is activated, causing the skill '5 Joint Attacks' to be generated.]

[You have dealt 60,040 damage to the target.]

"Kuaaaack!"

Elfin Stone let out a horrible shriek. The heavy onslaught and explosion of black light contained a destructive power that even a vampire earl couldn't ignore.

“Wow...”

“Really strong.”

“...It’s terrifying.”

The Overgeared members were stunned. They might be in the top 20 rankings, the attack power shown by Grid was different.

‘Maybe. Maybe this...’

At this moment, wasn’t Grid comparable to Kraugel? Pon had encountered Kraugel in the past and knew his strength. Just as he was thinking that.

“Shit! Shitt!”

Elfin Stone started cursing. It wasn’t possible to turn to smoke due to the divine power in Grid’s attacks, while Blood Shield couldn’t completely protect his body from the damage of the explosions.

‘In the first place, it was wrong for me to move back!’

Elfin Stone belatedly realized and changed his posture. Anyway, it was meaningless to defend so he planned to confront Grid with force. It was both his pride and a wise judgment.

Kuwooooh!

Elfin Stone’s scattered blood gathered in one place. Then the blood turned into a spear and shot towards Grid.

"Heart Seeker!"

Peeeeeeong!

Heart Seeker was a targeted skill that unconditionally hit the target. It was a definite death sentence. The strength surpassed Extreme Blood Transfusion, but Elfin Stone was reluctant to use it because it consumed his health. The fact that Elfin Stone used Heart Seeker meant he recognized that Grid was strong.

Kiiiing.

It was an absolute majesty. The bloody spear penetrated straight through Grid’s bombardment of Transcend and Blacksmith’s Rage. Then...

Puooook!

“Grid!”

The Overgeared members paled from fear. Grid failed to respond to the spear and it pierced his heart.

“Cough!”

Red blood poured from Grid’s nose and mouth. Elfin Stone wasn’t careless.

‘He survived the Extreme Blood Transfusion’

Confirmation was necessary. Elfin Stone once again used another spell despite already consuming a large amount of health and magic power.

“Blood Wave!”

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

Blood Wave shot towards Grid. A smile appeared on Elfin Stone’s mouth as he confirmed that Grid was about to be hit by it.

“Pagma’s Swordsmanship...”

“...!”

Grid used the Skill Deletion of Dark Bus’ Ring and penetrated through Blood Wave to reach Elfin Stone. Elfin Stone tried to hinder Grid by hurriedly deploying Blood Thorn. However, Grid used the left and right movements of Link to avoid most of the thorns coming from the ground.

“Damn bastard!”

Elfin Stone shot out Blood Laser. It was blood magic that penetrated through a narrow range. But Grid waved his hand and destroyed it. He actively utilized Dark Bus’ Ring.

“This is nonsense!”

Elfin Stone was alarmed by the sight! In the end, Grid narrowed down the distance, avoiding Iyarugt with the footwork of Kill. Then he used his best skill.

“Linked Kill.”

Kuwooooh!

Both black and gold light shot out like fireworks.

Chaaeng!

Elfin Stone used Iyarugt to resist the first strike of Linked Kill. But the explosion that occurred afterwards was the problem.

“Kuk!”

Elfin Stone shook. It was the same with Grid. Elfin Stone was the one who fixed his posture first. It was close, but this difference could be huge in battle. Iyarugt aimed for Grid’s heart. Grid’s immortal passive was activated after Heart Seeker, so this was a tremendous crisis from Grid’s standpoint.

‘I can’t lose after coming this far.’

Grid didn’t give up. He might die but he continued to use Linked Kill. And he received a reward for this.

[The option effect of (Combination) Failure + Lifael’s Spear is activated, causing the skill ‘Light Wheel’ to be generated.]

It was a skill that unfolded at an exquisite moment. Thanks to that, Linked Kill’s thrust quickly changed. Elfin Stone exposed a gap after aiming Iyarugt at Grid, and was wounded instead.

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 304,600 damage to the target.]

'Unbelievable!'

The magic sword Iyarugt made the wearer into a master of swordsmanship. But what was this sword technique? Elfin Stone staggered from the shock and was struck by the third consecutive Linked Kill.

Puok!

[You have dealt 119,400 damage to the target.]

Next was the fourth blow.

[You have dealt 122,000 damage to the target.]

Then the fifth.

[The Holy Light Gloves's option effect is activated, causing the skill '5 Joint Attacks' to be generated.]

[You have dealt 608,500 damage to the target.]

The sixth blow.

[Critical!]

[The Holy Light Gloves's option effect is activated, causing the skill '5 Joint Attacks' to be generated.]

[Lifael's Spear's option effect is activated, causing the skill 'Light Wheel' to be generated.]

[You have dealt 3,054,900 damage to the target.]

Grid's sword kept striking at Elfin Stone. The explosion that occurred every time also landed on Grid. Grid wore Doran's Ring and took a supreme health potion, but the amount of recovery couldn't keep up with the damage. In the end.

"Kuk...! Kuock!"

His love, Leah. Elfin Stone recalled the last time he saw her smiling face and scattered into black smoke.

[You have died.]

Grid also turned into a grey light.

[Vampire Earl Elfin Stone is forced to sleep after exhausting all his powers.]

[Your party leader Grid has died.]

[The Pavranium Expedition has acquired Elfin Stone's Ring.]

[The Pavranium Expedition has acquired Iyarugt.]

[The Pavranium Expedition has acquired the 4th Piece of ???.]

[The Pavranium Expedition has become the first party to capture a vampire city!]

[The Pavranium Expedition party members will receive bonus experience points and increased item acquisition rate in all vampire cities for the next month.]

Many notification windows popped up. However, Grid's vision was turning black so he had no way to verify it.