

## Level 4 Human in a Ruined World

### #Chapter 11 - Read Level 4 Human in a Ruined World

#### Chapter 11

##### **Chapter 11**

[Translator –

##### **Chapter 11: The Goblins Are Too Big (1)**

“Ar... Are goblins usually this big?”

Yeongwoo turned his head at Yechan’s trembling voice.

“...I wouldn’t know. It’s my first time seeing goblins up close too.”

Despite the somewhat silly conversation, there wasn’t a trace of laughter on their faces.

The reality of a two-meter-tall goblin standing right in front of them, whether a figment of their imagination or not, was undeniable.

And not only was it towering in height, but its arms were massive with muscles and veins protruding prominently. The armor covering its head, chest, and abdomen barely showed any space for a blade to penetrate.

‘This is problematic.’

Yeongwoo couldn’t shake the ominous feeling that perhaps his assumptions had been completely off the mark.

He stayed here under the assumption that the monsters wouldn’t be too powerful since hunting them was the only method of acquiring karma points.

But the present reality seemed to contradict that...

–Keeiik!

Soon enough, the group of goblins noticed Yeongwoo and Yechan, emanating a threatening stance.

“Sh-should we... fight?”

Yechan's question sounded almost like a scream, already devoid of any vigor.

Meanwhile, Yeongwoo tightened his grip on his shield, preparing to step forward.

"Is there any other way?"

Before Yeongwoo could finish his sentence, the goblins aggressively stomped the ground with their iron boots, charging towards them.

—Keeiik!

—Kirruk!

The intimidation from the twelve goblins, each standing at a towering two meters, was overwhelming.

With every movement they made, their colossal shadows overlapped Yeongwoo's and Yechan's, as if they had already begun the slaughter.

"Ah... Ah...!"

"...?"

Yechan's voice sounded peculiar, and as Yeongwoo turned to look, he saw the trembling grip on his spear.

Barely able to stand, legs not firmly planted on the ground, barely maintaining balance.

Seeing this, Yeongwoo felt a surge of dread course through his body.

"You idiot, are you out of your mind? Do you want to die here? Get a grip!"

Even if they fought with all their might, it was uncertain if they could prevail. Yet, despite Yeongwoo's urging, Yechan only wavered, showing no sign of taking action.

As a result, a string suddenly snapped in Yeongwoo's mind.

"Kang Yechan! Are you trying to commit suicide again?"

Then...

"Huh...?"

A startled Yechan glanced at Yeongwoo, wearing a complex expression.

He had understood what Yeongwoo had just said.

|Eliminations: February 1, 2039, 8:36 PM, killed a customer while working at a bar, then committed suicide.

It was his previous, or rather, original destiny written in the destiny records.

“Ah.”

Just as a glimmer of determination seemed to dawn in Yechan’s eyes, the goblins pounced on them.

–Kiieeek!

Without a chance to assess Yechan, Yeongwoo had to raise his shield in defense.

The colossal blade of an axe was hurtling straight towards his head.

Moreover, the Gumi Sword Technique, that usually activated whenever he was about to be attacked, was now failing to activate.

‘Is it only effective in one-on-one combat?’

In that split second when the future seemed murky, a resounding clang echoed.

Kkaaang!

The moment Yeongwoo gritted his teeth as he saw his future getting darker.

Clang!

The goblin’s attack rebounded off the outer rim of the shield.

‘Huh...?’

And then Yeongwoo realized.

‘It’s not as strong as I thought?’

Although his elbow was sore from the impact on the shield, it was not because he lacked strength.

It was simply because joints were not strong.

Right now, his strength and endurance had increased fivefold, but his durability remained unchanged.

Which meant...

'I don't lose the battle of strength...!'

Recalling the axe blade that had been effortlessly deflected, Yeongwoo swung his shield forward.

Whoosh! Thud!

The sound of metal striking metal reverberated.

Because of the goblin's towering height, the shield struck its upper chest plate instead of the head.

—Kkrruk!

Surprisingly, the missed strike was not entirely ineffective.

—Kyaaah!

The expression of the goblin visible inside the helmet contorted ferociously.

Then, Yeongwoo realized that the opponent's chest plate had been dented.

'This bastard is in so much pain that can't even move right now.'

Yeongwoo glimpsed a potential turnaround and his determination surged.

But the opponent was a group of twelve goblins, after all.

Whoosh!

A massive blade came flying from the right side in a brutish manner.

"...!"

Shivers ran down Yeongwoo's spine as he instinctively extended his Early Bird to assume a defensive posture.

Unconsciously, he tilted the blade similar to what the hologram of the Gumi Sword Technique had done recently. It was an unintentional act, reproducing the most successful defensive stance he had experienced.

Clang!

Soon enough, the goblin's blade, meeting the Early Bird, slid down the silver-sloped surface.

In fact, it was only possible because Yeongwoo's own strength had increased to match his opponent's strength, but he himself was unaware of this fact.

What mattered to him right now was only...

'The... Timing!'

He sensed the timing for a counterattack.

Swish!

Although it wasn't perfect, Yeongwoo managed a swift counterattack, reminiscent of when the Gumi Sword Technique had been activated.

The Early Bird, previously pushed downward by the opponent's blade, shot back up like lightning.

Pitt!

With a sharp sound, the tip of the Early Bird darted through the goblin's helmet.

—Kwaaaak!

The goblin screamed strangely as it collapsed backward.

Of course, another one immediately rushed forward, spewing out hot air, but Yeongwoo was no longer intimidated.

He felt like he could handle this one too.

\* \* \*

[Translator –

Goblins.

Like dragons, they were creatures of imagination, but set as far less fortunate monsters.

Practically synonymous with 'low-level mobs,' they appeared in various media and were as recognized as dragons.

Moreover, due to most creators adopting the settings from 'Dungeons & Dragons,' their popularized appearance was remarkably consistent.

Hence, Yeongwoo and Yechan could readily identify the figures of the creatures that were now standing before them.

Generally small in stature, with green or brown skin, and having pointed ears and noses, they were a wicked race.

However, the goblins in front of Yeongwoo were anything but small.

“Haah, hah!”

With his lungs feeling like they were going to explode, Yeongwoo squatted on his knees, driving the Early Bird into the ground.

He wasn't sure how many minutes he'd been fighting, but one thing was certain.

'If I hadn't invested karma into Endurance, I might have died. Even alone, I'd have exhausted my stamina and died.'

At least nine, maybe even ten goblins, he had directly faced.

This was the maximum length of combat achievable with an 97 Endurance.

“...Phew.”

Breathing didn't calm down easily.

Yeongwoo looked across, seeing Yechan sitting a distance away.

'He's quite tough too.'

In fact, the moment the goblins attacked, Yeongwoo hadn't expected Yechan to survive.

He had merely hoped he'd take down at least one of them to assist in the fight.

The harsh rebuke of “Are you trying to commit su\*\*\*de again!” was in fact Yeongwoo's own desperate attempt to survive.

'I should apologize after this is all over.'

In that tense moment, being able to taunt him with his 'previous fate' had been due to Yeongwoo being the more cunning adult , relatively speaking.

At least, Yeongwoo felt sorry for thinking that way.

Sighing, he lifted his body, which celebrated its 34th anniversary this year, from the ground, glancing at Yechan, who was seated at a distance.

Kang Yechan, a 19-year-old male.

Unlike Yeongwoo, he was unarmed, having dropped both his spear and shield.

Even when Yeongwoo approached, he didn't attempt to reach for a weapon. Placing the Early Bird back in its sheath, Yeongwoo spoke up.

"I... I'm sorry for earlier. I was harsh."

Upon which, Yechan turned his head.

"No, Mister. If you hadn't said that, I might have done nothing and just died. And, more importantly..."

Yechan stopped there, looking down at his hands.

He was replaying the moment when he had single-handedly brought down the unbelievably strong goblins with his own two hands.

"...I could kill them too, those bastards. I couldn't have imagined."

"Of course, I said you could."

Saying this, Yeongwoo awkwardly chuckled without Yechan noticing.

Strictly speaking, this was merely a successful bet due to sheer luck.

But ultimately, he had survived again this time, just as always, expecting a reward for his challenge.

'That's right. The karma...'

As Yeongwoo glanced back, considering the possibility of rummaging through the goblins' pockets,

Shirring.

The corpses of the scattered goblins dissolved into the air.

"....?"

"Huh?"

Yechan was also taken aback, immediately standing up. Shortly after, twelve small lights flashed from the spots where the goblins had vanished.

Ding! Ding! Ding!

Then a very familiar sound was heard.

Cling.

“...!”

The sound that instinctively made Yeongwoo take a step back.

Chrrr!

It was none other than the sound of karma pouring out in the form of coins.

“These crazy bastards.”

Yeongwoo cursed towards the unknown world as the coins began to fall all around him.

Then, a thought struck him.

‘Wait a minute.’

Something seemed off.

‘How many coins are dropping per goblin? Isn’t this too few?’

After frantically collecting the coins, Yeongwoo realized the total karma dropped by the twelve goblins was only 240,000.

In other words, precisely 20,000 karma per goblin.

Of course, considering that 1,000 karma equated to one point in stats, it was by no means a small amount.

‘But 1,000 karma is also a person’s lifespan. So, roughly...’

240 people could survive a day with this amount.

“...”

Yeongwoo didn’t know the exact population of Gumi City.

But even if it wasn’t in the millions, wasn’t it in the tens of thousands?

‘No matter how much give-and-take there was, about half should have survived... But the karma released is too little compared to the remaining number of people.’

No, this wasn’t just a small amount.



The number of light pillars Yeongwoo had confirmed back then was at least around a hundred.

A simple calculation would mean 24,000 people's worth of karma.

Even if there were more groups of light pillars beyond visible range, it would still be ridiculously insufficient to save a population in the tens of thousands.

In other words,

'No matter how much people engage in monster hunting, the vast majority will die due to unpaid taxes.'

He realized that monster hunting was never meant to be a device for releasing karma into circulation.

Even if the entire population of Gumi City engaged in monster hunting, the majority would inevitably die without acquiring karma.

'What the hell is this? Is this just a confirmed end?'

He was overwhelmed by a staggering sense of dismay.

Sure, a few superhumans capable of monster hunting could continue to survive by reinvesting karma. But what would be the point if everyone else died in the meantime?

"...Ha."

In shock, Yeongwoo wasn't even picking up the coins, prompting Yechan to cautiously approach.

"What's wrong, Mister?"

Yechan couldn't even guess that Yeongwoo was reverse-calculating the total karma released in Gumi City.

Yeongwoo looked at Yechan with a bleak expression.

"It seems like we..."

But Yeongwoo couldn't finish his sentence.

Suddenly, a quest notification appeared in the silent surroundings.

Ding!

[Epic] “Dilemma”

{Mission} Track down and defeat or repel the mutants.

{Reward} Mutant equipment, a vast amount of karma.

{Special} This quest is triggered for residents who possess records of monster kills.

[Translator –

## **Chapter 12**

[Translator –

### **Chapter 12: The Goblins Are Too Big (2)**

“Huh?”

As the quest prompt appeared, Yechan let out a surprised sound.

Upon this, Yeongwoo realized that Yechan was included in the list of ‘residents with monster kill records.’

The trigger for this Epic Quest.

“You see it too? Both the prompt and the display.”

“The display?”

At Yeongwoo’s inquiry, Yechan, who had been nodding, soon spotted a distant red pillar of light and jolted.

“I... I see it.”

Could it be that this time, he was determined to go and confront the mutants?

Yechan looked at Yeongwoo with eyes full of concern.

Indeed, Yeongwoo was focused on the red pillar of light that seemed to mark the location of the mutants.

‘It’s moving.’

Despite seeming to be quite a distance away, the movement of the pillar of light felt real-time.

It meant the target's movement speed was incredibly fast.

'Where could it be heading?'

Of course, the only way to find out was to chase it. It would be a waste of time to contemplate more here.

"We should get ready to move now. We've done everything we need to do here."

Yeongwoo picked 40,000 Karma from the pile of coins and handed it to Yechan.

Upon this, Yechan glanced anxiously at the red pillar of light.

"Are we... going to the mutants?"

"Of course. If we spot goblins on the way, we need to deal with them too."

As he spoke, Yeongwoo placed a coin inside his mouth.

The purpose was to reinvest the Karma gained this time into his stats.

Crunch!

[Character: Jung Yeongwoo 07]

[Strength] 96 (19+77)

[Stamina] 97 (21+76)

[Endurance] 13

[Senses] 24

\* 1,000 Karma is consumed per stats point.

\* Available Karma: 200,000

With 200,000 Karma in hand, he could increase his stats by a total of 200 points if he invested it all.

Yeongwoo decided to initially balance each stat up to a certain level.

'Let's raise Endurance and Senses to 50 for now.'

And distribute the rest between Strength and Stamina.

[Character: Jung Yeongwoo 07]

[Strength] 150 (19+131)

[Stamina] 150 (21+129)

[Endurance] 50 (13+37)

[Senses] 50 (24+26)

\* Available Karma: 30,000

'This is truly amazing. The rate of growth is too fast.'

Yeongwoo blinked in amazement.

Just a few hours ago, his Strength was only 19, and now it was at a staggering 150.

And even after boosting the stats this much, he still had 30,000 Karma remaining.

'I should refrain from spending the rest. I might need cash on hand at some point.'

After closing the settings window, Yeongwoo looked at Yechan, who was surrounded by a dotted line.

Then Yechan glanced at him and carefully asked.

"Did you use up all your Karma again?"

"I left some just in case."

"Oh, then should I...?"

"Nah. It's better if you use it all. It's still tough for you to fight against monsters."

Yeongwoo expressed it as 'some' for the 30,000 Karma, yet he felt no unease.

With the significant increase in available funds in exchange for hunting monsters.

'I wonder what others are doing. Are they still running away? Some of them might have fought the monsters.'

Yeongwoo still surveyed the blue pillars of light scattered around.

They indicated that there were monsters left uncleared in the area.

“Mister, I’m done too.”

After finishing the distribution of stat points, Yechan, holding a spear and shield, stood beside Yeongwoo.

Upon which, Yeongwoo asked, keeping his gaze focused on the red pillar of light.

“What’s your Stamina now?”

“It’s 52. The base was 22.”

Seeing Yechan adding to the base value, it seemed like he’d found some stability as well.

Yeongwoo double-checked that his backpack containing 30,000 Karma was securely locked before pointing with the tip of the Early Bird, indicating the red pillar of light.

“Now we’re going all the way over there. Just follow behind me.”

\* \* \*

Moving.

It sounded grand, but it boiled down to just running.

Yet, there was something different from before.

Thud!

Despite running at a considerable speed, they didn’t tire easily.

Of course, this applied to Yeongwoo with his Stamina reaching 150, while Yechan seemed visibly fatigued from earlier.

“Haa! Gasp!”

Even so, instead of suggesting a brief rest, Yechan gritted through without asking to stop.

This was because he thought that the moment he was considered a burden by Yeongwoo, he would be abandoned.

“...Haa! Haaa! Huff!”

However, after a short while, as his stamina reached its limit, his breathing started to break down.

“ ... ”

Upon this, Yeongwoo gradually slowed down.

“I think you should take a little break.”

“Oh, no! Just a little more...”

“No, if you push yourself too hard and collapse, it'll be troublesome for me.”

Just a few hours ago, Yeongwoo had been overtaken ruthlessly in the race to the currency exchange booth.

Therefore, simply because Yechan lacked stamina, Yeongwoo had no intention of abandoning him. There was no reason to do that yet.

“Take a short break. Since we don't know when we might have to fight again, it's better if I rest too.”

As Yeongwoo came to a complete stop, Yechan, following behind, poured out sweat onto the ground, catching his breath.

‘I might need to boost Stamina next time. If not...’

Yeongwoo's head stopped at a certain point as he looked around.

Two bicycles were lined up in front of a roadside store.

They had, of course, turned into stone.

‘But they said that by using Karma we can revert items turned to stone back to their original state.’

Yeongwoo took out a coin from his backpack and walked toward the stone bicycles.

Then...

Tap!

He placed the coin on the handlebar of the bicycle.

Phew!

“ ....!”

Lo and behold, a small square hologram appeared where the coin and the bicycle made contact.

“Oh, this is...”

[Translator –

It was none other than the price tag.

[Bicycle: 3,000]

\* To confirm purchase, re-contact the item with a coin.

Bicycle, 3,000 Karma.

It meant that by paying three crimson coins, these bicycles could be restored for use.

‘Even if I buy both, it’s just 6,000.’

To Yeongwoo, who currently had 30,000 Karma, it felt very affordable.

Riding a bicycle significantly reduced stamina consumption relative to distance traveled and also increased the speed of movement.

Tap!

While examining the price tag, Yeongwoo momentarily withdrew the coin, then touched it again to the bicycle, causing the coin to disappear, and the bicycle began to change.

Ssshhhhh!

Like when items from the previous world turned to stone, it started emitting a hazy smoke.

Then, from where the coin had made contact, the petrification quickly reversed.

“What... what is this?”

Yechan, who had been catching his breath from behind, was startled and rushed over upon seeing the smoke.

“You know how to ride a bike, right? From now on, we’ll move on these.”

“Yes? Ah, yes! I know how to ride, but...”

Yechan looked at Yeongwoo with admiring eyes.

At this moment when most people were busy running from monsters, the fact that Yeongwoo was buying a bicycle to chase down mutants... the more he thought about it, the more impressive it seemed.

“Mister, um, are you a regressor or something?”

“What?”

[TL/N: Bro read too many regressor manhwa... ngl I'd think the same in his place ]

Yeongwoo furrowed his brows momentarily at the absurd statement, then chuckled.

“What nonsense. It's nothing like that.”

“Then how are you able to do all these?”

“How...”

Yeongwoo intended to say something but closed his mouth.

The truth was, he didn't have a clear answer himself.

“Because I'm afraid.”

“Mister? What could you be afraid of...?”

“Being weak.”

“...Oh.”

Yeongwoo pushed a bicycle towards Yechan and asked.

“Aren't you afraid?”

“Well, I...”

While Yechan was checking his burnt name tag, Yeongwoo had his foot on the bicycle pedal.

“Sometimes, being weak is scarier than dying. So, whenever there's an opportunity, I try to become as strong as possible.”

Rrrrrr...

Gradually, the gears of Yeongwoo's bicycle began to turn.



Watching Yeongwoo move away, Yechan stared blankly for a moment, then hurriedly lifted his foot to the pedal.

\* \* \*

With their bodies enhanced by Karma, the two of them rode the bicycles at a very fast pace.

In a blink, they broke through the commercial district and entered a residential area, where they could once again see other people.

However, the issue was...

“Aaaah!”

“Save me!”

Everyone seemed extremely terrified.

Dozens of people of all ages and genders were running in the direction of Yeongwoo and Yechan.

“What is this...”

“They’re running away. Looks like there are goblins over there.”

Yeongwoo pointed at the blue pillar of light emanating from inside the residential area.

Then, he glanced at a person who had just passed by him, noticing they were carrying a rock. He didn’t get a clear view in that instant.

‘Probably an item from the previous world.’

It might be something incredibly valuable.

There were several groups, including a man carrying a child and a sister supporting her grandmother while sweating profusely, who seemed relatively vulnerable.

“This is truly like hell.”

Yechan said while looking at the staggering elderly, Yeongwoo shook his head.

“At this pace, we can’t outrun them. Someone inside must be buying us time.”

He omitted the part about the true hell being inside.

Of course, it was unclear whether someone inside was willingly buying them time or if they were simply being picked off in order at the back of the long evacuation line.

“ ... ”

Yeongwoo frowned, recalling a terrible scene involuntarily.

If people were really dying in there, they needed to hurry more than they already were.

“Let’s go. Stick to the side to avoid the crowd.”

As people continued to pour out from the residential area, Yeongwoo and Yechan moved to the edge of the road and rode their bicycles.

“Oh, by the way.”

As Yechan pedaled hard, he spoke up again.

“There are quite a few people without any weapons.”

“Not everyone followed the quests.”

Yeongwoo sensed that the situation was getting closer as another group of people rushed out, and indeed, the blue pillar of light was now approaching.

And then...

Crunch! Creak!

Unusual cracking noises reached Yeongwoo’s ears.

‘Shit. What’s this sound?’

Reflexively, he raised his upper body and looked behind the crowd of refugees.

Suddenly, something grotesque filled his sight.

It was none other than...

Goblins, smeared with blood, clutching one person each, feasting on flesh.

Crunch!

Again, the sound of goblins tearing into human bones echoed.

“These bastards...!”

Yeongwoo shouted in rage and reversed their course through the fleeing crowd. A goblin, skinning its prey, raised its head to look at him.

Then it grinned, flashing its white teeth that had not yet stained red.

As if it was looking at more prey that had served themselves at its plate.

[Translator –

## **Chapter 13**

[Translator –

### **Chapter 13: The Goblins Are Too Big (3)**

What kind of figure were the goblins facing?

It was a human riding a bicycle, armed with a sword and a shield, with the title 'Strongest Sword of Gumi' above his head.

"Yaaaah!"

Despite Yeongwoo screaming and approaching at a rapid speed, the goblins paid no heed and continued their meal.

They forcefully separated the meaty thighs and calves of their prey, tearing apart rib cages and scooping out the entrails.

"This is insane...!"

Was this some kind of tribal ritual?

Yeongwoo felt an indescribable mix of anger and sorrow as he looked at someone's limbs clattering on the ground.

And then, a profound sense of dread washed over him.

It was a fear stemming from the intuition that the position of the human race was no longer the same as before.

"Come here, you bastards!"

Eventually reaching the scene, Yeongwoo almost leaped off his bike, brandishing his Early Bird.

One of the goblins closest to him attempted to block, but...

Crunch!

Without a moment's hesitation, the shield struck, grotesquely contorting the goblin's torso.

-Keirrr!

The other goblins that followed suit met a similar fate.

"These damn bastards!"

Yeongwoo pounded them with his shield as if demolishing a building with a hammer.

Thud! Thwack!

Due to his immense strength, everything the shield stuck crumpled.

The goblins clad in metal armor and shoulder pads tried to retaliate futilely... The ones who tried to block his strikes with their arms had their entire arms broken.

Of course, since the number of goblins was much greater, sharp attacks came from the sides, yet each time, Yeongwoo swung his Early Bird.

Though not always fatal, it was enough to forcibly push back his opponents.

-Keeiirr!

At this point, the goblins rushing at Yeongwoo also realized.

They would all end up dead by attacking this one human.

And from that moment on...

-Kiiee...

-Kiiek...

They hesitated.

Unlike their previous aggressive onslaught, they began hesitatingly yielding their rush turns to each other.

The issue was none of the goblins wanted to face the lethal force of the human.

Consequently...

-Kiee...

-Keik...

The battle suddenly came to an abrupt halt.

“What...?”

Beside Yeongwoo, Yechan, who had been absentmindedly thrusting his spear, realized the goblins were no longer attacking and stepped back.

“What’s... happening all of a sudden?”

At Yechan’s question, Yeongwoo stared intently at the blood-stained edge of his shield and said.

“Those bastards have some intellect too.”

“Huh?”

“They hate dying, just like us...”

They understood fear.

Rather than finishing his thought, Yeongwoo darted towards the goblins.

Swish!

Based on his strength of 150, his leg muscles propelled him at an incredible speed.

So fast that...

-Kiii!

-Keeii!

Even the 2-meter-tall goblins fled in panic.

“Capture and kill them all! Don’t let a single one escape!”

As Yeongwoo spat out these sharp words between his clenched teeth, Yechan, who had been watching this entire spectacle dumbfounded, belatedly snapped out of his daze.

“Ye... Yeah!”

Thud!

Yechan brandished his long spear and chased after the goblins.

While leaping into the air, he glanced at Yeongwoo, who was smashing a goblin's head with his shield.

To an unknowing observer, it'd seem like the goblins were the victims.

"Kaaah!"

Yeongwoo's roar tore through the air like a thunderclap.

Subsequently, another goblin's head burst open like a watermelon.

Clang! Boom!

With every goblin falling, there was a deafening noise due to the heavy armor encasing their bodies.

And this clamor attracted...

"What's that noise? Where is it coming from?"

"Hey, look over there."

"Uh..."

People nearby, familiar with periodic booming noises, and bold enough to venture close to its source.

What should we call them?

If one were to label them, they could be considered monster hunters.

They had decent armaments, above-average determination, and reasons to risk their lives fighting monsters.

A couple earning extra Karma to prepare for tax collection.

A girl supporting her single mother.

An elderly person living alone who couldn't even get the basic funds from a currency exchange.

With a gathering of the frail and elderly, everyone had to rush in to fight off one or two goblins, but they were optimistic about the future.

While gradually enhancing their abilities with the leftover Karma, they unexpectedly encountered...

“Kyaaaaah!”

A superhuman, emitting strange noises, annihilating a 2-meter tall goblin like it was a mere insect.

\* \* \*

Peuwk!

Another goblin defeated.

Yeongwoo, with eyes now spattered a crimson red... rather goblin blood, surveyed his surroundings.

Having regained his senses, he realized there were no more goblins in sight.

“Hoo... I guess this area’s clear for now.”

He keenly felt his endurance at 150. Despite what felt like a long stint of action, he still had plenty of stamina left.

He could probably engage in immediate combat with those humans in the distance.

Pat, pat, pat!

Soon, the goblin corpses scattered on the floor evaporated into smoke and began to pour out crimson coins.

Shhrrr!

20,000 Karma per goblin.

“ ... ”

Sweeping up the coins from the ground, Yeongwoo glanced at the group of people still maintaining a safe distance.

Encountering human groups in situations like this often meant they were likely to wield their weapons.

“Mister!”

Yechan, rushing over, pointed wildly at the group in question.

“Did you see those people?”

“I did. Just to be safe, use your Karma now. Put it all into your endurance if possible.”

Yeongwoo issued these instructions while immediately allocating his stat points.

This time, the earnings were 200,000 Karma, translating into 200 points for stat distribution.

‘For now, let’s put 100 into endurance and boost strength and senses a bit.’

[Character: Jung Yeongwoo07]

[Strength] 200 (19+181)

[Endurance] 150 (21+129)

[Durability] 150 (13+137)

[Senses] 100 (24+76)

The reason Yeongwoo decided to invest in senses was for the Gumi Sword Technique.

He wondered if heightened senses might enable him to better replicate the holograms of the Gumi Sword Technique.

Swoosh.

Completing the stat allocation, a surge of vitality coursed through his entire body, adding to it an unexplainable sensation.

“...?”

He immediately sensed something inexplicable.

‘Is it because I raised my senses by 50?’

It may have been an illusion, but Yeongwoo felt as if he could sense every single miniature vibration of his body.

Engulfed in this peculiar feeling, Yeongwoo finally looked towards the group of people on the other side who had just started walking towards them.



Despite the considerable distance, what initially seemed like a cluster soon resolved into individual silhouettes.

“...Huh?”

The first to react was Yechan, who had better eyesight than Yeongwoo.

[Translator –

“Mister, those people.”

Before he could finish with “they don’t seem like bandits,” gestures were already being made from the opposite side.

Swish.

Every member of the group raised both hands into the air, allowing Yeongwoo and Yechan to discern their armaments and numbers.

A total of 7.

A couple that appeared to be husband and wife, two children of kindergarten age.

A limping woman supported by a girl.

And a skinny, elderly man with a wolfish haircut, his head of mostly white hair making it seem gray.

‘Only the couple and the girl have weapons.’

Observing the uninvited guests with a cold gaze, Yeongwoo noticed the children nestled among the adults.

‘Oh.’

Their expressions, akin to someone expecting punishment, as they raised both hands, caught his attention.

Swish.

As Yeongwoo’s sword, initially directed towards the other party, abruptly shifted downwards, Yechan followed suit, planting his spear into the ground.

Upon this action, the ‘elderly’ figures, previously shuffling cautiously, relaxed their expressions.

“Nice... to meet you!”

The first to speak was the man from the couple.

“Let us introduce ourselves...”

“Just a moment. Ask them to lower their hands. The kids.”

“...Yes? Oh! Thank you...”

“Not you, you keep your hands up.”

\* \* \*

Haneulchae Residents Association.

The man said that they belonged to the residents' association of an apartment building called Haneulchae.

So, while they were just fellow apartment residents before, this incident brought them together to hunt goblins, each armed in their own way.

‘How is that even possible?’

Yeongwoo pondered this but upon observing the conditions of the group, he somewhat understood.

Perhaps each member, being outcasts in their own right, deemed cooperation essential for survival.

Nevertheless, actively seeking a way to thrive rather than just congregating as the vulnerable was remarkable.

Most people would likely just flee from goblins at this moment.

But remarkable was remarkable.

“Yes, I get who you are, but why are you telling me this?”

When Yeongwoo drew the line with a firm tone, the faces of the Haneulchae residents, previously brightened, darkened slightly.

“Well...”

The man who had greeted Yeongwoo first attempted to speak, but surprisingly, the next words came from the elderly man with the wolfish cut who had been quietly standing in a corner.

“In a world like this, how can people survive without helping each other?”

Despite his skinny frame, an extraordinary physique and sharp gaze made the old man stand out.

To Yeongwoo, he seemed like the most unsettling figure among the outcast party.

“I know this is a presumptuous request, but please come with us. For the children... Please.”

Yeongwoo looked at the man next to him instead of the elderly man and asked.

“Who is this person? Is he a resident of the same apartment building?”

“He had been handling the security of our apartment building. Thanks to him, we managed to gather here.”

“A security guard...?”

A guard with a predatory gaze... Yeongwoo’s mouth involuntarily twitched.

Then, it was the woman from the couple who made the proposal.

“Fortunately, we’ve had no casualties so far, but there have been some dangerous moments. If you join us, at least we won’t have to worry about being killed by monsters.”

“That could be true.”

But what would he gain by doing that? Yeongwoo was about to continue his thought but chose to remain silent.

The two kids, fervently rubbing their arms, caught his eye, making him momentarily pause.

‘Shit. Aren’t the kids a bit unfair.’

As a human skeptic, Yeongwoo couldn’t help but show mercy, especially towards children.

Besides, in this world, monsters even preyed on humans.

“ ... ”

The image of the gruesome corpses he had seen earlier flashed into his mind.

“I won’t stop you from following us. But the problem is, right now...”

As he spoke, Yeongwoo turned his head.

He was looking for the crimson pillar. It was necessary to alert them about the considerable danger their destination posed.

But...

‘Huh...?’

The location of the pillar had significantly changed, now shining so brightly it was visible from afar.

It meant the mutation zone had entered a residential area.

“Oh.”

“Uhuh.”

“Is that...”

The people from Haneulchae seemed just as intrigued, presumably because the epic quest had been activated due to their experience hunting goblins.

Thud! Thump!

A different kind of rhythmical sound started echoing, unlike the noises when goblins fell.

This was likely the sound of footsteps.

Thud! Thump!

Accompanying those sounds, the crimson pillar drew closer, and then finally...

Kwaeaeaah!

A thunderous roar, akin to something colossal shooting up into the sky, resounded.

“Oh.”

Sensing something, Yeongwoo looked up at the sky.

There, illuminated by backlighting, was a dark figure.

It had an enormous build, and on top of its head was some sort of name tag.

“Gumi... City Councillor... Jang Seonbok...?”

Indeed.

At that moment, Yeongwoo was looking at Jang Seonbok, the City Councillor who had returned as a goblin.

[Translator –

## **Chapter 14**

[Translator –

### **Chapter 14: Gumi Strongest Sword vs. Gumi City Councilor**

“Aaaaah!”

With a thunderous roar, Jang Seonbok landed amidst Yeongwoo and the people from Haneulchae, shaking the ground beneath them.

Kuuuuung!

The concrete shattered, dust swirling in all directions from the impact of his descent.

Swaaah!

Due to the haze obscuring their sight, not only Jang Seonbok but also Yechan and the others from Haneulchae vanished from Yeongwoo’s view.

‘Shit, if this continues...’

Yeongwoo unconsciously thought of the kids from Haneulchae.

The idea that they might get hurt if Jang Seonbok continued rampaging crossed his mind.

‘Damn it, I don’t have time for this.’

Eventually, Yeongwoo shouted loudly enough for everyone to hear.

“Take the kids and run! You won’t be his opponent!”

Instantly,

Fwooosh!

A rumbling presence emerged from within the dust cloud. Jang Seonbok had followed the sound and launched an attack.

Naturally, Yeongwoo had already prepared himself, firmly holding onto his shield.

However, the problem was...

Whiiiiing!

The guy was stronger than anticipated.

‘Ugh, unbelievable!’

Yeongwoo felt his entire body being lifted into the air along with the shield.

And then.

Whoosh!

He soared upwards, reaching a height of about three or four meters.

But soon, Yeongwoo regained his composure.

‘What?’

He realized he was subconsciously controlling his center of gravity.

‘Is this the effect of Senses?’

[Senses]

[It involves control over body functions such as reflexes and balance.

Having pushed his Senses from a mere 24 to a whopping 100, feeling the difference was only natural.

Thud!

Yeongwoo landed steadily on the ground, the wind blowing vigorously.

Thud, thump!

From the midst of the dusty soil, someone was springing forth.

[Gumi City Councilor – Jang Seonbok]

Once again, the first thing visible was the blurry name tag shimmering within the cloud of dust.

Soon after, his figure became distinct under the sunlight.

Thud!

What caught Yeongwoo's eye first were his reddish skin and bulging muscles.

The goblins from before had unbelievably muscular physiques, but Jang Seonbok...

'Why is he so massive? Is there a premium mutation or something?'

Standing at a height of 3 meters, his muscles matched his stature.

Moreover, what was more surprising...

[Ho-oh?]

Jang Seonbok also seemed taken aback upon seeing Yeongwoo.

Moreover,

[Gumi Strongest Sword? What's this about?]

The goblin uttered human words.

'Wait, he can talk?'

Yeongwoo alternated his gaze between the goblin's pointed ears and its fiercely shaped mouth.

Then, standing tall, Jang Seonbok slowly bent his long waist, observing Yeongwoo.

[Are you the leader of these scums? What exactly happened here?]

It seemed like the term 'scums' referred not only to the people present but the entire citizens of Gumi.

[What year is it now? I have no idea how long I've been held captive.]

He started seemingly throwing questions out of nowhere after swinging his axe just moments ago.

‘What... does this guy have no concept of time? No, wait, more importantly, he’s speaking like a person.’

Despite the brief conversation, Yeongwoo could be certain of at least one thing: Jang Seonbok in front of him, a mutant—or rather, a monster—still contained the consciousness of a human being.

Also, judging by him calling Gumi citizens ‘scums,’ it seemed he retained all memories from the time of the reset.

“It’s June 10, 2025, Tuesday. The first day of the reset.”

When Yeongwoo mentioned the date, confusion flickered in Jang Seonbok’s bewildered eyes.

[The first day? So, am I the first one here? Ah, I see.]

Jang Seonbok seemed to reason with himself upon this revelation.

Quickly seizing the moment, Yeongwoo threw another question.

“The first one? Where were you before coming here? Have you met other mutants?”

At this, while lost in thought, Jang Seonbok smirked wickedly.

[Why does a dying man like you have so many questions?]

Whoosh!

His axe tore through the air, aimed at Yeongwoo.

‘Ugh, this bastard!’

Unexpectedly, an attack came out of nowhere, causing every cell in his body to tense, but soon, a hologram appeared in his line of sight, offering reassurance.

A hologram resembling Yeongwoo himself, extending the Early Bird with his right hand while his left shoulder was pulled back completely.

—Slay

The Gumi Sword Technique had activated.

‘Gumi Sword Technique? It didn’t activate against the monsters before, so why now...?’



Yeongwoo, following the guide of the Gumi Sword Technique, rotated his body while thrusting the Early Bird from his right hand.

Then,

Whoosh!

Jang Seonbok's axe barely grazed past Yeongwoo's left shoulder, which was leaned backward.

"...!"

Though shivers ran through his body, it seemed both sides attempted an attack.

Swish!

Yeongwoo watched the tip of his Early Bird heading towards Jang Seonbok's left chest.

And the black axe blade, intercepting it, changed the 'Slay' symbol into 'Void.'

"...?"

Soon, a sharp shriek erupted as the Early Bird and the axe blade clashed.

Clang!

[What... You're not a simple human.]

Jang Seonbok's bewildered voice followed the grinding sound.

Equally surprised, Yeongwoo exclaimed.

"You... are you still human? Why the Gumi Sword Technique?"

[What? You bastards... you made me like this!]

While exchanging incomprehensible words, the Gumi Sword Technique presented the next instruction.

—Break

'Break?'

'Break' to shatter.

In the stance of meeting Jang Seonbok and his weapon, the Early Bird was commanded to thrust into the opposite elbow.

Meanwhile, the hologram covered with a shield in the left hand was also guarding.

‘Whatever it is, it’s probably the best move.’

[Translator –

Whit!

With strength at 200 and Senses at 100, the execution ability was sufficient.

The tip of the sword, previously in contact with the axe blade, twisted and shot out diagonally, piercing Jang Seonbok’s right elbow.

[Kraaaaagh!]

A scream unheard before.

Following that, the guide suggested breaking the guy’s jaw with the shield but was immediately canceled.

‘Huh.’

It was because he had started his attack one step ahead of Yeongwoo.

‘I’m late...!’

Even if the Gumi Sword Technique proposed the optimal move, it was meaningless if the timing didn’t align. As Yeongwoo needed to process, assess, and execute the guide, an inevitable delay occurred.

So, when facing a formidable opponent like this...

[Get lost!]

It was about getting hit by a kick as fast as light.

Bang!

“Ugh!”

The 3-meter tall goblin’s calf and thigh generated explosive kinetic energy.

It felt like being hit by a car, leaving Yeongwoo unable to catch his breath.

Amidst the continuous flickering in front of his eyes, it seemed the Gumi Sword Technique was issuing the next instruction, but due to the unforeseen physical impact, his entire body felt paralyzed.

Moreover, amidst this, Jang Seonbok was pulling back his right leg again, akin to pulling the trigger of a gun.

[You bastards, why did you torture me like this!]

Mixed frustration and sorrow resonated in Jang Seonbok's voice.

Thud.

Even from Jang Seonbok's firmly planted foot, alarming sounds emanated.

Thud.

Just as he was about to aim the second kick at Yeongwoo's head.

Swish!

A sharp, but quite fast sound cut through the air.

From behind Jang Seonbok's torso.

[Arggh!]

Yeongwoo heard the familiar sound accompanying Jang Seonbok's curse.

"Mister! I'll die after this if you don't hurry!"

A desperate voice calling out to him.

It was Yechan.

"Ugh."

He blinked to regain focus, spotting Yechan behind Jang Seonbok.

The kid had pierced Jang Seonbok's waist just before the second kick.

[What kind of dog...!]

As an enraged Jang Seonbok turned, the Gumi Sword Technique displayed two symbols on his body.

First was,

—Slay

The familiar ‘Slay’ character always seen.

This was attached to the back of his body, requiring a leap to reach it.

And second was,

—Life

‘Life’ for preservation.

Similar to the previous ‘Break,’ this was a symbol Yeongwoo had never seen before, attached to Jang Seonbok’s Achilles tendon.

But why?

Why did the choices of killing and saving appear together?

“Oh, mister!”

Upon hearing Yechan’s second plea for help, Yeongwoo realized that it wasn’t about saving Jang Seonbok but another life entangled in this battle—saving Yechan.

“Quick, get away, you idiot!”

Yeongwoo shouted at the top of his lungs, much like when he had yelled for the kids.

Simultaneously,

Swish!

He thrust his sword forcefully towards Jang Seonbok’s Achilles tendon.

Fwip!

The Early Bird. A one-handed sword, its only advantage being its lightness.

However, since it was as light as it was, its presence was small and it was quite swift.

Thud!

Like lightning, the Early Bird pierced through Jang Seonbok’s reddened skin, ruthlessly assaulting his Achilles tendon.

[Gaaaaahhhh...!]

Just as Jang Seonbok, who was about to attack Yechan, was pierced in the Achilles tendon, he shivered violently and stood frozen in place.

Then, he turned towards Yeongwoo.

—Slay

A clear mark shining near the guy's neck.

As Yeongwoo saw it and exhaled the 'Slay,' Jang Seonbok tried to say something but—

Swoosh!

The Early Bird had already pierced his neck.

[Heik.]

An ambiguous word, barely a sentence.

That was the last sound he made before his pupils lost their strength.

Next,

Fwaaaat!

A white beam of light shot up from his head, as if his soul was departing.

'Does this mean the mutant's dead?'

Yeongwoo watched the beam rise until it disappeared from his sight.

If that beam represented Jang Seonbok's soul or consciousness, where was it being called to? No, who was calling it?

Shilling!

Finally, Jang Seonbok's red body dissolved into thin air like the other monsters.

However, there was one significant difference.

'Is that the reward?'

A golden spherical object remained where the body had been.

About the size of a watermelon, the sphere hovered about a meter above the ground, rotating slowly.

Thud, thud.

As Yeongwoo approached the sphere, Yechan looked at him with a worried expression, and the people who had fled into the distance cautiously began to return.

“Mister... what is this? What could it be?”

“It seems like some device to determine the reward recipient. Most likely.”

He said this, but Yeongwoo was convinced. Whoever made the first contact with that sphere would receive the mutant kill reward.

[Epic] “Dilemma”

{Mission} Track down and eliminate or return the mutant.

{Reward} Mutant equipment. A large amount of Karma.

Confirming that the Epic Quest was still incomplete, Yeongwoo touched the sphere left behind by Jang Seonbok.

Thud.

As expected, a new interface appeared the moment his hand made contact with the sphere’s surface.

[You have been granted permission to complete the Epic Quest ‘Dilemma.’]

[Please choose a reward for the final completion of the quest.]

‘What...?’

Yeongwoo’s mouth gaped open.

It was unprecedented to pre-select a reward, and the contents of the reward were strikingly unconventional.

{{Guaranteed Reward}}

[Furious Goblin] – Mutant Ring

[Strength increases by 100 every day]

[–Empty Slot–]

{{Selectable Reward}}

[3 million Karma]

Or

[Grant 30,000 Karma to all residents in the area]

[Translator –

## **Chapter 15**

[Translator –

### **Chapter 15: Golden Ratio (1)**

[3 million Karma]

Or

[Grant 30,000 Karma to all residents in the area]

Yeongwoo couldn't take his eyes off the selectable rewards.

'So, this is what they mean by a dilemma.'

At first glance, seizing 3 million Karma seemed like the obvious choice, but depending on the perspective, the latter option held much greater benefits.

'Granting 30,000 Karma to all residents in the area...? Even if there are just 100,000 people left in Gumi City, that's 3 billion Karma distributed to everyone.'

There would be no need to risk one's life fighting against the monsters for money.

Just one person, Yeongwoo, giving up 3 million Karma could provide the foundation of survival for all.

'But who in their right mind would give up such a massive amount?'

As Yeongwoo grappled with this dilemma, Yechan approached, sensing something was amiss.

"Mister, what's wrong?"

Yeongwoo, considering that Yechan was qualified to tackle this issue, voiced his dilemma.

“There is a selectable reward. One is receiving 3 million Karma, and the other is...”

Granting potentially hundreds of thousands of Gumi City residents 30,000 Karma each.

“What? 3 million Karma?”

As expected, Yechan promptly delivered his answer upon hearing the problem.

“Then it’s definitely the 3 million. What’s the point of scattering money in this chaotic situation? It might even attract more thieves, now that everyone knows there’s money around.”

A very valid point. Additionally, Yechan added his own reasoning.

“And if it were me, even if I didn’t want to give money to the bad guys, I’d still take the 300,000. At least then, I could use my own strength to right the wrongs.”

“...Yeah, that makes sense.”

Yeongwoo nodded.

The bad guys.

Perhaps those who bullied Yechan at school or the group that roughed up Yeongwoo at the currency exchange would fall into that category of “bad guys.”

In other words, distributing money to everyone meant benefiting enemies and villains too.

Because of this, Yeongwoo also wanted to choose the 3 million immediately, but...

‘It feels too uneasy.’

Yeongwoo doubted.

Choosing to monopolize 3 million seemed right to everyone, yet the existence of this sentimental option alongside it hinted at the intentions of this world.

Didn’t it happen during the reset?

Inducing the public to attack celebrities and then, as if waiting, imposing punishment?



Seeing his former roommate, Im Bonghee, deplete all his points and ultimately die hinted at that.

Even the appearance of mutants was ultimately a result because of the karma from the public's indiscriminate witch hunt.

“ ... ”

The one who designed this world and the 'Reset' knew human nature well and wasn't benevolent towards humans.

So, perhaps this time too.

'It might be a trap. Choosing based on our nature might accelerate our downfall.'

Moreover, the amount of currency that could be unleashed this time through the second option was overwhelmingly larger.

At least 3 billion, maybe even more.

'So, maybe they can offset the losses by directly reclaiming the currency in circulation. I don't want to go that far if possible, but...'

As Yeongwoo contemplated a crazy decision, Yechan, who recognized this like a ghost, protested.

“Mister, that's not it, really. It'll only worsen the situation, you know?”

“...Yechan.”

“Yes.Please speak”

“Let's just close our eyes and scatter 30 billion this once.”

“Ah! Seriously, Mister! Please!”

Yechan's expression resembled someone witnessing their father caught in gambling, while Yeongwoo made the most decisive decision since his birth.

[Grant 30,000 Karma to all residents in the area]

Pop!

If someone were watching this scene, they might mock this choice or be frustrated.

But Yeongwoo decided not to regret it.

In his opinion, the distribution of 30,000 Karma alone was valuable enough.

‘Are there any other areas besides Gumi that received Karma like this? I highly doubt it.’

The golden sphere that accepted Yeongwoo’s choice spun rapidly.

Yechan, realizing the deed was done, wore a disheartened expression.

And a moment later.

Kwaaaaah!

The golden sphere, appearing as if it would explode any second, shot up into the sky.

“Whoa!”

“Wow, what’s that?”

People approaching Yeongwoo and Yechan also stopped in their tracks, gazing at the golden streak drawn across the sky.

Shoosh!

The golden streak ascended to the very top of their vision.

Boom!

It exploded.

Like fireworks.

“ ... ”

Continuing, what Yeongwoo’s group witnessed was a golden wave blanketing the entire sky.

Similar to the energy of the First Sword’s activation, the sphere burst, creating a wide golden ripple emanating from its center.

Then, all the golden hues in the sky descended toward the ground.

Swaaaaah...!

“Mom, it’s raining,”

“What...?”

“It’s raining.”

[Translator –

It was just as the child said.

The sight of countless golden huws falling down at once made it look like it was really raining.

“Mister, is this really, I mean, actual rain?”

Yechan asked, catching the golden droplets in his palm.

Interestingly, the golden droplets disappeared upon contact with objects, leaving no traces or sensation behind.

“I’m not sure... but it doesn’t seem harmful to touch.”

Yeongwoo, too, wore a puzzled expression as he felt the droplets, unable to decipher their nature.

Shoosh...

About a minute passed.

An announcement appeared in everyone’s sight.

{Gumi’s Strongest Sword ‘Jeong Yeongwoo07’ has relinquished the exclusive possession of 3 million Karma and gifted 30,000 Karma to all Gumi residents.}

Moreover, the warning message that usually appeared during Karma distribution had a slight difference this time.

{30,000 Karma will soon be provided in commemorative coin form. Please be prepared.}

Be prepared...

A statement that couldn’t be ignored by anyone who had been in a currency exchange.

Thirty thousand Karma equaled 30 coins.

And everyone, including Yeongwoo, hurriedly strapped weapons to their belts, preparing to receive the money.

Clack.

Eventually, the familiar sound of coins rolling was heard.

However, what happened next was beyond anyone's imagination.

Clunk.

The coins that appeared with a sharp friction sound...

"Huh?"

"Hey?"

They were golden. Not just any gold, but merely three of them.

"Wait a moment!"

Startled, no one managed to grasp the coins presented before them in time.

Ting, ping, ping!

Six coins for Yeongwoo and Yechan combined.

For the seven members of Haneulchae Residence, there were twenty-one coins.

In total, twenty-seven golden coins clashed against the ground.

But the surprise didn't end there.

"Mister? You should take a look at this."

As Yechan held the first coin in his hand for Yeongwoo to see, Yeongwoo glanced casually at the coin... no, the gold piece that was being offered.

Then...

"...?"

His mouth agape, he couldn't utter a word.

It was because his own face was intricately carved into the shining golden coin.

"What's this?"

Yeongwoo wore an expression of disbelief as he picked up his share of coins from the ground.

“Oh my god.”

The same face was etched into each coin, accompanied by the name Jeong Yeongwoo07.

On the backside, a thick line indicated it was a 10,000 Karma coin.

“So, these were the commemorative coins.”

Yeongwoo couldn't finish his sentence.

The people from Haneulchae Residence were alternately observing the golden coins and Yeongwoo's direction.

Then...

“Um, we feel like we should express our gratitude somehow...”

They hesitantly began to approach.

Of course, they weren't considering voluntarily returning the coins.

“Uh...”

Feeling quite flustered, Yeongwoo gestured backward, shaking his head.

“Just a moment... Please stop. Let me get my head straight.”

Indeed, amidst the chaos, Yeongwoo received another message.

Ping!

[Quest Completed – “Dilemma”]

[Rewards Issued]

|Mutant Equipment

|Large Amount of Karma

Ping!

[Rewards Issued Successfully – Mutant Equipment]

[Furious Goblin] – Mutant Ring

[Strength increases by 100 every day]

[–Empty Slot–]

As soon as the second message appeared, Yeongwoo sensed something odd on his left index finger.

“Hmm?”

Shifting his gaze, he noticed a dusky ring snugly fitted on his finger.

‘Oh, is this the Furious Goblin ring?’

Focusing on the ring, a small tooltip popped up.

[This equipment carries the scent of a mutant. Other mutants may detect and be wary of it.

‘Does this mean they’ll know that I’ve killed a mutant?’

Moreover, as soon as the ring was placed, Yeongwoo felt a surge of vitality in his body. The reason became apparent through the subsequent alert.

[Strength has been permanently increased by 100 due to the Furious Goblin.]

Strength 100.

In monetary terms, it meant earning 100,000 Karma daily.

‘Huh, this isn’t too bad.’

Certainly, he had paid 3 million Karma to make his face and name known to all Gumi residents, questioning if the ‘Dilemma’ had been a wise decision.

Yet, observing the hopeful expressions on the faces of the members of the Haneulchae Residence as they held the commemorative coins made him feel somewhat satisfied at this moment.

Perhaps other people in Gumi were wearing similar expressions? Among them, there might be villains, too.

“This rain doesn’t seem to be stopping.”

Yechan remarked in a muffled voice, trying to brush off the raindrops.

As Yeongwoo glimpsed at the coins held in Yechan’s hand, he subtly remarked.

“Feeling disappointed?”

“I don’t have the right to do that. You’re the one who fought the mutant.”

“Right? You certainly have it. If you hadn’t helped, I wouldn’t have defeated that guy.”

“Is that so?”

Finally, a faint smile appeared on Yechan’s face.

“But no matter how I think about it, isn’t it too much to let go? 3 million Karma could’ve increased your abilities by 3,000.”

“True, it’s a shame.”

There was only one reason why his back and pelvis were not shattered even after being hit by that vicious kick.

‘Thankfully I raised my Durability to 150 in advance.’

Having such a great effect with only a raise of 150, now what would’ve happened if his abilities had been increased by 3,000 more?

“.....”

It was difficult for Yeongwoo to imagine.

“Mister, however...”

“Hmm?”

“There might be mutants stronger than Jang Seonbok, right? There were people who turned into dragons and all.”

“True.”

“Then those guys might eventually come after us...”

Yechan left the rest unsaid.

Finishing his sentence, Yeongwoo added.

“How would I fight them after giving up 3 million?”

“Right...”

In fact, that was the problem.

Although he was far ahead compared to others in Gumi, it was just within Gumi.

There were undoubtedly individuals who monopolized 3 million elsewhere, and mutants could potentially become stronger in line with that.

“Hmm.”

As Yeongwoo sighed and looked up, the golden rain gradually began to subside.

Then, as usual...

Shoosh.

The rain completely stopped, and the previously yellowish sky turned blue.

“Ha.”

Was that all?

Was he now going to pay the price for the extravagant party he hadn't even attended?

Yeongwoo sighed, sensing that the celebration had come to an end.

As if waiting for it, new messages started appearing before his eyes.

Ping!

[Achievement Unlocked: Caller of the Golden Rain]

|Achievement Rank: Legendary

|Achievement Grade: First

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[Discovered a achievement for the first time!]

[The achievement system has been unlocked.]

[The achievement tendency has been adjusted to 'Stubborn.']



[There are two unclaimed achievement rewards.]

[Translator –