

## **S vs Rebirth 671**

### Chapter 671 Warning

Demon Barrier Squad Headquarters.

Noel looked at the situation around the town while the people distributed the medicine. It was clear that the mood had improved since the soldiers could easily recover from their wounds due to the medicine.

It seemed that Paul had the same idea as he appeared next to him, planning to discuss their current plan.

"No—Ahem, ladre." Paul almost called his name due to the brilliance he had shown not long ago. They were in front of many people, so he had to play along. "What do you think about our current plan? We are going to distribute the medicine to other cities. With our strength, it should be impossible for the demons to destroy us. Unless there is a Superior Demon... No, there is only one Superior Demon and Captain Faust is planning to hold it back."

"In that case, what do you think if we split our group into two? This way, we can help two directions simultaneously. Since I am a Spirit Grandmaster, I can go with only two people."

Noel shook his head firmly as if he had considered everything.

"We can't do that... at least, not now. We have to stick together."

"Stick together... Are you worried that there are more demons than we expected?"

"No. I'm just worried that our enemies this time aren't just demons." Noel let out a long sigh. "This is just my speculation, but this kind of attack feels a bit deliberate."

"!!!" Paul gasped. Noel wasn't someone who threw an empty word. If he said it, the possibility would be quite high. "Do you mean... the Supreme Devil Organization will attack us?"

"Yeah. I think so. If we take a look at the current situation, don't you think the demons are too organized? Then, why would they attack this place for no reason?"

"Now that I think about it, the reason is still being investigated..." Paul thought for a moment. "You aren't going to say that this might happen for a similar reason to the outbreak in the mysterious facility, right?"

"I am not sure, considering Septa should have investigated the Plant Lord's belongings by this time. Unfortunately, we don't have that information."

"Still, it doesn't change the fact that the entire situation is suspicious. If you think about it, this place is perfect for execution."

"The Demon Barrier Squad base is located at the edge of the border. And the distance to the nearest base of other squads is three days."

"Hmm?!" Paul looked down, falling into deep thought. It seemed he had caught on to something. "Now that I think about it, our squad reached this place in seven days. But the sudden outbreak happened yesterday night. Even if they send the message via bird, they still need a whole night to arrive."

"In other words, the reinforcement still needs two more days unless they are using their quickest speed to reach here."

"If we think about it, they might be doing it to catch us during the trip. Yeah. As soon as we leave this place, we might get ambushed by them."

"However, are you sure that they are targeting us?" Paul asked the most important question.

On the one hand, they had been targeted this whole time. On the other hand, they couldn't deny if they somehow became paranoid after being targeted for so long.

That was why Paul had to make sure their target was them first.

Noel shook his head helplessly. "Well, I can't say anything for sure. In fact, this entire conversation might be my own delusion. However..."

Noel suddenly fell silent while closing his eyes as if he was recounting something.

Two weeks ago.

After Noel handed the medicine to Dimitri, the latter actually gave him one more message to consider.

"Master. I will be worried when I leave you like this." Dimitri bit his lips as if he was disappointed in himself. It wasn't that he regretted not being able to protect him. He just felt he wasn't strong enough to protect Noel. If he could, he would deliver the message, protect Noel, and even handle the family's matter by himself. But one person's ability was limited. That was why he was disappointed he couldn't stay near Noel all the time, especially in this dangerous situation.

"Don't worry. More than anyone else, I am aware that I'm in an extremely dangerous situation since I have turned myself into bait." Noel sighed.

"In that case, please don't forget these words, Master." Dimitri looked at Noel with a grim expression. He was a former captain, so his intelligence was above average. He was a monster equipped with both strength and brain.

He said, "In the past, Master was like an ant that could be crushed anytime. You were not a threat, and your potential wasn't that big to be favored. However, everyone has seen more about you. You could keep up with the growth of Anna Stargaze, the most talented person in the kingdom."

"Most people still haven't realized your identity, but those who lurk in the shadows will surely figure out your identity. If they know that you are the wielder of two elements, they will realize that your raw talent alone might be beyond Anna Stargaze and everything about you is different than reported."

"When this happens, there will be a lot of people coming to you. They might be similar to Damian, who is trying to form a friendly relationship with you. But there will be a lot more who think of you as a threat. In their eyes, you only have two fates, you either submit to them or die."

"With Damian near you, I know that most of them won't be able to touch you. But there are two existences that will surely put their eyes on you."

"The first one is the Royal Family. I don't have to explain the reason. They might haven't realized it yet, but they should have put their eyes on you."

"As for the second one, it should be the Supreme Devil Organization. They will definitely come... and I'm afraid that your uncle will be the first person to be dispatched. In fact, he might do it by himself."

"He is a Devil Saint. His current strength should be similar to that of the commander. But I don't know if he has broken through to the Spirit Transcendence or not. Even if he has, I should still have some strength to buy time for you to run away. That's why I kind of agree with Anna. You should become a Spirit Grandmaster as soon as possible."

"That's why I hope that you can prioritize your safety."

Noel thought for a moment and asked, "Say, how strong is a Spirit Transcendence? Can they defeat multiple Spirit Grandmasters easily?"

"I haven't reached that stage, but from my understanding, they can't. It's true that they are far stronger than a Spirit Grandmaster, but you will feel that the Spirit Master is the transition realm. Once you reach the Spirit Grandmaster, you will understand my words."

"That's why... even though a Spirit Transcendence can defeat multiple Spirit Grandmasters alone, they will have a hard time killing a Spirit Grandmaster, especially one that is ready to sacrifice everything to survive."

"Hmm..." Noel thought for a moment. "In that case, if we have multiple Spirit Grandmasters, do you think everyone can return safely?"

"Well... just think about this... Shale, Milfa, and me, the three of us should be able to buy you a lot of time while returning safely from fighting the commander."

"I see." As Noel closed his eyes at that time, the current Noel also finished sorting his thoughts. He opened his eyes and looked at Paul, "I have a plan. But it will be extremely dangerous. I don't even know if this is even possible."

"Let me hear your thoughts..." Paul suddenly looked around and pointed at a small alley where they could exchange information without being heard. "Tell me there."

Noel nodded. They immediately headed toward the alley as Noel whispered his plan to Paul.

Paul was surprised by two things. First, Noel's plan was dangerous and bold. It might be able to confirm their enemies, but if the plan failed, they had a high chance of dying. Second, Noel's trump card seriously scared him. He could only think that this was the trump card from the former Ardagan Family.

However, it was true that they couldn't remain in this city. If they did, this city might be destroyed completely.

After some considerations, Paul agreed to Noel's plan. But he also added, "I am going to tell you this first. If there is someone who is responsible for the group's safety, it's me. As the vice-captain, I'm the one who accepts that mission. That's why you have to obey the vice captain's words. Understood?"

Noel's body shook. It was clear that Paul wanted to be the first one to sacrifice his life if their plan failed. He never thought Paul was this brave, but he also felt moved.

Although he didn't know how much he could do, he would do everything to lead the group safely.

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The next day.

They had arrived in front of the gate again. They were ready to leave this city to bring the medicine to other cities.

Faust said his message while sending them off. "Don't worry about the Superior Demon. Even if I have to use my life, I'm going to stop it. Good luck."

Chapter 672 Chase

Not far away from the city, a woman suddenly appeared as if she had just returned from outside. She walked to a deeper area.

There was a transparent barrier that could be felt but couldn't be seen. She gently touched the barrier and couldn't push her finger inside.

But after a few seconds, her finger suddenly entered the barrier and her entire body gradually came in.

Inside the barrier stood five people. One of them was none other than the Devil Saint, Laufey Ardagan.

The two next to him had a similar appearance. They both had long spiky hair, but their bangs leaned in the opposite direction, making it easier for them to be recognized.

Their bodies weren't that big, but they were exuding an aura that could make her body twitch as if she was about to be devoured alive.

In the opposite direction, there were two people. Unlike the previous pair, both of them had a contrasting appearance. The first one had a muscular body and a huge glaive resting on his back.

Even a normal person would know that he was strong. Due to his height, he appeared to look down on her.

Meanwhile, the other person was very skinny. His arms even showed a little bit of his bone contour.

His face was pale and there was even a shackle on his already thin wrists, making them look like they were about to fall.

Although his eyes weren't excluding anything, she couldn't help but feel eerie whenever this guy stared at her.

"Isn't this the idiot snake?" The muscular guy laughed. "So, what did you find this time? I hope it's something useful..."

"..." The woman, who was known as the serpent, bit her lips. She said, "They have exited the city. Looking at their direction, it seems that they are going to the Hansville City, southwest of our current position."

"Hoho? Is it the time for us to ambush them?" The muscular guy cracked his fingers. He seemed to have a hard time calming down. "I guess I will be satisfied in fighting that big vice captain. What is his name again?"

"Paul." The woman answered.

"Yeah, yeah. That Paul! Hahaha." The muscular guy laughed out loud.

"Dude. Can you lower your voice a bit? My ears hurt." The skinny guy asked with an annoyed face.

"..." The muscular guy fell silent, staring at this guy. "Well, I guess..."

"Then, we don't have to handle that guy, Faust? The captain of the Demon Barrier Squad..." One of the pairs asked with a serious expression. The other pair also looked at Laufey, "Yeah. So, what's the plan, Boss?"

Laufey closed his eyes for a moment. "For now, you two Demon Pairs are going to stand between us and the Demon Barrier Squad. There is a possibility that they have figured out our existence and Faust might try to attack us from behind."

"Well, that's annoying. But it's still only a possibility. I guess we're going to take the boring job." The pair said the same thing together.

"Gargan and Fil..." Laufey clicked his tongue. When he was about to depart with only the serpent and the pair, he was tasked to bring these two.

Back then, he was already standing in front of the exit. But before they left, a muscular man, who was called Gargan, suddenly stopped them.

He politely bowed to Laufey and said, "Excuse me, Sir Laufey. I have brought a message from the Supreme Devil."

"Hmm?" Laufey furrowed his eyebrows. He took the letter and read it. The content was simple. He wanted him to bring these two with him.

On the one hand, he was surprised that the Supreme Devil knew about his operation. On the other hand, the handwriting was authentic. If he didn't bring them, the Supreme Devil would surely be angry.

After some thought, Laufey sighed. He looked at the muscular guy and said, "He asked me to bring you and the one who was hiding behind you with me."

"..." The skinny guy, Fil, suddenly let go of his grip and landed on the ground. He took a peek at Laufey and said, "I apologize for not showing myself. I..."

"It's fine. I have heard about you two a long time ago. You are that old hag's subordinates. After having two of her Devil Bishops die, she made both of you a new Devil Bishop. So, the reason you two here must be to create a balance... Tsk." Laufey clicked his tongue, annoyed.

He glared at them and said, "Even if you are that old hag's subordinate, I'm going to warn you first. Your strength is still too low compared to the previous Devil Bishops."



"I don't care what you do, but if you mess up, I'm going to make you accountable even if I have to fight with that old hag. And I'm not joking if I'm going to make you pay..."

Gargan and Fil nodded furiously. They couldn't help but glance at the woman next to Laufey.

She was known as the serpent. Her name was Hailfa. After failing her missions several times, despite being a Spirit Grandmaster, her treatment was similar to that of a Devil Inspector.

Laufey had warned everyone that if they gave her a treatment of a Devil Bishop, he would punish them as well.

As a result, she had to endure all the humiliation. Even Gargan and Fil had to look down on her if they didn't want to get punished.

Laufey was indeed strict in administering the punishment, but no one could say anything because he had the strength to do so.

That was why Gargan and Fil were extremely obedient.

Laufey said, "Alright. Since everyone is here, let's set off."

Remembering that scene couldn't help but make his mood go even lower. He let out a long sigh while saying, "Gargan. Your job is to stop Paul. As for Fil, you are going to take care of the remaining members of the Demon Relief Squad. This woman will use that opportunity to kidnap a knight called ladre."

Of course, the only people that knew about Noel's identity were Laufey and Hailfa. Hailfa knew about him because she had been investigating him while Laufey's target was Noel all this time.

There was no need for the others to know. This way, they could prevent a lot of information leaks. Even in the organization, only the Supreme Devil knew about ladre's true identity. Though, it was due to him sharing his speculation. There was still no proof, so he hadn't said anything more.

And this cooperation was to allow him to put surveillance on Laufey.

"Alright. We'll follow them for a while. Until there is a great distance between them and the nearest cities, including the base in front of us, we will ambush them. Any questions?" Laufey asked with a dark expression.

No one dared to ask any with that kind of expression. They might get punished if they said they didn't understand.

Besides, Laufey had told them the plan as simply as possible, so it would be their fault if they couldn't understand it.

Now that they had finished their discussion, Laufey said, "Let's depart."

Fil raised his hands. The Power that covered his hands suddenly disappeared, resulting in the barrier that hid them from the outside vanishing.

With this, all of them disappeared, following Noel and the others at high speed.

Little did they know, Noel had made several layers of preparation even though he wasn't sure about their appearance. Even so, this was one of the plans that saved a lot of time and their lives.

When they were following the trails, especially the small trail the carriage left behind, everything suddenly disappeared as if they had just vanished without a trace.

"Hmm?" The serpent narrowed her eyes while looking at the end of the trail. "Sir."

"What's wrong? Why did you stop?" Laufey narrowed his eyes, judging the serpent's ability.

However, the woman presented the end of the trail and said, "There is no more trail to follow..."

"Hmm?" Laufey frowned. "What do you mean? What about the other spots?"

"There is no trace of them being stepped on. From the trail alone, it looks like the group has disappeared..." The woman thought of something and added, "If my assumption is correct, this must be Jonathan's ability..."

"Jo...who?" Gargan asked, not hearing it correctly. He also didn't have extensive knowledge about their names, so he didn't know about them.

"The one with Telekinesis ability." The woman briefly described Jonathan.

"Ah!" Gargan nodded in understanding while Fil asked, "So, he is using the telekinesis right here... The path will split not far away... It seems that they have figured out our existence and erased their trace. This way, we won't know where they are heading..."

Laufey frowned. On the one hand, they hadn't gone too far. On the other hand, if they continued recklessly, they might be ambushed by Dimitri and their fighting power would be halved.

But they couldn't wait for too long since their target would continue at their fastest speed.

"We will split up!"

Chapter 673 Trap

"We will split up." Laufey had to make a hard decision. If he chose incorrectly, they would suffer a huge loss. Although it was true that the Demon Relief Squad would have a hard time killing even a single person in their group, it would be a different case if Dimitri had made his move personally.

At the same time, he couldn't waste too much time because the other party would be even further. Since the path had split, if they had gone for too long, it would be impossible to find out about the other party's condition if they were to be attacked.

"Hailfa, Gargan, Fil. You three are to go left and head to Hansville City. If there is no ambush within twelve hours, you are to go back and head in our direction. If there is an ambush, you are to retreat as long as the enemy is a Spirit Grandmaster. Do whatever it takes to make me notice and survive." Laufey gave his order with a strict tone.

Hailfa was surprised that Laufey called her by her name. He never did it during the punishment, so it showed how grave their current situation was. It seemed they had underestimated Noel Ardagan.

"Understood. But, Sir... on the right path to Hemerville City, there is a small area filled with woods. There is a high chance that they will be using it to hide." Hailfa reminded Laufey as a reliable subordinate.

Laufey nodded. "Let's go."

They agreed with the current plan and immediately headed to their respective path at their fastest speed. The Demon Relief Squad shouldn't have gone too far after all.

Of course, the pair had to remain in this junction to block whoever was coming to help them.

Laufey clicked his tongue and chased after Noel alone. Even if Dimitri attacked him, he wouldn't be able to defeat him. So, this was the best plan at the current moment.

It didn't take too long for him to reach the small area Hailfa was talking about. The woods weren't that thick, but if they went deep enough, it was enough to provide some cover.

Laufey was carefully moving around the trees, finding any traces of them while expecting an ambush.

"..." Laufey looked around, making sure to not leave a single gap. He couldn't help but think, 'Using the woods and splitting paths to their advantage... This kind of strategy truly reminds me of Luke. No matter how hard I tried to outsmart him, he would always outsmart my outsmarting as if he knew my thoughts.'

'Noel might not be a bright guy to inherit the house, but he is surely Luke's son.' Laufey let out a long sigh. At first, Laufey thought that Noel could be easily killed sooner or later. In fact, he intended to wait for Luke to pass on his seat to Noel.'

This way, when Luke was gone and Dimitri wasn't with Noel, he could easily take Ardagan with him.

And when Noel arrived at the Demon Banner Army, he immediately set up a lot of surveillance to confirm the content of the book he stole from the Ardagan Family.

Unfortunately, Noel hadn't shown anything that reflected the book's content. He didn't show the signature fire element.

That was why he was still skeptical about taking the sword since the record might be a lie, and his existence would be exposed if he made a move.

But there was something else that piqued his interest. It was Noel's growth. He thought this was Noel's true talent, the talent that he hadn't polished the whole time.

He observed Noel while taking care of his tasks. But surprisingly, every time the Supreme Devil Organization clashed with the Demon Banner Army, they would always lose. When he learned that the Demon Relief Squad would always be there, he began to think that ladre was Noel, especially with that absurd growth and similar stature.

That was why when he confirmed the element, he was sure that it was Ardagan Sword. There were a lot of legends about the sword, so he would believe all kinds of mystical things.

However, when he directly clashed with Noel this time did he finally understand. Noel had a brain like Luke and an unparalleled talent, if he wasn't removed immediately, he would surely become an obstacle to the organization sooner or later.

Whether it was fortunate or unfortunate, it seemed that he had caught Noel's trail.

There was a trace in the middle of the woods. The leaves were crushed and the ground was slightly tilted downward.

Judging from the trace, there seemed to be a few people who had been here a moment ago. And with the slight curve on one of them, it was clear that the wheel had pressed the soil.

"Got them." Laufey smirked. He knew that they were here not long ago.

Without hesitation, he began to look around, trying to find other trails that would lead him to them.

It seemed that Jonathan was quite exhausted since there were a few more trails in a certain direction. This type of trace truly put a smile on his face. Laufey followed it without hesitation and continued moving in that direction. He believed that the enemies would appear sooner or later.

Unbeknownst to him, while he was searching for Noel's existence, his group was ambushed by the Demon Relief Squad.

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In another path, Gargan was holding his glaive with only his right hand because his left hand was severed. He glared at the people that surrounded him to show his determination to fight.

Fil stood behind Gargan. In fact, he was the one who managed to save Gargan from the ambush.

Meanwhile, Hailfa was slick like a snake. She escaped the ambush skillfully and became the first one to notice the situation.

There was a Spirit Grandmaster aside from Paul. They didn't know about this person, so they considered him as the 'death' element that Laufey talked about. Meanwhile, there was actually one person missing from this group. He was none other than Zion.

It seemed that they had fallen into their traps.

## Chapter 674 Ambush

A moment ago.

Noel had instructed Jonathan to carry everything with his telekinesis. It was hard work for him, but because Noel was worried about the situation, he had to do it.

While they were being transported by Jonathan, Noel pointed to the side and said to Zion, "If you go there, you will find a small area filled with trees. I want you to make a fake trail to fool the enemy who goes there."

"Hmm? We have a spare wheel..." Zion furrowed his eyebrows and understood what Noel wanted. "I see. So, you want me to drag them away from the rest?"

"Yeah. The trail doesn't have to go that far, but it should still follow the path. You should be able to handle it, right?"

"Yeah. Leave it to me." Zion nodded with a serious expression. He glanced at Paul. "If I jump with all my strength, the carriage will be destroyed. I don't want to leave any trail either. So, mind giving me a boost?"

Paul agreed without hesitation, considering he was one of the few that knew about Noel's plans. He raised his hammer as Zion stepped on it with that huge body.

However, Paul used his Spiritual Energy to boost his own strength so that he was strong enough to lift Zion.

With all that strength, he swung his hammer, launching Zion into the air.

By the time he landed, he should be far enough that his trail wouldn't easily be seen.

As a master of jumping, it wouldn't be hard for Zion to cover a great amount of distance in a single leap. In addition, he could easily adjust his step to match the foothold, allowing him to easily jump from one tree to another. This way, there was hardly any trace to find.

Since the other path had been taken care of, Noel could finally focus on this path. He turned to everyone while putting his hand in his pocket. He said, "There might be some people who pursue us, most likely from the Supreme Devil Organization. I want to either fight them or run away from them, depending on our enemies.

"I have discussed it with Paul, but this is the only plan that can give us the highest chance to survive. And I think I should apologize to all of you for two reasons. First, their target might be me. Second, I have miscalculated their strength."

"Hmm?" Stella frowned when she heard the first reason. She couldn't help but add, "Well, we don't know why the Supreme Devil Organization is targeting you, but the attack before our vacation... their target should be us, right? In that case, you are not entirely at fault. Even if you are not here, they will come to us. So, you don't have to take the blame."

Paul smiled. He had the same opinion when Noel discussed it with him. And it seemed that the rest had accepted it as well.

Without Noel, they would die on multiple occasions, so they thought it wouldn't be strange if Noel wasn't targeted.

In the end, they focused on the second reason. From how he told them, the enemies might be stronger than he expected.

pāndā---nove1,coM But before they could go into detail, a shadow suddenly jumped toward them from the side as if he had been tailing them this whole time.

"Who?!" The rest of the group immediately raised their weapons, trying to stop this person as if he was an enemy. But Noel immediately stopped them, "Wait. He is an ally."



The guy landed on top of the carriage softly. He wore a simple brown shirt and long black pants. His face was covered with a shawl and the only thing they could see was the sword on his waist as well as the pair of blue eyes.

He was none other than Damian, the vice commander of the Greenwood Kingdom's royal army.

He told Noel about their situation. "There are three Spirit Grandmasters coming to this place. I can't get a good grasp on their true strength, but from a glance, one of them should be similar to this big guy, while the other two have a slightly higher power. What do you want to do?"

"!!!" Paul and the others were shocked by his arrival. They never thought that Noel had this powerful ally. The rest might not be able to grasp Damian's strength, but Paul, another Spirit Grandmaster, could sense how powerful he was.

"Three Spirit Grandmasters..." Noel looked down, falling into deep thought. Their strength is still too big, but I guess it's better than nothing. We will set up an ambush. If we can kill at least one of them, it would be good. If we can't, then giving a heavy injury to some of them wouldn't be that bad."

"You should remember our agreement."

"Of course." Noel nodded with a serious expression. "If you can kill one or severely injure two or three of them, I'm willing to give you half of the concept of the movement. If you can kill two of them, I will add five runes with that concept."

"We have a deal." Damian accepted it without hesitation. "Looking at how you are this sneaky, it seems that you have a plan already."

"Yeah..." Noel fell silent for a moment before beginning to explain his entire plan. Damian also listened to Noel since it was a good time to measure Noel's ability.

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Meanwhile, Hailfa, Gargan, and Fil had gone for about fifteen minutes, still waiting for any trace.

However, Hailfa seemed to notice there were some weird spots on the grass not far from them as if someone had just used their power around it.

"Wait!" Hailfa stopped while turning around, trying to look at the spot. "I seem to have found their trail."

"Hmm?" Gargan and Fil frowned, wondering what she found. They were a bit surprised that there was a circle where the grass seemed to fall down. It seemed that someone used their Spiritual Energy here and blew these grasses off.

"It seems that we have hit the jackpot." Gargan smirked, feeling fired up.

Hailfa was worried about something. "Wait a minute... Something's not right... It's true that the telekinesis user might be tired, but there doesn't seem to be any other trace... is this a tr—!"

Chapter 675 Sneak Attack

"There doesn't seem to be any other trace... is this a tr—!" Before she completed her sentence, a few presences suddenly charged straight at them. "Watch out!"

Even though she tried to warn them, their movement was swift and precise.

Gargan, who had a muscular body and trained instinct, became the first one to react to the sudden situation. He immediately turned around while raising his hammer, trying to stop whoever dared to approach them.

But before he realized it, ice emerged from the ground and circled around his arms and legs, stopping his movement.

"!!!" Gargan widened his eyes in surprise. He could easily crush this ice with brute force, but when he applied some pressure on the ice, a black phoenix dove down from the sky.

"Kh." Gargan gritted his teeth, realizing that this phoenix would surely hit him.

Still, they were Spirit Grandmasters. Fil might have reacted a bit slower, but the phoenix came a little later than the ice. So, he managed to react to this one.

Suddenly, the phoenix was distorted and twisted until it became a single black dot and eventually vanished.

While he did manage to save Gargan, the world seemed to be breaking apart as a muscular man emerged, swinging his hammer.

"Fil!" Gargan turned around. He used the time Fil bought for him to break the ice and rotate his body, planning to use this momentum to strike the guy with a hammer.

But when he swung that glaive, another person appeared with his blade cutting Gargan's right hand.

"!!!" Gargan widened his eyes. His body had shifted to the side instinctively, trying to avoid a certain death. And it seemed that the other party had realized it and shifted its attack from his body to his arm.

Even though he might be able to cut his body, the wound would be too shallow. So, he wanted to take the strong arm to gain a huge advantage in the later battle.

However, doing that alone would be underestimating him, the vice commander of the Greenwood Kingdom's royal army.

After taking that arm, he rotated his body, using the momentum to swing that blade, trying to split Gargan in half.

But a distortion in the air suddenly appeared in front of the sword, stopping his swing.

It was Fil, who blocked that attack for Gargan. But due to him saving Gargan's life, he couldn't do anything to the one with the hammer other than raise his thin arm to stop the hammer.

Unfortunately for him, the hammer came from Paul. The strike immediately broke his arm's bone apart and the momentum allowed the hammer to reach his body, causing a crack on his ribs. Luckily, he managed to jump to the side, lessening the force while using the hammer to launch him away.

As for the Serpent, she was the first one to recognize the trap and immediately moved away instinctively. Laufey had told them that if they were ever attacked by a Spirit Grandmaster, they should leave immediately to report to him.

As soon as she saw Damian, she immediately jumped back, trying to get away from this trap.

However, a woman appeared in front of her, striking her with her blade.

Hailfa caught the blade with her hand. Her hand was swift and precise as if a snake just bit the sword. And the purple color on her hand contained the poison, not only strengthening her grip but also inflicting poison on the thing that touched it.

Unfortunately for her, the blade released a torrential wind that scattered the poison to the air above, making sure it didn't fall to hit other people.

At the same time, intense pressure gathered on top of her and started pushing her to the ground. Hailfa gritted her teeth, trying to maintain her stature. But due to the amount of pressure, the ground beneath her started to crack.

Last but not least, another person appeared behind her and struck her waist with his sword, trying to cut her down.

But surprisingly, there was a clicking sound as if the sword just struck a metal. If one took a look at the small gap from her ripped clothes, they would be able to see a scale like that of a snake scale.

This was a trap. Hailfa never thought they would fall into this kind of trap. At the same time, the opponent seemed to be stronger than they expected.

She realized Paul was the one hitting Fil. Due to Fil preventing Gargan's death, he ended up getting heavily injured by Paul even though he could completely stop Paul's attack.

This showed how strong the Spirit Grandmaster that Laufey was talking about was. In a single ambush, a Devil Bishop could easily be defeated by this man.

She never thought Noel had this kind of guardian to help him. At the same time, she realized that Noel, Stella, and Jonathan were surrounding her, preventing her from going away.

And the reason why they couldn't notice them earlier must be Rose's illusion. That was right. They must have been under Rose's influence before they knew it. She might not be the one harming them personally, but without her, this ambush wouldn't succeed.

Even though they managed to escape from the worst outcome, it didn't change the fact that they were in a pinch.

'Think, think, Hailfa. You have to find a way to get out of here and inform Sir Laufey.' Hailfa, as an expert in espionage, tried to find a way to escape from an ambush. She was also familiar with a sneak attack, so she should be able to find a way out.

After all, they might be outnumbered, but the only one who could kill them was that mysterious Spirit Grandmaster while the rest weren't strong enough to be their opponent, except for Paul.

But looking at how the ambush was executed, she couldn't help but think, 'This... How could they launch a high level ambush like this? Do they have an assassin in their rank? And a pretty high rank on top of that?'

Chapter 676 Lesson

When Dimitri decided to show his appearance and tell him about his real identity, Noel couldn't help but ask, "Dimitri. You are the best assassin in the Demon Banner Army, right? How could you fail to assassinate me? Although it's true that my father is shrewd, you can't outsmart an absolute power, no?"

Dimitri thought for a moment and said, "It's actually pretty simple once you grasp it. First of all, you have to be an expert in assassination to be able to counter an assassination attempt."

"Huh? But my father is a merchant..."

"I mean, a textbook assassination." Dimitri made a weird smile. "Your father might be a merchant, but he has a lot of people helping him, including an assassin. Instead of leaving everything to the guards, he is trying to learn all kinds of knowledge to counter it."

"So, I'm going to teach you the six basic assassination attempts. They are Manual, Accidents, Drugs, Sharp Weapons, Blunt Weapons, and lastly, Explosions."

"Manual is like the ambush you have in your mind. However, you have to take note of three things when attempting this. First, you need enough power to kill or heavily injure the target in a single clash."

"Second, you need to have some abilities that are strong enough that you can become a decoy. Basically, it should be enough to make your target focus on this ability instead of yourself."

"Third, you need to be swift and precise during the attempt."

"If you can do this, you should be able to at least heavily injure your target. After all, the stronger the target, the harder it is for you to kill them."

Noel nodded in understanding. Though, he raised another question. "Still, if you want to assassinate someone, you should do it in the dark, right?"

"Not really. The place usually requires three basic things: lighting, distance, and silence."

"Basically, it's true that having the darkness to cover you is the best thing for an assassin. However, if we think that's all there is to it, then you only need to increase the guards during the night, right? People can expect your assassination pretty easily."

"Besides, it's true that your opponents will have a hard time finding you or anything you have set up, but it's the same as you. It's like choking your own neck. So, we are trained to assassinate someone in broad daylight as well. In fact, you can use the sun to blind your enemy like throwing an attack that forces the target to look up and close their eyes to the sunlight or something like that. Basically, you have to adapt to the situation and use everything to your advantage."

"Then, the distance. You need at least some distance from other people. There are bodyguards that are hiding among common people. And some even hide in the shadows like me. That's why you need to make some distance from other people before assassinating them."

"Last but not least, silence. If you want to kill them, do it as silently as possible. Well, that's the point of the assassination anyway."

Noel remembered this lesson and applied it. Just like his father, he might not be an assassin, but knowing some knowledge could give him an idea of how to do things when necessary.

He couldn't help but smile when he looked at the situation. He used that phoenix by taking advantage of the sunlight to blind Fil, causing his reaction speed to become slower. At the same time, the ambush occurred during the day, breaking the stereotype.

With the help of Rose's illusion, he could cover everyone's movement and show everything that he wanted to let the enemy know.

This was why the ambush was a success even though he wasn't an assassin.

The strength Dimitri was talking about was Damian and Paul. They were both Spirit Grandmasters, so they were the only people that could inflict some damage on them. Meanwhile, the other Spirit Masters would be joining hands to restrain the third Spirit Grandmaster.

'Good. With this, we should b—!!' Before Noel finished his thought, he saw multiple distortions appearing all around them.

"!!!" Damian felt the distortion around him and immediately jumped back, trying to regain some distance to observe the distortion. This ability was weird after all.

"A space distortion..." Damian muttered while feeling something else. "No. It's not space..."

However, when he jumped away like this, it meant Gargan finally had the space to do something.

While gritting his teeth, he grabbed the glaive with his other hand while rotating his body. With his body, momentum, and Spiritual Energy, he created a tornado that swept the area.

Paul was forced to step back, while the other Spirit Masters thought about retreating. Luckily, Damian made his move.

In an instant, the wind was frozen and shattered into pieces before getting reduced to nothing.

Hailfa didn't miss the opportunity. The moment they were distracted, she used that split second to break through their formation.

"Not good!" Stella gritted her teeth, trying to strike her. But Hailfa easily blocked her swing with the snake scale and used that force to boost her momentum.

Then, she started running at a speed that they wouldn't be able to catch up to. The only one who could stop her was probably Zion, but the latter was creating a fake trail to keep Laufey busy.

At the same time, Gargan actually used that wind to cover his movement for a second. When the wind disappeared, Gargan was already next to Fil, who was trying to stand.

As expected of Spirit Grandmasters, even though their injuries were heavy, they weren't that easy to kill.



In addition, with Hailfa going back to inform Laufey, it was clear that they were forced to choose between two options.

'We should retreat and continue our journey before Laufey comes here... Or should we do everything to kill them and fight Laufey and that guy?' Noel frowned, wondering what the correct choice was.

But he soon remembered what Dimitri taught him.

Back then, he said, "When you failed your assassination attempt, retreating is the best choice."

It didn't take too long for him to say, "Let's continue our journey. Sir, please stop them for a while."

Chapter 677 A Small Victory

"Sir, Please stop them for a while."

When Noel said those words, he immediately waved his hand, gesturing everyone to retreat.

Since the serpent had decided to leave to inform Laufey, there was no one stopping them.

Obviously, Gargan and Fil wouldn't let everything go his way.

Gargan gritted his teeth while smashing the ground with his glaive.

"You won't get away!" Gargan shouted at the top of his lungs. The energy from his glaive ran through the ground, shattering it. This powerful energy seemed to be equal to Noel's Undying Fire Phoenix with the boost from the Fire Heart.

It was quite shocking that Gargan could release this degree of power without his strong hand. His speed couldn't be underestimated either.

Fil seemed to be enduring the pain as he pointed his palm at Damian. A few distortions appeared around him, trying to crush Damian.

Damian felt their strength and realized that they were indeed powerful criminals. Even he couldn't easily kill them in this situation, especially since he had to buy time for the rest to escape.

So, he stomped the ground with his sword. In that instant, both the distortion and Gargan's attack were covered in ice.

"!!!" Gargan widened his eyes in shock. He was also a Spirit Grandmaster, but to think there would be this big of a gap.

Gargan gritted his teeth and said, "You should go, Fil. I'll buy you some time."

Fil glanced at Gargan's face, understanding his intention. If they fought together, they had the chance to slip past Damian. On the one hand, going straight to the Demon Relief Squad could stop them from leaving. On the other hand, there was still Paul. With Fil's condition, Paul would have an overwhelming advantage.

That was why Gargan told him to go, not to chase after them. He wanted Fil to survive while he bought time from Damian. He might get severely injured fighting Damian, but he was still confident enough to survive.

If they could somehow regroup with Laufey, they should be able to turn the situation around. And it would be best if they could somehow surround this monstrous guy later.

With that thought in mind, Gargan stepped forth while waving his glaive.

Each swing released a powerful strike that flew toward Damian.

Damian remained calm the whole time. He received all this strike and dispersed their energy like a true master.

At the same time, he gradually positioned himself between Gargan and the Demon Relief Squad.

Little did he know, Noel was actually staring at him.

"..." Noel frowned, feeling something weird from Damian. Dimitri might have shown some of his power, but he hadn't fought anyone seriously. So, this might be the first time someone at Dimitri's level fights.

And in this fight, he found something he couldn't explain.

'What's that ability? Is his ice so powerful that it can affect the opponent's ability? Does he have a powerful spirit? At least, stronger than Heisk?' Noel frowned.

Noel hadn't seen anyone with an ice ability. When he found someone with a fire element, they were far inferior to Ardagan. That was why he never thought about this before. What if there was someone with an element stronger than his? What would he do to overcome that gap?

He had no answer, but at the same time, he felt he could get the answer by watching Damian.

But it seemed that everything didn't go according to the plan as Jonathan asked with a slightly frustrated sound. "Noel. Why do we have to run away when we are in an advantageous position? And why do I have to carry everything again? This is taking a toll on my body."

Because he was annoyed and there were no other people besides the Demon Relief Squad, who were already aware of Iadre's real identity, he called Noel by his name.

Noel's body shook because he was too focused on Damian earlier.

He realized that his decision was a bit questionable. But he had already prepared an answer for this.

"According to the information, they have someone as strong as him. So, that woman must be trying to inform that person who seems to have gone to the other path."

"If we take too long, we will be surrounded. And at that time, some of us would surely die."

"Hence, I suggested the retreat. There is also a reason for you to carry us again. It's to cover our trail. After some time, he will regroup with us and the trail will surely vanish at some point."

"I want to create a question in their mind... I want them to think about which path we will take. We might follow this path or we might stray off track just to let them pass while heading to the other city."

"This way, we will have a lot of time to reach the city. We will have better protection once we have arrived at the next destination."

"And depending on the situation, we can go to another city or wait until the reinforcement arrives. After all, even if the enemy is powerful, the city will allow us to defend against them to a certain degree. I doubt the Supreme Devil Organization would take the risk and engage in a fight against a fortified city even with demons helping them."

"..." Everyone was silent. When they heard the reason, all kinds of misunderstandings were solved. It seemed that Noel had thought this through, especially after miscalculating the enemy's strength.

Noel only wanted them to survive. So, he chose to play safe.

With Gargan and Fil being injured, they wouldn't attack a city recklessly, especially with Damian helping them.

However, Noel had one more purpose. He was pretty sure that the one chasing after them was Laufey.

Laufey should be aware of Dimitri and his strength, considering they were former comrades. But with the addition of a mysterious swordsman, Laufey would think twice about attacking him.

There were two people of Dimitri's level protecting Noel, if he wasn't careful, all his plans would fail. This was the only way to buy more time from Laufey. He hoped he could do this until he reached the Spirit Grandmaster level.

Nonetheless, they managed to escape from Laufey's attack and the second phase of the plan had just begun.

Chapter 678 Doubt

"What?" Laufey widened his eyes in shock when Hailfa came to him, informing about the ambush and their current condition.

He realized that everything he found earlier was fake.

Laufey gritted his teeth. He never thought he would lose this miserably.

Without hesitation, he came with Hailfa to the place where they were ambushed.

Whether it was fortunate or unfortunate, they found Fil and Gargan on the way. Gargan was covered in superficial wounds and his left hand was severed. It was clear that his strength would decrease and his status as a Devil Bishop might have to be revoked after this mission due to his injury.

Meanwhile, Fil should be able to recover after some time, which was fortunate for him. But Laufey still needed them for his plan.

"Kh." Laufey was biting his lips while Hailfa tended their wounds. It seemed that Hailfa was also tasked to inform the pair to regroup with them.

"I'm sorry, Sir. Everything was my fault. If I was strong enough, I could protect all of them." Gargan lowered his head. There was no excuse since Laufey had told them that he wouldn't hold back even if they were another Devil Saint's subordinates.

Laufey wanted to berate him, but when he heard about the ambush, he realized that Dimitri's strength was in the assassination. In other words, this kind of ambush must be his doing.

But there was something that confused him.

'A man with an ice spirit? That man was the one who caused all this?' Laufey frowned. 'I have never heard of anyone with this kind of ability... The only Ice Spirit user from the Ardagan Family who was a Spirit Grandmaster was Luke's wife, Leysha. Then, who is that man?'

'His strength might be not less than Dimitri. Is he from Luke? Does that mean aside from Dimitri, Noel is being protected by this ice spirit user? But why would he be the only one to appear instead of Dimitri? He was someone I didn't know about... shouldn't he remain as a trump card that would only be revealed when he wanted to take me down?'

Laufey fell silent for a moment before widening his eyes as though he had just realized something.

'Don't tell me, the one who created that fake trail was Dimitri? By luring me to a deeper region, they could separate me from the rest of the ground.'

'At the same time, the Demon Relief Squad would escape and enter a city for more protection. Meanwhile, the ice spirit user would come to me and defeat me with Dimitri.'

'In other words, their plan was targeting me...' Laufey's expression turned grim.

He realized that the situation was more dangerous than he originally thought.

On the one hand, he could still continue his mission with the help of the pair. In fact, he was planning to kidnap Noel with only his group. On the other hand, he couldn't ignore the additional power that Noel had hidden this whole time.

'Should I continue then? The pair and Hailfa should be strong enough to buy some time from that ice spirit user. And I can take on Dimitri. In the meantime, Gargan and Fil will kidnap Noel. But there is still Paul and the rest of the members... Because of their injuries, their strength is the same as the Demon Relief Squad.'

'There is also a possibility that Faust would have known about this and ambushed us from behind. There is also a chance of the reinforcement arriving...'

'This is annoying. What should I do? If this mission ends in failure, my standing in the organization will take a hit since I can't even handle a brat who is only a Spirit Master.'

'But I'm still wondering who was planning all this? Its scent was like Luke's plan. Noel is his son... a tiger cub is still a tiger... Or is it Dimitri? Although Dimitri is not as clever as Luke, he should be able to replicate some of his strategies after following Luke for a long time.'

Laufey became more and more frustrated the more he thought about it. Gargan and Fil's injuries were truly the ones that caused all this problem.

This was why Noel didn't really mind letting them go. After all, even if they didn't retreat, they still had enough strength to stop Laufey.

Laufey thought for a moment and said, "They might be covering their tracks so that it will be hard for us to know their direction."

"So, we will split up into three groups. But this time, we are going to be more careful. Hailfa, you are going back and making sure Faust is not leaving his base. You bastard pair will go to Hansville City and observe the situation. Try to see whether they arrive there or not."

"While going there, try not to go near the main road. It's fine to take a longer time. We don't need more injuries."

"The rest will follow me to the other city. If they are not the city of our target, we will move to the other city to regroup. After that, we will formulate another plan to ambush them. The time limit is two days. More than that, the reinforcement will surely come and I'm afraid it's going to be another captain."

"Also, I have to remind you that... another injury will cause the mission failure. I hope you don't disappoint me any further." Laufey stated with a cold tone. Even his entire face was dark.

He threatened them that he would be releasing his wrath on them if they failed the mission.

The group nodded furiously.

Although Gargan and Fil were still injured, they could only endure their pain and follow Laufey while making sure that their wounds didn't reopen.

The pair and Hailfa split up, doing their own jobs.

It seemed that the battle between the Demon Relief Squad and the Supreme Devil Organization had yet to end since Laufey insisted on continuing the mission.

Nonetheless, both sides knew that the Demon Relief Squad had a big advantage.

Would Laufey find out about Dimitri's absence and turn around the situation?

Chapter 679 A Deal?

"We have spotted the city! They seem to have reduced the demon number a lot..." Stella reported.

Rose was silent the whole time as she took a close look at the situation.

There were many cracks in the wall. However, there were still far more people that stood on top of the wall compared to the Demon Barrier Squad's Headquarters.

In addition, there were a few experts on top of the wall, taking one demon after another.

It seemed that even though the wall was a bit tattered, the Spirit Enchantment was still intact and there were still a lot of people fighting.



And judging from the number of demons around here, it seemed that they were less than the ones attacking the Headquarters. In addition, they didn't have a Superior Demon around.

Rose reported, "The city seems to be safe to enter. Should we release our signal?"

Paul glanced at Noel for a moment before making his decision. "Alright. Send the signal to let them know of our presence."

"Yes, Sir." Rose nodded. She raised her hand and formed an illusion in the air.

Suddenly, a big flag appeared in the air. The flag was white, but there was a red 'x' in the middle of it. Between each line, there was a different symbol, from a hammer to a weapon. This was the flag of the Demon Relief Squad, showing that they were the squad that could do anything.

It would be impossible for the people on the wall to not see this.

Without hesitation, they immediately cooperated with them, allowing them to enter the city. Of course, the Zero Squad also showed their strength, eliminating all the demons that stood in their way.

Without much of a problem, they managed to enter the city.

They were greeted by two soldiers who seemed to have recognized them.

"Demon Relief Squad's Zero Squad? We have received word about your arrival." One of them politely greeted them.

It seemed that Historia had sent a few birds to tell them about their arrival. This was useful since there was no misunderstanding.

Paul nodded with a serious expression. "Thank you for receiving us. We are here with a lot of medicine. It will be useful for the people, right?"

The soldier's face brightened when he heard 'medicine.' He didn't hesitate to admit it. "Yes, Sir. We really need medicine."

The other soldier suddenly raised his hand, stopping him as if he knew the other guy had become too excited. He said, "We appreciate the medicine. But I believe it's better to go to our temporary base first to talk with the Vice Captain."

"Indeed." Paul nodded. He glanced at Noel, who waved his hand. It seemed that there was no need for his presence during the meeting.

So, he said, "Rose, Ben, follow me. The rest of you can take some rest."

"In that case, please allow me to guide you to your lodge. That's the least we can do." The excited soldier raised his hand, volunteering to be their guide. Meanwhile, the other seemed to be leading Paul to their vice captain.

The group split for a moment.

Noel and the others were guided to a building three blocks away. The room was similar to the one he had in the Headquarters. It wasn't luxurious, but it was enough for everything.

Since he finally had time alone, Noel chose to solve a few problems. And it seemed that one of the problems decided to haunt him.

Without even Noel inviting him, Damian suddenly entered the room with a serious expression.

"I've come to receive my part of the deal." Damian walked inside.

Noel didn't push him away nor did he say anything to his action. After all, Damian had all the right to do it.

Noel looked at him and said, "Of course. I'm writing it down now. However, because the ambush is my plan and you haven't done much... Two runes should be enough, no?"

Damian looked down, falling into deep thought. As Noel said, compared to the grand picture, ambushing the Spirit Grandmasters and stopping those injured people weren't that much since Noel had planned everything.

So, giving two runes that hadn't been published to the world was a great deal. As expected of a person from a Merchant Family. He managed to give a reward equal to the effort, leaving no chance for negotiation.

It seemed that he had to take this deal.

"Alright then. Two runes."

"But before that..." Noel raised his hand, stopping him. "Can I ask you something?"

"Depends on the question..." Damian frowned, wondering what Noel wanted to know.

As soon as he gave the confirmation, Noel asked, "I have seen how you utilize your ability... However, there is something that feels a bit different... I don't know why, but it seems that your ability is like flowing in nature. I don't think your element is like that, so it seems that the way you utilize your ability is different from anyone I've seen so far."

Damian widened his eyes before contemplating. "Hmm... So, you want to know how I utilize my ability?"

"I just want to check first whether it's classified information or not." Noel narrowed his eyes, judging Damian's reaction. Depending on his actions... No, even the slight change in his expression would allow him to get the answer he wanted.

However, Damian didn't have a change of expression as if it was something normal. He said, "In that case, I don't really mind telling you about it. It's not that big of a secret anyway, but I have to remind you that it's information at Spirit Grandmaster Level. You shouldn't expect to receive it for free, no?"

Noel's eyebrows twitched. He closed his eyes for a moment, thinking, 'Hmm... from the way he speaks, it seems that the information is like public knowledge. But considering this is information from a Spirit Grandmaster level, the price shouldn't be that low.'

'Besides, Damian wouldn't lie to me, at least not now. If I knew he was lying, it would just cause a lot of demerits for him. So the information will be legitimate.'

'However, should I accept this deal? Should I postpone it and ask this question to Dimitri? But Dimitri is handling a lot of matters. I could only meet him in another two months at the very least...' Noel was contemplating, calculating the pros and cons of this deal.

Chapter 680 Exchange

'Should I postpone this deal? But Damian is someone from the Greenwood Kingdom. If we're talking about the Greenwood Kingdom, they are famous for their Spirit ians.'

'They should have some unique information regarding the way to handle the Spirits. Although Damian is a tough nut to crack, I should be able to find at least one clue about their system.'

'It's not that much of a secret... It means that this kind of secret will only be told when one reaches the Spirit Grandmaster Level. Even if I know about it now, I might not be able to do anything with it.'

'Still, accepting this deal can also make me look like I'm generous. Damian still has one more option available, which is to kill me since Dimitri is not here. He has the perfect opportunity since we're chased by the Supreme Devil Organization.'

'In other words, by taking this deal, Damian will think that I'm someone who doesn't hesitate to trade information for my convenience. If he can play his cards right, he could get a lot of benefits from me. I want to make him think that way... Just like my father once said, if you want to snatch someone's loyalty, you should use their greed first before using your kindness and charisma.'

It seemed Noel had decided. He raised a finger and said, "One more rune for that information. You can keep the change."

Damian smiled. "We have a deal."

Noel immediately instructed Ardagan inwardly. 'Ardagan. Exchange my Honor Points to three random rune scrolls.'

[Exchanging.]

[You've acquired Muscle Enhancement Rune.]

[You've acquired Falling Rune.]

[You've acquired Gauntlet Rune.]

'Hmm? Am I lucky to receive one rune each? I've got one Rune Enchantment, Rune Engineering, and Rune Spell. Either way, the Muscle Enhancement Rune is pretty useful to increase my strength. It seems that it's the upgraded version of the Strength Blessing Rune, but I can also use both at the same time, improving the effect even further.'

'The Falling Rune is like the Enhance Forward Rune, but downward. Meanwhile, the Gauntlet Rune is a rune that covers one's fist like a gauntlet. I can combine this with Rune Body to strengthen my fist but for later.'

Noel had finished his thought. Although he had a lot of runes in his head, he hadn't practiced them this whole time. He took advantage of the system to use the runes.

And if he wanted to use the rune as a deal, he had to demonstrate the rune was genuine by using it first. So, it was better to get some runes through the scrolls.

That was why he exchanged three of them.

It was a waste, but he had saved a lot of people from the expedition to this city. So, he had a lot of Honor Points to spend for the time being.

He took out his book and formed the Enhance Forward Rune. "I'm sure that you have seen this rune. This is called Enhance Forward Rune. The name already tells you its power."

The book flew toward Damian as the latter grabbed it.

Before he said anything, Noel continued, forming the Extension Rune. He extended the back of his chair, causing it to almost hit the ceiling. "This is the Extension Rune. Its power is similar to the Enhance Forward Rune, but they serve a different purpose. Someone of your level should understand their difference, right?"

"As for the last rune..." Noel pointed his hand toward Damian. The Falling Rune appeared on top of Damian.

"!!!" Damian widened his eyes as he felt pressure from above, trying to push him to the floor or even break the floor underneath him. The pressure was quite strong, but it wasn't at the point where it would stop him from moving.

"The limit of the first rune is fifty meters, and it can lift a small boulder. It packs a lot of power. The second rune can extend something up to twenty-five meters. You can further extend it if you choose a small object. As for the last rune, the power can make you feel as if you are carrying a hundred kilograms of weight on top of you."

"I don't think a Spirit Grandmaster like you will be affected by this, but you should be able to see its worth, right?"

Damian's expression became serious. Of course, he could see it. The people that would benefit from these runes the most were probably the Spirit Masters and Spirit Wielders.

There were more Spirit Masters than Spirit Grandmasters, and the same applied to the Spirit Wielders. If normal soldiers could use it, there would be a huge change in how they fought.

After all, normal people could use the runes, or what the books said. Rose was the best example.

Of course, Rose could master the runes far faster than anyone due to her senses. Because her vision was better, she could see all kinds of details. In other words, she could learn twice faster than that of normal people. That was why she was able to master Noel's runes that fast.

She served the purpose of telling others that normal people could use the runes.

He thought for a moment and nodded. "Indeed. Are you going to give me the record about these three runes?"

"Yeah. Though, I'm not giving you the exclusive right. You should know the right is expensive, right?"

"..." Damian narrowed his eyes. If Noel wasn't useful anymore, he could answer that question easily. But Noel still had a lot of secrets that were waiting to be exchanged.

Damian let out a long sigh. "Alright. I understand that."

Noel smiled. "It seems that you're not going to ask for the rights."

"Your development is too fast. Why should I bother with the rights? I can just gather everything you show me and send it first so that the kingdom can take advantage of it faster than anyone else." Damian shrugged.

Noel sighed. Damian was indeed clever. "Well, I'll give you all of them after you answer my question."

"Sure. I don't have a problem." Damian nodded. He paused for a moment. His eyes focused on him as if he was trying to see through him. "Since you told me to keep the change, I'm giving you a bonus. I hope you don't take this as an insult..."

"You... are like a Spirit Ability Thrower instead of a true Spirit Master."