

# **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 201 -**

## **Chapter 200**

### **Chapter 201: Chapter 200**

Rumble!

At the edge of the vast universe. A fierce battle was raging across the cosmos against the endless enemies pouring out from the melting dimensional walls. And in the midst of that battlefield...

"Smirk."

"...To think my son would declare himself the successor of the Dragon King." The man cloaked in black energy, the Shadow Monarch Sung Jinwoo, chuckled as he gazed towards Earth.

Truly, raising a child was an endless series of unpredictable events. Who could have imagined...? That the son of the Shadow Monarch would one day declare himself the successor of the Monarch of Destruction. Undoubtedly, none of the great beings here had ever envisioned such a future. That's how much of a risky gamble and uncertainty Suho's decision was. However...

[Are you sure this is alright?]

[The Monarch of Destruction is not someone you can trust.]

[In the first place, awakening the Monarchs born from the primordial darkness is an ominous sign.]

[In the worst-case scenario, you're raising an enemy from within during the war.]

Sung Jinwoo simply shrugged at the concerned words of the Rulers.

"Well, what can I do? It's a decision my son made on his own, so I have no choice but to support him as a father." Sung Jinwoo decided to put all the worries aside and simply respect his son's choice.

"Of course, there are still other factors, but I have to act like a father for once." Besides, when he thought about it carefully, it wasn't a bad choice.

"...No, it could actually be beneficial if things go well." The Rulers also agreed with Sung Jinwoo to some extent.

[That's true.]

[The more people inherit the power of the deceased Monarchs, the greater our forces will become.]

[Even though the Monarchs were born from the primordial darkness, they're still on our side when it comes to fighting the enemies from the outer universe.]

[Of course, their fundamental nature of desiring destruction won't change much, but if your son can control that instinct...]

"Enough chatter."

"They're coming again." Sung Jinwoo's eyes burned coldly as he spotted another rift opening up ahead.

[Everyone, prepare for battle!]

[A new gate has appeared!]

[All forces, attack!]

At the Rulers' command, the Army of the sky charged. Brilliant wings unfolded. The powers of Radiance and the Outer Gods clashed. And in the center of it all Sung Jinwoo bared his teeth fiercely and unleashed his Monarch's Domain.

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"Arise, all of you."

Whoosh!

[Legion Commander Beru! Our troops will take the vanguard this time!]

7

[No! Legion Commander Igris! Follow me!]

At the king's command, the soldiers of death, who were recovering from their wounds with black steam billowing from their bodies, rushed into battle.

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[Bring it on!]

[The Monarch's blessing is with us!]

As long as the Shadow's blessing was with them, they were an immortal army that could be injured but never killed.

[Kyaaaaaaaaaaaaa!]

In the vast universe, the immortal army roared like thunder on the Shadow Monarch's deep and wide shadow. In the midst of that war, Sung Jinwoo turned his gaze and muttered towards his son, who was fighting alone in the distance.

'Suho. My son.'

'I respect your decision. But since you chose to become the Dragon King's successor...'

'Become stronger.'

'You must become stronger.'

'The Dragon King's Trial.'

It wasn't just a simple quest. It was a mutual agreement made possible because Antares' desire and Sung Suho's goal happened to align. At the same time, it was a dangerous deal where the balance could be broken in an instant if their interests ever conflicted.

'So, Suho. If you fail the Dragon King's Trial, he will eventually try to devour you.' Sung Jinwoo gritted his teeth and worried about his son's future while blessing him.

'...Therefore.'

'Become stronger, Suho.'

'Become strong and devour the Dragon instead.'

'To survive, you must become the hunter, not the prey.'

'Because you are a Hunter.'

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

Whoosh!

On the Monarch's Domain Suho unleashed, the Shadow Soldiers roared in unison and leaped forward.

"Kyaaagh!"

Slash! Slash!

Only the blood and screams of magical beasts were left in their wake.

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

Suho was obsessed with leveling up, entering dungeons recklessly. The Dragon King's first trial, reaching level 99, was both easy and difficult. As his level went up, the amount of experience required naturally increased as well, slowing down his progress. That meant he had to seek out even more dangerous and powerful magical beasts to increase his leveling speed. But that wasn't easy...

"Dogyoon, where's the next dungeon?"

"Sorry, Boss! That's all for today. I'll make a reservation for the next dungeon as soon as possible."

At some point, it became natural for Lim Dogyoon to speak to Suho with utmost respect, regardless of the age difference. It couldn't be helped. He was the only 'ordinary human' who witnessed Suho's monstrous strength and speed as he cleared dungeons from start to finish...

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Beyond awe, what he felt was reverence! Not only were Suho's Shadow Soldiers good at hunting, they were also quick at mining and dismantling magical beast carcasses. Sometimes, the shadow of a magical beast Suho had just killed would rise and dismantle its own body, offering it to Suho. It was a good thing the magical beasts were grotesque monsters. If they were human, it would have been a terrifying and horrendous sight. Lim Dogyoon, who witnessed all of this firsthand, could no longer simply see Suho as a close younger brother like before. Then what was the nature of the emotion he felt towards Suho?

Fear? Terror?

No way.

'Jackpot.' Lim Dogyoon thought to himself.

2

'This is a job for life!'

The work was comfortable, his life wasn't in danger, and the pay was amazing! For an E-rank Hunter like him, Woojin Guild was a stable workplace he wanted to dedicate his entire life to... As long as President Sung Suho was around!

"Boss! I've booked a dungeon! It might be a bit dangerous since the Black Tortoise Guild failed to clear it twice...!"

"Even better. Let's go right away." The more dangerous the dungeon, the better!

Lim Dogyoon followed Suho, who was stepping forward with shining eyes, full of confidence. But then...

"...Hmm?"

"Ouch?!" As Suho suddenly stopped walking, Lim Dogyoon, who bumped into his sturdy back, clutched his nose and looked up at him.

"Boss, what's wrong?"

"..." Suho stood still with a thoughtful expression. And after staring into the air for a moment, he spoke.

"...Dogyoon, let's cancel that dungeon."

"Huh? Yes, sir. But why...?"

"Something came up."

Whoosh! As soon as he finished speaking, Suho vanished from the spot.

"...Huh?" Lim Dogyoon looked around with a bewildered expression, but his boss was nowhere to be found.

"Boss...?"

"Then... Should I get off work?"

\* \* \*

Rio Singh flew to India at Suho's request and immediately headed to the Asura Guild without taking a break.

"I need to see the Guild Master right now! I've brought an incredible business deal!"

Siddharth Bachchan. Rio Singh's purpose in meeting the Guild Master of the Asura Guild and the most famous S-rank Hunter in India, was none other than the business deal Suho had proposed. Spring water of the Echo Forest. The right to trade for the Scavenger Guild's detoxification potion, the hottest item in the Hunter industry these days! Having secured that incredible deal himself, Rio Singh's future seemed bright.

'This time, I'll definitely get promoted! Even if I demand the highest reward possible for an A-rank Hunter, the Guild Master will definitely accept it!' With his heart pounding with excitement, Rio Singh flung open the door to the guild office...

"...Huh?"

Shiver. He instinctively stopped in his tracks, sensing an eerie atmosphere in the guild.

'What's this?' At first, he tried to dismiss it as his imagination. It was natural to feel unfamiliar since he was visiting after a long time abroad. Besides, the guild staff he saw here and there were doing their office work as usual. But...

'What is this feeling? Something seems different.' Rio Singh couldn't shake off the ominous feeling as he walked towards the Guild Master's office. Observing the people around him, he discovered something strange.

'They have no expressions.' No matter how busy they were with work, there wasn't a single spark of life in the staff's eyes.

'And no one is acknowledging me first.' Even though he had been on a business trip abroad, many staff members knew his face. At least one of them should have recognized him and greeted him, but no one approached or spoke to him.

"...It's Rio Singh. I'm here to see the Guild Master."

"Ah, I see." When he spoke first like this, they responded expressionlessly. But their reactions were all lifeless, as if their souls had been sucked out.

"I tried calling the Guild Master's office before coming here, but he didn't answer, maybe because he was busy. Is he not in the guild right now?"

"That's right, he's not here."

"Where is he? Is he on a dungeon raid?"

"Yes."

"...Is that all you're going to tell me?"

"Yes."

"...?" Rio Singh tilted his head, puzzled by the continued curt responses. Why were they acting like this? Had something bad happened to the guild recently...?

In the end, he had no choice but to return empty-handed. And then, he suddenly noticed something strange: 'What are those necklaces?'

It wasn't anything special, but now that he looked, all the staff members were wearing the same necklace. It had a large blue gem, and everyone, regardless of gender, was wearing it.

"What's that necklace?"

"Ah! This necklace?"

"This necklace?"

'Huh?' When Rio Singh grabbed someone and asked about the necklace, everyone nearby suddenly turned their heads and looked at him. With bright smiles on their faces.

"This necklace is a kind of employee ID, recently made, to show that we belong to the Asura Guild."

"Would you like one?"

"I'll give you one!"

"No, I will...!"

"Uh?" As necklaces were suddenly offered to him from all directions, Rio Singh inevitably ended up wearing one...

The moment he put it on.

"Rio Singh, the Guild Master is calling for you."

"So suddenly? You said he was in a dungeon."

"Yes. To meet him, you have to enter the dungeon."

"Well, alright. I've brought a gift for the Guild Master." Rio Singh nodded, fiddling with the detoxification potion Suho had given him. It was a sample for the business deal, and he was told to make sure Siddharth Bachchan personally tried it.

"But could it be? Did a dungeon recently appear that requires the Guild Master to personally enter?" At Rio Singh's question, the staff member returned to their expressionless demeanor and answered.

"Yes. The Guild Master is currently raiding the Dragonian dungeon."

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"Dragonian?"

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Dragonians. A collective term for magical beasts that possess a mixture of dragon and human characteristics. They include a wide variety of individuals, from dragon-type to reptilian-type monsters. However, there was one magical beast that came to Rio Singh's mind first.

'Naga.'

India had myths based on various animals, but when it came to dragons, the snake god 'Naga' was indispensable.

"Could it be that Nagas have appeared?"

"I can't say for sure without confirming on-site, but according to the report, their appearance is similar to Nagas." The staff member handed over the relevant documents in a business-like manner as response to Rio Singh's question.

"Oh dear... Are they really Nagas?!" Rio Singh exclaimed in dismay as he received the documents.

The silhouette of a reptile-like monster emerging from the water. The silhouette of the magical beast captured in the photo in the document was very similar to the Naga that Rio Singh knew.

'And of all places...!' Rio Singh sighed in regret after confirming the location where the Dragonians appeared.



"How could this happen! Loktak Lake has turned into a field-type dungeon!" He couldn't believe it. To think that such a large-scale disaster had occurred in India while he was on a business trip abroad.

'Loktak' was a large lake located in Manipur, India, one of the largest freshwater reservoirs in Southeast Asia. The entire area surrounding it had turned into a field-type dungeon.

Rio Singh asked the staff member with a stern gaze, "Just how many dungeon breaks occurred around here?"

"A total of five happened simultaneously. But thanks to the Guild Master personally clearing one, four remain."

"Huh! I shouldn't have been leisurely wandering around abroad! I should have stayed by the Guild Master's side and assisted him!" Rio Singh was heartbroken. To think that such a thing happened in his homeland, and he didn't even know!

"This is no time to be idle! I must go and help the Guild Master right away! Manager, assign all the remaining forces in the guild under my command!"

"All elite Hunters have already been deployed to the site."

"That's to be expected in such a dire situation! Then I'll go alone. Tell me the exact location of the Guild Master!"

Rio Singh left the guild with great enthusiasm. Even if he was an A-rank Hunter, it was reckless to enter the Loktak Field alone. But strangely, none of the staff members in the Asura Guild tried to stop him. Rather, they continued to do their own work expressionlessly, as if possessed, unconcerned whether he went out or not. Their faces were vacant. Only the necklaces around their necks emitted a quiet, faint blue light. And the necklace around Rio Singh's neck, heading towards Loktak Lake, also...

\* \* \*

A while later.

Screech!

'This is the place!'

Rio Singh arrived at the Loktak Field with a confident look. He wasn't afraid at all, even though he came here solo. He was alone. So what? Many guild members would welcome him once he entered. Moreover, he didn't come here empty-handed. He had brought a huge gift for his colleagues who were struggling inside.

'Wait for me! I've brought a lot of Korean-made Hunter equipment!'

The large truck he rode here was filled with expensive items made by skilled Korean craftsmen. Originally, his plan was to show off his achievements by personally presenting these precious items to the Guild Master one by one. But wouldn't it be even more dramatic to appear with them in such a critical moment?

'Promotion! This is definitely a promotion!' Rio Singh's heart swelled with excitement as he imagined his colleagues cheering at the sight of this amazing equipment.

"Alright, let's go!"

"Rio Singh, are you sure it's okay for just the two of us to go in? This place is..."

The truck driver, Jackson, looked at Rio Singh with a terrified expression. He was a C-rank Hunter with a Stealth skill, Rio Singh's former subordinate. He was fired from the Asura Guild last year due to lack of ability, but his driving skills in rough terrain were top-notch. Of course, there wasn't much use for a C-rank Hunter's driving skills, but he was perfect for transporting goods to a dangerous field-type dungeon like this.

"Rio, I can somehow escape with my Stealth skill even if I'm in danger inside, but you only have offensive skills..."

"Hey! Who's worrying about whom! Jackson, I'll take full responsibility for your safety, so just focus on driving!"

"...Namaste."

Jackson, the truck driver, who knew Rio Singh's combat abilities well, closed his eyes tightly. And when he opened them again, his eyes were burning with a sense of mission to save his former colleagues. He gripped the steering wheel and gritted his teeth.

"Then... let's go."

Rumble!

And so, a cargo truck loaded with Korean-made equipment boldly entered the Loktak Field. Immediately, reptile-like magical beasts blocked their path from all directions.

Roar!

Slash!

Slassssh!

"Lizardmen!"

"Jackson! Don't stop! Trust me and keep going!"

Rio Singh jumped onto the truck, firmly planted his feet, and gripped his twin swords. He grinned ferociously at the Lizardmen charging towards him.

"They are not dragonians, just Lizardmen!" In this urgent moment, a face suddenly came to Rio Singh's mind.

'My comrade, Sung Suho.'

He had been through so many adventures following Sung Suho. The Egyptian pyramids. The Glacier Dungeon. Every single incident he experienced with him was dangerous. And the Hunter who survived countless hardships alongside that great hero and finally returned to his home country was...!

"It's me, Rio Singh!"

Slash! Slash! Slash! Slash! Slash! Slash! Slash!

Rio Singh's twin swords unleashed a flurry of attacks in all directions. The Lizardmen were cut down while screaming, caught in his net-like, merciless attacks.

"Bring it on! I can fight all day!"

Rio Singh, protecting the truck while jumping left and right, slaughtering the magical beasts, thought to himself that he somehow resembled Sung Suho right now... No, he definitely did!

'No matter what anyone says, I am Sung Suho's one and only comrade!' The truck sped through the pool of blood Rio Singh had created.

"Rio! I see the lake ahead! This is the real deal!" Jackson shouted, pressing hard on the accelerator.

"Yes! Once we pass this, we'll reach the Asura Guild's fortress!"

Rio Singh's entire body was already drenched in the blood of Lizardmen. But not a single drop was from his own wounds. Jackson also smiled, showing his teeth at the cool look in Rio Singh's eyes, red liquid still dripping from his forehead.

'Haha! So Rio Singh also has that side to him!'

A-rank Rio Singh. He was undeniably the elite of the Asura Guild, a rising star recognized as a top-class Hunter. But he had one fatal flaw; he used his brains too much instead of his body. His only concern was promotion! He was obsessed with fame, loving to be admired and the center of attention.

'When did that guy become like this...'

Jackson, who only knew Rio Singh's past self, felt his heart burning at the sight of him fighting without regard for his own safety. And he sincerely wanted to help him achieve his goal. He took a deep drag of his cigarette and grinned. Then, gripping the steering wheel tightly with both hands, he shouted bravely towards his friend, still engaged in a bloody battle outside.

"Alright! Rio Singh! I trust you and I'll keep going! I'm heading straight for the lakeshore! Protect my path...!"

"S-stop!"

"...!"

And then...

It felt as if time slowed down. Jackson's pupils dilated and he saw Rio Singh's panicked expression as he desperately ran towards him.

Splash!

The sound of water reached his ears. Jackson's head instinctively turned to the side. Before it could even rotate completely, he saw the figure of a giant magical beast suddenly rising from the Lake.

'...Naga?!'

Bang!

The truck Jackson was driving was flung to the side.

"No...!"

Crash!

Rio Singh immediately jumped towards Jackson's truck, which was rolling on the ground, crumpled like a piece of paper. With the superhuman strength of an A-rank Hunter, he barely managed to stop its movement. But before being able to check on Jackson in the driver's seat...

Roar!

"...!" The giant shadow of the 'Naga' that appeared from the lake loomed over Rio Singh.

Bang!

A giant, reptilian hand struck down on his head. Rio Singh's pupils dilated and a mental calculation ran through his mind.

'I'm not a Tanker.'

The difference between a Dealer and a Tanker was significant. As a Dealer, he had the strength to stop a truck, but he didn't have the HP or skills to withstand the attack of such a massive magical beast head-on. Which meant...

'It's more efficient to dodge and counterattack!' That was the perfect strategy as a Dealer who gave up defense and used twin swords. But if he did that...

'Jackson will die if I dodge!' Rio Singh straightened his posture with a determined look and crossed his twin swords. And recalling the image of Sung Suho in his memory-

"Haaaaaaaaah!"

Crack...!

"...?!"

But the Naga's defense was stronger than he expected. The blade of his sword, hitting the beast's approaching hand, snapped. Despair appeared in Rio Singh's eyes.

'N-no...'

The reason for his despair wasn't because he was afraid of dying. Even as a Dealer, an A-rank Hunter like himself wouldn't die from a single hit. However, what was certain was that Jackson, who was in the truck, would definitely die from that attack. Jackson, whom he had urged to come to this dangerous place!

'No-!'

Whoosh!

In that desperate situation. The Shadow Assassin, Kira, who had been quietly hiding beneath Rio Singh's feet, moved following his master's command.

Ding!

[Skill: 'Shadow Exchange' activated.]

Bang!

"...!"

Rio Singh's wide eyes looked forward.

At the sturdy back of the man who suddenly appeared before him.

At 'him,' who effortlessly blocked the Naga's powerful attack with one hand.

At the faint smile that appeared on his lips.

"...Found a useful one."

As if its pride was hurt, the Naga roared ferociously and pushed its hand down with even greater force. But for some reason, the man standing before it wouldn't budge. Suho glanced at Rio Singh and said,

"Rest there for a bit. I'll take it from here." And as he turned his gaze forward again, Suho's eyes changed, like a hunter who had found its prey.

"Arise."

Fwoosh!

"Greed."

"...!"

At that moment, the S-rank Hunter, who had returned as a Shadow Soldier, rose before the giant magical beast.

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 203 - Chapter 202**

### **Chapter 203: Chapter 202**

Haeundae, Busan.

During the fight against the demon Javier in Haeundae, Busan, Suho received a quest from Sung Jinwoo's phantom.

[Emergency Quest: Prove Your Worth!]

[The phantom of the Shadow Monarch 'Sung Jinwoo' demands proof of worthiness from his son.]

[Defeat the demon magician 'Javier' and gain a new Shadow Authority skill.]

Suho acquired 'Monarch's Domain' while carrying out this quest, but it was something he awakened on his own, not a reward from the mission. The Shadow Authority skill he received as a reward for completing it was separate. It was this...

[Skill: Shadow Exchange Lv.1]

[Shadow Authority. No mana cost.]

[Allows you to switch positions with a designated Shadow Soldier.]

[After one use, there is a 3-hour cooldown before it can be used again.]

[Cooldown time varies depending on skill level.]

This skill allowed him to switch positions with a Shadow Soldier regardless of their location, making it practically teleportation. Suho immediately grasped the principle behind this skill upon seeing it.

'It works like a gate.'

This ability was quite familiar to Suho, who frequently used his shadow as a gate to freely travel between the Shadow Dungeon and the real world. After that, he practiced a few times to grasp the effectiveness of this skill, then sent the Shadow Soldier Kira to India with Rio Singh, just in case. And this was the result.

Thud!

"Graaaagh-!"

[Hahaha! You're withstanding this? You've got quite the resilience!]

[High Priest, no, Greed! It's not that, we've just become weaker!]

Shadow Soldiers Greed and Iron were unilaterally beating up a gigantic and hideous Dragonian, bursting into hearty laughter. Rio Singh, watching this awe-inspiring scene from behind, couldn't help but be dumbfounded.

'Oh my god. Were Suho's summons always this strong?'

'Naga', with its human-like upper body and sea serpent lower half, was a mini-boss level monster that only occasionally appeared in high-ranking dungeons. Although their size and strength varied, the steel-like 'scales' covering their entire bodies boasted extreme defense, making them suitable materials for armor, shields, and other protective gear.

'But those Naga scales are being torn so easily...'

[Uhahahaha!]

[Khahahahahaha!]

"Kraaagh-! Kyaaagh!"

Thud! Crash! Bang!

The tough and sturdy scales of the Naga were being crumpled and torn like paper under the Shadow Soldiers' relentless attacks.

'They're at least A-rank, maybe even equivalent to S-rank Hunters. To think such powerful monsters are just summons created by a single Hunter.' Rio Singh couldn't believe his eyes. He couldn't believe it even as he witnessed it; who would believe him if he told them about this? But...

'This is dangerous! According to the information, Nagas definitely...!'

As expected of the elite he was, Rio Singh had gathered as much information as possible about Nagas before coming here. They were high-level magical beasts proficient in both combat and magic, giving even experienced Hunters a hard time. Moreover, they always moved in groups despite being very strong on their own, making them even more difficult to deal with. And since this information wasn't widely known because Nagas rarely appeared, Rio Singh shouted urgently,

"Suho! Be careful! I heard Nagas always move in packs of at least 30...!" But before he could finish his sentence, large and small magic beasts hidden in the lake emerged all at once. And they attacked Greed and Iron, who were still fighting a single Naga.

Slash!

Swish!

Roar!

But they weren't outnumbered either.

Grin. "So you're going for a war of attrition?" Suho spoke with a meaningful smile.



"Arise."

"...!"

At that moment, Shadow Soldiers rose from Suho's shadow all at once. The sight of them fighting against dozens of Nagas was truly spectacular. And witnessing this, Rio Singh finally realized.

'Oh my god. He didn't just gain a new powerful summon.' He finally understood the identity of the doubt that had been lingering in his mind while following Suho.

'...A Hunter who keeps getting stronger!'

The strength of a Hunter doesn't change. That was the basic common sense widely known in society. Hunters could train and become more proficient in fighting magical beasts through training and runestones, but their fundamental power, determined at the moment of awakening, never changed. But to think that a Hunter existed who defied that common sense and continued to grow stronger day by day. And he was right here before his eyes!

'You idiot...! Why did I only realize this now?!' Rio Singh lamented his lack of insight. Even though Summoners had various variables depending on their summons, how could he only now confirm that his comrade, with whom he went through life and death situations several times, possessed a special ability?! And then, suddenly.

"...Ah! Jackson! Jackson!" This wasn't the time for that. Rio Singh came to his senses belatedly and rescued his friend, who was unconscious in the overturned truck. Judging from the state of the mangled vehicle, it was an accident that could have easily killed the driver. Thankfully, Jackson, a C-rank Hunter, seemed to be alive.

[Hmm. Don't worry. He's not dead.] Beru approached and checked on Jackson, then flew towards Suho. Who was busy commanding the battle, but he immediately approached the wounded hunter and poured a potion into his mouth.

"...Cough!"

Rio Singh breathed a sigh of relief as Jackson's wounds, which had been bleeding, gradually healed. He felt responsible for dragging his former subordinate into this mess because of his ambition for promotion. At the same time, he was once again awestruck by how special a Hunter Suho was. To think that he commanded S-rank level summons and also possessed healing abilities. At this rate, even alone was like a walking army.

"Suho! I have a favor to ask!" Rio Singh hurriedly called out to Suho while supporting the unconscious Jackson. Appearing at the perfect moment and saving him was a debt he couldn't repay, but he had no choice but to ask for help shamelessly.

"All the forces of our Asura Guild are currently deployed here! But at the entrance of this field..."

"It's too strange that Nagas are appearing at the entrance of the field!"

He was right. This was the entrance to the field. The Asura Guild, which had entered to clear this dungeon, would inevitably pass through here. What were the chances that they would miss such a large group of massive magical beasts?

"There's no way they would leave them alone intentionally. Something big must have happened that we don't know about...!"

"Maybe they did ignore them intentionally." That answer didn't come from Suho.

"Huh?"

'A-a lizard?' Rio Singh was bewildered. A small lizard with wings was perched on Suho's shoulder, looking around with a stern gaze.

"Hmm. To think there were still remnants of the Naga tribe alive. Well, only cowards survive wars." Antares, who quickly repossessed Ragnar's body as soon as his mana recovered, scanned the Nagas and then narrowed his eyes, sensing a familiar energy resonating around the lake.

"But this is strange. I sense the presence of Dragonians somewhere."

"Dragonians?"

"Yes. Dragonians, like the Nagas, were one of the many tribes that served Us. And they were all annihilated by your father, leaving not a single one alive."

"They became part of the Shadow Army."

"Yes. So I don't understand why there's a Draconian scent here. Could there be survivors like those Nagas?"

Just then, the battle ended.

Rumble!

"A-already?!" Rio Singh was shocked at the sight of countless massive bodies collapsing.

"As expected of experienced workers." Suho nodded with a satisfied smile at Greed and Iron, who had finished clearing the Nagas.

Greed and Iron once served as part of the Shadow Monarch Sung Jinwoo's army. They were new recruits who had just joined Suho's forces, but at the same time, they were experienced veterans when it came to commanding Shadow Soldiers. Well, it was only natural when he thought about it. In his past life, Greed was Hwang Dongsoo, an S-rank Hunter who belonged to the Scavenger Guild, the strongest guild in the United States. And Iron was Kim Chul, an A-rank Hunter who was a promising ace of the White Tiger, one of Korea's best guilds. Not only were they strong individually, but they were also general level soldiers who excelled at commanding troops.

[Little Monarch! We have successfully completed the task according to your command!]

After hunting the Nagas, Greed and Iron had other soldiers drag the massive corpses before Suho, even though he hadn't given any specific orders.

[How about taking these Nagas as Shadow Soldiers?]

[The Naga tribe are stupid, but they're quite useful as livestock.]

As expected of those who had served under Sung Jinwoo for a long time, they were knowledgeable, just like Beru. Antares also licked his lips at the sight of the corpses.

"Child of Shadow, did you know? Originally, the Naga tribe were cowards who hid in the deep waters because they didn't want to become prey for our dragons."

"Prey?"

"Yes. They're the perfect prey with plenty of meat."

Gulp. Antares, who had been licking his lips and drooling while explaining about the Nagas, declared confidently.

"I, the King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction, Antares, hereby declare! I will devour all of them! That might increase the mana of this pathetic Ragnar a little!"

"Sure, go ahead."

Suho readily agreed. After extracting them as Shadow Soldiers, he didn't care about the magical beast corpses anyway. Of course, he could sell them on the market for a high price, but increasing Ragnar's mana was much more beneficial to him than money.

[Shadow Extraction is possible on this target.]

[Shadow Extraction is possible on this target.]

"Arise." At Suho's command, the shadows of the giant Nagas swirled and rose all at once.

"Gasp?!"

"Wh-what?!"

Rio Singh and Jackson collapsed, their legs giving way at the awe-inspiring sight. The giant magical beasts they thought were killed had risen from death! Although their sizes were slightly smaller than before, their appearances, with black steam billowing from their bodies, were truly demonic. But ignoring their shocked reactions, Suho chose the strongest one among them and stored it as a Shadow Soldier under his command.

[Please name the soldier.]

As usual, a message appeared, asking him to name the soldier.

"Hmm. Naga, Naga... Hmm... Let's call him Gordon."

[Name: 'Gordon']

[Confirm?]

"Yes." Suho casually named him 'Gordon.'

With this, a powerful giant Naga was added to Suho's Shadow Army. But he had a bigger concern. The job change quest. He had gained a whopping 4 levels from hunting this Naga pack, and as a result...

[Level: 87]

Suho glanced at his status window and smiled faintly, focusing on what was ahead.

"...This place is much better than I thought, huh?"

"Be careful of the Dragonians. It seems..." Antares advised Suho with a stern gaze.

"Beep?" Ragnar was back.

[The King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction, covers his face in frustration.]

[The King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction, nags Ragnar about having to eat those Nagas...]

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

# **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 204 - Chapter 203**

## **Chapter 204: Chapter 203**

After all the battles ended. Suho moved with Rio Singh, ordering the Shadow Naga Gordon to bring Jackson's horribly crumpled truck. And as Greed had said, 'stupid but useful livestock' lightly carried the truck loaded with Korean weapons, his lower body, shaped like a sea serpent, wriggling as he followed Suho. More magical beasts continued to appear along the way, but they were no match for the Shadow Nagas, extracted as daily mercenaries, who swarmed them. As they continued to move through the Loktak Field, Suho listened to Rio Singh's explanation about this place.

"...What?"

Suho's expression hardened. He had recklessly used Shadow Exchange to come to India, but after hearing the full explanation, the situation in this country was far more serious than he had imagined. In short, this was all due to the geopolitical characteristics of Manipur, where the Loktak Field dungeon appeared.

Manipur, located in the northeastern part of India. This land was awkwardly positioned, bordering countless countries like Myanmar, Bangladesh, and China. Due to these geopolitical characteristics, this land had historically been plagued by countless serious conflicts. The reasons for the conflicts varied, ranging from political and religious disputes to tribal wars.

"...But the problem is that several dungeon breaks occurred simultaneously around here, making the field-type dungeon too vast."

"Could it be that the field's range crossed the national borders?"

"That's right. To understand it so quickly! As expected of Suho."

"The situation in Korea is similar. North Korea is always a headache for us."

Despite Rio Singh's admiring reaction, Suho only wore a bitter expression. If left unattended, field-type dungeons had the characteristic of gradually expanding their territory as the Blue Mist spread. Of course, with proper management, they usually didn't spread beyond a certain range, but things were different when several dungeons overlapped in one area. The prime example was North Korea.

North Korea had turned into a super-massive monster field just as the Cataclysm began. If left alone, the field would continue to expand, eventually crossing the border into China. The magical beasts of North Korea would invade China. If that happened, the situation would inevitably escalate into a political issue with China.

"That's right. If our country fails to eliminate the magical beasts in time and causes damage to neighboring countries, it becomes a serious problem. Compensation for damages is one thing, but the bigger problem is..."

"There would be no way to stop Hunter guilds from other countries crossing the border to hunt those magical beasts."

"Exactly."

"A war could break out."

Rio Singh and Jackson nodded with serious expressions at Suho's words. Hunter guilds, with their numerous Awakened members, were no different from armed forces. No, in terms of combat power, they were far more powerful and dangerous than soldiers.

'...It's worse than war in itself. The moment they barge into the National Assembly and wreak havoc, that country is essentially conquered.'

In the end, to prevent such a situation, Chairman Woo Jinchul was doing everything in his power to purify North Korea even at this moment.

"Wait."

Suddenly, while talking with Rio Singh, Suho thought of the most basic problem and looked around. Loktak Lake, a famous tourist attraction in India. As famous as it was, the scenery here was truly beautiful. But anyone who knew the true nature of the 'Blue Mist' that blended naturally into this beautiful scenery would be horrified. If ordinary people, not Awakened ones, inhaled the Blue Mist, their bodies would burn, and they would go berserk, turning into Mist Burns.

"Rio, how many people live in this land?"

"3 million."

"Oh dear." Suho's expression grew even more serious at the immediate answer.

"There's no way all 3 million people are Awakened, so you're saying they all turned into Mist Burns?"

"That's not it. Actually, that's what I was most worried about at first, but thankfully, it doesn't seem to be the case." Saying that, Rio Singh showed Suho the 'Asura Guild emblem' hanging around his neck.

"Isn't that a Stardust necklace?"

Suho's eyes widened. No, it was too big to be called a Stardust necklace, and slightly smaller than the Star Pieces embedded in Greed and Sung Il-Hwan's bodies. If he had to name it, 'Star Piece Necklace' seemed appropriate. Suho snatched Rio Singh's Star Piece Necklace and asked,

"Where did you get this?"

"It's an employee ID that proves I belong to the Asura Guild. They started using it recently, and I looked into it separately, and there's a reason why this necklace became our guild's symbol. Look at this." Rio Singh took out a new necklace from his pocket and showed it to Suho. This time, the gem was smaller, similar to the 'Stardust Necklace' distributed in Korea.

"This necklace is called 'Stardust.' Our guild is distributing it to Indians for free."

2

"Stardust necklaces? Why?"

"They say that if an ordinary person carries this necklace, they won't turn into a Mist Burn even if they inhale the Blue Mist."

"...!"

The Asura Guild was the most famous large-scale guild in India, always dedicated to protecting its people. Its leader, Siddharth Bachchan, was an S-rank Hunter who had a positive influence and was respected by Indians. And 'Stardust' was known to be an item personally developed by Siddharth Bachchan for the common people of India. When a dungeon break occurred in an area, not everyone could suddenly leave their homes. Especially the poor, who had nowhere to go after leaving the land they had lived on for a long time. But they couldn't stay either. If they remained too long in the land where the Blue Mist spread, they would eventually turn into Mist Burns and die. That's when Stardust was developed.

"...People are actually living here."

A while later, Suho and his party found one of the small villages scattered within the Loktak Field. And as Rio Singh said, they were dumbfounded to see countless ordinary people still living there. They were all wearing Stardust necklaces.

[Little Monarch, it seems the Outer Gods' Cult has infiltrated this country much faster.]

"I guess so. At this rate, it will become India's national religion."

Greed and Iron, the former High Priest and priest, peeked out from beside Suho and added their comments.

[If you wear a Stardust necklace for a long time, you instinctively develop faith in Itarim.]

[Of course, it's not true religious faith, but more like mental contamination by the power of a higher being.]

[To think they'd distribute this to the entire nation, the priests in India are much more driven than the priests in Korea...]

"Are you impressed? Both of you, get down."

[Yes!]

[Huh? I didn't say anything... Yes, I'll get down.] Greed and Iron hurriedly prostrated themselves on the ground at Suho's words.

1

But what was strange was that the villagers didn't react at all to the sight of the Shadow Soldiers. Normally, they would be surprised or murmur amongst themselves, but the fact that they were all expressionless and just doing their own work felt quite eerie. Even though there were corpses scattered throughout the village, suggesting a magical beast attack at some point, no one seemed to care.

"Suho, the staff in our office all had that same expression. Could this be a side effect of wearing Stardust?"

"It seems so."

Rio Singh, who had heard about the Stardust necklace incident in Korea, had a grim expression. The thought that this atmosphere could spread throughout India was horrifying. Suho, looking around the village, decided to find the leader who caused this situation without hesitation.

"Rio, let's first find the village where your Guild Master, Siddharth Bachchan, is. If he's an apostle of Itarim, giving him the Spring Water from the Echo Forest might resolve things more easily than we thought."

"Alright. But how do we find him? No one was at the location the guild office gave us."

"Hmm. In times like these, we need to ask the experts." Suho turned his head without hesitation and called out to the experts.

"Greed. Iron."

[Yes!]



[You called, Master!]

"Can you find the location of the Void Gate?"

Greed and Iron began explaining competitively.

[As expected of the Little Monarch! What a wise decision!]

[The temples of the Outer Gods' Cult are always built near dimensional rifts. So...]

"Just the gist."

[Void Gates appear when fields generated from ordinary gates overlap.]

[If you draw circles around the gates, the Void Gate will be somewhere in their intersection.]

"Can you find it?" At Suho's question, Greed and Iron's eyes gleamed with confidence.

[Leave it to us!]

[We'll find it quickly if we split up with the other soldiers.]

[Master! Give me a chance too!]

[Oh?] Greed smirked at the Shadow Lancer Que, whose eyes were burning with competitive spirit.

"Whatever, just get going."

Screech! At Suho's command, the Shadow Soldiers scattered like contestants in a race. The only one left was the Shadow Naga Gordon, who was following with the truck.

"Well then, let's move on to the next village..."

But then.

Shiver!

"...!"

"...!"

Suddenly, Suho and Rio Singh's expressions changed drastically, and their gazes turned in the same direction.

Boom!

[Little Monarch! There's a battle!]

A tremendous explosion erupted from the direction Greed flew in, and the ground shook as if an earthquake had occurred. Considering that this was a field teeming with magical beasts, it was a phenomenon that could occur, but the energy he felt wasn't ordinary. Beru twitched his antennae, gauging the energy of the enemy Greed was facing.

[At least S-rank! And the energy I feel from there is...!]

"Beeeeeep?" If even Ragnar was reacting, their identity was obvious.

"Dragonians!"

Bang! Suho immediately kicked off the ground and dashed forward.

'If it's S-rank, could it be Siddharth Bachchan? But why is he with the Dragonians?' Countless possibilities went through Suho's mind as he ran. But when he arrived at the scene of the battle, the situation was a bit different from what he had expected.

Flash!

Rumble! Rumble! Rumble!

By the time Suho arrived, a clash of immense power was already shaking the earth. At the same time, the screams of magical beasts erupted from all directions. He saw Greed fighting against a man in the center of that tremendous clash of power.

'A three-way battle?'

Rumble! Rumble! Rumble - But the most surprising thing was the identity of the opponent who was facing Greed, a former S-rank villain, head-on without backing down... No, he was overwhelming Greed.

"...Interesting."

An old man with white hair fluttering, emitting a tremendous aura from his entire body. A ferocious smile was plastered on his face as he clashed with Greed. An expression as if he was enjoying this battle immensely. But the language that came out of his mouth wasn't Indian.

2

"To think a mere magical beast could possess such power."

It was Chinese. That's right. He wasn't Siddharth Bachchan, the national-level Hunter from the previous timeline, but a completely different person. Beru, recalling his face from a distant memory, shouted his name.

[Liu Zhigang!]

4

That's right. Liu Zhigang from China. He was also a national-level Hunter in his past life, a man once praised as humanity's greatest power alongside Thomas Andre.

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 205 - Chapter 204**

### **Chapter 205: Chapter 204**

'I have devoted my whole life to the martial arts.'

'I have never learned to back down.'

Liu Zhigang. A proud 6-star Hunter. China does not follow the global standard Hunter ranking system and uses its own unique solution. The more stars a Hunter has, the more outstanding they are. A 5-star Hunter, was the highest rank. However, only one person: Liu Zhigang was uniquely classified outside the ranks and called a 6-star Hunter. Of course, the treatment he received was on a different level than the rest of his colleagues. But no one could disagree with him being an exception. He was fully capable, and he was the true savior of the People's Republic of China, having firmly protected the country amidst the chaotic upheaval.

2

'...So this time, too, I will not back down.'

Liu Zhigang was hiding a secret that none of the people of China, which boasted a population of over 1 billion, knew....

'Do you think I, Liu Zhigang, will be consumed by my inner demons-!'

He had been fighting alone against the Itarim's divinity to avoid being consumed, for over two years. It came upon him at the same time as he awakened. After becoming a

Hunter, it didn't take long for Liu Zhigang to realize that the power given to him was different from others. Magic power, a mysterious power that suddenly arose within his body. He had heard that other Hunters felt a tremendous sense of elation when they awakened. But he was different.

'...It's still not enough.'

The moment his magic power arose, the sensation he felt was, surprisingly, 'emptiness.' When a person starves for too long, they eventually stop feeling hunger. But if someone suddenly feeds that person a piece of bread, their starved stomach, triggered by it, finally realizes the terrible hunger they had forgotten.

'Power, I want power! Much more power!'

And the intense hunger that Liu Zhigang felt was exactly the same sensation as experienced by Thomas Andre, who in his previous life was a national-level Hunter. But unfortunately, Liu Zhigang was a little less fortunate. Someone who noticed the intense hunger he craved, had seemingly been waiting and came barging into his empty heart.

[Do you desire power?]

'...!'

[If you desire it, I shall give it to you. More power than you ever dreamed of.]

Liu Zhigang couldn't help but be startled. It was as if the unidentified voice whispering in his ear like a devil was seeing right through his heart.

'Who are you!'

[What does a name matter? What matters is that your vessel is large enough to receive me.]

'...!'

Whew!

From the beginning, the voice wasn't asking for Liu Zhigang's permission. At that moment, a new power from outer space suddenly began to flow into his empty vessel. At the same time, as if by magic, the hunger in his heart began to be filled. But as a rule, there is no such thing as power without a price.

[Therefore, submit willingly.]

'...!'

Just like that, Liu Zhigang was reborn as an apostle of Itarim at the same time as his awakening....

'...Don't make me laugh!'

Even Itarim's divinity had not foreseen something. Liu Zhigang was a warrior who had walked the path of martial arts his entire life. It was the stubbornness of someone who had spent his entire life upholding what he stood for at the center of his heart, different in quality from Thomas Andre, who had lived his life as a scoundrel using violence as a means.

'I don't believe in God! My mind is all mine!...!'

[...!]

Liu Zhigang, who had been embracing the power that filled his body, gritted his teeth and managed to endure the forced submission. But Itarim's divinity was not a power that could be handled by the will of a mere human.

[Worship.]

[Praise.]

[Prove your faith...]

'Shut up! Shut up! No matter who you are! I... I!'

Gritting his teeth Liu Zhigang instinctively resisted the desire to prostrate himself before the great power and worship it. A headache that made him feel like his head was going to break. A stream of blood dripped down the corner of his clenched mouth. But at the same time, the emotions that welled up on his face were none other than humiliation and self-righteousness.

Creak!

'...I am Liu Zhigang!'

1

[....]

To put it bluntly, Liu Zhigang was not ultimately corrupted by Itarim's divinity. No, he was still being corrupted every moment, but to shake off that power, he abruptly rushed outside. And with the two longswords he had trained with all his life, he entered a dungeon and began to slay magical beasts indiscriminately. In this way, he ceaselessly expelled the power of Itarim that was constantly trying to take over his body. As a

strategy to maintain his sanity, Liu Zhigang found the answer in the martial arts he had practiced his entire life. Of course, not everyone can reach the state where knowing and doing are one, but he struggled desperately, and succeeded...

Kwaaak!

Kyaaaaaaak!

Countless magical beasts spewed blood and died in his path. Liu Zhigang reversed the direction of Itarim's power flowing into him and ceaselessly expelled it out of his body. Guild? Forces that respected and followed him? He didn't have time to care for such things. For two whole years Liu Zhigang wandered restlessly across the vast expanse of China like a madman, venting Itarim's power towards the magical beasts. He did not accept the overwhelming divinity contained within, but instead, repelled it outwards. He couldn't let his guard down even when he slept. Even in his dreams, he had to fight against the inner demons waiting for him to reveal a moment of weakness. A thorough single path. A relentless single-mindedness. In the process, he received the sincere respect and support of 1 billion Chinese people and even gained the empty title of a 6-star Hunter, but it didn't matter to him. His interest was solely in one thing.

1

'I will not be consumed by the inner demons trying to control my mind!'

...Just like that, Liu Zhigang had become a monster, wandering aimlessly in search of places with many magical beasts. In particular, field-type dungeons that were dangerously neglected were the perfect battleground for him, as they allowed him to rampage freely, more so than normal dungeons entangled with numerous interests. Even if that place existed across the border in another country.

'There's a field that still hasn't been conquered even with Siddharth Bachchan deployed?'

...Liu Zhigang willingly crossed the border. He entered the 'Loktak Field,' which even India's S-rank Hunter had failed to conquer.

Liu Zhigang has single-handedly invaded the Indian border!

– No, why...!

Naturally, the repercussions were not small. The Chinese government, well aware of his wandering tendencies, had been doing its best to prevent such an incident from happening. They had been finding the next hunting ground near him even before he finished clearing the previous one and providing him with all other conveniences. There were countless field dungeons in the vast Chinese mainland anyway, and there were

plenty of places where Liu Zhigang could fight madly until all his magic power was exhausted. But this time, they couldn't stop him.

- Liu Zhigang has finally crossed the border!
- Why couldn't they stop him!
- They should know what it means for China's 6-star Hunter to cross the border!
- This will turn into a diplomatic issue!

Chinese public opinion was in an uproar. Many people had seen him crossing the border without permission, and the news quickly reached the Indian government. Then, Indian public opinion was also set ablaze.

- China's strongest Hunter has invaded India?!
- Is China planning to wage war against India?!
- This must be a Chinese conspiracy from the start!
- The field where Siddharth Bachchan is located is at the end of Liu Zhigang's path!
- Is Liu Zhigang tired of slaughtering magical beasts and now aiming for Siddharth Bachchan!
- If China doesn't want war, then immediately...!

In truth, this situation was something no one wanted. Of course, there were a few thoughtless people in online communities who were spouting nonsense about taking this opportunity to occupy India, but they were a very small minority. Especially for the Chinese government, which had tried to stop him at the border, it was frustrating to the point of madness. Liu Zhigang, that stubborn old man who had walked the path of martial arts his entire life, was simply not someone who could be persuaded. In the end, they had no choice but to upload the footage of Liu Zhigang's remarks, recorded by the border guards, onto the internet.

"Are your heads just for decoration? Shall I remove them myself?"

Shiver. At Liu Zhigang's words, the Chinese Hunters who were trying to stop him from crossing the border turned pale and covered their necks.

"Loktak Field, where even Siddharth Bachchan is struggling, is gradually expanding. And right above it is our China." That's right. Liu Zhigang had his own justification. Before crossing the border, he fixed his sharp gaze on the camera pointed at him and raised his voice.

"Tell the people clearly! I, Liu Zhigang, am going to help Siddharth Bachchan because I am not confident in preventing the disaster that he couldn't stop. If you're not happy with that, then go catch the magical beasts yourselves..." Of course, it was an obvious excuse and a pretext. Liu Zhigang just wanted to go wild in a field where even Siddharth Bachchan was struggling.

1

'...This is the limit.'

He had endured for over two years, but he was getting tired. If he didn't quickly find stronger magical beasts and pour out all the wicked power that was trying to dominate his mind every moment...

'I'll really be consumed.'

And so, in the end... Liu Zhigang had encountered it. An opponent worthy of pouring all his power into. It was a wicked evil spirit with ominous black steam blazing from its entire body.

"Uhaha! There was such a strong magical beast here! I knew coming here was the right choice!"

[My liege! This guy's gone mad! He's definitely an apostle of Itarim!] Greed, who was in a fierce battle with him, shouted towards Suho, who had arrived late.

And at that moment. The eyes of Liu Zhigang and Suho, who were far apart, met in the air. Liu Zhigang glared at Suho and growled ferociously.

"You, what's your relationship with this evil spirit."

"..."

'This is bad.' At the murderous voice, Suho's expression hardened.

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 206 - Chapter 205 Chapter 206: Chapter 205**



Suho also knew about Liu Zhigang.

'China's one and only 6-star Hunter. I heard he was a 7-star in his previous life.'

How ironic. To think he would encounter another National Level Hunter while searching for Siddharth Bachchan. Moreover, it seemed that an apostle of Itarim was already dwelling within him. Suho nodded as he saw the blue mana constantly leaking from Liu Zhigang's entire body.

'As expected, my assumption that Itarim would have approached all of the National Level Hunters was correct.'

Although he was surprised to encounter Liu Zhigang in an unexpected place, it was a favorable situation since it could expedite things.

[My liege! Quickly give him the spring water from the Echo Forest...!]

Suho immediately took out the antidote potion from his inventory. However, giving it to Liu Zhigang was the problem. Would it be possible to get through the ceaseless attacks that were being scattered all around and feed him the potion? It seemed that the method of spraying it on his body, like with Thomas Andre, would also be difficult. As expected, the best method was conversation, but the language barrier was the issue. Since Suho didn't know any Chinese, conversation with Liu Zhigang was impossible in the first place. Moreover, there were no shadow soldiers that could speak that language.

"Then, as expected, the method is..."

[Don't worry! I will quickly catch a passing Chinese person and devour their brain...!]

1

"Stop it."

Suho hurriedly grabbed Beru, who was about to leave to find a 'snack'. It would be faster to find an Indian who was proficient in Chinese than to find (and eat) a Chinese person in India. And there just happened to be someone capable of doing that, rushing over from over there.

"Suho! I'm here! Huh! Liu...?! Liu Zhigang?!"

"Why is China's Liu Zhigang here...!"

Rio Singh and Jackson, who were following a step behind Suho with the shadow naga Gordon, widened their eyes at the sight of Liu Zhigang.

"Rio Singh! Can you interpret Chinese?"

"Of course! I am the elite of the Asura Guild! I can speak 10 languages!"

[Kieek? Is that so! I understand your will, my liege! If I just eat this human's brain, everything will go smoothly... Kkuik.]

5

Squish. Suho's foot lightly stomped on Beru, who was licking his lips and flying towards Rio Singh.

"Rio Singh! From now on, interpret what I say to Liu Zhigang!"

"Got it!" Rio Singh confidently nodded and shouted towards Liu Zhigang, who was fighting Greed.

"Liu Zhigang! We are not your enemies...!"

Boom!

However, the current situation was too intense to be resolved through conversation.

Kaboom!

The sword energy that Liu Zhigang unleashed lightly grazed Greed's body and bisected the forest behind him.

[Huh?!] Seeing Liu Zhigang suddenly change direction and charge towards Suho, Greed gritted his teeth and chased after him.

[How dare you try to bypass me and aim for our liege!] However...

Slash!

[...!]

At that moment, Liu Zhigang suddenly flipped his body in mid-air and aimed for Greed's weak point again.

Boom!

Greed barely blocked his attack and gritted his teeth. Their eyes shone brightly, and powerful energy clashed against each other.

Smirk. A faint smile appeared on Liu Zhigang's lips as he glared at Greed.

"Confirmed. As expected, you guys were all in cahoots."

There was no formality in Liu Zhigang's battle. The past two years of hardship had made him that way. A limitlessly free attack and defense where the boundaries between falsehood and truth had crumbled. That was the path of martial arts that he had reached in this life—

'Berserker'

'Butcher'

'Sword Demon'

This was the reason why such vicious nicknames were attached to the man who was once a National Level Hunter.

[Indeed, this is the Liu Zhigang of this timeline!]

A deep smile also appeared on Greed's lips. He clearly remembered the fame of Liu Zhigang from his previous life. Although it was a shame that the power of a National Level Hunter, like back then, was gone, Greed himself was also considerably weaker than when he was Sung Jinwoo's soldier.

[I'll go at you with all I have.]

Kaboom! In an instant, the beautiful scenery was blown up, and an apocalyptic aftermath spread all around.

"Oh my god. What in the world..."

"Is this Liu Zhigang's power..."

Rio Singh and Jackson were speechless in front of the tremendous spectacle. And at the same time, a question arose in their minds, namely the presence of Greed, who was fighting Liu Zhigang without being pushed back at all.

'No way. He's on par with Liu Zhigang?'

'Moreover, it's not even Hunter Sung Suho fighting directly, how can a mere summon have such power...!'

Especially for Rio Singh, who knew the number of summons Suho usually wielded, the shock was beyond words. They were all scattered now, following Suho's orders, but what if all those soldiers gathered here?

'Does Liu Zhigang even stand a chance?'

Rio Singh gave up trying to imagine it. However, now was not the time to leisurely watch the fight. Their lives were in danger if they got caught up in the aftermath.

"Jackson! Let's fall back for now! It's not a situation where conversation is possible right now!"

Rio Singh and Jackson gave up on interpreting and hurriedly retreated. However, they weren't the only ones being swept away by the aftermath of the battle and panicking.

"Kieek!"

"Kiruk!"

The dragonids, who had encountered and fought Liu Zhigang a step ahead of Greed, were also caught in the crossfire. Suho, watching them, narrowed his eyes as he looked at the names floating above their heads.

[Variant 8]

[Variant 8]

'Variant 8?'

Suho left Liu Zhigang to Greed for a while and focused on the unfamiliar appearance of the dragonids. Half-human, half-dragon. They were a race with an ambiguous appearance that was closer to humans than lizardmen. But aside from their appearance, blue mana was gushing out from the 'star pieces' embedded throughout their bodies. Just like the foreign religion cultists in the black market!

"Don't tell me they implanted star pieces into magical beasts as well?"

He was really seeing all sorts of strange things since coming to this country. It was surprising enough that unawakened citizens were living in a field-type dungeon wearing stardust necklaces, but now even magical beasts were walking around with star pieces implanted in them.

"Antares! Do you know anything about those variants?"

"Beep? ...Hmm." At Suho's question, Ragnar's eyes suddenly turned stern. A displeased expression appeared on his cute face.

"A disgrace to dragonkind. To think such half-baked creatures were born." The emotion that appeared in Antares's eyes as he looked at the dragonids, or rather, the variants, was clear displeasure and contempt.

"Half-baked?"

"Those guys weren't born through normal means. Someone must have found undeveloped dragon eggs"

"Undeveloped dragon eggs?"

[My liege, could that be...?] In an instant, the same thought occurred to Suho and Beru as they looked at each other.

"Could those be the ones that my Mother found before...?"

[I believe they are the dragon eggs that were empty, my liege.]

The numerous dragon eggs that Cha Hae-In and Sirka had found in the Tomb of Berserk Dragons. They later said that except for the small egg from which Ragnar had hatched, all the rest had scattered into dust as soon as they were touched.

"...You're saying they were hatched from those?"

"It's not so much that they were hatched, but rather that the dragon energy contained within the eggs was extracted and injected into other races. So-called, 'forced evolution'."

Antares seemed extremely displeased. No matter how much he claimed to be uninterested in anything other than destruction and ruin, it was a matter of pride that those of his own 'Dragon race' were being treated as experimental subjects by someone.

"How dare they." Antares's gaze towards the variants was incredibly fierce.

"Okay. Let's figure out what's happening in this country after we deal with this mess. Harmakan." Suho nodded, then looked around at the surroundings that were being destroyed on an apocalyptic scale, his eyes gleaming.

[You called?] The shadow mage Harmakan rose from the ground at Suho's call.

"Capture all the variants. And find out what their condition is..."

[I will thoroughly investigate them.]

Swoosh! Harmakan immediately reached out towards the variants.

At the same time, Suho shouted, "Sillad!"

[The King of the Snow Folk and the Monarch of Frost, watches you.]

Suho felt the gaze of that being and boldly opened his mouth: "Activate Blizzard of Frost."

Fwoooosh! – At that moment a true apocalypse began on this land.

[Using Skill: 'Blizzard of Frost'.]

[Mana required: 100 per second.]

The Blizzard of Frost that had once turned the island of Pasad into a glacier had struck India.

"Kieek!"

Eventually, the variants that were scattered all over the place began to freeze. Even the mighty Liu Zhigang could not be free from the powerful blizzard that covered the area.

[Debuff: 'Curse of the Frost' applied.]

[Attack speed reduced by: 30%.]

[Movement speed reduced by: 30%.]

"...He's even more vicious than I thought. To use such a wide-area skill, regardless of whether his subordinates get caught up in it." Liu Zhigang, who misunderstood that the variants, as well as Greed, were in cahoots with Suho, frowned. However, his decision was swift.

'I'll strike the root cause of all this first!' His figure immediately shot through the blizzard towards Suho.

Kwang!

The two horns of Vulcan, which were now in Suho's hands, clashed against Liu Zhigang's swords.

[My liege!]

"Greed!" Suho stopped Greed, who was approaching to help him. And Suho's eyes, meeting Liu Zhigang's directly, deepened immensely.

'An apostle of Itarim...'

Was it because of the blizzard? The scene from 'that time' was unfolding in Suho's mind right now. The moment when his mother, Cha Hae-In, had cut down an apostle of Itarim with a single sword strike. That beautiful and marvelous power.

'What about me now?'

Thump.

Thump.

He was curious. Now that his level was higher than back then. Could his current power reach even his mother's? Therefore...

'I'll go all out.'

'————!'

Finally, Suho's power finally clashed with Liu Zhigang's. The tremendous shockwaves caused the Blizzard of Frost to flutter mercilessly, shaking the whole world.

"..."

And all this time, The Dragon Emperor Antares silently watched Suho with a cold gaze. From beginning to end. Without taking his eyes off him even once.

"...Smirk."

"Well, he's not bad for a brat." Finally, a faint smile appeared on his lips.

The wind stopped...

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 207 - Chapter 206**

### **Chapter 207: Chapter 206**

The land where the blizzard had melted away.

"..."

In the center of a massive crater, Liu Zhigang sat slumped, his limbs limp. His body was completely exhausted, but the faint smile at the corners of his mouth made him look incredibly relieved.

'How refreshing.'

Finally, the inner demon was gone. It was the result of draining the ominous mana that had been tormenting him for the past two years. Of course, it could be a temporary

phenomenon, but just getting rid of the headache for once made him feel like he was flying.

'Yes, I should have fought an S-rank from the beginning.'

Until now, due to various political reasons, Liu Zhigang battling against someone from China would be a national loss, and picking a fight with an S-rank from another country would be a war in itself. But today, he was truly lucky.

'To think I would encounter an S-rank villain in a place like this... Although I lost.'

Cough. Suddenly, red blood spurted from Liu Zhigang's mouth...

Of course, it would be a lie to say he had no regrets. There were many:

'If I had known it would be like this, I should have saved some of my strength...'

'If I had fought again when I was in top condition, the result might have been a little different...'

'Of course, if I had done that, I wouldn't have been able to shake off all the inner demons like now...'

Countless thoughts flashed through his mind like a revolving lantern in just one breath. But one thing was certain. He was still alive enough to indulge in such extravagant emotions.

"...You showed mercy with your sword."

Suddenly, Liu Zhigang's weary eyes found Suho's, who was looking down at him.

"Why didn't you kill me? Were you not a villain after all?" Suho fully accepted his straightforward gaze and spoke to Rio Singh, who was approaching from behind.

"Rio Singh, interpret."

"Yeah. He says thank you for sparing his life."

"...?"

'That short?' Suho momentarily gave Rio Singh a dubious look at his interpretation skills. But even after receiving that look, Rio Singh just nodded with a confident expression.

"Hmm. Suho you are amazing as expected. To think you're strong enough to defeat Liu Zhigang single-handedly."



"...I won easily because he was exhausted from the beginning."

"Excessive modesty is deceit. Suho, make sure to get re-evaluated when you return to Korea this time. For the man who defeated Liu Zhigang to be only C-rank, that's a huge disrespect to him as well." Even as he spoke, Rio Singh had a relieved expression. It was only today that he could finally be sure that Suho was a growing Hunter.

'If the world finds out about this, they'll be shocked. Hmm. Should I take this opportunity to change guilds? Of course, Suho wouldn't refuse an elite like me, and if I join now, I could at least become vice president soon...'

Leaving Rio Singh, who was seriously contemplating his future, alone, Suho approached Liu Zhigang with the spring water of the Echo Forest.

"What is this... Gulp, gulp." Liu Zhigang, who was completely exhausted, had no choice but to obediently accept and drink the unknown potion... And its effect appeared immediately.

Fwoosh!

"...?!"

Liu Zhigang couldn't help but be startled when he suddenly saw a pair of blue wings spread out from his back. The true form of the inner demon that had been tormenting him all this time was finally revealed.

[Kaaaaaaaah!]

Soon, the ashen angel with outstretched blue wings let out a painful scream and separated from his back. However, the energy he felt from it was quite different from that of Thomas Andre. The ashen angel, exhausted of all its strength just like Liu Zhigang, desperately flapped its wings to escape from this place.

[Kieek! My liege, we can't let it get away!]

Crack!

Before Beru could even finish speaking, as if waiting for this moment, Suho's hand instantly snapped the creature's neck.

Ding!

[You have defeated an apostle of Itarim.]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

"Alright!"

With the messages popping up in succession, Suho, who had been quite exhausted, was completely restored to his perfect condition. However, the situation was the same for Liu Zhigang. The dust of light from the shattering of the ashen angel's body seeped back into Liu Zhigang. In an instant, his eyes filled with astonishment.

'...What are these memories?'

The remnants of the apostle of Itarim, which had melted into Liu Zhigang's body that had been rejecting Itarim's power for the past two years, awakened something. Two lives. Two sets of memories. The shock that came from the process of them colliding in Liu Zhigang's mind was indescribable. However...

"...So that's how it was." He accepted it quickly. The shock was great, but the relief that followed was even greater. Soon, a truly refreshing laugh escaped his lips.

"Yes. As expected, I was stronger than I am now. It wasn't a vain ambition." China's one and only 7-star Hunter. The National Level Hunter who had crossed the sea to China and torn apart the giant magical beast.

"...That was me, Liu Zhigang." He muttered with a blank expression.

"I understand why the inner demon came to me. Because I had such power and then lost it..." Having identified the cause, his heart felt at ease. And he seemed to know what he had to do.

"All that remains is to strive forward."

Of course, he knew. That one's power as a Hunter doesn't grow just by training. However, feeling the remnants of the 'inner demon' that had just saturated his body, he had a vague feeling that he might be able to reach a level similar to that time.

"Would you mind helping me up?" Liu Zhigang reached out his hand towards Suho. Although they didn't speak the same language, he understood his intention and readily grabbed his hand to help him up.

"Interpreter, would you please translate my words to this young man?"

At Liu Zhigang's request, Rio Singh nodded with a determined look. He wasn't offended that he, a core member of the Asura Guild, was being treated like a mere interpreter. Rather, he felt there was no greater honor.

'This is the first conversation between China's Liu Zhigang and the man who defeated him single-handedly. This historic moment is being facilitated entirely through my mediation.'

The conversation that these two would have from now on might even be written in history books. Rio Singh swallowed hard and focused his eyes and ears as if determined not to miss a single word. Meanwhile, Liu Zhigang stared intently at Suho's face, then chuckled.

'...Now that I see him again, I understand. How this young man could be so strong.'

Now that he looked carefully, didn't he resemble someone a lot? Having suddenly recalled his past life, Liu Zhigang had a lot of questions to ask, but he decided to ask the most curious and important one first.

"I'll ask. Where is your father and what is he doing now?"

"Rio Singh, interpret."

"Suho, don't misunderstand and listen."

"What?"

Gulp. Rio Singh interpreted Liu Zhigang's words with a more serious and desperate expression than ever.

"Liu Zhigang is suddenly asking about your father's well-being, which is grammatically a very serious insult in Korea, but in China, it could be a truly pure expression of concern..."

"..."

Rio Singh, whose Korean skills had been endlessly improving these days. He was indeed worthy of being a core member of the Asura Guild.

"...Indeed. I understand."

Liu Zhigang nodded seriously after a long conversation with Suho. There was a 'minor' incident where the interpreter was startled to hear that time had been reversed, but that too wasn't hard to understand if it was considered a special 'skill.' More important was the current situation.

"In any case, you're saying there's a high probability that Siddharth Bachchan, like me, has fallen to the inner demon?"

To be precise, it was different from an inner demon, but the expression didn't matter. The important thing was that no matter how he looked at it, Siddharth Bachchan didn't seem like he would struggle to shake off the inner demon like himself.

"In the first place, we National Level Hunters were comrades who fought together against the formidable enemy, Kamish. There were some guys we couldn't get along with because of personality differences, but we basically knew what kind of people they were." Liu Zhigang continued with a wry smile.

"Especially among them, Thomas Andre and I were known throughout the world as hotheads. Well, that was when we were full of youthful vigor. Ah, I can't say that's not the case now."

Liu Zhigang and Thomas Andre were those who were praised as humanity's strongest forces in the past, and as such, their personalities were also quite aggressive.

"But Siddharth Bachchan... Unlike us, he's a virtuous person."

"Virtuous?" At Suho's question, Liu Zhigang nodded.

"Yes. Hypocrisy is also a form of virtue."

"Hypocrisy?"

"Hypocrisy! Our guild leader isn't that kind of... Hmm, is he?" Rio Singh, who was interpreting, momentarily flared up, but then suddenly lost his confidence. He suddenly recalled the smiling face of the man who had demoted him, his capable and loyal subordinate.

"Well, I guess most humans are similar. When they gain too much wealth and fame, they become intoxicated and lose themselves. And it's the same with power." Liu Zhigang smiled bitterly and recalled the countless Hunters he had seen throughout his past and present lives.

"And among them, Siddharth Bachchan... How should I put it, he was a guy afflicted with 'savior complex.'"

"Savior complex?"

"Yes. He kept saying that with great power comes great responsibility, and he wanted to help people. He calls it a good influence, but at its core, it's a desire for fame."

At the following scathing assessment, the expression of Rio Singh, who was in charge of interpretation, became a bit complicated. Siddharth Bachchan, the head of the Asura Guild and a representative hero of India. In reality, he was known as a virtuous person who worked harder than anyone else to help the common people. But Rio Singh, who

had once served as his aide... was also someone who knew a little more about him than others.

"...That guy, wanting to rise higher himself, wants to save other people's lives, but... Without caring about the will of the people involved." And as soon as he finished speaking.

[Master, after examining the variants...] Harmakan, who had approached Suho, pointed at the variants he had captured and reported what he had learned.

[No matter how I look at it, it seems they were all once human.]

"What?" Suho's eyes widened at those words, and he looked at the variants.

"Those guys are human? Are you sure?"

[Yes, I'm sure. They are hybrids created by injecting dragon blood into living humans using star pisces as a medium.]

"...!"

Suho realized. What the hypocrite Siddharth Bachchan was doing in this land right now.

[It seems he is trying to forcibly awaken humans who have not awakened.]

"Kiiiiiiiil..." The variants, humans whose rationality had collapsed and had fallen into becoming mere magical beasts, were screaming miserably.

... Begging to be killed.

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 208 - Chapter 207**

### **Chapter 208: Chapter 207**

Suho's expression hardened. Right now, the population of Manipur was a staggering 3 million. At first, he was worried that all of them would turn into Mist Burns and die, but it turned out that the problem was even more serious.

'In the worst-case scenario, all 3 million could turn into variants.'

Either way, the loss of 3 million people is the same. However, the problem was that unlike the Mist Burns, which disappear over time, the variants could leave this dungeon and spread the damage. Moreover, even though they were half-baked, the danger of

the dragonids was not comparable to mere Mist Burns. If all of this was really Siddharth Bachchan's plan, it was truly a terrible thing. He had to stop it.

"Harmakan, is there any way to turn them back into humans?"

[Unfortunately, it's impossible.]

"Antares, what about you?" At Suho's question, Antares also shook his head firmly.

"Impossible. In the first place, dragon blood was injected into races other than dragons, it's a wonder their bodies haven't been destroyed yet."

[That's right. It seems that the star fragments implanted in their bodies are forcibly preventing the fatal side effects. The tremendous pain from that process is what caused their sanity to collapse. Even at this very moment.]

"..."

"Kiiiiii..."

Kyaaaaaak!

Listening to their explanation, Suho's gaze silently turned to the variants who were screaming, bound by Harmakan's magic.

[My liege, the only thing we can do is to kill them as quickly as possible. Only death can save them.]

At Beru's words, Suho silently nodded. At that moment, Harmakan's magic destroyed the star pieces embedded in the variants' bodies.

Crack! Crack! Crack!

The moment the blue jewels shattered and scattered everywhere. The variants collapsed on the spot with a death rattle.

Crackle!

[Variant 8 has been defeated.]

[Variant 8 has been defeated.]

[Variant 8 has been defeated.]

[Variant 8 has been defeated.]

....

There were no additional level-ups. However, Suho was looking down at the fragmented corpses of the variants with a more terrifying expression than ever.

[Shadow Extraction is possible on this target.]

[Shadow Extraction is possible on this target.]

Should he consider this fortunate? Although their lives were defiled by others, their souls were not contaminated. After a moment of contemplation, Suho reached out his hand towards their shadows.

"I'll give you a chance. If you want to take revenge with your own hands... Arise." At that single word, the wails of the pitiful souls who had fallen into becoming variants began to echo and resound in the air.

Uwaaaaaaaaaaaa—!

"...!" Liu Zhigang's eyes widened at the sight. If it had been before his memories of his past life returned, he would have mistaken it for the power of an ominous evil spirit again. But now it was different.

'Did he inherit his father's skill!'

The skill of Sung Jinwoo, whom he had always paid attention to in his past life, was being used right before his eyes!

Swooosh!

Soon, countless shadow soldiers rose before Liu Zhigang's eyes.

[Shadow Soldier Lv.1]

[Shadow Soldier Lv.1]

[Shadow Soldier Lv.1]

....

The souls that had escaped the name of variants through death solemnly knelt before Suho and bowed their heads.

"Guide me." Suho's chilling voice reached their ears.

"To where those who made you this way are."

The shadow soldiers, trembling at his eerie rage, raised their heads again and resolutely rose. Hot tears were flowing from their eyes, endlessly.

\* \* \*

Imphal. The capital and the largest city of Manipur, was an area where traditional Indian buildings and modern residential facilities coexisted. Along with the beautiful natural scenery of Loktak Lake in the distance, it was a complex city where extremely modern multi-story apartments and commercial buildings were mixed together in a disorderly fashion. Although this place now belonged to the Loktak Field, many people were still living here in a way not much different from before.

"Master, are you just going to sit back and watch like this?"

"What is it, man?"

"I'm talking about the Asura Guild. No matter what the situation is, this city is clearly under the jurisdiction of our Imphal Guild."

"So... what can we do?" Ali Hassan, the guildmaster of the Imphal Guild, muttered as he clenched the cigarette in his mouth at the vice master's words.

"You know it too. If it weren't for Stardust, this city would have been ruined long ago."

"Ruined? If it weren't for Stardust, everyone would have migrated to other cities long ago."

"That's ruined in its own way, man. Of course, for us."

"It's no different from being ruined now anyway..."

"Shut up."

Ali Hassan, who dismissed the vice master's words, also had a frown on his face. That's right. Currently, the Imphal Guild had its entire jurisdiction stolen by a large guild called the Asura Guild. Although it was certainly an unpleasant situation, he had to admit what he had to admit. Stardust distributed by them, that mysterious necklace was a great item that prevented civilians from turning into Mist Burns even if they inhaled the blue mist. It was an undeniable truth that thanks to Stardust, the people of Imphal were still able to live their daily lives in this city. However...

"But still, something feels strange."

"See? Guildmaster, you think so too, right?"

"..."



Ali Hassan silently gazed out the window. The city, more desolate than before. The blue mist faintly spread over it. The atmosphere outside the Imphal Guild building was definitely different from before. Thanks to Stardust, people were able to go about their daily lives as before. But why was this city becoming more and more deserted day by day? Like a ghost town appearing in a third-rate horror movie. And one more thing...

"Why... Why aren't those Asura guys conquering this dungeon yet?"

"That's exactly what I'm saying! They managed to conquer one at the beginning, but since then, it feels like they're just dragging their feet."

Siddharth Bachchan, the Guildmaster of the Asura Guild, was a renowned powerhouse even in India. Despite him taking the lead, the Loktak Field, including Imphal, was still shrouded in blue mist.

"If they were going to drag it out like this, it would have been much better if they had let our guild conquer it from the beginning!"

"I know, you have a point so shut up."

"Sigh. I'm sorry. In the first place, this is our jurisdiction, it's frustrating to just watch with the gate right in front of us."

"..." Ali Hassan silently spat his cigarette on the floor and crushed it with his foot.

'...Do you think I'm not frustrated?'

Well, this could be considered a kind of tyranny of a large corporation. The Asura Guild had boldly taken away all the conquering rights from the Imphal Guild under the pretext of protecting the citizens. And the Imphal Guild couldn't protest at all. All 3 million citizens whose lives were saved thanks to Stardust welcomed the intervention of the Asura Guild with open arms. As a result, the Imphal Guild was now reduced to this state of idleness. Of course, it wasn't like they had absolutely nothing to do. In any case, since this entire area had turned into a den of magical beasts, the current mission of the Imphal Guild was to stand guard, to prevent the magical beasts from approaching people. But until when? In the end, unless someone entered the gate and conquered the dungeon, the city of Imphal would never escape from being a field-type dungeon. Yes, in other words...

'This city will have to live under the care of the Asura Guild forever. It's not even a city-state, what the...'

It was then.

"Guildmaster!" Suddenly, there was a small commotion outside the building, and a staff member hurriedly opened the door to the president's office.

"Something terrible has happened! I think you need to come out and see!"

"Why? Did another horde of magical beasts appear?"

Even as he spoke, Hassan tilted his head. If a horde of magical beasts had appeared, he should have felt their unique bloodlust early on. But there was no such sign, and the expression of the staff member who came to find him was also somewhat subtle.

"What in the world..."

Bang!

At that moment, the door the staff member had entered through was violently shattered, and someone entered the president's office.

"Who is it!"

"Who's this guy!" Startled, Ali Hassan and the vice guildmaster instantly took up a fighting stance and glared at the intruder who had barged in unannounced.

'A villain? Or a gang?'

Whatever it was, it was absurd. No matter how much the Imphal Guild's reputation had declined, what kind of crazy people would dare to break into a Hunter guild! But then...

"Hmm."

"...?" Something was strange. The intruder who had barged into the Imphal Guild tilted his head after checking the identities of those in the president's office.

"Is this the right place? These guys don't seem to be from the Foreign Religion."

"What, you bastard? What language is that?" As an unfamiliar language flowed from the intruder's mouth, Ali Hassan was wary of him and at the same time, glanced at the vice guildmaster.

"I, I don't know that language either." He hurriedly shook his head. But if your head isn't good, it's your body that has to do the work. The vice guildmaster jumped out towards the intruder with a fierce expression.

"I'll subdue him first and then call an interpreter! Who the hell is this guy, daring to break into our guild...!"

"W-wait...!" Ali Hassan hurriedly reached out his hand to stop him, but it was too late.

Bang!

"Ugh?!" He closed his eyes and sighed at the sight of the vice guildmaster, who had bravely jumped out, being helplessly thrown back and crashing into the wall.

"...You should pick your fights." Who could he blame? It was the vice guildmaster's fault for lacking the ability to read the opponent's strength.

Gulp. Ali Hassan swallowed hard and calmly raised his magic power throughout his body. However, ignorance is bliss, and you can only see as much as you know. He couldn't bring himself to run forward like his pathetically fainted friend.

'...Strong. So strong that I can't even gauge it. Could he be S-rank?' As the president of a guild, Ali Hassan had met S-rank Hunters several times before. But he could confidently say that there was no one like this among the S-ranks he knew.

'Who the hell is he?'

Suddenly...

"What? These guys aren't even wearing necklaces? Is this really the right place?" Another intruder poked his head into the president's office and came inside.

"...!" A white-haired old man speaking Chinese. The moment Ali Hassan saw his face, his eyes couldn't help but widen.

"Li-Liu Zhigang?!"

There was no Hunter who didn't know Liu Zhigang's face. China's one and only 6-star Hunter. A wanderer who always roamed around looking for battlefields despite possessing such overwhelming power. Why did the great Liu Zhigang suddenly appear in this city...! But, there was something that confused Ali Hassan even more.

"Hmm. So what are you going to do now?"

"...?!"

Liu Zhigang, the fearsome Sword Demon whom even the Chinese government couldn't dare to stop, was politely speaking to the young man who had entered first, like a gentle lamb! Ali Hassan couldn't help but be shocked at the sight.

'Who the hell is that guy...!'

*CREATORS' THOUGHTS*



Craftyprogamer

# **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 209 -**

## **Chapter 208**

### **Chapter 209: Chapter 208**

Ali Hassan, 30 years old. He was originally a beggar who lived in the back alleys of Imphal. But his life took a 180-degree turn when he suddenly awakened as a B-rank Hunter during the Cataclysm. He was now Ali Hassan, the guildmaster of the Imphal Guild, representing Imphal, where he was born and raised. Of course, he still sometimes had nightmares about his days as a beggar, but Ali Hassan enjoyed the happiness of waking up to a reality that was as good as a lie.

...But why was it? Even though he spent all this terrible time as a beggar, he still had a feeling that today would be the longest day of his life.

"Rio Singh, I need your interpretation."

As if waiting for Suho's call, Rio Singh peeked out from behind. Like a skilled salesman, he approached Ali Hassan and handed him his business card.

"Namaste. Thank you for your hard work. Please don't be too alarmed. This is who I am."

"Asura Guild?! Are you, are you from the Asura Guild?" Hassan's eyes widened as he checked the card. The name 'Asura Guild,' which had occupied Imphal, was clearly engraved in the middle. This business card, which had been the pride and glory of his family, supporting Rio Singh firmly all this time, was...

Rip! Rip!

Torn to shreds...

"Haha. This thing doesn't matter anymore, just remember my name."

"...?!"

Rio Singh had casually torn his business card, which he had habitually handed out, into four pieces. The reason was, of course, that he had successfully changed jobs. Having finally obtained Suho's permission on the way here, Rio Singh greeted them with his hands clasped together like a dignified yet humble celebrity.

"Let me introduce myself again. My name is Rio Singh. Former A-rank Hunter of the Asura Guild, and current interpreter and new employee of the Woojin Guild. I'm expected to become vice president soon, though."

"...Woojin Guild?"

"Is there such a guild?"

The Hunters of the Imphal Guild murmured at those words. At least in India, it was a name they had never heard of.

"Ah, of course you wouldn't know. Our Woojin Guild is from Korea." Rio Singh naturally added an explanation.

"Korea?"

"Yes. As you can see, it's the strongest guild in Korea."

'Strongest in Korea?!' Along with the last explanation, Rio Singh's gaze briefly turned to Liu Zhigang, who was standing behind them with his arms crossed nonchalantly, a deliberate gesture. And that intention was very successful.

1

'Wait, could it be...?' The moment Hassan's gaze, which had been lost until now, turned to Liu Zhigang, a strong sense of alarm arose in his mind.

"Th-then that crazy old man... No, Mr. Liu Zhigang is also from the Woojin Guild..."

"Shh. That part is confidential, so I don't think I can mention it. You understand what I mean, Guild Master, right? Hahaha."

2

"Gasp?!" The way Rio Singh winked with one eye implied a lot. Hassan, who had guessed what the confidential information was, couldn't help but cover his mouth with both hands and tremble.

'R-really? Liu Zhigang joined a guild? And it's a guild from another country?'

Oh my god. It felt like he had stumbled upon a truly tremendous secret. Who was that crazy old man!? Sword Demon Liu Zhigang! He was China's pride, the one and only 6-star Hunter receiving the utmost favoritism from the government. For that man to suddenly join a specific guild? And a foreign one at that? Does the Chinese government even know about this? No, that couldn't be. No country, let alone China, would just sit back and watch as their representative Hunter was taken away by another nation...

'W-wait! That's not what's important right now!' Suddenly realizing an even more shocking fact, Ali Hassan's gaze hurriedly turned towards Suho.

'Then that means this young man took Liu Zhigang as his subordinate?! Who the hell is this Hunter!'

"...?" Suho was just bewildered by Hassan's reaction, who looked like he had seen a ghost. However, Liu Zhigang, who could manage simple Arabic conversation, looked at Rio Singh with a displeased expression from behind.

"Hey, when did I say I would join the Woojin Guild..."

"Oh, sir! Hahaha! When did I say such a thing? But if you don't mind, wouldn't it be easier to work this way?"

Liu Zhigang clicked his tongue at Rio Singh's attitude of openly exploiting his reputation.

"You're a sly fellow. You'd be better suited as a politician than a Hunter."

"Haha. Thank you for the compliment. You're saying I'm that good at my job."

"No, the opposite. If you're going to use my name, you're doing it wrong."

"Huh?"

Liu Zhigang, who had been quietly observing the situation, suddenly unfolded his arms and stepped forward. Then, his presence began to grow.

"...!"

"...?!"

All the Hunters of the Imphal Guild, including Hassan, trembled as they looked up at Liu Zhigang, feeling as if they were facing a giant. Liu Zhigang, accustomed to such treatment, gave them an arrogant smile and ordered.

"I, Liu Zhigang, will ask. Those who don't want to answer, step forward now. However, there will be consequences for that audacity."

"...!"

What was it? The moment he heard those words, a chill ran down Rio Singh's spine. That's right he had forgotten for a moment. The true meaning of the name Liu Zhigang. He was... Not only in terms of combat power, but also his unique, difficult personality, on par with Thomas Andre. The fact was that no one, including the Chinese government, could dare to stop him once he set his mind on something. And now a solemn command, akin to a death sentence, fell from his lips.

"From now on, confess everything you have done in this land. If there is any falsehood in your words..." But Liu Zhigang wasn't alone here. Suddenly, he stopped speaking and glanced at Suho's face beside him. Then, he turned his head again to look ahead and gave a meaningful smile.

"...No, it doesn't matter if you lie. You will eventually tell the truth even after you die."

Chills. The Hunters' backs were drenched in cold sweat from the murderous intent hidden beneath Liu Zhigang's 'sincerity.' They saw it too. Suho, whom Liu Zhigang had briefly glanced at. The long, black shadow following his feet...

Aaaaaah – From the deep abyss beyond, ominous black specters were looking at them, shedding mournful tears.

"...I thought Siddharth Bachchan would be waiting, but to think they weren't even associated with the Outer Gods cult" After interrogating Ali Hassan, Suho was able to learn various information about the Asura Guild.

[It seems they are all just ignorant errand boys.]

The shadow soldiers Suho had gathered were the victims who had been experimented on as 'Variant 8' here. So, guided by them, he had stormed this place, but unexpectedly, the Imphal Guild turned out to be just an ordinary place.

"The Asura Guild has been using all the small guilds operating in Imphal as their pawns."

"To be precise, they are like subcontractors, but in reality, they are just unpaid errand boys."

"Since they have the noble cause of protecting the city, we have no choice but to follow their orders."

And the most common thing that the Imphal Guild had done under the orders of the Asura Guild was to distribute Stardust. Or more precisely the stardust necklace, to the citizens of the city. The reason was, of course, that there were way too many citizens so it wasn't profitable for the expensive members of the Asura Guild to move directly, so they used all the Hunters in this area as their pawns. However there was one other thing. Something strange...

"But..." Among the members of the Imphal Guild who were competing to answer all of Suho's questions cautiously, Ali Hassan carefully opened his mouth.

"No matter how I look at it, I don't think Stardust is 100% effective."

"What do you mean?"

"Since I'm originally from the streets, I'm quite familiar with the slums. But a significant number of the beggars who received Stardust have begun to disappear some time ago." Suho's eyes gleamed coldly at those words.

"...People have gone missing?"

"Yes. Of course, the city hall is rather happy when beggars disappear, but I was a little concerned. I wondered if there might be some unknown side effects to Stardust..." Ali Hassan, who was rambling on with his answer, suddenly felt a strange gaze. For some reason, the black specters who had been staring at him from Suho's shadow... looked strangely familiar.

'Must be my imagination, right?'

But Suho thought differently. The shadow soldiers couldn't speak because of their low rank, but he noticed what their gazes meant.

3

"Did they secretly kidnap the poor and experiment on them? And the reason they guided me here..."

[It seems it's because he is from the same slums and is the only one they can trust.]

"Conversely, does that mean the other guilds subcontracted by the Asura Guild cannot be trusted?" Having thought this far, Suho nodded and immediately rose from his seat.

"Yes. Let's start here then." He looked at Liu Zhigang and Rio Singh, who were waiting for his decision, and said,

"It seems we need to figure out exactly what the Asura Guild's plan is before we meet Siddharth Bachchan."

"You mean?"

"We're going to hit all the Hunter guilds operating in Imphal."

Smirk. At those words, Liu Zhigang cracked his knuckles and gave a vicious smile.

"Well, then we can each move separately. Can I kill them if they resist?"

1

"I'll leave that to your judgment. But leave the bodies behind."

"Alright."



Rio Singh quietly swallowed hard at the sight of the two men exchanging glances with his interpretation in between. And so today. Two nightmares were unleashed on the city of Imphal.

1

\* \* \*

'...It's raining.'

A small boy who stepped into the shady alleyways of Imphal filled with humid air, looked up at the sky, and exhaled with a gasp. His clothes were getting wet from the damp rainwater, but he had no thought or energy to avoid it. No, rather, it was good. There was no better boon for someone being chased.

'...The rainwater will wash away the smell of my blood.'

He had lived his whole life cursing God, but at least at this moment, gratitude came naturally.

'I need to get as far away as possible...'

The boy forced his limp body up. The pain from his wounds brought tears to his eyes, but he gritted his teeth and held back his cries.

'God... Please...'

The boy forced back his tears and prayed more desperately than ever.

'Please help me...'

No, anyone would do, please... "Save me."

And so, the boy limped and slowly disappeared into the dark alleyway...

\* \* \*

But soon after...

Splash!

Hideous, reptile-like feet stepped into the puddles of rainwater in the alleyway. They sniffed the air and looked around, then muttered quietly.

"The trail ends here."

"He's lucky. The rain has diluted the smell of blood."

Rumble!

Just then, lightning flashed, briefly revealing their faces hidden under their hoods. Lizardmen. No, rather, hybrids that somewhat resembled humans. The corners of their mouths stretched wide, and they licked their lips with their hideous tongues.

"He can't have gone far. Find him."

[Found him.]

"Found... What?" Following the sudden voice, their heads involuntarily turned back. And there...

An extremely wicked black shadow, cast along the wall of the dark alleyway, was smiling at them with its mouth wide open.

[Keeeeeeeeeeeeek!]

"...?!"

## **Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 210 - Chapter 209**

### **Chapter 210: Chapter 209**

Someone once said: 'The greatest luxury is giving!'

In that sense, Ali Hassan was quite a lavish person. He, a beggar who grew up in the slums, continued to visit them whenever he had the chance even after awakening.

– Wahaha! I'm back again, you bastards!

He didn't go empty-handed. Every time he went, he filled a truck full of bread. And he showed off to the beggars who looked up to him, scattering the food from the truck in all directions.

– Hey, did you see that! This is how much I have! Take this and eat, you bastards! Uhahaha!

Good deeds? Noblesse oblige? He had never learned such difficult words. He just wanted to show off. Yes, that was the only reason he started this. These pieces of bread, even if he flexed a few trucks, were nothing compared to the money a Hunter

earned in a dungeon. But no matter how much he showed off, there was one thing Hassan never did. He would give food, but not money.

'If I did that, there would only be a scramble to snatch it from each other. And thugs from other neighborhoods would flock here after hearing the rumors.'

So, just barely enough to keep their stomachs from growling. Just enough so that the hunger of tomorrow wouldn't be scary tonight. Hassan, who knew the ways of the slums better than anyone, knew the right balance very well. But why was it? From some time ago, the number of people in the slums began to decrease. There was more and more bread leftover. By the time Hassan noticed this fact, a significant number of beggars had already disappeared.

"...I couldn't confirm whether they had truly disappeared, or if they were unfortunately eaten by magical beasts wandering the back alleys."

"But now I think I know the reason."

Crack!

"Grrr...!"

Hassan, who was explaining with Rio Singh interpreting, swallowed hard and looked ahead. In front of him, the beaten-up dragonids were lying face down in the mud. They were the ones Beru had found in the back alleys of the slums. Suho stepped on their heads and said with a chilling gaze,

"I'll ask once. Who are you."

"Grrr..."

Their reptilian eyes glanced at him with a servile expression. Their appearance was a mixture of lizard and human. Large star fragments were implanted in their bodies. Without the need for an answer, their names were already visible in Suho's sight.

[Variant 13]

[Variant 13]

"They can talk at around number 13. As expected, the experiment is ongoing."

"Tsk." At Suho's words, Antares, who was perched on his shoulder, clicked his tongue with a displeased expression. Seeing these guys made it even more certain.

[The King of Beasts, the Fang Monarch, frowns as he recalls the humans who became werewolves by drinking Gray's blood.]

"Yes. It's a similar situation to back then."

Crack!

Suho put more force on his foot that was stepping on the variants' heads and asked them,

"Rio Singh, interpret. Are you guys from the Outer Gods Cult?"

"Grrr! I don't know!"

"Where did you take the people you captured?"

"I don't know! We don't know anything!"

Blue malice flowed from their vicious, snarling eyes. Iron, the former priest of the Outer Gods Cult, and Greed, the former high priest, recognized it and advised Suho.

[They are already completely possessed by the starpieces.]

[At this level of mental contamination, there is no solution other than killing them.]

"Alright. Then I'll ask your souls directly." Suho nodded and stopped the useless conversation.

Crack! He crushed their heads without hesitation and immediately extracted their shadows as soldiers.

"Lead me to your base."

The guys who became shadow soldiers obediently led Suho's party to their hideout.

"Kubera Guild?" Ali Hassan, who was following behind Suho, recognized the place and widened his eyes.

"Do you know this place?"

"I just know the name. It's a small guild with about 10 members."

According to Hassan's explanation, there were a total of 17 guilds operating in Imphal. Excluding the Imphal Guild, the only mid-sized one. All the rest were small with only around 10 members. Of course, the strength of a guild could not be judged solely by the number of its members. Like the Woojin Guild led by Suho, where the guild leader possessed overwhelming power that no one could match. Or, there were many small elite guilds where each member was as strong as a hundred. But even considering all those possibilities, there was no chance that Suho's party would be outmatched.

Bang! Without even bothering to open the door, they smashed through the wall and went inside.

"Wh-who is it!"

"..." While the variants inside were startled and took up a fighting stance, Suho's party's eyes were fixed on something else.

"...Oh my god." Hassan's legs gave way, and he collapsed on the spot.

A prison. No, a chicken coop. Cramped cages were crudely made with iron bars, and shabby beggars were huddled inside. And on their bodies were starpices that seemed to have been forcibly implanted...

Kiiii...

The moment they witnessed the sight of those trapped in the lab, their skin mutating like reptiles.

Snap. All emotion disappeared from within Suho.

"Harmakan."

[Yes, Master.]

"Kill them all."

Fwoosh!

[Harmakan activates Instance Dungeon.]

Harmakan immediately annihilated the Hunters of the Kubera Guild, turning them into Suho's experience points. Then, he checked the condition of the imprisoned people and reported.

[Fortunately, most of them haven't had the starpices properly implanted yet. I think I can restore them back to normal.]

"That's a relief." But Suho's hardened expression showed no signs of softening. Hassan said that the number of people trapped here was too small compared to the number of people who disappeared from the slums.

"It must be the same for other small guilds! Our Imphal Guild is a mid-sized guild, so we operate independently, but the rest of the small guilds have long been under Asura's control."

"There's no time."

Liu Zhigang's eyes were burning calmly as he silently watched the whole scene. The reason why the current situation was so disgusting was probably because the memories of his past life had resurfaced. At least back then, there was a minimal sense of camaraderie. The competition between guilds was fierce, but there was a premise that all of humanity would join forces to fight against the magical beasts. But now...

"How filthy. Humans experimenting on fellow humans, turning them into monsters. In our time, this was unimaginable."

Liu Zhigang drew his sword.

\* \* \*

Bang!

"Who is it!"

"Li-Liu Zhigang?!" The Hunters of the Rama Guild, another small guild in Imphal, were startled to see the face of the thug who suddenly barged into their office.

"I'll ask. Are you from the Outer Gods Cult?"

"...What's that?"

"Your reply was too slow. Will you talk faster if one of your arms disappears?"

Shing.

"...!"

'He... He really is Liu Zhigang!'

As Liu Zhigang drew his two longswords, the Rama Guild Hunters involuntarily looked at each other, then, as if planned, began to scatter and flee in different directions. However, there were disgusting, lizard-like tails protruding from behind them. Seeing this, Liu Zhigang nodded.

"Legs are better than arms."

Flash!

"Kyaaa...!"

"My, my leg...!"

The legs of the fleeing Hunters were cleanly cut off by the sword that was swung without hesitation. Blood spurted out. Blue blood. They were no longer human. Liu Zhigang left those screaming and rolling on the floor behind and ran after the Hunters who had fled in the opposite direction.

\* \* \*

Unlike Liu Zhigang, whose methods were ruthless, Esil was relatively gentlemanly.

Knock, knock.

"Excuse me. Is this the Chandra Guild?"

Demons were a race that could understand thoughts and communicate easily in any language. It was the same in India. Of course, simply speaking the language did not guarantee that a smooth conversation would take place. Soon, the door opened, and a Hunter appeared, scanning Esil up and down with wary eyes.

"Yes, that's right. What brings you here?"

"Did you kidnap any poor people here?"

"...Why are you suddenly speaking so informally?"

"That necklace."

Grrrrrrrr!

It was a well-known fact now that the main ingredient of stardust was demon blood. Sensing the necklace hanging around the Hunters' necks, the dignity of a demon noble emanated from Esil's entire body.

"Take off that necklace yourself. If you can't, I'll consider you a member of the Outer Gods Cult."

"...Outer Gods Cult?"

"Or would you prefer an Itarim's bitch."

Smirk. The moment the words 'Outer Gods Cult' came out of Esil's mouth, the Hunters' eyes were already dyed with a ferocious glint. Their pupils resembled those of reptiles.

"Who is this woman!"

Seeing the Hunters suddenly revealing their bloodlust and charging at her, Esil nodded.

"I guess I can kill them."

Stab! Stab! Stab!

If Liu Zhigang was a merciless Swordsman, Esil was a demon. A true demon noble of pure bloodline.

"Kyaaa!"

"S-save m...!"