

# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 161 - Chapter 160

## Chapter 161: Chapter 160

Thump.

"Here are all the documents needed for establishing a guild."

"...That's a lot." Suho chuckled dryly, looking at the mountain of documents piled in front of him.

As if he had anticipated Suho's reaction, Yoo Jinho grinned and picked up the topmost stack of papers, explaining, "Of course there are many documents. The guild you're establishing will be treated as a large one right from the start."

"Is it because of the Scavenger Guild?"

"Yes. The Scavenger Guild has already started selling the 'Spring Water of the Echo Forest'. And half of that profit will go directly to your guild. How could there be fewer documents?" Suho nodded at Yoo Jinho's words.

[Item: 'Spring Water of the Echo Forest']

The antidote potion obtained from the Ice Elves in the Glacier Dungeon had its effectiveness proven through various tests done by the Scavenger Guild. Suho already knew its effects very well because he had seen the item description. However, to sell it to other Hunters, such verification procedures were necessary, even if they were somewhat cumbersome. Once its value as an antidote potion was confirmed, the Scavenger Guild immediately launched their new product, and the public response was incredibly enthusiastic.

It was only natural. When hunting magical beasts that used poison, having a Hunter with detoxification skills was essential. But not everyone had such a Hunter as a teammate. In such situations, they had no choice but to wear gas masks during battles, which was inconvenient. Or they had to seek detoxification from Association healers after the battle. But now, with the antidote potion, the entire paradigm would change. And thanks to his contract with the Scavenger Guild, Suho would receive half of the profits from all the sales.

However, such a massive contract could only be made between guilds.

"In other words, Mr. Sung Suho's guild will become a close partner of a major American guild from the moment of its establishment. And since our Ahjin Soft will be mediating and managing that relationship, a tripartite contract is also necessary..."

"Yes. So, where do I sign?" Suho, already familiar with the details, picked up a pen, ignoring the lawyer's explanation.

Thanks to Yoo Jinho, the complicated contracts and paperwork were all taken care of. All that was left was for him to sign these numerous documents to establish the guild. As Suho was diligently signing all the papers, Yoo Jinho suddenly looked at him with a serious expression.

"But... there's one crucial thing left to do as a guild master."

"What is it?" Suho's eyes also turned serious at his expression. His uncle, Yoo Jinho, was the closest person to his father, who had regained all memories from his previous life. What could be the most important thing in his mind?

Yoo Jinho asked seriously, "Have you decided on a guild name?"

"Ah." Just that? Suho shrugged at the anticlimactic question. He had been so busy that he hadn't even thought about it. But to complete these thick documents, he needed to write the guild name at the very top.

"Hmm. Let's just call it Solo Play Guild."

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"Wait a minute!"

"...?" Yoo Jinho's sudden flustered reaction puzzled Suho. His expression was complex. Yoo Jinho didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

'...Oh dear. Just like his father.' Yoo Jinho was reminded of a fond memory from the past. Sung Jinwoo had also wanted to casually name his guild Solo Play.

"Why? Is it weird?"

At Suho's question, Yoo Jinho asked back, "...Why do you want to use that name?"

"There's no special reason. I just like to work alone. I don't plan on recruiting more guild members in the future either."

"That's true, but strictly speaking, you're not fighting alone. You have your Shadow Soldiers."

"Hmm."

"Most importantly, it's too tacky! The guild name will be exposed in many places as it becomes known!"

Now that he thought about it, Yoo Jinho had a point. His logical and desperate persuasion made Suho nod. It made sense. This was a guild he might be with for the rest of his life. The guild name should carry a meaning that represented him well.

'That's why I chose 'Solo Play'... but it's useless if the meaning doesn't resonate.'

"A word that represents me." Suho asked again,

"Then how about 'Woojin Guild'?"

"Woojin?" Yoo Jinho's eyes widened slightly as he pondered the sound of it.

"Could it be... Did you reverse your father's name, Jinwoo?"

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"Yes, that's part of it, but there's another meaning too."

"What is it?"

"Woo (宇) from universe, Jin (進) from advance." Suho reaffirmed his purpose. What he had to do in the future. What he wanted to do. And the name he wanted to give to the guild that would grow alongside him to achieve that purpose.

"Together, they mean 'advance into the universe,' Woojin (宇進)."

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"..." Yoo Jinho was speechless at Suho's response.

"Because I will definitely reach the universe where my father is."

...And so, the Woojin Guild was established.

After creating the guild, Suho began raiding dungeons in earnest. Now that he was a guild master, he realized there was a big difference between having a guild and not having one. Surprisingly, the fact that the guild master was a C-rank Hunter didn't matter much. Such factors were only necessary when recruiting guild members. To secure dungeons for raiding, all that was needed was 'money.' And Suho now had plenty.

"1 billion won."

"...!"

"For now, use 1 billion won to secure dungeons with the highest possible grades."

"O-okay. I mean! Yes, Guild Master!" Lim Dogyoon, who had finally emerged from the Shadow Dungeon after a long time, couldn't quite adapt to Suho's sudden wealth. But earning money was the hard part; spending it was easy!

"And next month, there will be a lot more funds coming in from the Scavenger Guild, so take that into account and make some reservations in advance."

"Yes, sir!" Lim Dogyoon replied energetically. Suho noticed that his movements were quite different from before.

'He's fast.' And that change became even more apparent when Suho brought Lim Dogyoon into a dungeon.

"Wh-why did you bring me here?!"

Lim Dogyoon's role was to be a porter. He ran between Suho and the Shadow Soldiers as they hunted magical beasts, collecting magic stones. This task could have been done after the dungeon raid was over, or Suho could have simply assigned it to his Shadow Soldiers instead of bothering Lim Dogyoon. But there was a reason he brought him along this time.

"...Wow. He's really good at running away." Suho was impressed. Ammut had constantly made Lim Dogyoon run. And as a result, his lower body had been trained to its limits, and now he was skillfully evading the mid-level magical beasts attacking him.

'His magic power is still E-rank, but his strength itself has increased significantly. At this rate... wouldn't he be able to handle D-rank magical beasts or higher on his own?' Of course, just because he was faster didn't mean his attack power had increased. But what if he equipped Lim Dogyoon with a good weapon?

'Like a bow, for example.' Of course, Hunter bows used magic arrows as a base. So no matter how good the bow was, if it was in the hands of an E-rank Hunter, its attack power would be very poor.

'Does he even have enough mana for a single shot...? But what if it wasn't a magic arrow?'

"Try holding this."

"Huh? What? No, why?" Lim Dogyoon, who reflexively took the bow Suho handed him, looked puzzled.

"Guild Master, why are you giving me this? I don't have enough magic power to use weapons that consume mana..."

"I know, just try aiming with it."

"...?" Lim Dogyoon didn't understand, but he obediently followed Suho's instructions.

The moment he pulled the bowstring... Zwoosh!

"Mino, Shape Transformation."

"...?!" Lim Dogyoon was startled. The Shadow Minotaur, who had been fighting magic beasts, suddenly rushed towards him and transformed into a black arrow.

[Mino Lv.1]

[Shape Transformation - Arrow]

"H-hic..."

[MooOOOOOOOO!]

"Wh-what is this? It's scary." Lim Dogyoon's hands trembled as he looked at Suho, the black shadow arrow flickering ominously on his bow.

"S-Suho? No, Guild Master? W-what... what happens if I shoot this?"

"What do you mean what happens? It'll fly forward, of course."

"W-well, that's true..."

"Come on, give it a try. What's the worst that can happen?"

"..." At Suho's urging, Lim Dogyoon closed his eyes tightly and aimed the shadow arrowhead at the fearsome-looking magical beasts. And then. Thump. The moment he released his hand.

[MooOOOOOOOO-]

KwaaAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!

"Khieeeek?!" The black streak of light that left his hand pierced through the giant magical beast's body like a cannonball, leaving a large hole. Lim Dogyoon stared blankly at the scene with a priceless expression.

"Wh-what in the world..."

"What do you mean 'what in the world'?" Suho grinned and replied.

"From now on, you're a full-fledged combat member of the Woojin Guild."

"...Guild Master." Lim Dogyoon looked at Suho with a serious gaze. An E-rank Hunter. The weakest Hunter, fit only for mining, not combat. That was him.

'...I'm weak.' No. He had always been weak. That's why...

'I always ran away.' From scary magical beasts. From his mother, who turned into a Mistburn and tried to kill him. And...

'From my father, who killed my mother.'

Mother. Lim Dogyoon still dreamed of 'that day' whenever he fell asleep. In those dreams, his father would kill the magical beast that his mother turned into without hesitation. And as he witnessed that scene... Lim Dogyoon would turn back on his father in fear and run away. Forever, until the dream ended. He would run and run endlessly. To escape from his father. Perhaps...

'My life has always been about running away.'

The fact that he gained the Running skill right after awakening? That was natural.

'Because I'm weak.'

Even after awakening, he was only E-rank. He still wasn't nearly as strong as his S-rank father. But...

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Right now, Lim Dogyoon was looking down at his own two hands that had just killed a powerful magical beast in an instant. His hands trembled with belated excitement. Of course, he wasn't delusional. This power wasn't his own. It was merely a manifestation of the ability Suho had temporarily lent him. But for some reason, even this one experience made him feel a surge of courage he had never felt before.

"...Suho." Lim Dogyoon looked at Suho with a serious gaze. And he revealed an important secret he had been hiding until now.

"My father is actually..."

"Ah, yes Lim Tae-Gyu, the guild master of the Reaper guild? I know."

"Lim Tae... what? H-how do you know that?!" Suho looked at the shocked Lim Dogyoon with an incredulous expression.

"How could I not know? You resemble him so much. If I couldn't recognize that, I should return my Korea University of Fine Arts acceptance letter right away."

"..."

"Anyway, I guess you finally gained some courage now that you're talking about it?"

"What?" Pat. Suho placed his hand on Lim Dogyoon's shoulder. Then, with a meaningful smile, his eyes gleamed.

"Then, could you contact your father yourself now?"

"Wh-why?"

"He's been calling me to return the weapon he lent me. Haha."

"...Huh?" The A-rank weapon Lim Tae-Gyu had lent Suho before going to the Glacier Dungeon.

The 'Grim Reaper's Bow (Replica)' was gone, taken by the Ice Elf, Sirka, who left with his mother. No matter how rich Suho had become overnight, it was still only 1 billion won. Even if the Spring Water of the Echo Forest was selling like hotcakes, it had only been a few days since the sales began. So he didn't have the money to pay for that expensive A-rank weapon yet.

"So take this opportunity to reconcile with your father. And if possible, ask him if he can hand over some high-level dungeons..."

"..." Lim Dogyoon's excitement quickly faded as he saw Suho's bright, toothy smile.

Meanwhile,

"...Cha Hae-in!"

Sirka urgently called out while aiming the Grim Reaper's Bow (Replica) at the sky. Swish!

At her words, Cha Hae-in also looked ahead with a heavy expression.

"Could that be...?"

A gray blizzard. And beyond it a giant shadow loomed.

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*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 162 - Chapter 161

## Chapter 162: Chapter 161

Tomb of the Berserk Dragons. This was the site of the final battle between Sung Jinwoo, the Shadow Monarch, the King of the Dead, and Antares, the Monarch of Destruction, the King of Dragons. The war between these two powerful forces was truly fierce and relentless, and in the end, it was Sung Jinwoo's Shadow Legion that emerged victorious. As a result, since that day, the bodies of countless Dragons, turned to ashes, have been scattered across this land like snow in a blizzard.

Cha Hae-in and Sirka had ventured into this desolate and barren land to restore the strength of the Shadow Wyvern, Kaisel. Who, weakened from protecting Cha Hae-in, had fallen into a deep sleep in her arms as soon as they arrived. It was a kind of hibernation. On the surface, it looked like he was merely asleep, but in reality, Kaisel was absorbing the faint remnants of the dragons' power that lingered in the gray ashes. While the Shadow Wyvern recovered his strength, Cha Hae-in and Sirka had only one thing to do: wander aimlessly through this wasteland.

At first, they tried to find a suitable place to stay and wait for Kaisel to recover. But soon after, Kaisel woke up with a long yawn. What Kaisel wanted was clear. Keep moving. The amount of power he could absorb in one place was limited. In a way, it was natural. The energy remaining in the corpses of the Berserk Dragons was faint to begin with. For the depleted Kaisel to fully recover, they might have to travel all over this dimension. Understanding this, Cha Hae-in and Sirka began to wander the land, searching for new places to aid Kaisel's recovery. And after a long while...

"...!" A truly massive and magnificent silhouette appeared before them.

"Cha-cha! I'll cover you!" Under Sirka's protection, Cha Hae-in drew her sword and slowly approached it. As they made their way through the gray blizzard... Finally, its true form was revealed before them.

"Oh my god." They couldn't help but be shocked.

"...Not all of them turned to ash." Surprisingly, right before their eyes were the remains of giant Berserk Dragons that had not yet turned to ash, their bones piled high.

"It's like we're in some kind of dinosaur museum." Cha Hae-in was a little overwhelmed by the grandeur of the giant dragon bones.

[Growl...] At that moment, Kaisel, who seemed to have woken up, looked around with sleepy eyes. Cha Hae-in stroked his back and asked.



"How do you feel? Does it seem like your strength is recovering faster here?"

[Growl...] Kaisal closed his eyes contentedly at Cha Hae-in's touch. Sirka, who saw his expression from the side, said happily.

"That's great. It's only natural that the recovery rate would be much higher around corpses with bones remaining than those turned to ash. Dragon corpses are a tremendous treasure in themselves." Cha Hae-in nodded at Sirka's words. Even recalling her memories from her past life, dragon bones were indeed an incredible resource. They boasted tremendous strength and durability, enough to support the weight of a massive dragon, and their mana responsiveness was naturally top-notch.

"This is great. If we take these bones back to Earth and make weapons, it will be a huge help to Suho."

"Yeah. They're weathered and worn from being here so long, but if we look carefully, there are probably still plenty of intact bone fragments..." Just as Cha Hae-in reached for her necklace to open her inventory...

A chill ran down her spine.

"Watch out!"

"...!" Cha Hae-in and Sirka scattered in opposite directions as if on cue, sensing the sudden killing intent.

Boom! A massive explosion erupted where they had been standing. The shockwave from the explosion caused nearby dragon bones to collapse. Cha Hae-in and Sirka hurriedly dodged the debris and assumed combat stances.

"I'll cover you!" Sirka quickly retreated and drew her bowstring, while Cha Hae-in immediately charged forward with her sword. Then, the identities of those who caused the explosion were finally revealed.

"Kirraka!"

"Kirukadra!"

"...!" Cha Hae-in's eyes widened in surprise. They were warriors and mages made of bones. But they weren't in the form of ordinary human-like skeletons.

Sirka, who was covering Cha Hae-in from behind with arrows, recognized their identity and shouted in surprise. "They're Dragon Tooth Warriors!"

"Dragon Tooth Warriors?" They were also known as Spartoi (Σπαρτοί) in Greek, meaning 'the sown ones,' they were legendary warriors, as their name suggested, born from dragon teeth sown into the ground.

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"It seems the dragon teeth that didn't turn to ash were reborn as monsters!" Sirka recalled. Antares, the King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction, also known as the Dragon Emperor, was the most powerful of all the monarchs. He was the strongest dragon, and he led an invincible army with immense power and magic. During the long years their corpses remained in this land without turning to ash... The power dwelling within their bones must have created these Dragon Tooth Warriors. But... Something didn't add up.

"Dragon Tooth Warriors born without a master! Is that even possible?!"

"What do you mean?" Surprised by Sirka's reaction, Cha Hae-in shouted towards her in between the swings of her sword.

There were as many Dragon Tooth Warriors as corpses of dragons in this land, and they continued to crawl out of the ground, surrounding Cha Hae-in and Sirka. But...

"Storm of White Flames!"

Rumble!

As Cha Hae-in raised the Demon King's longsword high, hundreds of Berserkning bolts began to strike from the sky.

"Kirakrak!"

The Demon King's longsword contained the power of Baran, the Monarch of White Flames, the King of Demons. And that sword had the power to create a storm where Berserkning endlessly raged. In the face of this overwhelming calamity, the Dragon Tooth Warriors should only be able to scream while turning into ash. However...

"Kaaaaaaaah!"

"They're withstanding this?!" Cha Hae-in's eyes widened in disbelief. The Dragon Tooth Warriors were getting back up even amidst the Storm of White Flames, which had inflicted significant damage even on the Apostles of Itarim.

"Cha-cha! I heard Dragon Tooth Warriors have high defense because they're born from dragon teeth!"

"It certainly seems that way." Cha Hae-in gripped her sword more firmly.

[Growl.]

"Don't worry, Kaisel. You can keep sleeping." Sensing the commotion, Kaisel opened his eyes with a worried expression, but Cha Hae-in reassured him with a chuckle.

"They're definitely taking damage, though." As she said, the Dragon Tooth Warriors directly hit by the Berserkning had become noticeably slower.

'If they kept taking them down one by one, wouldn't they all eventually fall?' Cha Hae-in swung her sword, slicing the waist of the Dragon Tooth Warrior in front of her, and then looked back at her companion.

"Sirka! So what were you about to say earlier? What's strange?"

"Ah...!" Sirka shot an arrow at the Dragon Tooth Warrior mage the furthest from her and replied.

"I don't know much about dragons, but I do know one thing for sure! Dragon Tooth Warriors can't exist without a master!"

"They need a master?"

"Yes! I heard dragons originally pull out their own teeth to create Dragon Tooth Warriors! Their purpose is obviously to protect themselves! More precisely..." Sirka's gaze turned to Kaisel, who was sleeping on Cha Hae-in's shoulder.

"To protect the dragon while it's hibernating! That's the true purpose of the Dragon Tooth Warriors!"

"What?" Hearing Sirka's words, Cha Hae-in realized something was amiss and looked around.

"But there are no living dragons here?"

"That's why it's strange! Dragon Tooth Warriors without a master turn back into teeth!"

"Then what are these guys...?" It was certainly strange. For so many Dragon Tooth Warriors to exist, there should be a corresponding number of living dragons here. But no matter where they looked, they couldn't even find a single one. That meant the seeds for these Dragon Tooth Warriors must have been the teeth from these corpses.

"...Could it be that they have a new master?"

"Or someone who can create Dragon Tooth Warriors even with other dragons' teeth has appeared."

"It all leads to a similar conclusion. And it doesn't seem like they'll answer if we ask." Thanks to Cha Hae-in's translation necklace, she was able to understand the words coming from the Dragon Tooth Warriors' mouths.

"Kirrakara (Kill the intruders)!"

"...Intruders."

'That means we've intruded somewhere, or they don't want us around here. Where could that place be?'

Cha Hae-in calmly looked around and cut down another Dragon Tooth Warrior, then shouted. "Sirka! I'll hold them off for a bit, so you send a 'prayer' to the Monarch of Frost!"

As a descendant of the Frost Monarch, Sirka could communicate her thoughts to Him... While Suho, as the 'High Priest,' could awaken the slumbering spirit of the Monarch. Sirka could only send a one-way message through 'prayer.' And that message would be delivered to the High Priest, through the Monarch of Frost.

"...This isn't exactly what prayers are usually used for." Sirka started praying to the Monarch of Frost, Sillad, with a sBerserkly embarrassed expression.

"So, what message should I ask him to deliver?"

\* \* \*

Meanwhile, Suho and Lim Dogyoon had arrived in Busan. Their purpose, of course, was dungeon raiding. But this raid was going to be a bit special.

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"Are you the guild master of Woojin Guild?"

"No, I'm the vice guild master, Lim Dogyoon. Our guild master is this way..."

"Oh, I apologize!" At Lim Dogyoon's words, the female hunter who had come to greet Woojin Guild blushed and quickly apologized. Then, with an awkward expression, she approached Suho and greeted him with a bright smile.

"Hello! I'm Lee Juhee, a healer from the Knights Guild! Welcome to Busan!"

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"Hello, thank you... I'm Sung Suho, the guild master."

"..."

"...?" But for some reason, as soon as Lee Juhee greeted Suho and made eye contact, she stared at his face with a strange expression. Suho asked with a puzzled look.

"Is something wrong?"

"Oh, no! I'm sorry. Your face looked familiar for some reason. I guess it was just my imagination." Lee Juhee apologized to Suho belatedly with an embarrassed expression.

'I'm being so silly today. How could I possibly know this young man? When I lived in Seoul, he probably wasn't even born yet.' Berating herself for her frequent mistakes today, Lee Juhee quickly got to the point.

"Ahem. Anyway, Guild Master Sung Suho, thank you so much for coming to help our Knights Guild. Hunter Lim Tae-gyu has already arrived at the guild office and is waiting for you. I'll show you the way."

Lim Dogyoon gulped nervously at the mention of his father waiting for them...

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 163 - Chapter 162**

### **Chapter 163: Chapter 162**

Suho's 'Woojin Guild' had just one simple criterion for selecting dungeons: Leveling up as quickly as possible.

In other words, high rank dungeons or those with a large number of magic beasts were the best for gaining experience. But naturally, such gates were also popular with other hunters. This was because the remains of strong monsters were often valuable, and the more monsters there were, the more valuable materials could be obtained. And because of that, the rights to raid such dungeons were expensive.

Currently, Suho's guild had 1 billion won in funds. This was an ambiguous amount of money, neither a fortune nor a small amount, so they had to make a choice. Either split the guild's 1 billion won and raid multiple low- to mid-level dungeons. Or all-in and purchase a single higher-level raid license.

Both of these would be decent choices for a typical guild focused on profit. However, for Suho, whose main goal was leveling up, neither option was ideal. Having surpassed level 50, he could no longer gain experience, let alone level up, in low- to mid-level dungeons. And even a high-level dungeon might not guarantee a single level up. Of course, once the larger payments from the Scavenger Guild started coming in next month, everything would be resolved. But he couldn't just sit idly in the office until then.

...So the option Suho chose was neither of the two. Even if it was somewhat inefficient from a profit-oriented guild perspective, there was another way if the goal was just leveling up. Enter a dungeon already claimed by another guild. This third method could be further divided into two approaches. One was to act as mercenaries, responding to another guild's request for assistance. If a guild that had won a bidding competition determined that the dungeon's difficulty was higher than expected, they might request support from other guilds or hunters. However, this was quite rare. Most guilds purchased raid licenses only for those dungeons they were sure could clear on their own.

That left one option. Acquire the raid license from another guild. Usually, it would be transferred at a higher cost than the original purchase price, with a premium added. But this was also difficult for Woojin Guild with its limited funds, so the method Suho came up with was to utilize 'blood ties.'

'...That's why I was trying to buy the raid license from the Reaper Guild through Lim Dogyoon as an intermediary.'

After the Lee Minsung incident, the Reaper Guild was suffering from a severe manpower shortage. It was only natural that they no longer had the capacity to clear all the dungeons they held raid licenses for. They might even need to urgently sell their licenses to maintain cash flow. And since it was the guild his son belonged to, they might be willing to hand over the raid license at a slightly lower price...

Suho's plan was perfect... Except... There was something He hadn't considered...

'So the Reaper Guild is in that much trouble?' Lim Tae-Gyu was ruined. The Reaper Guild, once considered the best guild in South Korea, had steadily declined after the Lee Minsung incident. Thanks to Que who after his death handed over all of his hidden funds to Lim Tae-Gyu, their financial difficulties, which put them on the verge of bankruptcy, were alleviated.

The problem was that this didn't make the hunters who had already terminated their contracts and left the guild return. The company's image had already hit rock bottom. So Lim Tae-Gyu made a bold decision, saying he would go back to basics. Instead of recruiting new guild members, he used the remaining funds to increase the value of the guild members who had remained loyal despite the circumstances. Then, he shed the image of a large guild and started operating as a small, elite guild. Just like the Woojin Guild led by Suho.

Anyway, because of this situation, Lim Tae-Gyu was in a similar predicament as Suho. The Reaper Guild he led decided to operate as a mercenary group for a while, as it was the most cost-effective way to utilize their funds.

Contrary to their tarnished public image, they were instantly welcomed in the industry, as it was unprecedented for a mercenary group to include an S-rank hunter. And the first guild to send a love call to them was the 'Knights' the representative guild of the Yeongnam region.

"...As you probably already know, our Guild has the most A-rank hunters in the country." On their way to the office, B-rank healer Lee Juhee explained about her guild to Suho.

"However, while we have many A-ranks, we don't have a single S-rank hunter, which sometimes leads to difficult situations like this. So we're very grateful to Hunter Lim Tae-Gyu for coming as a mercenary this time." Every time Lee Juhee mentioned Lim Tae-Gyu's name, Lim Dogyoon, walking beside Suho, flinched and stiffened. Seeing this, Suho chuckled and lightly patted Lim Dogyoon's back.

"Relax. You look like you're going into battle."

"Y-yeah, s-sure." Lim Dogyoon was already a nervous wreck.

"..." And finally, the inevitable moment arrived.

"This is the office. It seems they're in the middle of a strategy meeting."

Knock, knock! Lee Juhee knocked on the office door and entered, followed by Suho and Lim Dogyoon. At that moment, the gazes of all the hunters who had been in a heated discussion turned towards them.

"What?"

"Who's suddenly interrupting the meeting..." Those who were about to speak fell silent when they recognized Lee Juhee beside Suho.

"The additional mercenary support has arrived" At her answer, the hunters' eyes momentarily lit up. At the same time, their gazes quickly scanned Suho and Lim Dogyoon standing beside her.

The people gathered here were the leaders of the Knights Guild. This was a meeting to address the emergency in Haeundae, Busan, so any skilled hunter was welcome. However, things were different if they couldn't prove their skills.

'Woojin Guild. According to the information, it's a newly established guild.'

'And it's a small guild with only three members, including the guild master.'

Under normal circumstances, they would never accept such an unproven guild as mercenaries. In an emergency like this, if unskilled people got in the way, it could lead to a major accident. But the person who recommended Woojin Guild was none other than Lim Tae-Gyu. Although technically a mercenary, as an S-rank hunter, he was essentially the core and de facto leader of this operation and the Knights Guild, which lacked an S-rank hunter, had been heavily influenced by his opinion.

'If Lim Tae-Gyu recommended them himself, they must have some hidden potential, right?'

'Judging by their small numbers, they might be a guild focused on buff skills or healing.'

Various thoughts crossed their minds, but ultimately, they couldn't help but underestimate Suho seeing Lim Dogyoon's frozen expression beside him.

"Uhhh..."

'Tsk. They're just kids after all.'

'This is worrisome. Hopefully, they won't just hold us back.'

At the sight of Lim Dogyoon standing there like a statue, unable to even breathe properly, the hunters couldn't help but click their tongues. They all, without exception, glanced at Lim Tae-Gyu, who was leading the meeting from the podium.

'Even with Lim Tae-Gyu's recommendation, we'll have to oppose this... Hmm?'

'What was Lim Tae-Gyu thinking... Hmm?'

But what was this? Lim Tae-Gyu, who had been strategizing with charismatic authority on the podium, now had the same frozen expression as Lim Dogyoon.

"Uhhh..."

"Uhhh..."

"...What's going on here?" The hunters exchanged puzzled looks, alternately glancing at the two who had frozen upon seeing each other.

"..."

"..."

The father-son reunion, made possible thanks to Suho, began in a tense atmosphere. Seeing Lim Tae-Gyu and Lim Dogyoon, both lacking the courage to speak first, even the Knights Guild leaders couldn't help but swallow nervously.



Upon realizing that Lim Dogyoon was Lim Tae-Gyu's son, they remembered the heartbreaking story in their information network.

'On the day he awakened, his wife turned into a Mist Burn.'

'And that Mist Burn attacked his son.'

'To save his son, Lim Tae-Gyu had to kill his own wife, with his own hands...' This incident was a well-known story.

'And his son ran away from home after that, right?'

'It's understandable. No matter the circumstances, he witnessed his father killing his mother.' Knowing the situation, they could understand the atmosphere. However...

'Why are they doing this here...'

'I wish they would just leave.' It was suffocating.

'We're so busy.'

Park Jongsoo, the president of the Knights Guild, and Suho ignored the awkwardness and shook hands.

"Nice to meet you. I'm Park Jongsoo, an A-rank hunter leading the Knights Guild."

2

"I'm Sung Suho, the president of Woojin Guild." Park Jongsoo was quite a polite and courteous person. Or rather, he had no choice but to act that way. Unlike the other leaders, he had heard about Suho from Lim Tae-Gyu beforehand.

'The mysterious person in the photo taken with Hunter Lim Tae-Gyu during the Lee Minsung incident.'

The drone photo had been of such poor quality that the face of this unknown individual couldn't be clearly identified. Countless guilds had been desperate to uncover his identity, hoping he was a promising new hunter. And now, he had come to them on his own. This was an opportunity. If, as Lim Tae-Gyu said, he turned out to be a tremendous talent in the future, there was no harm in forming a good relationship with him. Park Jongsoo gave a friendly smile and personally pulled out a chair for Suho.

"Here, President Sung Suho. Please have a seat. Since time is of the essence, let's have a more in-depth conversation after the meeting." Finally, the meeting began.

Lim Tae-Gyu, unable to have a proper conversation with Lim Dogyoon, went back to the podium to continue the meeting.

Lim Dogyoon, who ended up sitting next to Suho, gradually calmed down as he watched his father.

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 164 - Chapter 163**

### **Chapter 164: Chapter 163**

Haeundae, Busan.

It was relatively recently that strange things started happening on this beautiful white beach, which becomes overcrowded during the vacation season. The Knights Guild, the representative guild of the Yeongnam region, received reports of people continuously disappearing in Haeundae and started patrolling the entire area. And they ended up discovering them.

"Skeletons." At Lim Tae-Gyu's words, the leaders of the Knights Guild fell silent.

"The areas where they appear are gradually expanding." The video showed numerous skeletal soldiers emerging from beneath the sand and hunters fighting them off. Watching the battle unfolding on the screen, Park Jongsoo, the president of the Knights Guild, gritted his teeth with a serious expression.

"The problem is, we have no idea where they are coming from." Judging from the situation, it was clear that a dungeon break had occurred in the waters off Busan. However, they couldn't find the location of the gate, the core of the issue.

"...The endlessly multiplying skeletons mean that there's a necromancer-type monster behind this, summoning them. Assuming that it's boss-type, it should be located at the end of a dungeon, or in this case most likely inside or near the gate." Finally breaking the silence, the leaders spoke up.

1

"That's why our Knights Guild is focusing all our efforts on searching for the gate..."

"But we can't find its location at all."

"We're even suspecting that the gate might have appeared underwater."

"That's impossible! There's no precedent for a gate appearing underwater!"

"The Cataclysm happened only two years ago! New precedents can be set anytime!"

Gates, dimensional rifts connecting Earth to otherworldly dimensions. This mysterious phenomenon could appear suddenly anywhere in the world. But for some reason, there had never been a single instance of a gate being observed in the ever-changing and turbulent depths of the sea. Despite the unknown cause, humanity was fortunate. The prospect of a future without the sea was bleak, no matter how one envisioned it.

However, they couldn't be complacent forever. Just as no one had foreseen the Cataclysm two years ago, no one could know what unexpected changes might occur in the future. The hunter who raised his voice at the end was pointing out this very fact.

"Enough." With Lim Tae-Gyu's single word, the heated atmosphere among the hunters instantly calmed down. The people gathered here were the leaders of the Knights Guild, meaning they were all A-rank hunters. While there might be differences in their individual strength, they were essentially hunters of the same rank, so their voices carried equal weight. But precisely because of that, Lim Tae-Gyu, the only S-rank hunter among them, held more authority than anyone else.

As the room fell silent, Lim Tae-Gyu spoke again. "Sure, it's important to keep an open mind and consider all the options, but it is impossible to prepare for everything."

If the gate had indeed appeared underwater, it wasn't a problem that could be solved with the forces currently gathered here, a situation they couldn't hope to handle. So Lim Tae-Gyu believed it was better to rule out that possibility for the time being.

"So, for now, we'll form search teams under the assumption that the gate is hidden somewhere along the coast." Lim Tae-Gyu's gaze swept across the room and met Suho's.

'You understand the situation now, right?' Suho read his intention and nodded silently.

"Ahem. In that sense, we currently have two immediate tasks..." Suddenly noticing Lim Dogyoon beside Suho, Lim Tae-Gyu coughed briefly and averted his gaze, then continued the explanation.

"One is to continuously fend off the endless stream of monsters appearing on the coast. Of course, you're already doing a good job, but we need to deploy as many troops as possible to that area." Everyone nodded in agreement.

To prevent the monsters from leaving the beach and flooding into the city, the more troops, the better. Moreover, the monsters that first appeared in a dungeon break were

always weaker than those that came later, as if they were scouts. In other words, due to the nature of dungeon breaks, although it was only skeletons now, there was a high probability that more dangerous monsters would appear later. To prepare for this, they needed to deploy their forces with ample margin.

"Two, find the location of the gate as quickly as possible. This task involves navigating through the monsters, so we'll form a small, elite search team led by me. At that, President Park Jongsoo raised his hand and asked a question.

"Is there a specific criterion for this 'small, elite team'?"

"Yes. Since the main objective is searching, we'll select people who are confident in their speed rather than combat power."

'Speed rather than combat power?' At those words, Lim Dogyoon's eyes widened. And when it was time to volunteer for the search team, he raised his hand high. Lim Tae-Gyu was startled but continued speaking in a calm tone.

"Ah, I forgot to mention one thing. Only those ranked B or higher can volunteer for the gate search team. It's a very dangerous task as there's a high chance of encountering the boss monster out of the blue."

"..." But even after hearing that, Lim Dogyoon had no intention of lowering his hand.

'I'm confident in my speed.' He was well-versed in running away.

Seeing Lim Dogyoon's determined gaze, Lim Tae-Gyu looked at Suho, hoping he would dissuade his son. But Suho just chuckled and raised his own hand, saying,

"We're not B-rank, but Woojin Guild would also like to join the search team."

"...Alright, let's do that." In the end, Lim Tae-Gyu had no choice but to nod with a reluctant expression. The reason he had brought Suho here in the first place was to have him join the gate search team. But he hadn't imagined that his son, a mere E-rank hunter, would also volunteer.

'But he's the guild master, so he'll take responsibility for his guild members' safety. They even went to the Glacier dungeon together.' Suppressing his unease, Lim Tae-Gyu conveyed the detailed strategies to the hunters and concluded the meeting.

"...Then, let's begin the operation."

Thus, a total of 20 people formed the search team. Lim Tae-Gyu further divided them into five groups of four. But here, a problem arose.

"I'll lead the first group, and Hunter Sung Suho from Woojin Guild will lead the second group. And the third group..."

"What?!"

"Excuse me?" The hunters who had volunteered for the search team, assuming the S-rank hunter Lim Tae-Gyu would lead them, were understandably bewildered.

"But this is different from what we were told!"

"I heard Sung Suho is a C-rank hunter!"

"How can you put our lives at risk like this...?" As if expecting such complaints, Lim Tae-Gyu calmly responded to them.

"Again, our goal is to search, not fight. That's why I specifically asked for those who are fast on their feet."

"Th-that's true, but..."

"We're searching for the boss monster's location. Shouldn't there be at least a minimum guarantee of safety?"

"Exactly. And I'm a B-rank hunter. Does it make sense for me to follow the orders of a mere C-rank hunter?"

"Sigh. 'Mere,' you say..." Their complaints were valid, but Lim Tae-Gyu couldn't help but let out a hollow laugh.

"Suho. No, President Sung Suho. Haven't you gotten re-evaluated yet?"

"I've been busy setting up the guild."

"Make sure to get re-evaluated after this. That way, we won't waste time on pointless arguments like..."

1

"If that's the case, I'll take charge of the second group! I'll leave the third group to my subordinate."

"Hmm?" While Suho was talking, the hunter who was supposed to lead the third group stepped forward confidently.

A-rank hunter Jung Yoontae. He was the vice president of the Knights Guild and had a close relationship with President Park Jongsoo. Jung Yoontae looked at the members of

the second group with disapproval. Sung Suho, despite being a guild master, is still only a C-rank hunter. Lim Dogyoon, an E-rank hunter who was supposedly his guild member. And next to them...

'Who's that woman? Is she a hunter from the Woojin Guild?'

Next to them was Esil, whom Suho had summoned from the Shadow Dungeon, now included in the second group as a member of Woojin Guild. And the remaining member was a B-rank hunter from the Knights Guild.

1

"Tsk." Jung Yoontae clicked his tongue and said.

"The second group's combat power is particularly weak compared to the others. In that case, it would be better for me to switch to the second group. Of course, I'll be the leader..."

"Sure, go ahead."

"Huh?" Jung Yoontae was taken aback by Suho's easy acceptance. Suho transferred the Knights Guild member to the third group and readily stepped down as the leader. Then, pushing Jung Yoontae, who had become the new leader of the second group, he said.

"I don't mind, so let's get going."

"Uh?" Jung Yoontae, who had unexpectedly become the leader of the second group, felt something was odd. But in any case, the four members were chosen.

A little later, Lim Tae-Gyu gave his final instructions to the search teams that had arrived in Haeundae.

"Then, each group will disperse to their designated areas. Whether there's a special situation or not, let's exchange information in real-time as much as possible."

"Yes, sir!" Jung Yoontae responded energetically to Lim Tae-Gyu's words and then turned to the hunters of the weak second group he was leading, giving them orders.

"Our second group will break through the skeletons and start searching from behind them! Let's go...!" With those words, Jung Yoontae dashed forward at tremendous speed. Then, he turned around and shouted, trying to match the pace with his team members.

"Don't fall behi... Huh?" There was no one behind him.

"Huh?" Jung Yoontae turned his head forward again with a puzzled expression. Surprisingly, all the hunters from the second group were running ahead of him.

'Their speed is impressive! So this is why Hunter Lim Tae-Gyu included Woojin Guild in the search team!' Jung Yoontae was impressed and increased his own speed. But what was this? No matter how hard he tried, he couldn't catch up to them! Not even Lim Dogyoon, an E-rank hunter!

'Th-this can't be right?' It wasn't just Jung Yoontae who was surprised by this sight. Even Lim Tae-Gyu, who had been watching the second group from afar with concern, couldn't help but widen his eyes.

Then, snapping out of it, Jung Yoontae hurriedly followed the second group hunters, shouting.

"W-wait! There are too many skeletons over there, it's safer to go with me..."

At that moment.

"Perfect." For leveling up.

Suho, who was running at the front, raised his fist towards the swarming skeletons ahead.

"Blizzard of Frost."

Whoosh! A biting cold swept through, engulfing the skeletons rushing towards Suho.

Crack! The white blizzard swept over the bare bones, even freezing the waves rolling in behind them.

[The King of the Snow Folk, the Monarch of Frost, opens his eyes.] At that moment, the slumbering Monarch of Frost, Sillad, awoke.

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 165 - Chapter 164 Chapter 165: Chapter 164**

Many people gathered around Haeundae Beach. A lot of them were citizens and reporters who came to watch the unexpected outbreak of the undead monsters.

"Please refrain from accessing past this point!"

"It's dangerous!" Said the police and the Hunter Association's staff from the Busan branch as they were struggling to set up fences and restrict the access to that area. But somehow, the sound of rushing footsteps did not diminish at all.

"This is so frightening! I've heard that even an S-rank hunter from Seoul had to come!"

After the Cataclysm, being a hunter became one of the most popular professions. If you were to enter the dungeon by yourself, you would soon find that there aren't as many dangerous things inside as they would have you believe. Because of this, it was natural for everyone to envy the hunters who could earn a lot of money. Among them, S-class hunters often gained popularity comparable to that of celebrities.

Once a dungeon break occurred in an open place such as this, the reactions of the citizens divided themselves in two. Either run away or come to watch. Most of them chose the former, yet there were still surprisingly many people who flocked to see the gates for themselves without fear. And one example of this category was:

"Are you seeing these viewers? I ventured out to look with my own eyes at the skeletons you only see in movies ! If you send donations, we will launch the drone right away!"

"Guys! The president of the Reaper guild, Lim Tae-Gyu has joined as support on this raid. We should see him any moment now. Thank you for the Moon balloon [1]!"

Amongst the citizens, there were quite a few personal Streamers who proclaimed themselves to be reporters. Some even came out with their expensive drones to relay the situation of the battle. These were the cases that exposed themselves to a lot of danger solely to increase their donations.

4

"Senior." The female employee of the association who had been hit by the crowd in the front, asked with a tearful expression.

"Does this happen every time there is a dungeon break?"

"What did you expect? This is the largest dungeon break ever in Busan." The senior pressed down his throbbing brow with a tired expression.

The sight of the superior looking back at her made the fatigue even thicker. Had the gate been discovered earlier, the situation wouldn't have escalated to this extent. Not to



mention the sight of the skeleton soldiers from the sea off Busan. It made you feel as though you entered the scene from the classic movie, Pirates of the Caribbean. In addition, this time the S-class hunter who recently attracted the news, appeared directly in front of them, so the interest and excitement were indescribable to say the least.

2

"Isn't this good content? If I were a reporter I would have come out with my camera as well." Sasu, who was also a fan of streaming, sighed at the irony.

"Although it's really cool to see him up close."

"Who? Lim Tae-Gyu?"

"Yes, who else? You know he can shoot ten arrows at once and they all hit."

"Well, despite the controversies surrounding him, he is still an S-class hunter." As he said this, the senior's eyes were also following Lim Tae-Gyu and giving out small exclamations.

"I heard that Lim Tae-Gyu was also put on the scouting team rather than fighting directly. "

Unlike every other archer, he didn't just shoot from a safe place. Instead, he used his agility to run directly between the skeletons whilst tracking the traces of where the gate was located. Whenever he got surrounded, he would shoot his bow and clear the road ahead.

[I'm donating 10,000 won [3] for every 10 kills that Lim Tae-Gyu does!]

[I'm donating 50,000 won [4] for every 100 kills Lim Tae-Gyu does!]

"Kya! Thank you for the donations!"

"Viewers, I'll be counting the skeletons that Lim Tae-Gyu kills in real time!"

"What the—?"

In a sharp contrast to the hunters who risked their lives fighting, something absurd was happening on the outskirts of the Beach. There was a ridiculous amount of huge donations pouring in that was proportional to the number of beasts dying. All of this happened in less than a minute since the scouting team and Lim Tae-Gyu had gone out to fight.

'Does the entire country suddenly come out when I fight?' He wondered if this was the reason for that proverb 'Bears do tricks while the bear owners get money'.

Although the reality was that the hunters who played the bears here earned far more money than a personal Streamer could ever dream about, so there was no reason to be mad at them. Besides, isn't this also kind of creative in this economy? Anyways, from the Association's point of view, the only thing that mattered was solving the situation safely and without anyone getting hurt.

"Uh?" All of a sudden, a new oddity appeared.

"Whoa oh oh~ " A wave of cold air hit them.

"Huh?" All the eyes that had been looking at Lim Tae-Gyu went wide and suddenly turned in one direction.

"W-what is that?!" Said Lim Tae-Gyu while he and the scouting team spread out around the area.

Many hunters gathered in Busan to deal with the emergency, including A-classes such as the famous guildmaster of the Knights. Among them were also a few unknown faces. One of them reached out his hand and a part of the sea around them turned into an arctic landscape. Skeletons that were crawling out of the sandy Beach, as well as the waves leaping behind them, became frozen solid.

"...!"

"...!?" The expressions of everyone who saw the scene also temporarily froze.

"Who- who is that person!?"

"Fellow viewers! Does anyone have information about that hunter?" Astonishment began to burst out here and there. And Haeundae Beach was filled with the sound of cheers.

"Papa, search quickly! Who are the people that volunteered for the scouting team!"

"I'm doing it now!"

Even the reporters from broadcasting stations quickly started asking the Knights Guild for information...

Some reckless Streamers started grabbing the association staff who were controlling the crowd and began to beg for answers. "Who the hell is that hunter? Please give us some info!"

"That's a blizzard, right? Even among the advanced magic hunters, only a few can pull off such spells to this extent!"

"As far as I know, it would take a lot of mana to use such a wide range magic, so who the hell..."

[1 million won [5] to the person who finds the Hunter's identity the fastest!]

"If you let me know I will share the donations with you!"

"Stop coming! You can't go any further than this place!"

"Please refrain from crossing the safety line..."

The reactions of the maddening civilians were quite natural considering no one had ever expected to see such a wide-range magic that was capable of causing such extreme weather. This cold blizzard suddenly blew into the sunny skies and froze hundreds of skeletons all at once!

"It's the first time that this kind of hunter has ever appeared in our country!"

"I found it!" Everyone suddenly turned their attention to the cry of the stranger. There, a Streamer who had connections to the Knights Guild, held up his cellphone like it was the World Cup trophy while shouting triumphantly.

"Woojin Guild! He's from Woojin Guild! His name is Sung Suho, a hunter from the Woojin Guild!"

"Huh? Woojin Guild?"

"This is my first time hearing of them."

"Is it a new guild?"

Once they finally found out the identity of the hunter who used blizzard magic, people began to be confused. There was nobody who had any information about the Woojin guild, except for one person who had a very good memory.

"Wait a minute! Could it be Sung Suho?!" They frantically started searching the internet for some articles that they had seen before.

"Sung Suho, isn't that the hunter who solved Lee Minsung's case?"

"Yeah, that's right! There is also a picture of him with Baek Miho and Lim Tae-Gyu side by side!" The collective intelligence of people was truly astonishing.

After Suho used his skill, he smiled knowing the spectators had managed to figure out his identity in an instant.

1

'Just as planned.' He quietly thought while watching the commotion from afar. Thank goodness I created a guild. There are rarely good situations like this where I can get free publicity. During the various cases he was solving, Suho had continued to hide his identity, half for his own sake, half because of others. The purpose was just to avoid revealing the use of the Shadow Monarch's powers to the apostles of Itarim, who, of course, were hiding in plain sight. But he could afford to show off other skills in public like the ones similar to abilities other hunters possessed. It's for the best, actually. The reputation of the guild was now more important to Suho's plan than anything else.

2

For what reason did he create a guild in the first place? To level up, of course. He planned to make a guild in order to enter higher-ranked dungeons and level up more. However, those gates could be bought with money. Money that was scheduled to come from the Scavenger guild next month. Why would he try to increase his guild's reputation then...?

The basic reason was: In order to go to North Korea. And the guild's reputation was crucial for that. Advanced dungeons are important, yes, but Suho's ultimate objective was to cross the border so he could hunt.

After the Cataclysm, North Korea was turned into a monster field, becoming an inaccessible demonic realm. To put things into perspective, the Chairman of the association Woo Jin-Chul who went out to aid them with Choi Jong-In, wasn't even able to come back yet. If they didn't wipe out the monsters swarming their neighbors territory in time, they would come down to invade South Korea afterwards. Supposedly they were meant to 'aid' but their actions seemed close to a conquest of the north.

But for Suho, even the worst environment in North Korea was like a paradise, filled with chunks of experience all over the place. The problem was that North Korea was not a place just anyone could go to. Even if the government collapsed completely, it still wouldn't unite the two Koreas. Moreover, hunters who committed crimes like the villains at Jisan prison would also want to go there. Because in this situation, if just anyone was allowed to cross the border without any restrictions, then the criminals would be the first to run away to a place where their skills would be wanted. This would mean they would have a strong chance to mercilessly commit crimes against the survivors of North Korea still alive everywhere.

1

It would become a lawless place...

So, the Korean government and the Hunter Association were legally blocking unqualified guilds from ever stepping foot on North Korean soil. The most important of

these qualifications was awareness. A guild had to be recognized by the public, and one of the most effective ways to gain recognition was to play an important role in helping with disasters that citizens paid attention to.

Issues like Jisan prison were ambiguous. Wiping out 500 villains was a respectable thing to do, but the public opinion divided itself more than he thought.

"He is a person who slaughtered 500 people in one day. That isn't normal. "

"He's a killer at minimum. "

"BUT isn't it okay since he killed the villains and not the people? "

His identity was protected by the White Tiger guild following his cooperation within them. If it ever came to light that he was the one to have killed all of the villains, it would be difficult for Suho to access North Korea.

But with this... As part of the scouting team, Suho jumped into the middle of the skeletons and showed his strength without hesitation.

"That kid is the real deal! I sent you out to scout for the gate, but you are annihilating the skeletons instead!" Lim Tae-Gyu said, seeing Suho's splendid debut, making him embarrassed.

'Did he have a skill like that before, or did he receive a runestone as a gift from Thomas Andre?' The power of it was truly an unbelievable sight. A cold snowstorm was unstoppable in the coastal waters of Haeundae. A white icy road spread out like a carpet with Suho in the center of it running without hesitation past the skeletons frozen like statues. He wondered just what kind of nickname people would give him during the live broadcast, seeing such an impressive feat.

[Stop.]

"Huh?" Suho, who was still rushing forward without hesitation, suddenly stopped walking and listened to Sillad's words.

[The Frost Monarch, King of Snowfolk, listens to Sirka's prayer]

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[1] Moon Balloons: Sort of like a donation in webcam streaming videos.

[3] 7,56 dollars

[4] around 38 dollars

[5] 758 dollars

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 166 - Chapter 165**

### **Chapter 166: Chapter 165**

[King of the Snow Folk and the Monarch of Frost, listens to Sirkas prayer]

[Sirka, descendant of the Frost Monarch, prays earnestly!] Sillad heard the earnest prayers

of Sirka who had left to search the tombs of the dragons with Cha Hae-In earlier.

The descendant's prayers originally had one purpose: to offer praise and worship for the spirits of the dead. Because Sirka had been a descendant of his own choosing, Sillad readily

responded to her first prayer.

'I can't imagine how heartfelt and wonderful the first prayer ever directed at me will be.'

'...Wait... hold on, what is this?' Of course, it was nothing like the worships he had seen before.

"Mister Sillad! We're in a hurry right now! Can you call Suho for us?"

[Huh?] The Frost Monarch doubted his ears.

"Oh! If it's possible could you also show him the things we are seeing too? Although even for

a Monarch even that might be too difficult huh..."

[The Frost Monarch widens his eyes and opens his mouth at Sirka's provocation!]

Her purpose in talking to Sillad was clear. Just like modern humans, Sirka was using the prayers as an excuse to text message Suho, or even video message. How could he, King of the

Snow Folk and the Monarch of Frost, be used as a simple messenger?

'No, I mustn't get mad, this is still the first prayer after all, but still, there should be a sacrifice or greetings at minimum!'

[The Frost Monarch falls into thought with a remorseful expression.]

[The Frost Monarch sighs deeply.]

\* \* \*

"Why are you so noisy all of a sudden?"

In a different place, Suho clicked his tongue briefly as he watched the system's messages

appear one after another in front of him. His confusion was apparent as he could only hear

Sillad muttering to himself while he had been running forward to strike the frozen skeletons.

Ding! [A message has arrived!]

"A message?" Another window suddenly popped up in front of him.

"Could it be a new level-up quest?" Suho immediately opened the message box.

[You have one unread message]

[Mother's Letter] (Unread)

"A letter from my mother?" Confusion appeared in Suho's eyes. At first, he had seen something

about Sirka's prayer, and now it seemed like there was a real message that arrived instead of

a quest. Not to mention that it came from the tomb of the dragons where his mother had gone.

"Did something happen to her? Check Message!" Suho rapidly opened it to see the contents of

it. A belt rang and at that moment Cha Hae-In's voice was heard from beyond their dimension.

[Suho, it seems like we found something here, can you ask Beru to check what it is?]

[Kieek?!] Beru suddenly popped out from behind Suho's arms.

[Sillad King of the Snow Folk and the Monarch of Frost uses his skill 'Ice flower Illusion']

All of a sudden a frigid blizzard that raged in all directions started to spread around Suho,

making transparent ice flowers bloom similarly to a spring haze or a mirage in the desert.

And in front of him, the images of Cha Hae-In and Sirka, who were in the tomb of dragons,

began to spread out. The ice flowers became smaller and smaller as they showed the place

where his mother stood in more and more detail. Gigantic bones of berserk dragons towering

over them like huge pillars. Underneath Cha Hae-In and Sirka fought a battle against the

numerous dragon soldiers that surrounded them.

[Unbelievable! It's a Dragon soldier!] Beru wore an expression of disbelief.

[Little Monarch this is a big deal!] Realizing Cha Hae-In's motive behind showing him that

scene, he promptly explained it to Suho.

[The dragon soldiers are beings born from dragon teeth, but they disappear as soon as their

owner dies, so how...]

"Hold on, does this mean there are as many soldiers as there are living dragons where my

mother is?"

[No! That's nonsense! The Destruction Monarch's legions were killed and incorporated into the



Shadow Army] Beru fell silent, suddenly realizing something in the middle of the sentence and

opening his eyes.

[I can't believe the descendant of the Destruction Monarch is...] Beru had no choice but to

hold back his words.

The King of Dragons, The Monarch of Destruction, Antares. He was the strongest of eight

monarchs born from the primordial darkness, and the only one who could overpower him was the

Shadow Monarch Sung Jinwoo. He was the true incarnation of destruction, willing to destroy

everything including himself for the sake of waging a war of blood, screams, madness, and

devastation. It's for that reason that Sung Jinwoo had relentlessly attacked the dragon race until they went extinct. Not a single dragon survived meeting the Shadow Monarch. What was

the reason Sung Jinwoo had fought such a terrible battle? Wasn't it because he was concerned

that a descendant of the Dragon Emperor could appear later?

[But the descendant of Antares must have appeared anyway!] Beru couldn't believe the situation at all. Yet the dragon soldiers teeming around them were proof!

Realizing the seriousness of the situation, Suho hurriedly opened his mouth. "Sillad! Tell my

mother to get out of there as quickly as possible—"

Right as he said that, in the illusion of the ice flower, Cha Hae-In raised her sword. From above, silent lightning bolts stretched out and pierced the dragon soldiers. Cha Hae-In's cheerful voice was heard again by Suho and Beru

[Do you really think you need to worry about your mother?]

"..."

[...]

The Demonic Spirit king's Longsword in Cha Hae-In's hands was the weapon of Baran, King of

Demonic Spirits, Monarch of White Flames. There couldn't be anything more dangerous here than

an S-class hunter carrying such a powerful weapon. Even if the descendant of the Monarch of

Destruction appeared, it will still be only a descendant. They wouldn't be a threat to Cha Hae-In.

"Something seems to be strange here. There are many dragon soldiers but no matter where I

look, I can't find a single living dragon." Hearing Cha Hae-In's words, Beru calmed down.

Considering the size of a Dragon, there shouldn't be a way to hide such a huge creature in

such an empty world.

"Looking at the movements, it seems as though their protective instincts are really strong.

Beru, do you think you could give me some advice?"

[I think I understand the situation...] With those words, Beru looked at the ice flower illusion with calm eyes. While in the meantime, Suho kept wandering among the frozen skeletons in the cold blizzard, looking for traces of a hidden Gate.

After thinking for some time Beru finally opened his mouth. [First of all, dragons have a habit of gathering their magical energy inside their hearts. So anything important will most

likely be near that part of their body.]

No matter how many bones were left, the corpses of the dragons were still in the same position in which they died. Their gigantic bodies were similar to huge ruins. The place Beru

pointed towards was around where the heart of this corpse should have been.

[Sillad King of the Snow Folk and the Monarch of Frost, nods his head saying that he will

convey that.] But as soon as Sillad said that, something unexpected happened.

"Who dares to use magic in front of me!"

Ding! [The Skill 'Ice Flower Illusion' is forcibly canceled.] Sillad's skill shattered as the entire sandy beach full of skeletons began to sway like waves.

"Ehh?!"

"Kyaaaaaagh!!"

"What is this!?"

The hunters that fought the skeletons, struggled to keep their balance on the shifting surface. To make matters worse, the sand they were standing on formed a huge whirlpool and

began to suck everyone, including the skeletons down like a vortex. The phenomena even

reached the citizens watching from afar.

"Viewers! It seems something strange is happening—Ahh!" The Streamer who had been piloting

his drone had unknowingly come close to the scene and was sucked into the sand. With both

legs stuck. He couldn't run away.

"Ahhh! Ahhh! Help! ¡Help!" He struggled to get out while his body was helplessly sinking

deeper and deeper.

"Oh god, I'm going to die!" The idea of dying, which he had never thought about in his life,

suddenly appeared in his mind.

Snap! Suddenly, someone's hand grabbed the Streamer by the collar and lifted him up.

"Cough cough!" He struggled to breathe as he was forced to the top. He instinctively turned

his gaze to his savior.

"Thank you-aah!" He couldn't finish his words as his body was mercilessly thrown out of the

sand.

"Aahh!"

"Here! Take him!" Fortunately, the association hunters caught the Streamer before he hit the

ground.

After letting out a heavy breath, he turned around to find the person who had saved him, and

he noticed he wasn't the only one being rescued.

"Aaagh!"

"Ahh—"

"Aaagh!"

From the distance, he could see the people flying through the sky as if they had just been

thrown like a baseball and getting caught by the hunters of the association. The Streamer

finally recognized the face of the person who was rescuing them.

"Hunter Sung Suho..."

"It's hunter Sung Suho of the Woojin guild!" It was the hunter that had caused the blizzard in the middle of the beach. And he wasn't the only one. The other members of the Woojin guild

soon followed.

"Lim Dogyoon!"

"Yes! Leave the rescuing to me!" Surprisingly, Lim Dogyoon, who was an E-rank, was rescuing

people from the sand vortex faster than any of the other hunters there. Due to his agile legs, he was even rescuing other hunters, all without losing his balance on top of the whirlpool that raged relentlessly under his feet.

'He is really good at escaping.' Suho didn't dare to imagine just what kind of training torture Ammut had given Lim Dogyoon all this time. Although thanks to that he was able to

concentrate on the battle at the center of the sudden chaos. A sand vortex...? Suho didn't care

what it was.

'Iron body technique.' Instead, he ran towards the center of the sandy vortex with black aura

covering both his legs.

[Little Monarch.]

"I know." At Beru's words, Suho's eyes shone intensely. There was a familiar energy at the

end of his glaring gaze. Illusions. An ability most often used by the evil races living in the spirit world.

"They are Demonic Spirits."

[King of the Snow Folk and the Monarch of Frost, frowns at the fact that his magic has been

broken]

Just like Sillad's reaction, it seemed that the magic he used had also touched the pride of

the Demonic Spirits hiding inside the sand. Suho shouted as he rushed towards the center of

the sand vortex to the Demonic Spirit's hideout.

"Sillad! Tell my mother about Beru's words!" He had already delivered said words to Cha Hae-

In. Coincidentally, she had arrived at the heart of the dragon guarded by the dragon soldiers

when she heard him.

"Right here..."

"What are all these things?" Cha Hae-In and Sirka looked with firm expressions at the numerous eggs gathered there.

"These are dragon eggs." Sirka muttered in a groaning voice.

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 167 - Chapter 166**

### **Chapter 167: Chapter 166**

A dragon's nest.

This would be an accurate expression to describe the place where the dragon soldiers were guarding the human-sized eggs. They didn't have time to count them one by one because they were trying to fend off the enemies attacking them, but even at first glance, a few hundred eggs could be spotted.

"Did the dragon soldiers move all of them to one place?"

"I think so. There's no way the dragons would have all gathered here to lay eggs during the war." It was as they said. It seemed that the soldiers here had gathered the eggs from each hiding place. No matter where their original location may have been. Wouldn't that make it easier to protect them?

'Or maybe it's the instinct of the dragon soldiers.'

All of a sudden, Sirka had a strange question pop into her head. "But why would your husband leave all these eggs intact?"

"Leave them?"

"Well, the Shadow Monarch is famous for incorporating his enemies into his shadow army unconditionally when he kills them."

"Ah!" Cha Hae-In also realized something from Sirka's words. The souls of countless dragons that died here had already become shadow soldiers that served Sung Jinwoo as their king. Therefore, they wouldn't have any reason to keep the existence of the eggs a secret from Sung Jinwoo. Even if the dragons hid the eggs in secret places before dying, they would still have no choice but to tell him their location once converted to shadows. As Sirka said, Sung Jinwoo knew that these eggs were here, so they both came to the conclusion that he must have left them here on purpose.

'But why?' Cha Hae-In eventually found the reason.

"...Ah." The moment she unintentionally touched the dragon egg.

Pssss! Surprisingly, the surface of the egg that seemed hard as stone began to scatter like dust at her touch.

"Wait, what?" Cha Hae-In and Sirka's eyes widened, there was nothing inside.

"How can it be empty?" Seeing this, Sirka hurriedly made her way to the other eggs and started touching them one by one.

Rustle.

Crumble!

The eggs scattered like ashes into the air without much effort. It was striking just how they managed to maintain their original form. An ashen blizzard filled the tombs of the berserk dragons.

"These are hollow too!"

"Is that so?"

"Could it be that your husband knew these things were dead and didn't care much about them?" Sirka's guess was quite plausible.

However, Cha Hae-In still had a serious expression. "Sirka, is it normal for a dragon egg to be empty even when they die without hatching?"

"Well, so far I don't..." As an ice elf, Sirka didn't know much about a dragon's biology. There was only one, highly possible, guess that came to mind.

"Maybe the dragon died before it could be born and your husband has the souls of these eggs? What if they were all taken in as shadow soldiers?"

"Wouldn't their corpses still be inside the eggs, then?"

"They would." Cha Hae-In was silent for a while at Sirka's confirmation. Aside from logical thinking of whenever or not the eggs had been nurtured, the mystery still lingered as to why their exterior looked normal but they were empty inside. And also, what would be the reason the dragon soldiers were guarding empty eggs?

"Let's check them all for now." Cha Hae-In and Sirka began to test all the remaining eggs. Unfortunately, there was not a single one that stayed intact after being touched.

At the same time, Cha Hae-In was also coldly watching the behavior of the dragon soldiers. 'These eggs are the owners of the dragon soldiers, so why hasn't their number decreased?' There was a slight connection though. As the numbers of the eggs decreased, the bloodlust of the warriors was becoming even more intense.

'Could they have another owner? Maybe there are still some living dragon embryos around here?' Thinking of many various hypotheses, Cha Hae-In continued to reduce the number of eggs.

And finally. She found it. "This..."

"Isn't this a bit small?" Cha Hae-In's eyes sparkled when she found the ostrich-sized egg hidden among all the human-sized ones. The egg also smelled of mana, unlike all the other hollow ones. When she grabbed it, she could feel it weigh a fair bit.

Aaaaa! The aura around the dragon soldiers also became extremely thick.

"Cha-cha! These guys are getting mad! We have to evacuate... Huh?"

[Purrr] Suddenly, the shadow wyvern Kaisel, who had been sleeping quietly all this time, suddenly woke up.



[Kyaaa~] Kaisel spread his wings wide while stretching on Cha Hae-In's shoulder and yawning. Then, he took the real dragon egg into his arms, twisted himself into a coil and embraced it as if it was his own.

"Ah.." The bloodlust of the dragon soldiers suddenly disappeared in an instant. Cha Hae-In and Sirka looked around with puzzled expressions at the sudden change.

The soldiers all the sudden bolted towards them only to kneel down and lower their heads as they surrounded Cha Hae-In and Sirka.

[Purrr~]

To be more precise. They were on their knees in front of Kaisel, who was cuddling the egg. Seeing this, Cha Hae-In and Sirka muttered to themselves with bewildered expressions.

"I guess we can count this as a win, right?"

"Cha-cha, should I pray for this?"

"Yeah, let's tell Suho." It seems they have found the last dragon egg in this entire universe.

\* \* \*

[Little Monarch! The entire shore is covered by a whirlwind of sand!] Haeundae was caught in an unexpected natural disaster, as Beru reported. The sandy whirlpool on the ground wasn't the only thing to worry about. There was also a sandstorm in the air that spread in all directions, as if it was a barrier.

'It's similar to the instance dungeon made by Harmakan, but much more refined.'

Harmakan, a member of the demonic spirit clan, also placed a barrier around the entire Yami Village to create the 'instance dungeon'. The barrier was so subtle that even those who passed through couldn't notice it. He didn't know if this was another kind of magic or the demonic spirits that appeared this time had been clumsy with their spells, but they created an easy to spot and obvious barrier that trapped people inside a sandstorm.

"Sung Suho!" A voice called from behind. Lim Tae-Gyu, the guild master of the Reaper guild and S class hunter, was running furiously through the sandstorm.

"Get out of the way!" He said while nocking magic arrows in the reaper's bow then quickly drawing and aiming towards the center of the sandy vortex.

Swish! The powerful projectiles grazed Suho as they flew towards the center of the barrier.

Kaboom! One of the arrows pierced its target and exploded.

[Ahh!! How dare a measly human being!] Angry screams of the demonic spirit echoed in all directions.

"There you are!" Like an eagle that found his prey, Lim Tae-Gyu's eyes sparkled as he unleashed a storm of magic arrows again.

Poof!

Kekekekeke! Countless skeletons also emerged from the sandstorm to attack him from all sides. He snorted and while laughing hit them with the reaper's bow.

Kwang! The S class weapon was harder than a baseball bat, so he smashed the skeletons with a delightful ease.

"That's all I need to kill you!"

[It can't be.]

"...!!!" Lim Tae-Gyu rapidly scanned his surroundings hearing an eerie voice right behind him.

[You are quite strong for a human.] Ignoring all other hunters the gloomy voice rang only in his ears.

[Oh well, it doesn't matter how much mana you have. Humans are a weak race.] 'He' laughed at Lim Tae-Gyu.

[The human soul is inferior.] As soon as 'he' finished speaking, the scenery changed right in front of Lim Tae-Gyu's eyes.

[The Demonic Illusionist Javier uses the skill: 'Mirage']

'Mirage?' Suho gained two pieces of information thanks to the system's message.

One, the culprit behind this situation was Javier, a magician from the demonic spirit tribe.

Two, he could use a skill called 'Mirage'.

[Little Monarch! Beware of the illusions!] Beru's urgent voice began to fade far away as the landscape around Suho changed.

\* \* \*

Javier was a magician from the demonic spirit tribe. He never once doubted his victory. He had to win.

He had been experimenting with the souls of the people he collected on this beach, and as a result came to one simple conclusion.

'Humans are weak.'

The demonic spirits were a race that enjoyed doing various research on the nature of souls. To them, they were just a resource to study, with an infinite potential. Using them, they could create really interesting spells. Although it might be terrible for the victims, 'Mirage' was a powerful illusion that brought out the most terrifying or intense moments from the target's memories.

'They are quite an interesting race.' Through his demonic magic, Javier enjoyed the colorful fears hidden within the human's subconsciousness. Since they were fundamentally weak, the fear felt by them was more primal and instinctual than that of the other races.

'The other species only fear death at best. But look at the humans gathered in front of him! Look at the many colorful fears that they could express!'

'For example... That one.'

"Honey."

"No, no, it can't be..." Lim Tae-Gyu, who had the most magic power among the hunters, fell into the greatest despair.

That was because his 'dead' wife, no, the wife he had killed with his own hands, appeared in front of him. Her dead body was enveloped in a blue flame, burning her away. Slowly, she approached him with a sorrowful look on her face.

"Why are you looking at me like that? You are the one who killed me."

"I'm sorry, I'm really sorry..."

'Kehehe. How delightful it is to watch a soul struggle in despair!' Javier felt extreme pleasure while he admired Lim Tae-Gyu's despair and fear.

[Kahaha! They cannot resist their absolute fears, just look at how beautiful this is!] S class or whatever, inside was just another equally insignificant human soul, while his illusions were on another level. Javier could bring out the intense memories deeply

engraved into the victim's soul and turn them into reality. The illusions could even exert physical power on the material world.

[This moment was bound to come, S class hunter, so don't struggle anymore and accept your fate.] He mocked and giggled at Lim Tae-Gyu until a sudden chill made him turn his gaze quickly in the other direction. He couldn't help but doubt his eyes.

[That... What is that...?!] The ominous feeling was coming from the young hunter who caused that blizzard earlier. He, too, had been watching the illusion of a person deeply engraved in his memory manifest into existence. But something was strange...

1

[What the hell is that!?!] A being from Suho's memory was slowly revealing itself, covered in the black void of the abyss itself.

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 168 - Chapter 167**

### **Chapter 168: Chapter 167**

...Looking back, Suho's school days were always filled with boredom. Square desks. Square blackboards. Square classrooms. A uniform world where people wearing the same clothes gathered in one place, all learning the same things. That was all he remembered about his school days.

'...Boring.'

Looking back, Suho often yawned and felt bored for no reason during those days. ...Something. A vague feeling that he knew something more exciting and amazing. Whenever he felt that way, Suho couldn't stand the boredom.

Suddenly.

Tick.

Time stopped and an unbelievable sight unfolded before his eyes. Students leaving the school gate. Students exercising. Cars passing by on the road. People walking on the sidewalk next to it. And even a ball flying through the air. Everything that was once moving stopped instantly... And 'it' appeared.

A Gate.

A round, black hole that suddenly materialized at the back of the classroom. A dark door that seemed to suck you in when you got too close. It was enough to frighten any ordinary child, but instead of crying or screaming, Suho placed a hand on his chest.

Thump, thump, thump. His excited heart was beating wildly. Maybe... Maybe he had been expecting something like this for a long time.

'Mom always said I resembled Dad.'

'If it were his father... How would he act in this situation?' The answer was clear. Suho jumped into the Gate without hesitation. And so it began. The most intense and violent dream of his entire life.

Kaaaaah! Ugh! Kieeeeeek!

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

...In that dream, Suho was hurt and died countless times. He fought off an overwhelming number of monsters that attacked him while running forward, always forward. And finally...

At the end of that dream, Suho was able to face 'him.' A man with his face hidden under a hood. A mysterious persona who exuded an overwhelming sense of intimidation. But now, he knew who 'He' was.

'...Father?' Suho couldn't help but be bewildered by the sight of his father, Sung Jinwoo, appearing before him.

Of course, he knew... That was definitely an illusion. His father, who was in space, couldn't suddenly appear here. So that had to be a fake. But, he couldn't help but worry.

'Can I defeat my father as I am now?'

Gulp. Suho swallowed dryly. Looking back, even at level 99 in the dream, he was knocked out in one hit. And his current level was even lower than back then.

'No. Father won't be as strong as he was then either. That's just a fake created by magic.' Suho was certain. There was no way that a mere demonic illusionist could reproduce the power of his father, the Monarch of Shadows. So surely...

'No, even so, the pressure... It's too much!' The relentless aura weighing down on the surroundings. Just how powerful was the magic of the demonic spirit race that Suho's senses had been going haywire since the moment his father's copy appeared? Even though he knew it was clearly an illusion, Suho couldn't help but break out in a cold sweat from the pressure bearing down on his entire body.

[...Kekekeke! To think there was someone with such a memory! The Shadow Monarch!] Javier, finally regaining his composure, burst into laughter. He had finally grasped the situation. Pointing at Suho, Javier shouted in a confident tone.

[You! You must have encountered The Shadow Monarch somewhere! Indeed! The King of the Dead is the personification of terror, a living nightmare !] Javier, the Demonic Illusionist, had briefly seen the Shadow Monarch from a great distance...

Of course, he had survived until now only because he ran away without looking back as soon as he spotted him. But even just sneaking a glimpse of him from afar made that day his most terrifying and cursed memory. The aura of death that the Shadow Monarch exuded! It was a tremendous shock. If only he could perfectly extract the fear of that day from his memory!

'I could have even the mighty Shadow Monarch as my subordinate!'

'Memory Manifestation' That was the magic Javier had dedicated his entire life to perfecting. Of course, it wasn't perfect, but even if he could just partially recreate the Shadow Monarch, the King of the Dead, his soul would achieve a monumental level of transcendence!

But unfortunately, his spell ultimately failed. Or rather, it was a half-success. He had completed the Mirage, but the image of the Shadow Monarch that Javier himself had witnessed was too fleeting. He couldn't create an illusion of the Shadow Monarch with such a flimsy memory as material.

[But to discover it this way!] He knew that the Shadow Monarch had been living in the human world for a long time. But to think there was a soul among humans who remembered him in his full glory so vividly! Javier licked his lips, looking at Suho with greedy eyes.

[Kekeke. You're mine now! I'll bind your soul and use it as material to summon the illusion of the Shadow Monarch forever!] Then, he gave a cruel order to the Shadow Monarch, still emanating a terrifying aura.

[Kill him!]

[Listen! Shadow Monarch! I am your master, Javier! Kill the human before you at once and bring his soul to me as an offering!] At those words, Suho tensed and drew upon all the magic power within him.

'I'll go all-out from the start.'

In truth, the most effective way to deal with a magic caster was to ignore their illusions and target the caster directly. However, mages rarely foolishly exposed themselves. Javier, too, was hiding somewhere, only his voice reaching them. Suho tried to expand his senses to detect his presence, but strangely it seemed to be coming from all directions simultaneously.

"Honey... I'm... I'm sorry... That I... with my own hands..."

Even within the illusion of a woman that Lim Tae-Gyu was facing with a pained expression.

Even within the illusions that countless other hunters were confronting.

And even from the Shadow Monarch, Sung Jinwoo, standing there.

[Heh. You're quick.] ...Javier's energy was coming from them all.

[That's right. All the illusions here are me. And now, even the Shadow Monarch you summoned is...] Javier's wicked laughter echoed everywhere.

But then.

[...?]

[...Huh!?] A confused shout suddenly came from Javier.

At the same time, Suho also noticed something strange. His father. No, the fake Sung Jinwoo. The one who seemed about to unleash an indiscriminate attack with that overwhelming power. He was now looking at Suho's face and chuckling, as if he found him endearing.

"You're still weak."

1

"...?" For a moment, Suho felt a strange sensation.

The demonic spirit's magic was truly amazing. That voice and atmosphere, didn't they feel just like his real father? The problem was that this was the illusion his father that had attacked him in his dream.

But then...

[Wh-what?! Why isn't he moving according to my will...?!] Javier's voice was greatly flustered for some reason.

"Hmm." 'Sung Jinwoo' withdrew his gaze from Suho and looked around leisurely.

A fierce sandstorm raged. Within it, the hunters were trapped, struggling against the illusions with pained expressions. Watching the scene, he nodded and spoke again.

"I see. So the current me is an illusion."

11

"What?"

[...Wh-what?!] Javier was in utter shock. Something truly unbelievable had happened. An illusion created by magic had gained self-awareness and recognized itself as an illusion!

8

[Th-this is impossible...!]

"Nothing is impossible."

[...]

"At least not for me." At those words, Javier shuddered. Goosebumps rose on his skin. The illusion of Sung Jinwoo was suddenly looking directly at the real him, hidden within the sandstorm, and speaking to him.

1

'He' chuckled and casually tossed a question at Javier: "Do you know how many demonic spirits have become Shadow Soldiers so far?"

2

[W-wait a minute.] A sense of foreboding suddenly washed over Javier. It wasn't a question asked out of curiosity. Javier immediately understood the intention behind these words.

How many of his brethren had died at the hands of the Shadow Monarch during the fierce war and been incorporated into the Shadow Army? What if those who had become Shadow Soldiers were still researching magic like they used to even after their transformation? And the king who ruled over those Shadow Demons, the Shadow Monarch...



"Indeed. Thanks to them, I've become quite familiar with the magic of the demonic spirits." 'Sung Jinwoo' expressed his sincere gratitude to Javier.

"So I applaud you. Your magic is quite useful. Especially in a situation like this." Then, 'he' suddenly looked up at the sky. Although nothing was visible due to the sandstorm, his gaze calmly pierced through it, towards the universe beyond, towards his true body that existed there. A faint smile formed on Sung Jinwoo's lips. Then, he lowered his gaze, looked at his son Suho, and called out someone's name.

"Beru."

[...Kieeeeeeeek!] At his command, Beru, who had disappeared, suddenly emerged through the sandstorm. And upon recognizing his master, Sung Jinwoo, he burst into tears.

[M-My King!] He was just a mirage. But Beru's eyes, spiritually connected to Sung Jinwoo, could accurately perceive his will through that illusion.

"...Beru, you've grown weaker." Sung Jinwoo clicked his tongue, recognizing Beru's condition at a glance.

2

Well, no matter. He raised his hand and placed it on Beru's head.

"Remember this. Shadow Soldiers share all senses with their monarch. That's the second level of the Shadow Storage skill." Then, as if speaking for Suho to hear, he muttered.

"If you mix that with the demonic spirit's magic, you can do things like this."

Fwoosh! A black energy swirled from his hand and seeped into Beru. Who closed his eyes in pleasure, finally feeling his master's touch after a long time.

At that moment.

Ding!

[A quest has arrived.]

"Wh-what's this?" Suho's eyes widened as a system message suddenly appeared before him. Before checking the quest details, he looked at the illusion of his father, who was grinning at him.

That's right. It's a bit primitive, but this is originally how quests were created. The Leveling System. It was a high-level magic The Great Spellcaster Kandiaru for a single purpose. And that purpose was...

"The reward is the next Shadow skill." 'Sung Jinwoo' said to his son with a slightly mischievous smile.

"So, show me what you're worth."

3

[Will you accept the quest?] (Y/N)

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 169 - Chapter 168**

### **Chapter 169: Chapter 168**

Rumble!

[Don't be ridiculous! You're just a puppet born from my magic, how dare you defy me!]  
Javier shouted frantically, conjuring a sandstorm to attack the illusion of Sung Jinwoo.

[You're mine!]

Kwaaaaang! The sandstorm transformed into a giant hand, reaching out to grab him. The gesture looked possessive, as if a cherished doll was being snatched away.

[Just be my puppet obediently!]

But the illusion of Sung Jinwoo smoothly floated into the air, effortlessly evading Javier's grasp. He spoke with a relaxed demeanor.

"Sadly I must decline. Also you won't have time to worry about me from now on."

[What?!]

"My son just started a quest." His gaze shifted to Suho, who was currently checking the quest details, eyes scanning the description.

[Emergency Quest: Prove Your Worth!]

[The illusion of the Shadow Monarch, 'Sung Jinwoo', demands proof of his son's worth.]

[Defeat the demonic spirit's magic caster, 'Javier,' and receive a new Shadow Skill.]

"Accept!" Shouted Suho, eyes flashing intensely.

Then, without hesitation, he charged towards the sandstorm that was closing in from all sides, trying to reach his father.

[Skill: 'Storm Slash' is activated.]

Swish! His twin swords whirled in a dazzling display, tearing through Javier's grasp. At that moment, an amazing sight unfolded. The sand scattered from the explosion began to take the shape of countless skeletons.

"Then, could it be that all the skeletons so far were...?" As if in response to Suho's realization, Sung Jinwoo nodded.

"Yes, that's right. Those skeletons are all illusions created by his magic." It turned out that the monsters that had suddenly appeared in Haeundae were all created by Javier. Then, they all rushed towards Suho at the same time, with a presence so vivid that it was difficult to believe they were not actually real.

[No matter how strong you are, do you think you can win against infinitely generated illusions?!]

Illusions with physical substance and power. It was an incredible ability, befitting a great spellcaster of the demonic spirit tribe. Suho however showed no change in expression as he watched the skeletons charging at him with ferocious momentum.

"Divine Possession."

[The spirit of Pet: Grey strengthens the High Priest's body.] With a divine wind, Suho's hair turned silver and his movements became dramatically faster.

Sung Jinwoo's eyes momentarily lit up at the sight. "Hmm? Could that be...?"

2

'It was strange. The blessing of the Fang Monarch, whom he had killed himself, resided in his son's body.'

[Skill: 'Grasslands Wind' is activated.]

[Movement speed temporarily increased by 30%.]

[Attack speed temporarily increased by 30%.]

'Ruler's Authority!' As Suho released the swords he held in both hands, they shot forward like beams of light, slashing through the skeletons. Simultaneously, he unleashed a barrage of punches.

Boom! Crack! Crumble! The skeletons were mercilessly destroyed, shattered by the fierce attacks. Dozens, then hundreds of skeletons vanished without a trace in an instant. No matter how numerous they were or how relentlessly they attacked, these skeletons couldn't even buy time against Suho.

"Hmm." Sung Jinwoo, watching the scene, frowned slightly. Observing closely, he sensed not only the energy of the Fang Monarch but also the energy of the Plague Monarch within Suho's body.

'How did my son become the Priest of dead monarchs? This makes me curious about what happened.'

2

His gaze suddenly turned to Beru who as if it were natural, had been faithfully guarding his side since earlier. The fierce aura emanating from his narrowed eyes would have been a truly terrifying sight if he were his original size, but the current Beru was too small, making him seem only cute. Sung Jinwoo chuckled and reached for his head again.

"Beru, I need to look into your memories for a moment."

[As you wish.] Beru willingly closed his eyes and felt Sung Jinwoo's touch on his head. The process didn't take long.

"...I see." After peeking into Beru's memories, Sung Jinwoo tilted his head with a somewhat displeased expression. Then, he suddenly spread his hands in the air and began manipulating Javier's magic circle.

Flash! Flash! Flash! Following his movements, complex magic circles made of ominous light appeared and began to spin. Along with that, the sandstorm that had been sweeping the area started making strange movements and gradually began to change.

[Wh-what are you doing?!] Javier screamed in panic at the sudden turn of events. His perfectly laid out magic was being effortlessly distorted.

[This can't be possible...!] No matter how hard he tried, once the magic circle left Javier's grasp, it began to warp and distort uncontrollably. Sung Jinwoo offered some words of comfort to Javier.

"Don't worry. I'm not trying to damage your magic. Even though I look like this, I'm just an illusion with barely any magic power." Then...

Rumble!

[No, no...!]

"Rather than destroying it, I'm trying to enhance your magic."

'That doesn't make any sense!' Javier couldn't help but be shocked. How could a mere illusion do such a thing?!

'What kind of monster have I summoned?!' He felt an unknown kind of fear that he had never experienced before.

2

Whoosh! Indeed, as 'Sung Jinwoo' said, Javier's magic circles were gradually evolving into a perfect form.

[Gasp?!] Javier was greatly bewildered by the sudden feeling of his power being elevated. But regardless of the process, the result was clearly beneficial to him.

[I don't know what your intentions are, but...] Javier readily seized the power that 'he' had offered. Then, looking down at Suho, or rather, all the hunters including him, he revealed his sinister grin without reservation.

[I'll gratefully accept this power!]

Flash!

['Skill: Mirage' has leveled up.]

Rumble!

The sandstorm intensified and the power of the skeletons born from the illusion increased significantly.

"Now then, my son." The illusion of Sung Jinwoo, looking down from above, crossed his arms with a sly smile.

1

"Now that Dad has set the stage, let's see you unleash all your power. Don't worry, Dad will take care of the rest."

"..." Suho's eyes widened for a moment. And despite being in the middle of a battle, his gaze instinctively moved to find his father.

He realized what those words, 'the rest', implied.

'Itarim. The Apostles of the Itarim!' He had been suppressing his power, knowingly or unknowingly. To not become a burden to his father. To not let his father's enemies know that he was the descendant of the Shadow Monarch. He had been using his most powerful ability, the Shadow Authority, to a minimal extent.

The reason was clear. And it had to be that way.

For his father's sake.

'Because I am my father's only weakness.' But now, his father was...

"Tsk. This kid, he's gotten older and his head has grown bigger." Jinwoo clicked his tongue at him, reprimanding him in a tone that seemed to see through all the worries he had been carrying.

"Seriously, are you so old that you are worrying about your parents?"

"Suho. My son." He was unable to hide the fond and proud smile on his face.

"Worrying is something parents do for their children, It's the older ones who worry about the youngsters." And as that smile deepened Sung Jinwoo's presence grew, as if to engulf the entire area.

8

"Remember this." He sincerely scolded his son for worrying about him all this time.

"This father of yours has never lived a single moment carelessly. I'm not so weak that someone young like you needs to worry about me"

"..."

"So." His father's voice resonated in a low tone.

"Stop needlessly worrying about your dad." The moment he heard those words...

Suho felt as if a huge weight had been lifted from his shoulders and at the same time, he realized the true reason his father's illusion had appeared from Javier's magic.

'Javier's skill, Mirage.' A magic that showed the terrifying memories deeply engraved within one's mind. The most frightening aspect of this skill was that it materialized and showed the weakest part of a person, their most anxious and vulnerable memories. And as the current result proved. The trauma-like emotion that had been hidden inside Suho's heart all this time was about his father.

'Because of me, my father...'

'What if my father is held back because of me...'

'If I become a hostage to those guys, it'll be a disaster...'

'I am my father's only weakness...'

All those countless thoughts had manifested into the illusion of his 'father.' But now, he has received the permission to go all out. Suho's eyes changed. The corners of his lips rose in a smile somewhat resembling his father's. And an expression of utter relief appeared on his face. He stopped walking and looked ahead. Then with calm eyes, he spoke.

"Arise"

3

[...!]

Whoosh! His Shadow Soldiers rose from beneath Suho's feet all at once, their entire bodies rippling with black smoke. They surrounded Suho and exuded a menacing aura in all directions. Among them were Que, Harman, and Kira, who until now had been traveling all over the country hunting villains.

"Harman, create an instance dungeon."

[Yes, Master.]

Flash! As soon as the order was given, Harman spread his arms and cast a spell.

[Instance Dungeon has been created.]

Flash! A transparent barrier expanded in all directions, centered around Harman. The giant sphere pulled the entire sandstorm created by Javier into itself. Everyone, including Javier himself and the hunters had been captured in it.

"Interesting. Using an instance dungeon to trap the enemy." Sung Jinwoo nodded, finally finding something interesting.

[Th-this is... Could this be Kandiaru's...?!] On the other hand, Javier couldn't help but panic, realizing in horror that he was trapped within a magic circle of a far higher level than his own.

'But that is not the biggest problem.' A power similar to the Shadow Monarch's was suddenly emanating from Suho.

[H-how can you... No, wait! Could you be...?!]

"Yes." Suho readily answered the question. As if exhaling a breath he had been holding back for so long.

"I am Sung Suho, the son of the Shadow Monarch."

2

At that moment.

[Skill: 'Monarch's Domain Lv.1' has been acquired.] Suho's shadow dyed the entire ground black.

5

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 170 - Chapter 169**

### **Chapter 170: Chapter 169**

[A new skill has been acquired.] A new shadow skill called 'Monarch's Domain.'

[Skill: 'Monarch's Domain' has been activated.]

[The stats of the Shadow Soldiers fighting on the caster's shadow are increased by 50%.]

Arrrrghhh! The soldiers standing on Suho's shadow, which had dyed the surroundings black, roared, surrendering themselves to the surging thrill.

[Th-this power...!] Javier couldn't help but be shocked. Something unbelievable had happened.



[...Impossible!] The aura of a monarch! The Shadow Monarch's domain was unfolding before his eyes!

He denied reality: 'Yes! This must be a trick. A high-level illusion or a mirage. It had to be. It had to be that way. There was a clear reason for it!'

[You can only inherit that power after the monarch dies! But how...!]

'But the Shadow Monarch can't die.'

'Why?'

'Because he is the one who rules over death!'

[How can you inherit the Shadow Monarch's power?! You're just a mere human!]

Rumble! Feeling an immense sense of unease, Javier launched a fierce attack on Suho. Sandstorms raged, and illusions with physical substance transformed into menacing monsters, all pouncing on him at once. Facing them, Suho grinned, revealing his teeth.

"Isn't it possible for a son to resemble his father?"

He had been able to use the Ruler's Authority from birth. Even though he wasn't a Ruler. So what if he could now use the power of a Monarch too?

'Monarch's Domain' It was time to test the effects of his new skill.

"All forces, advance." Suho gave the order to soldiers waiting for his command.

1

[Aaaaaa!] As if waiting for this very moment, his shadows charged forward with tremendous momentum.

His Shadow 'Army'. A small, elite force, but far too meager to be compared to the endless legions led by his father. Their numbers were dwarfed even by Javier's illusions now closing in from all sides.

But. It was enough.

[One Strike, One Kill.] Shadow Lancer Que charged forward, her spear becoming a streak of light, slashing through everything in sight. An especially confident smile graced her lips.

4

[I bet you all. The soldier who defeats the most enemies becomes the captain.]

[A match to determine the hierarchy. I can't ignore that.] Harmakan's eyes gleamed darkly. As the strongest soldier treated as a mere underling, he had to accept the challenge, so he could raise his status.

[Spirits filled with hatred! Come to me!] He spread his arms and used a new spell.

[Harmakan uses Skill: 'Provocation of the Damned'.]

[Nearby enemies burn with hostility towards Harmakan.]

Kikikekekekekeke! Instantly, all attacks from the nearby enemies began to pour onto Harmakan.

[Harmakan uses Skill: 'Damage Amplification'.]

[Harmakan uses Skill: 'Thorn of Pain'.]

[Harmakan uses Skill: 'Exploitation'.]

And he returned all those attacks back to them.

[This... is cheating!] Que gritted his teeth and started attacking even more intensely.

[A mage fighting like a tanker?!]

[Muuuuuuuu-!]

Boom! Crash! Kwang! Meanwhile, the Shadow Minotaurs relentlessly charged through the fierce sandstorm. And with a terrifying momentum trampled their enemies mercilessly.

At the center of it all, Suho fully experienced the effects of his new skill.

'This is the Monarch's Domain.' A buff skill that strengthened his Shadow Soldiers. With this one skill, their combat power had more than doubled. And this effect would undoubtedly create even greater synergy the more soldiers he had. A shiver ran down his spine as he imagined having an even bigger army.

'Yes. That's exactly...'

"Indeed. It's a legion." As if reading his thoughts, his father's voice suddenly reached him. Looking back, he saw him watching the battlefield where the Shadow Soldiers were rampaging, a satisfied smile on his face.

"Now you're finally acting like my son." With a flick of Sung Jinwoo's hand in the air, Suho's status window appeared before him. Showing the result of all the efforts and choices his son had made on his own. Sung Jinwoo scanned its contents and nodded.

3

"Good choice prioritizing Strength first. To gather outstanding soldiers, you need to be strong yourself." But it was more than sufficient. His Strength stat was incredibly high compared to his level. In truth, the Leveling System Suho was using was incomplete. This was because the ultimate goal of developing the player into a vessel for the Shadow Monarch had been removed.

'To have grown this much using an incomplete system without even a job change quest.' Just this alone showed how much effort Suho had put in.

However, the direction of his growth needed to alter a bit from now on. The entire game had changed just by acquiring 'Monarch's Domain'.

'...But there is no need to advise him on this. The path he would walk had to be chosen by himself for it to have value.'

"Now that my son's situation is settled, shall we move on to other issues." As he suddenly turned his gaze elsewhere, his figure suddenly vanished.

\* \* \*

'Hot.'

'So hot.'

His whole body was burning. But his wife, whom he had killed with his own hands, must have felt this too.

"Ugh! I'm sorry... I had no choice... To save Dogyoon..." Lim Tae-Gyu was embracing the illusion of his wife, still engulfed in blue flames, and wailing.

'In truth...' He knew that all of this was an illusion. But sometimes, one just wants to be deceived. Besides, who knows? Maybe this wasn't a lie, but a summoning of his wife's actual soul. If there was even the slightest chance of that, he felt like it would be okay to die here with his wife.

[Kehehehe!] Javier burst into laughter at the sight.

[This is perfect!] Enemy or ally. He couldn't fathom the Shadow Monarch's intentions. The magic circle he had been tinkering with had evolved into a truly perfect structure. And this was the result!

[Honey, I don't want to die. I need more mana.]

Fwoosh! Engulfed in hot flames, Lim Tae-Gyu readily surrendered his magic power at his wife's demands.

S-rank mana. There was such a vast amount of it that, unlike for other hunters, it seemed endless, no matter how much was drawn out. All that was flowing through Lim Tae-Gyu's wife, directly to Javier. And the same was happening with all the other hunters caught in the illusion...

[All this power is mine!] Javier trembled with overwhelming exhilaration. Then, he gritted his teeth, glaring at Suho, who was mercilessly crushing his illusions in the distance.

[I don't know what you're up to, but things will be different from now on!] Javier finally rose from his crouched position and he unleashed all the magic power that had been steadily accumulating inside him, activating a magic circle directly on his own body.

[The Demonic Illusionist Javier, uses Skill: 'Mirage'.]

Whoosh! The illusion began to inflate his body. While the corners of his mouth stretched into a sinister grin.

[I'll show you the greatest fear I can conjure.] Javier recalled the being he had encountered while wandering through a dimensional rift. The divine power of that great and terrifying being!

[I'm excited too! To see how far I can mimic the great power of that being!]

Whoosh! Javier's massive body split, and dozens of tentacles sprouted in all directions. His gigantic form finally emerged from the sandstorm, standing before Suho.

[The Demonic Illusionist Javier] His name tag also finally appeared

"...Kraken?"

[Be careful! That form is definitely based on one of the Apostles of Itarim! It seems he encountered them somewhere while wandering through dimensions!] Beru, who had approached at some point, quickly provided additional explanation to Suho.

'He's mimicking an Apostle of Itarim with an illusion?' Suho narrowed his eyes, glaring at Javier, who had transformed into a Kraken-like form. The energy he felt was too ominous to dismiss as a mere imitation of simple tricks.

[He is at least high A-rank, or even S-rank monster level.]

"And still getting stronger." Suho clenched his teeth, sensing the flow of mana in the surroundings. He realized that the real quest, the test his father had given him, was starting now.

'Can I do it?'

Of course, it wasn't his first time facing an S-rank monster. But before, he had always fought alongside others. And even then, it was with S-rank hunters. But not now.

'I have to defeat it alone.' As the question of whether he could do it appeared in his mind, he realized it wasn't the moment to contemplate such possibilities. The answer had been evident from the start. Without hesitation, his body sprang into action.

[Clear the path!] As Suho charged towards Javier, the Shadow Soldiers cleared away all the illusions blocking his way and he leaped along the path they had created.

Thump! Thump! He felt his heart race as if it would explode.

Tap! Tap! Tap! He stepped on the air charging towards Javier.

[Foolish human!] At that moment giant tentacles struck from above. From a distance impossible to evade.

Boom! With a tremendous explosion, the huge limb crushed Suho.

[Kehaha!] Javier laughed triumphantly.

But...

[Skill: 'Tenacity' reduces damage.]

[...?!] Suho's body still stood firmly beneath it. And then.

Grab. Suho's hand seized the giant tentacle. His hand began to grow larger.

Whoosh!

[Skill: 'Giant's Armor' is activated.] Suho's body swelled, and he swung the grasped tentacle with all his might.

Whoosh!

[...?!]

Boom!

[Cough!] Javier's body was flung through the air and slammed onto the ground.

[What kind of power is this...?!] Javier cried out in shock, forgetting his pain.

[Strength: 140] The path Suho had walked, the strength even Sung Jinwoo acknowledged. That's right. At least in terms of physical might, He was on par with Thomas Andre, the Goliath, the S-rank hunter called the strongest of humanity.

A fist, concentrating all that power into a single point, was raised. Suho's burning gaze met Javier's giant eyes, and he spoke:

"This might hurt a bit."

[Skill: 'Iron Body Technique' is activated.]

A black aura enveloped his fist. And one more thing.

[Muuuuuuu-!]

"Shape Transformation, Gauntlet."

The Shadow Minotaur wrapped around Suho's fist.

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



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