

The Crafts 304

Chapter 304: Special Ability Card

Boom Once again, the rotter-bear's attack was a miss with Lucas having dodged it just half a second before it struck his position. Relying on his hardened battle experience and judgement, Lucas was able to predict the angles and direction the rotter-bear would attack from. He had already clashed with fourth level Apertures Opening stage entities before, so Lucas had a rough idea of their capabilities and could make the accurate decision of when and how to dodge. The vestige boots also helped to ensure that his movements could keep up, so Lucas wasn't in a tough situation; at least not yet. This was because the technique Lucas used could only work when there was enough space between him and the rotter-bear. At close range, it would be a lot harder to react to its attacks. "Roar!" The battle between Lucas and the rotter-bear suddenly became a game of tag, where the desolate beast tried to land a hit while Lucas avoided every strike with all he had. The rotter-bear was like a bulldozer, unleashing devastating blows that could end a life or turn a sedan into a pile of metal crap. On the other hand, Lucas was like a dandelion seeds navigating the wind as he smoothly dodged everyone of the desolate beast's attacks at the last moment. For a second, it even looked as if Lucas could do the same with his eyes closed. Even though the rocks on this mountain were a lot tough, the terrain was slowly being reshaped as a few potholes and cracks formed all over the place. With the rotter-bear not getting any hit in, its fury was approaching the sky. Its attacks became more ferocious than before and the damage dealt to the area worsened. Seeing this, Lucas' face turned gloomy. The cave was supposed to be the hideout for the Terino Grand Ghost sare shuttle, but at this rate, it would be ruined. "I guess it's enough testing for now." Lucas glared as he retreated until there was a gap of ten metres between them. For the six metres tall rotter-bear, this was the minimum distance to be termed as safe for Lucas. With his arm stretched towards the monster, Lucas snapped his fingers. *Snap* Magical currents burst out from his outstretched arm in four directions, darting towards the rotter-bear before it could even react. Once they got close, the currents gathered and entwined together, stabbing at the monster with immense force. *Splat* Try as it might, the rotter-bear was only able to block two of the magical currents before it got pierced by the other two. Blood sprayed from the wounds as the currents faded, splattering all over the floor and staining it with a blackish-red colour. At the same time, the bear that stood on its two feet was forced to kneel on one leg due to the pain. "It's quite powerful." Lucas muttered while glancing at the system interface that appeared just below his eyes. [[One Special Ability Card has been used. Random ability has been generated. Energy Form Manipulation granted to the host for twelve hours.]]

The Special Ability card was a unique brand of cards, alongside Bronze Grade cards, given to Lucas by the system as a reward for completing missions or achievements. Unlike Bronze Grade cards that could boost Lucas' power level to the level of the card for only two hours, Special Ability cards granted him a random type of power for a random time ranging between 6-24 hours. The randomly generated power could either be very powerful or essentially useless. Because of this, the value of the Special Ability card was lower than the Bronze Grade cards as it largely depended on one's luck. This was why the minimum duration of the card was already three times that of a Bronze Grade card. Lucas has decided to use one instead of the Stellar Circuit Battle-Armour because the upgraded battle armour was a bit unstable. If he were to use it in a high intensity battle right away, Lucas would have to make some small repairs right after.

But that would be a waste of time especially since he was still in a hurry. There was also the option of using one of the leftover Bronze Grade cards, but that wasn't even under his consideration. As such, the Special Ability card was the best solution he could come up with. And what would have happened if the ability Lucas had gotten was useless? Well, Lucas never considered that. "Huff. Huff." The rotter-bear wasn't dead yet, but its eyes were filled with a mix of fear, hatred, and anger. It wanted to tear Lucas apart more than anything, but it was already injured. Its survival at the moment was even under doubt. "Energy form manipulation, huh?" Lucas waved his right hand and an array of spears made of stellar energy formed in midair. The 'spears' were very simplistic and looked more like long sticks with sharp tips, but their power was incomparable to those. Because they were formed entirely of stellar energy, they took on the hue of the energy from Lucas, which happened to be amethyst. Lucas grabbed one of the spears and tightened his grip on it to feel its strength. The spears were very solid and didn't even crack after he did so. This made Lucas surprised, but at that moment, the rotter-bear had abruptly charged at him. Lucas' attention was on the spear and it looked as if he would get hit at that moment. However, just when it seemed unlikely, he abruptly turned and swung the spear at the monster's claw. *Bang* A miniature explosion set-off at the point of collision as an airwave shook blasted off with a resounding bang. The rotter-bear's claw was stopped just one metre away from Lucas' face. In between the two was the stellar energy spear which blocked the strike. 'Its durability is more powerful than I thought. Incredible.' Lucas admired the lackluster weapon in his hands. "As for you..." "Roar!" The rotter-bear brandished its other claw at close range, believing that it had finally held down the little bastard and could now land a hit on it. But before it could even pull off a successful attack, the desolate beast's brain was suddenly assaulted with an intense sensation of pain. Its body was currently pierced with tens of stellar energy spears, making it look almost like a porcupine. The pain was so immense, that it couldn't even cry out. What's more, every point targeted was a vital point on its body. This was possible because Lucas had already absorbed the contents of one of the earliest tomes he got, 'An Adventurer's Manual'. Inside it was information about not just materials and metals, but also some basic desolate beasts —by the system's definition— and their anatomy. Before the rotter-bear could let out a sound, it suddenly fell backwards and stopped breathing. The desolate beast was now dead. Lucas glanced at its corpse, tempted to dissect it and store away the useful parts. But he was running out of time for that. "In that case." Lucas created a few large blades of stellar energy and sliced the rotter-bear's corpse into four pieces. He then stored these pieces inside his inventory. The system inventory couldn't store large items which was why he needed to chop it down to a smaller size. Also, it could not keep living creatures, but since the rotter-bear was already dead, there was no need to be worried about that. Having dealt with the corpse, Lucas had the artificial intelligence settle down in the depths of the cave before exiting it. Without the shuttle, it would be much harder to find the mine. This was especially so since there was still fifty kilometres more to go. . . . During the time Lucas was dealing with the adolescent Rotter-bear, William's team had almost approached the 92B-Delta lode. Just when they were only five minutes away, William's eyes suddenly gleamed. "Take down the bird tagging behind us." Their team consisted of a small fleet of three sare shuttles each with their own design specifications. One of those shuttles had a streamlined appearance with a grey exterior. It didn't give off an oppressive aura like another of the shuttles, but it generated a single word when one looked at it; speed. The shuttle was a scout-type sare shuttle called a Trojan War Fox, and it fitted with precise attacking options together with a powerful engine to provide an incredible speed boost. The shuttle rode along with the other two in a formation, but after William's order, it suddenly

deviated from the lineup and sped up to the side. At first, this action seemed confusing but just a second later in the same direction, a space in midair —about five mountains away— suddenly wobbled. A small sare shuttle immediately sped out from the space and flew rapidly in the opposite direction, but the Trojan War Fox was already on its tail. It pursued the small sare shuttle, and the difference in quality appeared as it rapidly caught up before unleashing a barrage of attacks on the vessel. *Boom* Try as it may, the small sare shuttle was not a worthy opponent for the Trojan War Fox and it was soon shut down within seconds. The Trojan War Fox continued firing at it until the entire shuttle blew up, with not a single piece left behind. "Proceed to the destination."