

S vs Rebirth 621

Chapter 621 Agreed

With the authorization, they began their preparation. The entire fort became extremely busy since they were expecting hundreds if not thousands of demons coming straight at them. This would be the first huge battle with the demons.

On the one hand, they had fortified the area with forts and ditches. On the other hand, the demons wouldn't be that easily stopped by all these. The powerful demons should be able to penetrate the fort with their power, so they had to be careful during the preparation.

As expected, the first one to return to the base was none other than Plant Lord's squad.

Noel met up with Zion to ask him a few questions regarding the Plant Lord. He hadn't told Zion that the Plant Lord was suspicious. But due to this, the Plant Lord shouldn't realize that Zion was observing him this whole time.

This was one of Noel's plans. However, it wasn't enough.

He had already made a plan to isolate the Plant Lord. But as one would expect from the Plant Lord, his reputation didn't allow Rhane to ask for his cooperation with the ambush.

That was why Rhane didn't do anything to convince the Plant Lord. Instead, she was waiting for any captain to discuss it personally with the Plant Lord.

The second squad to return was Captain Shale's squad. They waited for the demons to leave first. Once the peace was restored, they sneaked out of the building and tried to regroup with the others.

Although they didn't see Septa's squad, they personally witnessed Plant Lord's squad leaving the facility. So, they decided to regroup with the others to think of their next plan.

Just like Rhane's explanation, Captain Clara and the Stone Lord led their squads to loop around the base in order to confuse the demons. With the help of the Stone Lord, they made significant progress in stalling them.

This way, they should have a few minutes to react before the demons reach the fort.

But to everyone's surprise, the third one who returned to the fort was not Captain Clara or the Stone Lord. Instead, it was Septa.

Noel finally saw the opportunity in Shale's existence and Septa's expression.

He sneaked around to see the two captains, trying to get a meeting with both of them at the same time.

And since he was trusted by Clara, the two ended up agreeing to his request and met him privately.

Noel confirmed the suspicion in Septa's face first before he said, "I believe there's no need to introduce myself anymore. So, I'll skip the pleasantries. I need your help."

"What kind of help?" Shale asked. He knew that this masked boy was Noel. With his high expectation, he wondered what Noel wanted to do in this situation.

"I want your help to convince the Plant Lord to set up an ambush outside the fort. With his strength and the surrounding woods around us, I believe he is the perfect person to sneak attack them."

The two captains were confused. They also brought up the same problem that would arise once they did something like that.

Noel simply said, "We will send a scout that can help him escape in case something happens."

"!!!" Septa immediately widened his eyes in shock as if he had realized something important. He had talked with the shadow that appeared inside the building.

He recalled the conversation.

"I only have one task. It's to kill the Plant Lord. The evidence is not big, but I have made a promise. And I think it's already a bit obvious about the relationship between the Plant Lord and the Supreme Devil Organization, especially regarding the case of the extinct plant."

"!!!" Septa widened his eyes at that time. He had gotten the report from his subordinate about the shadow that helped them deal with a Devil Bishop. His strength was so overwhelming that he could limit the search to only a few people. And in that instant, he recognized the identity of that shadow. "I see. So, you must be the Captain of the Demon Assassination Squad, the rumored Shadow that managed to complete every single target except for the last one."

"And if I'm not wrong, it means you are related to the Ardagan Family. Looking at the current situation, there's no Ardagan on the surface. But how convenient to have ladre appear after Noel Ardagan mysteriously 'died' in that valley. Isn't that right?"

The shadow was silent for a while. "My identity doesn't matter. All I need is your cooperation."

"You must have used your connection to contact my mentor." Septa sighed. "Though, I can't simply dismiss the suspicion when the smell is already too much for my nose."

Septa couldn't ignore the extinct plant and the mushrooms. Ultimately, he nodded his head. "Alright. I'll cooperate with you... or more precisely, Noel Ardagan."

The shadow smiled and disappeared. Even Septa had a hard time finding his presence and trace of Spiritual Energy.

After remembering the conversation, Septa sighed and stated, "Alright. I'll agree with your suggestion. In fact, I'm the one who will accompany the Plant Lord. This will stop the Tower Association from complaining."

"However, I'm not going to reveal my identity. I'm going to disguise myself as a member of the Zero Squad."

Noel remained serious, but the shock was reflected on Shale's face. He never expected Septa to agree to this kind of suggestion. At the same time, thinking about Noel, he might have done something that caused Septa to agree.

He became interested in Noel even more. He said, "I can agree to that. In fact, with the current situation, it's better for me to take the reign of the fort."

"With this, no one will complain if Septa is missing somewhere since I can simply brush the matter by sending him somewhere."

"However, I have a condition." Shale raised one finger.

"A condition?" Noel tilted his head in confusion. This wasn't the time to put on a condition.

But Shale's condition was simpler than he thought.

He simply pointed at Noel and said, "You... become my vice commander during the siege."

Chapter 622 Clara's Strength

"Let's go!"

"Hurry up!"

Clara and the Stone Lord shouted while looking back. Their bodies had been covered with wounds. And one of the Demon Extermination Squad members had fallen.

The rest of the people also had been covered in wounds.

They had been truly ambushed by the enemies. They thought they had managed to stop the demons from causing any damage. But they never thought that the demons would attack them from another side.

When they were circling the building to return to the fort, they were ambushed by another Superior Demon.

They managed to kill more than a hundred demons, including two Peak Level Demons, but as expected, they had to sacrifice a lot.

The Superior could be handled by Captain Clara and the Stone Lord, but they had to face numerous demons and multiple Peak Level Demons when fighting those two Superior Demons. And this was the result.

Clara gritted her teeth, looking around. 'Our condition is not good right now. The others can still fight, but we are pretty injured right now. My wounds are mostly superficial, but one of them managed to penetrate my muscle. I'm already having a hard time moving my muscles. I can heal myself, but it requires time.

'As for the others, luckily, Jonathan is fine. He has a lot of wounds, but there's no injury serious enough that will cause damage to his body. On the other hand, Stella is a bit serious. Her pinky finger is cut by a demon. I managed to recover the pinky, and it should be possible to reattach it with my power, but it will seriously hinder her in wielding that sword. Last but not least, Ben. He has been covering us this whole time.'

'Although he doesn't have a permanent injury, the inner injury should be quite big. I'm afraid he will have to rest for the rest of the exploration.' Clara clicked her tongue.

Although it was a relief that none of her members died, it was truly frustrating to see them in this state.

'I'm afraid that more Superior Demons have been unleashed. So, we should hurry up and return to the fort so that we can prepare for their attacks.'

'How in the world did the demon notice us? I believe we haven't done anything that can cause such a thing...' Clara looked down, not understanding the reason for the current predicament. She had been observing the other groups as well, especially the one with her. None of them knew the reason.'

The only thing they knew was that the demons suddenly went on a rampage and found them who had been steadily making progress.

So, no one was at fault. Yet, the demons noticed their movement. It was weird to the point she wanted to believe someone had woken up those demons.

But she didn't have any evidence.

However, she couldn't help but recall the time Noel asked for more people.

It seemed that Noel was already aware of this situation. But because he didn't have enough evidence to show to everyone to make them believe it, he could only make this kind of preparation.

'I can understand why Paul has such a high opinion of Noel.' Clara took a deep breath. She had to survive this onslaught and warn the people from the base.

She didn't know whether the other groups returned or not. But handling two Superior Demons with a fort was much more relaxing compared to this kind of battle. There were also other people who managed the fort, so it should be possible to repel them with only her and the Stone Lord.

With that thought in mind, she started calculating the distance.

'There are only five hundred meters left. With our current speed, we can reach it in two minutes.' She muttered inwardly. 'In that case, I don't have to hold back anymore.'

She glanced at the Stone Lord and said, "We'll switch our roles. This time, I'll stall them. You help them block the enemies' attacks."

The Stone Lord was confused at the moment. But looking at her serious expression, the Stone Lord nodded his head. "Sure."

'Spider Transformation.'

As soon as she got the confirmation, Clara released the Spiritual Energy on her back, forming eight spider legs from her back.

There were a pair of eyes under each of her eyes as if she was imitating the spider's eyes. Her instinct had also been enhanced. With the current sense, she could easily find the enemies lurking in the shadows, especially among the trees.

'There it is... Captain's Transformation.' Stella glanced at her with a smile. Surprisingly, despite all the features from the transformation, Clara didn't look ugly at all. The eyes and her focused expression just made her look cool and the eight spider legs behind them created a gallant aura around her. Even Stella couldn't help but think, 'How in the world can you turn such an ugly transformation into a badass style?'

As soon as she transformed, Clara immediately jumped to the sides repeatedly as if she was trying to fool the demons.

But no matter how much she moved around, a huge portion of the demons would still follow the original group. So, her plan to lure them away failed.

What they didn't notice from Clara's action was how the eight spider legs became a cushion to stop her from crashing into a tree. The six spider eyes allowed her to move to the spot near the demons, but not close enough to enter their range.

And more importantly, each time she moved around, she attached her string to the tree.

"String Enhancement. Sharp." She poured the Spiritual Energy into the thread and used the last tree to pull it, making the thread tense.

Roar!

Roar!

Roar!

The demons didn't expect there would be a thread this strong. Those without tough skin or extraordinary defense ended up getting sliced by the thread, and those with it ended up stumbling, causing problems to the demons behind them.

The Plant Lord didn't expect such a powerful thread as well, considering the thread was so thin that it looked like it didn't have enough strength to stop something big.

But when Stella saw it, she couldn't help but smirk. 'There it is, the strength of the top five captains in the Demon Banner Army.'

Chapter 623 Incoming Demons

Noel and Shale stood on top of the wall, waiting for the incoming enemies. The noises the demons made this whole time were giving away their location, so they were waiting for them to come.

They knew that Clara and the Stone Lord would come out from the woods. They wanted them to enter first before they closed the gate.

Shale closed his eyes for a while. Noel, on the other hand, glanced to the right where Septa and the Plant Lord were hiding.

Luckily, with the two captains expressing their support, the Plant Lord had no choice but to accept the assignment.

He was angry that he was exposed to this risk, but there was nothing suspicious about the current arrangement. After all, the Plant Lord's role was crucial in handling that many enemies.

At the same time, he had been accompanied by a reliable person from the Demon Beholder Squad. What could he ask more?

Ultimately, the Plant Lord reached an agreement that he would help them before making his way out of the battlefield. He still wanted to keep his life after all.

They didn't have any objection, so they allowed the Plant Lord to do whatever he wanted.

Many members from the Demon Extermination Squads had been sitting on top of the watchtowers as well, ready to engage the enemies. The Demon Beholder Squad and the Demon Relief Squad had been standing by in their respective positions.

Suddenly, the people on the left side raised a giant blue flag. It was big enough to be seen from far away. And the only reason for it to be raised was the arrival of the enemies.

The Demon Behold Squad had noticed the enemies and immediately notified them.

Noel's expression turned serious as he said, "Captain Shale. The enemies are coming."

"Good. We're going with the current plan." Shale raised his left hand. They then erected a red flag, notifying the others about the plan.

Since Shale and Noel handled the same wall, which would take the full brunt of the enemies, the remaining three walls were given to the vice captains of each squad.

Shale soon narrowed his eyes, looking into the woods. "Here they come."

The first ones coming out of the woods were the two groups that were chased by the demons.

Their conditions were horrible. Clara was full of injury. One of the eight legs behind her had been damaged so badly that it almost fell off.

The Stone Lord was in better shape, but he exhausted more Spiritual Energy than anyone else in that group.

However, Noel could see numerous demons chasing after them. The trees were thick and tall. It was also humid, so they couldn't find the demons from the dust they had left behind.

But Noel could see a big monster that was only two meters lower than the tree. The humanoid demon had the head of a crocodile, but it could stand up with two feet and the belly was so round that one would mistake it as a ball.

Yet, with such a body, the demon walked as fast as Clara. It seemed that it managed to utilize its size well to get that kind of speed.

And its condition seemed to be not optimal. There were some huge scars on its body, but there was no wound that would endanger his life.

Without a doubt, this demon was a Superior Demon. Still, Noel didn't stop looking around, trying to find another Superior Demon. There was no way Clara would be in this condition if there was only one Superior Demon after all.

Though, he was a bit angry when he saw their wounds. He noticed that a few of them wouldn't be able to participate in the exploration any longer, but luckily, all the Demon Relief Squads seemed to have no permanent injury that would force them to retire.

Noel finally understood the reason why the expedition was extremely dangerous.

Unlike the battle in the Silica Valley, they didn't have enough people and reinforced walls to handle a lot of demons.

A thousand demons were truly a big headache for their current numbers, let alone multiple Superior Demons.

"Ready!" Shale shouted out loud, informing the others with his wind power. He was prepared to go to the battlefield to buy some time for Clara and the rest.

Clara saw the gate and pointed to it. "Go to the gate. Stone Lord, we have to stall them for twenty seconds."

The Stone Lord nodded. The current situation didn't allow him to complain anyway. He added, "We'll use the ditches to buy time and disperse the enemies."

"Got it." Clara nodded.

Without hesitation, they crossed the first ditch with the help of wooden planks that had been used as a bridge this whole time.

The wooden planks were not that strong. They were supposed to break once stepped by a demon since most of them had a big body.

But since Jonathan was with them, he used his Telekinesis to carry the planks back as soon as everyone crossed it.

Then, the Stone Lord stomped the ground.

"Grand Wall!"

The soil behind the first ditch suddenly rose, turning into a tall wall that would stop the Low Level Demons.

But before that, the demons with low intelligence ended up falling into the ditches. The demons that messed up afterward ended up crushing them with their weight. This would continue until the entire ditch was filled up with demons.

This was the effectiveness of the ditch. It only required people to dig the ground, but it could stop at least two hundred demons depending on their sizes. However, the demons weren't that easy to stop either. The Mid Level Demons and Advanced Level Demons released their Spiritual Energy and shot the walls.

The Mid Level Demons cracked it, but the Advanced Level Demons shattered the walls.

Unfortunately for them, what came after a wall was another wall. The Stone Lord had erected another wall behind the second ditch.

And the shattered walls became the weapon for Clara. She attached her strings to those rubbles and swung them around, using the momentum to beat down some demons.

"Die, you monsters!"

Chapter 624 Burn

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

The boulders crushed the demons easily, causing the demons behind them to either jump or trip. This was enough since their current objective was to buy time.

And with the second wall, the demons had to fill the ditch with their bodies again. And Clara would take that opportunity to bring more demons down before they reached the fort.

Though, it seemed that the Peak Level Demons had noticed her intention. They stepped forward and let out a thunderous roar simultaneously.

Roar!

"Kh?!" Clara and the Stone Lord gritted their teeth while looking at the demons. They knew that the monsters planned to use that huge roar to stop them for the time being, while the Advanced Level Demons took their time to crush the wall with their bodies. This way, Clara wouldn't be able to do anything, considering the Advanced Level Demons would shoot down her spider thread.

"Tsk." Clara clicked her tongue while glancing back, finding all the people had entered the gate and the latter was beginning to close. She said, "Our job is done here. We'll use this chance to retreat to the fort. Just stay in front of the wall."

"Got it." The Stone Lord nodded. "What will we do after that?"

"No need to do anything." Clara smirked. It didn't take too long for them to reach the wall. And the moment they stood in front of the wall, their bodies suddenly became light as the wind shot them upward and put them down next to Shale. "I know you're going to do the rest."

Shale nodded with a calm expression.

"Two Superior Demons and at least fifty Peak Level Demons. That's not all the mysterious facility has, I believe." Clara immediately gave a report while looking at the numerous demons. Although she wanted to ask the reason why Noel stood next to Shale, she understood his quality, so it wasn't that strange. The question could wait.

"Can both of you still fight?" Shale asked.

"Not a problem." Clara and the Stone Lord answered at the same time.

"Good." Shale raised his hand and waved it down.

All the people standing on top of the tower and the wall immediately released their Spiritual Energy, starting to shoot down the demons.

Even Noel participated in this attack. He gathered the energy in his fingertip and waved it sideways, shooting out a black colored phoenix.

The demons also saw them. Those who could release a long-ranged attack immediately utilized it to shoot down the attacks. As a result, most of the attacks blew up in the sky, including Noel's black colored phoenix.

But there was something different with Noel's phoenix.

Now that he had a Fire Heart, he enhanced the Undying Phoenix with this ability, amplifying its flame.

When it was shot down, an explosion occurred, but due to the effect of the Fire Heart, the Undying Fire became even more resilient.

They didn't simply disappear after the phoenix was destroyed. Instead, the remnant of the fire was scattered by the explosion and fell on top of the demons.

Using the demons as fuel, the Undying Fire completely filled the battlefield.

And this was why Noel loved ditches. Since the demons died after falling into the ditches due to the weight on top of them, they became the perfect fuel for his Undying Fire.

The ditches became the source of his fire and with the characteristic of the Undying Fire, it would continue to spread to the side and eventually cover the entire base. Maintaining the fire might require a lot of Spiritual Energy, but being able to kill a few hundred demons here was worth it. After all, he was rewarded by the system for repeatedly killing demons.

'Hahaha, I love ditches. I should have dug more ditches. After digging the ditches, I should dig more ditches.' Noel couldn't help but think like this after seeing how he repeatedly completed the missions. He was crazy because the kill was counted for himself, considering he was the one to kill them, not the joint effort like usual.

"!!!" But the reaction from the two Captains and the Stone Lord was completely different. The moment they saw the flame dominating the battlefield, they couldn't help but glance at Noel as if he was a monster.

They never thought there would be a flame that strong. The demons tried to extinguish it but to no avail. Meanwhile, the demons with lower intelligence ended up either looping around to avoid the flame or passing through the fire.

Still, there was one disadvantage to using this tactic. The Low Level Demon that wasn't killed immediately by the fire ended up carrying the fire toward the fort. If they slammed their bodies to the wall, the trunks used as a wall would be completely burned.

"Not good. We have to stop the incoming demons from reaching the wall. Can you stop that fire? It's good for us, but it's going to waste all our plans."

"As long as I stop infusing my Spiritual Energy, the flame will vanish. But that's not the time." Noel pointed forward. "We have to stop them for at least five minutes. Now that they have been weakened and the demons are getting scattered, it's the best time to kill as many demons as possible before the situation becomes chaotic. To do that, we have to send those burning monsters away."

Shale narrowed his eyes. As he said, if they could complete his instruction, it wouldn't be weird if they managed to kill a third of their enemies.

Shale didn't have time to think. Once he thought Noel's plan was quite good, he immediately asked, "Just to confirm it. Even if it's burning the wooden wall, you can extinguish it when you stop pouring your Spiritual Energy?"

"Yes," Noel answered without hesitation.

The moment he heard that answer, he raised his hand. "Everyone, shoot down those burning demons and send them back to set more demons ablaze!"

Noel smirked. Not a single of them realized they had been manipulated by Noel to work for him. The more the demons died from the fire, the more he completed the mission. This way, he would be the biggest contributor, complete his mission, and show his strength to make him even more important.

It was killing three birds with one stone. But Noel had one more reason... and that one reason might be able to turn it into killing four birds with one stone.

Chapter 625 Superior Demons

Boom!

Bam!

Bang!

The people inside the fort kept releasing their powers. People like Jonathan or Shale used their abilities to lift up the demons into the air and throw them back into their ranks.

However, the demons didn't stay down easily. They tried to shoot the enemies down.

The people on top of the walls and the tower became their target. However, the wall didn't escape unscathed as well.

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

A series of explosions occurred. Some of them occurred due to the clash between human ability and demon's attack. Some of them occurred because they hit their targets, whether it was the ground, the walls, or the humans.

Some of the humans who specialized in defense stepped forward and protected these people. Those who couldn't release long-ranged attacks also jumped forward to strike down these attacks while using the explosions to send them back on top of the wall.

But some of the explosions occurred after hitting the wooden walls.

Even with the Hardening Rune, it was still hard for a normal wood to stop the attacks from the demons, especially those Advanced Level Demons and the Peak Level Demons.

The wooden wall was broken, but what they didn't know was that behind the wooden wall, there was a second layer.

This layer was sturdier than the first one, considering it was made of stone. It had been enhanced by the rune as well.

And obviously, they had to thank the Stone Lord and his disciple to be able to create them.

The progress of the fight was good, but Shale seemed to remain focused on the biggest problem.

Even though he was using his ability to repel some demons, his eyes still hadn't left the big demon that hadn't taken a step forward as soon as it reached this place.

Yes, Shale was focusing on the Superior Demon. With their intelligence, it wouldn't be weird for the demon to issue a retreat or come up with an extraordinary plan.

'It's still not moving?' Shale thought while frowning. On the one hand, he could think this was due to him glaring at him this whole time. On the other hand, the demon wouldn't be that afraid of humans of the same level even with that kind of injury.

So, he believed the demon was trying to do something.

'What is he planning to do? No, there are supposed to be two Superior Demons according to the report. Where is the second one?' Shale glanced around. His heart suddenly skipped a beat as he turned around, checking the Spiritual Energy inside the fort. 'Don't tell me, the second Superior Demon is the one digging the hidden nest? In that case, the fort...'

Suddenly, he fell silent. There was nothing extraordinary inside the base.

"Clara. What's the second Superior Demon look like?" Shale shouted.

Clara, who had just returned to the wall after throwing the demons away with her thread, stopped for a moment and said, "It's a—"

Before she finished, all of them suddenly noticed a surge of energy from the side.

"!!!" Clara, Shale, and the Stone Lord widened their eyes in shock, turning their heads around.

Suddenly, a blue light shone brightly among the trees and flew forth, mowing down everything in its path.

"Not good!" Shale shouted while jumping straight toward the light. He gathered the wind around his hand and leaped into the air.

The blue light that traveled like a beam finally came out of the forest and almost hit the base.

Fortunately, Shale managed to reach it first. The wind concentrated on his fist started to release a powerful gale downward. The wind was so powerful that the blue-colored beam was going down and eventually hitting the ground.

But this burst of energy wouldn't be defeated easily. It cracked the ground and turned it into a crater. This way, the terrain completely changed and all the ditches around this area were completely neutralized.

At the same time, the foundation for the walls disappeared, causing some walls to crumble easily.

The energy ended with an explosion, trying to erase everything around it.

However, the Stone Lord managed to react to the aftermath. He erected a huge wall that blocked the explosion.

As if knowing what would happen, the other Superior Demon came toward the Stone Lord and swiped its tail. This humanoid crocodile had tough skin, so the explosion wouldn't hurt him.

And with the current momentum, he should be able to give the Stone Lord some heavy injuries.

"Not on my watch!" Clara shouted as numerous threads circled around the tail and caught it.

The tail stopped, but Clara, who used her fingers to stop that kind of force, had her fingers almost torn. She was lucky that she had some gloves for protection. Even then, some strings had already cut a bit of her skin. If this continued, she might lose her fingers.

But more importantly, due to the absence of those trio, the wall had no one to protect.

"It's just a distraction!" Shale shouted while turning around as if trying to warn Clara, the Stone Lord, and... Noel.

It seemed Shale wasn't the only one who noticed it. The moment the two Superior Demons came out, Noel had stopped pouring his Spiritual Energy into his Undying Fire. At that instant, all the flames disappeared from the battlefield, confusing the demons, especially with high intelligence.

Noel took this opportunity to jump off the wall. Instead of falling, Noel was flying with the help of the Phoenix Wings.

Noel couldn't help but smirk. He had a lot of gains after dealing with that Fire Bird and he was planning to utilize it here to see how effective they were.

A few phoenix feathers fell down before Noel flapped his wings, creating a gust of hot air to bring those feathers.

Due to the weird current from the hot air, the feathers moved unpredictably, causing them to be hard to be shot down.

Noel had just utilized three abilities: Undying Fire Feathers, Fire Heart, and Fire Gale. With a smirk on his face, he said, "Let's try its power, shall we?"

Chapter 626 Superior Demons

The demons realized that the feathers contained a power that could kill them with their instinct. So, they tried to shoot them down.

Unfortunately for them, the unpredictable current caused their attacks to miss.

With the current distance, it was impossible for them to hit them.

In the end, the feathers reached their position, including the Fire Gale.

The Fire Gale was so hot that the moment the demons inhaled the heated air made them feel like they were being cooked from the inside.

And eventually, the feathers were thrown by the wind, scattered in the area.

After consuming the Fire Bird's heart, he had improved the Undying Fire Feathers. In addition, there was the Fire Heart's amplification.

The explosions coming from the Fire Feathers became far bigger than anything he used when fighting the Fire Bird Demon.

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

The explosions engulfed more than a hundred demons. With a single glance, he realized that ten feathers managed to kill thirty demons at once. At the same time, there were more than fifty demons who got severely injured.

If he fought alone, the combination of these three abilities would work for thinning out the enemy's number.

'Excellent. To think that my strength can reach this level...' Noel couldn't help but remember the time he killed his first demon. It was so hard to the point he couldn't do anything even with three of them. But at this point, he could easily kill a hundred demons without any problems.

If this continued, he should be able to replace Captain Shale's tale.

'Still, the Fire Heart truly drains my Spiritual Energy. After becoming a Spirit Master, it's true that my Spirit Energy reserve has grown drastically. But I never thought that using the Fire Heart continuously would drain this much energy. It seems I have to be careful in the future.'

Noel took a deep breath, returning to the wall. He glanced around the battlefield.

Since he had retracted the Undying Fire, the demons wouldn't hesitate to go straight to the wall, especially those Peak Level Demons who had been waiting for their chance to fight.

Shale glanced at Noel, shocked by his power. This was the first time he saw Noel's strength. Although he wanted to question him for having that fire ability, he realized that there was a reason why Noel hid his identity.

So, he chose to respect Noel's decision since it didn't really matter that much as long as Noel didn't plan to harm the Demon Banner Army.

Still, that strength was enough to scare the demons.

He pointed at Noel while shouting as loud as possible. "You have seen his strength. Obey the vice commander from now on. I'm going to handle the Superior Demon!"

"!!!" Everyone widened their eyes, never expecting to hear such an order. At the same time, they also understood why Shale entrusted everything to Noel.

After hearing the order, Noel didn't hesitate to give his order out loud. "Attacks. No need to hold back anymore. Attack them until they die!"

The people were confused by the order, considering Shale's command looked more reasonable. What they didn't know was that Noel's command had a different purpose.

'There are two Superior Demons. But with their current number and strength, I don't think there are only two Superior Demons in that facility.'

'And at first, there was only one Superior Demon coming out. But now, there are already two Superior Demons here. It seems that they're coming out within an interval. And the moment the third Superior Demon appears, there will be an interval that we can use to take down at least one Superior Demon before the fourth appears...'

'That's why I have to force the third one to appear as soon as possible. I don't know the interval, but if the third Superior Demon is hiding, I can force it to come out with this order.'

Noel narrowed his eyes, looking around to see if there was a movement. 'What kind of demon is the third Superior Demon?'

Noel kept thinking about that question while attacking the enemies.

The others also followed his plan and released all their abilities to kill as many demons as possible.

At the same time, the Peak Level Demons began to make their move. They had been waiting from the sideline this whole time, measuring the enemy's strength. Now that they had a good grasp of what the humans were capable of, they were planning to strike them.

Noel noticed the movement of the Peak Level Demons.

"Get ready, the Peak Level Demons are moving toward us. Back away from the wall and prepare to receive their attacks." Noel shouted while infusing his Spiritual Energy into his voice to amplify the sound.

While he was commanding the army, Captain Clara and the Stone Lord took this chance to fight the injured Superior Demon, trying to kill it. Meanwhile, Captain Shale had flown toward the second Superior Demon. It wouldn't be wise for the commander to leave the fort, but Shale had seen Noel's capability. He felt it would be fine to leave Noel in charge.

That was the only reason why Shale dared to leave.

It seemed that the Superior Demons understood the importance of Noel in this fort. Five Peak Level Demons moved toward him. The other lower level demons also followed them to overwhelm Noel with numbers.

'It's not the time to unleash our sneak attack.' Noel thought. Since there was no other option, he planned to handle five Peak Level Demons by himself.

Before, he struggled to even fight a single Fire Bird Demon. But this time, he was daring enough to challenge five demons of the same level. Noel looked reckless, but there was confidence hidden in his gaze.

Noel jumped off the wall once again. If he fought on top of the wall, he might get some advantages over the demons. But the wall wouldn't be able to withstand the combined attack of five Peak Level Demons. So, it was better for them to fight outside the fort.

Noel summoned a pair of wings.

He flew on top of them, telling the Peak Level Demons that he was there.

Two Peak Level Demons released a beam from their tails to shoot Noel down. There were other lower level demons that jumped into the air to drag him down.

Noel knew that he couldn't use his ice ability. So, he changed his approach.

He used the Everchanging Emotion Sword Style. Since the only people that knew about this Sword Style were his group and they were already aware of his identity, there was no need to hide it anymore.

He used the Disgust Emotion to turn the sword into a blunt bat. But this time, Noel added another twist to his ability.

The Spirit Weaponry, the unique application of Spiritual Energy that allowed him to strike the Spiritual Energy itself.

He could finally combine the two abilities after so many trials. He struck down the two beams from the Peak Level Demons, redirecting them to the demons beneath him.

Boom!

Boom!

As expected from Peak Level Demons, their strength was quite powerful. Those two attacks alone managed to take down ten demons at once and injured many demons.

At the same time, the Peak Level Demons were smart enough to see through Noel's intention. It seemed that Noel didn't plan to kill them. Instead, he wanted to use their strength to kill other demons.

This way, he would be able to conserve his energy while killing more demons.

Noel didn't realize at this time that his death was approaching.

Behind the trees, there was a giant chameleon that had completely changed its skin color to match the environment. In addition, the strength of this demon was beyond the Peak Level Demons Noel was facing.

In other words, this was the Third Superior Demon.

Only two people managed to sense the threat. The first was Dimitri, who had been hiding this whole time. But if Dimitri made his move, the ambush would fail, meaning the Plant Lord would be aware of their plan and become harder to be killed.

That was why Dimitri was in a dilemma. He wanted to protect his lord, but at the same time, he didn't want to ruin his plan.

As for the second person, he was none other than the one with the most sensitive sense among them, the captain of the Demon Beholder Squad, Septa.

Septa knew his role finally came.

Before the chameleon released its tongue to strike Noel down, Septa appeared on top of the chameleon with his fastest speed.

"!!!" The chameleon noticed the surge of energy above his head and immediately raised his head while extending his tongue.

Bam!

The tree was taken down by the tongue, but there was soon a translucent barrier that appeared in the air and fell on top of the chameleon, pushing it to the ground.

As one would expect from Septa, he didn't forget the promise to his teacher. He had told the Plant Lord to launch an ambush since all the Superior Demons had come out.

In that instant, numerous roots started to come out of the woods and aimed for the monsters, trying to restrain them.

When Noel saw all this, he couldn't help but smile. The final phase of the plan had just begun.

Chapter 627 Plan

"!!!" The Stone Lord and Clara were shocked to see the reinforcement coming from the outside. Since they had to fight the enemies upon their return, they didn't know anything about their plans.

So, they thought the Plant Lord and Septa didn't come back to the fort.

But considering Noel was here, they should have thought Septa was hiding somewhere. But the Plant Lord was far away from them. Even Zion was stationed on another wall, so they didn't know about the Plant Lord's whereabouts.

Just when they were about to think the situation had gotten worse, the situation was overturned in an instant.

Septa immediately struck the third Superior Demon that was hiding from their sight this whole time. The chameleon was extremely powerful with that camouflaging ability, considering only Septa was able to find it.

They wouldn't be able to find the chameleon before it was too late.

That was why it was good to have Septa handling this chameleon. There was no way the chameleon would be able to hide itself from Septa.

At the same time, the Plant Lord had stretched many roots to capture a lot of demons.

The surprise attack worked like a wonder, giving a lot of time for the people inside the fort.

And due to the situation, the Plant Lord didn't realize that he had fallen into traps. The fact that Septa used someone else's identity to protect him alone was enough for him to be suspicious.

Yet, because the situation forced him to act, he didn't have time to suspect anyone.

Noel's eyes flashed the moment his plan had entered the final phase.

"Captain Clara, Sir Stone Lord. Please kill that demon as quickly as possible. I'll take care of the rest of the Peak Level Demons." Noel shouted, enhancing his voice with Spiritual Energy.

Clara and the Stone Lord exchanged looks. They knew fighting the Superior Demon like this allowed them to kill it quickly. And Noel's objective must be the other Superior Demon, which would give Septa time to protect the Plant Lord.

From the Plant Lord's perspective, it was Noel's consideration of this unpredictable thing. But he didn't realize it was what Noel wanted him to think.

Of course, to make his plan work, Noel had to work hard as well, especially in fighting these five Peak Level Demons.

During the time he conveyed his instruction to the Stone Lord and Clara, the Peak Level Demons approached him from two sides.

They jumped into the air with the intention of dragging him down to the ground.

Noel flapped his wings and released the Fire Gale.

The hot gale scorched their skins. Even the Peak Level Demons might get heavy injuries if they weren't careful.

So, both Peak Level Demons followed their instinct and used their attacks to blow their bodies away and fall back to their group.

The other two demons charged their tails again, ready to shoot him down. Meanwhile, the last one jumped like the first two but with different timing.

As expected from a Peak Level Demon, whose intelligence was said to be equal to that of a human, it knew Noel would use Fire Gale to repel the two Peak Level Demons, but after that, there would be nothing to stop him.

Noel saw the incoming demon along with the lower level demons that tried to reach him by stepping on top of each other.

He used the flap earlier not only to produce the hot gale but also to spin his body.

After that, he put his sword in front of him and completed a full rotation, striking both the fifth Peak Level Demon and the demons beneath him.

Circular Sword Strike (Vertical).

The sword strike expanded. Even the Fire Bird Demon didn't dare to face it directly, so the Peak Level Demon chose to use it to blow him away instead of charging forward.

But the lower level demons weren't that capable. They even took the Fire Gale head-on, let alone this Circular Sword Strike.

Unfortunately, their strength was not enough to stop them and multiple demons got their bodies sliced by it.

Still, there were the other two demons that had charged their attacks this whole time. As soon as they saw Noel using his ability, they shot him down, taking advantage of the split second Noel was unable to move because he had to complete his ability.

Noel had expected this already, but still, there was nothing he could do. Even though he had become a Spirit Master and his strength was able to compete with five Peak Level Demons, the quantity wasn't that easy to defeat by quality.

At the same time, there were other low level demons that kept distracting him. Some even tried to attack him from afar.

If not for the fact that Noel had sent the Fire Gale and the Fire Feathers before his attack, he would have been swarmed by all these demons.

Boom!

The two demons' attacks hit him.

"Iadre!" Clara shouted and gritted her teeth. It was still too much for Noel to fight all those demons by himself. At the same time, this might be their only chance to turn around the situation, so she couldn't help him.

On the one hand, she was afraid that she would lose her subordinate during the expedition again. On the other hand, she had to fulfill her role so that they would have fewer casualties.

Clara could only gnash her teeth and continue fighting the Superior Demon.

Meanwhile, Noel, who was blown away by the attack, managed to recover his balance by flapping his wings a few times.

Despite receiving the two attacks head-on, there wasn't a single injury on his body. Instead, his skin was covered with scales. It became even more visible since the attack blew up his clothes.

In addition to the protective armor made of the Ancient Demon Tree, Noel managed to escape unscathed from the attacks.

Noel hurriedly flew toward the fort again since his position was right in the middle of the enemies. If he didn't move, all the demons around him would drag him down.

Chapter 628 Clara And The Stone Lord

While Noel kept the enemies at bay, Clara and the Stone Lord used all their power to bring down the Superior Demon.

The Superior Demon waved its tail to destroy the wall, but the Stone Lord had erected a giant stone spike that hit the middle of the tail, causing it to stop.

But due to the Superior Demon's tough skin, the spike couldn't pierce through it as well. The tip was completely broken by the toughness of the skin.

Still, this was enough. Clara used that opportunity to run on the Superior Demon's tail, heading to its body.

The Superior Demon noticed her movement and hurriedly spun his body. At the same time, he raised his hand, preparing to smack Clara as soon as she got off.

But surprisingly, Clara managed to keep running on that unstable path.

It turned out Clara was using the spider legs on her back to balance her movement while creating a circular thread that circled the tail. Even if she fell off, she would still hang around the tail with this.

She looked like she was defying gravity, causing the Superior Demon to panic.

Without thinking, the Superior Demon used its hands to launch Clara away.

If Clara didn't avoid this, she would be slapped to death like that of a mosquito. But Clara had another plan in mind.

Since the hands were aiming at her, she only had to avoid the slap while taking advantage of the momentum to send her to the Superior Demon's head.

"!!!" The Superior Demon widened his eyes when he saw the slap miss. At the same time, Clara actually hung around the hand. With the current motion, it wouldn't be weird if Clara managed to reach his head.

With such an agile and flexible human on his body, he might get heavily injured from whatever she was planning to do. He was already covered in injuries, so his situation might become even worse than he imagined.

So, the Superior Demon jumped into the air with that big body. This was the only thing he hadn't tried to shake off Clara.

"..." Clara maintained her calm. Since she had jumped away from the tail, the thread that prevented her from falling had been retracted. That was why the jump ended up lifting her up.

Clara clicked her tongue while looking at the Superior Demon from above. The latter seemed to be happy that his plan worked, but he didn't realize that Clara had been trying to make him focus on her.

He forgot for a second that he was fighting against two opponents.

"Rise!" The Stone Lord shouted.

Bam!

Bam!

Bam!

Numerous spikes emerged from the ground. Each spike started with a diameter of ten meters. Even the tip wasn't that small due to the size and toughness of the Superior Demon.

But with this number of spikes hitting all over the body, the Superior Demon should feel the pain.

Roar!

The Superior Demon was wailing in pain. Two spikes managed to crack his scale, some managed to hit the open wound while the rest only inflicted some jolts, but it was enough to distract the Superior Demon for a second.

Clara took advantage of this opportunity to land on the demon's head.

"!!!" The Superior Demon immediately covered its eyes and nose as if trying to prevent Clara from hitting his weak points. On the one hand, it was able to stop Clara from injuring him. On the other hand, it gave away its weak points.

Clara waved his hands, shooting strings from her fingertips. The strings scattered around the area. They were thick, strong, and sharp. If it was a normal demon, these threads would feel like a claw, grazing all over their bodies. But as expected, the toughness of the skin prevented any thread from injuring him.

It seemed that the demon's weakness was the only part he covered. Clara narrowed her eyes, thinking there was no other way since the enemy's skin was simply too thick.

The Superior Demon even flapped its tail to destroy the spikes around him before spinning around to throw away Clara.

However, Clara had understood how the Superior Demon worked. She jumped off as if she wanted to escape.

Realizing that Clara was not on his body anymore, the demon stopped for a moment to find Clara.

But the next thing he saw was Clara grabbing the area where his scale cracked.

Clara extended her strings around the cracked scales and shouted, "Stone Lord! Lift it up!"

Suddenly, a huge pillar was erected near the demon.

Roar!

The demon soon let out another scream out of pain. It turned out Clara sneaked in some strings underneath the cracked scales. Since it had some gaps due to the crack, Clara attached them to a rising pillar, causing the pillar to pull out the scars and completely reveal the skin underneath the scale. And this skin was far thinner and weaker than the scale.

Clara smirked.

"I got you," said Clara as she tried to stretch her string again to pierce through the demon. But the demon managed to react and spin his body before it was too late. He even attempted to kick Clara, albeit the Stone Lord had summoned another stone wall as her foothold, allowing her to jump before getting hit.

Then, Clara aimed for the other cracked spot to pull it out again, creating more and more weak spots. The demon was already covered in wounds, so there were a lot of spots to work with.

Her objective was to remove all the scales blocking the wound so that the Stone Lord could deal the finishing blow.

And for the first time in its life, the Superior Demon felt scared. He realized that he might die at their hands.

So, the Superior Demon let out a loud and long roar.

Rooaaaarrrr!

It felt different from any roar that it used earlier. In fact, it sounded similar to the first one that caused chaos inside the mysterious facility.

"!!!" Clara widened her eyes as the demons started to change the way they moved.

Chapter 629 Taking Down The Demon

'The way they move...' Clara narrowed her eyes. They started coming toward this giant crocodile to stop Clara from inflicting more damage. Even the Stone Lord would have a hard time since a few Peak Level Demons changed their target to him.

On the one hand, Clara didn't want to let this demon do whatever he wanted. On the other hand, this sudden shift would be a bit disadvantageous for Shale. His position was in the same direction after all.

Clara and the Stone Lord would have a hard time noticing if those demons suddenly changed their target to him.

At the same time, the Plant Lord was not far away. So, his safety would be at risk. Although Clara didn't know about Noel's plan, she still knew what would happen if the Plant Lord raised a complaint to the Demon Banner Army.

So, she might have to let go of the giant crocodile. After all, this call was similar to the one it used to cause chaos inside the facility.

There might be a fourth Superior Demon that got called to help him.

Two elders and three captains should be able to handle four Superior Demons, but their fort wasn't strong enough to contain all these demons and their condition wasn't at their peak due to the chase. Unless they were prepared to sacrifice their lives, they wouldn't be able to kill these four Superior Demons.

However, Noel didn't agree with their way of thinking. The Plant Lord wasn't considered one of the weapons since he had planned for his demise. At the same time, they still had a former captain whose strength rivaled Shale as well as the Fleeting Arbiter.

With this lineup, Noel was ready to grasp the entire battlefield.

He poured all his Spiritual Energy and shot the Undying Phoenix amplified by the Fire Heart.

Cry!

The phoenix let out a cry that alarmed the battlefield. After all, this powerful flame was heading straight to the crocodile.

Roar!

Roar!

Roar!

A few demons jumped straight into the phoenix's trajectory and blocked the phoenix with their own bodies.

Boom!

Still, the remnant fire dispersed in the area. The momentum kept it going until it was about to reach the crocodile's body.

Unfortunately, a few more demons rose into the sky and blocked them. They sacrificed their lives so that the Superior Demon could live.

What they didn't realize was that the reason why Noel released such a thing was to show Clara and the Stone Lord something.

"!!!" The Stone Lord and Clara hurriedly turned around, finding Noel getting besieged by five Peak Level Demons. Because of the previous attack, one of the Peak Level Demons managed to hit him and blow him to the wall, causing the wooden wall to shatter and Noel's body to be planted on the stone wall.

Despite having five Peak Level Demons as his opponent, Noel actually did it. It felt like Noel was telling them to keep hitting the crocodile until it died.

'Noel left the fort to bring the last reinforcement... Don't tell me, there is another captain around us. But because of the current situation, he is hiding and preparing for the next attack? This means there won't be any more Superior Demon and reinforcement for the enemies.' Clara recalled all Noel's words before the exploration.

She immediately pointed at the crocodile while shouting, "Stone Lord!"

The Stone Lord's body shook. He understood what she wanted.

'Fighting a few Peak Level Demons while hitting a Superior Demon? Fine by me. I might have dedicated my life to research, but I'm not weak!' The Stone Lord stomped the ground with his staff while releasing all the Spiritual Energy he could muster.

"El Rolem."

Suddenly, the ground started shaking. The tremor was so strong that they thought an earthquake had struck this land.

The ground gradually cracked as a huge hand suddenly emerged from the crack. The hand pushed the ground as if it was trying to lift up something underneath.

It turned out a giant golem made of stone came out of Earth. Its size was comparable to the crocodile.

The golem started moving toward the crocodile, planning to have a brawl. During that time, the few Peak Level Demons had gotten close to the Stone Lord.

The latter stomped the ground with its right foot as a few spikes emerged from the ground, almost piercing their bodies.

"!!!" The Peak Level Demons noticed the change in the Stone Lord's expression.

The Stone Lord glared at them while releasing a huge amount of Spiritual Energy from his body. It seemed he was planning to kill the Superior Demon with the golem while handling these few Peak Level Demons with his spell. He said coldly, "Come, little demons. Just because I'm old doesn't mean I have grown rusty."

Clara couldn't help but smile. She had heard the Stone Lord's reputation. He was among one of the oldest elders in the Tower Association. His knowledge and strength were truly at their peak.

Although the Tower Association never put a ranking among the elders like the Demon Banner Army, people always considered the Stone Lord as one of the strongest elders.

Since the Stone Lord had sent the golem to help her take down the crocodile, she didn't have anything to fear.

There were many demons coming toward her. Some of them had already jumped into the air, trying to catch her.

However, Clara waved her hand, shooting the thin, sharp thread from her fingertips.

The demons that got hit straight by the strings ended up with a hole in their bodies, while the demons that got hit from the side got sliced into pieces.

Since she had cleared the area, she kicked some bodies like a foothold, allowing her to jump back to the crocodile.

The crocodile was looking at Clara with a frustrated look. After all, Clara had closed his path to retreat and the golem was advancing without caring about the other demons.

If this continued, he might really lose his life here.

The crocodile wanted to let out another roar to gather more demons, but Clara's threads suddenly came from behind, circling around his mouth. The moment it tightened, the mouth was completely shut.

"Noisy. Be a good boy and shut your mouth," Clara said with a cold tone.

Chapter 630 Killing The Superior Demon

"Be a good boy and shut up."

After the mouth was sealed, the demon shook its head, trying to throw Clara away to open its mouth again.

However, that distraction stopped the Superior Demon from reacting to the golem.

The golem had reached the Superior Demon. Because of its giant body, the lower level demons had been bombarding the golem. But as one would expect from the Stone Lord, he poured everything into this golem, allowing it to withstand all their attacks.

Even multiple Peak Level Demons wouldn't be able to defeat the golem easily. Yet, while maintaining such a technique, he still managed to fight multiple Peak Level Demons.

As soon as the golem reached the crocodile, it sent a powerful punch to the face, causing the crocodile to fall to the ground.

The fall of a giant demon shook the area and crushed multiple demons with its weight. But more importantly, this was the perfect chance for Clara to kill this Superior Demon.

She waved her hand and sent a few strings around. But this time, her target wasn't the crocodile. Instead, she attached the strings to the few spikes that were destroyed earlier. She recovered all the tips she could use and swung them at the crocodile's bare skin.

Rrrrr!

The crocodile wanted to scream, but the strings stopped it.

As expected from Clara, who was accustomed to playing with threads whether as a doctor or a fighter. When the demon shook its head, she used that momentum to wrap the strings around, causing them to tangle up with each other. With enough layers, it was hard for the demon to break apart.

And Clara's action allowed the Stone Lord to understand what he was supposed to do.

The golem instantly turned around and grabbed a spike before impaling the crocodile's body.

"!!!" The crocodile almost passed out from the pain. In fact, losing consciousness might be the best thing he could have at the moment. After all, its body had been impaled by a huge spike. It would be hard for the crocodile to stand back up.

And with the golem standing on top of him, it was impossible for the crocodile to do anything back since Clara would be helping the golem.

As soon as she saw the huge advantage against the golem, she landed on top of the crocodile and moved toward the impaled spot.

She took out a needle, the size of a knife, and attached the string to its back.

The crocodile still had the chance to take out the spike, but there was no way Clara would allow it. Her job was to seal it so that even if the crocodile could escape from this predicament, it would still die from blood loss and infection from the stone.

The moment she reached the stone, she started piercing the stone with that knife-sized needle. With her Spiritual Energy and Spirit Ability, the needle pierced through the stone like that of a cloth. There was no restriction and the stone didn't break apart.

Then, Clara attached the stone with the crocodile skin and repeated it until she sewed the entire circle.

While she was at it, the golem kept hitting the crocodile so that it couldn't get up. The other demons tried to help, but with the Stone Lord handling all the Peak Level Demons around, it was impossible for the Advanced Level Demons or below to do anything to the golem.

The crocodile could only get beaten down. And Clara continued to sew any open skin to the ground directly, preventing the crocodile from getting up anymore.

Many of the crocodile's teeth had dropped to the ground and the jaw was broken. The blood flowing out of the mouth and wounds had begun to fill up the crater beneath its body.

Last but not least, the golem slammed a giant boulder into the crocodile's head multiple times until the crocodile died.

"Hu... Hu..." Clara panted a few times. She hurriedly checked the crocodile to make sure he had died.

After that, she turned around, ready to help the Stone Lord.

However, the Stone Lord was pointing at Noel as if telling her that it was better to go to him instead. After all, the Stone Lord could finally recall the golem. He wouldn't have any trouble defeating a few Peak Level Demons with this.

Clara nodded and turned to Noel to observe his situation. It was quite dire.

Noel was just a Spirit Master who advanced not long ago. Even though his strength was extraordinary, what he could do was limited due to him sealing his identity away, which forced him to not use his ice ability and most of his runes.

That was why Noel's body was covered with wounds. He even had a quite deep wound on his waist.

Still, Noel didn't go down without a fight. Two of the Peak Level Demons had died and the other three were heavily injured.

Even though Noel might look like he could win this fight, it was better to help Noel to avoid any further injuries.

So, Clara leaped straight to Noel and stretched the strings, ripping apart the injured demons.

"Iadre!" Clara looked at Noel, worried. He had contributed a lot to this battle. Not only did he prove himself to be a capable commander that led them to victory, but he also played a huge role in stopping the enemy in this wall alone. So, Clara immediately checked his condition to see his situation.

"Are you alright?"

Noel nodded his head. Although he was in a lot of pain, he still maintained his calm composure so that others wouldn't worry about him.

But Clara was a doctor, so she could understand how hurt he was and the pain he endured. Without hesitation, she dragged Noel back and said, "Your job is done. Leave the rest to us. I'm going to stitch the big wound first and let the healer do the rest. I don't allow any objection, understand?"

Noel made a small smile. "I guess I'll rest for now."

...

Unbeknownst to them, there was another thing that happened during the fight. However, there wasn't a single trace that could alarm them.

If they entered the woods again to find the Plant Lord, they could only find his corpse being eaten by a few low level demons.

Yes, without them realizing it, the Plant Lord had died.