Reincarnated Avatar; I got 2 SSS-Rank Unique Skills

#Chapter 11: SSS-Rank Unique Skill- 10x Skill Points - Read Reincarnated Avatar; I got 2 SSS-Rank Unique Skills Chapter 11: SSS-Rank Unique Skill- 10x Skill Points

Chapter 11: SSS-Rank Unique Skill- 10x Skill Points

Inside the Pork Labyrinth dungeon, there was another party of players currently fighting against the hidden boss, Slumbering Bandit.

This was an elite raid party.

Just like Deadly Musician's C-ranked tower shield and long sword, the main equipment of all 5 members of this raid party were C-ranked.

Considering the fact that C-rank equipment was the best equipment currently available at this level of the game since the new server launch, it was clear that the 5 members of this raid party had a unique background.

Working together, seamlessly weaving skills together, these players showed their almost perfect teamwork as they eventually got the hidden boss to below 10% health as it finally entered red blood state.

But just as it did was when they saw a game announcement.

{Congratulations to the players Deadly Musician, Death Note, Silky Strings, Healing Melody, and Lord Doom for claiming the first kill of the Pork Labyrinth Hidden boss: Slumbering Bandit!}

"F*ck!" One of them, a Paladin cursed bitterly.

He was the leader of this raid party. He directed a resentful glance at his teammates even as his Paladin still bravely fought against the hidden boss.

"Do you guys know any of those names there?"

"No," one of his team members answered. "They don't seem to belong to any of our rival guilds either".

"Damn! Who are they?" He cursed again. "We were so close to claiming the first kill for the Slumbering Bandit too!" He felt like crying.

"I'll look into them boss". His raid party member promised.

This Paladin was called Valiant Heart. He was Flame Phoenix's guild master in the 11th server, the guild representing the pro club, Phoenix Rising.

Compared to other big pro clubs with much more established guilds inside the game, Phoenix Rising was still more or less an upstart.

Their recent 3-peat championship win was the reason for their explosive growth in recent times. But now, after their recent win in the Warstar RPG champions league final over the old top dogs, Cyber Squad, the ambitions of Phoenix Rising's guild in the game increased.

Just like their rival pro clubs had an established presence in the other servers, they wanted to ride the momentum of their recent success and popularity in the pro scene to expand their influence in the 11th server, becoming the top guild.

And to do this, Valiant Heart's strategy was for his guild to dominate the 11th server announcement boards.

Announcements are only made by the game system to celebrate game achievements like setting a new dungeon raid time or for getting boss first kills.

If Flame Phoenix Guild could dominate all the announcement boards, to new players entering the 11th server, they'll believe that their guild was the best one out there which will lure them to join.

He and his raid party already claimed 2 announcements, Pork Labyrinth's first clear and for breaking and holding the current record time for the Pork Labyrinth in the 11th server.

But to think that his plan barely started when it was already being jeopardized. This player felt like crying.

He gritted his teeth. 'Who are these guys?'

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While all that happened, Noah and his raid party members did not know because finally, the Pork Emperor collapsed, dead.

{Congratulations! Your raid party has killed the final boss of the Pork Labyrinth, Pork Emperor!}

{You have been rewarded with XP each!}

{You have been rewarded with 80 Skill Points each!}

{You have received additional drop rewards!}

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{Congratulations! Your raid party has killed the hidden boss of the Pork Labyrinth, Slumbering Bandit!}

{You have been rewarded with XP each!}

{You have been rewarded with 150 Skill Points each!}

{You have received additional drop rewards!}

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{Congratulations! Your raid party claimed the first kill of the Pork Labyrinth hidden boss, Slumbering Bandit!}

{You have been rewarded with XP each!}

{You have been rewarded with 200 Skill Points each!}

{You have received additional drop rewards!}

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XP and drop rewards are normal rewards that are gotten from a successful dungeon raid, but originally, players don't get skill points from a dungeon raid.

Afterall, skill points being one of the most important factors in Warstar was a restricted commodity. They are only gotten from specific game quests, and some of them are not just hard to encounter, they're even harder to complete.

But after this successful dungeon raid, Noah and his companions got skill points as rewards because this raid also dubbed as a unique skill challenge.

Apart from the XP, numerous drop rewards burst out of the body of the 2 bosses, including some C-ranked equipment, and even a B-ranked equipment!

If only it was not a mere level 5 equipment.

Despite the incredible drop rewards and the skill points that left them excited, they were flabbergasted when they got the next notification from the Warstar interface, suddenly filled with joy.

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{Congratulations! You have completed Unique Skill Challenge: Test of Valor}

{Unique Skill Challenge Rating: SSS-Rank}

>Description: After the challenge started, you took charge as the raid party leader. For your leadership skills and your own personal performance, you have attained an SSS-Rank rating<

{You have received a reward!}

{SSS-Rank unique skill, 10x Skill Points have been unlocked!}

{10x skill points effect has been triggered..., please wait...}

{80 Skill Points reward has been upgraded to 800 Skill Points!}

{150 Skill Points reward has been upgraded to 1500 Skill Points!}

{200 Skill Points reward has been upgraded to 2000 Skill Points!}

In an instant, while the others only gained about 430 skill points which was still pretty ridiculous compared to what normal players get at this level of the game, Noah actually got a whooping 4,300 Skill Points!

"...!"

Even for a veteran Warstar player like Noah, he was almost overwhelmed by the figures displayed on his screen. 'Damn!' He exclaimed in his mind.

Reading the description of the SSS-Rank 10x skill points unique skill was one thing, but experiencing it? Experiencing it evoked a whole other level of feeling.

In that moment, the silence was finally destroyed by the loud shout of Healing Melody who was already revived by the system after the dungeon raid was completed successfully.

"I got a B-Rank unique skill!" This girl shrieked excitedly.

Chapter 12: An expert!

"I got a B-Rank unique skill!"

Hearing her shriek excitedly, Noah finally paid attention to his raid party members again. The others who died at the end of the raid were already revived by the dungeon after it was successfully completed.

'Right, they got unique skills too'. He thought.

This unique skill challenge was for all of them. If he didn't perform so admirably and got an SSS-Rank rating, maybe if he got a lower rating, he would have missed out on his SSS-Rank unique skill but still gotten something powerful.

Unlike Noah who was quiet, just looking at them from where the corpse of the Pork Emperor already disappeared into motes of light, the others were incredibly excited as they showed off their unique skills.

They all got B-rank unique skills.

Considering the fact that most players in the game don't ever get the opportunity to get unique skills and most of those that did could only settle for D-rank unique skills, this was crazy.

B-rank unique skills are more common among pro level game accounts playing in the Pro Alliance, it was an extremely rare commodity among normal gamers in Warstar.

Healing Melody, the Cleric got a skill-specific unique skill that focused on her low-level skill, heal.

The heal skill is self-explanatory. It's a powerful burst of healing to restore a significant amount of health to 1 ally, mostly 30% health but this can go as high as 40% for specialized Clerics.

But after getting her unique skill, Healing Melody's heal skill could now heal 55% health at a go!

Despite the fact that her mana expenditure rose up with the increase, this was an overpowered unique skill.

Deadly Musician also got a powerful unique skill. His unique skill gave him the ability to enter the Super Armor state of red blood bosses for 5 seconds, becoming immune to knock effects but with a drawback of having a cooldown of 1 full day.

Death Note, the Elementalist got a unique skill that increased the range of the Earthquake skill by 3 times!

This meant that after leaving this dungeon, the first thing Death Note would do was going to purchase the Earthquake skill with his skill points.

The Blademaster, Silky Strings also got a B-Rank unique skill. This player's unique skill increased the duration of his Blade Dance skill by 5 seconds.

Blade Dance is a Blademaster skill that unleashes a flurry of rapid sword strikes, dealing heavy single-target damage.

In a PVP battle or even a boss battle, 5 additional seconds for a skill like that could easily mean the difference between victory and defeat.

The 4 of them excitedly talked about their rewards, including the drop rewards from killing the final boss and the hidden boss of the Pork Labyrinth, but this was when they discovered that Noah had been quiet since.

Deadly Musician paid attention to him.

At the beginning of this dungeon raid, this Blademaster saw Noah as a newbie with some skill. He even promised to carry him through the dungeon.

Thinking back on his words now, this player felt like digging a hole to hide.

But he had a thick skin so he was able to face Noah with a straight face.

One thing though was that after that rollercoaster of a boss fight, this raid party no longer looked at Noah the same way they did at the beginning.

'An expert!'

'A true expert!' This was the only thing ringing in their heads.

They bore witness as Noah created a miracle, not just with his personal combat ability but his impressive leadership, how he made them perform far better than they could on a normal day.

They all knew that everything, including completing this dungeon raid was only possible because of him.

"Boss, what unique skill did you get?" Deadly Musician asked.

"Nothing important, it's just so-so".

"So-so?" Deadly Musician looked at him, chuckling. "After that performance, they must have given you an A-ranked unique skill, you call that so-so? Boss, you really are so cruel".

{Haha}

Noah typed, causing a bubble of floating text to appear above him.

"..." The others stared speechlessly.

In the end, respecting his decision not to tell, Deadly Musician let him be but then it came to sharing the other spoils from completing the dungeon raid.

They instantly rescinded ownership of all the drop spoils, allowing Noah to take everything if he wanted but Noah refused.

'Boss is so cool, and generous'. They thought, impressed, but then...

"I'll only take the C-ranked Dragon Tooth Lance; it's a Battle Mage weapon. As for the others, you can take it," he smiled. "So long you pay me back in coins".

'F*ck! Shameless!'

'Generous my ass!'

Deadly Musician almost collapsed after he heard Noah speak, he chuckled. "Why not just take them?"

"I'm a Battle Mage; I don't need them".

This Blademaster controller's eyes twitched behind his computer. 'In essence, you're too lazy to go to the equipment market to sell them, so you want us to be your buyers. So shameless!' Deadly Musician truly felt like crying.

In the end, Deadly Musician bought everything, transferring coins to Noah's character account after they finished haggling.

Even the haggling..., the Blademaster preferred not to think about it any longer lest he burst into tears.

In the end, all of them sent friend invites to Noah which he quickly accepted.

"You still want to run the dungeon?" He asked them.

They all nodded profusely, they could not wait to start all over, letting him lead from the beginning and that was exactly what they did.

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For the next few hours, Noah spent his time leveling up with this party in the Pork Labyrinth but they never encountered the hidden boss again.

After they all hit level 7, Noah finally proposed to go sleep.

The first dungeon raid already exhausted his mental reserves and the subsequent playing for hours left him totally spent.

The others were also tired as it was already morning in the real world, they've been waiting for him to propose going to sleep since.

By now, the fever of the 11th server's launch already died down significantly as night players went to sleep and day players came online.

Just before Noah could leave, Deadly Musician stopped him. "Boss, I just sent you a link to the Drizzly Concert".

Noah looked at the Blademaster. "Drizzly?"

This player seemed confused. "You don't know about the Drizzly Concert?"

"Well, never mind, let me just tell you the truth. I wanted to hide my identity at first but in truth, I am Nightingale".

"..."

Seeing the clueless look on the Combat Mage's face, Deadly Musician chuckled. "As in, Nightingale, the musician".

"..."

"The hip hop superstar".

"..."

Deadly Musician chuckled. "Boss, you're not pulling my legs, are you? You don't really know him? Or me in this scenario".

Noah looked at this player, honestly baffled.

"Who is Nightingale?"

"..."

Tears streamed down Deadly Musician's cheeks.

Chapter 13: Learning new skills

While Noah went back to inside the beginner village, looking for a place to rest and sleep, he could not help but access his character equipment.

Finally, he had a good equipment that befit his skill level.

[Equipment Name: Dragon Tooth]

[Equipment Type: Weapon]

[Weapon Type: Battle Lance]

[Weapon Class: C]

Level: 5

Durability: 100/100

Physical Attack: +15

Magical Attack: +12

[Special Effect: +8% passive movement speed]

>Description: A Battle Lance that was made from a special metal ore in the possession of the Slumbering Bandit<

'Nice'. Noah thought as soon as he finally paid attention to his new weapon.

Compared to the D-rank battle lance that he used previously, the base physical and magic attack for this one was higher and most importantly, it had a special effect.

Since it was just a level 5 battle lance, +15 physical attack and +12 magical attack was on the high side.

As for the special effect, +8% passive movement speed didn't seem like much but in the hand of a gamer of Noah's caliber, even a 2% difference meant a lot.

In hindsight, thinking about it, 8% was a bit too much. 'Maybe it's another effect of it dropping from a unique skill challenge dungeon run'.

After looking at his equipment just as he arrived at the beginner village again, Noah arrived at a conundrum. 'How am I even supposed to sleep?'

Playing in the Pork Labyrinth in a party with the others made him forget about the reality of his current existence for some time but now, Noah finally remembered that he reincarnated into the game.

'Wait, am I an NPC?'

He shook his head, realizing how foolish his thought was. If he was an NPC, he would not be able to join a player party not to talk of raiding a dungeon.

But if so, how was he supposed to sleep?

But then, he realized something. In Warstar, when players log out of the game to go rest, to make sure that their in-game avatars were fully revitalized when they get back, most players spend coins to rent an inn.

Inside an inn, it takes 3 hours for an in-game character to return to full capacity, fully replenished.

Noah wondered how it would be with him.

He didn't think too much about it though, simply going over to the inn and paying 10 gold coins. Noah walked into a room and as soon as he laid down on the bed, before he knew it, he dozed off.

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About 4 hours later, Noah woke up feeling revitalized.

Incredulously, after just 4 hours of sleep, all the exhaustion that he felt before were completely gone like they were never there.

Noah stretched, feeling amazed. 'Gaming has never been more convenient'. He thought.

Leaving the inn, the first thing that he did was to go visit the Hunter guild in this beginner village again.

After getting so rich all of a sudden in terms of skill points, Noah had no intentions of hoarding his skill points. He wanted to spend them all and purchase skills for his avatar.

A normal player would not be able to make full use of the SSS-Rank 10x skill points unique skill but Noah was one of those few players in the world that could make full use of this unique skill.

His knowledge about Warstar was at a textbook level. At some point in time or the other, he had played using all the classes available in Warstar.

Back when the video game was just launched, it was normal for players to have multiple Warstar accounts of different classes as they experimented to determine which class they loved best.

He knew all the class skills at the back of his hand despite how numerous they were, and he also knew the best combination of skills.

This was why Noah now confidently went to the Hunter guild.

As he walked, a lot of combinations were already playing around in his head, including combinations that had never been used before in the game simply because it was unrealistic due to the skill points restriction for a single game avatar.

By the time that Noah arrived at the Hunter guild, his head was full of so many ideas that even he was struggling to keep them contained.

Of course, he didn't get to buy skills immediately. This was because this was still the early phase of the 11th server launch.

The night players already left but with them leaving, the day players arrived, continuing the excitement of a new server's launch.

Due to this, the beginner village was congested again.

Noah had to wait patiently till it came to his turn before accessing the NPC of the Hunter guild that was in charge of selling in-game skills.

And he quickly caused a commotion due to how long he was spending there.

Noah was meticulous with the skills that he bought. Because he suddenly got an overpowered unique skill that helped him break the game restriction of skill points allocation did not mean he would spend his skill points foolishly.

After a lot of thinking, he arrived at a plan.

He divided his preferences into attack skills, defense skills, healing skills, taunting skills, and of course movement skills. But mostly attack skills.

For example, Noah had no intentions of learning 5 different rapid movement skills. He would only go for multiple if their usage could be stacked for better effect.

[You have learned low level Cleric Skill: Heal]

[You have upgraded low level Cleric Skill, Heal to level 1]

[You have upgraded low level Cleric Skill, Heal to level 2]

[You have upgraded...]

[You have upgraded low level Cleric Skill, Heal to level 5]

In one go, Noah learned and upgraded the low-level Cleric Skill, Heal to the highest skill level of 5.

For this upgrade, he spent more than 400 Skill Points. This was because the higher the level of a skill, the more skill points were needed to upgrade it.

Noah had his reasons for upgrading the skill to the max level still.

A level 0 Heal skill and a level 5 Heal skill's effects had a whole world of difference in Warstar.

Five levels didn't sound like a lot but in Warstar, each level higher had the restriction of Level Suppression.

And once the difference goes as high as 5 levels, this suppression increases exponentially, this was one of the factors the game developers implemented to balance out the game.

It did not just apply to players, it also applied to in-game bosses, skills, and of course equipment too.

Also, in Warstar, levels were not only used to define players. Physical attack, magic attack, bleed, stun, and other status effects had levels too and some of them could be leveled using skill points.

When the system didn't display the difference in levels, then these levels would all be the same as the player's level, the perfect example of this would be an in-game avatar's physical and magic attack.

For example, Noah's Lord Grim was currently at level 7. If he used the Combat Mage's Arcane Riposte skill to stun a BOSS, then the stun level would be at level 7.

Level 7 damage or level 7 stun would have a reduced effect on level 8 and up monsters. The higher the level gap, the more obvious the reduction. This type of situation is called level suppression.

The difference between being high-leveled and low-leveled wasn't just the difference in attributes and equipment. The concealed calculations of level suppression added to the difficulties of challenging those at a higher level.

Originally, most players only level up high-level skills after making their class change at level 20 due to the tight restriction on skill points.

But Noah's SSS-Ranked 10x skill points unique skill just opened an avenue for a whole new unprecedented playstyle for him to get a boost over other in-game avatars in terms of level suppression.

[You have learned low level Cleric Skill: Rejuvenation Aura]

[You have upgraded...]

[You have upgraded...]

...

[You have learned low level Paladin Skill: Sanctuary]

[You have upgraded...]

...

[You have learned low level Paladin Skill: Inspiration]

[You have upgraded...]

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[You have learned low level Elementalist Skill: Lightning Strike]

[You have upgraded...]

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[You have learned low level Combat Mage Skill: Spellblade Flurry] [You have learned low level Combat Mage Skill: Flame Spiral] [You have learned low level Combat Mage Skill: Lightning Arc] [You have learned low level Combat Mage Skill: Void Slash] [You have learned low level Combat Mage Skill: Counterspell] "Hey! Bastard, that's enough!" Someone yelled behind him. "People are waiting in line!"

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Chapter 14: An assignment

By the time that Noah was done learning all the skills that his stash of skill points could purchase, there was so much hostile energy behind him that he almost thought the players would attack him right there.

He chuckled. "Sorry guys, I just had to learn a few skills".

"Few skills my ass, get lost bastard!" The same angry player roared but as Noah chuckled, nonchalantly walking away, this player noticed something.

"Hey, is that not the Lord Doom who appeared on TV?"

These players were day players who just logged into the 11th server for the first time, but system announcements are like pinned messages in a server, always available to all players in that specific server.

This was why despite not being there to witness first-hand when Deadly Musician's raid party killed the Slumbering Bandit with Lord Doom's help, they still learned about the achievement.

"The one who claimed the Pork Labyrinth first hidden boss kill with a random party of newbies?"

"The one that everyone is talking about?"

"I think, yes, it's him!"

The new 11th server players quickly swarmed around Noah, asking him how he did it, if he had some overpowered equipment at this early level of the game.

This... was unexpected.

Noah was caught off-guard. He did not know how to get out of this situation despite being a literal Warstar celebrity for the past 10 years of his life, but then, a certain player controlling a Paladin bailed him out of his situation.

A few words from this player were enough to make the other players give him some space, they seemed to recognize and respect him.

{Thanks man}

Noah typed as he could not help but look at the I.D of this player, noting that his name was called Valiant Heart.

'Why does that name sound familiar?' He thought.

Noah didn't have to think long though as this player introduced himself. "Lord Doom, it's nice to finally meet you. My name is Valiant Heart".

"I know".

"You know me?"

"It's above your head". He pointed at the player's I.D that hovered above his in-game avatar.

"Oh, right". This player nodded. "Actually, I'm the guild leader of the Flame Phoenix guild here in the 11th server".

Hearing that, Noah already knew where this conversation was driving at.

After Noah stole the first kill of the Slumbering Bandit from him and his raid party, at first, Valiant Heart sent his subordinate to scout the raid party out and find out more about them but then, he noticed something interesting.

From his subordinates' finding, Deadly Musician and the others already ran the Pork Labyrinth dungeon once and were wiped out.

But that was Lord Doom's first dungeon raid and they ended up with such an achievement. It was self-explanatory, Lord Doom was most likely the expert.

If Deadly Musician and the other members of his raid party were the experts, they would have never been wiped out by a beginner dungeon.

Besides, before going to sleep after running dungeon raids all night, one of the members of Lord Doom's raid party, Healing Melody went on the global forum, bragging about being the first player in the 11th server to get a unique skill.

That... definitely caught Valiant Heart's attention.

Not only did these players kill the Pork Labyrinth hidden boss, they did it while most likely clearing a unique skill challenge too, making it a hard challenge.

If at first, they just guessed that Lord Doom was an expert, that final straw was all they needed to confirm it.

Encountering a unique skill challenge required a bit of luck in the game, but clearing it did not. Any Warstar player that had a unique skill needed to have a reasonable amount of skill and experience to clear the challenge.

Afterall, even they themselves, experts of a great guild were yet to get a unique skill in the new server.

This was why Valiant Heart, the guild leader directly approached Lord Doom. He didn't want to waste time before rival guilds noticed this talent.

Noah looked at this Paladin. "You want me to join your guild?"

'He understands!' Feeling optimistic, Valiant Heart nodded exuberantly.

"Trust me when I tell you this Lord Doom, the Flame Phoenix Guild is the best guild in the game! We have a lot of incentives for joining, most especially for an upcoming expert like you, we can give you..." He listed a lot of benefits exuberantly.

"Most importantly, we have a lot of experts that'll help you increase your skill level if you play constantly with them, and..."

Noah cut this Paladin off. "Is Flame Phoenix Guild related to Phoenix Rising?"

"Yes, of course!" This Paladin nodded, feeling proud. 'Of course, he would know of the 3-peat champion club!'

'We're currently the best club in England!'

'Surely, he would join us now!'

But then what Lord Doom said next left this player flabbergasted.

"Personally, I have no intentions of joining a guild, at least not yet. And besides," Noah chuckled. "I hate Phoenix Rising".

"Huh?"

The Paladin was stunned. Before he could say more, Lord Doom's avatar already turned around and walked out on him, going towards the distant Pork Labyrinth to continue leveling up.

'Wait...,' he wanted to call but he didn't even have the energy for it.

He was stunned. 'There's someone who actually hates Phoenix Rising?'

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When Noah got back to the Pork Labyrinth dungeon, once people quickly found out his avatar's I.D, they rushed to invite him into their raid party.

In the end, Noah choose a random party, leveling up with them.

Playing 1 dungeon over and over again may seem repetitive, but Noah never got tired. Gaming was his life; besides, a hidden boss could appear any time.

Like this, he played for hours and when he got tired, he went back to the inn. Waking up 3 hours later, he continued.

Like this, Noah continued till Deadly Musician and his friends finally came back online. Seeing him online, they quickly messaged him.

{Boss, good evening, are you free?}

{Oh, you guys are online. Meet me in the Pork Labyrinth.}

Seeing his message, Deadly Musician felt excited. Before coming back to the game, he and his friends had been wondering if their encounter with the expert was just a one-time thing and he would refuse to raid dungeons with them again.

But now, Lord Doom's reply defused all his fears.

When they saw that he was already level 9 though, these players felt sweat gather in their foreheads. 'So fast! He doesn't sleep?'

"Boss, you've been busy while we were out". This player said.

"Yeah". Noah laughed.

And so, they went dungeon raiding.

At level 10, players would finally unlock the requirements to enter more beginner dungeons. At level 10, there are 2 more dungeons and at level 15, there was one more before the pivotal level 20 threshold.

After raiding Pork Labyrinth a few more times, feeling bad since they did not encounter another hidden boss, they leveled up to level 8 while Noah finally took the big step to level 10.

"Boss, you'll be going to the Monkey Rainforest, right?"

Monkey Rainforest was a level 10 dungeon.

Noah nodded. "But first, I have an assignment for you guys".

"An assignment?"

"Yes," Noah's avatar looked at them. "I need you guys to send a message to someone for me, a friend".

Chapter 15: Special mission

{Welcome Reincarnated Avatar!}

{You completed the requirements to become a true Warstar, the true game starts now!}

{You have received a Special Mission: Complete the game!}

{Mission Reward: Transportation}

>Description: If you want to return to your normal life, complete the game in the 11th server, create a team, join the Pro Alliance, win the Warstar RPG champions league final, and win the Warstar RPG World Championship<

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{You have received 2 SSS-Rank Unique Skills...}

When Noah reincarnated into the world of Warstar for the first time, this was the first series of notifications that he received.

Since then, it was already more than a day but he never stopped thinking about the special mission that the game gave to him.

To know the reason why Noah constantly thought about it, you would first have to ask his reason for playing Warstar?

This was Noah's 11th year anniversary playing the revolutionary video game. It begged the question; does he ever get bored of it?

The simple answer to this question was no.

From the first day that Noah logged into his 1st server Warstar account, he knew that this video game was different.

The game mechanics, everything about it was different.

Besides, unlike other video games of the same era, Warstar was not money centric. This was a grounded and revolutionary video game whose developers prioritized gamer experience, satisfaction, and glory above all else.

It was the perfect video game to form a competitive esport scene.

Apart from that, unlike in other video game worlds, inside the world of Warstar, Noah felt like a real adventurer.

Inside the arena PKing against other players, he felt like a gladiator fighting in a medieval world to claim glory and the title of King.

During his peak which also translated to team Cyber Squad's peak, Noah touched true glory, becoming the King of Warstar. For 5 years, he dominated the Pro scene with his friends, until they were no longer in their peak.

Their ability was still there, their experience was unmatched, but physical decline slowly crept in, and powerful young challengers spawned every season.

This was why after their 5-straight championship wins, Noah failed to lead his team to glory again.

Through all that time, he kept on winning individual awards, a lot of fans still saw him as the King of Warstar but personally, Noah wanted more.

He was not satisfied with that.

Call it selfish but he wanted more, he believed he could do more, this was why he felt devastated after losing in another Warstar RPG champions league final.

When his team's manager forced him and his teammates to retire, for a moment, he truly thought his career was over, till he was reincarnated.

Reincarnating into the game gave him a new way to play Warstar, and those first notifications opened a new challenge to Noah. His final challenge to try and become the King of England Warstar's Pro Alliance one more time.

And not just that, it also birthed a new ambition in him, the ambition to aim for the World stage.

Why aim to become the King of England alone when he could be the King of the world? Thoughts like this were ignited after he was reincarnated.

>Description: If you want to return to your normal life, complete the game in the 11th server, create a team, join the Pro Alliance, win the Warstar RPG champions league final, and win the Warstar RPG World Championship<

Noah had his own interpretation to this specific notification.

Complete the game..., Noah's interpretation of it was to create a max level Warstar avatar unlike anything that the Warstar community have ever seen before.

And from the prospects of his 10x unique skill SSS-Rank unique skill, his Lord Doom avatar had the potential to achieve that.

As for the joining the Pro Alliance part..., when Noah saw it, the first thing he thought of was his retired friends.

If he was doing it, he wanted to do it with those he started with.

This was why after a full day of thinking about it, he made his decision. 'I want to do it!'

He wanted to conquer the world of Warstar one last time.

He wanted to be the King one last time.

And to do it, he needed to re-call his friends and carry them along. But since he was now reincarnated into the game and was locked out of the outside world, the only ways he could think of was Deadly Musician and his friends.

Of course, the friend that he spoke of was Genevieve.

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Real world...

Somewhere in Manchester, inside a big and well-decorated office, a petite girl with beautiful silver hair and gentle-looking azure eyes sat behind a computer desk, typing away as she worked with a serious look on her face.

Suddenly, there was a knock at the door leading to this office before it was gently pushed open as another girl walked in.

"Ms. Genevieve, the sales record in London was just sent in".

"Ok, I'll look at it". She waved a hand to indicate that she understood, politely flashing a smile at her assistant.

But her assistant did not leave immediately. She hesitated. "Ms. Genevieve, you've been locked inside your office since morning without even getting a break once, are you ok?"

Hearing that, Genevieve forced a smile as she rubbed her temples tiredly. "Don't worry about me, I'm fine".

Her assistant smiled back at her. "Why don't you take a breather? Please".

"But..."

"Please!"

Genevieve sighed; in the end, she could not afford to reject her. "Ok, since you're insistent".

As her assistant left, Genevieve also stood up to leave. Picking up her phone, she instinctively clicked on the screen, focusing on her call tab.

(7 outgoing missed calls to Noah Harrington...)

Genevieve grimaced. 'Where are you, Noah?'

Picking her coat, she turned to walk towards the door but as soon as she arrived at the door, her phone rang.

Excited, she picked it up but her expression turned back to normal when she saw that it was an unknown number calling.

She answered the call. "Hello".

"Hey, good evening to you too, you're Vivi right?"

"Noah?!" Genevieve's eyes widened but then, she paused, stunned. "This voice..., don't tell me, you're Nightingale?!"

Chapter 16: A meeting

"I always knew he was lying not to know me!"

"What do you mean?"

"Your friend, I told him I was Nightingale and he was like he doesn't know about me. Such a fraud!"

Hearing that, Genevieve chuckled. "Umm, about that..., Noah is not exactly lying".

"So, Noah is his name huh?"

"Yeah," she nodded. "That guy is special".

"How do you mean?"

"You see, he's kind of a sociopath so if he says he doesn't know you, he really doesn't".

Nightingale was stunned, he took another sip of his tea. "How are you so sure?"

"Because Noah never lies".

"..."

Nightingale sipped his tea even faster.

Genevieve chuckled, looking across at him. "It sounds far-fetched but it's the truth. He can be annoying at times but when it comes to honesty, Noah can be trusted. He never sees a reason to lie even if telling the truth will kill him".

"Wow," Nightingale looked at her across the table. "You seem to have a high opinion of him".

"Yeah, he was my captain for 10 years".

"10 years?!" Nightingale sipped his tea faster. "Tell me more".

Well, at this moment, Nightingale and Genevieve were at a restaurant.

It all started after she heard his voice through the phone. Apparently, she was a big fan of the hip hop star.

Nightingale was a big hip hop star based in London with a massive fanbase. He seemed to release a timeless classic every few years, a lot of people rated him so high they dubbed him the Michael Jackson of the 21st century.

It was a wonder how Noah had never heard of this popular musician, but knowing him, Genevieve understood.

Once Genevieve knew that it was Nightingale talking with her having recognized him through his voice and that it concerned Noah, this girl left all her work immediately, a privilege of your dad being the CEO of the company where you worked as she went all the way to London to meet him.

They met up in a restaurant, and that was how this moment came to be.

Noah's message to her was simple. "Please create an 11th server account and meet me in the game, we need to talk".

After Nightingale passed on the message, Genevieve spoke with him some more to know how he met Noah. Of course, it was partly motivated by her desire to speak more with her music idol.

As they spoke, Nightingale could not help but pay more attention to her extravagant attire, almost like she was wearing a disguise.

Even he wore a disguise so as not to be recognized by his fans, but this..., was this not too extravagant?

Was she a celebrity too? He wondered.

Thinking of that, his thoughts drifted back to the expert's real name. 'Now that I think of it, Noah, why does that name sound so familiar?'

After their conversation, Genevieve took a picture with him before finally leaving the restaurant and going straight to an internet café with her disguise on.

There, she bought a new 11th server Warstar account card, created a new account before logging into the new server.

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[Character Name has been registered...]

Inside an isolated alley in the beginner village, 2 game avatars stood, facing each other. One was dressed like a Combat Mage while the other like a Cleric.

Since they were yet to change classes, they didn't have a main class yet.

Noah raised his eyebrows as he looked at her. "Really, Misty Rose? That's the best name that you could think of?"

Genevieve scoffed. "You're one to talk when your username is Lord Doom? Who names themselves Lord Doom?"

"Me".

Genevieve laughed. "Typical Noah".

As soon as she created her account and completed the first beginner quest, leveling up to level 1, she followed the directions that Nightingale gave to her, walking to this alley in the beginner village where she met Noah.

Genevieve looked at him. "So, will you tell me now what exactly happened? You have so many missed calls from me," she harrumphed. "You better have a good enough explanation, or else..."

"Or else you would kiss the air". Noah chuckled. "You can't even hurt a fly, you only sound cute when you try to sound threatening".

"Y-you...!"

"Follow me".

In the end, leading her outside the beginner village outside the range where other players could eavesdrop on their conversation, Noah finally explained everything to her.

"...that is what happened".

"So, here I am".

"..."

".....!"

For a few seconds after Noah was done explaining, speechless, Genevieve could not say a single word.

When she finally controlled her in-game avatar to look at him again, as she asked, her voice showed how astonished she was. "You mean to tell me that right now, you're not behind a monitor?"

"Yeah," Noah shrugged. "This is me".

"If you don't believe, I can even kiss your in-game avatar to show you. Warstar doesn't allow that, but I can".

Genevieve was stunned.

"Wait, wait, let me get this right". She stopped him. "You logged into the game using another person's account but instead, you got transported inside the world of the game?"

Noah nodded exasperatedly. "Yes".

"Give me a moment".

Genevieve's in-game character suddenly froze. Staring at the motionless Cleric, Noah already knew that she left the monitor somewhere else, he wondered if she left to wash her face with water to confirm that she was not dreaming.

A few seconds later, the Cleric moved again.

They continued walking without saying a word as Genevieve let the mind-blowing revelations settle in her head.

She no longer asked questions, she finally understood why he was here and everything started making sense in her head.

Genevieve's in-game avatar suddenly stopped and looked at him, she sighed. "You calling me here, you've not given up right?"

"Yeah, I know," Noah chuckled. "I still want to be King".

"Even if the game didn't give me such a mission, I would have tried to return to the Pro scene of my own volition eventually".

He looked at her. "Vivi, this is my last chance at glory and I don't want to let it pass".

"Besides," he looked at the grass with a wistful look on his face. "We've never lifted the World championship trophy; don't you want to know what it feels like to lift it?"

"Don't you want to know what it feels like to be champion of the world?" He smiled.

Genevieve stayed silent but then she looked at him again. "I hate you because you always make me ruin my plans for a peaceful and normal life".

She sighed. "What do you want me to do?"

Hearing that, Noah grinned. "That's what I wanted to hear!"

Genevieve rolled her eyes behind her monitor.

Chapter 17: Genevieve's mission

"Tell me how it feels like to live inside the game".

As soon as Genevieve asked, Noah did not hold back, going on a talking spree as he explained everything that happened and how he felt and reacted to them since he was transported inside the game.

Talking to Genevieve like this, Noah could not help but feel nostalgia.

Due to being transported into the game, he suddenly felt this disconnect from the outside world but speaking with her didn't feel different.

In and outside the game, Genevieve was the same and he loved it.

After he was done telling her his stories, he also asked. "Tell me about the outside world too, what has become of Cyber Squad? What of Phoenix Rising and the World Championship?"

Hearing his question, Genevieve became emboldened to talk.

Genevieve was generally quiet but anytime she was around Noah, this gentle girl seemed to regain her talking spirit every single time.

Apparently, team Cyber Squad already went through a total revamp after their retirement. Of the old team, only Valiant Heart's controller remained, all the other pro avatars were replaced with new controllers.

When Noah learned that it was Caster who inherited his Stinger of War avatar, he didn't feel that bad anymore.

"The boy is good". He muttered.

Caster was one of the best among the new wave of Warstar pro players, having won the Rising Star award for the past 2 seasons.

Having clashed against him a few times already, Noah approved his skill.

As for the World Championship, it was scheduled to start in a week. There were only 8 countries represented in the first round of the Warstar RPG World Championship tournament.

The organizers implemented a knock-out tournament setting, which meant all 8 represented countries will start directly from the quarter finals.

Next year, the World Championship was bound to expand, including even more Warstar-playing countries but for now, these 8 countries were the first adopters playing in the highest competitive stage of the revolutionary video game.

The 8-competing countries were England, Japan, China, USA, Argentina, Germany, Portugal, and Canada.

In the first round of the tournament, England was to take on Portugal in a knock-out game utilizing the same 10-point system that is used in normal Warstar RPG league games.

Noah lamented the fact that he would not be able to watch these games, but then he urged Genevieve to keep him updated on the results.

After that, she hesitated a bit before asking. "Do you think they still want to play?"

Noah looked at her.

"Don't get me wrong, but you know, we all retired and it's not even 3 days yet, to suddenly propose coming back from retirement".

She sighed. "I don't know if they'll still want to compete".

Noah shrugged. "We'll never know, all we can do is try and hope that fire that made them play for 10 years in the pro scene is still burning".

"I don't know about them but personally, I want to be King again".

Genevieve's mission was straightforward.

Noah wanted her to meet the other retired members of the old Cyber Squad pro team, and tell them of his situation and his desire to compete again.

After the circumstances with which he got his first SSS-Rank unique skill, he confirmed that he would encounter another unique skill challenge after getting to level 20. This was why he wanted to pull his friends along.

Just like Deadly Musician and the others benefited, getting unique skills due to their performances, Noah wanted to drag his friends along this time.

If they participated, they would definitely get higher rewards that will give them unique skills of a higher level than Deadly Musician and the others got.

Everything depended on his old teammates, Noah could only believe in their love for the game and also on Genevieve's persuasion skills.

With that, Genevieve finally logged out of the game.

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England, Manchester, The Washhouse...

The night club was tucked away in a narrow side street of Manchester, its exterior a blend of weathered brick and sleek black public display signage, pulsing at the heart of Manchester's nightlife.

Its entrance was marked by a sleek black door with a glowing red emblem above it, hinting at the energy within.

2 bouncers stood at the ready, managing a queue that snaked along the sidewalk, filled with chatter and anticipation.

Inside was a sensory overload, dominated by pulsating beats and a vibrant atmosphere. Genevieve was already dreading entering inside as she walked close, she felt like she was walking into a scary dungeon.

Inside the main room was expansive, with high ceilings and walls adorned with LED panels that pulse and shift in time with the music.

Dressed in a beautiful long black gown adorned with gems, just as Genevieve was about to enter, she met a scene.

"What did you just say?"

"M-my p*nis is bigger!"

"W-what ... ?"

"My p*nis is bigger than yours!"

"Bastard, you f*cking son of a bitch!"

It was almost a comical sight.

At the entrance to this night club, 2 men, both visibly drunk squared off, their gestures sharp and aggressive. Their argument was pure gold.

One of them stepped forward, chest puffed out, hands clenched into a fist even as his face was red in rage. "You f*cking bastard!"

The situation escalated quickly.

Before a punch could be thrown though, the bouncers quickly moved in. Dressed in black with earpieces glinting under the streetlights, they exuded authority.

The larger of the 2 men stepped between the men, his voice low and firm, cutting through the chaos like a blade. "That's enough, gentlemen".

"What? D-did you hear what he said? This bastard...!"

"I said that's enough!" With a shrug of his shoulder, he gestured to the corner close to the entrance where a 3rd bouncer sat on a chair.

This bouncer looked even bigger and more intimidating than the others. He had long brown dreadlocks and a scary face.

At this moment, he crossed his legs, holding a book like a geek and occasionally flipping through its pages. He seemed to be... reading?

Noticing the attention on him, he turned to look at them with an irritated glance, making the 2 trouble makers pause in their steps.

One of them chuckled. "Ah..., s-sorry boss". He quickly scurried away.

And just like that, the little dispute was settled.

Genevieve was stunned. 'Is that..., Caleb?'

Amused, she walked closer, paying attention to the book that was on his hand. "The entrance is that way". He spoke without raising his head.

"Cal?"

Hearing that familiar name, the hand holding the book shook a bit and then slowly, the bouncer raised his head, squinting his eyes to look.

He was stunned. "Vivi?"

Reincarnated Avatar; I got 2 SSS-Rank Unique Skills #Chapter 18: Rallying the squad [1] - Read Reincarnated Avatar; I got 2 SSS-Rank Unique Skills Chapter 18: Rallying the squad [1]

Chapter 18: Rallying the squad [1]

"Vivi?"

Caleb was stunned.

What was Genevieve doing here? Did something happen?

He had so many questions in his mind but he didn't get to ask them because Genevieve asked before he could. "What book are you reading?"

Caleb looked down at the book. "Shadow Slave".

"A novel?"

Hearing that, he frowned. "You've not heard of Shadow Slave?"

"No, should I?"

Caleb's frown deepened.

Genevieve was worried. "Is something wrong?"

Looking left and right, Caleb stood up and dragged Genevieve along. "Follow me".

Well, Genevieve regretted saying the truth because dragging her to the kitchen of this night club where it was quieter, Caleb ripped at her, accusing her for not having read a masterpiece like Shadow Slave.

"It's a crime!" He said, agitated. "It's a masterpiece, you have to read it!"

"You definitely have to read it!"

In the end, she was amused. "Your appearance really doesn't suit the real you," she chuckled. "You're such a nerd, well, who works as a bouncer".

Of their friend circle, finding Caleb was relatively easy.

Knowing that he once worked as a bouncer before being introduced to Warstar by Noah, and knowing his personality that he was too lazy to go look for an extravagant work, the first places Genevieve looked to search were night clubs.

With her dad company's information network, she did a little digging and in no time, she discovered the specific night club where Caleb worked.

Thankfully, he worked in Manchester, making it easy for her.

She waited till it was late before going to the night club and just like she expected, she met Caleb here.

"So, you went back to being a bouncer".

Caleb shrugged. "There are not many works out there that suit a man like me, being a bouncer happens to be one of those few works".

Caleb looked at her, at her extravagant gown. "So, what brought you here?"

"Noah".

Caleb paused. "What happened with him?"

Genevieve looked around, looking for CCTV cameras and once she confirmed that there was none, she spoke. "Well, it's like this..."

By the time she was done explaining, unlike what she expected, Caleb was not as stunned as she was when she learned the truth.

Instead, he chuckled. "What a befitting end for him".

"Huh?"

"For someone as obsessed with video games as Noah," he looked around, making sure that no one was close by to hear. "Getting transmigrated into Warstar is just fate, and I bet he's loving it". He chuckled.

"Well, now that you say it," Genevieve thought. "He didn't seem distressed, just blabbering about how he wants to be King again".

"Typical of him". Caleb chuckled.

"So?"

Caleb shrugged, looking around. "If it's aiming for glory again, I'm in, at the very least it'll be better than working here".

"At least the pay is better".

Genevieve heaved a sigh of relief on hearing that. 'That was easier than I expected, but it's not shocking. Caleb was always going to be the easiest'.

"Let's go".

Genevieve was stunned. "Just like that? You won't need to drop a resignation letter or something?"

Caleb chuckled. "This is bouncer work, not some official office work, we get paid by the night for every night that we work".

"If I leave, someone else will just take my place tomorrow night".

"Oh, so it's like that". She finally nodded.

Before leaving, Caleb met a few of his friends in the night club, bidding his farewell to them. He was honest to a fault, telling them the truth that he wanted to return to playing games.

Despite knowing him for a long time already, these people simply couldn't wrap their heads around the fact that someone with such a scary look and physique was actually a nerd who loved playing video games and reading novels.

'They really say don't judge a book by its cover'. They sighed.

•••

After leaving the night club, they went straight to Caleb's home where Genevieve finally started inquiring about the others.

She could not help but pay attention to how neat his room was, just like she expected to see. 'Typical Cal'. She thought.

"Mac is not in the country". Caleb said. "He's in China, working as a foreign consultant I think for some big Chinese company".

Genevieve was surprised. "Really? But it's just been 3 days since we retired".

"Well, he works fast". Caleb shrugged.

"What of Aria?"

Caleb paused his action of arranging his clothes in his traveling bag. "She should be in her hometown I think, Coventry. By the way, she now has a boyfriend".

"...!"

Genevieve stood, eyes wide and frozen in shock.

When Caleb finally noticed her, he paused, looking at her. "What?"

"Did you just say Aria has a boyfriend?"

"Yeah, what?"

'Yeah, what?!' Genevieve felt like punching him on the face if he was not so much bigger than her.

"Aria? A boyfriend?!"

"Is she even capable of that?"

"Well, she is".

"Damn!" Genevieve exclaimed. "How can it change so much so fast? It's just 3 days but I feel like 3 years have passed!"

Genevieve was always calm and quiet but today, she had experienced and heard so many revelations that kept on leaving her rattled.

She grumbled for a bit before asking again. "What of Benjamin?"

Hearing that name, Caleb grimaced a bit. "That guy? I have no damn clue where he is".

"Great!" Genevieve sighed. "Mac is out of the country, we have no clue where Benji is, and Aria now has a boyfriend. Great, just great!"

"Noah's dream team is coming together just fine".

Caleb looked at her. "Are you ok?"

"What? I'm fine, of course I'm fine".

"You normally don't talk so much".

"Huh?" Now, Genevieve felt triggered. "Noah is stuck inside a video game; we have to rescue him. Marcus is out of the country, Benjamin is nowhere to be found, and Aria now has a boyfriend, so forgive me if I'm talking so much!"

Caleb chuckled, making her sharply look at him. "What's funny?"

"You look even cuter when you're frustrated".

"..."

Genevieve was speechless, now she felt like crying.

At that moment, Caleb finally carried his traveling bag. "There's no need to be frustrated, let's work with what we have first".

"Let's find Aria in Coventry, we can make the trip this night".

Genevieve sighed. "Ok".

Chapter 19: Rallying the squad [2]

Coventry City, England...

"Babe".

Silence.

"Babe!"

"WHAT?!" A loud voice blasted out from inside the apartment.

The 2 people standing at the entrance shuddered.

Standing before them and holding the door was a young man with short brown hair. A soon as that voice blasted out from inside, he smiled at them. "That's her normal voice". He chuckled awkwardly.

"Babe, 2 people are looking for you".

"By this time of the night? Who are they?"

"One of them is a girl, she has silver hair, and the other is a guy with brown dread locks".

There was a pause, and then the sound of footsteps.

The next moment, a familiar face walked out of this apartment, unceremoniously shoving the young man who stood at the door aside.

Aria stared at the 2 familiar faces with wide eyes. "I'll be goddamned!" She exclaimed. "What are the both of you doing here?"

"Hey". Caleb waved at her, smiling.

"Hehe," Genevieve chuckled nervously as she looked at her. "It's Noah".

Aria snorted. "What has that bastard gotten himself into this time?"

...

A dozen minutes later...

When Genevieve was done explaining the situation to Aria, her reaction was completely different from Caleb's reaction.

"You're telling me that Noah got trapped in the game?" She asked for confirmation and when she got it, this girl burst out laughing extremely loudly.

She laughed till her ribs hurt. "Serves him right, that gaming freak!"

"Hahaha, this is karma for all those times he beat me in the PK arena". She laughed, now having an evil look on his face.

"Haha," Genevieve also faked a laugh as she looked at her. "So?"

Aria did not answer immediately, instead turning to look at her boyfriend who waved on noticing her gaze, making her smile in reply.

'Arya's actually smiling to a man?!' Genevieve was shocked, she stole a look at the man. 'I underestimated him'.

'This guy... is formidable!'

Arya was the nickname that they gave to Aria, and the inspiration from it came from the Game of Thrones character, Arya Stark.

Noah once joked that Aria is just as stubborn as Arya and that was where the nickname originated from.

Aria turned to look at them again, and then she shrugged. "I don't know about you guys but for me, it's not like before".

"I have a different life now," she hesitated. "I have a boyfriend now".

"I can't just leave him and go play video games like a rebelling teenager," she stole a glance at him again. "I do have some responsibilities now".

"Does that mean...?"

"Yeah," Aria nodded, looking at Genevieve. "I'm sorry but tell that punk ass that I'm not coming to save his sorry ass this time".

"You guys should do it without me".

Hearing that, Genevieve felt a bit sad but she quickly masked it by smiling. "I understand," she said. "If that's what you want, then it's fine".

Aria looked at her. "When you see him again, tell him that England is too small, tell him to go conquer the world!"

"I'll be cheering you guys on from here".

"Thanks Arya". Genevieve grinned.

But then she froze, having just realized something. "Umm..., Arya, it's really late already, can we just spend the night at your place?"

"Is that what's so hard for you to say?" Aria chuckled, standing up as she looked at her boyfriend. "Gabe, they want to spend the night here with us, that's fine, right?"

The young man chuckled nervously. "Haha. Of course, that's fine".

"See? You guys can stay".

But Genevieve stared at Aria with wide eyes. "His name is Gabe? Gabe as in Gabriel?"

"Yeah, what?"

Genevieve's eyes widened even more. 'Don't tell me she decided to start dating a Gabriel after losing to Gabriel in the Warstar RPG champions league final!'

'Damn! All my friends are crazy!'

"Let's go inside". Caleb suggested as he was scared of that look on Genevieve's face, scared that she would say something that would trigger the fiery woman beside her at any moment.

With that, they entered inside.

While Caleb conversed with Gabriel, Aria's boyfriend, the 2 girls quickly linked up, catching up on lost time.

"Tell me how miserable Noah looked in the game". Aria laughed evilly.

The next morning, Genevieve and Caleb finally got set to leave.

Before leaving though, remembering something, Genevieve asked. "Aria, do you by any means have any idea where Benji might be?"

"No," Aria shook her head. "Check his GPS".

Genevieve chuckled. "In this day and age, who leaves their GPS location on?"

Aria shrugged. "Just check".

Genevieve felt that it was a waste of time but just to give Aria some face, she picked her iPhone and checked and then, her eyes widened in shock.

Aria grinned on seeing the look on her face. "His GPS is on, right?"

Genevieve nodded stiffly. "It says he's in Birmingham," she was stunned. "Just like that, we found him".

But she felt grievant. "Who leaves his GPS location on in this time and age?"

"Benjamin". Aria laughed.

With that, the 2 girls hugged before bidding each other farewell as Caleb and Genevieve took the next flight to Birmingham City.

Of course, Genevieve was the one paying the bills.

• • •

Birmingham City, England...

Following the direction of the GPS location tracker, Genevieve and Caleb were surprised as they were led to walk into a casino.

As soon as they stepped foot inside the Casino, Genevieve's expression darkened as she already guessed where this was leading on to.

Since the GPS tracker could not be more precise than this, they had to look for him through the large casino. Walking from floor to floor, they looked round, searching for any familiar face and finally, they found him on the 2nd floor.

"Hey". Caleb tapped Genevieve.

Turning round, the first thing she noticed was the familiar long black hair that flowed freely down his shoulders.

Alongside other gamblers, at this moment, Benjamin was standing before a Slotomania machine having played the game already as the slots rolled rapidly.

He was sweating on his forehead, rubbing his sweaty palms anxiously, and then...

Ding!

As soon as he heard the sound, Benjamin's shoulders shook as he stared with wide eyes, and then he jumped for joy.

"Jackpot!" He roared.

Genevieve shook her head tiredly. 'All my friends are crazy!' *Chapter 20: Rallying the squad [3]*

Genevieve dragged Benjamin out of the Casino with one hand grabbing his ear, almost pulling them out.

Benjamin felt like crying. "Why are you always so rough with me and when it comes to Noah, you're so gentle and kind?"

"It's because you only deserve rough treatment!" Genevieve screamed in his ear, making him grimace.

They soon walked into a restaurant that was opposite the Casino in Birmingham where they sat, enjoying a feast from the jackpot money that Benjamin just won from the Casino. Even as they ate, Genevieve kept on glaring at Benjamin. It was clear that she was still displeased with him.

"Come on Vivi, I didn't do anything, I swear that was my first bet".

"Yeah, your first bet coincidentally coincides with the time when we come all the way from Coventry to look for you".

"I'm serious!"

"I know". Genevieve glared at him.

But then, Benjamin was surprised. "All the way from Coventry? What were you guys doing there? You went to see Aria?"

Genevieve was surprised. "You also know about her boyfriend?"

"Hehe," Benjamin chuckled mischievously. "She was like wildfire; uncontrollable, fierce, and definitely not the type you'd picture holding hands with anyone. But then she got a boyfriend, and now everyone's wondering who tamed the dragon... or if he's just fireproof".

Genevieve grimaced. "Stop with your lame jokes".

"But it was funny!" Benjamin lamented. "Come on, Cal, say the truth, it was funny right?"

Caleb reacted like Benjamin was talking to air.

Benjamin sighed. "Sigh, the bouncer mathematician always treating me like air, one day I'll get to be a bouncer mathematician too".

"Pfft!"

Not able to hold herself this time, Genevieve laughed. "Benji you old man, bouncer mathematician?" She stole a glance at Caleb who was still nonchalant. "Where did you get that one from?"

Benjamin chuckled. "I have a collection full of them baby girl, you want more?"

"That's enough". Genevieve glared at him.

"So, will you guys be telling me why you came all the way here to look for me or we'll just eat and say goodbye to each other?"

Genevieve was about to speak when she remembered something. "First, why on earth would you leave your GPS location on?"

"Anybody can use it to track you down once they have a little bit of your details, what if we were assassins?"

Benjamin chuckled. "I'm an Elementalist, you think some random assassin can take me down?"

"You...!" Genevieve palmed her face. "Never mind".

"Come on..."

"That's enough!" She rubbed her temples, suddenly regretting her decision to come all this way to look for him.

Benjamin looked at her. "So, will you tell me?"

"I said that's enough!"

"You won't tell me?"

'Dammit!' Now, Genevieve really felt like punching him on the face.

Taking deep breaths to calm herself down, she managed to convince herself that murder was a crime punishable by death before begrudgingly smiling at him and telling him the situation.

As soon as Benjamin learned of the situation, he first reacted with surprise but his next reaction was just typical him.

"Haha," he laughed. "Homie got stolen".

"He got transmigrated into Warstar and now his only quest is to find the exit game button," he smirked. "Too bad it's locked behind a paywall!"

Genevieve grimaced. "Did you get what I said at all?"

"Of course, that's why I made a joke about him".

Genevieve looked down, clenching her fists tightly as she finally threw a look at Caleb. "I'm gonna kill him". She said. "I swear, I'm gonna kill him!"

Cooly, Caleb intervened, helping her regain her calm as she kept on glaring at Benjamin both with indignation and a look of resignation in her eyes. She sighed. "So, will you play again?"

Benjamin finally relaxed on his chair in this restaurant, looking at her. "Well, back in my hometown, they do call me a hero".

"..." Genevieve palmed her face.

Benjamin chuckled. "So, if it is to save Noah Harrington, the Godfather of Warstar, who am I to refuse?"

"Afterall, I am Batman".

Genevieve stood up the next moment, walking out on the 2 men. "I regret coming to Birmingham". She muttered under her breath.

....

Later in the evening, still in Birmingham, having just arrived from shopping, Caleb and Genevieve entered Benjamin's apartment.

Despite his gambling lifestyle, he was doing well for himself as he lived in a well-furnished 2-bedroom apartment.

Having suffered the surprise of Aria already, just as they stepped inside the house, Genevieve asked to confirm. "You're still single right?"

Benjamin sighed. "The girls in Birmingham are yet to recognize the otherworldly charm and aura of this hero, and the..."

Genevieve already ignored him, walking away after getting the information that she needed.

They went shopping but it was not just grocery shopping, they spent the most money on purchasing 3 new PC sets and Warstar consoles to accompany them.

This time, it was not just Genevieve providing the money as they forced Benjamin to share some of the money from the jackpot that he won.

Of course, he only agreed to spend after a lot of grumbling.

Once they entered inside the house, quickly deciding on which one of the 2 rooms they would turn to their gaming den, they quickly went to work, expertly arranging the gaming PC set-up.

In no time, 3 different sets of expensive gaming gear were perfectly arranged inside this room, giving it a professional scene vibe.

After that, Genevieve left first to take her bath and the others soon followed.

Once they were all set, without wasting time, with their new 11th server Warstar account cards, they logged into the game.

...

[Welcome to the new server, adventurer!]

[Your default spawn point has been set for the Beginner Village!]

[Character Name has been registered: Enlightened Flame]

[Welcome to the new server, adventurer!]

[Your default spawn point has been set for the Beginner Village!]

[Character Name has been registered: Captain Batman]

In the room, Genevieve could not help but remove her gaming headset as she inclined her head to glare at Benjamin.

She was exasperated again. "Just what type of name is that?!"

"Huh?" Benjamin looked at her, confused. "What I'd do?"