# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 211 - Chapter 210

## Chapter 211: Chapter 210

In Imphal. Turning away from the splendor of the city center and walking through the shady back alleys, there was an old, ramshackle slum that looked as if it could collapse at any moment. A few years ago, businessmen took an interest in this place, and a new sign was put up.

## [ Redevelopment Zone ]

This shabby back alley was now a golden land, destined to be completely transformed into the glamorous front street. However, if redevelopment proceeded, the poor people living here would inevitably lose their homes and end up on the streets. Naturally, those who lived there continued to protest, and the government and businessmen either coaxed and appeared them or even resorted to threats to drive them out.

That was just three years ago. Now, all that was left was the redevelopment, but even the most brilliant businessmen could not have foreseen a global cataclysm that happened. After the city of Imphal turned into a field-type dungeon overnight. The tedious and ambitious plans of the investors were indefinitely delayed. Of course, the businessmen had no intention of just sitting back and watching this situation unfold. A super-large field the conquest of which would take a long time if they just waited. For the businessmen, time was money, and they couldn't just vaguely rely on the Hunters of Imphal and wait for the takeover of this place. In the end, they unanimously decided to accept some losses. They decided that it would be cheaper to entrust the conquest to the Asura Guild, India's strongest force, and conquer the dungeon as soon as possible. And Siddharth Bachchan gladly accepted their invitation. On the surface, he claimed to have stepped up to save the poor citizens, but behind the scenes, the logic of capital was thoroughly applied. And the output was as satisfying as the large input. The moment Siddharth Bachchan joined the conquest, one of the many gates in the Loktak Field was closed in an instant.

## '...It was good until then.'

Manu Kizal, the governor of Manipur, who had mediated the deal between the businessmen and Siddharth Bachchan, was now biting his lip with an anxious expression. Until now, touching the Stardust necklace hanging around his neck had calmed his heart, but today felt different.

'How did it come to this?'

Siddharth Bachchan, after that initial conquest, was not conquering the remaining dungeons at all and was just dragging his feet. Of course, he still went in and out of the

gates with his guild members, but Manu Kizal already knew that the purpose was not conquest.

'What is the purpose of conducting such experiments...'

Manu Kazal didn't know the specific objective, but he was aware that Siddharth Bachchan was conducting some kind of biological experiment in Imphal. He also knew that the subjects of the biological experiment were the poor people of Imphal. As the governor, who had to continue redevelopment with businessmen, it was better to dispose of the poor people in advance, so Manu Kizal had been turning a blind eye to this fact. But that came back to bite him.

'He's been giving me orders since some time ago. As if he's the governor.'

The conquest was delayed, and complaints from businessmen were piling up, but he could somehow endure that. What he was more dissatisfied with was Siddharth Bachchan's behavior towards him. However, from the moment he turned a blind eye to Siddharth Bachchan's actions, he too was no different from an accomplice. Now he had no choice but to wait for him to get what he wanted and conquer the field-type dungeon as promised.

#### Clank.

Suddenly, a faint light emanated from the necklace he was fiddling with. Then, as if by magic, his discontent subsided a little.

'...Well, in the end, the things Mr. Siddharth Bachchan is doing aren't exactly bad for me.'

'Yes. Everything is fine.' As this thought naturally permeated his mind, he eventually nodded.

'Who knows. The reason he's secretly raising an army through biological experiments might be to separate Manipur from India, starting with the Loktak Field. Imphal would become the capital of that independent nation. Then what would happen to me?'

3

It was obvious.

'King'

Manu Kizal's heart began to pound. Siddharth Bachchan possessed unmatched power, but he was by no means a politician. A politician was needed to run state affairs.

'In the end, I'll be in charge of politics, and he'll be in charge of national defense...'

In other words, if Siddharth Bachchan's goal succeeded, he would become the head of an independent nation, not just a governor! Even though the land he ruled would be the same, the meaning of a governor elected by votes and the king of a nation was completely different. Having finished this thought, the corners of Manu Kizal's lips curled up slightly. And as he confidently raised his head to look ahead again, blue malice flowed from his eyes.

'Therefore.'

Far in his sight, there were foreign enemies who had suddenly invaded Imphal today and were hunting Hunters.

'Invaders must be killed.'

'For our grand goal.'

Smirk. A decision that could not be understood by common sense flowed from the lips of Manu Kizal, who was continuing his delusions as if he had lost his mind.

"Ha. China's Liu Zhigang crossed the border and invaded Imphal? Do everything in your power to kill him and his subordinates!"

No matter how much of a 6-star Hunter Liu Zhigang was, he was still a human with blood flowing through him. If they kept pushing him until he was exhausted, he would eventually die!

"If the fact that we killed Liu Zhigang with our own hands becomes known to the world, we will be recognized as an independent nation that no one can ignore from that moment on!"

Manu Kizal eventually declared an all-out war against Liu Zhigang's party, who were stirring up the guilds of Imphal. The Hunters they hunted were just incomplete experimental subjects anyway. Half-baked variants who, fortunately, hadn't had their minds collapse. But they had only absorbed a few drops of dragon blood! Even the mighty Liu Zhigang wouldn't be safe against a true army of dragonids!

"Kill them!"

Kyaaaaaaaaaa!

\* \* \*

Suho's party learned the whole story about what's happening in this city while treating the beggar boy that Beru had saved in the back alley.

"So you don't know where Siddharth Bachchan is?"

"...I was locked up in a cage the whole time, so I have no idea. All I know is that he's somewhere in the dungeons."

The boy was experiencing the miracle of his wounds gradually healing due to the effect of the healing potion as he answered the questions. For him, born in the slums, it was truly an experience like God's grace.

[Master, I have removed the star fragment.]

Harmakan's treatment was also finished, and the boy was able to regain his appearance from before he was experimented on. However, Harmakan, who had personally treated him, found out why the Hunters were chasing this little boy so desperately.

[This young human's constitution seems to be particularly well-suited to dragon blood compared to the other test subjects we've rescued so far.]

"You're saying he was a cherished test subject."

[Yes. If he had remained imprisoned like this, he would have successfully transformed into 'that' form.]

" "

At those words, Suho turned his gaze to the variants that were suddenly swarming towards them. Each and every one of them was emitting the energy equivalent to at least an C, or maybe B-rank, perhaps even higher. There were hundreds of them but considering that they were still pouring in endlessly even at this moment, it seemed like thousands would eventually gather. However what was truly terrifying about them was not their numbers, but the fact that they were intelligent like the ice elves, unlike the magical beasts that only moved on instinct.

"This is enough force to overthrow a decent-sized country. Siddharth, what the hell is this guy doing..."

Liu Zhigang clicked his tongue. This was like a large guild made up entirely of villains. The fact that these dragonids had lost their humanity made them an even more terrifying and destructive group. But to someone else, this situation was a delightful sight.

[The King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction, licks his lips.]

1

[The King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction, claims that Ragnar's magic power will increase if he absorbs the dragon blood from their bodies.]

And leveling up too. Suho nodded at Antares' words, his eyes gleaming. The job change quest to become the Monarch of Destruction. He might be able to achieve the first goal of reaching level 100 within today. Looking at the charging dragonids, Suho summoned all the soldiers who were scattered around searching for the void gate to him.

1

"Arise." At that command, the shadow soldiers rose from Suho's shadow!

#### Swooosh!

The momentum they unleashed in unison overwhelmed the battlefield. Liu Zhigang, despite being on the same side, couldn't help but be astonished as he witnessed the tremendous sight.

'Oh my god! Were the summons I've seen so far not all of them?!'

Not to mention Greed, whom he had personally crossed swords with, the energy that the other soldiers were emitting was also extraordinary.

Gulp. Liu Zhigang's Adam's apple bobbed as he swallowed hard. More than anything else, he already knew. The true terror of Suho's summons. They were an immortal army that regenerated infinitely no matter how much damage they took.

'What a terrifying ability.'

Even though Liu Zhigang had met Sung Jinwoo in his previous life, he had never witnessed his true power. That's why he was now instinctively looking for Sung Jinwoo's image in Suho. But one thing was certain.

'He's still far behind him.'

Moreover, they were vastly outnumbered compared to the swarming enemies. Suho's current forces numbered only 50. It was the number of troops, including the stored soldiers and the temporary mercenaries he had recruited along the way. There were even ordinary shadow soldiers among them who had become soldiers themselves for revenge. On the other hand, the number of enemies was constantly increasing, with a numerical difference of 20 or even 30 times. Furthermore, it was impossible to easily estimate the odds of winning, considering how strong Siddharth Bachchan might have become through the power of the outer gods lurking behind this. At least from Liu Zhigang's point of view. However...

Smirk.

"We can just replenish the lacking forces."

[Number of extractable shadows: 50/100]

[Number of storable shadows: 8/10]

"I've invested quite a bit in intelligence."

And one more thing. He could just strengthen the weak soldiers.

"Harmakan! Enhance the shadow soldiers!"

[Yes! I will use the Death Knight's armor!]

The armor, which Harmakan had developed in the past to use on evil spirits, was summoned. And the shadow soldiers readily wore it.

Kyaaaaaaaaa!

The vengeful spirits, reborn as Death Knights, were still shedding tears inside the armor. But all that resentment poured out towards the dragonids who had experimented on them. At that moment. Suho's shadow dyed the surroundings black.

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

Fwooosh!

[Stats of shadow soldiers fighting on the caster's shadow are increased by 50%.]

Kyaaaaaaaaaaaa! All the soldiers on his shadow roared, surrendering their bodies to the boiling thrill. The full-scale battle had begun.

[Harmakan uses Skill: 'Damage Amplification'.]

[Increases damage taken by those cursed.]

[Causes fatal wounds even from normal attacks.]

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

[Shares all pain and damage taken by shadow soldiers with the attacker.]

The result was devastating.

1

[The King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction, bursts into laughter.]

[The King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction, urges Ragnar on.]

"...Is this Sung Jinwoo's son?"

Liu Zhigang was speechless...

\* \* \*

...Along with one more person.

Governor Manu Kizal, who was watching this carnage from afar, atop a tall building, couldn't come to his senses either.

"Wh-what is that...?!"

What was happening? His city... was being overrun by evil spirits! He turned around without hesitation and started running...

1

CREATORS' THOUGHTS



Craftyprogamer

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[Variant 17]

[Variant 26]

[Variant 31]

. . .

The Asura Guild had conducted countless experiments. There were many failures, but there were also many successes. The result was those enhanced humans, the dragonid armv.

"Gasp...!" Even as he fled in a hurry, Manu Kizal couldn't hide his confusion.

'This is ridiculous! How could this happen!' The dragonid army that the Asura Guild had painstakingly developed was gradually crumbling.

'No, his side still had the upper hand in the war. But what was that?'

'Why...!?' Things were going terribly wrong.

[Kyaaaaaaaaa!]

[Hahahaha! Is that all you've got?!]

'Why won't they die!' What kind of monsters were those? Even if their limbs were torn off. Even if half of their bodies were ripped off. Even if their necks were completely crushed! Those few dozen summons on the other side wouldn't die!

'This is ridiculous! An immortal army! Where the hell did those guys come from?!'

Moreover, that wasn't the only problem.

"Arise!"

[Kyaaaaaaaaaa!]

'That damn necromancer! What kind of a cheat skill is that!' He could have never imagined... At first, he thought Liu Zhigang was the problem, but it turned out that the young guy was the bigger issue!

"Arise!"

[Kyaaaaa!]

The sight of black smoke-like souls rising from the corpses of the dragonids at the necromancer's command was chilling.

"Uwaaa! What the hell is that?!"

If he was dreaming, this was the worst nightmare of his life. The other side was immortal, and if his side died, they immediately became part of the opposing forces. The enemies were multiplying! How could such an unfair and one-sided battle exist!

'This is bad! At this rate, it's a sure loss!'

In the end, there was only one way. Manu Kizal was originally a capable person, and he desperately tried to come up with a way to overcome this predicament.

'Overturn the game!'

The principle of unchanging magic power! There couldn't be a real immortal army in this world! If he annihilated them with an overwhelming force in one blow, leaving no room for resurrection, they surely wouldn't be able to revive anymore.

'This definitely requires Mr. Siddharth to step up in person! But that's surely what they want right now!' Manu Kizal grasped their strategy at once with his sharp intelligence.

'That annoying necromancer is trying to confuse us about the situation and lure out Mr. Siddharth. So Liu Zhigang is there as a countermeasure!' That's right. Perhaps this incident was the beginning of a plan by China to invade India.

'China's Liu Zhigang and India's Siddharth Bachchan. There has always been a debate about who is stronger between the two.'

Of course, in the Hunter rankings created by the US Hunter Bureau, Siddharth Bachchan was ranked lower than Liu Zhigang. But Manu Kizal, who knew the hidden truth about the Indian hunter, knew how meaningless those rankings were.

'Ha. China's Liu Zhigang? The world is completely fooled! Mr. Siddharth has already surpassed the wall that humans cannot reach...!'

Manu Kijal, who was desperately running away while shaking his head, suddenly became completely filled with a blue aura. Whether it was because of the stardust necklace or some other influence, the wariness he had felt towards Siddharth Bachchan until recently had melted away like snow. Instead, a new emotion had taken its place: blind loyalty.

'Mr. Siddharth... is an apostle of the great Gods!' Suddenly, Manu Kizal's steps stopped in front of an ominously flickering crack. And he shouted at the dragonids guarding it.

"Quickly bring Mr. Siddharth here! China has invaded!"

"Master is busy. Didn't he tell you to handle trivial matters by yourself?" Manu Kizal faltered, overwhelmed by the sharp gazes of the dragonids. But he quickly remembered the seriousness of the situation and shouted again.

"Hey! Liu Zhigang has appeared! If Mr. Siddharth doesn't come out himself, we'll lose Imphal!"

"...Liu Zhigang?" The dragonids who still had their human memories stiffened at the name.

"Then wait here. I'll report to Master and come back."

"No, there's no time for that now! I'll meet him in person and explain!"

"Ha. You?" The dragonids smirked as he tried to force his way through the gate.

"Forget it. If you go in there now, we won't even be able to collect your bones. Master is very hungry right now."

Shiver. Realizing that the words weren't just a threat, Manu Kizal faltered.

"Hun-hungry? What do you mean? There should be enough food."

"Food? Kehehekeke."

"Kihikihi. He means sacrifices." At the mocking laughter, Manu Kizal looked anxiously beyond the gate they were guarding.

"What the hell are you doing in there..."

Bang! Before he could finish his sentence, the huge sword the dragonid was holding plunged into the ground in front of his feet.

"Refrain from blasphemous words! This is a sacred sanctuary!"

"...Hiccup."

"Tsk... Anyway, wait patiently. My subordinate has already gone to wake up Master."

Manu Kizal's legs gave way, and he collapsed in front of the cracked sky. At the same time, he couldn't help but feel uneasy as he ruminated on the words he had just heard.

'...Wake up?' Was it his imagination? For some reason he suspected those words didn't simply mean waking up from sleep...

\* \* \*

Siddharth Bachchan opened his eyes.

"...Liu Zhigang?"

"That's what they say."

" "

Siddharth Bachchan's eyes narrowed as he smiled at the dragonid's report. Despite being told that humanity's greatest force had attacked with his men in tow, he didn't seem flustered or hurried at all. Rather, he looked indifferent.

"A nostalgic name." His pitch-black eyes sank faintly at the name Liu Zhigang, which he hadn't heard in a long time. And he reminisced about that man, recalling memories of the past that was now lost.

'7-star Hunter Liu Zhigang. A man who was once a comrade.'

"Heh. Liu Zhigang was truly a strong person. Without him, even I wouldn't have survived against the Kamish. But the current Liu Zhigang... is different from the person he was in the past."

That's right. The current Siddharth Bachchan had regained all the knowledge of his past life The moment he accepted the power of the Outer Gods. And the shock of the day when those two sets of memories collided in his mind still lingered. The truly horrific battle with Kamish. The great title of National Level Hunter he gained afterward. However, the overwhelming apocalypse that struck Earth again 10 years later brought him despair in the true sense of the word, on a completely different level from the Kamish incident.

### "... what happened back then?"

Did the world end...? He didn't remember the final moments exactly. Because the communication equipment broke down, news from all over the globe didn't reach them anymore. He had heard that a Hunter named Sung Jinwoo from Korea had put up quite a fight, but he was also just a human, so he must have died in the end. Still, if he had to recall the last moment, Siddharth Bachchan was in the middle of a fierce battle with the dragons that had suddenly appeared. At some point, he lost consciousness, and when he came to, the whole world was at peace...

The moment he recalled the shocking memories of his past life. He was dumbfounded, facing the monumental truth. That the horrific history had all been undone. That time had turned back. And decades later. The fact that gates opened on Earth again, similar to that time, and that they were invaded by magical beasts again, sent chills down his spine. At that moment. He realized:

'Ah, is that so?' Amidst this repetition of chaotic history, Siddharth Bachchan, who had once again awakened as an S-rank Hunter, was convinced of the fate given to him. Himself, the only Hunter who lived with all the memories of his past life...

'Only I can save this Earth.' He was chosen as the savior of this world.

### Fwooosh!

He grasped the power of the outer gods that had come into his hands and smiled crookedly. If one were to compare, there wasn't much difference between himself in his past life and this life. Back then, he received power from the apostles of the Gods called Rulers and waged war against the Monarchs. In this life, he received power from an

apostle who served the Outer Gods... Although the source of the power was slightly different, he once again gained the strength of a National Level Hunter. This was fate. No, it was the destiny given to him.

'Nothing has changed. I just fight.' Then who was this fight for? Naturally, it was a fight to protect the weak humans living in this world. Siddharth Bachchan could vouch for how much he had strived to protect them in his past life.

'But in the end, I failed back then. Many people died despite my efforts.' He blamed himself for the past with a bitter expression. But ironically, his eyes were filled with blue madness.

'So I can't fail this time. That must be why I was given a second chance.' That's why Siddharth Bachchan had made his choice. To avoid repeating his mistakes. To plan for a better future.

'Strengthen humanity!' Thus began the project to strengthen all of humanity.

'No matter how hard I try to protect them, the weak will eventually die in vain.'

'To save the pitiful humans who haven't awakened even a shred of magic power, they must become stronger themselves!'

...And coincidentally, Siddharth Bachchan already knew what that method was. Just as the Ruler's power was forcibly injected into his body once...

'I just need to forcibly inject power into humans' bodies!'

Of course, there would be some overload. Their bodies might not be able to withstand it and collapse. Even he, the mighty one, suffered from the aftereffects of adapting to the Ruler's power for a while after receiving it for the first time. But humans were, after all, creatures of adaptation. If he got them used to it little by little, they would surely succeed someday. There might be minor sacrifices in the course of the research, but historically, sacrificing the few for the many was inevitable... And so countless experiments were conducted under his thorough plan. And unexpected luck was with him. No, in retrospect, it wasn't luck but the teachings of the great Gods, The Itarim.

'Ah! To think there was a path to the Grave of Berserk Dragons in a place like this!'

Following the guidance of Itarim, a new world appeared before him one day as he wandered through the dimensional gap. And the moment he discovered the dragon eggs left unattended there, Siddharth Bachchan offered a heartfelt prayer to the great Itarim. And he gladly injected the dragon blood extracted from those eggs into his body first. As much as it could withstand. No, even more than that!

'To save this world! I need to become much stronger than my past self!'

[Variant 1]

Just like that, Siddharth Bachchan... willingly gave up being human.

Fwoosh!

A pair of blue, dragon-like wings spread out from behind Siddharth Bachchan as he stepped out of the gate. Then, countless dragonids in front of him assumed a submissive posture. Siddharth's lips stretched wide at the satisfying sight.

"Deploy."

Fwoosh!

His past life that ended in failure...

The most terrifying beings he had faced in those painful memories...

Siddharth Bachchan's dragonid army, modeled after the Dragon Emperor Antares's legions of destruction, took flight in unison.

CREATORS' THOUGHTS



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Chapter 211 is the last chapter released before the Author went on vacation due to health reasons. They have yet to release any new one in months, because of health reasons.

Reedited by Fotnmc

1/1/25

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Rumble! The ground shook as if there was an earthquake. The ominous magical energy filling the city stinged the skin.

"Kyaoooo!"

"Grrrrr..."

The roars of beasts echoed throughout the city. An overwhelming monster wave, like a dungeon break, engulfing it.

Slash! Slash!

In the midst of it all, Rio Singh, wielding his twin swords and running precariously, managed to cut down the neck of another dragonid.

Thud!

Blue blood gushed out like a fountain and the beast collapsed with a groan. Rio Singh wiped the blood splattered on his face, with the back of his hand, mixing it with the cold sweat. He was still trying to catch his breath.

'How many are left?'

The accumulated fatigue made the sky look yellow. Rio Singh habitually tried to estimate the number of enemies but soon gave up. The path he had passed was littered with the corpses of countless dragonids he had killed so far. However, an army tens, no hundreds of times larger still filled his vision, endlessly swarming in. Even for a high-ranking Hunter who could overwhelm a horde of magical beasts alone, the dragonids here were not ordinary magical beasts. They were all enhanced humans, once normal people, mutated by dragon blood. Each one possessed strength comparable to a B-rank magical beast, and with their remaining intelligence, they were capable of strategic combat. In other words, they were a 'legion' capable of coordinated attacks with a proper mix of tanks and damage dealers, offense and defense. It was fortunate that they didn't have healers, but with this much quantity, the presence or absence of healers didn't matter.

'Guild Master! What the hell are you doing here!'

Rio Singh closed his eyes tightly, recalling Guild Master Siddharth Bachchan, whom he has always respected. Who could have imagined? That India's hero was secretly doing such terrible things!

'Modifying fellow humans into magical beasts!'

It was an unforgivable act, no matter the justifications.

#### Slash! Slash!

Rio Singh's sword cut down another one, and he narrowly dodged the attacks of three dragonids who were hiding right behind it waiting to pounce on him.

Counterattack.

Dodge.

Counterattack.

Dodge.

Attack.

And attack again...

'Will I survive?' He was out of breath.

He suddenly felt fear. Hunters were also human, after all. It was natural for them to bleed when injured and slow down when tired. As an A-rank Hunter, he could hold out a little longer than others, but even he would eventually reach his limit. And that would be the same for even the great 6-star Hunter of China, Liu Zhigang, or Suho...

'Or not...?' Rio Singh's eyes widened as he glanced at his other comrades. Surprisingly, they didn't look tired at all.

"Hahaha! I felt so light after escaping from my inner demons!"

#### Flash!

In an instant, Liu Zhigang's sword split a group of dragonids in half all at once. At the same time, a fountain of blue blood erupted like fireworks. Underneath it, a smile appeared on the lips of the white-haired veteran as he performed a splendid yet controlled sword dance.

"Good. Very good."

Today, he engaged in battle with an extremely refreshed mind. Exhaustion? This was his daily life. The days he spent constantly expelling that foreign energy from his body to avoid being consumed by Itarim's divinity. He had always walked the path of martial arts with his stamina at rock bottom.

'Huh. But what about that guy?'

On the other hand, in Liu Zhigang's opinion Suho was the one who seemed unnatural. Unlike himself, whose breathing started to become ragged, Suho wasn't even shedding a drop of sweat.

'Truly amazing. Good stamina can't be the only explanation...' Liu Zhigang's sharp eyes accurately saw through Suho's condition.

'He is moving even faster than before! As if he's getting stronger the more he fights...' It wasn't just his imagination. The path Liu Zhigang had walked wasn't so shallow as to misjudge an opponent's skill. He became convinced that Suho was getting stronger.

'Is he constantly gaining more and more power, even while fighting...? Is that even possible?!' Liu Zhigang was now superimposing the image of a man he saw a long time ago onto Suho. Sung Jinwoo!

"As expected of his son. Heh."

In a time now forgotten and gone. In the erased past, Liu Zhigang had met Suho's father, Sung Jinwoo. They even sparred and tested their strength for a brief moment. But that was all. Liu Zhigang had never seen Sung Jinwoo fight with all his might. And even if he had..., would he be able to grasp his true power at his meager level? The scene he witnessed when he went to support the defense against the super-massive gate that appeared over Seoul was still vivid in his mind. The marvelous sight of hundreds of thousands of magical beasts kneeling before Sung Jinwoo. He was not a being anybody could dare to evaluate. But now, he could glimpse a bit of his potential, through his son.

4

Ding!

[Level Up!]

Swooosh!

[Level Up!]

Level up notifications appeared again and again!

And 'status recovery' occurred every time his level increased!

"Kuwoooo!"

Enemies caught in Suho's blade storm were mercilessly cut down. That's right. For him, the more foes there were, the more experience points he could gain, and the easier it

became to fight endlessly. To Rio Singh and Liu Zhigang, who didn't know about the system, the sight was simply marvelous.

'Oh my god. Is Suho's stamina infinite?'

'He doesn't get tired even from a battle of this level?!'

'How could Korea give such an absurdly strong person a mere C-rank?'

And...

"Arise!"

[Shadow extraction successful.]

[Shadow extraction successful.]

"Gwaaaaaaaaaa!"

As Suho's level increased, so did his intelligence stat, and the number of shadow soldiers. Of course, it was still only 120. But this figure was increasing in real-time. Of course, compared to the number of enemies, the power difference was ridiculous... However, this side was an immortal army that would never fall as long as he kept drinking mana potions. So as long as he didn't get scared and back down, they could continue this absurd battle.

[My liege! Don't let your guard down! A disturbing presence is approaching from afar!]

Even in this situation, Beru was the only one worried about Suho.

[Your growth is important, but more than anything else, your safety is paramount! If you feel even the slightest bit of danger, you must return to Korea immediately!]

Although this large-scale battle had somehow broken out, Suho hadn't recklessly escalated things. The cooldown for the 'Shadow Exchange' skill had long since reset. If necessary, he could switch positions with the shadow assassin, Kira, and move to Korea, just like when he came here. Since he was prepared to flee if necessary, he could focus on leveling up with peace of mind. Besides, he didn't intend to keep fighting these small frys forever.

'It's even better if the boss monster comes to me on his own!' Suho's sense stat had also been warning him for a while now. The enormous presence that was surely Siddharth Bachchan was getting closer.

'Any minute now.' That was when it happened...

A huge shadow covered the sky.

"There!" Esil pulled out the spear that had been thrust into the dragonid's heart, looked up, and glared at the sky.

Rio Singh's face turned pale as he saw the same thing and screamed. "Oh my god! What the hell is that...!"

There, huge dragonids, mutated into hideous forms, were covering the entire sky with their wings spread wide. Ragnar, no, the Dragon King Antares, who was beside Suho, frowned at the sight.

"Insolent... How dare you try to imitate the form of dragons with mere humans using dragon blood."

What kind of experiments had they been conducting? The appearance of the giant dragonids was hideous and crude, like a patchwork of rags. However, only the great King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction, was dissatisfied. The power of those chimeras, a combination of human life force, the unbalanced magic power of the Outer Gods, and the strength of dragons, was by no means something to be ignored.

Shiver! Liu Zhigang felt a bad premonition and shouted to everyone.

"Something's coming! Spread your magic power throughout your body and be prepared!"

Immediately after. The mouths of the creatures in the sky opened wide, roaring towards Suho's group. A terrible bloodlust descended upon this land.

"Kyaaaaaaaaaa!"

['Dragon Fear' activated.]

"...!"

Dragon Fear! The worst skill of the dragons that didn't discriminate between friend and foe! The movements of those on the ground stiffened at the soul-stirring cry that plunged all those weaker than themselves into despair.

\* \* \*

He was ecstatic. Siddharth Bachchan felt rewarded, as if he had lived until this day solely to see this sight. The countless efforts he had made to recreate the terror of the dragons in his memories. Repeating countless failures and successes. The result of accumulating their noble sacrifices was the miracle of this moment.

### "Kyaaaaaaaaaa!"

Dragon Fear! The powerful roars of the dragonid army combined into one, and a terror that no one in this world had ever experienced before covered the ground like a powerful shockwave. The constant vibrations shook the atmosphere. The earthquake of magical power, like a natural disaster, caused all weak creatures, no matter friend or foe, to feel extreme fear, pain, and confusion. As a result...

"Tsk."

Siddharth Bachchan's lips twitched, and he couldn't help but let out a laugh. Look at that sight! The sight of even the mighty 6-star Hunter of China, Liu Zhigang, frozen stiff, overwhelmed by this power! The refreshing sight of the black summons that were making a ruckus in the city crumbling in an instant before this great power! And the one reigning over this entire situation with absolute power and authority was him! Siddharth Bachchan!

"Khehehe, Khahahaha!"

Siddharth Bachchan spread his wings wide in the sky and burst into an extremely crazed laughter. How could he be so lucky! Liu Zhigang! If he caught that immobilized Liu Zhigang and transformed him into a dragonid, how powerful of a soldier could he create! His mouth was already watering. He pointed at Liu Zhigang's party, who were overwhelmed by Dragon Fear, and ordered his soldiers.

"Capture them all! You can cut off their limbs as long as they survive!"

At his command, the dragonid army roared and flapped their wings. And like falcons hunting a prey that was frozen in fear, they reached out their claws to snatch them. But then...

"This is quite something." There was a being completely unaffected by Dragon Fear: the Dragon King Antares.

"To think you would gather these mongrels and even imitate Dragon Fear."

The Dragon King, possessing the body of the baby dragon Ragnar, was smiling. However, the emotion burning in his eyes as he glared at the sky was undisguised displeasure. He had realized who those ragged mongrels were imitating.

"You dare... imitate me?"

1

'Suho was at least the son of the Shadow Monarch...'

The title of Dragon king wasn't so insignificant that even such a lowly creature could try to take his place.

Fwoooosh!

In response to the Dragon King's anger, hot flames erupted from Ragnar's small body. The energy pierced through the silence that seemed to freeze even time and reached Siddharth Bachchan.

Flinch!

Siddharth Bachchan, feeling that something was wrong, sensed the presence of the small dot, Ragnar, and turned his head in that direction. His eyes couldn't help but widen...

"H-how...?"

In the middle of the city, where everyone should have been frozen weather friend or foe due to Dragon Fear. There was a man still diligently moving in the midst of the battlefield. He was none other than Suho, who didn't miss the opportunity of everyone being frozen by the area-of-effect stun, and continued to eliminate the immobile enemies.

Ding! Ding!

[Level Up!]

[Level Up!]

As a result...

[Level 99 achieved.]

And at that moment.

[The completion condition for Job Change Quest: 'Dragon King's Trial-1' has been met.]

1

The ground and the sky, Suho's and Siddharth Bachchan's eyes have met.

CREATORS' THOUGHTS



# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 214 - Chapter 213

# Chapter 214: Chapter 213

India's hero, Siddharth Bachchan. When he finally appeared, there was a brilliantly shining blue star in the center of his forehead. The man who was once a National Level Hunter had become the High Priest of the Foreign Religion. That wasn't all. Unlike Hwang Dong-su, who was also a High Priest, Siddharth Bachchan had become Variant 1, fully adapted to dragon blood. A pair of dragon-like wings spread from his back. Huge horns, like a crown, sprouted from his head. And scales covered his entire body like armor. He was truly a dragon-human hybrid. The perfect form, completely different from the other incomplete variants, was possible because the apostle of Itarim residing in his body forcibly compressed all the imbalance and chaos into his body.

Beru peeked out from Suho's shadow, recognized the divine power of the Outer Gods hidden within Siddharth Bachchan, and shouted: [My liege! It's an apostle of Itarim!].

On the other hand, Siddharth Bachchan's eyes trembled with astonishment as he looked down at Suho from high above. He never imagined it. That there would be a human who could withstand the power of Dragon Fear!

"No way. There's a human stronger than Liu Zhigang?" And that was even in a situation where the mighty Liu Zhigang was frozen in fear. But at that moment...

**'...!'** 

The image of a man popped into Siddharth Bachchan's mind. The man who existed in the lost timeline that no one remembered anymore... Come to think of it, even in that era, there was a Hunter as strong as Liu Zhigang, no, even stronger. His eyes widened in astonishment as he remembered the man's name.

"...Could it be Sung Jinwoo?!"

'No! That's impossible!'

Siddharth Bachchan strongly denied reality at the sudden thought. It had been decades! Even Sung Jinwoo, the strongest Hunter on Earth, who was rumored to be far stronger than all the National Level Hunters in the world at the time, was still human! He, too, should have aged like himself by now. But look at that young Hunter! His appearance seemed to be of similar nationality to Sung Jinwoo, but anyone could see that he was only in his 20s! Moreover, the first thing Siddharth Bachchan did after regaining his old memories was to look for Sung Jinwoo, who would be living in Korea! The purpose, of

course, was to persuade or kidnap him to be transformed into one of his dragonid soldiers! But that plan was bound to fail.

1

'Because he was nowhere to be found!'

Missing... Surprisingly, Sung Jinwoo had vanished from this world without a trace at the same time as the Cataclysm.

1

'So it can't be Sung Jinwoo!'

'No, even if it is Sung Jinwoo, so what?'

'I must be much stronger now anyway!' In this world where Sung Jinwoo had disappeared, only he could be the savior of humanity.

1

'I am the only savior chosen by the Gods!'

Flash!

Blue haze flared in Siddharth Bachchan's eyes.

"Even better! A test subject stronger than Liu Zhigang is more than welcome!" He shouted as he reached out his dragon scale-covered hand towards Suho.

"Capture that guy and bring him before me, my soldiers! My dragonid army, deploy!"

"Kyaaaaaaaaa!" At his command, the dragonids filling the sky roared and spread their wings. A fierce storm of murderous intent tore through the atmosphere, and countless attacks concentrated on Suho.

"Su-Suho...!" Esil's urgent cry was heard through the gusting wind. However, she was also trembling and unable to move due to Dragon Fear. All she could do was squeeze out her voice towards Suho with a worried expression.

Rio Singh and Liu Zhigang felt the same. They didn't know how Suho could withstand this terrible bloodlust and move, but they all prayed with one heart that he would dodge those tremendous attacks.

"...I'll create an opening!" Liu Zhigang barely managed to squeeze out his voice and shout.

He couldn't let such a promising young man lose his life so meaninglessly. If Suho was truly a growing Hunter, he would become even stronger in the future! And someday, he would grow into the one and only guardian who could protect the peace of humanity! Like... Sung Jinwoo!

"Kyaaaa!"

So he had to save that guy no matter what! He was already old. The future of humanity had to blossom from the hands of young people with such potential. A determined light appeared in Liu Zhigang's eyes. Cold sweat dripped down his entire body. Blood trickled from the corner of his clenched mouth. He barely endured the fear that weighed heavily on his entire bring and tightly gripped the hilt of his sword.

1

"Sung Suho!" Liu Zhigang gathered all his strength into one point. His forearm swelled up as if it were about to burst.

"...You at least, escape from here!"

And he swung his sword. Towards Siddharth Bachchan high above!

Flash!

Liu Zhigang's sword energy drew a semicircle, piercing through the stormy atmosphere and flying away.

"Kyaaa!"

The wings of the dragonids rushing towards the ground were torn, and their bodies were split in half in front of his sword energy. Blue blood poured down from the sky like rain. However, Liu Zhigang's attack, despite its tremendous power, ultimately failed to reach Siddharth Bachchan.

"Pathetic, Liu Zhigang."

Siddharth Bachchan flapped his wings lightly with an arrogant look. A wall of blue aura appeared, easily deflecting his weakened sword energy.

"You dare to defy me with your old and worn-out body, when even with all your might it wouldn't be enough? Surrender to me, become my soldier. And..."

Flash. As he spoke, the star fragment on his forehead glowed, and his eyes were filled with madness.

"I will grant you the glory of becoming an apostle of the great Itarim, just like me."

Bang!

"Whoa?!" The blue energy exploded, and Liu Zhigang's body was thrown back. At the same time, a dragonid that happened to be flying in the air mercilessly clawed at his body.

Thud!

"...!" Liu Zhigang plummeted vertically to the ground. Blood spurting from his mouth. But he wasn't just taking the hits passively.

"Kyaaa!" The dragonid that attacked him suddenly screamed and fell. Liu Zhigang's sword was now embedded near its heart.

"Not bad. But... that's all." Siddharth Bachchan had long since lost interest in Liu Zhigang. His gaze had been fixed on someone else all along.

Just then, the frenzied attacks of the dragonids poured down on Suho. But even in the face of that mighty terror, he didn't back down an inch and smiled. Now that he had reached level 99, the dragonids in front of him were no longer of interest to Suho.

[Tsk.] The Dragon King Antares had a dissatisfied expression, but he couldn't break his promise to Sung Jinwoo.

1

[You've finally earned the qualification.]

Ding.

[The 'Job Change' quest completion reward has arrived.]

[Would you like to check the reward?]

[Y/N]

"Accept reward!" The moment the system window appeared, Suho immediately accepted the reward handed over by Antares.

Ding!

[Acquired the title 'Candidate for the position of Dragon King'.]

1

Fwoosh!

"...!" Suho's eyes widened. Suddenly, a hot inferno erupted from deep within his chest. The tremendous energy swirled around his entire body like a snake, turning into a black-red flame and raging fiercely.

"Ugh!" Beyond his vision, blurred with immense pain, Suho saw Ragnar, no, the Dragon King Antares, smiling.

[Let's see how you endure this... My trial is just beginning.]

[Title: Candidate for the position of Dragon King

[The minimum qualifications to undergo the Dragon King's trial have been met.]

[The King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction Antares, has acknowledged the player's qualifications.] [Effect – 'Heart of the Dragon King': Mana +100,000]

5

Thump!

The Heart of the Dragon Emperor!

At that moment, an enormous concentration of magical power appeared inside the right half of Suho's chest.

Thump! Thump!

"Ugh...!"

The fierce flow of mana emanating from the Heart of the Dragon King rampaged through Suho's entire body, relentlessly pounding his insides. As a result, his HP, which had been restored by the recent level-up, began to plummet in real-time. But even in that tremendous pain, he gritted his teeth and endured, screams escaping from his lips. This was a kind of pride contest. Having declared that he would inherit the power of the Monarch who was already defeated and killed by his father, he couldn't bear to show weakness in front of him. But the more he endured, the more intense the pain became. But as Suho staggered, unable to focus,

"Kyaaaa!" A dragonid, dodging Liu Zhigang's sword energy and reaching Suho, opened its massive jaws wide to bite him. Vicious fangs were visible within.

"Nooo...!"

"Watch out, above...!"

Urgent screams erupted from everyone who witnessed the desperate situation. But that was when it happened.

"S-stop."

Suho, struggling in the hot flames, suddenly reached out his hand towards the dragonid that was right in front of him. Then, surprisingly, the creature that was about to bite him stopped right in its tracks.

"...Huh?" Liu Zhigang's and Suho's other comrades' eyes widened at the strange sight.

'Why...?'

Suddenly, the wind stopped. And so did the dragonids that were about to attack Suho. The mutants themselves had a look of incomprehension in their eyes.

"Wh-what is this?" Siddharth Bachchan, who was commanding the army from high above, also couldn't hide his confusion.

"What the hell are you doing?!" His empty shout echoed through the heavy silence that appeared in the absence of wind.

Suho was still engulfed in flames and the pain was still there. It was a terrible heat that made him feel like his whole body would melt away at any moment. But despite that, he realized something....

'Heart of the Dragon King'

The terrific ability that increased his mana by a whopping 100,000. With this enormous magic power, he would be able to summon shadow soldiers to his heart's content from now on. But, that wasn't what was important right now. More significant was the fact that the Dragon King had acknowledged him. Suho had proven himself worthy of inheriting his power.

'Therefore...' Suho realized...

"Stop." Even in this terrible pain, he instinctively gave the order. To all the 'dragons' in front of him.

"Dragons."

" |"

"Bow before me." That one sentence was enough. At that moment, the dragon blood flowing through all the dragonids reacted to Suho's voice.

"Kyaaaaa!" Against their will, they stopped flapping their wings and began to fall from the sky!

[That's it.]

Antares's lips curled up in satisfaction. The real Dragon King's trial hadn't even begun yet. Suho had just reached the starting line. But this was enough against these crude creatures born from a few drops of dragon blood.

[King of all dragons. That is the authority of the Dragon King.]

Rumble! Rumble! Rumble!

The ground shook as if there was an earthquake. However the true cause of the tremors were the dragonids falling like a meteor shower.

"Wh-what the hell! What's going on!"

Siddharth Bachchan screamed from the sky in a frenzy at the shocking sight. It was ominous! Extremely ominous! Even more so because the most dragon blood flowed through his body. But he endured thanks to the power of Itarim residing within him.

Engulfed in black and red flames. Suho raised his head again, looked at Siddharth Bachchan, and said:

"Now... only you are left."

\* \* \*

[Status Window]

Name: Sung Suho

Level: 99

Class: None

3

Title: Candidate for the position of Dragon King, Wolf Slayer, Natural Enemy of Insects, Demon Slayer

HP: 52,641/96,140

MP: 113,699/113,699

## [Stats]

Strength: 204

Stamina: 108

Agility: 108

Intelligence: 117 (+10)

Sense: 108 (+5)

(Available stat points to distribute: 0)

[Skills]

Passive Skills: Tenacity Lv.7, Dual Swordsmanship Lv.3, Martial Arts Lv.1, (Unknown) Lv.max

Active Skills: Ruler's Authority Lv.1, Shadow Extraction Lv.2, Shadow Storage Lv.1, Monarch's Domain Lv.1, Storm Slash Lv.3, Giant's Armor Lv.1, Iron Body Technique Lv.4, Bloodlust Lv.1, Grasslands Wind Lv.1 (Possession Only), Elfen Step Lv.1.

CREATORS' THOUGHTS



Craftyprogamer

# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 215 - Chapter 214

# Chapter 215: Chapter 214

High in the sky, Siddharth Bachchan couldn't hide his bewilderment.

"This... This can't be! This is ridiculous!"

Has he ever been this bewildered in his life? The dragonid army he had painstakingly created, all those soldiers, had folded their wings and were bowing their heads before that young Hunter. The great warriors who had far surpassed the limitations of their species were trembling like frightened mice in front of a mere human!

"Karrrrrrr!"

### "Krrrrr..."

Judging from the humiliated expressions on their faces, their minds hadn't completely submitted. Their intellect still wanted to tear Suho's body to shreds and kill him, as Siddharth Bachchan had ordered. It wasn't even difficult. Their prey was standing within reach. But their instincts. The dragon blood settled in their hearts. It was forcibly suppressing their will.

'Submit to the authority of the Dragon King!'

But things weren't good for Suho either. The terrible pain, as if his soul was melting, pierced through his entire body, making him feel like he would lose consciousness at any moment. Looking at his HP, which was steadily decreasing in real-time, he finally realized.

'...I see why it had to be level 99.' Why the minimum qualification set by the Dragon King had to be level 99.

'If my total HP had been lower, I would have burned to death in an instant before I could even properly use this power.'

The black flames originating from the Heart of the Dragon King were trying to engulf Suho's body with the momentum to burn and destroy everything in the world.

Gulp. Suho took out a healing potion and drank it, but it only slightly slowed down the rate at which his health was dropping. As long as he couldn't suppress the blazing black flames, being consumed by them was only a matter of time.

[Do you understand now?] The Dragon King Antares was smiling meaningfully as he watched Suho.

[I clearly warned you. How foolish and reckless it is for a mere human, who is not even a dragon, to try to become the Dragon King.]

But Suho had wanted it. And he willingly risked his life to accept the trial.

[Job Change Quest: 'Dragon King's Trial 2']

[The powerful flames emanating from the Heart of the Dragon King are burning your weak body.]

[If you fail to level up before your HP reaches 0, you will eventually turn to ashes and disappear.]

[Remaining HP: 49,891/96,140]

As a reward for taking on the trial, he gained several times the amount of mana he had before, but the accompanying risk was fatal. However, Suho felt as if his mind was clearing up. Potions could only buy him time, but leveling up would cure all status effects at once. He liked the simple solution and the clarity of what he had to do.

"You're saying I have to level up if I want to live."

'Just like always.' Suho's eyes flashed in the flames. As the level rises, the amount of experience required to level up increases exponentially. That meant he had to hunt stronger opponents. For example...

'Someone like Siddharth Bachchan.'

"Alright. I'll gladly prove I am worthy."

Suho forced the corners of his lips upward, gritting his teeth despite the pain. He threw away the empty potion bottle and tightly gripped Vulcan's horns in both hands. Engulfed in black flames, he kicked off the ground strongly. Towards Siddharth Bachchan.

"I'm worthy of having the Heart of the Dragon King!"

#### Kaboom!

The ground he was standing on caved in and shattered from the recoil. The hellfire following him surged like the tail of an ascending dragon. On the other side, Siddharth Bachchan bared his fangs with an even more ferocious expression.

"Kyaaaak!" His dragon scale-clad arm swung like a claw. And following it, bluish-white aura streaked through the air, clawing at Suho.

Boom! The sky split in two.

One who had sold his soul to the Outer Gods to become a dragon himself, and one who had risked his life to accept the Dragon King's trial. The clash of the two forces, seemingly similar yet completely opposite, sent a tremendous shockwave sweeping across the sky and the earth, spreading in all directions.

"Aaah!"

"He-help...!"

Suho's comrades, caught in the blast, screamed and were tossed about by the wind. Even the dragonids who were forced to lie on the ground were flung in all directions, unable to withstand the aftermath. The effect of Dragon Fear had long since disappeared, but the situation had become even more chaotic.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The sky was torn to shreds as Suho and Siddharth Bachchan clashed relentlessly. Suho used the skill 'Ruler's Authority' to tread on the air, slashing at Siddharth Bachchan with countless attacks like thunder and lightning. Siddharth Bachchan, with his wings, drew countless curves, clawing and crushing Suho's body.

Coincidentally, neither of them had the slightest intention of defending against each other's blows. Confident in their own sturdy defenses, they only attacked and attacked again! If they dodged, it was only for one purpose. To exploit the opponent's opening and inflict a critical hit.

"Oh, my god! Suho had become stronger!"

Rio Singh, caught in the vortex of the storm, couldn't help but admire the absurd sight. He knew that Suho was a growing Hunter, but now he had far surpassed even the realm of incomprehensibility. For proof one needed only to look at Liu Zhigang. Even he was bewildered by Suho!

"As expected, Suho is amazing...!"

"Fool! It's not that simple!" Liu Zhigang rebuked Rio Singh for his fuss. You could only notice as much as you knew. Liu Zhigang, who had walked the path of a martial artist for many years before awakening as a Hunter, could see exactly what state Suho was in as he unleashed that tremendous power.

"That Sung Suho... He is using up his own life-force!"

"What? Li-life?"

Liu Zhigang gnashed his teeth with a deeply frustrated expression. "Yes! He is burning his own life-force to draw out power. To protect us!"

2

"...!" Rio Singh's eyes widened in shock at those words. Although there was a slight misunderstanding in Liu Zhigang's thinking, it wasn't entirely wrong. And Siddharth Bachchan also noticed this fact.

"Hahaha! Ephemeral creature! You're gnawing away at your own lifespan to fight!"

Siddharth Bachchan mocked Suho, who was confronting him while engulfed in black flames. He was bewildered by the sudden appearance of someone stronger than he had imagined, but to find out that he was a berserker who was consuming his own lifeforce to fight! He was someone who would self-destruct with time.

"You've coveted power too great for you!"

Siddharth Bachchan instinctively sensed that the power emanating from Suho was the Dragon King's energy. But his reaction was completely different from the other dragonid soldiers who submitted. An obsessive and persistent greed emanated from him.

"That power is too much for you! I will kill you and take it!"

He was confident. There were still many of his dragonid army alive in this area. Although they were temporarily in chaos due to the Dragon King's authority, the power implanted in their bodies wasn't just dragon blood. The source of strength that accounted for a greater proportion than just a few drops of dragon blood. It was the Starpieces. The power of the Outer Gods.

"Oh Gods! Answer my prayer!" He shouted towards the sky as he countered Suho's attack. At that moment, the star fragment embedded in his forehead emitted a blue light.

"Your faithful priest desires your noble and beautiful power!" In response to his fervent prayer, the numerous Starpieces embedded throughout his body flashed, emitting blue energy. The countless rays of light stretched out in all directions like fireworks.

The rays of light forcibly raised the dragonid soldiers who were trembling under the Dragon King's authority, like puppets hanging on strings... Then, they too began to emit light from the Starpieces in their bodies, spreading their wings wide and soaring into the sky.

[My liege, be careful! A large army is approaching!]

Beru suddenly sensed the change and peeked out from Suho's shadow. But he wasn't just warning about the danger of the enormous dragonid army. Beru's narrowed eyes turned towards Siddharth Bachchan.

[The apostle of the Outer Gods has revealed himself!]

Flash! At the same time as he spoke, they saw all the blue rays of light in the surroundings gathering into one in Siddharth Bachchan's hand.

"Oh Gods! Give me strength! More! More! More! More!" With his continued fervent prayer, the power was compressed and compressed again, and finally... He tightly grasped this powerful weapon given by the great Gods who existed beyond the distant outer space.

"Astra." The name immediately materialized into an ax in his hand.

[My liege, be careful! That's real... The power of Outer Gods!] Beru peeked out from Suho's shadow, recognizing the familiar energy.

[It seems this apostle has made more preparations than the ones we've met so far...!] Before Beru could finish speaking, the giant Outer Gods's ax, 'Astra', drew a huge semicircle and plunged towards the top of Suho's head.

### Kuwang!

The sky was torn vertically. The power split even the ground beneath it in half. A true natural disaster, the roads and buildings caught in the attack crumbled. It was a strike of such tremendous power that even the bodies of the nearby dragonid soldiers were torn to pieces.

"Oh, my god."

Fortunately, Rio Singh was far away. He was so surprised by the power that far surpassed common sense that he muttered with a vacant expression,

"Astra... The legendary weapon summoned by borrowing the power of the Gods."

Astra. In ancient Sanskrit, it meant 'weapon.' In Indian mythology, weapons or magic that summoned the power of the Gods were called 'Astra.' And now, the power displayed by Siddharth Bachchan was truly worthy of being called the power of a God.

"Hehehe. You managed to avoid it."

Siddharth Bachchan found Suho standing in front of him unscathed and gave a crooked smile. It didn't matter that he was fine. Rather, it was even more exhilarating that the guy who had been arrogantly taking all his attacks head-on was finally scared and dodged. He raised 'Astra,' which Gods had placed in his hand, once again and bared his fangs.

"Let's see you try to dodge this..."

"Like a scared rat..."

The sight of the numerous dragonid soldiers rising behind him at that moment was a terrifying scene. However... Siddharth Bachchan could never have imagined. How grave a mistake he had made with that attack just now.

"Gray."

Growl! The shadow wolf, Gray, who had approached at his call, let out a howl. Suho's lips curled up.

"Come in."

[The spirit of Pet: 'Gray' possesses the priest's body.]

Fwooosh!

In an instant, Suho's hair turned white, the color mixing with the Dragon King's flames.

[The King of Beasts, the Fang Monarch, bares his fangs with a ferocious expression.]

"We have a lot of mana, so let's go all-out from now on." Suho's gaze briefly turned towards the ground. To be exact... towards the corpses of the dragonids who had been torn to shreds by Astra.

"Arise, all of you."

"Kyaaaaaaaaa!"

An army against an army. The roar of the countless shadows, whose bodies were modified and souls mocked by the power of the Outer Gods, shook the heavens and earth.

CREATORS' THOUGHTS



Craftyprogamer

# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 216 - Chapter 215

Chapter 216: Chapter 215

[Shadow extraction successful.]

[Shadow extraction successful.]

[Shadow extraction successful.]

[Aaaaaaaaaah!]

From the remains of the dragonid soldiers swept away by the power of the Outer Gods' ax, Astra. Pitch-black shadows reach out towards the sky, screaming in agony. Those hands gripped the ground and began to pull their souls out from the sea of the afterlife. There were so many of them that, from a distance, it was an eerie sight, like watching a centipede with countless legs crawling up from hell.

"Huh?!"

Rio Singh's face turned deathly pale at the sight of the hellish scene. But Liu Zhigang's eyes gleamed instead. The scene reminded him of 'that day' long ago. The sight of Sung Jinwoo leading an army of thousands.

"Don't be afraid. They're on our side."

The black shadows, exuding a jet-black aura of death, made anyone who saw them feel fear. But surprisingly, each of those black figures had tears flowing from their eyes. Pitiful souls who had been forcibly dragged away, unable to even face death as humans after the endless pain of repeated experiments. No one could fathom their despair and misery. Therefore...

'I'll give you a chance.' A chance to take revenge on Siddharth Bachchan with your own power.

"All forces!"

Clank, clank, clank! At Suho's command, they all lifted their heads and spread their wings. And they glared at Siddharth Bachchan with eyes burning with rage.

"Deploy!"

1

At Suho's order, the shadow soldiers who have returned from death spread their wings.

### [Kyaaaaaaaaaa]]

On the other side, the dragonid army, who were their comrades until just now and still follow Siddharth Bachchan's orders, flew in and began an all-out war with Suho's army.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

From bottom to top, from top to bottom. At the forefront of that fierce battle, Suho and Siddharth Bachchan clash once again.

"I don't need those small fries anymore! I've already completed Astra!" Siddharth Bachchan swung the Outer Gods's ax, once again.

### Kuwang!

This time, it wasn't the ground that was cut, but the air, and a dimensional rift opened in the weapons path. The blue mist flowing through the momentary crack in the sky settled on the ax, Astra that Siddharth Bachchan held.

[Kieek?!] Beru's eyes widened as he witnessed the phenomenon. Now he saw that Siddharth Bachchan's plan had a far greater purpose than just imitating the Dragon King's army...

It was the superposition of rifts! Just as a void gate opens when three ordinary gates overlap, the soldiers who successfully implanted starpisces each opened countless tiny holes here. The energy of the Outer Gods flowed in through the gaps made by those numerous rifts, and the result of that power gathering into one was that ax!

[My liege! If we leave that ax alone, this entire area will turn into a world like that of the ice elves!] Beru shouted, pointing at Astra. He meant that the dimension would be torn to shreds, just like the icy land where Cha Hae-In and the ice elves lived.

"Then we need to stop it, not avoid it." Suho's eyes flashed as he gathered his strength.

[Using skill 'Giant's Armor'.]

"Swoosh!"

When Suho used Giant's Armor, a different phenomenon occurred than usual. The black flames blazing to engulf Suho begin to mix with the shadow's energy and influence his skill. As a result...

Ding!

[Skill 'Giant's Armor' has leveled up.]

Swoosh!

The armor wrapped around Suho's entire body became even more solid. He glanced down at the black flame-covered full-body armor and then rushed towards Siddharth Bachchan at tremendous speed. And he swung Vulcan's horns, which he now held in his hands.

[Using skill 'Storm Slash'.]

This time was the same. The Dragon King's flames clung to the fierce wind that raged from Suho's swords. A storm of black flames raged. At that moment, he felt the pain of the inferno that was tormenting him disappear for a moment. The Dragon King's flames that were burning him stretched towards Siddharth Bachchan.

"Yes. That's it!" Suho smiled faintly and nodded at Liu Zhigang's shout from afar.

1

"...So that's what it was."

The way Liu Zhigang had been expelling all his power from his body to avoid being mentally consumed by Itarim all these years. He had tried to imitate that method while using his skills, and it was effective. That realization immediately led to skill evolution.

[Skill 'Storm Slash Lv.4' evolves into skill 'Storm of Black Flames Lv.1'.]

### Kuwang!

Siddharth Bachchan swung Astra and tore apart the Storm of Black Flames. Surprisingly, the inferno was cut as the air was split in half. But it wasn't completely blocked. The Dragon King's flames persistently clung to the blade of Astra, and then transferred to Siddharth Bachchan's body, inflicting serious burns.

"Kyaaaak!"

"You're being dramatic. It's just a little taste."

Suho chuckled at how satisfying his scream was. The brief respite was sweet, but Suho was once again engulfed in the flames erupting from the Heart of the Dragon King. But he knew the trick now.

"Que!"

1

Suho immediately used Ruler's Authority to step on the air and jumped higher than Siddharth Bachchan. Then, the shadow lancer Que, who had flown in at the right time, appeared behind Suho, grabbed his body, and spread his wings.

"Wheeeek!" Que changed direction and accelerated Suho's attack as he fell vertically.

### [Ugh!]

Suho's flames also clung to Que, beginning to melt his shadow body. However, he only gritted his teeth at the Dragon King, more concerned about the fact that Suho had been enduring this level of pain alone than his own suffering.

But Suho, as if he couldn't feel the pain, concentrated all the flames on one point instead. By using 'Ruler's Authority.'

"Gather."

Fwoosh! The black flames burning him began to concentrate on his right arm thanks to Ruler's Authority.

"More! More! More! More!"

"How dare you imitate me!" Siddharth Bachchan gnashed his teeth and swung Astra at Suho, who was plummeting vertically from the sky. Meanwhile, all the black flames in Suho's body gathered, burning his right arm black. Gritting his teeth, he gathered his consciousness that felt like it was about to fade from the terrible pain. He swung his sword with his body so hot that even his sweat evaporated.

1

"Take this ..." He said, twisting the corners of his lips upward.

[Using skill 'Storm of Black Flames'.]

The highly compressed black flames mixed with the power of the skill. The moment his sword clashed with the Outer Gods's giant axe, Astra.

Kwong!

"...!" For a moment, Siddharth Bachchan doubted his own eyes.

'Astra...!' The blade of Astra, bestowed to him by the Great Gods! The moment it touched Suho's black flames, it started to boil and melt!

"Th, this!"

Siddharth Bachchan hurriedly pulled Astra back. Then, as if it had never melted, the blade began to restore itself, the blue energy gathering together. The material was, of course, the mana of the Outer universe, the blue mist, flowing from the dimensional rift. But this was not a moment to be relieved. Suho, breaking through the raging Storm of Black Flames in that split second, had already arrived right in front of Siddharth Bachchan.

Grab.

"Gotcha."

" ["

His strong grip tightly grasped Siddharth Bachchan's horns. Then, the Dragon King's flames transferred completely to Siddharth Bachchan's entire body through him.

Fwoosh!

"Kyaaaak!"

"Endure it. This is the Dragon King's power you wanted." Suho smirked at him as he writhed in pain, clenched his fist, and struck vertically downward.

1

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Every time he struck Siddharth Bachchan's head with his fist, a tremendous roar erupted as if a gas station was exploding. And finally, the two fighting in the sky plummeted to the ground...

"Keuk!"

Siddharth Bachchan's eyes widened as if they were about to pop out, and he vomited blood from the impact he felt on his back. But even at that moment, he had no intention of admitting defeat. Even in this dizzying moment, he looked up at Astra, which had fallen from his hand and was floating in the sky with wide eyes.

"Astra! Kill this guy!"

1

"Wheeeeek!" Astra gladly responded to his command. The giant ax blade fell vertically, aiming for Suho's back.

[Block it!]

[Protect the master!]

Countless shadow dragonids resolutely flew in between to protect Suho. Greed and Iron stood at the forefront, holding up a giant shield.

Crackle!

Astra descended, tearing through the air like an unavoidable judge of death. But even as they were torn apart by the giant ax blade, the shadow soldiers didn't back down. Greed and Iron, whose bodies were shattered first, were quickly restored by the vast magical power flowing from Suho like a tidal wave. They rose again to protect their master. But then something amazing happened...

Flare!

Hot flames, like a mirage, clung to the black bodies of the shadow soldiers regenerated by the magic power originating from the Heart of the Dragon King.

[...]

The Dragon King's magic power surging from their bodies was a double-edged sword that even Suho couldn't control. The mana emanating from the Heart of the Dragon King was regenerating the shadow soldiers while simultaneously melting and destroying their bodies. It was as if the Shadow Monarch's power and the Monarch of Destruction's power were playing tug-of-war. At that moment. Greed and Iron exchanged glances as if they had agreed on something, their eyes shining. They instinctively realized what they had to do.

[Everyone, listen!]

[All forces! Charge!]

They threw away their shields and, along with the shadow soldiers burning with the Dragon King's flames, launched a physical assault towards Astra.

Flare!

Kaboom!

The blade of Astra, touching the hot flames, started to boil. Large and small holes began to appear. The ax which was plunging down with the force of divine punishment, lost its momentum in the air and began to disperse.

"Kyaaaak!" Seeing the unbelievable sight, Siddharth Bachchan, as if in a frenzy, plunged his claw-like mutated fingernails into Suho's side.

Rip!

Suho's defense was finally pierced, and blood splattered. But this level of pain meant nothing to him now. The blood spurting from his side instantly evaporated due to the Dragon King's flames that still burned his body, and as if he didn't care about the pain, Suho's hand still tightly grasped Siddharth Bachchan's horns, refusing to let go.

"Kyaaa! Let go! Let go of me!"

Siddharth Bachchan desperately struggled in the Dragon King's flames, ruthlessly attacking Suho's body with both hands. But rather than countering, Suho just silently held onto him. That alone was enough. And before long, Siddharth Bachchan's attacks visibly slowed down. And finally...

[Hmm. This is it.]

The Dragon King Antares, who watched the scene from afar, muttered indifferently.

[An inferior vessel eventually breaks.]

Thud.

Siddharth Bachchan's hands fell to the ground. Charred black.

Ding!

[Level Up!]

[Level 100 achieved.]

[The completion conditions for 'Job Change Quest: Dragon King's Trial 2' have been met.]

A mysterious wind wrapped around Suho's body, and the Dragon King's flames died down as if suppressed by magic.

1

CREATORS' THOUGHTS



Craftyprogamer

# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 217 - Chapter 216

## Chapter 217: Chapter 216

The tattered Astra, riddled with holes, scattered like ash into the sky where the heat of battle had subsided. The scene was reminiscent of the gray snowstorm that fell in the Grave of Berserk Dragons.

"..." The Dragon King's eyes shimmered with complex emotions as he silently watched the scene. He recalled the war with the Shadow Army, a war he lost long ago.

The King of Dragons, the Monarch of Destruction Antares. The flames emanating from the 'Heart of the Dragon King' he gave to Suho were truly the power of destruction itself. That power was so devastating that it even inflicted permanent burns on the great Shadow Monarch, Sung Jinwoo...

Sung Jinwoo had already transcended the physical limitations of humans, becoming a being who could freely change his age and physique, yet the burns on his left hand from the Dragon King's attack remained as scars. Because it was such a powerful force of destruction, it was only natural that the ax Astra, born from the condensed mana of the Outer Gods, burned away without a fight.

#### Crack! Crackle! Fwoosh!

Soon, a change also occurred in Siddharth Bachchan's charred body. The star fragments embedded throughout the corpse cracked and shattered all at once. The star fragments in the bodies of the dragonid soldiers following him also shattered, and eventually, the mana of the Outer Gods condensed within them began to leak out like blue steam. Seeing this phenomenon occurring simultaneously everywhere, the Dragon King Antares scoffed as if he had expected it.

[The precariously maintained balance has collapsed. As expected, only dragons can withstand Dragon blood.]

As a rule, great power required a suitable vessel. The dragon blood, which had been forcibly suppressed by the Outer Gods's power, now ran rampant, burning them.

#### Fizzle—!

They turned to ash and scattered without a sound. But ironically, an expression of relief appeared on their dying faces. Just like the dragonids who became Suho's shadow soldiers earlier, they too could finally find peace. Their minds and bodies were possessed by the power of the Outer Gods, but their souls were in constant pain.

[This works out well. If we feed these guys' to Ragnar, his mana will increase a little.] The Dragon King Antares muttered so, spreading his short arms wide and taking a deep breath.

### Swoosh!

The mana emanating from the corpses of the dying dragonids burned brightly and was absorbed into Ragnar's small body.

"Bloodstone?" Esil tilted her head as she watched the scene from afar. Noticing her gaze, the Dragon King clicked his tongue in displeasure.

[Don't compare it to the bloodstones of demon nobles. The blood of dragons is superior to the blood of any other race. The quantity and quality of mana are far more mighty and noble.]

"But all the dragons are dead except for one, right?"

[...] Antares silently glared at Esil for her cheeky retort. But what could he do about the truth? Just as only Esil remained of the demon nobles, the reality was that only one dragon remained. However, Antares's fierce glare was so intense that Esil averted her eyes and quickly ran to Suho.

"Suho! Are you okay?"

"...I'm okay."

"Are you really...?"

Contrary to Esil's concern, Suho really was completely fine. He recovered from all status effects upon leveling up, and the Heart of the Dragon King was no longer emitting heat. There was a minor problem that all his clothes had been burned away, but even that was solved by buying suitable garments from the shop window.

Fwoosh.

As Suho put on his clothes, the shadow's energy that had been swirling around his body and appropriately covering his vital parts gathered into one and transformed into Beru. Who wept and massaged Suho's shoulders.

1

[Kieek! You were amazing, my liege! Please forgive this incompetent servant who could only watch your suffering!]

1

"Why are you being so dramatic now? It couldn't be helped, for the experience points."

[That is, of course, true. How could I dare hinder your growth, my liege?]

" "

He didn't know what to say. Suho stared intently at Beru. But it wasn't wrong. Beru was a shadow soldier belonging to Sung Jinwoo, not Suho. If he participated in battle, the experience points Suho gained would naturally decrease. It was also uncertain how much help Beru would actually be in combat.

2

'Even though I've been diligently feeding him magic stones, he's still in his shrunken form.'

Of course, this didn't mean that he hadn't recovered any mana at all. He knew why Beru was still maintaining his mini-Beru form despite recovering some mana. He wanted to prevent even the last shred of magic power from leaking. That's why Suho couldn't help but be curious.

'Just how strong was Beru?'

4

He now considered himself quite strong, but he still couldn't grasp the power of Beru, who hadn't even fully recovered his mana. That meant that Beru was either excellent at hiding his power, or Suho's sense stat was still far below Beru's...

[Kieek? Why are you looking at me like that?]

" "

There's still a long way to go. Suho shook his head and turned his gaze to Esil.

"By the way, have you found any traces of the demons?"

"Yes. As you said, I'm sure there's a factory somewhere around here."

Apart from the large-scale battle that had taken place, Esil had been keeping all her senses alert to detect the presence of demons.

"I thought so."

It was strange that there would be no demons in a place with so much stardust. One of the main ingredients of starpieces embedded in the dragonids' bodies was demon blood, and the only beings who could make those were demons. And Esil, the only existing demon noble, had a mission to gather all the demons and rebuild the demon world. Of course, she also had a duty to personally punish those who were completely possessed by the Outer Gods.

'I'm still too weak. To be of any help to Suho, I need to at least recover my original power. And then...'

1

Esil swallowed hard. Through Suho's battle just now, Esil had clearly realized something... Suho was growing at an overwhelmingly faster rate than she was recovering her original power, even though she was S-rank by human standards. Even Suho, the son of Sung Jinwoo, was like this, so she couldn't even imagine how tremendous Shadow Monarch's power must be as he was currently engaged in an allout war with Itarim in outer space. Moreover, what about those Itarim beings, against

whom even Sung Jinwoo couldn't return to Earth because of the intense struggle? Seeing Siddharth Bachchan's 'Astra,' Esil shuddered at the glimpse of the power possessed by the Itarim beings. And she reaffirmed her resolve to shake off her fear.

'To lessen the burden on Sung Jinwoo, I need to recover my power as soon as possible and inherit the Monarch's power.'

2

The King of Demons, the Monarch of White Flames, Baran. To inherit his power, the first priority was to gather the demons scattered throughout the dimensional gap in one place. Esil pointed somewhere with her finger, following the traces of the demons she had discovered, and said to Suho,

"It was confusing because so many troops were concentrated in one place, but I think it's in that direction. Judging from the fact that the demons' presence disappears halfway, it's highly likely that they've hidden the factory inside a dungeon."

"Then there's a high chance that the dungeon is a fragment of the demon world."

"That's right." Suho nodded and turned towards the direction Esil was pointing. Seeing this, She asked flustered,

"Are you planning to go right away?"

"It'll be a piece of cake."

"You don't even know what's beyond the gate, and you're going in without any preparation..."

"I'll prepare now." With that answer, Suho's gaze turned to the side. There lay the corpse of 'Siddharth Bachchan,' turned into a pile of black ashes.

[Shadow Extraction is possible on this target.]

A smile appeared on Suho's lips.

"That's a relief. I was worried that his soul might be contaminated and extraction might not be possible."

Siddharth Bachchan. He would be a bit weaker than he was when he was alive if he became a shadow soldier, but Suho was already looking forward to how useful he would be.

[Uwaaaaaaaaaaa!]

In front of Suho's eyes, Siddharth Bachchan's shadow writhed like boiling lava, screaming like a demon from hell. He couldn't tell what the scream meant. Whether the end of that deep resentment was directed at Suho, who killed him, or at Itarim, who had played with his soul. But at least one thing was certain...

"Do you want to live again?"

[Kyaaaaaaaaa!"]

The scream of the dead intensified at Suho's question. Who smiled and willingly extended his hand towards the shadow.

"I have many questions for you. Arise."

[Attempting Shadow Extraction.]

[Extraction in progress...]

Ding!

[Shadow Extraction failed.]

"Hey, you..." Suho's solemn expression faltered for a moment. He really didn't expect it to fail. It felt good, though. The Dragon King Antares, who was watching from the side, couldn't help but chuckle.

[He's a proud one. He's a guy who consumed a lot of dragon blood, claiming to succeed me, so it wouldn't be very dignified to readily join the Shadow Army, would it?]

[You have two more chances.]

Hearing the Dragon King's words, Suho spoke again.

"Arise."

Ding!

[Shadow Extraction failed.]

[You have one more chance.]

"..." Suho's gaze intently focused on Siddharth Bachchan's shadow, which was flickering restlessly. The Dragon King Antares smiled again as he watched Suho fail once more.

[This proves one thing for sure. You were merely born as the son of the Shadow Monarch; you are far inferior to him.]

[Kieek! How dare he evaluate someone! My liege, don't be fooled by such an obvious provocation! To mock someone with such obvious words that aren't even worth paying attention to! It's possible for extraction to fail if the stat difference between the extraction target and you is too large.]

"..." Why was it? Why did Beru, who was trying to comfort him from the side, seem more annoying than the Dragon King who was teasing him openly?

'Stat difference...' Suho knew very well what those words meant. He had no intention of getting carried away.

'I was only able to kill this guy thanks to the heart the Dragon King gave me.'

From Siddharth Bachchan's perspective, who had become a charred lump of coal because of the Dragon King's heart, it was only natural that he wouldn't want to acknowledge Suho. But... So what if he didn't acknowledge him? There was only one truth.

'I have earned the qualification of the Dragon King.' It was a reward he obtained by fairly overcoming the Dragon King's trial. Therefore...

Thump! Thump!

Suho's hand rested on his chest. Feeling the strong beating of the 'Heart of the Dragon King' transmitted from within, he gave one final command to Siddharth Bachchan. With utmost confidence and arrogance.

2

"Arise."

Flare!

In an instant, with the warmth rising from the Heart of the Dragon King, Siddharth Bachchan's soul cried out.

"Kyaaaaaaaaa!"

"I, the son of the great Shadow Monarch and the one qualified as the Dragon King, command you. Arise and bow. You half-baked mutant who aspired to become a dragon yourself."

"Your name is now 'Sita.'"

Ding!

[Shadow Extraction successful.]

"Swooosh!"

A pitch-black shadow fiercely swirled over the charred ashes. The shadows intertwined, and a pair of black, dragon-like wings spread wide. A giant shadow dragonid with black smoke billowing from its entire body, a mixture of wyvern, naga, true dragon, and human form. The energy emanating from his entire body possessed power on a different level than any shadow soldier he had seen before.

[Sita Lv.1]

[General Grade]

[I heed your call, noble one.]

Sita bowed deeply before Suho, his magnificent wings spread on the ground. Hot flames blazing along his entire body.

CREATORS' THOUGHTS



Craftyprogamer

# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 218 - Chapter 217

## Chapter 218: Chapter 217

"...Guild Master, we're not dreaming right now, are we?"

"Don't ask me. I feel like I'm about to pass out too."

Ali Hassan, the Guild Master of the Imphal Guild, and his subordinates, who had been watching the whole battle from afar, were completely dumbfounded. They had been far away from the scene, rescuing the kidnapped poor people as Suho and Liu Zhigang had instructed. However, the scale of the battle was so large that it wasn't difficult to witness the series of scenes from a distance.

'If this is really a dream, I feel like I've had all the nightmares I'll ever have in my life today.' Ali Hassan muttered, swallowing hard.

If this was really a dream, it was the worst nightmare imaginable. Suddenly, a winged dragonid army appeared and covered the entire sky. Then Siddharth Bachchan, who was supposed to be a hero of India, suddenly appeared as a monster. And the giant ax he wielded split the city in two. However, the most surprising thing out of all this was...

'Sung Suho' Yes. That man who came from Korea.

'Who the hell is that guy?'

'I've never heard of such a Hunter existing in Korea.'

'Is it true... that even China's 6-star Hunter, Liu Zhigang, is willing to be his subordinate?'

'Where the hell did such a monster come from?'

But the truly shocking thing happened next.

"Huh!"

"Oh, my god...!"

Thud. They collapsed on the spot, their legs giving way. They had been following Suho and knew that he used necromancer skills. They had seen the countless shadow soldiers following him. But the sight of him reviving even Siddharth Bachchan, the hero of India who had just displayed such overwhelming power, as a soldier of death, was beyond shock and horror.

"Gu-Guild Master!"

"What's going on?"

"What's going to happen to us now?"

"Did we just see something we weren't supposed to?"

The anxious and confused gazes of the Imphal Guild members, each filled with their own worries, focused on Ali Hassan. But it was in this critical moment that his leadership shone. His survival instincts, honed from being born in the slums and surviving until now, allowed him to make a decision.

'What to do? Why, of course!'

"Hey, you guys! Why am I the Guild Master?"

"Huh?"

"What are you talking about..."

"Are you out of your mind? Our Guild Master is right there, so why are you calling me that?!" A shocking declaration suddenly erupted from him!

1

"...?!" The guild members' eyes widened. Ali Hassan's finger pointed at Hunter Sung Suho. He blamed his bewildered subordinates for their ignorance and declared confidently,

"We are now the Woojin Guild. That's that!"

"...!"

He wasn't joking. Ali Hassan was serious.

'Imphal is doomed anyway. It's only a matter of time before today's incident becomes known to the world. Who will people blame then?'

The Asura Guild, whose Guild Master is dead? That's a given. But what's the point of blaming them when the person involved is already dead? The Asura Guild was practically annihilated as of today. But the world won't let go so easily.

'If an incident of this magnitude occurs, someone has to take responsibility.' Ali Hassan closed his eyes with a dizzying feeling. The biggest problem here was that their guild was called the 'Imphal Guild.'

'Depending on what we do here, we could be blamed, or our lives could turn around.' Ali Hassan used his extreme survival instincts to grasp his situation and find what he had to do.

"The Imphal Guild no longer exists. We were subordinates of Guild Master Sung Suho all along."

"...!"

"So from now on, we..." His eyes flashed as he ordered his subordinates,

"We track down Governor Manu Kizal, who colluded with Siddharth Bachchan and orchestrated everything! We need to handle these troublesome matters ourselves and somehow help Guild Master Sung Suho! Got it?!"

"Yes, sir!"

"Now scatter!" At Ali Hassan's fierce roar, the Imphal Guild members scattered to find Manu Kizal.

\* \* \*

A while later...

"We found Manu Kizal!"

Ali Hassan's subordinates finally succeeded in finding the Governor. Manu Kizal, sensing the change, had been trying to sneak out of the city and cross the Chinese border when he was caught and dragged back by the Imphal Guild's pursuit team. After being captured by the Hunters, he made excuses with a pale face.

"I, I'm a victim too! I just did as I was told because I didn't want to die...!"

"And so the governor abandons his land and runs away?"

"Who said I ran away?! I was just... trying to ask for help from outside!"

"Oh? And so you crossed the Chinese border? Asking another country for help with your own country's affairs? Not because you were trying to defect because our government would hold you accountable?"

"PI-please spare me! I'm truly innocent!" Manu Kizal begged with tears in his eyes, unable to properly defend himself. Ali Hassan grabbed him by the collar and glared.

"Governor. Remember this. There's only one reason why we're keeping you alive. To inform the outside world about everything you've done in this land with the Asura Guild."

"No! Please, not that! If you do that, I'll...! Oh, that's right! How about this! I'll take responsibility and fully support your guild as the representative guild of Imphal!"

Manu Kizal desperately tried to persuade them. He knew that Ali Hassan was from the slums. If he gave money and honor to the one who was of the lowest status, he could surely be persuaded...! But he failed miserably. Ali Hassan revealed his teeth meaningfully.

"It's too late. We're not the Imphal Guild anymore. We've become part of Sung Suho's Woojin Guild."

"...!" Of course, it wasn't official yet.

"Who is Sung Suho, you ask? He's the strongest Hunter in Korea who killed Siddharth Bachchan."

1

But if he could use this guy to somehow help him, it was clear that Suho would look favorably upon them. Moreover, didn't the Woojin Guild already have the Chinese Liu Zhigang and the Indian Rio Singh? At this point, it was no different from a world alliance, not just a Korean guild.

"So, Governor. There's a lot you need to do from now on. If you refuse, I'll kill you right now and throw your body into a dungeon."

"Eeek...!" Manu Kizal finally lowered his head at the murderous intent emanating from the Guild Master of the small guild he had been ignoring.

\* \* \*

From the moment Manu Kizal crossed the Chinese border, it was only a matter of time before this incident spread to the world through China. And with Liu Zhigang's presence in this land, China was already paying close attention to Imphal. In the first place, the city was split in two right in front of the border, and dragonids were swarming and flying around. It was on a scale that China couldn't possibly miss. But even if they saw it clearly right in front of them. Whether they liked it or not, this information was probably spreading to the world at a rapid pace at this very moment. Then, what came next was important.

"Manu Kizal, as the governor of Imphal, inform our government of all these facts without omission."

"Wh-what do you mean?"

"The fact that Korea's Woojin Guild saved our country, India."

From now on, the hero of India would be Sung Suho, not Siddharth Bachchan.

\* \* \*

Not caring about what was happening behind him, Suho focused on the most important task. Clearing the void gate dungeon, the dimensional gap, that had occurred in this land. To do that, he had to conquer all the nearby dungeons that the Asura Guild had monopolized. That way, he could collect the stardust necklaces from the citizens living in this land and prevent them from being possessed by the Outer Gods.

'I need to hurry.' It wouldn't be strange if another apostle of Itarim popped up in a place like this. Fortunately, he had turned Siddharth Bachchan, the culprit behind all this, into a shadow soldier, so things were proceeding smoothly.

"Sita, lead me to the place where the starpieces were made."

[Your command is my will.]

Swish!

At Suho's command, Sita spread his wings without a word and bowed his head. Suho grabbed his horns and stepped on his head to climb on, as if it were natural. This action would have been incredibly humiliating for Siddharth Bachchan when he was alive. But for the current Sita, it was an extremely honorable thing.

"Give me a ride too!"

[...Keuk.]

Of course, it was different for others. Sita couldn't even complain and only gritted his teeth slightly at Esil's impudent act of climbing onto his back after Suho. Then Liu Zhigang and Rio Singh also climbed on.

"I'm coming too."

"Suho! Me too!"

[Krrr...]

Thump!

"Watch your expression."

[S-sorry.]

Only when Suho's foot pressed down on his head did Sita's expression become respectful again. Even though he had been possessed by the Outer Gods, he was well aware of the sins he had committed when he was alive. The countless dragonids gathered in this area, and the countless people that died without even becoming dragonids. That terrible sin was a debt that Sita would have to repay forever.

\* \* \*

As expected, the demons' star fragment factory was hidden inside a dungeon. The moment they stepped in. Esil revealed her presence without holding back.

"Kneel, demons."

"...!" The lower-ranking demons who were working for Siddharth Bachchan in the dungeon widened their eyes. A demon noble had suddenly appeared before them.

"I am Esil, the eldest daughter of the Radiru family. The one and only existing demon noble. Esil Radiru!"

"Oooooh...!"

The demons cried out at Esil's dignity and swore their allegiance without a word. There was no one daring enough to object. The situation was different from the demon world they found in Korea. Unlike then, Esil had recovered a significant amount of her original power, and she no longer was at a level where mere low-ranking demons could defy her. Moreover, shel was currently riding on the back of Siddharth Bachchan, who had been forcing them to work. The sight was reminiscent of the great King of Demons, Baran, who used to fly around on the back of the wyvern, Kaisellin, long ago.

"Suho, can you put these demons into your shadow?"

"You mean take them all to the demon world in Korea?"

"Yes. To prepare for the war with Itarim, we need to gather the scattered demons in one place. And looking at their condition, they won't last long here."

Esil looked up at the sky of the demon world, where the rifts had become severe, with a bitter expression. This place, like the demon world in Korea, was one of the fragments of the demon world that had been torn into many pieces and was drifting through the dimensional gaps. However, perhaps due to the influence of Itarim's apostle, the sky here was even more torn than the sanctuary in the glacier dungeon. Suho nodded.

"Alright. We need to eliminate all the magical beasts inside to close the gate anyway."

Suho immediately took out the key to the shadow dungeon and sent the demons into his shadow one by one. In the process, he didn't forget to collect all the starpisces they had created and the magic stones that seemed to be the materials for them.

"Oh my god. So many magic stones...!" Rio Singh's eyes widened at the tremendous amount.

"Guild Master Sung Suho! It seems most of the magic stones that the Asura Guild was keeping are here!"

He was assured once again: 'I've chosen the right side!'

As expected, life is Inshallah! The thrill started from his toes shooting up his spine to the top of his head! Rio Singh realized anew what a great and monumental decision it was to join the Woojin Guild.

6

'To think that I, who was struggling to get promoted in the Asura Guild, would become an executive of the guild that swallowed all their assets!'

If no one could be held accountable for murder in a dungeon. Then what about something like stealing? The goods stored inside a dungeon were nobody's. It was just normal loot!

"Wow, how much would all this be if we sold it..."

2

Even Rio Singh's brilliant calculator broke down. As of today, the Woojin Guild led by Suho had acquired the assets accumulated by the Asura Guild, the strongest guild in India!

1

**CREATORS' THOUGHTS** 



Craftyprogamer

# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 219 - Chapter 218

## Chapter 219: Chapter 218

- Hell on Earth, India's Loktak Field!

A few days later, a provocative news story unexpectedly took the world by storm. Originating in China, the news spread globally, eventually reaching Korea. Every phrase was sensational.

- The Ugly Truth of India's Large Guild, Asura!
- A World Where Humans Experiment on Fellow Humans!
- The Poor Forcibly Mutated into Magical Beasts!

All sorts of provocative headlines plastered the world as if in competition. Usually, only the headlines were attention-grabbing, with the content proving rather mundane, but this time was different. It wasn't Clickbait! The headlines alone couldn't fully capture the horrific deeds committed by the Asura Guild in India. Public reaction was intense.

- Oh my god! They kidnapped poor people and conducted biological experiments on them?
- A cruel and inhumane incident that could only have happened during World War II, taking place in modern times?

1

- At least back then it was during a war! This time, they targeted their own citizens!
- How could this happen! Are humans more cruel than magical beasts...?

People worldwide were focused on the incident in India.

"Block the information somehow! At this rate, our country's image will be completely ruined!"

"Th, that's not easy!"

The Indian government made every effort to restore its image, but it was impossible. The source of the news was the Chinese government, currently in a border standoff with India. Every attempt to salvage their image only fanned the flames.

- The Indian government's desperate relief policy was only enacted when their feet were on fire!
- But they're all already dead.
- Do you fix the barn after losing the cow?
- All the cattle were lost. No, they lost their humanity.
- Even the families who would mourn the victims have been sacrificed.

The biggest problem was that the Loktak Field remained a dangerous, unconquered land. The Indian government desperately gathered Hunters from across the nation to conquer the Loktak Field dungeon, which they had entrusted to the Asura Guild and then neglected. This wasn't easy. Even the authorities couldn't force Hunters into dangerous dungeons; it was against international law.

"Loktak Field? Are you crazy? Why should we go into that dangerous place?"

"We're busy enough conquering nearby dungeons; there's no need to risk our lives. Do you think Loktak is the only problem? The dungeons we're currently conquering are all for our citizens!"

Naturally, most Hunter guilds flatly refused the government's request.

"Actually, isn't the Hunter Association there for times like this?"

"That's right. They've probably already left."

The responsibility ultimately fell to the Hunters of the Indian Association, who closed their eyes tightly as they looked at the order from the government.

"Ha. Do they think Association Hunters have three or four lives? We only have one!"

"Do you even know how many troops we need to sweep that vast land swarming with nagas? Our forces alone are nowhere near enough!"

"Association President! Can't you request more support from outside? Even foreign mercenaries!"

What was the Loktak Field in the first place? Centered around Loktak Lake, a large reservoir in Manipur, India, it was a super–large field, an unprecedentedly dangerous area where dungeon breaks occurred simultaneously in five locations. That's why they were overjoyed when the Asura Guild stepped up, claiming to resolve the Loktak Field, but it turned out that it was all to commit cruel acts in a place hidden from the public eye. Of course, the Asura Guild was annihilated and paid for their sins with death...

But that was the biggest problem. No matter how wicked the Asura Guild was, they weren't just playing around. They distributed star fragment necklaces to prevent citizens from turning into Mist Burns and tried to keep magical beasts from approaching urban areas. Of course, they didn't accomplish those things themselves but squeezed the Imphal Guilds in the area to do them. At least they were taking minimal measures. However with the sudden annihilation of the Asura Guild, unexpected problems were erupting everywhere.

#### Kwaaar!

### Kyaaaaa!

The magical beasts wandering within the Loktak Field started rampaging with even more ferocity than usual.

"...This is hell on earth."

"Ha, damn it. I shouldn't have joined the Association."

"I shouldn't have been tempted by the free rental of basic equipment sets and Association items. I should have just formed a small personal raid party."

"Alright, enough complaining... Let's all meet again alive."

The Hunters of the Indian Association, who set foot in the Loktak Field, each gripped their weapons with determined expressions. And while they were doing this, the world's attention was not on their lives, but on the identity of the people who had annihilated the Asura Guild. In fact, that was the hottest issue, and the fundamental reason why China was actively adding fuel to the fire.

- China's 6–Star Hunter, Liu Zhigang!
- Liu Zhigang, the Great Hunter of China who Annihilated the Asura Guild!
- The reason Liu Zhigang crossed the Indian border was to save the poor citizens!

Under international law, the act of a powerful person like Liu Zhigang crossing the border of another country without permission was a diplomatic issue far greater than imaginable. But as was the case when Thomas Andre suddenly visited Korea, there was no way to stop them if they were determined to move. In the first place, the difference between a Hunter and a villain was as thin as a sheet of paper. It was a matter of whether they operated within the boundaries of the law, and the only way to stop them was to appeal to their humanity or resolve the issue with money.

When the Chinese government learned that Liu Zhigang had suddenly crossed over to India, they were restless and desperately prayed that he wouldn't cause any trouble. But what was this windfall? Thanks to Manu Kizal, the governor of Imphal, who came to ask for help, China learned about the atrocities of the Asura Guild. And the current situation was the result of hurriedly launching a media campaign, and China's strategy was working beyond expectations.

- Wow. I knew Liu Zhigang was amazing, but he's really strong.
- Was he able to annihilate the Asura Guild alone?
- Siddharth Bachchan was also an S-rank Hunter, is Liu Zhigang much stronger?
- Didn't you know? Only China gives ranks like 1-star, 2-star, regardless of international ranks. An S-rank Hunter is a 5-star in China. But only Liu Zhigang is a 6-star!
- That's amazing. Then could China have conquered India by force all along if they wanted to?
- You idiot. Then it would be a real war. Would the World Hunter Association just sit back and watch that? Hunters are humanity's shield, not tools of war.

"Success!"

"Everyone is praising our China!"

"Uhaha! This is the way! Long live the People's Republic of China!"

The Chinese government cheered as they watched the global public opinion revolving around Liu Zhigang. And they started to move even more actively.

"Launch all the drone cameras we have! Send them all to India and broadcast Mr. Liu Zhigang's activities in real-time!"

"Gasp. B-but will it be alright? Crossing the border with drones without permission violates international law..."

"Fool! Are you trying to be bound by such trivial laws in a situation like this! What if Mr. Liu Zhigang suffers some harm from those Indians in such a dangerous place?!"

"...!"

"Mr. Liu Zhigang is struggling in another country; we need to closely monitor and at least provide him with proper meals!"

"Understood!"

Thus, thousands of drone cameras from China took flight and crossed the Indian border. This was a clear violation of international law. But as China expected, India couldn't respond. From the moment the drones crossed the border, it was the Loktak Field, a lawless zone. And...

- Live broadcast from China begins!
- Wow, isn't this illegal?
- Is that important now? I wanted to see how strong China's hero, Liu Zhigang, is, so this is great!

Public opinion had already completely shifted towards China. Taking advantage of the opportunity to fully grasp the attention of worldwide media, the Chinese government actively manipulated the drones to track down Liu Zhigang. Viewers around the world watched with bated breath, gasping or exclaiming in awe at the sight of the fearsome nagas throughout the field.

"The viewership ratings are higher than the Olympics!"

"Good! It's time to show the world China's prestige! Have you found Mr. Liu Zhigang?"

"We, we found him!"

And finally... the moment everyone was waiting for arrived.

Thud!

Beyond the countless screens, Liu Zhigang was fighting against the ferociously rampaging nagas.

"Kyaaaak!"

They saw the giant screaming and collapsing helplessly before him.

### Rumble!

The ground shook. Liu Zhigang brushed back his disheveled white hair with one hand and glanced at the drone in the distance with a disapproving look. But as soon as he spotted a new magical beast in his vicinity, he dashed forward and swung his sword.

#### Flash!

- A, amazing...
- That old man is really... incredible.
- He seems stronger than Thomas Andre at this point?
- Why is Thomas Andre being mentioned here? That old man was recently arrested for murder; he'll probably rot in jail until he dies.
- But isn't this India? What are the Indian Hunters doing? Why are we only seeing Liu Zhigang?

The Chinese government, analyzing the real-time public opinion, came up with an even better plan.

"Yes! Instead of just showing Liu Zhigang with these many drones, it would be much more effective to show the weaklings of the Indian Association in comparison."

"Yes! We will spread the drones as wide as possible and film."

One should strike while the iron is hot. The Chinese government actively controlled the drones to show the world what was happening in the Loktak Field as widely as possible.

Oh, the streaming service is on fire.

- I know this is illegal, but I can't take my eyes off it.

And finally, they appeared. As China expected, the Hunters sent by the Indian Association began to be captured one by one on thousands of drone cameras, fighting in various parts of the Loktak Field. They were quite skilled and were putting up a good fight. However, unlike Liu Zhigang, who would rush in regardless of the situation as soon as he saw a magical beast, the Indian Hunters were fighting in a very orthodox way. The tanker defended in front and the dealer hid behind and focused on attacking. The sight of them encouraging each other and engaging in a solid battle, unfortunately, only looked cowardly to the viewers who had already seen Liu Zhigang's battle.

- They're being cautious.
- They're so passive even though it's their own country's business.
- Huh? Isn't that a boss monster?

At that moment. A giant naga, overwhelmingly larger than the other magical beasts, appeared in front of the Indian Hunters.

"Oh, damn it! It's a boss monster!"

This was bad. Not only was it huge, but it also exuded strength on a different level from ordinary nagas. It seemed to have absorbed a significant amount of blue mist, as its scales and the magical energy emanating from its body were completely different from other nagas.

"Kyaaaaaaaaa!"

Thump! Thump! Thump! Thump!

The sight of the monstrously large magical beast charging with tremendous force was so overwhelming that even the chat window, which had been buzzing non-stop, froze.

"Everyone scatter...!"

The Indian Hunters desperately scattered. If they stayed put, they would be trampled to death. But not everyone could escape. Hunters with relatively poor physical abilities, such as healers and buffers, were about to be trampled to death. But that's when it happened...

- It's Liu Zhigang!

Liu Zhigang, who had come running after hearing the commotion, immediately fired sword energy from afar.

"Stop right there!" Flash! "Kwang!" The sword energy, packed with tremendous mana, flew and caused an explosion on the creature's broad back. "Kyaaaaaak!" With a scream, a wound ripped open, and blood splattered. – Did he finish it off? – Are you crazy! A boss monster wouldn't die from that! Unfortunately, Liu Zhigang's attack seemed to have only enraged the giant naga. As if taking out his frustration on the Hunters who hadn't escaped yet, the giant swung its front paw down with a ferocious force. "Kyaaaaaak...!" Whoosh! At the critical moment when everyone closed their eyes, a wind blew... "...I almost lost the experience points." Suho, who arrived in front of them in the blink of an eye, adjusted his posture and clenched his fist. Flare! Then, with a hot energy surging from his heart. His forearm swelled up. "I'm going all out." His eyes gleamed as he confirmed the target. And... Thud! 1 "...?!"

The moment Suho's first reached the giant naga's body. The wind blew again. Along with it, the thick scales infused with the mana of the Outer Gods, the tough skin, and all the internal organs within... were all swept away and burst out.

"Huh." An involuntary chuckle escaped Liu Zhigang's lips.

A huge hole took up more than half of the body of the giant naga that was running with great momentum. A miracle unfolded before the eyes of the world.

CREATORS' THOUGHTS



Craftyprogamer

# Solo Leveling: Ragnarok [FAN TL] Chapter 220 - Chapter 219

## Chapter 220: Chapter 219

For a brief moment, it felt like time had stopped.

Thud! Thud!

Blue blood and pieces of flesh rained down from the sky. The surreal scene was broadcast live across the globe, a spectacle so shocking that no one dared to speak. What was once a 'giant magical beast' had just exploded like a balloon due to an overwhelming force. After a while, the frozen chat window started moving again.

**-**?

**-??** 

**-**??

**-**???

Countless question marks began to flood chat windows worldwide. The scene was so shocking that people's minds couldn't process it, leaving only a sea of question marks. Then, someone finally managed to type a coherent sentence.

- Who is that?

The Chinese government, which was in charge of the live broadcast, was also in chaos.

"Who the hell is that Hunter?!"

"W-We're trying to identify him now!"

"Surely he must be one of our people, right? Right? He has to be..." The adjutant responded to his superior, who was anxiously muttering while biting his nails, with a forced smile.

"Of course he is. Judging by his hair color and the fact that he's working with Mr. Liu Zhigang..."

"Then why don't we know him?! If there was a Hunter stronger than Mr. Liu Zhigang, why wouldn't we know about him?!"

"W-We'll find out as soon as possible!"

The emotion on the faces of the staff hurriedly typing on their keyboards and searching the Association's database was the same: anxiety. They were extremely tense.

'He has to be Chinese.'

'Please let him be a Chinese Hunter.'

The reason they boldly deployed the drone unit, even violating international law, was that they were confident of reaping more than what they invested in this incident. International law? They could make some excuse later and get away with it. If it didn't work out, they could just offer a sincere apology and appropriate compensation to the Indian government through diplomats. On the other hand, the political advantage and great glory that the Chinese government would gain from this incident were immeasurable, impossible to convert into money. It was none other than Liu Zhigang! The fact that the strongest Hunter representing China was saving India and showing his great achievements to the world was worth that much!

'Politically, in terms of brand value, everything was in our favor!'

But things had gone wrong. A fatal error had occurred in their perfect calculation.

"S-Something terrible has happened!"

Suddenly, one of the staff members screamed, his face pale. Unfortunately, what he was pointing at with his trembling fingertip was not the Chinese Association's Hunter list. It was the chat window. In the chat windows from all over the world, 'Korean' was being translated in real-time.

- Isn't that guy a Korean Hunter?
- Oh, you're right. I've seen that face in the news.
- What? A Korean? Who is he?

- Isn't it this guy?
- (Attached link to a related article)
- What is this?

"...!"

Someone had been kind enough to even post a link. Clicking on which, they found a video capture of an A-rank villain incident that occurred in Korea. Three Hunters and a giant beehive. The recording showed three Hunters with black wings soaring towards a giant beehive that had formed on top of a high-rise building. Two of them were the relatively well-known Lim Tae-Gyu and Baek Miho, and the other one... was undoubtedly the same man who was currently in India.

"Damn it!"

Bang! A fist slammed down, shattering the desk, but no one here was in any state to be surprised by that. They were already dumbfounded enough. They were doomed. A single sentence pierced their minds.

'He isn't Chinese...'

3

Was this what they called "making rice cakes and feeding them to dogs"? They tried to show off China's combat strength to the world, even violating international law, but they ended up promoting a Korean Hunter who displayed even more tremendous achievements. And they even made him stand out more by using Liu Zhigang as a point of comparison.

1

'...We're truly doomed.' It was disastrous. It seemed like they would have to deal with a lot of things, both internationally and domestically.

'Packing up and fleeing abroad might be the quickest solution.' The perfect option came to someone's mind, but they couldn't bring themselves to act on it.

\* \* \*

"Tsk. Doing useless things." Liu Zhigang clicked his tongue with a displeased expression as he looked at the drones flying overhead. Judging from the direction they came from, it seemed like they were sent from China.

Bang!

He lightly swung his sword and smashed one of the most annoying ones as if swatting a fly, then approached Suho and said,

"I'm sorry about this. Your face has been exposed because of me."

"It's alright." Suho shrugged nonchalantly, brushing the magical beast's blood off his fist.

"I recently got permission from my father."

"That's a relief then."

Strictly speaking, it wasn't his father, but his father's illusion that gave him permission, but it wasn't entirely wrong either. Moreover, now that he had surpassed level 100 and became strong enough to deal with Itarim's apostle alone, it was more beneficial to actively seek them out rather than hide his identity.

"Are you alright?" Suho turned his head and checked on the people he had rescued. The Hunters from the Indian Association bowed their heads towards Suho and expressed their gratitude in English.

"Th-Thank you."

"Thank you for saving us."

As they voiced their appreciation, the Indian Hunters were a little worried about the expressions on their faces. They were grateful to be rescued, but...

'Honestly, it's scary.'

'Can we even consider this person to be the same as us?'

They knew. This was quite disrespectful to the person who saved their lives. In fact, regardless of rank, fellow Hunters understood each other's hardships without having to say anything. The 'gaze' they received from everyone around them the moment they awakened their magic power. Ordinary people didn't see Hunters as the same as them. The media always praised Hunters as humanity's shield, but in reality, they were no different from 'talking magical beasts' to ordinary people.

It was natural to feel apprehensive. Superhumans who could throw cars and collapse buildings at any moment were living among ordinary citizens as if they were the same. It was unfair to the Hunters who risked their lives to save humanity. Quite a few hunted magical beasts even more diligently with the mindset of earning more money out of frustration. But now they completely understood. Just like the ordinary people who were grateful to the Hunters, yet looked at them with fear in their eyes...

They were now looking at Suho with the same gaze.

'It was at least A-rank magical beast.'

Even if they tried not to, their gaze unconsciously drifted to the remains of the magical beast that Suho had blown up with one punch.

'Maybe it was S-rank...'

They hadn't been able to properly measure it, but recalling the overwhelming pressure they felt for a moment, it was possible that it was an S-rank magical beast. And the superhuman who had blown up that tremendous boss monster with one punch was standing before them.

1

"Are you... an S-rank Hunter?"

Someone mustered up the courage to break the awkward silence, but everyone knew it was a useless question. What was the point of asking? Everyone knew that Liu Zhigang, who was visible right across from them, was a 6-star Hunter from China. And this man in front of them had performed an even more powerful attack than him. In fact, an S-rank Hunter meant someone who surpassed the range of the magic power measuring device created by humans and was deemed 'unmeasurable.' Therefore, even among S-rank Hunters, their power varied greatly.

But they couldn't tell them to fight amongst themselves to determine who's stronger. If someone died, it would be a loss both nationally and for humanity. It was also a common theory that the aftermath of that battle could wipe out at least one city. But now that they had witnessed an S-rank Hunter blowing up a boss monster like a balloon with one punch, they immediately understood.

'As expected, S-rank Hunters are amazing...'

But Suho's expression was somewhat awkward when asked that question.

Scratch. Suho scratched his cheek sheepishly and opened his mouth. His English wasn't good enough to give a long explanation, so he just went straight to the point.

```
"I'm C-rank."
```

"...Huh?" The confusion deepened.

\* \* \*

Suho brought all the Indian Hunters to Imphal. And he entrusted them with protecting the citizens, not hunting magical beasts. With Rio Singh, a fellow Indian, interpreting, the conversation became much smoother.

"While our Guild Master is hunting magical beasts, please prevent them from entering the city."

"We can fight too!"

"We'll help, even if our strength is lacking!" The Hunters of the Indian Association, suddenly treated as weaklings, felt powerless but didn't forget their duty. But Rio Singh was firm.

"Ah, it's alright. Our Guild Master will take care of it."

"...?" They couldn't understand at all. They knew Sung Suho was strong, but this field was too vast, and there were too many magical beasts.

"Even with China's Mr. Liu Zhigang helping, you'll need a lot of manpower to find and hunt all those magical beasts!"

"Mr. Liu Zhigang is resting over there."

"...Huh?" At Rio Singh's words, everyone's gaze turned to the side. Liu Zhigang, who was the center of attention, was really just relaxing. Even getting a shoulder massage from Esil.

4

"Ahem... I told you it's alright."

"I'm just doing this because I'm bored." Even Esil was excluded as someone who would hinder Suho's leveling up.

"...What? You're really going to take care of it alone?" Suho left the dumbfounded Indian Hunters behind and walked alone towards the magical beasts rampaging outside the city. Then he suddenly looked up and glanced at the drone cameras flying in the sky.

"A worldwide broadcast... It's a bit burdensome."

[It's rather a good thing.] Beru, who peeked out from beside him, had a glint in his eyes. The higher the level, the more experience points required for leveling up. But now, despite just defeating a boss monster, he still couldn't level up.

[It will be impossible for you to level up by hunting just a few small frys, my liege. From now on, it would be faster to make the strong ones come to us.] Suho nodded at Beru's suggestion.

'To show those Itarim guys hiding around the world what they were capable of.'

"Alright. Let's show them." At that moment:

Flare!

The magic power he received from the Dragon Emperor surged within him.

Fwoosh!

A black shadow spread from his feet, covering the ground.

"Come out, everyone." At Suho's command, thousands of shadow soldiers rose in unison. With jet-black smoke billowing...

[Kyaaaaaaaaa!]

...And the moment that scene was broadcast worldwide the Chinese server crashed due to chat overload.

2

CREATORS' THOUGHTS



Craftyprogamer