Read Strongest Mage with the Lust system Chapter 171 Another Wild Night[2]

Chapter 171 Another Wild Night[2]

Rima lay there with her legs closed and her hand struggling to cover her big boobs that were easily larger than D cup size and looked very juicier.

Max couldn't hold himself back after seeing her boobs and moved her hands away before he started cupping, squeezing and kneading them.

They were soft like cotton and his finger would sunk into them with slight force. After playing with them like a child would play with their new toys, he started to lick, pinch and suck on her crimson-coloured nipples that were erect now due to his caresses.

However, even after that, she didn't make any sound which surprised and he would have thought that she wasn't feeling anything if her body was not trembling with each of her touch.

He stopped playing with her nipples and looked at her. Her face was flushed red, maybe because both she was turned on and holding her moans back.

"Why are you suppressing your moans?" He asked, smiling. \mathcal{OV} lxt. $c\mathbf{0}m$

Hearing his question, Rima became even more embarrassed and turned her face away and murmured in a low voice "I don't want anyone to hear me."

Max stared at her without saying anything for a moment before a smile appeared on his face.

He then started caressing her body. His hands squeezed and caressed her boobs and nipples while he kissed her lips, cheeks, neck and nibbled her earlobes.

"Mm..." A very faint moan escaped her lips even though she was doing her best to supress them but because he was teasing the sensitive parts of her body, she couldn't contain her excitement.

Max smiled and his right hand slowly went down towards her virgin pussy while caressing her smooth belly.

Rima was tightly clenching her legs together in nervousness. He slowly caressed her thighs to make her feel a bit more comfortable.

After a few moments, she slowly opened her legs, revealing a pink untouched pussy. It looked very beautiful.

He gently touched her clitoris and started rubbing it with his index finger.

"Mmf..." She let out a muffled moan as wave of wonderous felling coursed through her body from her clit and she bit her lip.

There were a few times where she had touched herself because of her curiosity. However, she hadn't felt so good even though he just touched her clit.

Max was very satisfied with her reaction and started to caress her outer labia while his thumb took the job to rub her clit. In just a few seconds, she became wet and while small moans kept escaping her lips.

When she was wet enough, Max slowly slid his middle finger inside her unexplored cave.

"Nngghhh~"

When his finger was only an inch inside her, she moaned loudly as her body stiffened and her legs clenched his hand tightly, not allowing him to move further while some sticky liquid poured out of her pussy. She had ejaculated.

Max was very surprised seeing this. She was too sensitive. It hadn't been even thirty seconds since he started teasing her clit and his finger was only one inch inside her pussy but she still came.

However, he became even more turned on by this and his cock hardened like a rock about to rip off his pants and come out. But her lower body was too stiff even though she came and wasn't ready to take his dragon yet.

Therefore, he started rubbing her clit a bit faster and more forcefully. Her clenched legs slowly opened once again and he started sliding his finger further inside her.

"Mmpff..." She moaned and her insides clamped on his finger when it was a bit more than two and half inch deep inside her. He didn't push any further slowly sliding his finger in and out, feeling her soft and wet insides. He also felt her hymen.

After doing it for a while and feeling that she wasn't as stiff as before, he took off his clothes. Grabbing his cock in his hand, he smeared her juices on it to make it a bit wet, then he rubbed it on her wet entrance a few times.

Rima's eyes went wide seeing his thing and seeing that he was about to put it inside, she stuttered "M-Max, i-it won't go in. I think-"

Max leaned down and sealed her lips with his to stop her from speaking any further. Rima looked at him and seeing his eyes burning with lust, she knew that it was too late to stop now. She hurriedly took out a small transparent tent and injected her mana into it which then expanded and covered the bed.

Max noticed it but didn't focus on it as there were more important that needed his focus right now. He grabbed her waist and set his cock on her pussy entrance.

Rima took a deep breath and closed her eyes. She clenched her teeth while her hands clenched the mattress tightly. She was very nervous and afraid right now. After seeing his thick cock, she knew that it was going to hurt a lot when it entered and small pussy.

Thrust!

Max gave a thrust and his cock broke her hymen and went four inches inside her tight yet soft tunnel.

"Ahhhhhhhhh..." Rima cried out loudly as a strong wave of pain assaulted her body and she started trembling like fish out of water. Blood started to pour out her pussy due to the breaking of hymen, dying his little brother red.

"Ugh!"

Unlike her, Max groan in pleasure feeling her virgin pussy that was no longer virgin, clenching his penis very hard.

He very much wanted to move now but had to stay put because she was in much too pain right now. Seeing her plight, he started to rub her clit and caressing her breasts in order to lessen the pain.

After waiting for a few minutes, the pain finally started to subside. Max looked at her and saw that her eyes were full of tears and she was looking at him with some resentment which made him smile wryly. He didn't know that she would feel so much pain.

He gently cupped her face in his hands, kissing her lips he said softly "Soon, I'll make you feel a lot of pleasure and forget about this pain okay."

Without waiting for her response, he slowly started moving his waist.

Chapter 172 Because Of You

Fwop! Fwop! Fwop!

He slowly started thrusting in and out of her untouched pussy. As his cock explored her insides, Max felt pure bliss due to how much her walls were tightening around his shaft and glans.

"Ahn~ Mm~ Oh~"

After a while, Rima's pained expression slowly became pleasure filled and she started to moan.

Max smiled seeing this and couldn't help but say "Aren't you worried of them hearing you now?"

Rima blushed and said "No, Mm... they won't." She then pointed to the layer of transparent sheet covering them like tent and said "This cover is sound proof. No matter how much commotion we make inside it, no one can hear it outside. Ahn~"

"Oh! So, you had already prepared something for this." Max was initially surprised but then smiled mischievously at her which made her blush even more.

She hurriedly shook her head "NO~ This artefact is something I always have with me. When practicing my sonic attack and trying to invent new spell, I use this so that other won't be bothered."

"Oh, I understand." Max nodded and raised her movement speed.

Fwop! Fwop! Fwop!

"Ahhnn~ Yesh~ Nngh~"

Rima's moans also became louder and more pleasure filled as his cock was reaching to deepest parts and was thoroughly scraping her inside, giving her a lot of pleasure.

Max kept increasing his pace slowly and sometimes he would slow down, enjoying her soft insides with his eyes closed.

While, Rima has now become like a wild animal and her moans had become louder and sensual. Even though it was her first time having sex, her insides started squeezing and loosening according to his rhythm which pushed the pleasure they were feeling to next level.

. . .

While Max and Rima were lost in fleshly pleasure, Belen, Leticia and Haory had completed their meditation for night.

Seeing that both Max and Rima weren't in the cave, Haory didn't say anything and laid down with her eyes closed, sleeping.

Belen and Leticia looked at each other and saw a bit of anxiety in each others' eyes. However, since there wasn't any sound coming from outside, they felt a little relieved.

Both of them stood up and walked out. But their footsteps pause after exiting the cave.

Belen smiled bitterly "It seems we have more competition now." Saying this she walked back into the cave.

Leticia didn't know what to feel and she also went back. After a while, both consoled themselves and slept.

. . .

In the morning, Belen and others woke up. The first thing they did was to look towards Max and Rima who were still sleeping on their respective beds.

Haory only gave them a glance before going out but Belen and Leticia's gaze scanned Rima's body to the minute detail before also going out to freshen up.

When it was afternoon, Max woke up, refreshed and stretched his body lazily. There was no one in the cave right now.

'They must be outside.' He thought and slowly walked out. However, before he could walk out, her heard fighting sounds. His expression changed and he moved out at his fastest speed.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Shua!

He appeared outside in an instant and was about to start casting his spells when he saw Belen, Haory and Leticia fighting one another.

Leticia was moving like wind between Haory and Belen dodging their attacks and attacking them with her wind blades. Even with her fast speed, she would be hit by their attacks every now and then. However, even after getting hit, she wouldn't get injured since they were only sparring.

Hoary stood on the right side of Leticia. The giant sand hand floated in front of her which was shooting out sand spikes at both Leticia and Belen while simultaneously defending against their attacks with her sand shields that would pop out of the earth whenever an attack came at her.

Belen was doing the same, she was also attacking both Leticia and Haory with her vines and four vines were flailing around her which would strike down any attack that came towards her.

After seeing that they were just sparring, Max looked around and found Rima sitting on the shore of water stream watching them battle.

He walked towards her. Rima noticed him coming and her face started becoming red as last night's images appeared in her mind.

Max sat down beside her and asked "Why aren't you joining them?"

"That's because I'm not their match and..." She replied with a sigh but stopped midsentence and looked away.

Max was puzzled by this and couldn't help but ask "And?"

"Because of you? Humph!" Saying this, she pouted her lips and didn't explain any further.

"Because of me?" He muttered in confusion. Then suddenly realised what she was talking about and a wry smile appeared on his lips.

Last night, his lust didn't seem to get satisfied no matter how many times he fucked her and would want to do it one more time. She was just too sexy and he couldn't help himself. $\mathcal{O}\mathcal{V}$ lxt. $\mathcal{C}\mathbf{O}m$

Therefore, he kept going for more than five hours without a break which was 'a bit' too much for someone who was doing it for the first time. He only stopped when she was practically begging him to.

"So, how are you feeling now?" He asked as his hand snaked around her waist her and made her sit on his lap.

"Kyaa..." She yelped in surprise and tried to move away but how could she escaped his clutches. She panicked pleaded "Max please stop, they can see us like this."

However, Max didn't release her and continued hugging her from behind. Rima was too embarrassed and panicked right now. She glanced at Belen and others and only after seeing them focused on their fight did she became a bit calmer.

She then put on a seductive smile on her lips and said "H-How about we go inside the cave and do whatever you want?"

Max was immediately tempted by her offer but understood why she was saying this. It was because she didn't want Leticia and others to see her like this because of shy personality.

He was amused and baffled. It was hard for him to believe that someone, who used to flirt with him boldly, was in reality so shy and embarrassed to be seen by others.

Chapter 173 Destruction Wheel

"Are you in the condition to do it now?" Max asked with an amused smiled.

"That..." Rima was speechless. It was right, she wasn't in the condition to do it after being ravaged last night so much.

Max didn't tease her any further and let go of her. Rima jumped off of his lap like a rabbit and sat one meter away, warily looking at him.

Seeing this, he couldn't help but smile wryly and ask "You know, you are my woman right?"

Rima nodded meekly "I-I know. But I-I'm just embarrassed a bit." Max didn't say anything more.

After that they watched Haory and others battle. Ten minutes later, Leticia was first one to withdraw as her mana reserves emptied out even though, she had more mana than Haory.

It was because, she had to constantly move around at rapid speeds which also used up her mana albeit at a low rate while each of her wind blade needed at least 50 mana units or higher, and right now she only had a bit more than 2500.

"Ah! You've woken up." Leticia exclaimed seeing him sitting beside Rima and quickly ran over and started asking him with about how she fought etc.

Seeing her behave so casually with him, Rima became a bit envious and couldn't help but sigh 'Maybe I'm a bit too much self-conscious.'

After a few more minutes, Haory also used up all her mana and the spar which marked the end of sparring session. After seeing him, she nodded slightly in greeting and sat in meditation right after.

After sparring, Belen also came over sat close to Max. She still had some mana left, after all she was a middle stage two-star mage.

After talking for a while, Max understood why they suddenly decided to start sparring.

It turned out that the fight against Bartan and his group made them realize their situation which could only be defined by word 'pathetic'.

Therefore, Haory proposed that they should focus on actual fight apart from cultivation. This way their cultivation would be consolidated quickly and they would know that in which aspect they were lacking and how to improve themselves.

After hearing this, Max nodded as he found this idea very good. He also realized that although he held quite a bit of strength which was almost at the top of his realm because of his new skill and high physical attributes, he was lacking in many aspects which he needed to work on, such as shortening the cast time of his spell.

Therefore, from then on, all of them started sparring and practicing their spells.

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Days flew by and now only a week was left before their outing period ended.

During this time everyone made significant progress. Because everyone was mainly focused on battling and improving their spells, Max didn't have much time to have sex. He could only do it at night just a few times since he and others would be too exhausted to do it anymore.

Therefore, he would do it with only one woman a day so that they would be satisfied and can benefit properly. However, even then, he accumulated one hundred thousand LPs. $\mathcal{O}V$ Ixt. $c\mathbf{0}m$

However, he had to spend forty thousand to unlock a grade three spell called [Destruction wheel] which he taught Rima because, she was getting more depressed by the day seeing them improving more and more.

It was a very powerful spell and didn't require any elemental mana. Like everyone else, Rima considered the mana spells useless since their power wasn't comparable to elemental ones. So, she didn't think much when he told her that he had a mana spell for her.

She didn't even want to learn it because she already had a few of such spells but the power they had wasn't anything good. She only agreed to learn it to show that she appreciated his help.

However, after hearing the chant, she was shocked. This spell wasn't anything ordinary and had the potential to kill or at least fight a three-star mage who has awakened his/her element, on equal footing.

After realising this, she took it seriously and learnt the chant from him. After which, she showed unparalleled focus and dedication towards it.

Initially, she couldn't even cast it properly because it required at least a thousand MP, just like Max's [calidus Brachium] required 1500 MP to cast it at its lowest strength.

Rima was only an initial stage mage with a little more than two thousand MP. To cast and control it, she needed at least 1800 MP since she didn't have enough control over it. So, obviously it wasn't feasible for someone with two thousand mana points to

exhaust ninety percent of their mana in a single cast unless they wanted permanent damage to their bodies and mana core.

After a few days of hard work on both field practicing the spell and on bed with Max, she became more familiar with it and gained a bit more control over it while her mana levels also rose by another thousand points making her a middle stage two-star mage.

When she cast it successfully for the first time, its power shocked everyone except Max. The reason of their shock was understandable since It was slightly more powerful than Leticia's wind bullets even though, it was clearly in its beginning stage and Rima's control over it was far from perfect.

The most shocking thing, was the fact that it was only a mana spell and not an elemental spell.

It made them wonder, where could he have gotten this spell from. In response to their questioning gazes, Max only smiled.

. . .

Right now, all of them were sitting on the edges of the water stream, chatting.

"Max, there's only one week left now and we don't have enough beast cores to pass. I think we should start hunting down the beasts." Haory suggested. She was getting impatient now and wanted to collect as many beast cores as they could, and earn more mana stones from the academy.

Chapter 174 Deadly Encounter[1]

"Yeah Max. We should go and hunt some beasts. That way we will be able to see exactly how much improvements we've made in these past few days while simultaneously earning more mana stones. Hehe." Leticia chimed in and waved her small fists excitedly.

Unlike before, Max found this suggestion to be very good. Initially, he had thought that some two-star beasts would come in the valley once in a while since there was a water source. This way, they won't have to put effort to search for them and could kill them to gather enough beast cores.

However, during these days for some reason, no matter how much commotion they caused, apart from a few one-star beasts, no two-star beast showed up. Maybe because this valley was located in the lower part of the two-star beasts' area.

He smiled seeing her become excited. She had improved a lot in past few days. Her control over mana had become more refined and she no longer wasted as much mana as before while fighting and casting spells.

Her [Wind Bullets] spell's cast time had also shortened because of her continuous practice. She also made quite a lot progress towards the peak of middle stage two-star thanks to regular interactions with Max and daily cultivation.

He then turned to look at Belen and Rima who also nodded in agreement.

Belen had reached the high stage and the power of her vines was now a notch higher than before. Max also found out that the spell she was cultivating a plant magic spell, [Vine Kingdom].

This spell was one of the super spells for plant magic users thousands of years ago. But over time, it was lost.

Some mages, who were proficient in plant magic mimicked it and created a low-end version of the original. Although its power degraded to very low point because of this, it was still among the top Middle grade high-level spells, comparable to a grade three spell, that no ordinary mage could get their hands on.

Max didn't ask how she got it since he wasn't interested. Moreover, after a casual search, he found that his system shop had the original [Vine Kingdom] spell and it was graded as a grade seven spell.

He decided that he will gift it to her when she reached four-star realm and he had enough LPs. Right now, he had sixty thousand LPs which were only enough to unlock the grade three sound spell which required 55,000 LPs, leaving only five thousand for him to use.

'Maybe I should have waited for a few days and then unlocked it instead of wasting LPs on that [Destruction wheel] spell.' Max thought.

Rima was getting more depressed by the day and he didn't have enough to unlock the sound spell then. But he couldn't bear to see his woman like that so he unlocked the [Destruction wheel] for her which would push her strength further and make her feel good.

Now seeing Rima smiling happily with everyone else, he shook his head 'It was worth it.' As for earning more LPs, he had three women willing to provide them anytime he wanted so he wasn't really lacking LPs.

Moreover, his attributes were at the top of two-star realm and his mana core also needed some consolidation due to him increasing his mana rapidly which made it somewhat flawed. To fix it, he might take a few more days. By then he would have enough LPs.

"Okay then we will hunt as many beasts as we can in these seven days while simultaneously moving towards the gathering point." Max nodded. He also wanted to test his improved strength and they had to reach the gathering spot in a week.

After deciding this, they rested for that day so that they would be in their peak forms.

. . .

Next morning...

They got ready to leave and after ascertaining the direction of the gathering point which was northwest, they walked out of the valley.

After travelling for two hours, they found a black bear that was in the middle stage twostar realm. It was a two meters tall and had thick arms with metallic black claws.

"Let us handle this one." Leticia and Rima looked at each other and volunteered. No one had any objection so they charged at it.

Shua!

Leticia's figure moved like wind and appeared 50 meters away from it. She conjured four wind blades and shot them towards its limbs.

Meanwhile, Rima also closed the distance between them and started casting her [Destruction wheel].

Roar!

Watching Leticia's wind blades coming at it, the black bear roared and swiped its claws rapidly.

Bang! Bang!

In just a second, all the wind blades were destroyed and dispersed in thin air. After that, the black bear roared and charged at Leticia with murderous look on its face.

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"Hehe..." Its speed was very fast but Leticia didn't panic like she would have before. She giggled softly and her body swayed easily dodging the strike.

Before the bear could recover after attacking, a few winds blade slashed at its legs.

Clang! Clang!

The blades successfully hit its legs but they didn't do any damage apart from infuriating it even further.

Roar!!

It roared furiously and its claws started shining this greyish light. It turned towards Leticia and swiped its claws at her.

Leticia retreated the moment it raised its arm to attack. A mocking expression appeared on bear's face seeing her retreat.

"Watch out!" Belen's voice sounded in her ears which made her alert and she watched the bear closely while moving back.

Swish!

The bear even after seeing that Leticia had moved out of its range swiped its claw at her.

Just when Leticia was thinking why would it still attack, a claw same as the bear's but only bigger, appeared only one foot away from Leticia's head and followed the bear's movement swiped down.

"Shit!"

Leticia cursed but didn't panic. Her wind mana enveloped her figure and her speed increased by three folds. Unfortunately, she didn't have enough time to dodge it.

Sou!

Bang!

Just then the sound of something piercing the air sounded and blasted into the claw made of mana.

Chapter 175 Deadly Encounter[2]

Bang!

A sharp wheel made of mana collided with the giant claw above her head which changed its trajectory by half a foot. Therefore, the claw only scraped past her shoulder but still left a deep gash.

The moment claw was diverted, Leticia moved back at her fastest speed. Only after moving 100 meters away did she catch her breath and felt the pain in her shoulder which was bleeding profusely and her shoulder bone had also been broken.

She hurriedly took out a healing pill and consumed it but the pain was making her want to scream loudly but she tried her best and gritted her teeth to prevent herself from screaming.

She had to learn how to endure the pain and not lose focus while fighting or death would be near. Other reason was that she didn't want to show her miserable side in front of Max.

"Arghh..."

She tried her best but the moment healing pill started to work, she started stinging pain in her wound making her unable to hold it in and let out a pained groan. Right after, she gained clarity and started casting her [Wind bullets].

Howl!

Just then she heard the pained cry of bear and when she looked towards it, she was surprised to find that the hand with which it struck at her was severed and blood was pouring out like a fountain.

ROAR!

It turned towards Rima and roared murderously before charging at her. Just when the bear was about to kill Leticia, she had used her [Destruction wheel] and cut its hands off.

"So, this is the true power of her spell." Leticia mumbled before hastening the speed of casting her [Wind bullets].

Rima didn't wait after using her spell and retreated behind the trees.

She could cast the [Destruction wheel] only two times with her current mana reserves and would even feel the strain on her mana core while casting it second time.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

However, her speed was a lot slower than the bear's and it was catching up to her very fast. But she didn't panic and ran in zigzag trying to throw it off.

"Should we assist?" Belen asked looking at her struggling to escape.

"No need." Haory said, her voice was a bit colder than usual.

She was the one who improved the least in terms of mana. Even Rima had surpassed her who was behind her initially. She could've but unlike other women in the group, she

was unwilling to accept Max's proposition as she believed that she could rely on herself to improve.

However, even without Max's 'help', she successfully broke into the middle stage showing her outstanding talent and reinforcing her belief.

Max could only sigh at this. He really wanted her but he wasn't someone who would force someone just to satisfy his lust.

"Hmm?" Belen frowned hearing her. Max smiled at her and pointed at Rima "Look carefully and you would know what she want to do."

Belen nodded and looked towards her and found that Rima was trying to stall for time and was leading it towards Leticia in a roundabout manner.

"Oh, I understand now." She didn't pay attention in her worry since she was most compassionate one and her relationship with everyone in the group was very good.

. . .

Phew!

Leticia exhaled. Three wind orbs were floating around her. She looked towards Bear that was only two meters behind Rima but she was using trees as her shield and was able to last until now.

"Go." Leticia pointed at the bear and all of the three wind orbs pierced the air at lightening speeds and ignoring Rima who was in front, attacked the bear from three different directions.

The black bear saw this but it didn't have time to dodge. Therefore, it slapped at the one wind bullet which was targeting its head and the mana form of its claw materialised which also slapped at it.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Although its claw strike was very powerful, it could barely destroy the wind bullet. However, the remaining two still struck on its chest and neck and pierced easily.

HOWL!!

It howled in pain but its pain cry soon died down as the wind bullet destroyed its neck and the other one destroyed its heart, effectively killing it.

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"Hah... Hah..."
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Leticia flopped on the ground and took deep breaths. Her face had a radiant smile which expressed her joy and she glanced at Max.

Max and others walked towards her with smiles on their faces.

Seeing the expectant look in her eyes. Max crouched in front of her and patted her head "You did a great job. Your wind bullets have become very deadly almost every middle stage beast should be seriously injured when struck."

"Hehe. Of course. I practiced a lot." Leticia puffed out her chest proudly and giggled happily.

Max looked at her lovingly and nodded. Even though her injury was hurting, she was acting as if it was nothing.

"Let's rest here for a while." He said and then turned towards Rima who was standing behind him looking at him slight expectation in her beautiful eyes.

"You were great just then. Good job." Hearing this, she nodded as a smile also appeared on her face.

After which, they took out the bear's beast core and rested while Rima and Leticia meditated to recover their mana and Leticia also refined the healing pill to hasten the healing process. In 20 minutes, her injury had healed around 20%.

After that they continued moving forwards. In just one day, they encountered three twostar beast which were slain by Belen, Haory and Rima without much difficulty.

. . .

While Max and others were travelling towards the gathering point, eleven figures were moving through the forest and soon entered the valley.

"No one is here. It seems they have left." The one leading them said who's face was disfigured. He was obviously Bartan. After escaping from Max, he wandered around and found two groups of disciples who agreed to help him kill Max in exchange for some resources. $\mathcal{O}V$ Ixt. $\mathbf{c}\mathbf{0}m$

"They must be heading towards the gathering point." A woman whose face was covered with black mask, said in hoarse voice.

"Right. Let's go. We've to kill them before they reach there." Bartan said and ran in northwest direction followed by others.

Chapter 176 Deadly Encounter[3]

"Let's rest here for the night." Max said. It was almost night and there was very low visibility. When in a forest, the night was the most dangerous time to travel.

The lack of light would restrict humans' vision which would delay their reactions when needed but won't affect most of the beast species much. Moreover, if one was unlucky and encountered some nocturnal beast, then there would be high chance of death.

His suggestion was welcomed by everyone. Belen used her vines and made five cots on the trees like before. This time too, Belen's cot was near Max's which made Rima and Leticia frown.

After that Leticia and Rima started arguing with Belen in hushed voice.

"Belen, aren't you being too unreasonable? Why is my cot far from Max's while yours is close to him when it's not even your turn tonight?" Rima said coldly, her face was red due to anger. It looked as if she would start fighting anytime soon.

"Yeah, its not good. If you are going to do this, then move my cot near Max's too." Leticia chimed in.

"What are you talking about? Tonight's my turn. Why would you be closer to him? Belen, please change cots with me." Rima said while glaring at Leticia.

After Rima had become Max's woman and they had started training, they only had a few hours to have sex in night.

Therefore, a problem arose. There wasn't enough time for everyone to spend with him. Belen suggested that they should sleep with him at the same time like she and Leticia did before but Rima and Leticia strongly opposed the idea.

After much discussion, they finally came to an agreement. They would take turns and spend the night with him.

Since Belen was strongest of them, her turn was first. After that it was Leticia and then Rima's turn.

Last night, it was Leticia who had sex with him so, it was Rima's turn today but Belen wasn't playing by the rules and Leticia also wanted to benefit from it which angered Rima who had been waiting for her turn for two days.

"Okay, I'll change cots with you." Belen finally relented seeing that she was truly angered. She knew that they wouldn't let her cheat but she had to try her luck.

Max who was helping Haory make dinner chuckled inwardly hearing their discussion.

. . .

After eating dinner, everyone was in their respective cots that had 10-15 meters of distance between them, of course, this wasn't the case for Rima's cot which was only one foot away.

She had volunteered to be the guard first. After meditating for around one hour, everyone went to sleep.

Seeing that everyone was asleep, Rima came onto Max's cot and used her sound blocking sheet to cover it completely.

Max opened his eyes and smiled at her. Without saying anything, he embraced her soft and curvy body and started kissing and caressing her. After that he undressed her while taking off his clothes too.

Rima wasn't as shy as before and she also kissed him back and started caressing his little brother. Under the stimulation of her soft hands, it gradually awakened and assumed its battle form.

Max's hand went over her delicate flower and started rubbing it before putting two of his fingers inside and started moving them in and out.

After a while, she was wet enough. So, without waiting for even a single second more, he put his hard rod inside her and a steamy sex session started.

"Nngh~ Ahn~ Hah~"

Thump! Thump! Thump!

Inside the sound blocking sheet, Rima moans and the sound of Max pounding her wet cave sounded without break.

. . .

Shua! Shua!

Under the cover of dark night, eleven figures were travelling like ghosts. The darkness seemed to have no effect on them as they were running through the forest at very fast speeds without any problem.

If one were to look closely, they would find that their eyes were glowing with white light which was helping them see clearly.

Thud!

They all stopped in a area which had signs of fighting and a body of a dead beast was lying in a puddle of blood and its beast core seemed to have dug out.

"Hmm, it seems that they were here three-four hours before. They should be nearby now" The leading figure, Bartan said after inspecting the area.

"It's already the third dead body we found and all of them are middle stage beasts if not stronger. Are you sure, apart from that Max guy, others are useless because I haven't seen any signs of fire which means they weren't killed by that guy." The masked woman asked with raised eyebrows. $\mathcal{O}V$ Ixt. $\mathcal{c}\mathbf{0}$ m

Others seemed to understand something as slyness shone in their eyes and also looked at Bartan with questioning gazes.

'Tch! Greedy bastards.' Bartan clicked his tongue in displeasure. He knew why she raised this point. She just wanted to use this as an excuse to raise their rewards.

"So, what if they have improved and are able to kill some middle stage beasts? Most of you are middle stage mages yourself. If even with your superior strength and number advantage, you can't kill them, what's your use?" Bartan coldly said and then ran forwards.

"Hehe..." The woman laughed in disdain and followed behind him. Others also followed.

. . .

"It was amazing. You are getting better by the day. Haha..." Max teased Rima who lying on top of him, naked.

They had just finished their session which lasted around two hours.

"You... humph!" Rima's face reddened upon hearing this and pouted her lips.

Seeing her become embarrassed, Max pinched her nose and said "Okay. Go and cultivate now."

Rima was a bit reluctant to leave his embrace but she also knew that she had to cultivate before the energy started dissipating.

Therefore, she unwillingly stood up and dressed herself. After giving him a kiss, she went to her cot and started cultivating.

Max used his fire to evaporate the sweat and wore his clothes. He lay there while focusing his senses around them so that he would know if there was any danger. His could sense the movements and hear even the faintest sound in the 200 meter radius.

'What if I raise to my intelligence to 100 points or more. How much would improve my senses?' He wondered.

Rustle!

'Mm?' Just when he was wondering this, he heard some faint rustling sounds.

Chapter 177 Deadly Enounter[4]

As he heard the sounds coming from his right side, his senses immediately heightened and he became alert.

He slowly moved his neck and looked from the small holes in his vine cot.

There, he saw some black shadows sneaking towards them.

'Who are they?' He frowned and started circulating his mana.

Fire elemental mana started to swirl around his right fist without making any sound.

Due to him solely focusing on the [Calidus Brachium], his control over it became more refined which reduced the cast time by ten seconds.

Furthermore, he found one more way to save the time when casting this spell. That was to gather and compress the mana required to activate the spell in advance, around his fist.

However, this task wasn't as easy as it sounds like because, he had to hold the compressed mana and not let it disperse until it was time to cast the spell.

To do this, one had to have high affinity with their mana and great control.

Fortunately for Max, his affinity was high enough especially the fire elemental mana affinity and although, his control couldn't be classified as 'outstanding', his improved intelligence, that not only enhanced his senses, but it also passively increased his control.

With some practice, he was able to gain enough control to hold the compressed mana around his fist for approximately twenty seconds.

There are two most time-consuming steps when casting a spell. First, the mana injection and second, moving it in some complex ways according to the description of the spell.

However, since he was able hold the compressed mana, the first step was almost eliminated, he was able to cut the casting time by half and when needed, he only needed to move it according to the spell which didn't take as much time.

Therefore, he started compressing his mana the moment he saw these suspicious figures and because he wasn't really casting any spell only manipulating his mana, there weren't any fluctuations and they weren't able to sense anything wrong.

However, soon his eyes widened noticing more than ten figures.

Even if he could take them by surprise, using his [Calidus Brachium] he could only kill one among them and would need around forty seconds to cast again which was enough time for them to attack and stop him.

'Fuck. What should I do? If only, I had an area destruction spell like [Death Rain]...' Max cursed before instantly becoming joyful 'Although, the [Death Rain] isn't too powerful and can't do much harm to the beasts of middle stage or higher, it is enough to kill human who don't have their guard up.'

Quickly, a plan formed in his mind. While gathering the mana for [Calidus Brachium], he waited for them to come in 200 meter radius that was the maximum range of [Death Rain].

He then used his mana to create light gusts of wind that tickled Rima and others faces in a weird pattern.

It was their sign of alerting everyone if there was danger nearby. Leticia had come up with this idea after Bartan's attack. This way the enemy wouldn't know that they were aware of the danger and could take him off guard.

Rima's brows furrowed slightly before returning to normal. However, she had stopped cultivating and stimulated her mana to the limits, ready to attack anytime.

Haory and others also woke up but didn't move and only stimulated their mana.

In a few seconds, the figures entered the 200 meter range.

'Now!' Max shouted inwardly and cast the [Death Rain] which only took two seconds before the fire arrows shot towards them with lightening fast speed thanks to Max expending 200 MP extra.

. . .

After searching for two hours, Bartan and others finally arrived where Max's group was staying.

When they were 500 meters away, Bartan and other saw them sleeping on the trees.

Bartan signalled them to stop and said in low voice "That guy has sharp senses. So, we have to be careful and not make any noise until we are in two hundred meter range. Only then can we attack or they might be alerted."

After the last encounter, he was a bit familiar with Max and knew that his senses were extraordinary compared to others in the two-star realm. Therefore, he didn't want to take the risk of alerting him and kill while he slept.

Seeing that no one responded, his expression became cold and he grimly said "Understand?"

"Yeah. Can we go and kill them already?" A man said lazily and pointed towards Max and others "They are asleep or cultivating right now. Do you think they can notice us if we sneak up to them? They are only two-star mages. Scaredy cat."

Hearing this, rest of the group also looked at him with disdainful gazes. They thought that he was too scared of him and being overly cautious. However, the masked woman frowned and said in displeasure "Can't you be a bit more careful if he is saying this?"

Hearing her say this, everyone become a bit more respectful and nodded. This was because, this masked woman was the strongest person among them apart from Bartan had a dangerous background.

After that they cautiously sneaked towards them. When they stepped in the 200 meter range, Bartan turned to look towards the other members of his group and said in hushed voice "Everyone, kill them as fast as you can. You'll get your promised-"

Shua! Shua! Shua!

However, he stopped speaking mid-way when he noticed that the forest had suddenly lit up and heard the sound being pierced.

His expression changed drastically and shouted "Everyone scatter and dodge!"

He and the masked woman reacted instantly. He used his water barrier to cover himself while the masked woman used dark chains and easily struck down the arrows. However, others weren't able to react in time.

"Ahhh..."

Screams sounded in the quite forest as one-meter-long fiery arrows pierced the rest of the members of their group.

When the arrows stopped raining down, three people had died with their head or heart pierced. Two were severely injured and didn't have much fighting ability left while the remaining four also received light injuries. Only Bartan and the masked woman were uninjured.

'Retards. Didn't I warn you to be alert.' Bartan scoffed in his heart while hiding behind the trees. Their life and death didn't matter to him as long as he could kill Max.

He then started casting his water bullets spell while ordering others to attack them.

. . .

Max almost couldn't hold and shouted in joy seeing this. He didn't expect to have such result. However, it wasn't time to be happy. He jumped down from his cot and moved towards Bartan's group while shouting.

"Everyone focus on defence as you attack." Rima and others nodded and also jumped down.

Belen, Rima and Haory took cover behind the trees before they started attacking them while Leticia also ran towards Bartan and others.

Her speed was as fast as Max now. In a few seconds, she arrived before one man who only had slight injuries and started attacking with her wind blades while easily dodging his attacks.

In just a while, wind blades, sand spikes and vines wrecking havoc among Bartan's group and didn't let them catch a breath.

"Fuck!" The masked woman cursed upon seeing their fierce assault. The ones who escaped the fire arrows with slight injuries quickly became more injured.

Shua!

Suddenly, her figure seemed to have merged with the darkness and moved towards Belen and others. She first decided to take them out before fighting Max and Leticia.

"Where are you going?"

Suddenly, she heard a cold voice beside her and saw Max only meter away from her with his fist raised that was burning with crimson fire.

BANG!

Without giving her any chance, Max punched at her back without holding back. However, he underestimated her. In just a second, a dark shield appeared in front of her and blocked his punch.

"Don't underestimate me, pretty boy." She smirked while holding the shield.

Crack... Crack... Crack...

However, her smugness was soon turned into astonishment and then disbelief as her dark shield started cracking and soon broke into pieces. \mathcal{OV} Ixt. $c\mathbf{0}m$

Max looked at her coldly and then kicked out at her abdomen. However, he was also surprised to see his [Calidus Brachium] being blocked.

Bang.

She was hit and spit out a mouthful of blood before being thrown back.

Swish! Swish!

Before she could crash into the tree, dark chains materialised from her back like spider's legs and dug into the ground and trees, stopped her from crashing.

"Pfff..." Slowly the chains vanished and she dropped down on the ground and spit out the remaining blood and giggled.

"Hehe, I didn't expect you to be actually this strong. It seems that guy was saying the truth"

Max frowned. The woman in front of him didn't seem to afraid even after knowing his true strength and from the way she was looking at him seemed like as if she was looking at her pray.

Chapter 178 Deadly Encounter[5]

Sou! Sou!

Just as he was about to continue attacking the masked woman, he was attacked from the side.

Shua!

He reacted instantly and dodged to the side. Looking over, he saw Bartan hiding behind a tree 100 meters away and attacking him with another water ball. He quickly dodged it too.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

All three water balls went past him and collied with the trees behind. Immediately, three one-meter-thick tree trunks were blasted apart.

"What power!" Max exclaimed while wiping the cold sweat from his forehead. If he was even a second late, he would have been seriously injured if not dead. He wasn't delusional enough to think that his body was tougher than the tree.

Seeing his attack miss, Bartan quickly hid behind the trees and started casting this water bullet spell again. Like Max and others, he also needed some time to cast it.

"Hehe... are you going to ignore me now?" Suddenly a cold yet enchanting voice sounded close to him.

Before he could react, a dark chain lashed towards his head.

Boom!

Since he couldn't dodge in time, he conjured a 300 MP fireball to counter the strike which caused an explosion.

However, the dark chain didn't disperse even after that and his chest that left a light wound.

Thankfully, the explosion had reduced its power and changed the attack trajectory or it wouldn't only have been a light wound.

Seeing this, he immediately retreated as his frown deepened. This woman was very strong and her control over dark element was very masterful comparable to Hoary's. A single chain that she casually created was two times as powerful as his fireball.

'It's very troublesome now.' Max felt his head hurting. If it was only this woman, he had the confidence to face her and kill her even though it might take some time. However, there was also Bartan who was waiting to strike the moment he lowered his guard.

"Ahhh..." Just then a shrill scream sounded. Max and the masked woman turned to look and saw one of the man being pierced by Belen's vines.

Swish!

Another vine sprouted out from behind him, and pierced his head. After that she directed her vines towards a woman who was fighting against Leticia. Because of Belen's addition, she quickly suffered some injuries was soon put in a deadly situation.

The masked woman's expression became ugly upon witnessing this. She glared at Bartan and shouted "Ugly bastard. If you don't want to die, help them."

Bartan became angry at what she him but he still went to help them and started attacking Belen.

Seeing this, Max's eyes twinkled. Belen could keep Bartan busy for a few minutes which meant he could fight the masked woman without having to worry about Bartan taking advantage.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Instantly, he conjured two fireballs and shot them at her.

Boom! Boom!

The masked woman also reacted quickly and attacked with her dark chain, exploding both the fireballs before they could get near her.

Seeing this, Max wasn't discouraged and started spamming fireball after fireball, forcing her to continuously defend.

. . .

"Huff... huff..."

After a while, the masked woman's breathing rate had become quicker and her movements started to become sluggish.

Max on the other hand seemed completely fine apart from a frown that was still present on his brows.

He had used a total of five thousand mana points until now and only had three thousand plus more but this woman was still holding on.

On the other side of the battlefield, Bartan was suppressing Belen and Leticia single handedly.

Initially, Belen was able to hold on but very quickly, her advantage turned into disadvantage because his water snakes were able to badly damage her vines and she had to use more mana to sustain them.

After a while, Leticia finished off her opponent and came to help but even then, they weren't able to gain the upper hand.

Haory was also finding her opponent difficult as her opponent was a strength type mage who had high defense. So her sand spikes were only able to cause some minor injuries to him.

Rima on the other hand had cut her opponent's hand off with her destruction wheel but after that, she wasn't given time to conjure it another time.

Moreover, her opponent had gone berserk after having her hand disabled permanently and started attacking her in a frenzy. Without any spell to attack or defend, she could only try to dodge and occasionally attack her with her sonic spell which did nothing more than stunning her opponent for a while.

Therefore, very quickly, her body was riddled with injuries and was in a very bad condition.

Huu!

Max took a deep breath after dodging another one of the masked woman's attack and cast the [Death Rain].

Swoosh!

A few dozen arrows materialized in the air and pointed towards her which caused the masked woman's expression to change.

'I have enough mana to defend against this spell but after that I'll be completely vulnerable. Tch, only if this bastard hadn't destroyed my shield.' The masked woman glared at Max.

The shield she was talking about was the dark shield which she used to block his [Calidus Brachium].

It was a grade two mid-level artefact and could block most of the attacks from peak twostar mages but it was shattered in one strike from him.

She then quickly analysed the current situation and found only four of her teammates alive. Two of which were fighting against Rima and Haory while two were lying on the ground because of the serious injuries they received from Max's surprised attack.

'Sigh! This task failed miserably.' She sighed inwardly. Then she looked at Max and smiled "I've to admit defeat this time. However, the next we meet, I'll defeat you for sure."

"Heh! Do you think I would let an enemy like you escape?" Max scoffed at her words and the fire arrows swooshed down on her.

"Hehe... You think you can stop me..." The masked woman laughed and turned into dark shadow.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

As the fire arrows fell down and caused the small-scale explosions on the ground, the black shadow weaved through them and vanished into the trees.

"Damn it!!" Max cursed in frustration. He let another enemy that might prove to be even more troublesome than Bartan.

"Hehe... Don't worry. I won't target you like this guy. I'll challenge you to fair battle and kill you." Just then, the masked woman's voice sounded from behind him.

Shua!

Max turned around and saw her carrying her two injured comrades and vanished into the forest once again.

Seeing her retreat, Haory's opponent also retreated and forced Rima's opponent to go with him.

Sigh!

Max sighed. He really wanted to kill her so that she won't be another nuisance to him but he didn't expect her to have to the ability to escape even though she was almost out of mana.

'Let's hope she is true to her word.'

He then turned towards Bartan who was fighting Belen and Leticia.

"Fuck!!" Bartan cursed seeing the masked woman and others retreat.

He was counting on the masked woman to kill him or at least severely injure him so that he could finish him off.

He quickly conjured a dozen water snakes and attacked both Leticia and Belen before running into the forest to escape.

Chase!

Belen and Leticia instinctively wanted to chase after him after dealing with the water snakes.

Whoosh!

However, just then Max whooshed past them "Wait here."

When Bartan was only 200 meter into the forest, he caught up to him.

Sou! Sou!

Fire arrows materialized above him flew toward Bartan, lightening up the dark forest.

"Ahh!!"

Seeing him catch up to him, Bartan knew that he won't be able to escape today. He shouted and cast his water barrier which deflected all the arrows but this also weakened his barrier.

Max appeared in front of him and started casting [Calidus Brachium] and said laughingly "Why are you escaping now? Didn't you say you will kill me the next time we meet. Don't tell me your words are only worth shit."

Bartan trembled in anger hearing him mock him. Never in his life he felt this humiliated. He gritted his teeth and took out a blood red pill.

"Today, I'll kill you even if I have to die in process." After saying this he brought the pill close to his mouth but his hand trembled. He knew that he would definitely die soon after eating this pill.

He then looked at Max and thought 'If I die after killing him, I'm sure Dalton family won't mistreat my family.' Thinking this, he stopped hesitating and ate the pill. He didn't have any path to retreat after asking so many resources from Dalton.

Boom

Immediately after eating the pill, his aura became two-fold stronger while his skin started reddening and cracking

"Mm?" Max frowned seeing this and retreated. He got an intense feeling of danger from him right now. Ovlxt.coM

"Where are you going. Die!" Bartan shouted and three water bullets materialized in front of him in an instant and shot at Max which caused latter's expression to freeze.

Chapter 179 Crazed Bartan

It wasn't impossible to cast spell instantaneously. If one had high level of mastery over a spell, they could do it.

For example, on earth, when someone try to ride a bicycle for the first time, they would find it very hard to maintain the balance, let alone ride it.

However, after getting familiar with it, they could do it without any effort. Some wouldn't even need to hold the handlebars to keep it stable as they already have a significant level of mastery over it, and could do multitasking like talking on mobile phone etc.

The same rule apply on the magic spell too. The more you use it, the better you become.

Max for example, could now cast his fireball spell at a moment's notice. Because he had used it some many times, his body and mind had become extremely familiar with it.

The moment he willed it, his mana would flow automatically without him needing to control it and the fireball spell would be cast. This whole process would be very smooth and wouldn't take much time.

However, this wasn't the case for Bartan. He wasn't at the level to cast [Water Bullets] like this. If he was, it would have been easy for him to kill Max.

'It must be that pill. It not only doubled his strength but also made his mastery level rise to peak.' Max thought and expression became solemn.

Shua!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

He pushed his agility to the limits and dodged to the side. The water bullets crashed behind him and causing destruction.

Huu...

Max heaved a cold breath. The situation had become very dangerous now.

Bartan's mana seemed to have replenished and increased to the peak stage while he only had around two thousand mana points right now.

"Let's see how many times you can dodge now. I'll kill you first before killing those bitches. Hahahaha..." Bartan laughed like a crazed person and another three water bullets appeared in front of him. He didn't give him any time to retreat and forced him to dodge.

Seeing this, Max's expression was solemn and prepared to dodge again while calling out to his system.

"System, is there any way for me to raise my spell mastery to peak in a short time?" He could only ask his system right now.

If there was any way to raise his spell mastery, the situation would be changed.

[No, Host. The methods that can do such things cause irreversible harm to human and in most cases, they would be crippled for life or even die. For this reason, the system doesn't have such things.] System replied.

Sou!

One water bullet was shot towards Max.

"Fuck!!"

Max cursed and dodged once again. However, just as he dodged, another water bullet was shot at him from the direction where his body was moving due to momentum.

Bartan had a hideous smile on his face. Although, he appeared on the verge of insanity, he could still think things through.

Siii!

Max didn't have much time to stabilize proper and hurriedly twisted his body to the other direction and jumped to the side. But he wasn't fast enough and the water bullets brushed passed his ribs, leaving a deep gash.

Max clenched his teeth in pain. Bartan's eyes twinkled and shot the last water bullet two meters to the side where Max would land.

Max's expression became grim and there were signs of panic in his eyes.

Because his body was above the ground and moving sidewards, he knew that this water bullet would collide with him the moment his body landed.

However, even though he knew this, he couldn't do anything as he didn't have wind element that can help mages to change the direction mid-air.

He remembered a saying that you won't have to worry if you have a hundred dumb enemies stronger than you because you could always beat them with wits. However, you would have to worry if your enemy is only one and weaker than you but has wits.

However, right now Bartan was both. He was witty and stronger than him under the effect of the pill.

Max quickly suppressed his panic and conjured up three 300 MP fireballs that shot out to meet the water bullets.

Bang!

The first fireball exploded upon contact with the water bullet.

Sou!

There wasn't any visible signs of the water bullet's weaking or slowing down as it continued forward.

Bang!!

The second fireball collided right after and exploded. It was able to slow the bullet down by a small fraction of seconds which wasn't much and it continued forward.

Bang!!!

Third fireball also collided and exploded. Finally, the water bullet was slowed down a bit and its power also seemed to have weakened a bit.

Seeing this, Max was a bit relieved.

Bang...

The moment his feet landed on the ground, he circulated his mana in his legs and forcefully stomped the ground and was able to dodge it a hair's margin.

"Mm?"

Bartan's smile froze seeing him dodge his attack. However, he soon laughed and started casting his water bullets once more.

"Argh..." Just he started channeling his mana, he groaned in pain. "Fuck. The side effects are kicking in so soon." His face was contorted in pain and the spell was stopped mid-way.Ovlxt.coM

Although the blood red pill had doubled his power and even replenished his exhausted mana. It's side effects had also started acting.

His mana core became brittle due to the sudden increase in mana and started cracking. His bones became soft and skin started to crack more and more, causing blood, which had somehow turned blakish, to seep out.

In just a moment, his figure became all bloodied and looked horrendous.

The pill he took was a forbidden, grade three pill called 'Blood Berserk Pill'. It had the capability to squeeze out every ounce of mana from the host's blood and bones and channel it to mana core raising his power by one-fold.

It also makes the mind to go in a kind of hypnotic state and force mind to work many times faster, making the thought process, reaction speed and the mastery of spell cast to rise dramatically.

However, nothing comes free. Because it drains the mana from blood and bones and mana in the mana core rises so unnaturally, mana core and the body soon starts to fall apart, causing the instant death.

That's why this pill was classified as forbidden and whoever found producing it, would be killed without any question asked.

"Grrr..."

Bartan gritted his teeth hard and suppressed the pain. He then started to cast his water bullets spell once more. However, it was taking a bit longer compared to before.

Seeing this Max's eyes twinkled. He retreated a few meters more.

He then opened his status screen and into the shop feature and tapped on a pill worth 30 thousand. A message asking for the conformation of the unlock appeared in front of him. He clenched his teeth and tapped yes.

Just as he did so, thirty thousand LPs vanished from his total of 63 thousand and a pea sized, green pill appeared in his inventory.

This pill was a grade two pill that can help recover a maximum of five thousand units of mana while causing minimal harm to mana core that could be easily recovered after a few days of cultivation.

He found this while browsing through the shop a few days ago. When he asked Belen, who had the knowledge about medicine about it, he found out that there wasn't any pill that could do this.

He quickly took it out and ate it.

Weng~

A cooling sensations spread through his body the instant he ate it and then converged towards his mana core.

In just a few seconds, his he had recovered five thousand units of mana.

"Die!"

Just as the assimilation process finished, he heard Bartan's shout.

Shua!

Without thinking anything, he moved in between the trees at his fastest speed and successfully dodged his attack.

Before he was in disadvantage due to the close range. But now that he had some distance from him, he could easily dodge his water bullets. At the same time, he started casting [Calidus Brachium].

He was only worried about Belen and others. Although he had told them to wait there, if they came here after hearing the fighting sounds, they would definitely be killed by Bartan in his crazed state.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Seeing him dodge his attacks, Bartan went mad and started spamming water ball after water ball. However, his enemy kept dodging successfully each time.

"Ahhhhh..." Bartan howled in pain and madness. After casting his spell five times in a row, each time consuming more than a thousand mana units, his mana reserves had depleted by half and the water barrier that he still had around himself also consumed another thousand units but he wasn't able to kill him yet.

Just as he was about to cast his water bullets another time, he saw Max's fist glowing with the sparks of flame and a dangerous light flashed in his bloodied eyes.

Thud!

He fell on his knees with a thud and seemed to have no energy to attack and the barrier around him also started to flicker as if it would vanish any moment.

"Nice!"

Max saw this and became excited. His cast was almost complete and he was thinking how he could approach him without getting hit by his attacks.

Shua!

His figure flashed towards him.

"Mm?"

When he was about fifty meters away, he suddenly frowned as he sensed the mana gathering in front of Bartan.

Swish!

Just then Bartan raised his head and smiled cunningly.

Three water bullets started to materialise in front of him.

"Fuck." Max cursed as he realised that he had fallen into his trap.

However, this time he didn't retreat. Instead, he pushed his speed to the limits and raised his fist.

Chapter 180 Bartan's Death

Realizing that he had fallen into his trap, Max knew that he couldn't retreat now. If he tried, given the close proximity, he would definitely be hit with his water bullets and die.

Therefore, he took a deep breath and sped off towards him at his top speed even though his subconscious mind was telling him to avoid the danger.

When he was twenty meters away from him, Bartan had cast his water bullets and was about to fire them at him.

"This is your end. DIE!!"

He shouted with excitement and all three water bullets shot out from front, right and left, aiming at Max's head, chest and abdomen respectively.

Shua!

Max eyed the water bullets and just when all three bullets were one-meter away, he took a step to his right side, dodging the ones, that were aimed at his head and abdomen.

Sou!

The third water bullets came piercing towards his chest and because he had moved towards it, he was sure to get hit. Bartan looked at this scene and his eyes shone with excitement.

Swoosh!

Just at that moment, Max raised his fist, that was blazing with crimson fire till his wrist unlike before when only his fist would be covered, and struck at the water ball at lightening-speed.

BOOM

The water bullet was destroyed when it collided with his fist. After destroying it, Max didn't give Bartan any chance to react and appeared in front of him in the next moment and struck at his barrier with full force.

BANG!!

Boom!

The moment his fist crashed into the barrier, it shattered like glass and Bartan was hit squarely on his chest and his torso exploded like water ball, black blood and flesh flying around.

Shua!

Max retreated avoiding the blood and flesh from staining him and looked at him coldly.

Bartan had a look of horror on his face as his body was destroyed before he fell on ground.

His consciousness started to fade away. Just before he died, his bloody eyes had tears and his lips moved to produce faint voice "...Father, mother... I'm so..rry..."

Although his voice was very faint, Max heard it clearly and was surprised. He didn't curse him for killing him neither did he curse Dalton or anyone other. He was thinking about his family.

Suddenly, Max felt a bit empathetic seeing this. He knew that Bartan didn't have any enmity with him and was ordered to kill him by his master and was just doing what he was told to. However, Max didn't feel guilty killing him. After all he had tried to kill him.

Phew~

He let out a breath and sat down to catch his breath. After fighting with the Masked woman and then Bartan, he was out of stamina.

He then went and took Bartan's spatial bag and opened it and was surprised to see many resources in it. "It's to be expected I guess. If he didn't have anything, how could he have hired others." He quickly put everything that was inside it into his inventory and threw the spatial bag since it was covered in blood.

Just as he was going towards Belen and others, he stopped and burnt Bartan's corpse.

. . .

In a tree more than 200 meters away, sat a graceful figure with black mask covering her face. She was the masked woman who had escaped before.

"This man isn't simple. He is strong and has such a terrifying spell which shouldn't be from the academy since he is just a newbie and that pill he consumed which replenished his exhausted mana..." She murmured to herself while watching him leave with an interested expression. She then vanished in the forest.

When Max arrived where Belen and others were, he saw Rima finish off a two-star beast that was restricted by vines.

"Ahh... You're back." Leticia exclaimed and turned into a blur and threw herself in his embrace.

Max hugged her and gently patted her back "What happened?" He asked softly.

Leticia came out of his embrace, her eyes a bit teary. "We heard the fighting sounds and I wanted to go and help you but Haory said that I will just be a burden to you if I go. So..."

"You were worried about me." Max completed her sentence with a smile, his heart felt warm.

"Mhm." Leticia nodded and suddenly noticed the wound on his ribs "Ah... You're injured."

She then turned towards Belen and shouted in panic "Belen, give me your life potion. Max is injured." 0 v l x t. co M

Seeing this, Max, Belen, and Rima had wry smile on their faces.

Max held her face in his palms and said "It's only a light injury and I've already taken a healing pill. Don't worry."

Leticia's face flushed realizing that she had overreacted. Max smiled seeing her embarrassed expression and hugged her. He knew that like Belen and others, she wasn't matured enough to keep her calm and he also liked the feeling of having someone show their care for him.

After that he asked everyone if they were alright.

Apart from Rima, who had received a lot of injuries all over her body, others were safe.

. . .

After letting Rima recover for a while, they changed the location since more beasts had started to converge there.

They found a comparatively secluded place where Belen and Haory made a few thick walls for protection and rested.

Belen was tasked to guard first while others recovered their mana and slept.

After everyone had fallen asleep, Rima went to Belen.

"Why are you still up?" Belen asked.

"Um... Belen, can you give me some of your life potion?" Rima asked hesitantly.

Belen looked at her up and down and noticed that she had some wound marks on her face, hands etc. She nodded and gave it to her as she smiled teasingly at her.

Rima's face reddened slightly seeing. She nodded and said "Thank you Belen. I'll repay you in future."

"It's okay." Belen waved her hand. After that Rima drank it and started meditating to digest it.

After one hour, her wound marks disappeared and some hidden injuries also healed.

She took out a mirror and saw that her face looked same as before and she let out a breath. Like every woman, she also treasured her beauty and wanted to look best in front of her man.