Read Night Ranger - Chapter 41: Frightening Mine

Chapter 41: Frightening Mine

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The adventurers had nothing to do for now.

There was one rule for the loot distribution for fights in the wilderness.

It was pretty simple: those who contributed would get benefits.

In the previous fight, the adventurers didn't contribute, so they didn't get to take the loot.

But under Anna's directions, they began to tear apart the gnoll camp, using the logs to surround some mine tunnels with simple fortifications.

"Why didn't those gnolls make a camp on the edge of the mine? It would have been easier to defend."

Cat raised a question somewhat doubtfully.

No one was able to answer him, and the gnolls were already dead. No one knew how those packs of animals thought.

After the bloodbath, the rage of the White River Valley garrison was vented to some degree.

They meticulously piled up the gnoll corpses and burnt them, and started taking care of the loot afterwards.

In fact, these gnolls were very poor. They had nothing worthwhile on them. The camp only had simple and crude items too.

Most of it was food.

But that food... Only gnolls, kobolds, goblins and such races would eat that kind of food.

During the second era, mankind was the same as them. In order to adapt to the poor conditions, they would eat any kind of food they could get.

But after the rise of mankind, and them becoming used to fine food, they couldn't eat tree roots and those kinds of things any more.

At least, no one would eat those during peaceful times.

Anna had two garrison members make suitable logistics preparations.

They carried enough food, consisting of fragrant and sweet bread, dried meat and enough water.

The gnolls' things were discarded.

The only useful things were the logs.

Those logs could make a few simple fortifications. If the gnolls were really fooled and fell into the trap, these fortifications would take some pressure off everyone's shoulders.

...

Time flew by quickly. The sun set and it was now evening.

Everyone worked together to set up the new camp. At least, it looked a lot more decent than the gnolls'.

"Seems like I have to take the first shift."

Taking turns for the night shift was a must. Who knew whether that sly gnoll shaman would launch a night attack or not.

Everyone drew lots, and the pugilist Rock ended up with the first shift.

At that time, Marvin suddenly walked over and sat on a stone at the mine tunnel.

"I'll keep guard with you."

Rock's complexion changed. He didn't know what to think.

Everyone was looking strangely at Marvin.

But in the end, due to Anna prompting them, most of them went to rest.

They knew that there would definitely be a large war tomorrow.

Even though Marvin promised that he was able to deal with the gnoll shaman, the other gnoll fighters were not to be trifled with.

Even if they weren't a match for an adventurer in a one on one, it would get tricky once there were enough of them.

They had to keep enough energy to be able to react to any sudden change on the battlefield!

...

Crackling noises could be heard from the campfire.

Rock and Marvin were silently sitting opposite each other.

Rock was carefully watching Marvin's movements.

To be honest, he couldn't see through that guy. Last time at the inn, Rock had let that guy know that he was interested in his head. That was really asking for trouble.

Three blows would probably have been enough to kill Green who was a bit stronger than himself in a fight. This kind of strength was extremely frightening.

If there was medicine for regrets, he would definitely not have provoked this frightening guy.

But in fact, Marvin hadn't even bothered with Rock from the start.

His motive for taking a turn as a lookout was only for safety reasons, and nothing more.

'It's a bit strange. Those gnolls are not fools, why wouldn't they build their camp on the edge of the mine tunnel?'

'Wouldn't it be easier to defend?'

The others might have brushed away their suspicions, but Marvin felt that he had caught onto something.

He felt like he had experienced something similar somewhere before.

But he couldn't remember right now.

This kind of feeling made him feel quite annoyed. He sat there, motionless, trying hard to remember.

Unfortunately, it didn't work.

'What's going on?'

Just when Marvin was thinking hard while frowning, he heard a faint sighing sound next to his ear.

'That sound!'

Marvin suddenly felt his blood run cold.

'Is this something like a fear skill?'

He reacted right away.

It was clearly written on the battlelog: he just experienced a fear check!

The outcome was obvious, since he had the headless girl's gift. He easily resisted the fear.

And at this time, Marvin noticed a dark shadow floating in the mine tunnel.

'So it was like that...'

Marvin finally understood!

He knew what was going on!

'No wonder those gnolls didn't build a camp by the mine tunnel.'

'It's not that they weren't willing to, rather, they didn't dare to!'

'If I go inside the tunnel right now, I might be able to find a few gnolls bodies!' Marvin suddenly realized.

As for Rock sitting in front of him, it seemed like he didn't notice anything.

That was normal. His sense of hearing wasn't sharp enough to sense those subtle movements inside the tunnel.

'It was actually those guys ah... Ahahaha! Looks like I'm quite lucky.'

As Marvin thought, he opened his character window. In the ranger section there were still 46 class skill points unused.

He put 25 SP into [Listen] in an instant!

In fact, he wasn't quite willing to upgrade this skill, but thinking of the current situation, without [High Perception], [Listen] was one of the most important skills of the stealthy classes.

25 points in listen was enough to let Marvin become sharper.

Those barely audible sound he'd heard became more distinct!

A row of fear checks appeared on the battle log. He smoothly passed all of them.

Those things' fear effects were quite weak. It didn't even pose a threat to Marvin.

On the contrary, Marvin was interested in them.

...

"What are you planning to do?" Rock was startled by Masked Twin Blades abruptly getting up.

"I'll go take a look inside, you keep watching. Gnolls might still be digging tunnels. I'll make a quick check."

Marvin casually lied, leaving Rock by himself besides the campfire. His shadow quickly disappeared in the mine tunnel's darkness.

"Going in a mine tunnel in the middle of the night? Is he not worried about running across mine ghosts? A weird guy indeed..." Rock mumbled but didn't care.

The campfire kept burning.

...

In the dark, gloomy mine tunnel, Marvin was lifting a torch with one hand and carrying a dagger in the other.

The air inside the tunnel wasn't too bad, and the torch's flames were quite large.

He bent down from time to time to pick up some soil. He would then go in a certain direction.

He was already sure that something was in this mine.

As soon as Marvin took over White River Valley, miners had reported that there were monsters in the mine.

But the garrison didn't find any monsters during their inspection.

Afterwards, when miner were working, they would occasionally meet some strange circumstances, but nothing that would make them lose their lives.

And thus, things were set aside at the time.

Until today.

Marvin had already guessed what was in the mine. After all, he knew of almost every monster in Feinan.

'But... It's odd.'

'They normally wouldn't actively attack humans or other lifeforms.'

'If I'm not wrong... Could there be a source of corruption nearby?'

Thinking of this, Marvin accelerated.

A source of corruption usually meant benefits.

Just when Marvin took a turn.

A huge strange face came out from a hole in the mountain, rushing toward Marvin to ruthlessly bite him.

There was no change in expression on Marvin's face. He moved back half a step and swiftly thrusted his torch forward.

But that strange face was actually unafraid of fire. It directly opened its mouth and ate the torch!

"Pffffff!"

The only source of light in the mine faded away.

Pairs of dark red eyes shone through the darkness.

Every pair of eyes was on another strange face.

Marvin calmly leaned closer to the ground. He slowed his breathing and took something out from the void conch.

If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc..), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Chapter 42: Kingfisher Jade Dagger

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The mine tunnel was quiet. Only a few sighing sounds were continuously echoing.

Marvin's willpower was firm. Every fear check was successfully passed.

This was why he dared to enter the mine.

These huge strange faces were a kind of wild creature, Earth Spirits.

An earth spirit was quite a rare creature. It is said that the spirits of missing miners that died in the mines would turn into earth spirits.

These creatures were in a state that was half-spirit and half-physical. They had a quite strange appearance, but the strangest part was their faces.

Those sighing sounds were actually the noise earth spirits made when they were moving. Each sighing sound carried a weak fear skill.

Cowardly people would immediately be frightened by these.

But it clearly wasn't the case for Marvin.

Ordinary earth spirits wouldn't attack humans. They were kindhearted.

But those earth earth spirits seemed to have been corrupted by something. They had become irritable and easily angered and actually attacked Marvin!

Marvin was quite interested in the source of that corruption. Corruption sources were usually created from wizards magic power. Due to magic power leaking, creatures with low intelligence would suffer from the influence of chaos magic and display all kinds of unusual behavior.

And during this era, items crafted by wizards would be quite valuable.

From another point of view, a place with a large group of earth spirits certainly had a treasure.

Marvin would always give his all when looking for treasures!

. . .

He took something from his void conch... It was none other than a big firework!

Even if earth spirits weren't afraid of fire, they were still afraid of strong lights!

Marvin noiselessly took out a flint and lit the firework in an instant!

Even though it was the most simple kind of rough firework made by a countryside smith, it still lit in a split second. However, it was barely able to have half the effects of the flash skill!

Under the strong light, the irritable and angry earth spirits immediately opened their bloody mouths wide open one after the other!

But they didn't let out any sound, so the people in the camp were still unaware of what was happening in the mine.

Marvin was fine with it.

He stuck the firework stick on the ground and unsheathed his dagger.

The strong light was clearly hindering the earth spirits' movements.

They advanced while squinting, their movements turning quite clumsy.

As for Marvin, it was time to go all out!

Handling his two common curved daggers in hands as if they were flower, he went back and forth among those strange faces, like a fish in water. His curved daggers kept slashing and soon, nearly 20 earth spirits had been killed by Marvin.

The earth spirit had an average level of 3 but their fighting strength was quite mediocre.

The reason why they had a relatively high level was because of their fear skill. Ordinary people would find it quite difficult to go all out while under fear effects.

At times you would be unable to control your own muscles. Using an extremely accurate attack could often lead to injuries, or worse, death.

But Marvin wasn't the least bit affected by the fear skills.

This was bullying.

Twenty four earth spirits gave Marvin a total of 609 battle exp. This was quite generous, a lot better than Grave Robber Heiss' summoned zombies.

But Marvin knew that this way of farming experience wouldn't work in the long term. Earth spirits, those were quite rare.

Getting rid of a pack of level 3 creatures like that; such situations were quite scarce.

Marvin was already quite satisfied.

...

Marvin kept going after he finished killing the earth spirits.

He followed the mine tunnel forward.

He found some gnolls bodies on the way.

It seemed these earth spirits had become quite violent. They actually started killing gnolls.

These gnolls should have suffered quite a bit. They had low wisdom, and as such, it was quite easy for them to fall prey to a fear skill.

They had no way to deal with the earth spirits in the darkness of the mine. They could only build their camp away from the mine.

The mine tunnel wasn't very deep, but it had a lot of side paths. Before the mine was abandoned, there were quite a lot of miners going through them.

At that time, the earth spirits were probably not completely corrupted yet and only harassed the miners without attacking them.

Things were different a few months ago.

Even if he had spent a few month blindly searching back then, he might have not found anything because of the complexity of the mine.

He was skillful.

Earth spirits were usually found near rocky walls. The underground soil would also have some subtle changes from earth spirits passing by.

Originally firm mountain stone would become somewhat soft.

Marvin moved while crouching, trying to follow the soft part of the ground as much as possible.

He killed two more groups earth spirits on the way, getting another 377 battle exp before finally finding the source of the corruption.

...

There was a cavern in the depths of the mine.

There was a plant with long vines in the cavern, every vine having long barbs.

'Poisonous plant?'

Marvin focused on these vines.

'Where are those things coming from?'

The poison developed by this kind of [Highly Poisonous Plant] had quite strong toxicity. Yet this thing wouldn't affect the earth spirits.

'Did I go astray?' Marvin thought.

But Marvin would not just sit and watch after finding it. It was his territory after all.

Highly poisonous plants wouldn't grow without foundation. If he gave this vine plant time to mature, it might grow into a very frightening type of plant monster.

Even though plant monsters were born unable to move, they had an amazingly high constitution. Especially after advancing, they would even become resistant to fire.

'As far as I know, only a few wizards would have this kind of highly poisonous plant. It was used for experiments.'

'Also, the Shepherds...'

'Could it be that group of vicious people keeping an eye on White River Valley?'

Marvin was suspicious but still didn't hesitate and lit a fire on the ground.

Even if a highly poisonous plant was quite dangerous, that was after growing up.

It only had small vines right now and it wasn't enough to pose a problem.

A large fire burned it cleanly.

Actually this vine poison was very difficult to deal with, he could dip daggers or his curved daggers in the poison.

But Marvin had no trained apothecary by his side, nor was he carrying any powerful appraising item. He would be done for if he accidentally got poisoned.

The mine was already filled with smoke after he was done with the fire. Marvin covered his nose with his hand and searched.

Because of his mindset of not letting anything slip by, he swept thoroughly.

But he hadn't expected to find a treasure chest under the ashes of the highly poisonous plant.

And on top of that, the chest had no lock!

'Turns out the true source of the corruption is here!' Marvin suddenly realized.

There were a lot of things in the treasure chest along with the main culprit behind the earth spirits' arousal.

That was a tilted bottle whose liquid had a strange smell.

Marvin lightly smelled it and immediately began to choke!

'Very strong acidic smell!'

'This is magical acid!'

[Magicalized Acid] was like the [Highly Poisonous Plant]; they were both things belonging to the Shepherds, who used those things to spread evil across Feinan Continent.

Magicalized Acid was highly volatile. It spread in the air and the gas infected the low intelligence earth spirits.

But from the way this bottle was tilted, it seemed like it wasn't overturned on purpose.

Marvin mumbled and looked through the ashes once again. Sure enough, he found pieces of bone in the ashes.

These pieces of bone were already quite difficult to recognize since they were burnt in the fire. It seemed to be from a kind of tall humanoid lifeform.

'Shepherds!'

'Did a Shepherd really come to White River Valley? Why did he die here?'

Marvin found answers to his doubts one by one.

'That shepherd should have died due to not being careful when handling the highly poisonous plant and magicalized acid.'

'Seems like this guy wanted to put these things in the treasure chest and then bury it... But before he managed to do that, he died.'

This shepherd's rank shouldn't be very high. He might have died from a serious injury after being chased.

The question was, why did he come to this mine!?

Even Marvin with his huge amount of experience wasn't able to answer to find the answer to this question for the time being.

He put the shepherd's body aside for the moment and covered the bottle in the chest to stop the magicalized acid from corrupting the mine's creatures.

Thus, the earth spirits would go back to normal.

...

There were still two more things in the chest. A green jade dagger and a thick envelope.

Marvin glanced at the dagger and immediately was attracted to it.

This dagger's original master didn't seem to have used the [Obscure] skill on it, so Marvin only needed a simple [Inspect] to be able to look at the dagger's attributes.

[Kingfisher Jade Dagger +1]

Quality: Uncommon

(T/N: Kingfisher Jade is a particular kind of jade. Jade is actually split into two kinds. Nephrite and Jadeite. Nephrite being less transparent (in general) and Jadeite being able to reach some pretty amazing green color with imperial jade and kingfisher jade. The first one being extremely close to emerald while the second is just a bit less transparent.)

If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc..), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Chapter 43: Sly Sorcerer

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

'It's a +1 item!'

Even though it was still considered as an uncommon item, there weren't many people in Feinan that were able to enchant an item!

Marvin felt happy. Holding the Kingfisher Jade Dagger, he couldn't help but twirl it a few times, feeling overjoyed.

[Kingfisher Jade Dagger (+1)]

Quality: Uncommon

Attack: 6 – 9

Effect: Armor Break +5

Enchantment (+1): Parry +5

...

It looked like this dagger was used by that shepherd for self-defense. Armor break and parry properties were on two totally different sides.

"A dagger that can parry, what the hell..."

Marvin couldn't help but want to mock the enchanter who added that property to this dagger. However, after thinking it over, he felt that this seemingly useless parry attribute might actually be useful depending on the situation.

Along with the fact that Marvin wasn't a thief, even if he was able to keep up great offense and flexibility with a curved dagger in his right hand and a dagger in his left, it would still weaken the might of his two-weapon fighting.

As a result, Marvin could only use this dagger as a third weapon.

He replaced the common dagger at his waist with the kingfisher jade dagger. At a critical time, he could let go of his curved dagger and grab this dagger to attack

This gave him a wide range of attack patterns.

The only unfortunate thing was that the treasure chest hadn't given a curved dagger.

If it had been an uncommon curved dagger, Marvin's fighting would have gone up one rank!

'After dealing with the problems with the territory, I must get a pair of first-rate curved daggers,' Marvin thought.

Dual wielding rangers made a living through their blades. Wielding a pair of common daggers all day long... Isn't that shameful?

...

Besides the bottle and the dagger, there was still an envelope inside the chest.

The envelope was sealed with wax. Well, this shepherd was already dead... After inspecting the envelope and confirming that there wasn't anything like a trap or a curse, he opened it.

It contained a letter written in the shepherds' special code.

Marvin searched through his Noble's language mastery. But unfortunately, he found out that he wasn't able to read the shepherd coded language.

This wasn't surprising.

The Shepherd Organization, the Plague God followers and the Twin Snakes of Doom were all active evil forces in Feinan Continent. They had a special system and internal secret codes used for communication. And everyone who wasn't a shepherd would find it quite difficult to pierce the coded language.

Their arch-enemy was the northern [Migratory Bird Council]. This was a powerful force formed by druids which had no lack of powerful legendary level druids.

The shepherds were sowing highly toxic seeds everywhere, seeds that agitated living creatures. This made the druids quite resentful.

As people in charge of maintaining nature's harmony, they were giving their all to annihilate the shepherds.

Perhaps the druids would understand shepherd language.

...

After taking care of the loot, Marvin no longer needed to stay in the mine.

After checking the surroundings one more time to make sure that he hadn't missed anything, he started going back toward the mine entrance.

He didn't meet any earth spirits this time.

But he soon found out that when he arrived, everyone at the camp was already awake, and fully prepared for battle!

Most of the adventurers were hiding in gaps in the walls by the mine entrance, or behind obstacles in the camp.

Only the White River Valley garrison members were standing behind the fortification, ready to fight.

Far away in the darkness, a torch was raised. A few flickering glowing eyes could be seen along with it.

The gnolls had arrived!

...

'They came so fast!'

'I thought it would take them at least until noon tomorrow. I didn't expect that gnoll Sorcerer to be so decisive. They actually came before dawn.'

Marvin quietly and stealthily walked to Anna's side. He made some inquiries to understand the situation.

This pack of gnolls had rushed here and just arrived.

Fortunately both rangers were on lookout at the time, one of them an archer named Joey.

Joey had the same class. However, he had an innate specialty: [Farsight].

His eyes were very sharp. He was even able to detect the stealthy gnoll scouts in the dark.

It was thanks to this guy's formidable power that they were able to avoid being sneak attacked!

Reportedly, there were four gnoll scouts stealthily approaching the camp.

But Joey reacted and ruthlessly shot them down!

This made Marvin have a whole new level of respect toward him.

These guys had some skills indeed.

"He used a six-arrow scatter shot; of them four arrows hit their targets," Anna whispered. "This kind of marksmanship is rarely seen even among pureblood elves."

Marvin nodded.

He didn't need Anna to say a lot, as he also knew that this kind of ability was outstanding.

Also, apart from [Farsight], Joey definitely had another amazing specialty or he wouldn't have been able to do that.

'Such a talented person, ah...' Marvin had this thought.

"What do we do now? After the gnolls' sneak attack failed, they decided to be cautious and didn't attack again," Anna asked, whispering.

She made the adventurers hide in the mine, where the gnolls couldn't see.

That way they only displayed a part of their strength, the garrison team members and Joey.

This was a very smart move.

"Roughly how many gnolls?" Marvin asked.

As there was no moonlight tonight, his vision was around 0. Unable to see the amount of enemies was normal.

"I don't know." Anna gravely shook her head.

Their group only consisted of ordinary humans with no dark vision.

Joey only had relied on his perception to notice the scouts, nothing more. He wasn't able to tell how many gnolls were eyeing them.

"It doesn't matter, we can wait. It'll be dawn soon. If I'm not wrong, this pack of gnolls will attack after dawn!"

"We follow the original plan," said Marvin after thinking it over.

After saying that, he found a bunker and took a proper rest.

. . .

Why would the gnolls attack after dawn?

It's simple. Their eyes were similar to those of wild wolves. In the middle of the night they would glow with a weak green light.

And humans are able to completely hide themselves in the dark.

Thus, they would turn into live targets if they failed to sneak attack. They would suffer a lot more.

That gnoll Sorcerer wasn't a fool. On the contrary, a Sorcerer able to control a tribe was usually very clever.

He would certainly not waste the lives of his own subordinates.

They would attack after dawn. It was the best alternative.

Little had he imagined that Marvin had already set up a bigger trap.

...

Everything went just as Marvin expected. With the failure of the sneak attack, they didn't have to worry about the gnolls attacking.

They were resting and reorganizing outside the northern part of the mine. Aside from a few mutated aardwolves howling from time to time, the rest of the gnoll troop was waiting.

This kind of situation was actually quite rare.

Because it didn't match the gnolls' characterics.

Marvin was actually quite happy about this because those always unruly gnolls being organized like this meant one thing.

That gnoll Sorcerer was among their formation.

'That guy came. Don't even think of leaving!'

Marvin was quite excited, even though he was still taking a nap.

A 1st rank Ranger killing a 2nd rank Sorcerer was actually quite challenging, let alone on a chaotic battlefield.

Thinking of this made his blood boil. Even with Marvin's strength and experience, he also needed some luck.

But if it actually failed, Marvin still had a way out.

He had faith in his skill and strength, but he had even more faith in his brain.

In Marvin's opinion, a real expert would never hesitate when fighting.

Rather, he would firmly raise his weapon, while having already thought several moves in advance...

Marvin was definitely that kind of person.

٠..

Time slowly passed by and dawn was about to arrive.

The garrison members picked up their weapons one by one and made battle preparations. They were mostly in charge of close ranged battle. There were only two archers among them.

After all, archer training had high cost, and they still needed to be born with talent. And as for expenses... Arrows were quite expensive.

Fortunately, Joey was also an archer. Not only did that guy have impressive shooting techniques, he could also provide a large amount support.

The gnolls in the distance began to get restless.

Suddenly, six aardwolves howled and broke away from the gnolls' formation, charging at the frontline!

"A greedy one indeed!"

"He actually wants to use aardwolves to take care of our frontline, destroying our defenses in one move."

An idea popped into Marvin's head.

Indeed, mutated aardwolves' charging power was quite astonishing, but Marvin already had a way to counter that!

He suddenly broke out into a sprint and shouted to Joey, "Help me find that Sorcerer hiding within the pack!"

If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc..), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Read Night Ranger - Chapter 44: Wall of Fire

Chapter 44: Wall of Fire

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The battle had already started. The gnolls took the initiative to start the fight.

Just as the first lights of dawn could be seen, the six mutated aardwolves rushed forward. They were followed by a dense wave of gnolls.

Ordinary people would feel shivers running down their spine when looking at this.

Even though gnolls weren't that strong, those numbers were enough to overpower anything.

Without troops from River Shore City, it would be quite difficult to face those gnolls with only White River Valley garrison members.

Everyone was hiding behind the fortifications and holding their breaths.

They picked this mine entrance because it was the closest to the edge.

There was a hill on the left and a forest on the right, making it relatively easy to defend.

The garrison's young men were tightly clutching their weapons, ready to deal with any surprise attack coming from the gnolls.

The last time they were in this situation, Marvin had ordered them to retreat due to being heavily outnumbered.

But they couldn't retreat this time!

This was the only way for them to get back their homes!

. . .

"I need some time!"

Hearing Masked Twin Blades calling for him, Joey the archer didn't make things difficult. On the contrary, he was straightforward.

All veteran adventurers knew what to do in battle.

Although they agreed to let Marvin handle the gnoll Sorcerer, but he was only a lone Ranger. If he couldn't find his target, the hiding Sorcerer, the battle would turn quite troublesome.

Joey was indeed quite outstanding, or else he wouldn't have been able to become famous in River Shore City by only relying on himself.

His farsight specialty wasn't only used to restrain those using stealth. It was also extremely useful for reconnaissance!

Despite the lack of light, he soon found that short gnoll!

That peculiar short gnoll was standing in the southeast hill. He had a few dozens of guards protecting him.

They didn't charge with the others. They were merely standing there.

As for the other gnolls, they split into three waves and kept a fixed distance from each other while charging toward the human camp.

'Seems like that gnoll knows some military tactics!' Marvin thought. 'This guy really seems to have high intelligence.'

Usually, when gnolls attacked, it would be messy and disorganized. But they seemed a lot more organized under the Sorcerer's orders.

This wouldn't be easy to handle.

Under Joey's directions, Marvin also quickly found the Sorcerer.

As long as he was able to kill that gnoll, the battle would become a lot more simple.

But there was a problem.

They were quite far from each other. Marvin was hiding in the camp and that cunning Sorcerer was quite far in the southeast hill.

And he also had guards.

Stealth would definitely not work. This Sorcerer had the eye of pain, so anyone using Stealth around him would be in for a lot of trouble.

"Joey, help me!" Marvin thought hard, and then called out to the archer.

The latter straightforwardly rushed to Marvin's side.

He moved very carefully and wasn't noticed by the gnolls.

"I'll go kill that gnoll Sorcerer."

"But I need your help. First we have to approach from behind."

"Can you use Stealth? Never mind, we don't really need to get too close. The eye of pain has a range." Marvin quickly explained his battle plan.

After hearing the plan, Joey thought about it for a short moment and felt it was doable.

Marvin waved at Anna, and then the two used stealth and left from the eastern part of the camp.

• • •

As for the front line of the battlefield, the six rushing mutated aardwolves would soon reach the camp.

"Is that woman, Anna, frozen in fear?"

"The time has come and she still hasn't called for us?"

Inside the mine, Cat was looking at the situation and was somewhat unable to hold back.

Everyone else in the Lynx team was also restless.

In their eyes, White River Valley garrison would simply be unable to resist this assault.

If they collapsed, they would also fall into a crisis.

They should have been sent to kill those gnolls in one breath.

Why hadn't Anna given the order yet?

This made them quite puzzled.

However, Gru, the other captain was actually very calm.

He kept watching the situation while holding onto his heavy sword. He only said one sentence to his restless team members:

"Wait a bit more."

The Bramble members immediately relaxed.

After experiencing a lot of battles, they had total trust in their captain's words.

Since their captain told them to wait a bit more, there was definitely no issue.

But they were also quite curious. When those from White River Valley built the fortification yesterday, a few of them had disappeared for some time. What they did was unknown.

How would they stop those seemingly unmatched aardwolves?

•••

They quickly had their answer.

Just as the aardwolves were about to charge on the fortifications, Andre who had been watching the situation, suddenly shouted, "Cut it!"

"Slam!""Slam!"

A few sounds started echoing in the forest!

Everyone blankly looked to the side.

At that time, the reckless adventurers paid attention, unaware of when it had started. The two big trees near the mine entrance had a few ropes attached.

The ropes were tied to other big trees.

Andre just ordered those two garrison members hiding in the woods to cut those ropes.

"Snap!"

The two big trees began to tilt!

And surprisingly, they were falling in the direction of the battlefield!

The mutated aardwolves were startled and attempted to slow down, but their previous speed was extremely fast. How could they suddenly slow down that easily?!

Two breaths later, those two big trees hit the ground with a loud sound!

"Rumble!"

Dust flew everywhere.

The ground was shaking!

. . .

"That's why!"

"Those two trees were cut down before and were only remained standing thanks to the ropes. That pack of gnolls didn't pay attention to this. Serves them right."

"The one who thought of this tactic is really a genius."

Verne's eyes were shining while giving out praises.

The other adventurers were also showing admiration. For them, getting rid of their opponent without fighting was the most beautiful thing in the world.

...

The big trees falling down frightened the gnolls!

Wails could be heard coming from the rushing mutated aardwolf in the frontmost position, due to being flattened by those falling trees.

The aardwolf directly behind was also not able to stop on time and his head burst open from knocking against the tree at such a speed.

Unfortunately, the rest of the aardwolves had some good luck. They managed to slow down and attempted to jump on the thick trees!

But at that time, a garrison member threw a torch!

The torch fell on top of the tree. The tree trunk which was fully covered with pine grease immediately burst in flames!

Two fire walls were formed in an instant between everyone in the camp and the gnolls.

The two mutated aardwolves who had jumped on the trees ended up with their fur on fire.

The other two were scared to move forward.

As for the gnolls, they were even more frightened. They didn't know what they should do.

The humans on the other hand, were full of energy due to the great victory!

Anna lifted her sword and yelled, "Gru! Verne!"

"Move in!"

The two captains immediately rushed out from the mine.

The two mutated aardwolves who had jumped past the fire walls had just managed to avoid a calamity... But ended up surrounded and killed by the adventurers!

The tables have turned!

...

Outside the mine, White River Valley's garrison members tactics of chopping down the trees and setting them on fire attracted the attention of the gnoll Sorcerer.

The short and thin gnoll Sorcerer had a stunned expression on his face.

He didn't think the enemy would use this kind of strategy to block his attack.

He immediately roared a few times, taking advantage of his innate racial skill, [Communicator] to give new orders to all the gnolls.

The [Communicator] skill was a very rare innate skill. It would help the gnoll Sorcerer to issue better orders a lot faster.

Ignore the fire walls. Go around. All out attack!

These were his orders!

Under the gnoll Sorcerer's commands, a lot of gnolls found a path to follow and began an attempt at circumventing the wall of fire from the east side in order to attack the enemy camp.

But at that time, two stealthed people stopped 80 meters away from the hill.

"Almost there," Marvin whispered. "Any closer and he might notice us. Do your best to make it work."

The archer Joey silently took out his bow and said with a serious expression:

"I'll do my best."

If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc..), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Chapter 45: Earth Puppet

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The effect of the fire wall was quite obvious, blocking the gnolls' attack.

But this was just delaying the inevitable, and wouldn't injure the gnolls.

As gnolls kept pouring in from the east side gap, the pressure on the adventurers and the garrison kept rising.

But the fire wall at least created a relatively narrow and confined space, making the gnolls unable to swarm them.

In these kinds of circumstances, humans had the advantage due to being stronger.

Gru, as the captain of the bramble team, was naturally very talented.

He blocked most of the frontline by himself, each swing of his great sword ending two or more gnolls!

His strength was quite astonishing!

The other adventurers were also doing their own parts.

They all had their own skills. It might be hard to display on the battlefield, but this kind of small area would actually maximize their abilities.

This was something Marvin had thought about.

Adventurers really couldn't be used as an military troops, but they were quite efficient in small scale encounters.

Right now for example, they didn't even need the garrison. The Lynx and the Bramble teams were able to stop the gnolls together.

But this kind of resistance was only temporary.

Because even though the adventurers were strong, they would eventually run out of stamina.

The gnolls had the numerical advantage.

If there was no way to lower their morale... The human side would be defeated.

'You must make it!'

Anna pierced a gnoll's heart with her sword and cast a quick glance toward the east.

. . .

Joey's movements were very slow.

It was because even at this distance, quick movements might be noticed by that Sorcerer.

He didn't plan to sneak attack that Sorcerer. That would be useless.

This guy had a faint barrier around him. This kind of barrier that could alter the path of an arrow was an archer's bane.

And his eye of pain was an assassin's nemesis.

These two things made that gnoll Sorcerer quite difficult to kill.

To succeed, Marvin and Joey needed to have perfect coordination!

Joey took a deep breath and firmly nocked an arrow on the bow!

The wind was unsettled.

However, the gnoll Sorcerer's focus was completely locked on the battlefield.

He didn't seem to have noticed the two planning a stealthy attack.

"Lucky..."

Joey aimed and finally, let go of the arrow.

Woosh!

Joey was exposed when the arrow shot through the air.

The Sorcerer's guards immediately noticed something wrong, but at that time, the arrow had already flown past them.

The Sorcerer was startled, stumbling back half a step, but shockingly found out that the arrow was not targeting him.

On the contrary, the arrow was shot at a crooked angle and landed in front of his feet.

'Was that a really bad human archer?'

The Sorcerer's guards who were startled soon began to laugh at Joey's aim.

But the Sorcerer suddenly let out a weird roar!

He found out that there was a rope tied at the end of the arrow!

The Sorcerer also noticed that not far from there, roughly 60 meters away, there was a silhouette crawling on the ground.

Marvin quickly recited an incantation!

That seemingly ordinary rope was actually alive, detaching itself from the arrow and quickly twisting itself around the Sorcerer's legs!

Wishful Rope!

Even if it was only an uncommon item, if it was used cleverly during a battle, it could influence the outcome of the fight.

The Sorcerer turned pale with fear!

He mumbled a spell, trying to remove the binding rope.

But even though his casting speed was fast, Marvin was faster! He pulled on the rope and chanted another incantation! The rope immediately started shrinking! The Sorcerer stumbled, fell on the ground and was dragged by its legs. He arrived next to Marvin in less than two breaths. The gnoll guards were startled, and a loud roar could be heard. But it was already too late. Joey had a relaxed smile on his face. He drew his bow and started killing all the gnoll guards. "It's over." He thought. Marvin would never be lenient when facing a prey in his hands. The gnoll Sorcerer reacted fast, but not as fast as Marvin's twin daggers! A caster this close to a ranger in a fight would only have one end, death. "Thump! Thump! Thump!" Three dagger slashes broke the Sorcerer's barrier into pieces. Marvin slashed one more time with enough strength to cut the Sorcerer's throat! "Thud." The gnoll's neck was cut, but it sounded a bit weird. 'Hold on...' Marvin immediately felt something wrong! 'This Sorcerer's body...'

The next second, the gnoll Sorcerer started turning to dust. In an instant, it turned into a gnoll shaped earth puppet.

"Damnit!" Marvin cursed, "It's actually an earth puppet! Fuckin' Sorcerer! This was really crafty!"

Marvin hadn't killed the gnoll Sorcerer!

This was only an earth puppet with the face of the Sorcerer!

The real Sorcerer was still hiding among the gnolls.

Joey saw this scene and was shocked.

But at this time, numerous killing voices could be heard from the back of the hill!

A gnoll adjutant riding a mutated aardwolf led another aggressive gnoll unit over there to kill!

Their target was Marvin!

'We are screwed.' This was what Joey thought at that moment.

...

"Joey! You go back first!" Marvin yelled.

He made a prompt decision at the critical moment and gave the order.

Marvin was in too deep. He couldn't run away from the gnoll adjutant and his mutated aardwolf mount.

But Joey was far away, if he put his all in escaping, he might be able to escape and return to the camp.

The archer planned to turn away and run!

Since Masked Twin Blades said so, he wouldn't stay there for no reason.

The plan had failed.

That gnoll Sorcerer was really too crafty.

But before he ran away, he pointed at the center of that new gnoll army!

A faint flickering ray of light appeared, and suddenly a big imprint consisting of two swords crossed landed on a short gnoll's body.

That was the true gnoll Sorcerer!

Joey had displayed his own strength.

This mark was enough for Marvin if he still wanted to carry on with the execution.

After doing that, the archer no longer hesitated and immediately fled.

Only Marvin was left, alone against more than sixty gnolls!

Along with three mutated aardwolves and one Sorcerer.

...

There seemed to be trouble in the camp.

The fire wall was gradually weakening and the burning fire was slowly reducing, increasing the pressure on the human group.

In fact, many adventurers had paid attention to the situation when Joey shot the arrow.

They shouted happily when Marvin successfully used the wishful rope to grab the gnoll Sorcerer.

They thought they had already won.

The gnolls were nothing more than a pack of mobs without their gnoll Sorcerer commanding them.

They definitely won!

But they hadn't expected what happened next.

Even though it was far away and what happened was hard to see. But Joey turning around to flee along with another gnoll army emerging from the hill was bad news.

Masked Twin Blades failed!

This was what everyone thought.

The gnoll Sorcerer divided his army in two. The two previous attacks reckless attacks were nothing more than a bait

His goal was to force the humans' trump card out.

And he was clearly successful.

The adventurers looked dispirited.

They caught sight of Marvin standing alone at the bottom of the hill and facing more than sixty gnolls.

Only someone of the 2nd rank with outstanding defensive melee abilities would have a chance of surviving this kind of siege.

Ranger? Even if it was an all-rounder type of class, they were probably unable to deal with that kind of situation.

Even if it was Masked Twin Blades, he would still be screwed!

Verne's eyes looked everywhere, already thinking of a way to escape.

This mission had failed.

It wasn't that the human side was too bad. Rather, the gnoll Sorcerer was too cunning.

But even if the adventurers had nearly given up, White River Valley's garrison members had yet to give up!

They closely watched Marvin's back and Andre roared on an impulse, "Rush out to save him!"

Bramble team's captain unexpectedly nodded, "I agree."

He didn't wish for anything to happen to Masked Twin Blades. If his daughter really had caught the plague... Maybe even a high level priest wouldn't be able to cure her.

But at that time, Anna calmly said:

"Out of the question!"

"All of you defend this place."

"No one is allowed to set out."

Everyone looked at Anna, shocked.

Could she be planning on coldly watching Masked Twin Blades die in the mouth of a gnoll?

"Watch closely." Anna's voice was somewhat excited.

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Don't miss it."

If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc..), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Chapter 46: Peerless Ranger!

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Marvin stood alone at the bottom of the hill.

The gnolls were just like a violently surging tide.

They still hadn't rushed up to him, but he could already feel a gust of wind. If Marvin was an average person, he might have already fell to his knees, shivering!

But Marvin wasn't.

He stood like a strong reef inside that tide.

"Bang!"

His foot stepped on the earth puppet's head. The clay gnoll Sorcerer's head was smashed into pieces by him!

Under the mask, Marvin took a deep breath. By using some incredibly fast movements, he took out an unmarked bottle in a flash.

It was filled with some potion.

"Gulp gulp!"

Marvin took a sip from the bottle in an instant. His movements were fast and hidden, so the humans standing in the camp didn't notice.

They just saw Marvin tilting his head, apparently taking something out.

But the gnolls on the hill saw clearly.

And they didn't care.

Nothing more than a potion.

What could it do?

They were so many more of them, and that human... He was only a man, nothing more.

The gnoll adjutant riding on a mutated aardwolf roared, and all the gnolls excitedly rushed down.

Using the downhill speed made them look unstoppable!

Yet Marvin took out two daggers after taking a sip.

'Even though I didn't want to use it for this, it looks like I have no choice.'

'It is fortunate that there was enough potion for four portions. Else it would have been a waste.'

'Stupid and ignorants gnolls, it's time to end this!'

Marvin's blood began to boil.

Come on! The more the better!

Because more gnolls would simply mean more corpses, nothing more!

Thinking this far, he sent strength to his lower body and broke into a sprint. He looked like an arrow leaving a bow, rushing toward that gnoll army.

...

The human camp burst into an uproar!

This guy wasn't planning to flee; he actually wanted to kill his way in!

Who does he think he is? A 3rd rank Virtuous Diamond Martial Monk?

Even 2nd rank Fighters wouldn't dare doing that.

That was a whole army of gnolls. Fighting in the battlefield was different from a duel!

A random gnoll might be able to kill an expert in a war.

Adventurers didn't believe in miracles. They were only convinced in what they could see with their own eyes.

As for what Anna said, they totally ignored it. Masked Twin Blades, whose name had become famous recently, would die. This was quite a pity.

"Captain, shouldn't we retreat..."

A member of the Lynx team whispered.

But he suddenly turned quiet.

Because what he saw completely shocked him.

...

Marvin clashing with the gnoll army wasn't what the adventurers imagined, him quickly falling from the gnolls' numbers.

But instead, he was slaughtering his way through!

Marvin's actions were steady. Blood spurted when he swung his twin daggers. But what really made people speechless was that when he slashed for the first time, the heads of the first two gnolls rushing toward him flew into the air.

Their heads flew!

Those two gnolls weren't cut to pieces. Their corpses also flew like kites and smashed into the gnoll group, leading to chaos.

An empty area appeared in the gnoll army.

And Marvin himself was still kicking the ground to keep rushing forwards!

He looked like a whirlwind passing through the gnoll army!

The twin daggers in his hands were quickly and efficiently cutting down gnolls, harvesting their lives as if they were vegetables.

Every slash killed one gnoll. He was like a demon. Gnolls' swords, and even arrows couldn't get within his reach.

His speed and reaction had reached outrageous levels!

What felt the most terrifying was his strength which was completely crushing those gnolls!

Probably only Gru was able to do something like that among the adventurers!

But as a ranger, Marvin was actually able to.

The adventurers were speechless. They didn't know what to say.

"Damnit! Is he still a Ranger?" Verne's eyes were red and he couldn't help but curse!

'This is clearly a freak!'

But if Marvin was next to him, he would say with a deadpan face:

"This is indeed a Ranger, a peerless one!"

At this time, if someone told Verne that Masked Twin Blades was in fact a dragon using an advanced shape-shifting technique to turn into a human, he would definitely believe that person.

٠.,

"Eh!" Marvin shouted.

His ability to combo with his twin blades reached such a level that he didn't even need to focus on it.

Because every slash wouldn't just stab a gnoll to death, it would cut it and send it flying!

He was close to the strength of a 2nd rank fighter and his attack speed was at the level of a 2nd rank assassin!

Indeed, these were the heaven-defying effects of [Dragon Strength].

His attribute window already quickly changed.

Strength +6! Reaching 17!

Dexterity +4! [Chaotic Battlefield Expert] title added! Reaching a high 25 points!

25 dexterity would give another dexterity threshold specialty, [Uncanny Dodge]!

[Uncanny Dodge]: You are so fast that you seem illusory. Archers are unable to target you. Close range enemies Accuracy -3!

Don't look down on this "Accuracy -3." With gnolls already having low accuracy, this led to them being completely unable to hit Marvin.

Marvin looked like some kind of ghost inside the gnoll army, appearing and disappearing unpredictably and reaping their lives.

He looked like a true fighter, and any slash of his blade would be as simple as cutting a watermelon!

But fighters didn't have such a frightening attack speed!

Gru predicted that Masked Twin Blades would have the time to attack three times during the time he attacked once.

And only with that abnormal strength could he fight alone against sixty gnolls and a Sorcerer!

As the adventurers were resisting the gnolls attack, their mind was completely focused on Masked Twin Blades' side.

Anna said it would be fine, and this was a great show.

A ranger was actually able to fight like that?

They might not see anything like that in their whole life!

They had this feeling: 'Maybe that Masked Twin Blades could reverse the situation with his own strength!'

Marvin had already killed one third of the gnolls in just a minute of fighting!

Over 20! Dead from his efficient attacks!

And Marvin himself didn't receive a single cut!

This kind of achievement, no one would believe it!

"Hey... Ivan, you are a ranger too, right?"

A member of the Bramble team couldn't help but poke one of his teammates next to him. The latter speechlessly mumbled, "I am... Definitely a ranger."

"But are you sure that Masked guy is also a ranger?"

Everyone remained silent.

These low level adventurers had never encountered a kind of high-end potion like Dragon Strength. After all, Marvin had to risk his life in the dangerous scarlet monastery to steal this thing.

As for the garrison, they didn't think of it that much, but it did raise their morale!

Masked Twin Blades had already led them to avenge their Old Lord's killer, Miller. Now they firmly believed he could once again lead them to success.

...

In the battlefield, Marvin was moving like the wind, even a lot faster than the mutated aardwolves.

The gnoll Sorcerer overseeing the battle was also stunned.

He roared several times, and the adjutant on the mutated aardwolf brandished a thick wooden club, gnarling his way over.

'Courting death? Let me first get rid of a big one.'

'The potion lasts for 10 minutes anyway, so exterminating this pack of gnolls isn't an issue!' Marvin sneered.

He sprinted, his whole body looking as if he were flying.

"Bang! Bang!"

He leapt high in the air and stepped on the head of two gnolls caught by surprise, adjusting his body in a flash.

This was why Marvin loved this kind of class!

Once dexterity reached a high level, you could move like a wuxia character.

He didn't really pay much attention to those gnoll fighters.

His body was gliding in the air for a moment, when he suddenly threw something with his right hand!

Wishful Rope!

Marvin chanted the incantation and the wishful rope tied itself around the adjutant's right hand!

Marvin gave a sharp pull!

The gnoll adjutant's strength was still quite good, managing to stay stable by using the help of the mutated aardwolf.

But it didn't matter!

Marvin quickly chanted another incantation and the rope abruptly shrunk. He avoided two arrows and ruthlessly threw himself toward that gnoll adjutant!

The adjutant was also decisive. His right hand was bound by the wishful rope, so he released the reins with his left hand and took out a dagger from his waist before ruthlessly thrusting it toward Marvin!

If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc..), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Chapter 47: Reason for switching weapons

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The gnoll Adjutant's reaction time was faster than an ordinary person's by a whole level, but Marvin's was even faster!

After transmigrating, Marvin's biggest advantage compared to the other class holders was his control over his body!

An extremely tough soul that made him aware of every inch of his body.

He could adjust his body as he wished by quickly exercising control over it. Even though those minute adjustments used up a lot of stamina, and might cause minor injuries to his muscles and bones, there was no time to hesitate in a fight.

He tugged on the wishful rope, leaning his body backward, his legs abruptly coiling around the gnoll adjutant's left hand.

"Bang!"

The dagger fell to the ground, Marvin quickly thrusted his twin daggers in the aardwolf's back between the ribs!

"Roar!"

The aardwolf suddenly let out a painful roar, his whole body violently twitching. The gnoll adjutant turned pale with fright and lost his balance.

Marvin stood on both daggers, his left hand quickly reaching to his waist, drawing the Kingfisher Jade Dagger!

"Woosh!

As fast as lightning!

[Cutthroat]!

Using cutthroat from the front would definitely lower the success rate of the skill!

The gnoll adjutant tried his best to dodge it. He moved his head, trying to let the small amount of armor on his neck block the blow!

But it was no use!

The Kingfisher Jade Dagger's armor break skill, with its powerful armor penetration strength, made the dagger directly cut through that small steel section covering his throat.

Blood flew everywhere. The gnoll adjutant's carotid artery was cut open and much of the blood was sprayed on Marvin.

He looked like a devil, one foot trampling the corpse of the gnoll adjutant and the other on the squirming aardwolf!

"Wuwuwu..."

An extremely vicious mutated aardwolf was actually whimpering...

It was completely subdued by Marvin's aura!

For humans with their relatively low perception, aura might be something ethereal. But monsters could distinguish if someone was powerful thanks to their keen instincts.

The aardwolf wasn't just scared by Marvin's terrifying strength, he actually laid down on the ground.

Marvin ruthlessly pulled his twin daggers from the aardwolf's ribs and then put a dagger away.

The body shivered and then twitched to death.

A large empty area appeared around the aardwolf's dead body.

All the gnolls were retreating. They surrounded Marvin in the center while closely clenching their weapons. But their eyes were filled with fear.

The gnolls' morale already reached an extremely low point.

And they broke into an uproar; Marvin's incredible fighting strength made them afraid!

The gnoll adjutant was only second to the gnoll Sorcerer in the gnoll tribe.

His death in battle gave a large blow to the gnolls.

Normally, if something like this happened during a battle, most of the gnolls would flee.

Those fickle things were unreliable!

However, these gnolls didn't run this time.

Because they had a leader.

The gnoll Sorcerer!

...

'White River Valley will be back on foot as long as that gnoll Sorcerer is eliminated.'

'That gnoll Sorcerer is very sly, but he already used an earth puppet, so this is definitely his real body this time.'

'Not only do Sorcerers have a much lower mana pool than Wizards, but this one trained so many mutated aardwolves. This is definitely some kind of blood magic.'

Marvin grasped his twin daggers, coldly looking at the angry gnoll Sorcerer in the pack of gnolls.

The other side was also staring at him, unwavering.

Eye of Pain, Earth Puppet, Mutated Aardwolf Taming...

This guy shouldn't have many more powerful skills.

Marvin made a very clear estimation.

According to the results of his Inspect skill, this guy was a level 6 Sorcerer, he had just reached 2nd rank. A gnoll Sorcerer's charisma shouldn't be too high. Marvin estimated that his opponent shouldn't have learnt more than three powerful spells.

As for the basic spells, Marvin wasn't worried.

After thinking this far, Marvin burst into a sprint, aiming at that gnoll Sorcerer!

...

The gnoll Sorcerer truly didn't have more 2nd-circle spells.

As a level 6 Sorcerer he was able to learn 2nd-circle spells, but he learned [Earth Puppet] and [Wild Animal Taming].

These two 2nd-circle spells had no real attacking power, but they were quite good for developing a tribe.

But his fighting strength was actually really bad!

He already began panicking when Marvin charged toward him!

He kept using his Communicator skill to force other gnolls to block the path.

But he decided to flee for a reason.

His stats were really bad and his legs were short; he wouldn't be able to run away from this killing god!

His only plan was to hide in the crowd and try to use a 1st-circle magic to kill this ranger!

But unfortunately, this plan was doomed to fail.

Because before Joey the archer had fled, he put an eye-catching mark on top of the gnoll Sorcerer!

This mark was stuck on his head, he couldn't lift it!

Marvin was thankful for this mark or he would have had to go through all those gnolls to find that gnoll Sorcerer.

The Sorcerer was quite short after all. If he crouched... How could he be seen!

But with the mark showing the way, Marvin moved with an imposing God-Slaying Buddha-Slaughtering aura. More than ten gnolls would die in an instant.

Finally, he dashed in front of the gnoll Sorcerer!

There weren't many gnolls left blocking in front of the Sorcerer now.

Facing Marvin's frightening killing efficiency, the gnoll troops seemed to fall apart for the first time.

Although the gnoll Sorcerer ordered them using [Communicator], they still remained still!

Because Marvin already caused them to be under [Fear]!

The gnoll Sorcerer snarled. He suddenly extended his right hand and pointed toward Marvin!

But unexpectedly, Marvin, who had been sprinting all along, suddenly slowed down. He dodged to the side with a roll as if he had already expected the Sorcerer's move.

A claw of ice shot up from the ground, at Marvin's original position, hitting nothing.

The Sorcerer's casting speed was fast!

Especially for a 1st-circle spell.

This hand-shaped ice spike was effective for sneak attacks. Quick and ruthless, and also adding a freeze effect. This was the favorite spell of many casters!

Ordinary people would usually find it difficult to dodge.

But this masked person had managed to!

The gnoll Sorcerer shivered. This human was really too abnormal. The 1st rank estimated by his Inspect was definitely wrong!

That was definitely a 2nd rank powerhouse close to 3rd rank!

But what could he do now... He could only brace himself and keep using his remaining 1st-circle spells.

...

But in reality, Marvin's roll was a fluke.

Luckily he had lowered his speed!

Because even though his dexterity was really high, his perception stayed the same so he hadn't predicted this ice claw!

The reason he slowed down was because he suddenly found out that his twin daggers were bent!

'Those damned common weapons!'

Feinan didn't have a durability stats, but weapons and items would progressively wear down due to daily use.

If they weren't properly maintained, they could turn completely worthless.

Those curved daggers weren't anything good to begin with, as Marvin had found them barely good enough to cut down people.

But during that charge, Marvin killed a great deal of gnolls. His curved daggers in his hands bent out of shape due to being unable to bear Marvin's tyrannical moves.

He had planned to slow down and quickly switch weapons.

He unexpectedly sensed something fishy in front of him after slowing down, so he then rolled and avoided the claw shaped spike.

"Lucky, lucky..." Marvin whispered.

Luck was also very important in a fight.

He took advantage of the roll to ruthlessly throw the two bent daggers toward the gnoll Sorcerer!

Marvin didn't focus on the accuracy, but he scared the gnoll Sorcerer into jumping. He thought it was a [Throwing Knife] technique and actually used a [Leap] to dodge it.

But when he noticed that the two curved daggers were only something Marvin had discarded before taking two spare common curved daggers from his void conch...

He nearly fainted!

...

Everyone in the camp was speechless.

"Why did he switch daggers?"

The adventurers were hesitating.

Gru used [Sweep] on three harassing gnolls before taking a quick glance and said, unsure, "Maybe... The blades broke?"

They were all doubtful.

An expert like Masked Twin Blades would definitely not use common daggers. How could they have been broken?

But they didn't have time to find the answer, since Marvin had already arrived less than ten steps away from the Sorcerer.

The gnoll Sorcerer clenched his teeth and took a step forward, spreading both hands!

A big mass of green liquid took shape in the sky!

An [Acid Spray] spell!

If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc..), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Chapter 48: Disciplinary Knights

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Even if a magic like acid spray was only a 1st-circle magic, it still inflicted a lot of negative effects.

Skin would blister so much that it would putrefy. If it got in the eyes, it could even make someone permanently blind!

This was a caster's horrifying strength. Even if it was a 1st-circle spell, it still had quite a bit of firepower!

But Marvin was already prepared for it.

At low level, acid spray was the second favorite spell of Sorcerers and Wizards, the first being Circle of Ice.

Marvin tilted his body and simply rolled away, dodging the acid spray.

"Bang!"

As he evaded, he stunned a gnoll standing nearby with the handle of the dagger, sheathed it, grabbed the gnoll, and held it in front of him while he ran toward the Sorcerer!

The gnoll Sorcerer was really panicking this time!

Marvin's actions were quite obvious, using that gnoll as a shield!

An Arcane Missile flew toward them.

"Bang!"

Marvin swiftly threw the gnoll at the Arcane Missile to block it.

Marvin suddenly sped up, reaching a ghost-like speed, and finally reached the Sorcerer!

Cutthroat!

Even though the gnoll Sorcerer was wearing a low level mana armor, it would directly crumble in front of the powerful cutthroat.

This move fiercely sliced the Sorcerer's head due to Marvin's 17 strength.

It was like a hoe in a vegetable field!

The gnoll Sorcerer's neck was missing a part, from which blood was spurting. The gnolls in the surroundings were thoroughly stunned!

Their leader died like that?

Though, they'd all had a faint premonition when Marvin charged to the Sorcerer.

But when it became reality, they still received quite a bit of shock.

Even a pack of dragons without a leader would turn chaotic, let alone a pack of gnolls!

As for the human side, they burst into a loud cheer!

The archer Joey was also displaying a proud expression. After all, without his mark, Marvin wouldn't have killed that gnoll Sorcerer that easily.

He also contributed to this!

...

The next instant, a bloody Marvin revealed two daggers.

He didn't wait and kept fighting, thoroughly taking care of the remaining gnolls!

They began to scatter and flee toward the castle, frightened!

'Still one minute of Dragon Strength left...'

'Can't miss this pack of exp!'

Marvin had never been soft-hearted. He roared and started swinging his daggers!

These gnolls were thoroughly defeated!

٠..

The gnolls in the camp also turned into a mess.

They began to flee and throw their armor and helmets away!

"We chase!" Anna decisively ordered.

Now was the time!

They had to take advantage of the gnolls fleeing to pursue and behead a few more.

Andre roared and all White River Valley garrison members took the lead in chasing after them!

Then the adventurers followed. They didn't really mind something like chasing gnolls.

In any case, these things had already turned into headless chickens. Their morale was pitifully low and their resistance was merely a front; they were only waving their weapons in panic.

Even though there was a huge difference in numbers, a massacre had already begun.

Of course, even if this side of the battlefield was a slaughter, they didn't have Marvin there!

The adventurers and the garrison all saw Marvin chasing more than thirty screaming gnolls, alone!

His speed was frightening, and the short-legged gnolls couldn't outrun him!

Dagger rising, dagger plunging!

Repeating the same action over and over again.

Corpses were spread across the hill a few minutes after!

Not one escaped. They all became dead bodies.

This was Masked Twin Blades' strength!

They were all deeply shocked!

He stood alone on top of the hill, motionless. They couldn't clearly see his expression.

But the eyes of all those onlookers were full of reverence!

It was thanks to his strength that they turned the battle around.

He first killed his way into the army and created an empty spot inside. He then beheaded the gnoll adjutant. Finally, he took advantage of the chaos to forcefully eliminate the gnoll Sorcerer.

This achievement was amazing enough.

'Such an abnormal guy…'

'That young White River Valley noble definitely can't invite this kind of powerhouse. Looks like Masked Twin Blades didn't trick me...'

'That guy really has someone more powerful behind him.'

Cat was killing gnolls on the side, absent-mindedly looking at Masked Twin Blades.

He was suddenly deeply worried.

Because just two days ago, he had stealthily sent a carrier pigeon.

That pigeon flew toward River Shore City.

If he didn't get the time wrong, that person should have sent people over...

'I hope it's a 2nd rank class holder, at least two of them, or more.'

Otherwise Cat would really feel frightened.

Masked Twin Blades was quite fierce, he wouldn't overreach himself, right?

But things already reached this point. He also didn't have any other way. Since he had already sided with that person, he had to take some risks.

Being an adventurer for a lifetime was definitely not his goal.

. . .

The majority of the gnoll Fighters were soon killed by the humans. The gnolls became defenseless when they started fleeing.

They weren't particularly fast, so only a few gnolls managed to escape.

As the war completely settled, White River Valley's recovery was a success!

Under Anna's orders, everyone took a quick rest and burnt the gnoll corpses.

They then kept moving toward the castle.

Most of the gnolls inside the castle didn't have any fighting ability.

They were all elderly or young.

Their fighters had already been cleanly eliminated. And their leader had already been beheaded by Marvin.

This only left them with one end. Death!

This world was this ruthless.

In wars between races, they wouldn't leave any seed behind. Even if it was a newborn, they would also cut off its neck.

This was even more of a massacre than the earlier pursuits.

It was already common for the adventurers.

As for the garrison, they had been living in Feinan world since they were born, so they naturally knew this kind of rule. Moreover, the gnoll invasion had also caused a lot of civilian casualties.

They had no reason to show mercy.

More than two hundred gnolls were tied up before being slaughtered.

Their corpses were piled up on the hill and completely burnt in a raging fire in the middle of the night. There were still some embers left the next morning.

"We won!"

"We made it!"

"We are home!"

Standing on the castle walls, the White River Valley garrison members were crying tears of joy.

Even if the castle and the surrounding farmhouses were still deserted, they knew that those civilians that left to take refuge in the mountain would soon return after their lord called!

White River Valley would definitely recover its past glory!

The adventurers rested for the night and were also full of vitality. They stood on the walls, enjoying the morning breeze.

Anna just settled their commission, and there were no casualties. This mission was really worth it.

The reward of a mission with no casualties would normally be quite average.

But the casualties of this mission had disappeared thanks to Masked Twin Blades!

The most serious injury was a White River Valley garrison member who had gotten a sprain because he was too excited when he chased and stepped on a gnoll head.

The rest was slight pulled muscles, bruises and other such things.

This kind of enjoyable task, with large rewards and not too dangerous battle, adventurers wouldn't see them often.

"Many thanks for helping us."

Anna emotionlessly said to the adventurers, "I now formally announce that everyone has fulfilled their duty. You can leave at any time."

"We will of course welcome you, should you wish to stay. But you'll have to comply with White River Valley rules."

The three solo adventurers left after receiving their money, as they had no interest in White River Valley.

As for the two teams, they stayed.

Cat squinted, looking in the distance, apparently waiting for something.

Soon, a few shadows appeared in the distance.

It was a few knights!

"Where are those knights coming from?" Anna frowned. "Andre!"

"Got it!"

Andre gave a meaningful glance to one of the garrison members.

The latter immediately drew a bow, swiftly aimed at those oncoming knights and shot three arrows!

These guys had quite ordinary shooting skills, not as good as Joey's when it came to long range. But it was still useful as a warning!

Sure enough, due to the warning arrows, the three knights slowed down and slowly arrived at the bottom of the castle's hill.

One knight among them walked in front and loudly yelled, "We are River Shore City's [Disciplinary Knights]!"

"We have come to catch the wanted criminal [Masked Twin Blades]!"

"We hope that everyone would not obstruct us from carrying out the law!"

If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc..), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Chapter 49: Overlord Dignity!

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Arresting Masked Twin Blades?

The few knights' words created a commotion on the walls.

River Shore City actually dispatched disciplinary knights?

Wasn't this too ridiculous?

Disciplinary knights were troops directly under the wizard regiment's chief. They were tougher than the patrols.

River Shore City's disciplinary knights troop didn't have more than twenty members, but every single one of them was a peak 2nd rank expert.

Dispatching three of those?

This was definitely not to arrest an evil follower...

All the members of the Bramble team were shocked. Gru was staring at Cat.

The latter was calm. He was sneering inwardly.

While Masked Twin Blades was threatening him, of course he would listen. But despite Masked Twin Blades' backing, he also had the backing of that person in some way, and his position was quite high.

He was ready to gamble!

He obviously didn't want to participate in the intrigues of the upper layer of River Shore City, but giving information could lead to a huge reward. Why shouldn't he do it?

As for Masked Twin Blades' retaliation, ahahahah, such a joke. Masked Twin Blades was quite strong, but he still hoped to escape three disciplinary knights?

Surely not!

Thinking of this, he couldn't help but show a complacent expression.

His eyes suddenly twitched. What about Masked Twin Blades? He was just standing there, how did he suddenly disappear?

Not waiting for Cat's reaction, a weak but firm voice echoed from the depth of the castle:

'Disciplinary Knights? Are the disciplinary knights free right now?"

"When my White River Valley was occupied by the gnolls, where were you?"

"Where did your oath of loyalty toward the wizard alliance go?"

'White River Valley is my territory. You trespassed into my territory and still think of capturing someone? This is a grave violation of the wizard alliance regulations!"

"Your actions have already seriously offended me! I don't know who urged you to do this, but I'll now ask you this. Get the fuck out of my territory!

Words kept pouring, each one harsher than the previous.

A pale, thin and weak youth appeared on the castle walls. He looked like he was recovering from a serious illness.

It felt like a gust of wind could blast him off the walls.

However, he was standing perfectly straight. The three knights below could clearly hear his loud and clear voice!

Their faces changed!

"My Lord!"

"My Lord!"

"My Lord, when did you come back!?"

The garrison members immediately rushed over!

They thought Marvin was still in River Shore City waiting for their good news.

They didn't expect that Marvin had already arrived inside the castle!

Cat looked at Marvin who just arrived, cursing his bad luck.

'This young noble is smart!'

'He should have been following us all along. He probably entered the castle yesterday night, covered by Anna and the others!

As for Masked Twin Blades, he likely had been told to escape!

'I'm done for!'

Verne covered his head. A swift mind like his already knew what would happen next!

...

Marvin was indeed a destitute noble.

But nobility was still nobility.

In River Shore City, he became penniless due to losing his territory. Even gangs and casino dared to bully him.

The city hall dared to fool him because of this too. 'Unable to keep your own territory, even if you are a noble, so what?'

'River Shore City isn't your territory, you have no authority here.'

But it was different in White River Valley.

This was Marvin's territory!

Marvin had the most authority in this land. This power was bestowed upon him by the wizard alliance.

Any attempt at challenging the overlord's decisions would be a provocation toward the south wizard alliance!

No one would dare to do something like this!

Even those disciplinary knights with extremely high status in River Shore City wouldn't dare to.

White River Valley and River Shore City had no relation with each other. White River Valley was completely independent. Even if it was a warrant from River Shore City's Lord, Marvin could choose to ignore it!

Because this territory belonged to his grandfather, a hard-working high level wizard. The south wizard alliance would safeguard Marvin's power!

Because of the wizards' supreme rule, at least for now, not many people dared to take risks for a bit of benefit.

The three disciplinary knights immediately turned flabbergasted.

Their backer seemed to have underestimated White River Valley's young baron.

The latter was not only not as weak as the stories said, he was also guite unyielding!

Their group rushing in without Marvin's permission was definitely an offense to avoid.

Want to arrest someone in White River Valley? Without Marvin's permission, it was simply impossible!

The three men looked at eacher in dismay, somewhat angry.

But they had no other way. Even if the castle gates were closed, they could still use their strength and kill their way in. Furthermore, they could act together with the Lynx team.

But they didn't dare!

This was an overlord's dignity!

It came from the era of wizard supremacy!

Since the Calamity had yet to come, Marvin could definitely scare people using his connections!

...

The three disciplinary knights were silent for a moment before one of them yelled, "Baron Marvin, Masked Twin Blades is a very dangerous criminal..."

He was forcefully interrupted by Marvin, "I haven't seen the official warrant from River Shore City's city hall!'

"I only saw an anonymous warrant in the major guilds. This kind of warrant, as long as they were wealthy, anyone could do it, right? As I see it, Sir Masked Twin Blades has earned the hatred of a very wealthy family."

"But I don't care about these kinds of things. You can look for Masked Twin Blades elsewhere if you want to catch him. This is my territory. He is welcomed like any civilian, craftsman, or merchant."

Stopping there, Marvin feigned a severe coughing fit, and then added in a strict tone, "Leave!"

"We just cleared the gnolls and quite a lot of work is left to be dealt with."

"When I was at my worst, River Shore City didn't give me any help."

"So, from now on, White River Valley will not welcome any official from River Shore City!"

Those words shocked everyone!

Even Anna was startled!

Marvin's sentence was akin to breaking off diplomatic ties with River Shore City!

This wasn't a joke. Never mind the rest of the things, but when it came to food, White River Valley would buy from River Shore City every year!

How would they solve the food issue after breaking off diplomatic ties? How would they solve the trade issue?

This was a huge issue.

"Lord..." Anna wanted to say something.

Marvin waved his hand, pretending to be guite angry, "I already made my decision."

"I'll go rest now."

"If those three knights aren't willing to leave, I can use use the [Ninth Month Medal] to ask for a wizard alliance's arbiter."

He silently left after saying this.

Everyone on the wall was left dumbstruck.

The adventurers all showed different expressions. Gru was actually relaxed. He bet that Masked Twin Blades should be in the castle.

With Baron Marvin's unyielding attitude, those three disciplinary knights didn't dare to break in.

Sure enough, after hearing that Marvin was willing to use the [Ninth Month Medal], their faces immediately turned dark. They left without saying a word.

They had no way. They could only report this.

Those three knights were burning in anger. They had originally thought that it would be a piece of cake. But they didn't expect this young noble to actually be this tough.

They hadn't expected this kind of outcome at all.

But now that they thought about it, it seemed like this young noble had been quite bullied in River Shore City. Loathing the law enforcement and falling out wasn't surprising at all.

...

"Since our mission has already been completed, our team should also depart."

Verne had an ugly look on his face as he saw Anna's smile.

He didn't know whether Masked Twin Blades had already noticed him leaking information. But staying in the castle was clearly not a good idea.

Hurrying back to River Shore City was good.

'If I was really noticed by Masked Twin Blades...'

Thinking of this, Verne felt something cold on his back. He clearly saw Marvin fight sixty gnolls and one shaman by himself yesterday.

Even if his team was well equipped and tough, it wasn't worth mentioning when compared with Marvin.

Of course, he didn't expect that Marvin had actually taken a potion; he thought that Marvin had been hiding his strength.

"Of course, you are welcome to come back to White River Valley as a guest."

Anna lightly smiled, immediately releasing the Lynx team.

This was Marvin's idea. Even though she didn't know much about Young Master Marvin's plan, she still did as she was told.

In any case, ever since that serious illness, Young Master Marvin hadn't made any bad decisions.

The Lynx group left the castle.

Night arrived and the castle looked somewhat cold and desolate. After all, besides the garrison, there were only a few people.

Most of the territory's inhabitants were still in the countryside. Anna would send people early tomorrow to request those inhabitants to come back.

At that time, the reconstruction of White River Valley would start.

However, inside Marvin's study in the middle of the night, Bramble team's captain Gruwas restlessly and worriedly sitting in front of a desk.

An extremely thin and weak looking Marvin feigned surprise. "Is what you said true? Sir Masked Twin Blades already left?"

"He said that the way to solve your daughter's plague is in my study?"

Gru nodded heavily. Masked Twin Blades had said those things. He remembered quite clearly.

"Ah, that's great. I'll look through those books to see if by any chance there is something about a [Dark Sweet Poison]. You shouldn't worry; According to your statement, your daughter still has some time. I hope that I'll be able to find the relevant book during that time."

"Thank you for this Sir Baron!" Gru had a grateful look.

He left the room.

After a moment, Anna walked in from a side door and faintly asked, "Why not cure his daughter?"

Marvin quietly smiled, "I will."

"But not now."

It was obviously not the time. The dark sweet poison was the plague god's experiment. Curing it too early would attract the attention of the plague god.

Marvin didn't fear the gods, but he would also not brainlessly turn this into an antagonistic situation.

Especially now that he had a lot on his hands.

First, he had to solve the food shortage issue.

T/N - Overlord is a landed lord/feudal lord.

If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc..), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.

Read Night Ranger - Chapter 50: The Awakened White River Valley

Chapter 50: The Awakened White River Valley

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Early morning, in the dense forest next to the castle.

A figure was travelling back and forth in the forest.

"Whoosh!"

Shadows swiftly flew out from Marvin's hands!

"Tuff!"

All the shadows hit the circles on the great trees in the dense forest.

But while some were relatively accurate, some were on the edge of the circles.

Marvin stopped after throwing a set of dart in one breath and meticulously looked at the battle logs.

'Even though dart is the easiest hidden weapon to to master, my accuracy is still a little low.'

'Accuracy is a bit tied to strength. Even if my dexterity is quite good, I've seldom used long range weapons. All hidden weapons take some training to be able to be used effectively.'

'But I should be able to reach 30 SP if I keep at it for a while.'

Marvin silently looked at [Hidden Weapons – Dart (24)] in his skill list and was somewhat speechless.

The most valuable thing he gained from the Scarlet Monastery was definitely that Dragon Strength potion. But this – Introduction to hidden weapons – was actually pretty good. Marvin learned three hidden weapons skills from it.

The three skills were:

[Hidden Weapons – Dart (24)]

[Hidden Weapons – Throwing Knife (5)]

[Hidden Weapons – Flying needle (5)]

Aside from the darts, Marvin would lose some accuracy with the other hidden weapons, even if he used the skill.

This was the result of Marvin using the noble skill [Quick Study]. His hidden weapon talent was quite average so he picked the easiest to learn.

Because he was reluctant to use his valuable skill points on hidden weapons, Marvin insisted on training his dart skill every morning.

Thirty sets of twenty darts every day. Twenty sets in the morning, and ten in the evening.

Marvin's dart skill rose quite fast due to the intensity and amount of time he spent on it. After all, he already had a good dexterity base.

But in the end, hidden weapons were long range offensive weapons, and he wasn't making a lot of progress on accuracy.

For someone like Marvin who was fond of "One strike, One kill", he wasn't really satisfied with that.

Apart from practicing darts, Marvin's strength also increased from the great amount of gnolls killed during the expedition.

During the battle to recover White River Valley, Marvin got 2194 battle exp, the earth spirits included.

He had already reached ranger level 5 and met the conditions to advance. But to reach level 6 ranger, he needed 4800 exp.

It was quite clear that the gnolls couldn't meet his advancement needs.

So he thought about it for a while and decided to put 1000 battle exp into [Shadow Steps].

It was the same as [Cutthroat]: due to Marvin repeatedly using the action in battle, he could use battle experience to turn it into a personal skill.

Shadow Steps and Cutthroat formed the phantom assassin's signature combo, second only to Desperate Strike.

After Marvin used 1000 exp, a new skill appeared in his skill list:

[Shadow Steps (30)]

Shadow Steps not being as high as Cutthroat was quite normal. Even though Marvin had practiced this kind of footwork when he was playing the game, it wasn't done as accurately as cutthroat, so it was impossible to completely emulate it. But 30 points in Shadow Steps was enough to use it.

Now Marvin was completely able to use [Stealth] or [Hide] + [Shadow Steps] + [Cutthroat], a powerful assassination skill.

These skills made his assassination abilities not at all inferior to the assassin path of the thieves. And his melee abilities were a lot stronger than ordinary rangers. Coupled with his battle experience, even without dragon strength potion, Marvin had confidence in fighting any 2nd rank expert.

"Tuff"! "Tuff!""Tuff!" Darts kept flying out.

Time quickly passed, and all the darts in his hands had soon been all thrown.

Numerous darts were stuck on circles on the surrounding big trees.

This was today's final round of training.

Marvin picked up all the darts, and then ran in the castle from a side door.

. . .

It was four days after White River Valley recovery.

Just as Marvin expected, the disciplinary knights that were sent away didn't come back to look for trouble. And the people harboring evil intentions were apparently also shocked by Marvin's boldness. There were no signs of movement from them for the time being.

Marvin knew that even if they had plans, they could only set them up secretly.

This was the era before the Great Calamity, the era of the wizard alliance. Aside from guarding for a possible assassination, the rest wouldn't be a problem.

And after those gnolls were thoroughly expelled, White River Valley gradually began to regain its past atmosphere.

Anna led half the garrison and they worked tirelessly, visiting each house in Green Village, Fog Village, Coiling Water Lake and other places. They invited those civilians who had fled, terrified from the gnolls to come back.

The village at the bottom of the castle town gradually became thriving with people again. All the originally abandoned farmhouses were once again cleanly put in order and the farmers began to come back.

Craftsmen and artisans took their children back to the castle town.

The current White River Valley was no different from the other territories. The core was naturally the overlord and the overlord's people.

Marvin and Anna lived in the deepest part of the castle, with garrison members guarding the outside.

Also, all kinds of craftsmen and artisans lived outside the castle, in the city. They groomed their children as apprentices, and they would inherit their parents' occupations and become tailors or maybe masons.

Farmers were outside the walls. There were also some peddlers, but these sly guys would often be thieves.

Looking at it from above, Marvin's castle town was surrounded by cliffs, with a grove on the side.

There was a lone rock bridge in the south with a man-made canal below. The canal drew water from the White River. The water was quite deep and some pikes were placed inside, pointing up.

Anyone that fell in would definitely not have a good end.

Farmhouses were at the bottom of the castle town. The farmhouses spread apart from each other were still considered as just starting. It was quite difficult to grow crops in the vast stretches of barren soil, except wheat or maybe okra¹.

The White River in the distance was just like a belt flowing through the White River Valley, this vast yet unfertile land.

The northern mine could still be seen from the top of the castle town walls.

The White River Valley curled around the west of the northern mine and it had an abandoned wharf.

This was White River Valley.

An unfertile rural territory.

But Marvin still had to protect it with his life.

The sun slowly rose as people began their work.

Fortunately, Marvin managed to drive out the gnolls on time or he would have delayed the summer cultivation. If that happened, the already awful food shortage would have turned even worse.

"It's time to work."

Marvin ate breakfast, changed and returned to his study.

Anna was already there waiting.

After successfully recovering White River Valley, Marvin had fulfilled the youth's wish, and the last fragment of soul dissipated.

But his oath to the youth hadn't changed.

He would guard this place. He was totally confident in his ability to do this!

After accepting the 1000 general exp, his quest menu turned empty.

This made Marvin somewhat surprised but it wasn't the most important thing right now.

...

"The food shortage? I can settle this issue," Marvin softly said to the anxious Anna.

He was discussing the territory's situation with Anna while skillfully writing a decree with his quill.

There were too many documents that need to be handled for the reconstruction of the White River Valley.

But Marvin was dealing with it smoothly. Even if he wasn't someone working in administration in his previous life, he was quite smart. The small White River Valley still had to deal with crooked and no-good travelers.

He released five overlord decrees in one breath.

1st Decree. White River Valley's garrison recruitment decree. Any man of age in any village in White River Valley may enlist in the garrison. This would mainly be overseen by Andre.

Marvin intended to enlarge the garrison; twenty men were indeed too few. For the two thousands people in White River Valley, the garrison needed at least fifty people.

Marvin wasn't lacking in funds. He had brought out enough money from the inner area of the scarlet monastery to provide for the garrison for many years.

2nd Decree. It encouraged the inhabitants to raise livestock. Marvin found out that White River Valley's south pasture fields were especially fitting to herd livestock. It had not been developed in the past due to the threat of gnolls and wild animals. Now, with Marvin increasing his territory's military force, this should be able to safeguard it. Every household herding livestock would have a certain allowance.

3rd Decree. Recruiting artisans, craftsmen and merchants. They would give energy to the territory.

4th Decree. Also a recruitment decree, but it was for class holders, especially those who had army experience. Marvin needed some people with leadership experience or adventuring experience to lead the new garrison members. This recruiting decree gave out some generous rewards, and even made Gru and the others interested.

5th Decree. It was a repair decree. Marvin hoped for the farmers and some craftsmen to send some people to repair White River Valley's abandoned wharf.

This was a time consuming and large scale engineering project. Anna thought it was unwise.

But Marvin had his own reasons. Under his urging, the five decrees were issued.

White River Valley was shocked for a while. The overlord hasn't taken this many actions in a row for quite a long time.

...

This was a very inspiring feeling.

Marvin could feel the change.

The next day, when he stood on the wall, watching the faces of the people coming and going, he could feel some kind of energetic atmosphere.

This made him feel especially satisfied. This was a completely different kind of achievement from dealing a killing blow.

A flute's melody could suddenly be heard in the distance.

Marvin focused on it; the tune came from the windmill of the former castle town bakery.

The melody was quite familiar, Marvin recalled this song name from his deepest memories.
– White River Valley Awakening. –
The fragrant aroma coming from the bakery, the distant crystalline and silvery river.
Marvin took a deep breath.
So beautiful.
But suddenly, rushed footsteps could be heard behind him!
Anna's anxious voice also followed:
"Young Master Marvin! Something bad happened!"
"Young Master Wayne was cursed by someone in Magore Academy! He is now bedridden and unconscious!"
Marvin turned around, clenching his fists.
1 - Okra, also known as ladies' fingers or ochro. It's a green vegetable. (Never seen one here.)
If you find any errors (broken links, non-standard content, etc), Please let us know < report chapter > so we can fix it as soon as possible.