

Overgeared 371

Chapter 371

Hell Sword.

It was a conditional activation skill attached to Iyarugt, and the power was great. It was comparable to the legendary skill, Pagma's Swordsmanship. If he analyzed it in detail, it overwhelmed the power of Kill Lv. 4.

[Hell Sword]

Inflicts 2,400% physical attack power to the target.

Every time the target is hit, an addition 100% damage will be dealt.

Mana Consumption: 1,000

Skill Cooldown Time: 15 minutes.

Chiiiiing!

Iyarugt was combined with Failure.

Pachik!

Pachichik!

Black sparks rose around Iyarugt. A crescent shaped line was drawn. It was a bisection.

Sakak-!

"...!"

Tiramet was slashed from the crown of the head to the crotch. A total of 24 black rays gathered around him, making him unable to scream. Grid moved and controlled everything.

'One.'

Peng!

'Two.'

Pepeng!

'Three.'

Peeng!

He manipulated the direction by moving his fingers. Of the 24 rays, only three managed to hit Tiramet. The remaining 21 ceased to exist after the one second time limit.

'It's too hard.'

He couldn't adapt to the continuous command input. It was complicated and the time was too short. It wasn't something he could adapt to after one or two times.

'If I knew, I would've gone to the game room more often when I was young...'

He wasted his time sitting at a desk and studying. In the corner of Grid's field of view, the notification windows were being updated sequentially.

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 1,229,112 damage to the target.]

[Health has been absorbed due to the option effect of Iyarugt's Ring.]

[You have dealt 17,071 damage to the target.]

[You have dealt 17,071 damage to the target.]

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 51,213 damage to the target.]

[The duration of Blacksmith's Rage is over.]

After Hell Sword, he followed it with the combo of Transcended Link, Linked Kill, Link, Kill, Pinnacle, and Revolve. He even used Item Combination and Blackening. At this point, Grid was betting on Tiramet's end.

'He shouldn't still be alive.'

He used all his strength against Tiramet from the beginning. He only had 33 mana left after using his strongest skills in succession. What if Tiramet survived? Grid would be forced on the defensive until the mana potions and skills cooldown ended.

But that wouldn't happen.

'Hell Gao with one fire stone obtained wouldn't be able to withstand this combo...'

"What?"

Grid's expression stiffened.

'Why isn't he dead?'

He didn't receive any messages about Tiramet's death, or the experience and items obtained. Grid stayed alert.

"...Ahh, yes, yes. This is why Elfin Stone suffered."

Tiramet opened his mouth while his health gauge was completely exhausted.

"It's because his body is weak, unlike me."

'What?'

Grid was baffled about why this guy didn't die. Tiramet's body was torn like a rag, but magic power rose around him like a rag.

"Among my siblings, I am weak in magic. Unlike my other siblings, I can't use magic effectively. But instead..."

"...!"

Grid's eyes widened. It was because the black magic power around Tiramet completely restored his body.

"I have the ability to focus my magic power on regeneration. It's the perfect immortality."

Tiramet laughed, revealing pointed teeth.

"Now, let's start again."

Cheok!

Tiramet took a fighting stance. He was like a skillful martial artist. Yes, it was a form that was reminiscent of Regas. It reflected the will to not be caught by surprise anymore.

"For reference, I become stronger every time I half die and revive."

Peeong!

Tiramet moved one foot and swung his fist, causing magic power and wind pressure to explode at the same time. It was a combination of magic damage and physical damage.

'This is a viscount?'

Apart from the tremendous attack power, his speed was also faster. Grid called the God Hands and took an active defense. It would be enough until the mana potions and skills cooldown ended.

But Tiramet's stats were significantly higher than before. It was difficult for Grid, who couldn't use a single skill.

Jjeong!Jjeeeeong!

As the number of Tiramet's kicks and punches increased, the intervals at which the God Hands stiffened became shorter. Grid realized that the God Hands would soon be neutralized.

'It is bad for me.'

In the case of Elfin Stone who used Blood Field, he was skilled in CC and magic, but his physical ability itself wasn't special. Elfin Stone was unable to exert a great deal of force against Grid, who could neutralize CC and a few spells. Tiramet was the opposite case. He was a difficult opponent for Grid to take advantage of, since he depended on physical skills.

'In the first place, his revival ability is ridiculous.'

Grid was foolish to use the strongest skill combo to end it quickly. If he hadn't grown, he would've fallen into disarray and chaos.

Pepeng!

Pepepepeng!

As Grid looked worse, Tiramet's momentum rose. The speed at which he wielded his fists and feet gradually rose. Grid tried to block but there was no escape.

"I'm not a viscount because I'm weaker than Elfin Stone. I just don't want to be annoyed by the responsibilities."

Taack!

Grid started relying on the Divine Shield.

Tiramet used the shield as a springboard and spun like a drill as he fell. The magic power concentrated on his toes caused a tornado, causing the area to be affected by the aftermath of the intense aura.

'It's no use.'

Grid judged and took evasive action, but it was impossible to escape from Tiramet. It was because the duration of Quick Movements was over.

"Hahahahat! Yes, you humans are best suited to being on the ground!"

Tiramet's feet crushed Grid's shoulders.

Kwaaaaang!

"Kuaaaaak!"

Grid let out a terrible scream. Tiramet grabbed Grid's head and whispered in a grim voice.

"I will break you from now on."

Chaaeng!

Tiramet's knee struck Grid's face.

Jjang!

The second blow.

Jjejejeok!

Three blows in a row.

Yura screamed as blood scattered from Grid's head.

"Grid!"

[Mana has been consumed to refine the 'Extinction Bullet'.]

[Your magic gun doesn't support rifle mode. There is a very high probability of a misfire.]

[The Extinction Bullet has failed to launch properly.]

[The durability of the Emilfa Magic Gun has fallen by 95. It might be destroyed.]

[Mana has been consumed to use the 'Vindictive Sword'.]

[Your magic gun doesn't support bayonet mode. There is a very high probability that Vindictive Sword won't manifest.]

[Vindictive Sword has failed to be activated.]

[The durability of the Emilfa Magic Sword has fallen to 0 and it has been destroyed!]

[Destroyed items can't be recovered!]

Demon Slayer Yura was still unable to exert her full strength. Was it because she failed to complete her class quest? That's right. Was it because her stats hadn't gone through the third awakening? That was also right.

But the most important reason was that her magic weapon was only level 180. A magic engineering gun. For convenience, the magic gun was a weapon that could only be produced at an alchemist's facility.

In fact, magic guns produced by the alchemy facilities were merely unfinished products. Human alchemists only grasped the approximately working principles of a magic gun, but they didn't yet understand the exact structure. The true magic guns that supported pistol mode, rifle mode, and bayonet mode could only be made by dwarves.

However, Yura was blocked from proceeding with her class quest and was unable to enter the dwarf city of Talima.

"Grid...!"

The only man who stirred her heart. Yura felt grief about not being able to do anything, despite him being trampled on. Yura's chest ached.

'Why are you doing this for me?'

Why did he have to sacrifice himself? She felt sorry for Grid and hated her own helplessness.

'I have to save him somehow.'

She tried to use her strongest skills, only for her weapon to be destroyed. Yura urgently armed herself with her secondary weapon, the level 120 Rianfa Magic Gun, and rushed to Tiramet. She felt gratitude and guilt to Grid, as well as her own pride. The combination of emotions linked together to make her behave that way.

"You have forgotten your opponent...!"

Stop! Yura shouted at Tiramet and pointed the muzzle, only to stop. It was because she heard Grid's voice.

"Relax. I'm okay."

“...Grid?”

The voice was too good for a dying person caught by Tiramet. His voice came from a strange location. Tiramet jumped with surprise.

"A fake?"

That's right. The Grid beaten up by Tiramet was Randy, not the real body. Grid fell from above Tiramet's head. It was the moment when Randy's new skill, after achieving level 200 in the Behen Archipelago, 'Change position with the copied target' was used to great effect.

“These people swapped...!”

“Kill!”

Puok!

“Kuaaaaak!”

Tiramet cried out with pain after Iyarugt's head was pierced. However, it was too much to say that Grid would win. Grid was still lacking mana and the cooldown of other skills hadn't come back in full.

Furthermore.

'What if I pour everything into it and he doesn't die?'

It was the worst. Then it would really be over.

'There is the possibility that the boss can't be defeated until certain conditions are met.'

Grid suggested to Yura.

“Let's run away.”

But Yura's opinion was different. She felt relief when she realized that Grid was safe, and regained her cool head. She figured out a way to kill Tiramet with her brains.

“There is a wound where he was hit by a former Demon Slayer.”

Why didn't the wound heal despite her overwhelming regenerative power? The answer was likely to be in the class called Demon Slayer.

"Maybe I'm the only one who can kill him."

It was a rational judgment. Someone clapped at her judgment. It was Sticks. He was watching the battle from outside the area and he grinned at Yura.

"It's the correct conclusion."

“You...?”

It was the first time that Yura had seen an elf. She was confused for a while and realized.

"Grid, did you manage to come here with his help?"

Grid nodded.

"That's right. The hidden sage, Sticks."

Sticks handed a small box to Yura.

"This is the gun that Alex used in his youth."

Alex. A former Demon Slayer and a man who was a close friend of Sticks. Grid, who was barely maintaining his composure, snapped out.

"You don't have any items that Pagma used in his youth?"

"No, I wasn't close to Pagma."

Sticks replied firmly. Grid thought it was unfair.

Damian, who had been staying in Reidan for a month.

He was having a lot of fun. Was he watching the construction process of the temple? That was secondary.

Lord Steim. It was a lot of fun to play with Grid's son.

"You already understand the principles to manifesting divine power. Lord isn't just a genius, but a super genius."

"Bubu!"

Lord nodded proudly as a warm ray of light poured out from his fingertips. It was a feeble light, but considering that he had only been training for a month, Lord really was a genius. He understood whatever was taught, so Damian felt a sense of fulfillment.

"You can use divine power to protect your friends and easily deal with demonkin. For example, the vampires."

Damian was intent on teaching Lord.

Kasim and the Silver Dragons assassins hiding in the darkness were guarding Lord's back.

Chapter 372

"You deceived me."

Randy, who copied Grid's appearance, was beaten to death. Tiramet nervously threw down the slime-like creature.

[Doppelganger Randy's health has fallen to 0.]

[Randy is forced to return to the pet inventory. You can't summon it for the next 24 hours.]

"You will pay with your lives."

Kwajak!

Tiramet broke the ground as he leapt. The speed at which he reached Grid's group, only Grid could react and cope. Yura was too low in level and Sticks' eyesight was low.

Chaaeng!

Grid blocked Tiramet's fists with the combined Failure and Iyarugt and was pushed back two steps. Grid had a unique strength stat among users, yet he was pushed back by the force.

Pakak!

Tiramet tilted her upper body and swung his fist at Grid's temple.

[You have suffered 9,975 damage.]

"Kuk...!"

Ku tang tang tang!

Grid groaned as his body threw back against a wall. Tiramet's basic attack was very difficult to deal with because it combined magic damage and physical damage, and also had changing features.

'This isn't good.'

Grid was filled with extreme tension. In the past, he might've fallen into a panic. However, it was a good opportunity for the current Grid to face strong opposition.

'Kraugel, you could've beaten this guy.'

Grid wanted to prove that he was one step closer to Kraugel. Grid rose with this thought. Then he immediately rushed towards Tiramet. Despite being wounded, his momentum didn't die.

"You bastard!"

Tiramet yelled as he received a nasty cut from Grid's Greatsword. It wasn't that he couldn't avoid it, but that he didn't. Tiramet grasped Grid's face with a large hand. The moment his fangs shone in a threatening manner.

"Magic Missile."

Peeng!

A white flash aimed accurately between Tiramet's two eyes, while the God Hands grabbed the shaking Tiramet. At the same time, blood rose from Tiramet's neck. Tiramet got a headache.

'How is he maintaining his concentration?'

His first attacks were in vain and now he was overwhelmed in battle, so why didn't he feel despair? This person had a different mentality from ordinary humans.

'So far, all the humans have felt despair and frustration after realizing that I'm an immortal being.'

Tiramet didn't like it. Tiramet's eyes shone red as he used magic to drive Grid on the defensive. Meanwhile, Yura was trying to grasp the function of the item.

[Alex's Magic Engineering Gun]

Rating: Unique

Durability: 215/215

* Pistol Mode

Attack Power: 419

Mana Purification Rate: +30%

* Rifle Mode

Attack Power: 914

Mana Purification Rate: -20%

Firing Speed: -50%

* Bayonet Mode

Attack Power: 705

Attack Speed: +10%

Stabbing Attack: +30%

* It is only possible to change modes once every 5 seconds.

A magic weapon made by the dwarven craftsman Milepeu, who taught Pagma before he became a legend.

Contains the essence of dwarf technology.

Conditions of Use: Demon Slayer

'It's great.'

The magic guns used by Yura only supported pistol mode. In addition, it was lacking when it came to attack power, and didn't have the option to increase the speed at which mana was purified into bullets.

Sticks smiled as she checked Alex's magic gun and shook.

"I have watched you closely. This gun can bring out your true strength."

Yura had a question.

"Why are you giving me this gun without any conditions? Today is the first time we've met."

"You are Grid's colleague."

Originally, a Demon Slayer had to visit the Behen Archipelago and reach the 25th island to obtain Alex's magic gun. It was a type of hidden quest. However, Yura skipped the intermediate process and got a reward just because she was Grid's colleague.

'It was you.'

Chaaeng!

Chaeeeeeng!

Grid was having a bloody fight with Tiramet. Yura's eyes further deepened as she looked at him.

'He is a man like a fishnet.'

She couldn't escape from him. She never imagined that she would be so dependent on someone. Yura aimed at Tiramet's head and made a subtle smile.

Wiing- click.

[Alex's gun will switch to rifle mode.]

The blue barrel stretched out and Yura's mana was transferred into the gun.

"Extinction."

Peeng!

"...!"

Sticks' eyes shone as he watched Yura from the side. It was because the speed at which she refined mana into a bullet reminded him of Alex. Of course, he wouldn't be surprised if she was faster.

Kwa kwang!

"Kuaack!"

Tiramet's face half exploded while he was busy dealing with Grid and the God Hands. Blood and flesh dripped down and his skull was revealed. It was an accurate shooting skill and great power.

Tiramet struggled with the pain. His hate-filled eyes gazed at Yura and Grid didn't miss this opportunity.

"Linked Kill."

Puok!

Grid's greatsword accurately hit Tiramet's half-face. Tiramet couldn't even scream.

Puk puk puk!

Grid's greatsword kept targeting Tiramet's face. Unfortunately, two of them missed, but four strikes were successful. A critical popped up all four times, and the effect of the Holy Light Gloves was activated three times.

Grid had the momentum.

“Link!”

[Link has risen to level 6.]

[The power of Link will rise.]

Pit!

Pipipipit!

Chaeeeeeng!

Tiramet was amazed. Despite the deadly injury, most of the swift sword strikes were blocked with both arms. But now his opponent wasn't just Grid. Focusing on Grid once again revealed a gap to Yura.

“Vindictive Sword.”

Shaaaah!

She used Extinction Bullet to approach Tiramet and then used an aura sword attack. The white flash in a straight line once again caused great damage to Tiramet.

Grid was amazed.

‘It is very strong.’

Demon Slayer. It was a great demonstration of the passive and active skills that dealt additional damage to the demonkin. Yura's level, stats and items were far below Grid's, but she dealt 1.5 times more damage to Tiramet.

“Ugh!”

Tiramet was confused. It was absurd that one of Beriache's nine direct descendants was on the defensive from two humans. It was a shock that was comparable to when he met Alex, 150 years ago.

‘First retreat...’

Pahat!

Tiramet's body scattered into smoke as he forgot about his pride. He planned to retreat, but Grid and Yura didn't allow him to.

“Pagma's Swordsmanship, Wave.”

[Wave has risen to level 5.]

[The power of Wave will rise.]

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

Waves spread in all directions, slowing down Tiramet's speed.

“Light of the End.”

Pepepepeng!

Yura caused a golden explosion that shook the space.

"This... W-what is this...? Kuaaaaak!"

The overwhelming regenerative power of Tiramet was neutralized by the Demon Slayer. Tiramet started to disappear without recovering from his fatal injuries. His screams echoed in the area as he faded away.

[Vampire Viscount Tiramet is forced to sleep after exhausting all his powers.]

[1,325,810,470 experience has been acquired.]

[Tiramet's Belt has been acquired.]

[Tiramet's Shoulderguards has been acquired.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Tiramet's strength is engraved on the Rune of Darkness.]

[The blacksmith who became a legend can appraise items with an excellent discerning eye. If a hidden feature exists in the target item, it will be found.]

[Tiramet's Shoulderguards]

Rating: Unique

Defense: 95 Health: +3,000

* There is a low chance of nullifying physical attacks.

It is the favourite shoulderguards of the vampire viscount, Tiramet. Gives the wearer a high survival capacity.

User Restriction: Level 320 or higher.

Weight: 190

[Tiramet's Belt]

Rating: Epic (Growth)

* Reduce damage received by 10%.

* Stamina +100.

A belt that contains the unique magic power of Vampire Viscount Tiramet.

Weight: 13

[This item has a hidden function.]

[The information about Tiramet's Belt has been updated.]

* If this belt grows to a legendary rating, the wearer can summon Vampire Viscount Tiramet.

'Hah...'

Elfin Stone's ring could summon Elfin Stone and Tiramet's Belt could summon Tiramet. Assuming that all items with the unique mana was like this, it seemed that summoning the vampires would make them his subordinates.

'It is a big hit.'

The thought of having big bosses like Elfin Stone and Tiramet as subordinates in the future was electrifying. Yura approached Grid and reached out.

"...Please."

"Yes, of course."

She wanted the items to be distributed. Grid interpreted it that way and handed Tiramet's Belt to Yura.

'It is a bit disappointing.'

He wouldn't have been able to raid Tiramet without Yura's help. In addition, Yura's growth was Overgeared's growth, so it was natural and reasonable to distribute the items to her. But Yura didn't take Tiramet's belt.

"Not the items."

"...Then what?"

Grid felt puzzled, while Yura blushed and avoided his gaze.

"Hold my hand. As a token for my efforts."

Yura asked shyly. Grid was bewildered, but he shook her hand vigorously.

Sticks shook his head.

"Mama! Ma!"

Lord's sense of balance increased day by day and he started walking a week ago. He didn't fall until he reached his mother Irene. Irene was thrilled and hugged Lord.

"My son, you are the spitting image of your great father."

"Wow."

Ruby, who was staring at Lord from the side, was embarrassed. Her brother was someone who wore diapers until he was 5 years old. It was ridiculous that he would be compared to the super genius Lord.

But sometimes it was good for the truth to be buried. Ruby remained silent.

Chapter 373

'I haven't grown enough.'

Grid's total health in his blackened state was slightly less than 30,000. Tiramet could kill him in just 3~4 hits. But Grid had endured it. The attacks with a relatively easy orbit were directly blocked and avoided, while he relied on the God Hands and Randy for the attacks that were difficult to cope with.

Grid's self-evaluation of his control and ability to use items.

'There's still a long way to go.'

He wasn't satisfied. It was a fact that the enemies he would face in the future would continue to be strong.

'Is there a definitive way to become stronger? No matter how much control I develop, it's impossible to not get hit at all during a battle.'

What if he made an item that received hits?

'A simple example is a damage reflective item.'

Or, 'Armor with a black hole? I will drag the enemies that hit me to another dimension.' It was fun to imagine fanciful things. For Grid, imagination was a type of power.

Why?

'I have the Item Creation skill.'

There were many items in Satisfy that had functions that Grid didn't know yet. Grid's imagination meant he had infinite possibilities. Grid believed in his own potential and grasped the Rune of Darkness.

[Rune of Darkness]

Bound Item

It is permanently preserved in your inventory. Trading, dropping, or destroying it is impossible.

-Usage Effect: Demonic power state will rise in exchange for its use.

* Normal attacks and skill attacks will deal an addition 20% dark damage.

Unique Lasting Effect: When dealing with named demonkin and demons, you can absorb unique attributes.

* Tiramet's Power: If your health drops below 10%, health will be restored to 30% in an instant.
Cooldown Time: 12 hours.

'My survivability is getting higher.'

Grid observed the Rune of Darkness and came up with one idea.

'It would be ideal to be a pure tanker.'

There were many damage dealers in Overgeared, but few tankers. The only tankers to be relied on were Vantner and Toban.

'If I become a tanker, the synergy with the guild will explode...'

He imagined himself armed with heavy armor and shields. Then he frowned.

'...Then Pagma's Swordsmanship will be useless.'

Grid was someone with the strongest attack skills. It was a waste of talent to turn into a pure tanker. But when he thought about it more, it wasn't the case.

'No, can't I swap between items?'

What if he had an offensive set and defensive set that could be swapped if necessary?

'It would be easier to cope with a sudden situation like the Tiramet raid.'

The appearance of the concentrating Grid was mature and gentle. Yura's gem-like eyes were wet as she watched him.

"It's dirty."

"It's been a long time."

The east side of the first floor of the castle, where towering pillars spread out like a forest. The irritation of Pon and Vantner were soaring. They were angry at the tricks of Ran, the vampire baron who attacked through the darkness and the pillars.

"The terrain is too much of a disadvantage. I would rather break it all down."

Crunch.

Pon greatly twisted the arm holding the spear. His muscles swelled up as he gathered his strength.

"Crasher Spear."

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

It destroyed everything in its path. It was a powerful attack that would even make the allies afraid. The spear cut from top to bottom, causing the towers to collapse. Then the shadow hiding behind the pillars came into view.

Vantner didn't miss this opportunity.

"Sun Guard!"

Fla~sh!

Vantner's shield shone like the sun and drove away the darkness. The light rays were so bright that it was reminiscent of a nightclub. Ran no longer had a place to hide and fired magic bullets at the two people.

"It isn't a big deal!"

The magic was laughable compared to Elfin Stone. Vantner blocked the magic bullets with his shield, while Pon flew through the dust and tried to aim his spear... But Vantner ran ahead and interfered with Pon's path.

Kung!

"You damn pig!"

Pon staggered as he was hit by Vantner's massive body. Vantner also cried out.

"You idiot! There is a path in front of you. Why run towards me?"

"Why do I need to explain each reason individually? You ignorant bastard."

Pon and Vantner growled at each other. Thanks to this, Ran passed the crisis and was able to escape through the pillars in the rear that hadn't yet collapsed.

'I'm glad that their teamwork is a mess.'

Ran thought with relief and fired magic from behind a pillar.

Jiing.

Peng!

The red flash broke the ceiling and the falling debris restrained Pon and Vantner's actions. Ran moved back through the darkness and aimed sharp nails at Pon's neck.

Puok!

The blood red nails pierced a hole in Pon's neck.

"Puhaha! You were hit!"

Vantner laughed and taunted Pon. The journey of the two people was long and harsh.

[The blacksmith who became a legend can appraise items with an excellent discerning eye. If a hidden feature exists in the target item, it will be found.]

[A hidden function doesn't exist.]

Grid appraised Alex's gun. He was somewhat disappointed with the results and moved quickly with Yura, Sticks, and Bini.

"Over there is the closest."

Sticks borrowed the power of the earth and wind elementals to figure out where a battle was occurring. He also allowed Grid to enter the vampire city, so he was helpful in many ways.

'But he didn't give me an item...'

Yura got Alex's gun for free. Grid couldn't help feeling a bit jealous.

“... Eh?”

Grid moved through the door that Sticks indicated and made an absurd expression. It was the same for Yura who followed behind him. The reason?

“You useless octopus head!”

"I would've died earlier if I wasn't a tanker!"

"If you weren't there, the vampire baron would be killed!"

"..."

There was evidence of destruction through the room. There were still dozens of pillars left and Pon and Vantner were fighting each other. It was in front of the enemy.

“Hohohohut!”

“Kuk!”

“How rotten!”

Because they were grabbing each other's collars, Pon and Vantner weren't free. The two men allowed the female vampire to attack and retreat behind the pillars, causing Grid to feel anger.

"I won't say anything about the personal relationship between the two of you. But..."

Step, step.

Grid moved and used Pagma's Swordsmanship, Restraint. Ran, who was flying to the new target Grid like a moth to the fire, stopped in the air.

'What?'

Ran's body started sweating as Grid activated Pagma's Swordsmanship, Pinnacle, then followed up with Kill.

"Kyaak!"

Ran let out a terrible scream and rushed towards Pon and Vantner. She was released from Restraint and attempted to hide in the darkness, but Yura didn't allow it.

"Purification Bullet."

Tatatang!Tang tang!

The bullets made from blue mana turned Ran's body into a beehive.

“Linked Kill.”

Puok!

Puk puk puk!

Grid neatly finished it off.

[Vampire Baron Ran has been destroyed.]

[525,810,470 experience has been acquired.]

[Two Blessed Weapon Enhancement Stones have been acquired.]

[Seven weapon enhancement stones have been acquired.]

[Skillbook: Dark Fairy Tale has been acquired.]

Swaaah.

Blood poured out and a black smoke rose. In the meantime, Grid sent a very sharp and intimidating look towards Pon and Vantner.

"In the future, fight in the appropriate time and place. Think about the pain that your colleagues are going through while you unnecessarily waste time here."

It wasn't an exaggeration. Grid ran here from the Behen Archipelago for his colleagues. He couldn't stand Pon and Vantner, who ignored their colleagues because of personal feelings.

"...I'm sorry."

"I will be careful in the future."

Pon and Vantner bowed and apologized. They understood the reason why Grid was angry and acknowledged their mistakes, and were also aware of Grid as their leader. Grid reached out to the two people who couldn't lift their heads. Was it an offer to shake hands so that they weren't too discouraged? Pon and Vantner interpreted Grid's gesture in this way.

"Lend me a spear."

"...?"

Grid made an unpredictable demand.

A large hall on the first floor of the castle. Faker was struggling in a place where chandeliers hung like ornaments.

Kuuong!

The vampire baron, Mountain. He wore unusually heavy armor and used a heavy weapon for a vampire. The ground shook every time he moved, threatening Faker's sense of balance.

Chaaeng!

Faker, whose posture collapsed and was slow to react, blocked the mace with his dagger. Faker used the recoil that occurred when the weapons collided to float in the air like a feather, while Mountain reached out a hand.

"Blood Binding."

Kwarururung!

Blood chains rose up and surrounded Faker's body. But it was merely Faker's clone.

Peeng!

The chains exploded and the remnants of Faker's clone filled the air.

Suuk.

Faker took advantage of the swiftness of his class and appeared behind Mountain. He swung at Mountain's thick neck. Faker aimed precisely at the gap in the armor joints.

Puk!

Puk puk!

As the number of hits increase, the damage built up. The blow, that caused a deadly blow to Elfin Stone, pierced Mountain's neck in succession. No emotions appeared in Faker's eyes as blood soaked his face.

"You rat bastard..!"

Mountain shook from the shock and released magic power in every direction. Thanks to that, Faker flew back. A large axe flew at him as he tried to regain his balance in the air.

'I have to allow this.'

If he used 'Flash' here, his mana and skills linkage would become twisted. It happened when Faker was preparing for the shock.

"Spear Shot."

Kurururu!

Peeng!

A silver-white spear flew from the entrance and penetrated Mountain's head. Thanks to that, Faker was able to avoid the large axe whose orbit was changed, and he moved his face towards the entrance.

"Thank you, Pon... Grid?"

He never imagined that Grid would be the person who saved him. Grid waved at Faker, who had a rare look of shock in his eyes.

"To be driven on the defensive, isn't this too bad?"

Faker was someone who was often beside Grid. He was reminded of this and shrugged at Grid.

"...But with you, I can be extraordinary."

It was a signal.

"These damn humans!"

Mountain's aggro shifted to Grid and Grid handled it as always. Thanks to him blocking Mountain, Faker could move like he had wings on his back. Once Vantner and Yura stepped in, Mountain quickly became scarred.

"My spear. My spear..."

Pon was busy reclaiming his spear.

Chapter 374

[Vampire Baron Mountain has been destroyed.]

[211,555,002 experience has been acquired.]

[Three Blessed Armor Enhancement Stones have been acquired.]

[Nine armor enhancement stones have been acquired.]

[Skillbook: Skin Enhancement has been acquired.]

A vampire baron. A semi-boss grade monster that could be raided in 10~15 minutes when five of the Overgeared elites were gathered together. But once the power of Grid and Yura were added, the raid speed was shortened by at least three times.

"Catching a semi-boss monster in 5 minutes..."

"..."

The power of Grid and Yura was so good that it made Pon, Vantner, and Faker lose their words. They knew from the beginning that Grid had the trinity of stats, items, and class, but Yura's growth was astonishing and dazzling.

"It's the power of my class and items."

Yura explained briefly and clearly. She was also becoming overgeared.

A corridor to the north on the castle's first floor. Jishuka and Zednos were isolated in the middle with enemies on both sides. It was the aftermath of the teleportation trap that Regas stepped on.

"Multi Shot."

"Wind Wave."

Jishuka blocked the vampires in the right corridor, while Zednos blocked the ones in the left corridor. Arrows and magic poured out and slowed down the vampires' momentum. But of course, there was a limit. The number of vampires was endless, so Jishuka and Zednos' mana gradually depleted.

"The respawn speed is ridiculous."

"We're really isolated in the worst place."

Their stamina fell to a dangerous level. Jishuka and Zednos were covered with sweat and breathing roughly.

Peeng!

Pepeng!

The vampires took advantage of it with their magic. One of the blood shots flew through the gap and hit Jishuka's shoulder.

"Jishuka!"

Jishuka's form collapsed as she was loading a new arrow, Zednos was shocked and dozens of vampires approached the two.

"Wind Cutter! Wind Missile!"

Zednos started to go on a rampage. He only thought about protecting Jishuka, so he cast magic without considering his mana. Thanks to that, they could pass the immediate crisis.

[You have no mana.]

[Your mana potion cooldown time hasn't returned.]

"This...!"

Zednos' face turned white. Then Jishuka's voice was heard.

"Bow down."

Zednos didn't delay. He thoroughly trusted Jishuka and immediately followed her words.

"Phoenix Arrow."

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

A giant fire bird flew over Zednos' head and turned one of the corridors into fire. Over 50 vampires were swept away and Jishuka urged.

"Use this gap to escape."

Zednos didn't easily move.

"What are you doing?"

"What? I'm buying time while you run away."

Jishuka stood up to secure Zednos' retreat. Despite her noticeable slowed speed after Phoenix Arrow, she stood up to the vampires approaching from the other corridor. The arrows fired from her hand precisely penetrated the vampires.

The mithril arrows and silver arrows dealt additional damage to the vampires, but Jishuka was already exhausted. The vampires were shot in the head, but continued to move forward to hit Jishuka.

"J-Jishuka."

Why aren't you leaving? Shouldn't you go and join our colleagues?"

"...I understand."

Jishuka had opened a path, but it was unknown when new vampires would appear. Zednos didn't want Jishuka's sacrifice to be in vain and was about to leave.

"Jishuka, avoid it."

Sururuk.

Between Jishuka and Zednos. Someone suddenly appeared in a place where nothing had been present. It was Grid who was wearing a white hooded zip up.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Transcended Link."

Pepepeng!

As the blue-black energy blades shot out, dozens of vampires in the corridor facing Jishuka disappeared. New vampires appeared straight afterwards, but the respawn rate couldn't hold up against the overwhelming attack power of Grid.

"Grid!"

Jishuka, who was saved by Grid at the moment of crisis, felt thrilled and hugged Grid. Her sweaty skin and something big gave a huge stimulus to Grid.

'Ga... Ganadaramabasa...'

It was a soft and supple feeling. Grid's nose was affected by the excitement. Yura, who belatedly arrived, witnessed his appearance and looked down at her chest.

'I'm not small either.'

It was significantly larger than the average size of Korean women, but Grid's taste was too unrealistic.

Regas had an overwhelming combat sense, Peak Sword had a sword that was hard to read and cope with, Toon could transform into all types of beasts and demonstrated effective combat power, Ibellin's talents weren't fully developed yet, but he was recognized as a genius by Piaro, Toban was the 1st ranked paladin that acted as a poison to vampires, and Huroi was the 1st ranked orator.

This combination showed the strongest combat power. Regas and Toon acted behind Huroi and Toban, who attracted the enemy's gaze. Peak Sword and Ibellin struck through any gaps, so the three vampire barons didn't last long.

[A strength elixir has been acquired.]

"Wow."

"Wow, amazing."

It had been two months since Overgeared started exploring the vampire cities. They had hunted tens of thousands of vampires so far, but not one elixir had dropped. The party were thrilled by the unexpected benefit and then realized.

"There's no time to be idle. Let's go save our colleagues."

The vampire expedition was strong. But without Toban and Huroi, the stability of the party would fall. Peak Sword knew this point and urged the party. At this moment...

"How have you been?"

Grid. Their boss came.

"Damn Regas, I had to suffer because of you."

"Please never go in front again."

"...I'm sorry."

Pon and Vantner scolded Regas. Regas' behavior put his colleagues at risk, so he was deserving of criticism.

"I will be careful about becoming too excited."

Regas regretted his mistake and showed repentance. Pon and Vantner closed their mouths with satisfaction, and Jishuka asked Grid.

"How did you get here?"

A vampire city's entrance was blocked after someone entered. It meant it was impossible to enter the city while the dungeon raid was going on.

Grid explained, "This is his power."

Everybody looked at Sticks. Elves, the noble race that was called the incarnation of beauty and who fought for the pace of the world. Among them, the well known high elf Sticks introduced himself to everyone.

"Hello, I am Sticks. I owe Grid my life."

'Another named NPC...'

Grid's network expanded every day, causing the Overgeared members to feel surprised. It was an unique ability to become friendly with named NPCs. Grid suggested to the excited and happy guild members.

"Let's leave here. If we borrow Sticks' power, we can escape from this place."

"What?"

The Overgeared members were alarmed.

"Grid, is it okay to leave when we can capture this place?"

"The 1st floor has been cleared, so why do we have to run away?"

Some of the party members weren't convinced.

"I'm in favor at Grid's suggestion. There are many baron grade vampires on the 1st floor. In the worst case scenario, the 2nd floor might be filled with viscounts."

"The 1st floor's boss was a viscount called Tiramet. It is likely that marquis grade vampires will emerge on the 2nd and 3rd floor."

"In the worst case, Marie Rose might appear and I don't think we can go against her with our strength."

There were some members who agreed with Grid. It was those who had fallen into danger and needed to be rescued by Grid. In this bad atmosphere, Grid gave them a meaningful smile.

"Let's do special training."

"Special training?"

"There is a place called the Behen Archipelago. The entry is limited to one person, but since it's an instant dungeon, you can enter separately and proceed at the same time."

What was the Behen Archipelago and what could they get from there? Grid started to explain what he had experienced. The faces of the Overgeared members turned rosy as they listened to the story.

The Sword Grave.

Hundreds of thousands of weapons were embedded in the hill, and it was known as the place where the legendary blacksmith Pagma spent his last years. But Agnus' reason for finding it was unrelated to Pagma.

The legendary magician Braham. It was to secure his body.

"I don't know."

He heard that there was an ice wall somewhere in the Sword Grave, and Braham's body was sealed there. But despite searching for nearly a month, Agnus couldn't find any ice walls.

"At that time, I should've secured the soul."

One month ago, Agnus had encountered Braham's soul here, but missed it. He still trembled when he thought about that time.

"I didn't think his soul could use magic."

Takak.

Takak takak!

As Agnus leaned back against a greatsword, hundreds of his summoned skeletons were thoroughly searching the hill. They touched the swords embedded in the hill, searched the ground and tried to find Braham's body. However, finding the body was impossible.

"...I can't stay here forever."

Fortunately, there were a lot of monsters in the vicinity so his level up speed didn't lag behind. But due to staying in one place for one month, his various quests didn't progress. In the end, Agnus confirmed the Rune of Death.

[Rune of Death]

Bound Item

It is permanently preserved in your inventory. Trading, dropping or destroying it is impossible.

-Usage Effect: Increases the abilities of your summons in exchange for some leadership stats.

* There is a 20% increase in the stats of all summons.

Unique Lasting Effect: When you take the body of a named person or monster and make it your own, you can absorb their unique characteristics.

* Blue Knight's Faith: Creates a shield that absorbs 10,000 damage. Cooldown Time: 1 hour.

* Bentaos's Talisman: Exchange your health with the target's health. Cooldown Time: 12 hours.

* Tarant's Swordsmanship: The Advanced Sword Mastery skill is created. You can use 'Bloodless' when wearing a sword type weapon. It is a unique and lasting effect.

* Mumud's Knowledge: Magic casting speed will increase by 15%. Mana regeneration rate will increase by 30%. It is a unique and lasting effect.

If it went as originally planned, Braham's trait should also belong to the Rune of Death.

'I wanted a legendary lich.'

Agnus sent a whisper to Veradin.

-Where is the nest of the great demon, Furfu?

Time was equal to everyone. As Grid and the Overgeared Guild were growing, the other players were equally growing.

Chapter 375

The influence of the 1st National Competition was enormous. The average worldwide ratings surpassed 63%, overwhelming the audience of existing competitions like the Olympics and the World Cup.

It was a natural phenomenon. The number of people who played Satisfy or engaged in Satisfy related businesses was in the billions.

"I read an article about the economic effects of the National Competition."

S.A. Group's director of operations, Yoon Sangmin. He was directly facing Shin Youngwoo, one of the busiest people in the world.

"The S.A. Group really appreciates the possibility of developing the National Competition. We want to broaden the influence of the National Competition every year, and have decided to make a biggest investment."

Cafe XX in Geumcheon-gu.

Shin Youngwoo drank coffee while listening to the story and Yoon Sangmin smiled confidently at him.

"We will be offering unparalleled benefits to the participants of the National Competition compared to last year."

In other words.

"You want to convince me, Shin Youngwoo, to participate in the 2nd National Competition." Youngwoo opened his mouth for the first time. "Please persuade me."

He finally showed some interest. Yoon Sangmin was relieved and started the briefing.

"It's simple. We will increase the value of each medal."

The value of the medals wasn't high in the 1st National Competition. The governments just paid the medalists a prize money.

"But from the 2nd National Competition onwards, the S.A. Group will also give a reward. We will give special items to the medalists."

"What is the performance of the items?"

Grid didn't have high expectations. He thought it would be an epic~ unique rated accessory. But Yoon Sangmin's reply was unbelievable.

"Since Pagma's Descendant is in the blacksmith category... You will be able to acquire the god mineral adamantium. The more high value medals you get, the more adamantium you can obtain."

"!!!!!"

Grid's eyes widened. Adamantium! As the best mineral in the world, it didn't have a will, but its performance was comparable to pavranium. Adamantium was also the material of the Holy Light Set, which Pagma had produced in the past.

'I'm not sure how to obtain it.'

As long as he could secure adamantium, he would be able to design more diverse and powerful items. It was a reward that he couldn't miss. Yoon Sangmin watched Shin Youngwoo shake and gave a meaningful smile.

'A small provocation is needed.'

Yoon Sangmin had been observing Shin Youngwoo for almost a year. He knew how to handle Shin Youngwoo.

“Of course, gaining medals won’t be an easy task. The 2nd National Competition is a lot different from the 1st National Competition. It is virtually impossible for South Korea, a country weak in Satisfy, to aim for a medal.”

“...”

Shin Youngwoo’s eyes turned cold.

Himself, Yura, and Peak Sword. The strongest members of Overgeared were gathered in South Korea, yet it was still classified as weak? He couldn’t tolerate it. Rather than patriotism, his self-esteem as leader of Overgeared was stimulated.

The Shin Youngwoo of the past would’ve declared that he would participate in the 2nd National Competition right now. But.

‘There is a reason why I didn’t put my name on the participants list until the last moment.’

In the 1st National Competition, Shin Youngwoo won three gold medals and placed South Korea third in the overall rankings. The world was paying attention to what he would do in the 2nd National Competition. In other words, Shin Youngwoo was a ‘symbol’ of the National Competition.

‘Lauel gave me advice.’

Ask to be treated as a symbol. South Korea and the S.A. Group would do their best to contact him, so please stand firmly.

"Director Yoon, let’s clean this up.”

“...?”

Shin Youngwoo’s expression and tone were completely calm, unlike what he expected. Yoon Sangmin felt surprised, but he was a talented person who became a big business executive at a young age. He didn’t reveal his psychological state.

"Speak.”

Director Yoon Sangmin said with a smile.

“Give permission for the Overgeared Guild to do the opening for the National Competition.”

Shin Youngwoo made a ridiculous demand. He wanted them to hand over the opening of the event, which would be watched by billions of people, to specific users? This was going too far! If Shin Youngwoo was an ordinary ranker, Yoon Sangmin would’ve scoffed and left.

But Shin Youngwoo was a person whose personality and intelligence developed through Satisfy. Shin Youngwoo was a good example of Satisfy, so Yoon Sangmin listened to him.

"What’s the reason for your absurd request?”

“Guild promotion.”

“Huh? Guild promotion?”

He was going to use the opening that billions of people would watch in order to promote the guild?

“Doesn’t Overgeared already have a reputation as one of the best guilds? I don’t think you need marketing.”

"The issue is that we are one of the best guilds. Overgeared should be a unique and exclusive guild."

Right now, Shin Youngwoo was representing Lauel’s opinion. In Satisfy, the ultimate content was to have a kingdom.

In the first place, Overgeared was an organization designed to make Youngwoo king. In order to build and defend a kingdom, they needed to have strong national power. And in order to advance, they needed to prevent the invasion of foreign powers.

There were many forces beside the seven guilds that could threaten them. The opening of the National Competition was a means to show off the majesty of Overgeared and to deter the ambitions of others.

Lauel was hovering around Youngwoo’s head. Was this being too serious towards a game? This question was funny. Satisfy was a huge ‘cash’ game. If he set up a kingdom, he could accumulate wealth beyond imagination. It was natural to be serious.

‘Soccer players and basketball players, sports which are less popular than Satisfy, are earning hundreds of billions of won a year.’

It was reasonable for Satisfy players to sit on a pile of money.

The opening of the 2nd National Competition was to provide a spectacular sight.

Against the backdrop of Paris, France, seven players representing each country formed a group and acted out a specific situation. The overwhelming CG and story stimulated the people of the world, while the world’s best rock band celebrated their 30th anniversary by singing the opening song.

The opening that S.A. Group’s marketing team planned. It was cancelled.

S.A. Group’s executives. Several dozens executives gathered together with Chairman Lim Cheolho.

"The opening that Grid proposed isn’t bad."

“In the first place, the opening that our marketing team produced was vague when it came to the order of appearance for each country.”

It was because the venue was Paris, so the French team should be the opening. However, the United States was ranked 1st in the 1st National Competition.

"The order of the appearance of Grid, who won three gold medals with his own strength, was also vague."

However, Grid’s opening was different. Rather than emphasizing the nationality of the National Competition, the focus was on individual traits and Grid could clearly be called the symbol of the National Competition.

Of course, the intentions were impure. Of the 224 National Competition participants, 43 of them belonged to Overgeared. Those people would do the opening with Grid. It was like a promotional video for Overgeared.

There was resistance.

“There are already rumors that our group is supporting the Korean rankers like Grid and Yura. This will just give the media around the world an excuse to latch onto.”

“The purpose of the National Competition is to turn Satisfy into a sport. The aim is to encourage the people of each country to immerse themselves in the game while cheering on their teams. We should focus on the countries, rather than individuals.”

There was a debate. But it eventually tilted to one side. It was due to Yoon Sang-min’s remark.

“Grid has declared that he won’t participate in the National Competition unless he’s given the right to direct the opening.”

He played a dominant role in the 1st National Competition and later on in Satisfy, the main character who constantly raised a topic. If the best star of Satisfy didn’t participate in the National Competition, it was inevitable that the popularity would drop.

“It’s a problem that we can afford. Whether or not Grid participates in the National Competition, the average audience rating is likely to be no different from last year.”

Nevertheless, there was a separate reason for Yoon Sangmin and some executives to stick to Grid.

“But the story changes with Kraugel.”

The 1st ranked Kraugel. His popularity was higher than Grid, and he had the title of sky above the sky. His fans were at the level of fanatics. Unfortunately, he never once made a public appearance.

However.

“If Grid competes in the National Competition, Kraugel will also participate.”

Humans with the word ‘best’ attached to them had something in common. Their pride was huge. Kraugel wanted to face Grid on the world stage of the National Competition.

“If Kraugel participates in the National Competition, the power of the 2nd National Competition will overwhelm the first one.”

“...”

There wasn’t a single executive who denied Yoon Sangmin’s words.

It was decided.

『 The 2nd National Competition will take place in 43 days! Kraugel, Grid, Zibal, and Chris will be participating, as well as many more countries than the 1st National Competition’... 』

『 A total of 32 countries are participating in the 2nd National Competition, and the events are open to the public. Compared with the 1st National Competition... 』

『 Today, when the 2nd National Competition is 42 days away, the opening video was released through the Internet and worldwide broadcasters! 』

『 The opening video, which is causing hot repercussions through the public, is well received because it expresses the characteristics of each player representing the countries. But at the same time, it is also being criticized. 』

『 The title is called the National Competition, yet it is more focused on the participants than the countries. But... 』

『 This brilliant video that lasts 4 minutes and 31 seconds is enough to make everyone's heart beat faster. 』

♪-

It started with the thrilling performance of the rock band, which had been popular for 30 years.

Syuong~

A red meteor flew across the dark blue sky.

Peeng!

The camera shook with distant explosions.

Ssik.

A black haired and white skinned man filled the screen. It was Grid's Blackening state. The camera rapidly rotated around him, revealing the members of Overgeared. The viewers cheered as Yura and Jishuka, dressed more beautifully than ever, appeared behind Grid's shoulders.

After that, it showed players from various countries, including Zibal and Chris. Before they knew it, the camera reached someone staring up at the red comet. The man had a neat beauty that couldn't be believed, the sky above the sky, Kraugel.

The lone Kraugel and Grid, with 42 colleagues, exchanged a glance.

Chapter 376

"Pagma's Swordsmanship."

A haze spread around Grid's body and there was a faint light as he started a sword dance. The first legendary class in Satisfy demonstrated absolute dominance.

"Transcended Link."

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

20 red-black energy blades filled with strength flooded towards Kraugel. The sight caused the billions of people watching the video to hold their breath.

Sururuk.

Kraugel avoided them with minimal movements, neared Grid, and his white sword moved in a curved line.

Chaaeng!

Grid defended like he was waiting for it. The camera shook as the two swords hit each other. Then it changed to a black and white screen with 2XX3.10.27 on it. It was the opening video that announced the date and time of the 2nd National Competition.

-Great.

-It's cool, really cool.

-The opening of a game should taste like this.

-Something is bubbling up inside me. It's much cooler than the Demon Hero movies.

-Everybody has different tastes ^^ . I prefer the Demon Hero movies.

The public's interest in the opening video of the 2nd National Competition was hot. Among them, the Korean people were enthusiastic about the existence of Yura and Peak Sword.

-Yura and Peak Sword are in position with the Overgeared members.

-When did they join Overgeared?

-There is continuous breaking news.

-Wow...I never imagined that Yura and Peak Sword would join Overgeared. Grid's forces seem truly unique.

-It is likely that there are eight main guilds in Satisfy now, not seven. The existing seven guilds and Overgeared.

-Isn't Peak Sword the master of the Silver Knights? Did the Silver knights merge with Overgeared?

-It's likely.

-We can think of Overgeared as a Korean guild. Their master is Korean and most of the guild members are Korean.

-Kya ~ ~! Do you know Overgeared?

-Hah...Yura and Jishuka are really pretty. I will have no other wishes in my life if I can meet them once once.

-No, it's absurd to get both of them —— Choose one of the two——

-He's even a couple in the game with Irene. Ah, I'm so envious.

-People can get everything if they are successful in their field. I will try my best when it comes to writing comments on the Internet as well. ^^

-Then I guess I only have Satisfy from now on.I will be like Grid and buy an 800 million won car.

-I've been only playing Satisfy since it opened, but I'm still level 250 ㅋㅋㅋ. I can't be Grid.

-Fun.The users with levels above 250 should comment here.

The dignity of Grid and Overgeared were clearly communicated to the Korean people. It was Lauel's intention. However, contrary to Lauel's intentions, the people of other countries were concentrating on something else.

-Wow...Kraugel will participate in the competition.

-Yes.I thought he would stick to the mysterious concept for the rest of his life.

-It isn't a mysterious concept. He just focuses on levelling up to the end.

-I wonder why Kraugel is participating in the tournament?

-Of course, he must covet the prizes.

-Now that Grid's reputation is growing to a level that can threaten him, his pride means he has come to show the difference in skill.

-Indeed...Kraugel is in a different class.

-What are you saying — Grid has shown many times what he can achieve, their classes are too different.

-What nonsense. Don't you see how easily Kraugel avoided Grid's skill?Kraugel is a wall.I don't mean to ignore Grid, but Kraugel is too great.

-What are you saying?How do you know Kraugel managed to avoid Grid's skill?You can't distinguish between reality and directing.

-You don't believe Kraugel's skills?In the old days, rankers shot videos of Kraugel hunting and his control ability exceeded common sense.Search on Mytube.

-Ah, that video...It had over a billion hits.

"Shit."

Lauel's face distorted as he confirmed the public's reaction. Public interest was focused on Grid and Kraugel, not Grid and Overgeared, so his initial intention to maximize the existence of Overgeared was broken. He was upset.

'It is because of Kraugel.'

He wondered why the S.A. Group listened to their request, but it was because there was this motivation behind it.

'This is bad.'

The opening was a secondary problem. Lael planned to impress the public with the Overgeared Guild by having the members win a medal in each event. Now he might miss it due to the variable called Kraugel.

'Considering Kraugel's inclinations, he is likely to participate in PvP, raid, and the siege.'

The gold medals in the three most popular events in the National Competition were very valuable. However, as long as Kraugel existed, it was realistic for the Overgeared members to give up on the gold medal.

'...No, not if it's Grid.'

According to Grid, the reason he could win against Kraugel was because Kraugel wasn't in a perfect condition. But Lael believed.

'The sky isn't untouchable.'

Snow, rain, thunder, and typhoons would pour down, but the sky wouldn't fall. Lael knew that Kraugel shouldn't have been knocked down, even if he was in an imperfect condition. Grid being able to break down the sky, it wasn't a coincidence or a miracle...

'It is skills.'

Kwack!

Lael clenched his fists and started to write a letter to someone. He was someone who always tried to change the worst crisis into an opportunity.

'Genius at fighting' Hao.

The millions of Chinese people were thrilled and enthusiastic when he expressed his intention to participate in the 2nd National Competition, since he didn't participate in the first one. They expected to see China ranked first in the National Competition.

However, Hao was different.

'...Kraugel.'

His only object of reverence.

'I didn't think you would participate in this tournament.'

Hao's expression was already tense and sweat was trickling down.

'Can I play an active role against Kraugel?'

No. Hao was sure of it. He would never be able to reach the faraway sky that was Kraugel. Then a homing pigeon flew towards him. The sender was Lael. The chief of staff of Overgeared wrote the letter.

[You didn't accept my friend request, so I can't send you a whisper. Thus, I had to send a letter.]

You are the first person to not accept the best of the 10 Rookies and the brains of Overgeared's request.

This provocative attitude stimulated the other soul in my heart...]

Omitted.

Hao quickly skimmed down the nonsense and found the main point.

[Do you remember the promise that you made in the past? If my lord, Grid, breaks down the sky and becomes a new sky, you will spread your wings and fly into Grid's arms.]

"..."

Hao distinctly remembered it. The seven guilds failed to invade Reidan because they were crushed by farmers, and Hao was forced to retreat. Hao received an offer to serve Grid in exchange for his life.

At that time, Hao said that the only thing to hold a dragon was a sky, and of course, that sky was Kraugel. Grid would break Kraugel?

"It's impossible."

Kwajak!

Hao crumpled up the letter. He acknowledged Grid's skills. Grid had appropriate control and exceptional items. The current Grid was one of the top rankers. But he was nothing compared to Kraugel.

'Someone who can't overcome me won't be able to beat Kraugel.'

The more he thought about it, the more absurd it was. Hao's chest burned hot when he thought about Kraugel.

'It would be good to make them understand their target.'

Overgeared Guild. He would let them know that the world was very narrow. Hao's golden eyes became determined to prove it.

Grid and the Overgeared members escaped from the 9th vampire city with the help of Sage Sticks. They had a busy day with various media interviews and filming the opening video of the National Competition. Now they gathered in Reidan after a long time.

"Ba! Baba!"

"Heok."

Lord toddled forward and greeted them. Grid was moved to tears by the appearance of his big son.

"Is he calling me papa? Didn't you hear?"

It was exciting for Grid, but the other Overgeared members didn't show much reaction. It was because...

"Ba! Bababa!"

Lord used the same title for all the Overgeared members, not just Grid!

“Heok... Surely you haven’t forgotten your dad after not meeting for so long?”

Grid turned blue with shock. Lord turned his gaze away from the one who couldn’t hide his sadness and smiled meaningfully. Kasim watched him in the darkness and shook.

‘A little baby is already teasing an adult...’

“What?”

Grid shared the joy of a reunion with Irene and left the bedroom. He observed the sleeping Lord with the Great Lord’s Sword and was astonished.

Name: Lord Steim

Age: 0 years Gender: Male

Occupation: Young Nobleman

Title: Grid’s Son

* The son of a legendary blacksmith. He has inherited most of his father’s abilities.

Title: Genius of the Continent

* A genius that represents one continent. He overwhelms national geniuses, and his level and abilities will rise 60% faster than normal. In addition, he can acquire skills in a wide range of fields.

However, there is a limit to the level and abilities that can be raised until he is 15 years old.

Title: One who Will Become a Legend

A person who will leave his name in history. There is an 80% chance of being immune to all status effects and illnesses. When attacked, if his health falls to 1 point, he will enter the immortal state for 2.5 seconds.

Level: 3

Strength: 40 Stamina: 45

Agility: 54 Intelligence: 47

Dexterity: 90 Charm: 100

Dignity: 17 Insight: 80

Skills: Beginner Blacksmith Skill (F), Beginner Weapons Mastery (C), Daluka’s Methods (A+) Discerning Eyes (S), Overwhelming Charm (S), Lantier’s Method (SS), Famous and Legendary Pedigree (SS).

His mother is the successor of a noble family in the Eternal Kingdom and his father is a legend.

He has inherited all of his parent’s strengths, so his potential is outstanding. Teaching him will be inspiring.

However, his talent and environment are so good that he is likely to become arrogant. Education will determine his history.

'There is a title change and two more skills?'

According to Irene, Lord had received constant discipline during the month when Grid was away. It wasn't surprising that his level and stats rose slightly. But why did 'Genius of Eternal' change to 'Genius of the Continent?'

It meant an increase in potential. There must've been a reason.

'What on earth happened?'

Daluka's Methods and Lantier's Methods. He was also nervous about the high ratings of the newly acquired skills. In particular, Lantier's Methods was a huge SS grade, meaning it was a legendary skill.

'Who is the discipline teacher...?'

How was he teaching to make a monster like this? This was completely...

'A profit.'

Grid sent a whisper to Rabbit, telling him to raise the discipline teacher's salary. Thanks to this, the wages of the discipline teacher rose from the minimum wage by 1 silver.

Chapter 377

At the time of the National Competition's opening video shoot.

A total of 224 players from 32 countries gathered in France, where the S.A. Group had created a temporary server. They were the top performers that represented each country and Satisfy. The most prominent person among them was the 1st ranked Kraugel.

"Wow, being able to see Kraugel in real life, I am really rewarded for being a ranker."

"He's surprisingly young. He isn't even 30 years old and is already at the peak of two billion users..."

"I've been a fan of Kraugel for a long time. Can we bribe him to enter our guild?"

"If he was easily bribed, he would've already joined a group. Most of us here are probably fans of Kraugel."

Kraugel's greatness was better known by the rankers than anyone else. The higher the level, the harder it was to raise the level, so rankers could experience it more than ordinary users. For the rankers, Kraugel was a transcendent being who was beyond the realm of a genius.

Buzz buzz.

Like children who had never seen a celebrity, the rankers kept their eyes on Kraugel and made a fuss. Most of them wanted to speak to Kraugel. However, no one dared to approach Kraugel. They just gazed at the distant sky.

It was the same with Zibal.

'I am shrinking back...'

Zibal. He was the leader of the Snake Guild and 2nd on the unified rankings. He had failed against Overgeared, but there were few people who could deny that he was one of the best in the world. Yet even he flinched in front of Kraugel.

In the midst of this awkward atmosphere.

"Hello."

Someone reached out to say hello to Kraugel. It was Grid. The rankers laughed at him.

'The Overgeared Guild is trying to cling to Kraugel.'

'He will be despised by Kraugel.'

The rankers didn't know about the relationship between Grid and Kraugel. They thought that Kraugel would show contempt to Grid, who would become ashamed. But they were wrong. Surprisingly, Kraugel welcomed Grid. It seemed like the two men already knew each other.

"It has been a while."

"Have you been well? I saw the rankings list. You've widened the gap with the 2nd place?"

"This is all thanks to you. The performance of White Fang has been upgraded, increasing the efficiency of hunting and raids. Thank you."

"I ought to be thanking you. Thanks to you, I was able to visit the Behen Archipelago and grow."

"Were you able to reach the 30th island?"

The 30th island. The trials of the past were reproduced, causing Kraugel to be eliminated. Then Grid gave a shocking answer.

"I've just arrived at the 40th island."

"..."

Kraugel's expression stiffened. He acknowledged Grid's abilities to reach an area before him, but this frankly exceeded expectations. He felt like he had been hit in the back of the head with a hammer. But it was a positive stimulus.

"It's the first time I'm worse than anyone else."

Interesting. Existences that could drive him forward, how many were there?

Grid smiled meaningfully and told Kraugel the truth, "I didn't set a high record because I'm better than you. The trials of the Behen Archipelago are just suited for me."

"You don't need to be humble."

Grid and Kraugel suddenly stopped talking while walking next to each other. It was because they felt the others following them.

"There are many ears listening. Tell me the details next time."

"Wait."

Grid called out as Kraugel was saying goodbye to him. He declared with a provocative gaze.

"Have you seen the plan for the opening? The last scene ends with me attacking you. I will do my best, so be careful not to die."

He was curious. As his skills grew, who would prevail between him and Kraugel? Grid's eyes blazed with determination and Kraugel nodded.

"I'm looking forward to it."

And on this day.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Transcended Link."

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

One of Grid's ultimate skills, Transcended Link was avoided by Kraugel. There was exactly 20 of them. It wasn't frustration that Grid felt.

'I still have a long way to go.'

He had to keep growing. Grid was full of motivation, while Kraugel felt admiration.

'The orbit is sharper.'

During the spar that occurred two months ago in Satisfy time, the Transcended Link sent by Grid hadn't given Kraugel any sense of threat. It aimed in a straight line towards the target, making it easy for Kraugel to read and avoid.

But this Transcended Link was different. The orbit wasn't in a straight line, with different directions mixed together. If the orbit became even more irregular...

'It will be very interesting.'

Among the players, the only ones who could provoke him were the malicious ones. A prime example was Agnus. But Grid was different. It was really positive that he met someone with pure intentions. The more time he spent with Grid, the more convinced he was that he would develop further.

'Also.'

He couldn't easily overlook the fact that Grid was ahead of him in the Behen Archipelago.

Chaaeng!

Kraugel swung White Fang at Grid, who blocked it. This verified Kraugel's determination.

'I also need a new challenge.'

He would keep developing until the National Competition began. He promised himself as he received a signal stating that the filming was over.

“Kraugel, it is nice to meet you. I am the 2nd ranked Zibal and I’m just below you on the rankings.”

Zibal approached and held out a hand to shake. He thought that Kraugel would accept his greeting after talking so nicely with Grid. Kraugel sent him a sorry look.

“My mother is calling.”

“...?”

In front of more than 200 rankers and 100 S.A. Group officials.

Pahat!

Kraugel refused to shake hands with Zibal and logged out.

“Pfff!”

Zibal’s face became hot as Chris started to laugh.

A shabby housing complex on the outskirts of Moscow, Russia. One of the crumbling houses was Kraugel’s residence.

Kraugel.

He was a Koryoin (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koryo-saram>) who grew up in poverty.

Due to this, he was the target of prejudice and discrimination, suffering many crises in his life. But thanks to the teachings of his kind and wise mother, he didn’t give up and was able to enter a prestigious university, eventually getting a good job.

She was a gigantic existence and he could never pay back what she had done for him. Recently, his mother had become thinner.

Pipipipipi!

The emergency light installed on the capsule started flashing. As soon as he heard it, Kraugel logged out of the game and left the capsule. The place he headed was his mother’s bedroom. She had an incurable disease that couldn’t be cured with modern medicine, Alzheimer’s.

He tried to invite the world’s best medical staff with the money he earned, but his mother’s condition didn’t improve.

"My son! Where is my son?"

His mother gazed at Kraugel with a mad look. She threw things around her in a rage, until Kraugel hugged her.

"Don’t worry, calm down. You will be able to meet your son soon."

Kraugel never smiled. In order to cure his mother’s illness, he quit his job and devoted himself to Satisfy, never giving up. The wealth he accumulated through Satisfy was poured into his mother’s treatment, and he believed that one day his mother’s warm touch would return.

Until then, in order to endure without despair, Kraugel watched his mother with all his heart, while feeling pleasure playing Satisfy. He always committed himself to everything, so the negative thoughts didn't invade his life.

『 We have learned one thing from the fact that the Silver Knights Guild was absorbed into Overgeared. The Overgeared Guild has a total of three territories. Reidan, Bairan, and Cork Island. 』

『 Isn't it unheard of for one guild to be running three territories? There is speculation that the Overgeared Guild is accumulating a lot of wealth. What do you think about this 』

『 Of course they are making a huge amount of money. Reidan is a large city, Bairan has many hunting grounds with various levels and Cork Island is famous for its tourist attraction. They will be sweeping up a huge amount of taxes every month. 』

『 The Overgeared Guild's funding ability will evolve every day. At this moment, there are many reasons why so many players want to join Overgeared. 』

The opening video for the 2nd National Competition was available. The media focusing on Kraugel started to shift their attention to Grid and Overgeared. It was because of the lack of information on Kraugel. Thanks to Lauel's plan, the Overgeared Guild became a hot topic and their popularity rose every day.

"There are too many fanciful stories. Overgeared is rich? Nonsense. We are living in poverty every day."

Vantner snorted. All the revenue was poured into Reidan, so it was funny that the experts were predicting that they were a rich guild when they were actually suffering.

"Reidan is so isolated that there is a lot of futile speculation. It is unlikely that anyone can guess the actual situation of Reidan."

Lauel was very satisfied. As the reputation of Overgeared expanded, the number of hostile forces would reduce while talents would come swarming.

"By the way, when are we departing for the Behen Archipelago?" Regas asked.

He was always dreaming about becoming stronger, so he had great enthusiasm towards the Behen Archipelago. Most of the Overgeared members were the same. Lauel rose from his seat.

"We will depart in an hour. Sticks will guide us."

"Grid?"

"Grid will stay in Reidan for a few days. He wants to try the combination of blacksmithing and alchemy."

"Will combining alchemy and blacksmithing recreate the dwarves' unique techniques?"

"That is a long story for later. For the moment, adding a unique option to an item is the limit."

Lauel believed that this one option might upset the battlefield.

[Baby's Blacksmith's Hammer]

Rating: Epic

Durability: 28/28 Attack Power: 10~12

Odds of Making a Rare Rated Item: +2%

Odds of Making an Epic Rated Item: +1%

* Dexterity +5.

A hammer made of a solid, but light, black stone.

The legendary blacksmith Grid made it for his young son, so the focus is on making it easy to use.

Conditions of Use: None.

Weight: 3

"Lord, you will be working with Papa for awhile."

It was funny that the son of a legendary blacksmith was learning the techniques of a beginner blacksmith. During his stay in Reidan, Grid planned to train Lord.

"Ba! Bababa!"

Lord was excited. Lord really wanted to share this with his father.

Ttang!Ttang!

Dung dung!Dung!

The two people started hammering at an anvil. Kasim's covert skills and vigilance rose every day as he watched the similar father and son.

Chapter 378

There were 17 nations on the West Continent.

Once the number of people and users from these 17 nations were added up, the population of the West Continent was in the billions. Lord was considered the foremost genius among them. Lord's learning ability, speed of development, and thinking power clearly went beyond common sense.

But blacksmithing wasn't easy.

Dung!Dung dung!

"..."

It had been less than 100 days since Lord was born. Tapping minerals with a light hammer wouldn't affect it. Lord's innate dexterity was high, but he had no experience and his strength was low.

"Puhut."

Who knew that his son could make such a face? Lord was sweating, but he couldn't get any results from the hammering. Things didn't go the way he wanted, so he puffed up his cheeks in a cute and lovely manner.

Grid stroked Lord's dark hair that resembled his and called out to a blacksmith.

"Bring me some clay."

"Yes!"

It was the command of Duke Grid, lord of Reidan and a legendary blacksmith. The blacksmith immediately ran and grabbed some clay.

"Abuuuu!"

His father looked wonderful when ordering people around. Lord looked at his father with eyes full of envy. At this moment, Lord was determined to learn how to speak as soon as possible. Grid didn't know this and handed his son the clay.

"You don't have to make anything useful right away. Hammer at this to figure out the form."

"Bubu! Buuu!"

Lord started complaining at his father's words. His ego was bruised.

"Bububu!"

'I'm not a four or five year old child. I can't play with clay!' Grid was embarrassed by Lord's attitude.

"Do you have a high pride like Irene?"

He had a noble lineage. Khan approached as Grid was clicking his tongue.

"Huhu, isn't it easy to teach the young lord?"

"The child has my natural dexterity, but as you can see, he's too young to refine the minerals."

"It's natural. Genius doesn't mean everything. The young lord won't be able to deal with fire and minerals until he's at least 12 years old. You have to teach him step by step."

Huff!

Lord's eyes twitched. Kasim glimpsed it from where he was hiding in the darkness.

'Heok... Lord is provoked.'

Kasim had been teaching Lord for over two months, so he fully saw through Lord's character. Lord had a strong pride and was full of commitment to fulfill that desire. Lord never retreated from anything.

"Ba! Abubu!"

The excited Lord clamored at Grid and Khan. Grid and Khan didn't understand Lord's words, but Kasim understood exactly what he meant.

'Rather than 12 years old, you will become a blacksmith by 2 years old?'

Wait, then when will you practice my master, Lantier's, techniques? Lord gazed at the worried Kasim. He would try his best to prevent any disruption to the existing schedule.

'Hrmm... Lord might be able to do it.'

Kasim didn't place Lord in the category of a genius. He recognized Lord as a transcendent being beyond the realm of a human. Therefore, he didn't see Lord's determination as a bluff.

"What does he keep saying?"

"Huhu, he is saying that he loves you."

"Haha, is that it, Lord? I love you too."

"Ahh! Abuuuu!"

Unlike Kasim, Grid and Khan spent less time with Lord. The two people didn't understand what Lord meant, so they just thought he was cute. From this day onward, Lord's special training began.

The usage of alchemy was categorized into five broad categories.

Production of various potions. Raising the rating of minerals. Creation of weapon and armor enhancement stones. Making special items. Giving items extra options.

It was truly amazing. Alchemy facilities seemed absolutely useful. But what was the reality? Most kingdoms on the West Continent didn't invest funds in alchemy. It meant that the value of alchemy was low, and there was a reason for this.

Alchemy was a field where the possibility of 'failure' always needed to be kept in mind. When doing certain things with alchemy, there was always a higher chance of failure than success. It also applied to the creation of potions.

[Reidan's Alchemy Facility]

Level: Intermediate 8.

* Superb quality health and mana recovery potions can be created.

-The success rate is 36%.

* Advanced buff potions can be created.

-The success rate is 14%.

* The lowest grade to low grade minerals can be upgraded.

-The success rate is 14%.

* One option can be given to items.

-The success rate is 1%.

"...?"

One year had passed since the beginning of Overgeared's reign in Reidan, and the Overgeared Guild has poured an enormous amount of money into alchemy. It wasn't an exaggeration to say that the revenue from Raiden, Bairan, Cork Island and the individual members of the guild were invested in the alchemy facilities.

But it was like this. It was natural that Grid's reaction would be cold.

"I was expecting a lot from giving items an option, but what is the probability of success? Only 1%?"

Executive Rabbit explained.

"As I said before, once the level of the alchemy facility reaches the advanced level, the probability of the item options will increase dramatically. Before that, I want to test it out today..."

"Hoh, the probability will jump dramatically? What percentage will it rise to?"

"Around 5%..."

"???"

Grid frowned. The value of the alchemy facility that he and his guild members plunged a lot of money into seemed absurdly low.

"It is no wonder why other kingdoms don't invest a lot of money in alchemy facilities."

He was too blinded by the goal of making Reidan a second Talima. Honestly, he didn't know if it was worth it. It was almost a scam. Rabbit sent Grid a meaningful smile.

"But Reidan has yellow mithril."

Yellow mithril. A mineral that could only be mined from the mine near Reidan. It was the raw mineral of fairy dust, which dramatically increased the probability of success in alchemy. It was the basis for Rabbit's claim to develop alchemy in Reidan.

"I have prepared fairy dust. I want to let my lord experience it."

[Fairy dust has been acquired.]

[Fairy Dust]

A powder made by refining yellow mithril at an alchemy facility.

Increases the success rate of alchemy by 20%.

Weight: 0.1

'20 percent...'

It was still a low probability. Grid was so regretful that he wanted to turn back the time that he invested into the alchemy facility.

But.

'It is true that the probability increased dramatically.'

While the success rate of other alchemists stayed in the single digits, Reidan had at least a 20% chance of success. Reidan was the only city on the West Continent that could demonstrate the value of alchemy.

They were setting their feet in an area that other kingdoms couldn't even see. Grid tried to think as positively as possible.

"Okay, I will try it once. How great will an option given to an item be?"

The best alchemist on the continent, Silverun. He had been involved in alchemy since he was a young man and poured his life into alchemy for the last 50 years.

However, the science of alchemy wasn't recognized anywhere, meaning Silverun couldn't receive the environment and funds to utilize alchemy. He was like an invisible man whose existence wasn't acknowledged by the world. Unfortunately, Silverun couldn't find an opportunity to unfold his knowledge and talents.

Then one day.

"Duke Grid of the Eternal Kingdom has heard rumors about you and is personally sending you an invitation. Duke Grid doesn't doubt your alchemy skills. Why not spread out your wings with his support?"

Rabbit came to Silverun and introduced himself as the administrator of Reidan.

Silverun. The best alchemist on the continent who wasn't recognized by anyone. He lived in lonely poverty, so Duke Grid was a very special person to him. Silverun vowed. For Duke Grid's sake, he would show the value of alchemy to the world.

...Grid didn't know this.

"I greet Duke Grid!"

Reidan's alchemy facility.

Silverun greeted Grid, who visited there after a long time. It was a truly exaggerated greeting.

'Who is this person?'

Rabbit whispered to the puzzled Grid.

"I picked him up for My Lord."

"..."

He felt like this whenever he met up with Lauel and Rabbit. It truly was convenient to be with smart people. Grid, who acquired another loyal person without knowing, reached out to Silverun.

"Get up."

“Ohh...!! Ohh!!”

The great duke who acknowledged alchemy was holding out a hand to him? Silverun grasped Grid’s hand with his trembling fingers.

"It is so inspiring that the duke himself will visit here. I’m in tears.”

"..."

It was very burdensome. Grid turned away from the tearful Silverun and looked around the alchemy facility.

"I want to give this sword a new option.”

The sword that Grid took out was Iyarugt. It was a growth type item that could increase to the legendary rank, an ego sword that had the soul of a demon in it.

Would the effect of alchemy work on special items like this?

Silverun gave a positive answer to the dubious Grid.

“It’s possible for me.”

Silverun had the best ability in this field. He was filled with confidence.

“But you should know that the level of options given to an item with intermediate alchemy ranges from a minimum of F grade to a maximum of A grade. In addition, as you know, alchemy is a discipline that always has a possibility of failure.

“If the option fails, will the inherent performance of the item fall?”

"There is no such thing.”

"Okay, let’s try it.”

"I will guide you there.”

It was a chance to repay the grace of the master who acknowledged alchemy and Silverun. Silverun was filled with enthusiasm and showed Grid to one side of the facility. It was a room that was filled with many equipment.

Silverun placed Iyarugt on an altar that was located in the center.

“Then I will start.”

Peeeeeeong!

An intense blue light filled the room the moment Silverun gave a signal. In the midst of this light, a notification window popped up in front of Grid.

[You are attempting to grant a new option to Iyarugt.]

[Congratulations! A new option has successfully been granted.]

Ttiring~

“What?”

Grid’s face became baffled as he checked the option.

Chapter 379

[You are attempting to grant a new option to Iyarugt.]

[Congratulations! A new option has successfully been granted.]

Grid was excited by the notification window.

‘It succeeded at once!’

Grid had bad luck. He hardly ever won in an odds game until now. If there was a lottery with a 99% chance of winning, he would be the 1% who didn’t win. Now he won in a game where the odds of winning was only 21%.

Grid was deeply thrilled. But it only lasted for a moment.

[The B grade option ‘Coolness’ has been given to Iyarugt.]

“What?”

[Iyarugt has become even cooler.]

Ttiring~

[+8 Iyarugt]

Rating: Unique (Growth)

Durability: 351/351 Attack Power: 793+365

...

...

* The ‘Coolness’ option has been added with alchemy.

"?????"

What? Coolness? The coolness level rose?

‘No, what is this?’

Among the many options, it happened to be coolness? He thought things were going too well. He never dreamt that it would be such a useless option.

“I can’t believe this... Things never work out well at once...”

Grid was feeling frustrated when Silverun cheered.

“Ohh...! Ohhh! The best of the B grade options, ‘Coolness’ was given! It’s beyond expectations!”

“...?”

Coolness was the best option in the B grade? Grid doubted his ears.

'This is the best option for the B grade? Then how bad are the other options?'

The science of alchemy, the more he knew, the worse he thought it was. The money he invested was being ruined. Rabbit gave positive feedback while Grid was squeezing his head.

"Coolness is an important factor. Whether it is people or object, a good appearance is an easy way to build up favor."

It was the same in reality. People were constantly trying to be cool. They paid attention to their hair style and attire, and could spend hundreds of millions of won on luxury goods and plastic surgery.

The reason was simple. To increase the value. In fact, when a person judged an object, appearance was an important concept that they looked at first.

"...I see."

When Grid thought about it, he heard rumors that the hidden class Skin Maker, the user was making a killing when it came to money. It only changed the appearance of an item, not the performance, but there were many people who paid big money to look more beautiful.

Grid observed Iyarugt and had a positive opinion. A gentle radiance was flowing from the long, red blade. Certainly, it looked much cooler than before.

Buuong.Buuong.

Every time he wielded it, Iyarugt shone like jewels. Grid looked cooler when he wielded it. It was obvious that people's attention would be concentrated on him in the National Competition. But once again, Grid wasn't satisfied.

"Until the alchemy facility reaches the advanced level, we will continue to accumulate fairy dust without using it."

"...Yes."

Grid replied in a listless voice. He was disappointed by the option given to Iyarugt. Rabbit bowed with an awkward expression.

"Then I will be going back to work."

"Yes... Work hard."

Grid separated from Rabbit and returned to the smithy. He wanted to make weapons to utilize Spear Shot and Bow Mastery prior to departing for the Behen Archipelago.

'It's enough to make the same bow that I made for Jishuka.'

He would make a spear that was specifically for throwing. Grid devised a plan.

"Create hand plow."

[The hand plow has been developed.]

Paaaat!

Over 50 hand plows rose simultaneously at the newly opened fields near the Altes Mountains. It wasn't a typical hand plow, but a hand plow developed with aura.

Pa pa pa pa pak!

The 50 aura hand plows started digging at the ground at once. It was an overwhelming sight. It was as efficient as 100 farmers doing field work at the same time. It was the majesty of Aura Master Hurent.

Hurent. He was embarrassed worldwide after being defeated by Grid in PvP in just 5 seconds. He had a strong desire for revenge against Grid.

'In the next 40 days.'

The 2nd National Competition would be held in 40 days.

As a representative of the United States, Hurent would participate in the National Competition, compete against Grid and win this time. But there was a problem.

"My eyes are correct. Your skills are very suitable for field work. Do you want to work with me a little longer?"

Legendary farmer Piaro. He was a wicked person who kidnapped Hurent, but Hurent knew how much the value of the hidden quest was worth. Hurent felt his resentment towards Piaro melting away like snow, so he carefully asked.

"How much longer?"

"Three months?"

"Three months...!"

It was too long. He had many things to prepare for the National Competition, which would take place in 40 days..

"Can't it be one month?"

Piario shook his head at Hurent's question.

"If you are only going to help for a month, it is best to just leave now. I am going to teach you a new skill, suitable for farming, and it can't be learned in one month..."

"..."

Hurent stood at the crossroad of choice. Should he leave Piario right away to dream of revenge on Grid, or get stronger by staying near Piario and then get revenge on Grid?

"U-Ummm..."

Hurent tried to think objectively. Could he win against Grid right now?

'To be honest, there's no guarantee.'

Three months ago in Satisfy time. He was convinced that he was stronger than Grid when he invaded Reidan with Prince Ren, but not anymore. It was because of Piaro's words.

"You are strong. But there are many people stronger than you. What? How do you compare to My Lord? Of course, My Lord is stronger than you."

At first, Hurent thought that Piaro was biased. However, after experiencing Piaro's personality, he knew that Piaro wasn't someone who spoke empty words.

'If I can't beat Grid now...'

He was likely to once again be embarrassed in front of the world. If that was the case...

"...I will help you."

There were many opportunities. Even if he didn't participate in the National Competition this year, there was the one next year and the year after that. Until then, Hurent wanted to grow as much as possible. He was determined to evolve the Aura Master class to legendary.

"Good choice."

Piaro smiled at Hurent's new commitment. Since this day, Reidan's agriculture started to develop at a faster pace and Hurent gradually adapted to the life of a farmer. He tried so hard for Reidan that his revenge on Grid was in vain.

Zibal of the Snake Guild, Chris of the Giant Guild, Seuron of the Golden Guild, Hao of the Hades Guild, Bondre of the Ice Flower Guild, Bubab of the Yak Guild, and Ralph of the Zeraph Guild.

The leaders of the seven guilds gathered in one place. They were the strongest players in the top 30 of the unified rankings and also participants of the 2nd National Competition.

"It has been nine months since we united to invade Reidan and were disgraced."

After that, the seven guilds lost their honor and dignity. The seven guilds were once an object of fear, and now they were made fun of. Only the Overgeared Guild was the best.

"We must regain our honor in the National Competition."

Seuron expressed doubts at Zibal's words.

"You mean to smash the Overgeared Guild in the National Competition? How?"

The National Competition wasn't a guild war. It was a competition in which countries fought against each other. The members of Overgeared were divided into several nationalities, so it would be very difficult to only be hostile to Overgeared.

Zibal smiled in a meaningful manner.

"Grid is the symbol of Overgeared. In addition, Grid is Korean. We must thoroughly shatter South Korea."

The power of a symbol was beyond imagination. What if they completely trampled on the Korean team led by Grid? It would prove that the seven guilds were still alive, while being able to crush Overgeared's reputation.

"The Overgeared Guild is no longer the best."

Zibal was certain because he had items made by Panmir, the 1st ranked blacksmith, in his inventory. The items were produced with dwarf techniques, so they weren't lacking compared to Grid's items.

"Let's join forces to trample on South Korea and regain the honor of the seven guilds."

The difference between the best and the worst was huge. When the seven guilds were called the best, the masters of these guilds earned a huge amount of money. It was natural to miss those days. The silent Chris gazed at Zibal and opened his mouth.

"Zibal, since when were you our representative?"

Originally, the seven guilds weren't one.

Like regular guilds, they kept each other in check. Sometimes they were hostile, sometimes they were allies as they all competed against each other. At one point, Zibal established the alliance of seven guilds and took the lead.

Chris didn't like this fact.

"Hey, Chris. What are you saying? Representative? I'm the representative? I never thought of myself like that. I see all of you as equal companions."

The seven guild masters were all people full of pride. Chris said something that would irritate them, so Zibal tried to laugh it off. He wanted to make sure that the atmosphere of the alliance didn't deteriorate.

Chris scoffed, "Who's your companion?"

Chris never participated in the alliance of the seven guilds. He didn't participate in the Reidan invasion. The reason he attended this meeting was to make it clear.

"The name 'Seven Guilds Alliance,' don't use it in the future. My Giant Guild has never joined the alliance."

Chris declared and rose from his seat. The other guild masters didn't care about his actions. There was no reason to force him to join the alliance just because they were the seven guilds. But Zibal thought differently. He judged that it would be better to break Chris down, rather than leaving him as a variable.

Zibal stood in Chris' way and smiled grimly.

"The rumor that you joined Grid is true."

"Chris and Grid?"

The impassive guild members started to react. Chris frowned.

"I'm with Grid? What are you talking about?"

"One of my men came across you in a hunting ground... The weapon you used at that time looks exactly like one of Grid's weapons."

The atmosphere of the room sunk.

Chapter 380

"One of my men came across you in a hunting ground... The weapon you used at that time looks exactly like one of Grid's weapons."

He was probably referring to Grid's Greatsword. In this chilly atmosphere, Chris responded nervously.

"I will say it again. In this world, aren't there one or two items that resemble each other?"

Chris tried to leave as planned, but Zibal grabbed his shoulder.

"This isn't like you, Chris. Originally, wouldn't you be angry when receiving an unfair accusation like this? Are you just laughing because what I said was the truth?"

"I've only ever responded in a gentlemanly manner."

Kwack!

Chris firmly shoved at Zibal's hand on his shoulder. Chris had high strength due to all his labor, so Zibal wasn't able to cope with it.

"Don't push people with unfounded rumors."

Chris spat out. He didn't shrink back, despite knowing that no one was on his side. This was the dignity of the third ranked user. But the opponent was Zibal. He might've been killed in one blow by a crazy farmer, but his strength and influence among the users was absolute. No matter how high Chris' charisma, Zibal wasn't affected at all.

"If you're so confident, why don't you share the details of your weapon with us?"

Ssik.

Zibal suggested with a bright smile. He didn't have anything to lose in this situation. If the weapon information was revealed and it was related to Grid, Zibal would be right. Otherwise, he could apologize if it was unrelated to Grid.

Chris faltered for a moment before acting wisely.

"Please don't go overboard, Zibal. Who would reveal the information of their item?"

Items could be a person's strength or weakness, so it was always a variable. Disclosing a weapon's information was no different from revealing a private part. The masters of the seven guilds knew this better than anyone else.

They tried to deter Zibal.

"Zibal, please act moderately. Don't make trouble when you are already struggling with Overgeared and the Blood Carnival."

"Yes, why are you suddenly doing this to Chris?"

The flow started to change. It happened when Chris was feeling relieved.

"Do you use the same weapon as Grid?"

The master of the Golden Guild, Seuron, stood up. A combat specialized unique class, Soul Predator. He might've been defeated by the crazy farmer during the Reidan invasion, but Seuron hadn't fully adapted to his class at the time.

But now it was different. Now Seuron would be able to fight the temporary and full-time farmers.

"I don't want to obediently send away a person who might be the enemy of our alliance."

Seuron spoke meaningful words and raised his Brutal Heavy Sword. After being defeated by the temporary farmer, he invested more than 10 million gold to increase it to a +9 weapon. His finances suffered quite a blow, but Seuron was satisfied. The gap between a +9 and a +8 weapon was large.

"Hey, Chris. Take out your weapon."

Seuron's goal was to be number one. By default, he was aggressive so he didn't want to miss a chance to kill a competitor.

"You don't intend to bring it out obediently? Then I will make you take it out."

Pa pa pa pat!

Four spears appeared in thin air on Seuron's left and right. It was the manifestation of the Soul Spears, which required a human or monster soul to be summoned. Seuron accumulated the maximum number of souls through continuous hunting, so he was in the best condition.

Pepepeng!

The soul spears shone as they shot forward. It was a very fast attack that was hard for Chris to deal with, because he invested most of his points in strength instead of agility.

Puuok!

Two spears pierced Chris' body. Seuron used this time to approach Chris with the Brutal Heavy Sword while using Soul Shackles. Chris stood at the crossroads of choice. Should he take out Grid's Greatsword, or take out a second weapon to block it?

'I have no choice.'

Chris had no intention of deepening the false accusation that he had an alliance with Grid. His guild would be damaged if he became hostile to these people. In the end, Chris pulled out his secondary weapon.

Jjejeong!

“Hoh.”

Seuron’s eyes widened. He admired the fact that Chris struck the Soul Shackles and blocked his sword the moment he took out his weapon.

‘Chris’ control is greater than rumored.’

They were slow and efficient movements. It allowed for the maximum effect with minimal movements. Chris’ greatsword technique was truly brilliant.

“But.”

He wasn’t Seuron’s opponent.

Yiing.

The sword that was engaged with Chris’ greatsword was reinforced with the effect of Soul Transference. At that moment.

Chaaeng!

“Kuk...!”

Chris’ strength became meaningless. As the weapon’s attack power was enhanced, Chris started to be pushed back. This game was truly about items. Chris realized again as he was pushed back a few steps.

Soul Arrows flew towards his head. Chris sensed it.

‘It’s a combo!’

If he was hit by continuous attacks, the probability of falling into a stiffened state was very high. And top rankers were able to fully take advantage of that moment of stiffness. Chris prepared for pain and suffering.

Suddenly, the arrows pouring down on him were shattered by a chain. Hao intervened in the battle.

"Seuron, don’t just do whatever you like."

There were many crazy people in the world. It wasn’t unusual for someone to enjoy fighting like Seuron. But there was an appropriate line. Hao didn’t understand Zibal and Seuron, who were trying to make someone big like Chris into an enemy.

“Hey Hao. Isn’t Chris suspicious? Look at the weapon that he brought out. It’s complete rubbish! Do you think that is his real weapon? He’s hiding his weapon!”

"Let’s say Chris’ weapon and Grid’s weapon are the same. Is that solid proof that the two are colluding?"

"..."

Hao asked logically and Seuron fell silent. Bubab also started to help Hao. He shook a hand towards Seuron and Chris.

“Let them play. It isn’t bad to experience each other’s ability ahead of the National Competition. Isn’t it beneficial?”

Seuron shook. He already concluded that Chris was below him. That wasn't all. Everyone in this place thought so. It was a very short fight, but it was true that Seuron completely overwhelmed Chris.

"...I'm going if there isn't anything else."

Chris stepped back.

It felt like he was a dog retreating with his tail down.

"To think that he is 3rd in the rankings. How pathetic."

Seuron laughed at Chris. Seuron and everyone in this room couldn't imagine it. Chris actually hid his skills.

'There will be many opportunities in the future.'

And the best stage was only 40 days away. Chris' eyes filled with fighting spirit.

Weapons Mastery.

It was the ultimate mastery skill that gave extra damage no matter what weapon was equipped. But it wasn't a miracle. The extra damage that Weapons Mastery gave was low compared to the mastery skills optimized for only one weapon.

Therefore, Grid was obsessed with the level of Bow Mastery. If Weapons Mastery added 10% additional damage and Bow Mastery added 11% additional damage, the effect that Grid would gain when he was using a bow was Bow Mastery, not Weapons Mastery.

In other words, even if Grid later learned Weapons Mastery, Bow Mastery could be used to the end.

'If I can give items an option that quickly increases the experience of the mastery skills...'

How good would it be? He didn't intend to use the alchemy facility. Alchemy gave random options and the success rate was low, so he couldn't rely on it.

"Khan."

In this situation, Grid tried to get Khan's advice. Khan's was an advanced level 8 blacksmith. As well as being excellent in daily life, he had accumulated experience for decades, making him very knowledgeable.

"Have you ever heard of an item that can quickly increase the experience of mastery skills?"

"Hrmm..."

Khan's family had been in the blacksmithing business for generations. Among his ancestors was Albatino, who inspired the legendary blacksmith Pagma. Khan looked through his decades of knowledge and finally shook his head.

"I'm sorry... I don't know..."

Grid had always been a big help to Khan. He wanted to pay Grid back if he ever got the chance. But now he couldn't help Grid when he needed it, making Khan feel depressed. His shoulders were sagging when he had a thought.

"Perhaps you should ask Piaro."

"Piaro?"

"Yes, shouldn't he know how to train in weapons more efficiently? If you listen to him, you might gain an idea about how to add it to an item."

It was the power of infinite favorability. Khan freely gave Grid advice. Grid gained great enlightenment and hugged Khan.

"Thank you!"

"Haha! I'm happy to help!"

The sight of the two people hugging was familiar to the blacksmiths of Reidan. The blacksmiths just looked away, trying not to interfere in the relationship between Grid and Khan.

On the other hand, Lord was shocked.

"Abubu...?"

Lord was hammering in a corner of the smithy. He was happy to hear his father's voice, only to get question marks above his head. Lord couldn't understand why his father was hugging someone other than his mother. In the darkness, Kasim whispered to him.

"This is the friendship between men."

"Woo..."

He liked the sound of the word 'friendship.' Lord vowed. Someday, he would find himself wonderful friends.

Later, Lord would have the strongest colleagues.