

## Reincarnated Avatar; I got 2 SSS-Rank Unique Skills

### #Chapter 101: Matchday 1 [1] - Read Reincarnated Avatar; I got 2 SSS-Rank Unique Skills Chapter 101: Matchday 1 [1]

#### *Chapter 101: Matchday 1 [1]*

The game finally came to an end, Lionhearts Legacy won.

(English Pro Alliance:)

(Cyber Squad 2 – 8 Lionhearts Legacy)

At the end of the game, the pro players came out of their gaming booths, meeting each other in the podium to shake hands.

"Harvey!" "Harvey!" "Harvey!"

Harvey chants quickly broke out in the away stands as the Lionheart Legacy fans roared on their captain at the top of their lungs.

In response to their enthusiasm, Harvey smiled brightly, the customary celebrity smile, waving at them.

And then, the players of opposing teams shook hands, indicating fair play.

This time, Harvey thoroughly defeated Cyber Squad.

Lionheart Legacy defeating Cyber Squad..., well that was not something you see every day, so you could forgive the traveling away fans for being so excited.

The players shook hands one after the other but when it came to a certain player's turn, Caster and Harvey, drama unfolded.

As soon as they shook hands, Caster gripped Harvey's hand tightly who quickly responded in time as their eyes interlocked, fiery sparks seemingly flying through the space between their eyes.

It was a tense stare down.

The other players were worried.

"You played dirty old man". Caster said coldly. "Next time, we'll win".

"Hah! You wish". Harvey laughed. Thinking of something, Harvey continued. "Boy, you seem to forget your place a lot because you're now controlling the legendary Stinger of War".

"Now, let me tell you, you're no Noah, and you'll never be a Noah".

"..."

Isabella quickly intervened. "Harvey, you're going too far".

"Teach your boy to be humble then". Saying that, Harvey shrugged off Caster's handshake before walking off the stage.

On the stage, Caster's hand was left hanging.

"...!" Caster shook in rage.

He had never been this humiliated in his whole life.

He glared daggers at Harvey's back as he left. 'This mad man...!'

Well, this whole sequence, it made the newspaper headlines later.

...

The first game of Matchday 1 of the English Warstar Pro Alliance was concluded, but it was just 1 in a series of games in matchday 1.

That same day, after Cyber Squad's game, another game was played.

For the second game of matchday one, around 7:00pm, Oblivion Knights of Leicester took on Shadow Dominion of Bradford.

The game was played in Leicester City, in Oblivion Knights home stadium.

Oblivion Knights is an English powerhouse club known for its aggressive PvP style and relentless pursuit of dominance. Though they've never quite attained the dominance, never winning a Warstar RPG championship trophy yet, they were challengers for the trophy every season.

They thrive in high-stakes clashes, often favoring berserker-like melee compositions in tournaments.

As for Shadow Dominion, it was a mid-table eSports club in the English Pro Alliance. They're known for their reputation as a dark-horse team though.

Notorious for deceptive plays and psychological warfare, their guild in the game and pro team comprises of Avatars that thrive on shadow magic, curses, and illusion-based combat.

After the blockbuster game in London, the focus of the English Warstar community turned to this game in Leicester.

The starting V formation of Shadow Dominion comprised of the captain, Shadewalker who was an Assassin, a master of stealth and critical strikes. Specialized in ambush and debuffs, he was the core of team Shadow Dominion.

Apart from the captain, the starting V comprised of Hexweaver, a Warlock, then Phantom Mirage, an Illusionist, another variation of the Mage main class.

Then Nocturne Warden who was a Dark Paladin, another variation of the Blademaster class like the Paladin, but more of a defensive frontliner who absorbs damage and reflects it with dark energy.

The last in Shadow Dominion's starting V is Ebon Priestess, a Shadow Cleric, a sub variation of the Cleric variation, a healer and crowd controller who manipulates negative energy to restore allies and drain enemies.

Shadow Dominion was one of the most eccentric and dynamic teams in the Pro Alliance, and their games are always different and exciting.

As for Oblivion Knights though, their starting V comprised of Bloodreaper, the captain who controlled a Berserker; Crimson Vanguard, a Paladin; Inferno Brawler, an Elementalist; Iron Mauler, a Blademaster; and Soulpiercer, a Gunner.

Oblivion Knight was an all-out offensive team.

A clash between these 2 teams was always going to be a treat.

The first individual battle was between Shadewalker and Bloodreaper, and like expected, it was an unforgettable treat.

A brutal clash of stealth and raw aggression.

Shadewalker's ambush tactics allowed him to chip away at Bloodreaper's health, but the Berserker's frenzy mode activates as his HP drops, granting him insane attack speed and lifesteal.

Bloodreaper narrowly secured the first win for his team.

[Winner: Bloodreaper]

[Oblivion Knights, +1 point]

The second individual battle was between Hexweaver and Inferno Brawler.

Hexweaver's curses and area control magic kept Inferno Brawler at bay, slowly draining his health.

Despite Inferno Brawler's explosive combos, in the end, he could not break through Hexweaver's dark magic.

Hexweaver won, making it a 1-1 draw in points.

The third individual battle was between Phantom Mirage and Soulpiercer.

Phantom Mirage flooded the battlefield with illusions, burning through MP but successfully disorienting Soulpiercer.

However, Soulpiercer's Deadeye passive skill allowed him to identify the real mirage after missing for some time, landing a lethal headshot.

From that point on, everything progressed chronologically.

Soulpiercer won, giving Oblivion Knights the lead in the individual battles.

And then, in the 3 vs 3 battle rush, Shadow Dominion's dynamism shone. Shadewalker went in first, dealing dilapidating stealth strikes to kill his opponent and setting the tone for the rest of the battle.

He was killed by Oblivion Knight's next player but with the stage set, Hexweaver's curses crippled Bloodreaper's lifesteal.

At the end, despite a late surge from Inferno Brawler, Shadow Dominion managed to secure the win, getting 2 points to retake the lead from their opponents.

It was an exciting game of end-to-end action.

It was up to the team battle to settle the brawl.

In the team battle, Oblivion Knights went all-in with an aggressive push, while Shadow Dominion like usual weaved confusion and illusions across the battlefield.

Phantom Mirage's manipulation forced Soulpiercer to waste shots, while Ebon Priestess kept her team alive with dark healing.

Shadewalker successfully assassinated Inferno Brawler, while Hexweaver's curses gradually drain Bloodreaper's strength.

Despite Oblivion Knights' unstoppable strength, in the end, Shadow Dominion managed to overwhelm their opponents with strategy and control.

---<VICTORY>---

Shadow Dominion won.

(English Pro Alliance:)

(Oblivion Knights 2 – 8 Shadow Dominion)

Despite playing in their opponents' home stadium, the dark horses managed to do it again, stealing such a convincing victory.

And then, the hate and banter began.

Oblivion Knights' fans hated on their opponents for using such underhanded tactics to win, while Shadow Dominion fans trolled them for being too weak, only knowing to complain when they've lost.

...

Birmingham City, England...

"Hahaha!" Benjamin laughed his ass out.

"Hehe, I really missed the pro scene man". He sighed. "The banter, the hate, man, there's no better source of joke inspirations in the world".

"Man, I feel like joining them".

"Better respect yourself". Caleb glared at him. "Noah already set a deadline for us; we need to join him to continue leveling up in the game soon".

"Remember, we're receiving salaries now".

Benjamin sighed regretfully. "You're right".

*Chapter 102: Matchday 1 [2]*

(Imperium Tyrannus – Scarlet Rose)

(Time: 8:00pm)

The last game of the first day of matchday 1.

This time, a championship team entered the fray in Scarlet Rose, the legendary club that managed to dethrone Cyber Squad, ending God Noah's purple reign with the London-based club.

In England, there was a saying in Warstar communities that before Dain Ironvalor, there was the Crimson Saint.

Crimson Saint..., this was the model Paladin Avatar in the English Pro Alliance before Gabriel rose to the spotlight with his Dain Ironvalor.

The captain of the champion club and PvP powerhouse, Scarlet Rose, controlled the Avatar Crimson Saint, a frontline Paladin excelling in sustained combat and team protection.

Apart from Crimson Saint, Scarlet Rose's starting V comprised Blazing Tempest, a Mage- Pyromancer, a fire magic expert; Bloodfang, an Assassin; Warden of Thorns, a Mage that played as a tank, a wood magic expert who specializes in entangling and slowing enemies while regenerating allies.

And then Ivory Song, Scarlet Rose's support, a Cleric.

As for Imperium Tyrannus, the Southampton club notorious for its ruthless, dictatorial leadership and strategic discipline. On the pro scene, they're known for their control-heavy playstyle, excelling in area denial and siege warfare.

Imperium Tyrannus' starting V comprised of their captain, Tyrant King, a Psychic. He was not an offensive Psychic though, rather, a War Strategist, a Psychic focused on skills that can control troop movements and buff allies within formation.

The rest of the team comprised of Iron Bastion, a Paladin; Void Arcanist, a Mage specialized in anti-magic fields and disruption spells; Venom Reaper, an Assassin; and Steel Marksman, a Ballista Sniper, another variation of the Mechanic main class, a long-range sharpshooter with high armor penetration and explosive projectiles.

Since it was an Imperium Tyrannus home game, the game was played in the club's home stadium in Southampton.

On Live TV, the clash started.

The first individual battle was between Venom Reaper and Bloodfang, a deadly duel between stealth and speed.

Bloodfang's relentless attack pressure kept Venom Reaper on the defensive, but Venom Reaper's poisons slowly ate away at his health.

In the final exchange, Bloodfang barely wins with a critical strike.

In the battle of assassin vs assassin, Scarlet Rose won, securing 1 point.

In the second individual battle, Void Arcanist took on Blazing Tempest.

Void Arcanist's anti-magic fields and energy absorption skills completely shut down Blazing Tempest's fire magic, leaving her unable to unleash her destructive potential. But it only lasted a while.

Renowned for her adaptability, Blazing Tempest unleashed controlled, explosive bursts to break through the suppression zones.

After a grueling duel, a perfectly timed Flame Surge melts Void Arcanist's defenses, securing the win.

Scarlet Rose secured a 2nd successive win in the individual battles.

The third individual battle was between Steel Marksman and the Crimson Saint, one of the recognized God-level players in England.

The Crimson Saint was not just highly skilled, he was a Warstar veteran with a plethora of experience in the game.

When the clash started, Steel Marksman's long-range precision forces Crimson Saint to endure a relentless barrage.

However, with superior defensive buffs and divine shields, Crimson Saint steadily advances, closing the gap with eerie movement and unpredictability.

Once he closed the distance, it was over.

It became a one-sided beatdown.

With a crushing hammer strike, he shattered Steel Marksman's position.

[Winner: Crimson Saint]

[Scarlet Rose, 3 points]

[Imperium Tyrannus, 0 point]

A crushing victory in the individual battles for Scarlet Rose.

In the 3 vs 3 battle rush, Crimson Saint led the charge, crushing any hopes for a comeback that Imperium Tyrannus had. Crimson Saint took down 2 players before dying at the 3rd enemy player, making the work too easy for his teammates.

Scarlet Rose crushed the 3 vs 3 battle rush, winning and now on 5 points.

And then the team battle.

Desperate and eager to gather momentum to rally to a draw, Imperium Tyrannus executes a flawless control strategy, with Iron Bastion anchoring the frontline and Void Arcanist suppressing Bloodfang's movement.

However, in the end, raw power and skill trumps everything.

Blazing Tempest's firestorms disrupt Imperium's formation, while Bloodfang took the opportunity to exploit openings to eliminate key targets.

Warden of Thorns' control over the battlefield allowed Crimson Saint to dominate the frontline, and Ivory Song's healing kept Scarlet Rose's core unbreakable.

With relentless coordination, Scarlet Rose dismantled Imperium Tyrannus' iron grip one limb at a time to secure a decisive victory.

[Final score:]

(Imperium Tyrannus 0 – 10 Scarlet Rose)

A crushing victory!

This flawless victory reaffirmed Scarlet Rose's status as 1-time Warstar champions and sends a clear message to the rest of the Pro Alliance; Scarlet Rose is still here and reigns supreme.

...

Birmingham City, England...

Benjamin looked in melancholy. "Ahh," he sighed. "What I'd give to have these days back, competing in the Pro Alliance".

"F\*ck! Retirement is so boring!"

"That's why we need to go level up first". Caleb said.

Benjamin looked at him, contemplating for a moment and then he nodded. "You do have a point, now let's go join Noah".

With that, they logged into the game and continued the grind.

...



The next day, matchday 1 of the English Pro Alliance continued.

For the next game...

(English Pro Alliance:)

(Juggernaut – Phoenix Rising)

Another game involving a champion club, and yet Juggernaut were not the true Juggernauts today. They were facing a far scarier Juggernaut in Phoenix Rising, the scariest and most in-form team in the English Pro Alliance.

This did not mean Juggernaut were pushovers though.

Juggernaut was also a champion club, having won the Warstar RPG champions league back in season 7. They were also a powerhouse club.

This was going to be a clash of 2 champion clubs.

It was clearly going to be the most intense clash in matchday 1.

After grinding levels all night, Benjamin slept with his friends to recover and after they did, together, the 3 of them visited the stadium in Birmingham since it was a Juggernaut home game and the club was based in Birmingham City.

*Chapter 103: Matchday 1 [3]*

Juggernaut, the unstoppable force of Birmingham.

The champion club that dethroned Scarlet Rose in season 7, known for their relentless, overwhelming pressure and brutal team fight dominance.

Juggernaut's starting V comprised Titan, Juggernaut's captain who played as a Warlord, a variant class of the Berserker main class that is a tank-class commander with area control and crowd-crushing abilities.

Apart from Titan, in team Juggernaut there was Frostfang, an Elementalist, an ice specialist; Thunderborn, also an Elementalist who focused on the lightning element; Ironclad, a Paladin, and then Shadowstriker, an Assassin.

And then on the other side were the reigning champions led by the recent most famous Avatar in England, Gabriel's Dain Ironvalor.

Apart from Dain Ironvalor, Phoenix Rising's starting V comprised of 2 well known Elementalists, Inferna and Frazier; then Abyss, a Warlock, and then Blaze, a Combat Mage.

The Birmingham Stadium was filled to the brim with tens of thousands of passionate Warstar fans, eager to spectate the 2 powerhouse teams in action.

And then the clash started.

The first individual battle was between Gabriel's Dain Ironvalor and Titan.

As soon as the battle started, Gabriel activated his defensive buffs and with his reactive counters, he was able to withstand Titan's tyrannical brute force.

Despite Titan's relentless pressure, Gabriel's precise timing and divine healing enabled him to wear down the Warlord's stamina.

At the end, a crushing holy strike sent Titan to the ground.

[Winner: Dain Ironvalor]

[Phoenix Rising, 1 point]

The second individual battle was between Thunderborn and Inferna, a contest of Elementalists.

In a high-speed duel of elemental chaos, Thunderborn's lightning strikes aim to overwhelm Inferna's flames. However, Inferna manipulated the battlefield, creating fire barriers and explosions to break Thunderborn's rhythm.

It was a close duel, but a well-timed Flame Surge from Inferna finished the duel in her favor.

Phoenix Rising got another point.

And then the third individual battle. It was between Shadowstriker and Abyss, Phoenix Rising's Warlock.

Shadowstriker's stealth and speed dominated early, striking from the shadows. However, Abyss' mastery of curses and dark magic created traps and illusions that disrupted Shadowstriker's movements.

It was an extremely technical battle.

A final curse drained Shadowstriker's life force, sealing the victory.

Incredulously, against a champion team in Juggernaut, Phoenix Rising managed to do it, earning a clean sweep in the individual battles.

The internet went haywire with reactions even before the end of the game.

And then, in the 3 vs 3 battle rush, Ironclad, Frostfang, and Thunderborn went up against Dain Ironvalor, Blaze, and Inferna respectively.

It was an incredibly tight clash, each player pushing past his/her limits as they hit ridiculous APMs on the Arena.

The arena was filled with brilliant flashes of light as they fought.

But in the end, Phoenix won again.

The X Factor just seemed to be favoring them today.

And then came the team battle.

'We can't afford to lose like this!'

The fear of humiliation pushed Juggernaut to the wall and in the team battle, this club came out with the energy of a man who had everything to lose.

Juggernaut unleashed their signature full-force assault, with Titan and Ironclad leading the charge while Thunderborn and Frostfang bombard from the rear. A formation that had worked so many times against overwhelming odds.

However, Phoenix Rising's synergy, led by Gabriel's divine protection and strategic adaptability neutralized the aggression.

It was chaos. Intense, brilliant chaos.

Abyss' curses and Inferna's flames crippled Juggernaut's backline, while Blaze's AOE bursts dismantled their formation.

After putting up a furious fight against the reigning champions, in the end, the nemesis, Dain Ironvalor delivered the final blow to Titan, sealing the victory.

This was the enemy's home stadium but at the end of it all, the voices of the away fans managed to dwarf those of the home fans, ringing loudly.

"Ironvalor!" "Ironvalor!" "Ironvalor!"

They hailed their captain and hero.

[Final Score:]

(Juggernaut 0 – 10 Phoenix Rising)

Juggernaut was thrashed 0-10, the humiliation...

Phoenix Rising's superior coordination and tactical brilliance led by Gabriel was what proved the difference maker, overwhelming Juggernaut's devastating brute force approach.

And with this flawless victory, the reigning champions solidified their claim as the undisputed champions of Warstar.

Hidden among the home supporters in the stadium.

"Tsk". Benjamin picked his teeth with a toothpick.

"Arrogant bastard". He cursed.

"Just wait till we come back, just you wait, hehe, shine for now bald bard!" He laughed at his own joke, suddenly feeling a bit better about the situation.

Benjamin was even more motivated to work hard and level up.

He could not wait to return to the Pro Alliance with his friends.

Thinking about it, he grinned. 'Next season, we'll show them hell'.

...

Later, that same day, Nightfall took on Pendragon Esports around 7:00pm, an exciting game that ended with a Nightfall victory.

Around 8:00pm, the Midnight Revenants took on the Blazing Gryphons, resulting in a home victory for the Midnight Revenants.

And then, around 9:00pm, the last game of the day between Avalon Sovereign and Stormborn Esports took place, Avalon securing a home victory too.

The next day, Monday...

Around 7:00pm, Cerberus Core took on Exo Genesis in another blockbuster English Pro Alliance game. Exo Genesis secured a victory over the home side.

Later around 8:00pm, Steel Bastion took on Phantom Vortex, the home side securing an impressive victory against their opponents.

And then finally, it was the last game of matchday 1.

(Helix Nova – Titan's Ascent)

(Time: Monday, 9:00pm)

The home side, Helix Nova, a club with a cosmic and arcane theme, known for its star-themed mages, gravitational abilities, and spatial manipulation tactics took care of their opponents with relative ease.

Helix Nova won over Titan's Ascent 8-2.

With that, matchday 1 of the English Pro Alliance officially came to an end.

And with it, the Pro Alliance table was updated.

(English Warstar RPG Pro Alliance Table:)

- (1. Lionheart Legacy- 3 points)
- (2. Shadow Dominion- 3 points)
- (3. Scarlet Rose- 3 points)
- (4. Phoenix Rising- 3 points)
- (5. Nightfall- 3 points)
- (6. Midnight Revenants- 3 points)
- (7. Avalon Sovereign- 3 points)
- (8. Exo Genesis- 3 points)
- (9. Steel Bastion- 3 points)
- (10. Helix Nova- 3 points)
- (11. Cyber Squad- 0 point)
- (12. Oblivion Knights- 0 point)
- (13. Titan's Ascent- 0 point)
- (14. Steel Bastion- 0 point)
- (15. Cerberus Core- 0 point)
- (16. Stormborn Esports- 0 point)
- (17. Blazing Gryphons- 0 point)

(18. Pendragon Esports- 0 point)

(19. Juggernaut- 0 point)

(20. Imperium Tyrannus- 0 point)

*Chapter 104: The pro scene*

(English Warstar RPG Pro Alliance Table:)

(1. Lionheart Legacy- 3 points)

(2. Shadow Dominion- 3 points)

(3. Scarlet Rose- 3 points)

(4. Phoenix Rising- 3 points)

(5. Nightfall- 3 points)

(6. Midnight Revenants- 3 points)

(7. Avalon Sovereign- 3 points)

(8. Exo Genesis- 3 points)

(9. Steel Bastion- 3 points)

(10. Helix Nova- 3 points)

(11. Cyber Squad- 0 point)

(12. Oblivion Knights- 0 point)

(13. Titan's Ascent- 0 point)

(14. Steel Bastion- 0 point)

(15. Cerberus Core- 0 point)

(16. Stormborn Esports- 0 point)

(17. Blazing Gryphons- 0 point)

(18. Pendragon Esports- 0 point)

(19. Juggernaut- 0 point)

(20. Imperium Tyrannus- 0 point)

Matchday 1 of the Warstar RPG Pro Alliance was over.

Since there was no draw on matchday 1, this was how the table now looked.

A victory in the Pro Alliance was worth 3 points, while a draw is worth 1 point for each team, and a loss is worth 0 points.

After the first matchday of the season, there was a clear distinction between the pro clubs already but it didn't mean anything this early into the season.

The season was still long, and it was definitely going to be full of ups and downs before the playoffs to determine the champion even come.

Just like in European football leagues around the world, in England, they employ the same 38-matchday system where the 20 teams in the alliance compete.

At the end of the season, the pro club with the most points would win the English Warstar league title. But there was an even more important trophy in English's Warstar scene, the Warstar RPG Champions League.

At the end of the season, while the club with most points is crowned with the English Warstar league title, the top 8 teams with the most points progress to the playoffs where they compete for the Warstar RPG Champions League.

The champions league utilizes a knockout tournament system where the 8 clubs compete in a quarterfinal, a semifinal, and then the crowning final game.

Last season, Phoenix Rising won the league title and champions league title, completing a double for the season.

But in the previous season, while Phoenix Rising also won the champions league title, Cyber Squad led by Noah was the one who won the league title having ended the season with the most points.

Cyber Squad was the only club in England with a record-breaking 6 league titles, having won the league titles in the first 5 years of the Pro Alliance where they dominated every other club.

The clubs next to them in the race was Phoenix Rising with 2 league titles and Scarlet Rose, also with 2 league titles.

Cyber Squad also held the record for the most champions league wins with 5, Phoenix Rising being their closest challenger with 3.

This was why at the end of the matchday, even as Cyber Squad fans broke down in heartbreak and tears, a lot of the toxic ones also broke out with criticism.

They didn't just criticize the players; they also criticized the club.

...

Rising from the heart of London's gaming district, the Nexus Tower served as the headquarters and the living quarters of Club Cyber Squad, one of the most storied clubs in Warstar's Pro Alliance.

The building is a sleek, high-tech marvel of glass and steel, towering over its surroundings. Its exterior shimmers with holographic projections of Warstar avatars and past Cyber Squad triumphs.

The massive Warstar emblem, glowing in neon blue adorned the entrance, while digital banners showcased the club's iconic avatars; Stinger of War, Stormborn Valor, Sprinkling Brooks, Black Phantom, Fatal Einstein, Pestilent Jest, and Changing Spring.

Inside, the facility is a hybrid of luxury and function.

The central training hub, known as the Simulation Arena, allows players to immerse themselves in combat scenarios through advanced VR technology.

The War Room, a dimly lit strategy center, is where game reviews and tactical discussions take place.

Higher floors house the players' personal quarters, designed for both comfort and focus, with streaming setups and private practice pods.

On the top floor's communal lounge, a massive curved screen dominates the wall, where players often gather to watch Pro Alliance broadcasts and community reactions.

And today, the players were facing the aftermath of the clash between their club and Lionheart Legacy after the end of matchday 1.

The room was heavy with tension.

The five core players of Cyber Squad, Caster, Isabella, Chrollo, Smith, and Cleon sat sprawled across the lounge, illuminated by the pale glow of the screen displaying streams, forums, and social media feeds.

The online backlash was brutal.



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- \*Cyber Squad is washed. Living off the legacy of the OGs.
- \*Isabella's Stormborn Valor got steamrolled. No presence in team fights.
- \*Cleon's healing was literally non-existent. Where's the old Changing Spring?
- \*Black Phantom's mechanics are outdated. Smith's out of touch with the meta.
- \*Only Caster held his ground, but he can't carry dead weight forever.
- \*Held his ground my ass! That guy was as useless as everyone else in the team!
- \*Foolish club! I can't believe this is the club that I'm supporting, to think we'd lose 2-8 against Lionhearts Legacy at home! Lionhearts Legacy, wtf!
- \*How on earth did you let God Noah retire? Foolish club! Didn't you watch him last season? The captain clearly still has another year or 2 left in him, to let him retire is the most foolish decision of our club!
- \*At least, they'd have let the captain mentor Caster for one season before letting him taking the helm at the club. This is honestly some bad management.
- \*Talking of Captain Caster, Captain Caster my foot! Talking of Caster, how can that guy be so useless? I don't remember our club under God Noah ever losing to Lionhearts Legacy, at most we'd settle for a draw! He's a disgrace to the club!
- \*Don't be too harsh on Caster. You know he's just arriving at the team, and every player, no matter how good needs an adaptation time. He's still adapting to the club and its style of play.
- \*Adaptation my foot! He's useless! How can you lose 2-8 and call it adaptation?! At the very least, lose 4-6, not 2-8! Caster's an idiot!
- \*He's underserving of Stinger of War, bring back our real captain! Guys, let's start a trend; bring back God Noah!
- \*Bring back God Noah!
- \*Bring back God Noah!
- \*Bring back God Noah!
- \*  
...

\* ...

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The players watched the criticism with dark looks on their faces.

Then, with a worried look on her face, Isabella inclined her head to stare at Caster. Noticing her gaze, he tsked and stood up.

"Caster...", she called worriedly.

"Mind your business!" Snapping, he stormed out of the communal lounge.

#### *Chapter 105: Caster's mental dilemma*

Caster walked through the corridor listlessly.

'Adaptation my foot! He's useless! How can you lose 2-8 and call it adaptation?! At the very least, lose 4-6, not 2-8! Caster's an idiot!'

'He's underserving of Stinger of War, bring back our real captain! Guys, let's start a trend; bring back God Noah!'

'Bring back God Noah!'

'Bring back God Noah!'

'Bring back God Noah!'

As he walked, he could not help it, all the criticism online started flooding back into his head, pushing him into a mental dilemma.

Caster clenched his fists tightly, he hated this.

From a young age, Caster was always hailed as being talented. He was always better than his peers, he was always good with tech, and his APM was always better than his mates.

All the praise, all the applause cumulated and ending up building a superiority complex in him which exploded after he entered the pro scene.

Every gamer knew how hard it was to enter Warstar's pro scene, but Caster did it, what other validation did he need than this that he was a genius?

He was a genius, he was destined to dominate the world, starting with the pro scene of Warstar RPG.

After 2 years in the pro scene, Caster realized that it was not as simple as he thought but at the same time, his ego still inflated because in those 2 years, he won the best young player of the Pro Alliance twice!

'I'm the best!'

'I just need time, and experience!'

'With enough experience, I'll be even better than God Noah, becoming the best player of England!'

He looked up to no one, only himself.

He believed in his own talent and potential, and he was confident enough that he would realize his full potential.

Sometimes, his confidence could be so overbearing that it appears as arrogance but that was the kind of person that Caster was.

This was why when the offer came from Cyber Squad days before last season's Warstar RPG Champions League final that they wanted to sign him as God Noah's heir, Caster didn't hesitate.

'Hahaha!'

'Finally, what I deserve!'

'I never expected God Noah to retire now but this is definitely what I deserve, the best Avatar in all of Warstar!'

'The strongest, that is what I deserve!'

'With Stinger of War, I'll become invincible!'

'I'll be unstoppable!'

'No one will be able to stop me!'

Phoenix Rising may be in their purple reign now, but they were yet to eclipse Cyber Squad in history and achievements.

Cyber Squad was still the benchmark in England's pro scene.

All these reasons was why Caster did not hesitate, signing the contract immediately and fulfilling his destiny as God Noah's heir.

From the next season, he won't be known as Caster the rookie Combat Mage anymore, rather he would be known as God Gaster of Cyber Squad.

With this mentality, Caster trained, working hard to master controlling the God-level account, Stinger of War.

After everything, after all his hard work and expectations, Caster did not expect his first game as a Cyber Squad player to go so badly.

This was why it affected him so much.

And the criticism now? It was tearing at his ego, ripping apart the very essence of who he was.

He clenched his fists tightly. "Foolish fans!"

"Bring back God Noah?!" He growled. "Fools!"

"You know nothing, clinging on to the past like simps who can't move on from a girl, y'all are clung to past glory!"

"God Noah is retired!"

"It's God Caster now!"

His eyes gleamed with uncertainty, then hate, then confusion.

"Just you wait!" He growled. "I'll prove to you all that I'm better than God Noah, that I'm the best in the Pro Alliance now!"

"Just you wait..., no, no need to wait!"

"I'll prove to you guys now that I'm better than that old man!"

Clenching his fists even tighter, he quickly located the stairs, climbing up to the players' personal quarters where his room was as the captain of Cyber Squad.

The rooms of the players were all equipped with personal gaming gear, this was for their leisure to play the game outside normal team training.

As Caster stormed off, Isabella who already left the communal lounge after him noticed him.

"Caster?"

Caster didn't even notice her, nor did he hear her voice.

Seeing that look on his face, Isabella was worried. 'Hope he'll be fine'.

...

Caster's mind was twisted with hate and confusion from the criticism.

Criticism..., he could not handle it.

Afterall, it was something strange and alien to him. All his life, he was used to people praising him and calling him a genius.

To suddenly come under criticism, he was not used to it.

Filled with hate and confusion due to the unfamiliar reaction from people and the feeling it incited in him, he decided to direct his hate towards the source of the criticism, God Noah- Lord Doom.

Caster was added to the pro player group 2 years ago after he joined the pro scene, but he was never really active in the group.

He did check the group chat occasionally though; this was how he knew that Lord Doom was God Noah from the conversation of the veteran pro players.

'Bastard! You're already retired, what are you still doing in the game?!'

'This was your plan all along, right?'

'You wanted to humiliate me from the very beginning, I know, I always knew!'

'You're bitter that I took your spot, so you want revenge!'

'It's not my fault bastard, you're old and weak now, of course a young and energetic heir is needed to control Stinger of War and continue the Battle God Avatar's legacy!'

For the first time in his life, Caster was experiencing a feel of inferiority complex towards Noah Harrington but he didn't even realize it.

In his room, having locked himself in, Caster paid money to buy a level 40 11th server Combat Mage account, and with it he logged into the game.

He spent even more money go purchase in-game gold with which he purchased a tracking map.

With the map, he tracked a certain player.

[Target: Lord Doom]

[Target Location Found!]

Caster's eyes gleamed with hate and anger. 'I'm coming for you Lord Doom!'

*Chapter 106: An encounter with Lord Doom [1]*

[Avatar 'Sting of Valor' has logged into the game!]

[Activating map tracker, please wait...]

[Target: Lord Doom]

[Target Location Found!]

Finding Lord Doom was made easier with the map tracker, but meeting him was not going to be instant.

This was because according to the map tracker, right now, Lord Doom was inside a dungeon, soloing it to level up.

'You even solo dungeons?' His eyes gleamed. 'I can do it too!'

'You're nothing special!'

Fueled by rage, thoughts of God Noah filling his head, with the alternate account Avatar, Caster traversed through the world of Warstar.

Another reason that made finding God Noah not instant was the size of the map since the players already left the Beginner Village after level 20.

This domain of the server was bigger than just the Beginner Village. There are multiple Beginner Villages, and after level 20, players leave their beginner villages to explore the bigger map of the game before level 60.

The highest level that can be attained at this domain is level 60.

After hitting level 60, to level up further, players need to take on the Heavenly Domain challenge that would take them to the Heavenly Domain.

Heavenly Domain was the true domain of the game, it connected all corners of the Warstar map around England, exclusive to each country.

In recent weeks, there was talk of another update after the advent of the World Championship tournament.

Apparently, the Warstar developers intended to create a unified Heavenly Domain where all Warstar players from every country could converge.

That was the end-goal of the game.

Maybe that Domain would get a more tyrannical name than Heavenly Domain.

All of that didn't concern Caster though. Right now, all he cared about was Lord Doom which in his head was synonymous with God Noah.

'I'm going to crush him!'

'I'll show him just how talented I am!'

'I'll show him that I am the new Battle God, the Lord of Combat Mages!'

'I'll show him that he's old and washed!'

Fueled by these feelings and thoughts, Caster roamed the world of this domain till he finally arrived at the front of the dungeon where Noah apparently was.

His eyes gleamed with rage and a certain competitive spirit.

At this moment, Caster felt like he was about to confront the most terrifying boss he had ever met in the game, but he was determined to beat it.

'I will win!'

'I must win!'

And so, patiently, he waited.

His arrogant and strange demeanor attracted attention, but the people didn't pay too much attention to him, entering the dungeon to also play.

All Caster's attention was on the entrance of this dungeon.

10 minutes, he waited...

20 minutes, he waited...

30 minutes, he waited...

40 minutes!

'What the f\*ck!' Caster exploded in his mind. 'God Noah, are you scared of me?!'

'Are you afraid to confront me?!'

As these thoughts went through his head, suddenly having a hunch, he decided to look at the map tracker again and Caster almost coughed blood.

Lord Doom... was gone.

He was no longer in the f\*cking dungeon!

'Wtf!' He seethed in rage.

[Current Location: Arena]

Apparently, Lord Doom was now inside the Arena.

'How?!'

Once Caster calmed down a bit though, he managed to understand.

The reason why he didn't see Lord Doom was because immediately after clearing the dungeon, he clicked straight on the Arena icon that took him to the isolated space of the Silent Arena.

'You bastard...!'

Seething, he also didn't hesitate.

He clicked on the Arena icon of his alternate account Avatar.

Immediately, he disappeared.

BZZZ!

...

The virtual world of Warstar pulsed with ancient magic and steel as Caster, now masked behind an alternate account stepped into the Silent Arena, an isolated PvP battleground where only two players can enter.

Caster theorized that the only reason why Lord Doom would do such a thing was if he wanted to try out either a new skill or a new style with his Avatar, and he didn't want people spectating on them.

'Works for me too!' He thought with a growl.

As soon as he entered the Arena, he glared at Lord Doom with intensity.



There was almost a palpable pressure reverberating from him.

As for Noah?

If there was a toothpick at this moment, he would be picking his teeth. 'The 2 new forms of Aetherforge are really hard to master'.

'But, umm, why is this guy looking at me with so much intensity?'

'Did I steal your girlfriend or something?'

"Hey". Noah called casually, trying to ease the atmosphere. "It's me, Lord Doom, the infamous legend of the 11th server". He chuckled shamelessly.

Caster just glared at him.

Before him stood Lord Doom, though he didn't want to admit it, he really was the infamous legend who once ruled Cyber Squad and the entire Pro Alliance- Noah, hidden beneath the guise of an anonymous account.

Caster's Avatar, a sleek Combat Mage radiated lightning energy, a powerful level 40 battle lance blazing in his hands.

Rage surged through him, fueled by the mocking voices of the community echoing in his head.

'Bring back God Noah!'

'Caster is a disgrace!'

His pride, once untouchable, has been shattered.

And now, standing before the very man the world still worships, Caster was determined to prove them wrong.

Lord Doom, clad in dark armor with the already iconic Aetherforge resting on his shoulder watched him with an unsettling calm after he failed to reply to him.

His presence alone felt suffocating, as if the game itself bent to his will.

"I guess you're the quiet type, huh?" Noah joked.

"I just want to test a new function of my weapon out, I hope you'll be kind enough to accommodate my experiment".

"Shut up!" Caster growled, and then the battle began.

Immediately.

BOOM!

Caster opened with a barrage of lightning strikes, chaining spells with impeccable speed. Bolts of energy crackle through the air, converging on Lord Doom with eerie speed and accuracy.

Yet, with a single step, Noah deflected the attack with the shaft of his Battle Lance, dispersing the energy into harmless sparks.

"You're the energetic one, huh?" He grinned, happy. "Great!"

Noah moved.

*Chapter 107: An encounter with Lord Doom [2]*

Caster attacked with blinding speed, chaining elemental magic into relentless, high-speed bursts.

Fire and lightning raged, warping the arena into a chaotic storm.

His combination of skills and timing was just perfect.

Noah was impressed but fluid as ever, he maneuvered through the onslaught. Aetherforge hummed as he redirected Caster's energy strikes, dismantling spell patterns mid-air with precise slashes.

"Fast," he muttered, genuinely impressed.

To Caster though, those words felt like mockery.

The praise from the very legend whose shadow crushed him was salt on an open wound, and his hurt ego could not take it.

Caster gritted his teeth and launched into a complex sequence of teleportation and elemental fusion, weaving through fire and ice to trap Lord Doom in a multi-layered spell formation.

"You're not unbeatable!" He roared as the arena erupts with magic.

But as the flames and frost close in, Lord Doom vanishes.

{Blink Step=}

The simple but practical Combat Mage skill that enables its user to teleport a short distance, dodging attacks and repositioning on the battlefield.

Bzzz!

Lord Doom faded as the frames and frost came in, phasing through space with Blink Step, appearing directly behind Caster.

Before Caster could react, Aetherforge already pierced through the ground, unleashing a shockwave that disrupted the flow of mana around him.

Caster's control over his magic crumbled.

'What?!'

The sudden loss of magic ability stunned Caster, but he refused to yield.

'Never!'

'I won't lose!'

'I'm the best!' He roared with defiance in his mind.

Refusing to yield, he activated Arcane Overdrive, a high-level Combat Mage skill that can boost magic output by sacrificing mana.

Like an Obel Scale, Caster's magic output rose with tyrannical momentum, forcefully overcharging and shattering the effects of Lord Doom's skill that managed to lock Caster's Avatar's magic ability.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

"DIE!"

Caster erupted, flooding the arena with relentless energy strikes, warping the battlefield into a storm of destruction.

Yet, Lord Doom moved through it all effortlessly, predicting each attack, countering with brutal precision.

With each clash, Caster felt his control slipping further away, as if Lord Doom wasn't just fighting him, but also dismantling him, piece by piece.

Caster's ego could not take it.

'NO...!!!' He screamed in his mind.

'Impossible!'

'This can't be happening!'

'I can't be losing!'

'How on earth can he still be this good?!'

In one final desperate attempt, Caster channeled all his mana into a final high-level Combat Mage Skill, Thunder Retribution, summoning a massive lightning spear to strike down his opponent.

As the spear descended, still in its Battle Lance form, Lord Doom lifted Aetherforge up, pointing at the raining thunder, then...

"Collapse".

With a mere whisper, activating a Warlock skill at almost the same moment, Aetherforge absorbed the lightning spear's power, redirecting it back at Caster with amplified force.

BOOM!

It hit Caster's alternate Avatar with the force of an avalanche.

The energy shattered Caster's defenses, sending him crashing to the ground; his health bar reduced to zero.

---<VICTORY>---

Silence.

As Caster's avatar disintegrated, while Noah stared at his own 'Victory' screen, Caster stared in disbelief at the 'Defeat' screen.

Lord Doom stepped forward, towering over him.

Caster looked up at the infamous Avatar and instinctively, watching Lord Doom look down on him with the same casual and slightly nonchalant look, an illusion played in Caster's mind, an illusion of Lord Doom talking.

An illusion birth from his own insecurities.

"You think wielding Stinger of War makes you worthy?" Noah's voice was cold, cutting through Caster's pride.

"Warstar doesn't bow to those who chase validation. It follows those who dominate it".

Crack!

Caster felt his ego cracking even more.

In reality, Noah never said anything.

As Lord Doom turned and vanished into the shadows of the arena, about to leave, Caster's mind spiraled into chaos.

The reality crashed down on him; he wasn't fighting just another player.

He challenged the true God of Warstar.

But..., so what?

"Wait!" Caster growled.

Despite the barrier of game and reality blocking them, at this moment, Noah could feel the palpable hate from shit guy.

'Damn, who the hell is this guy?' He thought.

Caster's face twisted in rage. "You think you're it because you led Cyber Squad to 5 straight championships in the past, right?"

"..."

Noah was confused.

"Well, I'll show you that someone is better now!"

"..."

Noah was genuinely speechless. 'What the hell is wrong with this guy?'

But having set the system to a new challenge, Caster was already moving again at blinding speed with the alternate account.

"DIE!" He growled like a mad man.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Caster went all out, truly pushing Lord Doom to the brink before in another moment of genius, he was defeated again.

Caster felt like coughing blood. 'Again?!!!'

Now, Noah was impressed. 'This guy..., who is he really?'

'He's too good to be a normal player'.

"Your speed is remarkable". He complemented again, at the same time checking out Sting of Valor's account out.

This was when he realized that it was an alternate account, this account literally had no history of interacting in the 11th server.

Noah complimented Caster again, but to him, it felt like ridicule.

"Again!" Caster growled, challenging Noah again.

And again, he was defeated.

"Again!"

Again, he was defeated.

"Again!"

Again, he was defeated.

"Again!"

Again, he was defeated.

"Again!"

"Again!"

"Again!"

"Again!"

Each time, he fought with growing desperation and each time, Noah dismantled him with the same calm efficiency.

But by the 10th defeat, Noah began noticing familiar patterns; the subtle micro-movements, the reaction speed, the way Caster handled his cooldowns. And his grasp of the basics of the Combat Mage main class.

'This...'

It finally clicked in Noah's head.

Noah hesitated for a moment, lots of thoughts flowing through his head but then he asked, breaking the silence.

"Caster..., is that you?"

Caster snapped.

"What does it matter?!"

"You abandoned us!"

"You retired and left me to bear the weight of Cyber Squad's legacy! Now, I'm a joke! A disgrace! And its all because they keep comparing me to you!"

Silence.

Noah was stunned, but then his expression softened.

He finally understood.

*Chapter 108: An encounter with Lord Doom [3]*

Long ago...

After the end of a Pro Alliance game, a home Cyber Squad game, there was an interview, an interview for the captain of club Cyber Squad.

In that interview, Noah Harrington was asked a lot of questions but one of them was more prominent than the others.

"God Noah, Cyber Squad won again but we can't help but notice that you and your teammates struggled far more than ever before just to win"

"Don't you think its time to finally hand the baton over to an heir?"

"Like they say, the young shall grow".

"A lot of Cyber Squad fans these days are clamoring for the best rookie, Caster to be signed by Cyber Squad so you'd mentor him to take over your Stinger of War Avatar to continue your legacy".

Noah smiled. "First of all, I don't think I'm quite done yet at the elite level of England's Pro Alliance, so I'm not letting go of Stinger of War soon".

"Second though, Caster..., well, I also know him. I've fought against him once or twice in games, and I do have to admit that the boy is talented".

"His Combat Mage knowledge, reflexes, and skill execution are all flawless. All he needs is more experience of the game to shore up his combat style".

"Not now. But maybe in the future if I'm to mentor an heir, it'd be him".

This interview happened a year ago.

...

Of course, Noah knew Caster.

There were just so many Combat Mages in the game and even the Pro Alliance that could catch Noah's eye, but Caster was one of them. The boy was not just talk, he truly was talented and skilled.

This was why after fighting him for so long, he recognized Caster's unique aggressive Combat Mage combat style.

He also noticed another thing, the rage and hatred now fueling this player.

'What happened?' Noah was concerned, so he asked to confirm.

When Caster answered though, he finally understood.

'Genevieve really said a new season of the pro alliance was starting soon, is this where this came from?' He sighed.

His expression softened, he understood what was happening.

The pressure, the expectations, the weight of a club that once stood at the top of the eSports scene, and the weight of controlling an Avatar like the Battle God.

When not handled well, it could weigh down even a pro.

Noah approached Caster calmly. "I wasn't mocking you. Your speed is real, but speed alone won't carry you to the top. You lack control and clarity in battle, you have too many things on your mind".

Noah chuckled. "You want to prove too many things to too many people".

"What do you have to prove?"

"You're already at the top, why not savor it? Why feel the need to prove yourself all over again?"



He sighed. "You're confident, I know, but there's some point where confidence becomes arrogance".

"I don't know exactly what happened to you that made you seek me out in the game, but let me guess, Cyber Squad lost right?"

With the initial rage and hatred that Caster came with, he would have never answered but after sparing for the past 10 times, he was humbled already.

Caster came fueled with rage and ego, eager to bring God Noah down, but instead he was schooled for the past 10 straight rounds.

Well, that thrashing did well to calm his burning rage and ego.

His rage wavered; he nodded. "Yes, Cyber Squad lost, 2-8 to Lionhearts Legacy and it was a home game".

Noah was startled. "Against Harvey, that shameless bastard? No wonder". He shook his head.

Caster looked at him.

Noah sighed again. "I understand you wanting to prove yourself, you wanting to prove to the world that with Stinger of War, you're now the best".

"But is all of that really necessary?"

"Besides," he shook his head. "You look down on your opponents too much".

"You're talented, not invincible".

"I can call at least 10 names in the Pro Alliance currently that'll floor you in a 1v1 in the Arena".

"I...", Caster wanted to say something but in the end he kept quiet.

Thinking of something, Noah chuckled. "Caster, tell me, do you think I turned Stinger of War into the Battle God by defeating every single opponent I faced?"

"..." Caster could not answer.

"Of course not". Noah laughed.

"What shaped the Battle God was the indomitable victories and the 1v3s, but before all that, what shaped Stinger of War was the countless losses, and the lessons that I learned from every single failure".

"I didn't just jump to the level where I could beat everybody".

"I crawled my way to the top one step at a time, it's just that I did it faster than everybody else". He smirked. "And I was better too".

"Because you inherit Stinger of War does not mean you're invincible now?" He shook his head. "Instead, your trials truly begin now".

"You're no longer that rookie that could be trivialized, now, you're the controller of the Battle God".

"If they play against you at 100% before, now opponents will strive to play against you when they're at 120%, even 150%".

"That's the burden of wearing the tag of Battle God".

"That's the price to pay".

"And if you look down on them, thinking you're invincible, boy, you're in for a reality check very soon".

"I guess that's what you experienced?"

Caster nodded timidly.

Noah laughed. "It's fine to feel bad, just don't let it weigh you down. Take it as a learning experience, and make sure you come back stronger".

"So, Caster, what will you do in the next game?"

Caster hesitated a bit, but then he answered. "I won't underestimate my opponents no matter who they are!"

"Good". Noah nodded, satisfied.

Caster hesitated a bit, thinking of something.

Everything happened so fast. One moment, he was angry at Noah, determined to show him who was boss and the next moment, he was humbled.

'I never knew a beat-down could change someone so fast'. He thought.

He asked. "God Noah, your skill is clearly still at the very top. Why did you retire from the pro scene?"

Noah chuckled, waving his mind nonchalantly. "Nothing important, you don't need to know".

Caster didn't push, but then he asked.

"Will you return?"

Noah looked at him. "Yes, next season".

"Does that mean we'll be rivals".

"Yes, but I'll win".

Caster chuckled. "After all you said since, I was beginning to think you were an imposter but hearing this, I'm glad, you're still the arrogant and shameless God Noah".

Noah laughed. "They call me that?"

"Among the pro circles, yeah".

Thinking of something, Caster suddenly bowed with his alternate account Avatar. "God Noah, I'm grateful for the guidance".

"I won't tarnish the legacy of Stinger of War".

"That's great," Noah waved absentmindedly. "But since you're already here, and you're a pro, I think you're the best candidate to be my sparring partner".

"Huh?"

Noah chuckled. "You see, my weapon unlocked a new form at level 30, and I'm yet to familiarize myself with it and integrate it into my style".

"That's why I came to the Arena, to spar and improve my usage of it".

"Why not be my sparring partner?"

"..."

Caster was speechless. 'This...'

### *Chapter 109: Training*

A few days ago, after Noah completed Aetherforge's weapon level up test to take the level cap of the SSS-Rank weapon from level 20 to level 30.

[Congratulations! You have completed weapon level up test!]

[You survived, and won.]

[Aetherforge has evolved.]

[New Forms Unlocked=]

>Click to access new forms<

>New Form: Great Sword<

After completing the SSS-Rank weapon's level up test, the new weapon form that Noah unlocked was the Berserker's Greatsword.

In Warstar, a Berserker's Greatsword is vastly different from the twin blades normally used by Blademasters.

The first difference was in the attack speed, twin blades having a much faster attack speed than Greatswords. But Greatswords also had their own advantages, the advantage of a longer reach and a higher damage potential.

Noah was a master at playing every class available in Warstar, including using their weapons, but never has he tried using multiple of them in conjunction.

It took him a long time to master the original 5 forms of Aetherforge, merging them together to form a synergized combat style.

And now, he had a new form to synergize into his new combat style.

This was why he came to the Arena.

The first few people that he sparred with were all disappointing, barely pushing him to the level where he needed to be smart and innovative to win.

He never expected to meet a pro player here in the game though, and to think it was a pro player of Caster's caliber.

'I've hit the jackpot!'

As Caster finally calmed down, Noah wasted no time in shamelessly turning him into a sparring partner.

He needed live combat to properly integrate the Aetherforge's new Berserker Greatsword form into his fighting style.

'This..., ' Caster was stumped and left speechless.

He had no choice though.

God Noah already helped him in so many words in this little time, the least he could do to repay this debt was to help him train, right?

Caster didn't refuse.

As Caster watched, he saw the SSS-Rank weapon transform from its battle lance form into something vastly different; a colossal, brutal greatsword pulsing with ethereal energy.

Caster's eyes narrowed. 'So, this is an SSS-Rank weapon'.

'I'm currently using Stinger of War's weapon, which is my first S-ranked weapon. To think the first SSS-Rank weapon that I'll see will also belong to God Noah'.

He suddenly felt a bit embarrassed. 'Stinger of War suddenly feels like a hand-me-down that he got tired of'.

'Ahh! Let's get these thoughts out of my head first'.

He managed to clear his mind, focusing on the moment, on Lord Doom.

"I'm ready". He said, focusing on the greatsword.

Unlike the previous elegant design of the battle lance, this version of Aetherforge exuded raw aggression, its sheer size and weight demanding a completely different approach to combat.

Noah had always been a precise, controlled fighter, but the Berserker's Greatsword forced a shift; he had to incorporate overwhelming force into his movements while maintaining his signature adaptability.

Suddenly reminded of something, Caster focused on Lord Doom's level.

[Current Level: 39]

'He's just 1 step away from level 40'.

'He'll get to level 40 soon, which means he'll soon enter the Heavenly Domain'.

Thinking of the commotion that Lord Doom caused with the guilds in the new 11th server, he could not help but chuckle. 'I wonder what trouble he'll cause then'.

He sighed, knowing he had been roped into God Noah's experiments, but even he couldn't deny the curiosity to see him in action objectively this time.

"You're really gonna use a Berserker weapon? That's so unlike you".

Noah smirked, resting the massive blade on his shoulder.

"Exactly. That's why I need you to attack me at full speed".

Caster responded immediately.

Boom!

He vanished in a flash, launching into an all-out assault.

Noah's movements were rough at first, his footwork slightly off with the greatsword, his slashes not yet fluid.

Aetherforge's Greatsword form was unlike any other greatsword that Noah had wielded before. Afterall, innately, it was an SSS-Ranked weapon.

The Greatsword was unwieldy, each swing requiring immense force to commit than usual, leaving potential openings.

But Sam relished the challenge. "Come on!"

Caster exploited the openings ruthlessly, his Combat Mage spell combos with his battle lance raining down arcane bombardments while he darted through the battlefield like a ghost.

Noah grinned. "Good. Keep pushing me".

As the sparring continued, Noah gradually refined his movement. He started using the weight of the greatsword to his advantage, letting momentum guide his attacks rather than fighting against it.

Instead of rigid, pre-planned strikes, he used adaptive swings, shifting his grip mid-motion to redirect the force of each attack.

He experimented with counterattacks, utilizing the greatsword's sheer knockback potential to create distance or punish aggressive plays.

He started integrating Aether Strikes, enhancing his slashes with precise bursts of energy, preventing the weapon's slow attack speed from being a disadvantage.

As the minutes passed, his flow evolved, his combat style shifting into something entirely new, a blend of precision and raw destruction.

But Noah was irked though. 'I don't have any Berserker skill'.

'Damn! I don't have any more skill points'.

Taking on this training with no appropriate skills was annoying. Noah didn't complain though, he continued; he would address this problem later.

By the tenth duel, Caster realized something terrifying.

Noah had fully adapted.

Not just to the Greatsword version of the SSS-Rank weapon, but he could not seamlessly switch between the greatsword and the other forms, attacking and defending fluidly without any openings.

His strikes, once sluggish, were not devastating and unpredictable.

His dodges were sharper, and his counters struck like a storm of annihilation.

Noah closed the gap in an instant, twisting mid-swing to launch a reverse cleave; a motion he shouldn't have been able to execute so fluidly with such a heavy weapon.

Caster barely reacted in time, the sheer force sending him skidding back.

Panting, he wiped imaginary sweat from his forehead.

"Holy crap. You seriously figured it out that fast?"

Noah smirked, resting the greatsword on his shoulder again. "Not bad. But I still need a few more rounds".

Caster groaned. "You're gonna grind me into the dirt, aren't you".

"Obviously". Noah chuckled.

And so, under the dim lights of the Silent Arena, God Noah's new combat style was born, witnessed only by Caster.

*Chapter 110: Need for skill points*

Hours later...

The moment Noah met up with his team, he casually dropped the bombshell.

"So yeah, I met Caster and so I helped him".

A beat of silence, then...

"WHAT?!!!"

"You did what?!"

Benjamin nearly fell off his chair. Genevieve gasped. Caleb pinched the bridge of his nose. And Aria? Aria exploded.

"You did what?!" She shrieked, storming up to him like she was ready to strangle him.

"Noah, do you have any idea what you just did?!"

"That guy is our ENEMY!"

"He's Cyber Squad's new captain! The brat who stole your position and took your Avatar, all your efforts for 10 f\*cking years!"

"You don't train someone like that!"

Caleb, ever the rational one, folded his arms and added. "I hate to agree with her, but she's right. What exactly possessed you to do this?"

Caleb almost never openly supported Aria. For even him to support this time, Noah definitely needed to present a good explanation for his actions.

Genevieve was silent, but her frown showed she wasn't entirely comfortable with it either. Even Benjamin, the usual comic relief looked unusually serious as he glared at Noah.

Noah simply shrugged, completely unbothered. "He was lost, and I pointed him in the right direction, that's all".

Aria scoffed. "Lost? He's Cyber Squad's golden boy! He doesn't need your guidance!"

"Wrong". Noah chuckled, but noting that his friends were not taking it lightly, his face turned a bit serious.

"You guys seem to forget something".

"Yes, they betrayed us. Yes, they forced us into early retirement, stripping us of all our hard work for over a decade but it was not the club that betrayed us, neither was it the fans, it was the manager and the chief that betrayed our trust".



"The club and the fans have no reason to suffer for their sake".

"I don't know about you guys but no matter what happened, Cyber Squad is a club that I gave my blood and sweat to for over 10 years".

"I still love them".

"I can't just throw all of that away because of some misunderstanding".

Aria looked at him with smoldering intensity. "You call that... just a misunderstanding?"

Noah shrugged. "The fans still love us, right?"

"If they didn't, they wouldn't abuse Caster in the first place and clamor for us".

"That's enough for me".

"I don't know the details but if I'm not wrong, right now, all of them are wallowing in sadness and sorrow. Why? Because their team lost".

"You think when we lost to Gabriel it was just us?" Noah shook his head. "It was not just us, but also the countless Cyber Squad supporters around London and England".

"I don't want that for them," Noah smiled. "I still love them".

"No matter what happens, they're still my fans".

"Fans of God Noah".

"Fans of Stinger of War".

"Your fans too".

"So if helping Caster was the last thing I can do for a fanbase that supported me for so long, I'd do it all over again".

"Besides, Caster is strong, but he was drowning under pressure. He's never faced real adversity before, never been criticized. He was crumbling, and he didn't even know how to handle it".

The team quieted at his words.

They had all seen it, the online backlash, the sheer hatred being thrown at Caster. They didn't expect him to seek Noah out in the game though.

Noah continued. "I saw someone who reminded me a bit of my younger self".

"Someone talented, but too arrogant to handle failure". He chuckled. "If he doesn't overcome that now, he'll collapse later".

"I gave him a push, that's all".

Aria clenched her fists. "But..."

"Besides," Noah cut in smoothly. "He's my sparring dummy now".

That shut everyone up.

"Huh?"

"...What?" Caleb finally asked.

Noah grinned. "I needed to integrate my new Aetherforge form after I leveled up the weapon, and he was perfect for it".

"He kept attacking, I kept adapting. Win-win".

Benjamin blinked, then he burst into laughter. "Oh my god, you turned Cyber Squad's captain into a training tool? That's evil".

Genevieve sighed. "So you weren't just helping him..., you were also using him?"

Noah nodded. "Obviously".

Aria groaned, rubbing her temples. "I hate that this actually makes sense".

With that settled, Noah leaned forward, his eyes gleaming with purpose.

"Anyway, let's talk about something more important."

"More important than you mentoring the enemy?" Caleb deadpanned.

Noah smiled subtly. "Yes. We're about to hit level 60 at this pace."

Hearing that term, the atmosphere shifted immediately.

Everyone straightened up. Level 60..., the threshold before stepping into the Heavenly Domain.

Noah continued. "I'm almost level 40 already, and keeping up with this pace, it won't take too long before I hit level 60".

"If we're gonna hit 60 soon, we need to maximize every possible skill point we can get here before moving forward. That means we need to go on a Skill Points Seeking Quest."

The team exchanged glances, they understood immediately.

It was a solid idea. Skill points were limited in the game, and missing any permanent ones in this domain would be a mistake.

Afterall, they were not just building casual account Avatars but Avatars that they intended to return to the English Pro Alliance with, and even the World Championship stage.

Genevieve nodded first. "That's actually a great plan. There are rare quests, hidden bosses, and even puzzle challenges that grant permanent skill points. We should gather as much as we can before progressing."

Benjamin pumped his fist. "I'm in! I heard there's an abandoned temple filled with crazy hard trials. Maybe we'll get some skill points there!"

Caleb adjusted his glasses. "Strategically, it's the best move. Skill points directly influence our combat growth, and we can't afford to be behind once we reach the Heavenly Domain".

Aria sighed, crossing her arms. "Fine, fine. But only because I know I'll regret it if I fall behind".

Noah smirked. "Then it's settled. We hunt for every last skill point in this domain".

And with that, the Skill Points Seeking Quest officially began.

But before they could begin though, they got a chat from Nightingale.