

Vile 241

[Chapter 241 - Dying Shrills](#)

The butcher agreed to rest after his ranger suggested it. They needed a sound plan before starting their battle with one of the fiercest groups of animals in the F-Rank.

"So AoEs right off the bat or frontal attack?"

Steve asked while taking a bite of his ham and cheese sandwich. Other team members were also having their fill before their upcoming big boar hunt.

"Neither. AoE won't be effective on F-Rank boars because of how distanced they would be from each other even when travelling in a sounder. And frontal attack from a particular direction will only push the sounder to travel in the opposite direction, increasing our work."

Eren said while having his second steak. These days he would often carry heavy meals to curb his increased hunger. His team members had observed the guy who always ate scarcely, changing his food habit so drastically. But they thought that Eren's growth spurt had kicked in, increasing his appetite.

Eren had also observed that his hunger had increased. He knew the reason behind it. But he didn't mind. As long as he didn't become fat like a certain someone in their group, he didn't mind indulging in his newfound gluttony.

"So what do we do? Lay traps?"

Becky asked as she had a mouthful of veg salad. She had changed her diet as well. The salad she was eating contained herbs that were said to cleanse the mana circuits within the ranker's body.

The White Raven members knew this because Becky had made sure everyone knew about the health and ranking benefits her salad had. Still, nobody seemed interested in taking a bite of her pro-health food.

"It would have been ideal to lay traps and chip away the number of F-Rank beasts. But we don't have that much time. We need to wrap this mission as fast as we can."

Eren said and licked his fingers that were coated in the oil left behind by the steak. He had finished his second steak and was thinking of having another.

"What do you mean we don't have much time? This mission needs to be completed 6 days from now on. That is enough time for us to lay low and decrease our chances of being cornered by those damn pigs."

Becky asked Eren as she took a large bite out of her salad in frustration. She wasn't willing to face so many F-Rank wild boars at once. After all, her AoEs were her forte. And they won't do much against these animals which were spread across a large area.

"Ok. Let me correct that. I don't have time to spend 6 days on a mission of this level. Just follow my plan and we'd be back at the academy with our first ever team mission accomplished with flying colours."

Additionally, you have to keep taking on new missions in my absence. You need to return my loan amount, remember? You won't be able to do that anytime soon unless you streamline the missions you take."

Eren said with nonchalant expressions. He didn't have time to spend 6 days completing the Besanc mission. The butcher had too many things lined up to care about completing the mission with textbook perfection.

He used his loan to compel them. They were already scared of Eren charging them with crazy interest if they didn't pay him back in full soon.

Eren didn't want anyone to ask him useless questions any further and explained:

"My plan is simple. We encircle the sounder from any possible direction. Then we'll use Renita's long-range attacks to kill some of the young and unranked boars. That will enrage the adult bars and they won't try to run for a while.

We will not kill all the young boars. To protect them, some of the adult boars will stay behind the sounder. The boars assigned to attack us will come for us at once. And Since we are attacking from multiple directions, they'll also have to split up.

We'll launch our mid and close-range attacks as soon as the boars come in our vicinity. If they try to retreat after seeing they don't stand a chance against us, we'll again target their younglings. That will keep them fixated on one place. It would make our job of hunting them much easier."

Eren explained his plans while having his third steak. He was finally feeling satiated so he took his time having his meal. The butcher wanted to use the boar family's younglings as a hostage to efficiently kill them all.

Becky didn't find the idea too comforting but she didn't object. This was a Beast Sanctuary. Human values and rules aren't even worth a fart in this place. So she didn't pretend as they did in this case.

"Bleeeeeeeh!"

"Grrrrrrrrreeehhhhhh!"

"Dreeeeeehhhhh!"

All of a sudden, three younglings in the boar family cried in shrill tones when the bullets hit their heads. Those shrills were all they could muster before their death and their bodies fell on the lush grass beneath them.

The adult boars were busy eating the grass at this time when they heard the sound of their younglings dying out of the blue. They snorted their noses and rushed to the younglings' bodies that were lying lifeless on the ground.

They tried sniffing the younglings' mortal wounds but only found traces of foreign mana they couldn't identify. The wind bullets had been dispersed as soon as they did their job after all.

But the adult boars didn't have to track their new enemies because they showed themselves up in four different directions. The boars' eyes turned red as they observed the enemies closing in on them.

The boars assumed their roles without seemingly no communication taking place among them. Some of the F-Rank boars encircled their younglings, taking them under their protection. While others eyed the incoming enemy while scratching the earth beneath them with their hoofs.

It was clear with the boars' intentions that they were not planning to let things slide and let their enemies have their way.

Unfortunately for them, their enemies wanted them to be in such a state in the first place.

[Chapter 242 - Breath Of Fire](#)

"Renita, that's enough. Keep the rest of the young boars alive."

Eren had split his team into four groups. His group contained only him and Renita as fighters. Bel was with them. But he was prepared to stay behind and provide support with his fire element spells.

Eren shot towards the boar which was also heading his way with everything it got. It had already executed its earth element spell, enabling it to don a sturdy exoskeleton. Its animal instincts had informed the beast that Eren's lightning element was going to be not that effective against it.

Eren had executed his Blitz Steps along with Blitz Bolt on his two katars. But this time, instead of using any time element spell, he was trying a fire-and-lightning combo.

Eren used the fireball spell he had learned and altered it a bit so that it would coat his weapons in the fire. Diceros Left and Right were now seen getting coated in tongues of purple-blue lightning and restless light orange flames.

The flames would try to retake the shape of a fireball. However, Eren commanded them to stay dancing on the sharp edges of his weapons. He ran towards the approaching boar while trying to sync his lightning and fire element spells with each other.

The fire-element spells weren't that effective against the earth element defensive spells either. But they were still better than the lightning-element spells that had practically no effect at all.

Eren didn't activate his time element spells because although the boar was charging towards him at an alarming rate, its speed wasn't something he couldn't handle. Plus, the earth-element defensive spell had also slowed it down to some extent by restricting its natural moments.

Renita stayed behind with Bel to protect him. With their long-distance spells, she and the historian were supposed to provide support.

Renita started shooting her wind bullets and targeted the chinks present at the boar's joints. She was trying to avoid the boar's exoskeleton and make her bullets reach its skin.

Eren had already told his team members that the beasts' bodies were a significant treasure for them. They were only told to gather the tusks if they strictly followed the Besan missions' instructions.

But they could still sell the beast bodies and make a side-profit out of them. The scrooge didn't want to waste any of his efforts after all. By doing the auction in Nilaami, he had reaped the rewards of his revenge. It was only natural that he'd maximize his profits the most from this deal as well.

This prevented him and his team members from attacking carelessly. They were only allowed to damage the beasts' heads. Plus, the tusks that were present near the beast's mouth needed to stay undamaged as they were part of the mission.

So the choices the White Raven members could attack the incoming boars with became very restrictive. Still, Eren's strategy of making some of the boars protect their younglings while the others splitting up from their sounder to attack them had played in the team's favour.

That's because the team members weren't bombarded with multiple targets at the same time anymore. They could have a breather while being ensured that the rest of the F-Ranker boars would stay behind.

Renita's precision-driven, wind bullet shots didn't damage the boar per se. However, it certainly limited its speed and movement. That was enough for Eren who was running short on his go-to time element spell.

The boar's seemingly unstoppable charge was stopped somehow when its tusks met Eren's weapons. The boar was just a tad shorter than Eren in stature. But its curved tusks were longer and shooting upwards, making them akin to a pair of curved swords.

Eren was shot backwards while the boar stayed rooted in its place right after their contact was made. But that didn't stop the butcher from approaching his target again.

The boar would have gained momentum on Eren right after pushing him backwards. But it was stopped by the ranger and the historian's joint efforts.

That's right. Bel was also providing support with his fire apparition trying to attack the boar upfront. The fire apparition this time wasn't humanoid but the boar itself.

Although it looked like Bel was only casting one spell he was using two. Having traced the sign of life, the first one created the fire apparition of the beast they were battling. The second spell allowed him to control that apparition the way he wanted using his mana sense.

Of course, there were a few restrictions placed on using this combo spell as well. Plus, the DPS value of such a spell combo wasn't decent. It only served to distract the enemy or keep it engaged until the backup showed up.

The historians never excelled in combat spells. But that didn't mean they didn't have any. With the right set of spells, some historians were also known to have risen above their class stereotype and dominated their battlefields.

The fire apparition Bel had used wasn't that strong against the boar either. At most the boar would feel its exoskeleton getting heated up and feeling a little burnt. However, this was not enough to get the boar to retrace its steps and fall back.

The real boar ran right through the fire apparition boar when it collided with it. Bel wasn't skilled enough in solidifying his apparitions after all. In addition, the fire apparition boar also did not suffer any injuries.

That meant that Bel could make the spell collide with his enemies numerous times as long as he could support the mana consumption. Plus, the spell worked as a close, mid, and long-range attack.

Renita and Bel provided the respite Eren needed to charge at the boar once again. He used his Blitz Steps to come closer to the beast. He maximized the movement spell's effect and shot upwards, seemingly vanishing from his place.

The next moment he appeared on the beast's back. Eren knew the beast's body wasn't able to get affected by any of his lightning element spells. So he didn't bother to use his AoE.

Eren caught the beast's tusks from above by bending a bit. Then he brought his face close to the beast's eyes before casting another fire-element spell.

Breath of fire!

[Chapter 243 - Open Sesame](#)

Breath of fire!

Eren executed his fire-element spell close to the boar's eyes. He had selected that region because the exoskeleton couldn't cover the beast's eyes.

"Biyeeeeeeeek!"

The F-Rank boar cried in pain and anger. It had gotten blind at this point. So it let its instincts take over and ran straight towards Renita and Bel.

'This bitch won't die this easily. I need to do something else.'

Eren thought and tightened his grip around the beast's tusk with his left hand to secure himself on top of the beast as it kept on running. He then took out Diceror-Right that he had just stored inside his ID stone before aiming its tip straight at the beast's eyes.

Eren had coated his weapon with fire and lightning element spells. But this time it became detrimental to him as the beast sensed mana fluctuations reaching for its blind eyes and tilted its head forward in an exaggerated manner.

The beast also stopped suddenly as he did that action. The force of inertia suddenly turned zero for the beast's body. But the same could not be said for the adventurer's body which was riding on top of its head.

Eren was thrown in the air as the beast stopped its advance abruptly. His weapon was just a few centimetres away from the beast's vulnerable eyes when the beast managed to shake him off of his head.

'Damn it.'

Eren thought as he adjusted himself in the air before safely landing on his two feet some meters away from the beast. He was thrown back a few meters more by the force with which the beast had managed to throw him while his legs were still on the ground.

Eren cursed himself for running fire and lightning element spells through his weapons. He had understood that the mana fluctuations were the reason behind the beast getting tipped off of his attack despite being blind.

"Renita, aim near the damn boar's hooves. Don't take a shot at it for the time being.

Bel, I know it'll be tough for you but create one more fire apparition and surround the beast from front and back. Don't make the apparitions attack it. They are going to serve as a roadblock for the beast."

Eren decides to corner the blind beast using Bel's fire apparitions. He didn't like running around with the beast. So he was planning to make it appear as though it's been boxed.

With Renita sending it warning shots and Bel covering the beast from two directions, the boar had only one way left. And Eren was waiting for it to make use of that path he had specially kept open.

This time, the beast followed Eren's script. It sensed that its left and right sides were dangerous to approach because of the fire apparitions. The way behind had been blocked by Renita's warning shots.

The beast brain made the only logical choice it could think of and decided to head towards Eren's way even when it knew someone was present there. The butcher nodded to himself after seeing that the beast had decided to approach the seemingly least threatening path for itself.

Diceros Left and Right were both called out this time. The butcher knew that since he had attacked its eyes, it would be extra sensitive around that part of its body. So he needed to attack the other vulnerable part of the beast where the exoskeleton didn't cover the flesh.

'Damn it. I need to clean my weapons thoroughly after this fight.'

Eren's face suddenly seemed to have the grim shadow cast upon it as he realized what must be done to slay the beast. He activated Blitz Bolt and stacked it. And ran straight at the beast.

It was but a moment's delay for him to reach the beast. The beast's tusks were again a few meters away from colliding against Eren's dual weapons.

But this time, Eren wasn't looking for another collision. He activated Sedated Perception just before the weapons touched the tusks. The butcher found himself in a stagnated world, with the beast slowly approaching him with reckless abandon.

This time, instead of jumping over the beast, Eren ducked down and moved forward. He crawled beneath the beast's torso and came out from behind it.

Eren saw that the beast's genitalia was also covered by the exoskeleton while he was passing under it. When he got behind the beast's back and stood up, he saw the only thing that wasn't covered by the exoskeleton: the beast's anal opening.

The beast suddenly sensed that the human approaching him from the front had vanished. It was expecting the human to pull the same stunt as he did last time: jumping on top of it and targeting its eyes. So it was ready for it.

But then it sensed that the vile human had somehow gotten under its torso. It was able to sense this since the human's movement spell had lightning tongues encircling his legs.

The lightning streams would send tickling sensations whenever they were near the beast's body. So it didn't need eyes to make itself aware of its existence in the vicinity.

The beast was confused but it couldn't think of more complicated thoughts than this. It decided to continue on its path.

The boar intended to break the siege after all. Not take part in a battle that it could feel it was going to lose. So it decided to speed up its retreat and join the sounder where it could feel safe again.

It suddenly sensed that a very serious attack was heading its anal cavity that was left unprotected by its defensive spell. It wanted to stop and move the back of its torso away from the approaching attack. And it had also set the action in motion to kick the ground by its hind legs to shift the location of its rear entry away from the incoming attack.

But alas, it was too late for the beast.

When the beast sensed the attack coming, Eren's attack was already sure to land on its intended spot. The latter had an awkward expression as his plan to molest the beast almost came to fruition.

"Open sesame!"

Chapter 244 - Wretched Prank

"Open sesame!"

Eren said out loud and couldn't help chuckling as the Dicerus Left was lodged right in the beast's anal cavity. The butcher didn't stop there. He first cancelled his Blitz Steps and executed the fire and lightning combo he had previously used.

Fireball!

Blitz Bolt!

Eren didn't care about tweaking his fire-element spell this time and executed it the way it should be. He would usually create the fireball at the tip of his weapon before releasing it towards his opponents.

"Bleeeeeeeeeeh!"

Eren could feel that the beast's cry this time was even more high-pitched than before. But it couldn't exactly blame the boar for that either.

Since his weapon was inside the beast's anal cavity, Eren couldn't see the fireball he had executed. Neither could he see Blitz Bolt wreaking havoc inside the beast's body.

But Eren knew his strategy had paid off this time. Because the boar's body froze in its steps as soon as he detonated two of his most potent attacking spells inside it.

The earth-element beast was helpless when the lightning spell was executed inside its body. Its exoskeleton couldn't do a damn thing about it either.

It only took a few moments for the beast's defensive spell to get dispersed. The exoskeleton crumpled down as the beast's body came out in the open again.

The beast's eyeballs turned white and a dense volume of smoke came from its mouth. Its fur covering its entire body also stood straight for as long as the Blitz Bolt was active inside its anal cavity.

Eren kept track of the beast's vital signs using his mana sense while he executed the combo spells inside the beast's stink-box. Only after he was assured that the beast was dead did he stop his execution and retract Diceros Left from its lodged position.

The beast's lifeless body fell on the ground as soon as Eren stopped executing his spell and took his weapon out. His vision got clear and he could see his ranger and historian approaching him in haste.

Eren amusedly thought of something and threw Diceros Left towards Renita who was now only a few meters away from him.

"Renita, here. Catch!"

"Eeeeeeeek!"

The ranger cried in surprise and disgust as she got out of the weapon's trajectory as fast she could with her movement spell. She had seen what Eren had done with that weapon. So it'd be a cold day in hell before she even came close with something like that tainted object, much less touch it.

Bel had also seen Eren lodging his weapon in the beast's anal cavity while he was being protected by Renita from a distance. But he couldn't see the butcher throwing his weapon towards them as he was running right behind the ranger.

Bel's face was right in the middle of the weapon's trajectory. And the historian was caught unaware after seeing the tainted weapon flying towards him. His brain froze and he couldn't think of the right action to dodge the weapon or to catch it with his hands.

Thankfully, Bel's luck wasn't too shitty. So when the weapon landed on his face, it was the weapon's hilt that made contact with his chin. That impact killed the weapon's speed and made it non-lethal.

But the inertia was still strong enough for the weapon to finish its flip. The flat face of the weapon made contact with Bel's nose. Moments later, it fell to the ground.

Bel understood what had happened to him. He could still feel the hilt making contact with his chin that had forced his head back a bit. And besides that, he could also feel the flat side of the blade making contact with his nose.

The blade's edges were coated with the beast's blood. It didn't have any faecal residue over it. But that didn't stop the historian from imagining that there was indeed some beast poop mixed in that blood. His imagination was so strong that he could also smell the poop.

Bel tilted forward and started vomiting after his imagination ran wild in his head. Right in front of him was Dicerus Left, which he vomited over. The historian didn't stop until he threw out all that he had eaten when the team took its break before the battle.

Bel only stopped tilting forward when he realized that there was nothing in his tummy that he could throw out anymore. Eren and Renita were both approaching him. One with an awkward smile the other with guilt written over her face.

"I... I'm sorry, Bel. I didn't know you wouldn't be able to dodge that accursed weapon. And that weapon landed right on... I should have known and made you aware.

It's all Eren's fault."

Renita looked at Eren with a scorned face. The latter maintained his awkward and laced-with-a-tad-bit-of-guilt smile and said while raising his open palms in surrender:

"I was just trying to test your presence of mind for the post-battle scenarios, you know. Sometimes you become most vulnerable when you step out of the battle, and that's the opportunity an enemy in the shadow might use to attack you.

Renita passed the test. But Bel... you... let's say that you need to take that test again. Hehe!"

Bel didn't have the strength in him to argue with Eren. He wouldn't have done it anyway even if he had the energy to spare. He was rational enough to understand that Eren's prank wasn't meant to harm anyone. So he just adjusted his glasses before drawing his handkerchief out to wipe his mouth.

Eren tried selling his bullshittery again. But he didn't find the buyer in Renita who pointed a finger at him in accusation before replying with a voice of critique:

"You of all people shouldn't say anything about the presence of mind post-battle. Did you even realize that the team's battle with the group of boars wasn't over yet before you decided to pull this wretched stunt?"

Eren heard Renita's valid accusation and scratched the back of his head before replying with a salesman smile on his face:

"Um. Don't worry about our team members. With the way they are right now, I'm sure they can handle the beasts of these levels just fine. However, they don't have to face a bunch of them."

Renita wanted to rebut Eren some more but she didn't have any words to do so. In a way, this was the first time he had counted on his team members to do the jobs they were given.

She couldn't find it in her to spoil this moment for herself or her team.

[Chapter 245 - Ramy Vs. Deviant Mana Beast](#)

This was the first time Eren had shown confidence in his team members to do the jobs they were given. Renita couldn't find it in her to spoil this moment for herself or her team.

Bel felt assured too when he heard Eren's words of trusting his team members:

"I... I'm fine, Renita. And Eren is right. White Raven can handle a mission of this calibre just fine. Take a look there yourself."

Bel pointed to a particular direction, nudging his two team members to follow his finger and observe the battle happening in the distance. Thanks to their enhanced vision, the three F-Rank LA students could see their mates engaging another boar.

Ramy was paired up with Ana and Jake. Jake had been tasked with protecting Ana at all costs. She was the team's healer after all. Her safety was paramount. The tank's job was to make sure that she is protected while assisting Ramy.

But it seemed that a certain someone didn't want the tank's help.

Ramy was fired up for this mission. As soon as Eren gave his team permission to continue, the knight bolted towards the incoming boar.

"Bleeeh"

As the knight approached the boar without assistance from his teammates, the boar snorted and voiced his aggression that sounded like a war cry. One could say, the beast felt that the human was underestimating it by daring to be reckless.

The beast activated its defensive spell when it was a few meters away from Ramy. It started donning its armour-like exoskeleton as it ran. The process was smooth and instantaneous.

In addition, the exoskeleton also had some runic patterns on it, unlike the armour that Eren saw on the beat he had battled with. The runic patterns had faint luminescence of their own. It started exuding more light as the beast got more aggravated.

The Beast's evolution and rank-up were closer than those of its peers.

Therefore, it also had a shred of intelligence in it. The boar saw that Ramy had drawn his sword which didn't feel normal to it. And it could feel through its connection with the earth and the earth element that Ramy's body resonated with a certain white-noise-like sound that could affect its defensive spell.

Yes, this beast was even more powerful than what Eren had fought in every possible way. Plus, the beast had another inherent spell that it had unearthed from its genetic makeup.

Ramy saw that the beast who was running towards him suddenly exaggeratedly raised its front legs and stomped them down heavily the next moment. This was another inherent spell of the F-Rank Earth Suidae, but it was rarely known for it.

"Bleeeergh!"

The beast cried again as its front hooves stomped on the ground. And Ramy saw his vision change because of going off balance.

The Earth Suidae species would have to evolve to break into E-Rank. The E-Rank species was known as Greater Earth Suidae. As compared to the Earth Suidae, it was bigger, larger, and more ferocious.

The Greater Earth Suidae species could execute the defensive spell of the Earth Suidae. It would generate rock-solid defensive armour around itself.

As opposed to the earth Suidae, which would have a normal exoskeleton, the armour generated by the evolved species would have runic patterns on it. It was multiple times more resilient than the F-Rank armour-spell-generated variant because of this very pattern.

The F-Rank defensive armour spell executed by the Earth Suidae was referred to as Suidae Armor. And the armour spell used by the Greater Earth Suidae was called Greater Suidae armour.

Mana beasts and demon beasts practised the way of the elements differently. After evolution from its lower rank, the Greater Earth Suidae would strengthen its affinity with the earth and earth element. So it would become more sensitive to anything that was connected to the earth.

What's more? Apart from the resilient defensive spell, the Greater Earth Suidae was also blessed with an offensive spell. It would raise its legs and stomp on the ground to execute a mini earthquake-inducing spell known as Suidae Stomp.

Normally, extra resilient armour and offensive spells were confined to Greater Earth Suidas of E-Rank. Earth Suidae would be able to access the power-ups only after evolution.

But there were some rare exceptions. There were talented entities in the mana beasts and demon beasts too. They would tap into their genetic makeup early and discover the power-ups they would be granted after their evolution while still staying in the lower ranks.

Such beasts were called deviant beasts. In most cases, deviant beasts were closer to their evolution into higher species. Like the case here. However, even if they were able to tap into the enhanced power-ups of their beast family, the power-ups themselves were restricted by the rank the beast held at the time.

So the defensive armour the boar that was close to evolution into E-Rank had built around itself had greater defensive properties than its normal self. However, it still belonged to the F-Rank spell. It was a far cry from the original E-Rank spell the Greater Earth Suidae was known for.

It was safe to assume that the beast that Ramy was going to battle with had armour that was stronger than usual. But it didn't cross the boundaries of the F-Rank.

The same could be said about the beast's offensive spell. The spell's area of effect and its intensity were more restricted than the normal Suidae Stomp.

Still, this boar posed the most amount of danger than any of its peers. It was also in charge of the sounder.

The reason it had zeroed in on Ramy was that it sensed the guy's sound vibrations through its connection with the earth. The knight was believed to present the greatest threat out of all the approaching enemies by the beast's instincts. So it rushed to tackle the man with the lisp.

The beast's confidence in itself wasn't unfounded. Against the opponent is deemed the most dangerous for its earth element, it used its offensive spell most effectively, at the most effective time.

[Chapter 246 - Hydro Whips](#)

Coming back to Ramy's fight with the beast.

"Bleeeergh!"

The beast cried again as its front hooves stomped on the ground. And Ramy saw his vision change because of going off balance. This was because the beast's offensive spell had created a crater that had Ramy and it present at its centre.

The formation of the crater didn't affect Ramy to a large degree. What affected him the most was the quake that caused the crater.

Ramy was about to regain his balance when the beast got close to him. It didn't give the knight a chance to attack. It took the initiative and attacked Ramy's torso with its tusks.

Ramy's vision changed again as he was thrown in the air. Due to the blunt point of the beast's tusk landing on his chest out of the blue, he felt like vomiting.

Thanks to the blunt tip of the tusk, it didn't impale Ramy, but only threw him off in the air. Otherwise, his condition would have been much more severe.

"Aaaargh!"

Ramy cried in pain while he was in the air. The pain had moistened his eyes a bit. So he looked like he was going to cry soon.

'Damn it. This is not how I imagined my fight with this damn wild pork would be.'

Ramy thought to himself as he tried to find his balance before landing safely on the ground. But the beast wasn't willing to give him a chance. From the air, he could see the beast following the trajectory with which his body had been sent into the air. It would be waiting for Ramy when he landed on earth from the looks of things.

'If that beast lands another blow on me, I'm fucked.'

Ramy thought as he tightened his grip on his sword that he was about to drop. He regretted not coordinating with Jake and Ana before he tried to solo the beast.

"You fuck*king moron. Why did you run off on your own? Hang the fu*ck on."

Jake's voice could be heard in the distance. Ramy followed the direction of the sound and saw two whip-like streams of water approaching him at a rapid pace.

The tank had already executed the newest spell in his arsenal that he had learned and mastered as soon as Ramy ran off on his own. He had a premonition that the hot-blooded guy on their team was about to create a mess somehow.

"Hydro Whips!"

A ball of water was gathered behind Jake out of thin air. Jake sank his back and allowed it to come in contact with him, just above his tailbone. Surprisingly, the water didn't moisten Jake's clothes upon contact.

Jake raised his right hand and two whips were formed from the ball of water behind Jake's back. He willed the water whips to travel in the direction of the now-flying knight.

The water whips harnessed themselves around Ramy's waist as soon as they made contact with him. Ramy felt a heavy tugging force as he was pulled towards where Ana and Jake were, breaking away from the trajectory his body was flying into.

The beast realized that its prey was making an escape midair and snorted its nose loudly.

"Bleeeeeergh!"

It sounded its signature war cry. The beast decided to change its tactics and attack the guy that was going to provide the haven for its prey. It raced towards the tank while the latter was busy pulling Ramy towards him with his water whips.

"Damn it. Look what you've done, Ramy. I'll have to work hard now.

You better pay for my meals for a week to save your scrawny ass, you hear me?"

Jake yelled and raised his left hand in the direction of the boar and cast his defensive spell.

"Hydro-Shield!"

Jake had changed his set of spells and the school of spells they belonged to under Eren's guidance. His Yewiha Mekekeya defensive spell would absorb mana from its surroundings to create a floating defensive shield.

Jake's new spell based on a different school of spells, however, not only condensed the moisture from the surroundings but also created water by using his mana and the mana of the surrounding area.

This school of spell had two advantages over the one Yewiha Mekelakeya belonged from. First, the speed with which the execution would take place was much faster, almost instantaneous even. Second, it would stay effective even in environments that didn't have much moisture in the air.

But with benefits came downsides too. This school of spells did not only use mana to condense moisture but also produce water. That's why the caster had to consume more mana. Plus, it required a lot more concentration from the caster's side to effectively execute and maintain the spell.

This school of spells was troubling for Jake because he didn't like to work hard at all. He devoted all his stamina to his business endeavours. So the school of spell he had chosen for himself was the easiest for him to master and execute.

But Eren won't let his tank stay in mediocrity, for his own sake if not for his friend's. He made Jake change his entire repertoire of spells, forcing him to tap into his fullest potential as a water-element tank.

"Hydro-Shield!"

Jake shouted and almost instantly formed a shield made out of almost-solidified water before sending it towards the beast. The beast was caught off guard by the turn of events and stopped in its tracks after seeing the water shield flying towards him.

But the beast soon got itself ready for the challenge ahead. It snorted, scratched the earth with its hooves, and charged towards the incoming shield. As if it had forgotten that it was a boar, pulling off a move bulls were known for.

[Chapter 247 - Reverse Fortuitous Encounter?](#)

The beast soon got itself ready for the challenge ahead. It snorted, scratched the earth with its hooves, and charged towards the incoming shield. As if it had forgotten that it was a boar, pulling the move bulls were known for.

The water shield flew towards it with incredible speed. The beast increased its speed to meet it head-on. They finally clashed with each other as the beast used its tusk to make contact with the surface of the shield.

The beast's tusks were met with a large force of impact. The shield didn't let the tusks sink in even when it was made of water. It was as if the water had gained the properties of ice without turning into one.

It was now the beast's turn to be thrown into the air. The shield followed the beast as if waiting for the beast to drop from the air and smash it again. Just like what it was planning to do with Ramy.

Jake managed to retrieve the sound knight safely as the beast struggled with his water shield. Jake was sweating a bit when he pulled Ramy towards him hard and made his crash behind him, near Ana's feet. All while maintaining the defensive shield spell.

"Ramy, if you pull this stunt again, then I swear to all the money I hold dear that I'd let you get skewered by the beast's white tusk. Now get up and get patched up by Ana.

Ana, please treat this buffoon as fast as you can. I'll not be able to hold the beast for much longer before running out of mana."

Jake said without looking back.

Ramy lay face down and butts up after crashing on the ground. He looked at Ana while maintaining that position and gave a pathetic smile as if to tell her everything was fine with him. The healer could tell that it was not.

"Ramy, we could have come up with a smart plan to tackle the beast, you know. Look at the state you are in right now."

As Ana spread her mana sense, she began to analyze Ramy's condition. She also helped him straighten his awkward posture while doing it.

She touched the spot where the beast's tusks had made contact with Ramy's torso after finding out there was something wrong with it using her mana sense. The latter winced in pain as soon as the healer placed her palm gently over it.

"Aoweee! Broken ribs and injury to the liver. This is going to take a while, Jakey.

Ramy calm your nerves and breathe easy."

Since the tank protected her, Ana didn't need to worry about her safety or mobility. She cast a passive healing spell to start fixing Ramy up.

Meanwhile, the beast was headbutting the water shield again for the fourth time. The shield had won all three rounds. But that didn't discourage the boar from trying its luck again. It was as if the beast was finding some sort of joy in getting itself injured with each collision.

The beast's eyes seemed to have shined with intelligence as it approached the water shield again. But this time, instead of using its tusks, the F-Rank boar decided to try something else.

It raised its front legs, in the same manner, it had when launching the Suidae Stomp spell. But instead of stomping on the ground, the beast decided to change the target to the shield's surface.

The beast's front hooves landed right on the shield's front side. This time the shield's surface produced countless ripples while the shield itself started shaking uncontrollably.

"Um... guys... this exotic pork is up to something. You might wanna hurry up."

Jake warned his teammates behind him in a grim voice. He was trying to maintain the execution of his defence spell for as long as he could. But it looked like the spell was going to get broken by the sheer tenacity of the beast.

Ana expedited her healing process by inefficiently increasing her mana expenditure. It was a desperate move, but it had to be made. Ramy cursed himself for acting impatiently at the beginning and tightened his grip around the hilt of his sword.

This time he was planning to coordinate with Jake and slay the wild pork. He was even thinking of making skewered patties out of the beast meat just to have his revenge.

The boar managed to stop the shield from advancing on him. But it seemed that the nose-snorter wasn't happy with the tie.

So the exotic pork snorted its nose again and echoed its beastly cry before pulling off the same move again on the shield. This time with even more ferocity than before. That managed to work in its favour as the shield was broken before the water got dispersed in the surrounding area.

Some of the water droplets that were dispersed in the air reflected the sunlight after it fell on them and created rainbow-like light play around the beast. A simple boar managed to look majestic because of the feat it had achieved.

But Jake felt that the light reflection wasn't the only thing that was making the beast look majestic. There were uncalled-for mana fluctuations in the surrounding area that raised alarm in his mind.

"Damn it. This battle ended up being a fortuitous encounter for this exotic pork. Ramy hurry the fu*ck up. The damn beast is trying to achieve a breakthrough into the E-Rank."

Ramy stood up from his seated position after he heard Jake's warning. He knew when to take things lightly. And he also knew when to get serious. His presence of mind told him he had to act fast or the beast was about to become a serious nuisance for all of them.

"Jakey, suppowt me with youw Hydwo Whips. Keep the beast tied at the place fow a while. I'm going ahead."

Ramy informed Jake this time and ran past him towards the evolving beast. He had to kill the menace in front of him quickly.

[Chapter 248 - Power Of Team Play](#)

"Jakey, suppowt me with youw Hydwo Whips. Keep the beast tied at the place fow a while. I'm going ahead."

Ramy informed Jake this time and ran past him towards the evolving beast. He had to kill the menace in front of him quickly.

Jake's mana storage was soon going to run out of mana. So he didn't try to execute the water shield again. He knew the boar's attention would be on Ramy now that he was leading the charge. So the tank wasn't worried about his or the healer's safety anymore.

Jake then executed his Hydro Whips again. There were around six whips now. The tank raised his hands and sent them to follow Ramy.

Ramy could now see the six whips following him, three on either side. This bolstered his confidence and allowed him to realize his full potential.

'Surreal Sound Swords!'

Ramy shouted the name of his spell in his mind to aid him in concentrating on its execution.

Ramy remembered Eren's words that he had said casually but left a lasting impression on Ramy's psyche. Only now did he truly understand what his idol had been trying to say all along:

"Moderately strong people who try to solo-fight their opponents and injure themselves when they could have received help from their teammates are not only stupid but also a nuisance to those around them.

I'd rather have a weak ranker with me who knows his or her role in the team and acts efficiently on it. This is in contrast to someone who is talented but doesn't want to contribute to team play.

Soloing an opponent only looks cool when you can do it effortlessly. It is pathetic to not rely on your team's strength only to suffer miserably while trying to fight all by yourself.

It's fine if someone doesn't want to value their life. But why should I let them jeopardize my safety by making them part of my team?"

Eren had said that to Becky while she was trying to argue with him over her role as a mage. She wanted to prioritize team plays that would allow her to cast her AoEs more.

The butcher refused of course. He wasn't naive enough to think that AoEs were the one-mould-fits-all answer to all the problems a team made of various rankers would face. He had made that speech to straighten her thinking.

Becky just hmphed for an answer. It wasn't clear if she would follow Eren's words. The latter's words, however, were understood by another listener at this moment.

'Damn it. I hope lord Eren doesn't get angry with me for my earlier actions. I'm already a reserve member of the team. He'd kick me out if I gave him an excuse to do so.'

Ramy thought as he ran towards his opponent who was trying to break into E-Rank. He finished his silent incantation as he got the boar within his spells' execution range.

"Surreal Sound Swords!"

Ramy shouted the name of his spell in his mind to aid him in concentrating on its execution.

The sword Ramy held in his hands started shaking with an inaudible sound frequency. There were also a bunch of sound swords forming around him as he approached the beast.

"Go fowth my babies!"

Ramy willed his swords to attack the beast and interrupt its evolution process. The now-formed levitating swords flew with exceptional speed and collided against the torso of the beast.

It seemed that the beast didn't target Ramy for no reason. Earth Suidae's defensive spells were crippled by sound element spells.

Upon colliding with the exoskeleton of the beast, the sound swords sent the sound waves they contained into the exoskeleton as soon as they collided.

Jake could see that as soon as the sound swords hit the beast's defensive spell, the runic pattern over it got dimmer with each hit until there was none.

"Bleeeeeeeerk!"

The beast also produced a cry that was laced in pain and surprise. The pain was because one of the sound swords Ramy had sent towards it had managed to hit the area that was already hit by the sound sword before it.

The weak defence was breached by the impact of the next incoming sword, forcing the beast to suffer its first injury. But Ramy didn't let his guard down this time. He sent another volley of sound swords towards the beast and shattered its defensive spell.

But the deviant mana beast still had another card in its sleeve that it could use if Ramy approaches it carelessly like before. That's why he signalled Jake with hands and the latter understood what he was referring to.

Immediately after Ramy's surreal sound swords had made their presence felt, the water whips rushed to tackle the beast. The beast was still pretty shaken up and in a vulnerable state. So it couldn't dodge and get away from the incoming water whips.

Four of the water whips were tied to the four limbs of the beast each. The second last whip was turned into a farce before it tightened around the boar's neck. The remaining water whip was there to hurl a certain someone at the beast.

Ramy was suddenly seen flying towards the now-injured and about-to-evolve beast. He found himself right above the beast's neck while in the air.

Surreal Sound Sword!

At this time, the boar was tied to its place by Jake's water whips, making it unable to execute its offensive spell. Its defensive spell was also broken by Ramy's sound-element spell.

Ramy executed his got-to spell. He imbued his sword with ultra-high sound frequency before swinging at the beast's neck. His eyes gleamed with cold determination as he let his sound-powered sword do its work.

The knight was confident that even though the beast was tenacious, it wouldn't be able to harm him or his team if it was decapitated. And he was right.

The beast's body collapsed on the ground with a distinct thud as its head flew towards the front.

With the power of team play and flawless personal spell execution, Ramy had slain the about-to-evolve F-Rank beast in mere moments after his recovery.

[Chapter 249 - Blue Fire Domain](#)

With the backing of team play and flawless personal spell execution, Ramy had slain the about-to-evolve F-Rank beast in mere moments after his recovery.

"Hm? Wasn't that too easy? Why were we scared of this wild powk when we could cut him this easily?"

Ramy landed on the ground and observed the beast's headless torso before commenting. Ana and Jake followed him soon after. The tank heard the knight's opinion and shook his head before making him realize the obvious truth:

"The "powk" wasn't EASY to kill. It wouldn't have let you execute the spell that easily if I hadn't tied it down. That's why I said we should have done this from the beginning.

Plus, I can see that your elemental spell was the bane of the beast's earth-element defensive spell. That's the biggest baddie in the sounder headed our way I guess. You are a trouble magnet Ramy. There's no two-way about it. Haha!"

Ramy heard this only focusing on the last part Jake had said about him. He started arguing with the tank then and there while Ana was looking at them with a range of emotions making a commotion in her head.

She felt a bit guilty that she couldn't help the duo fighting the beast. But she then told herself that her job as a healer was to assure her safety first and help her injured members if and when the need arises. This is what she accomplished on this mission.

Ana was also impressed by how Ramy had bounced back from his failure and faced the beast again without any hesitation in his stance. She wasn't sure she could do that if she were in his shoes. The healer thought that she would surely have cold feet after getting injured by the beast the way Ramy had been.

The team's tank, Jake, was equally impressive in her eyes. He had done nothing particularly impressive or over the top during the mission. But he had straightened up Ramy and supported him splendidly. Jake's strongest suit was his people skills and ability to make rational decisions despite any form of stress.

Ana hoped that she as a healer would be equally talented as her teammates in the future. She thanked Eren in the mind for guiding her and allowing her the opportunity to become a part of this team when she was nobody; a rankless LA student.

Another bunch of boars headed the group's way while Ramy and Jake were arguing. The adult boars had seen Ramy effortlessly take care of their leader. The Earth Suidae was a one-track and revenge-driven species.

The adult bears were not merely punishing the intruders for their transgressions. Additionally, they realized Ramy shouldn't be given the leeway to catch him at any cost. Their young would be slaughtered without a chance to fight back.

When they saw another group of bears heading their way, they stopped fighting and prepared for battle. By now, Ana, Jake, and Ramy had found their rhythm and knew what to do. So their next battle strategy was formed without them exchanging their words.

No matter how cautious and alert the boars tried to be while fighting Ramy, they still ended up underestimating him. The latter also had realized that taking help from Jake worked in his favour. So he didn't hesitate to coordinate with the team's healer from the get-go.

Needless to say, the trio took care of another bunch of boars after fighting with them for a while. Ramy did not have any serious injuries on him this time. So Ana didn't have to do much. And she was happy about it.

Becky was given free rein to tackle the direction she was assigned to. She was a mage with AoE spells after all. Her job was to engage the bunch of boars heading her way without damaging the tusks their mission had asked them to collect.

I must have been given this role because I had once asked Eren to let me use my AoEs in my way. Damn it, the guy holds a grudge.'

Becky thought while seeing a group of boars charging towards her. They snorted their noses in unison, making their nostril-driven war cries reach her ears first.

Becky raised her hand and drew a series of concentric mana circles in the air with the movements of her fingers acting as the brush strokes. Her school of spells required her to make such spectral runic circles in the void before she could cast the spells.

Becky saw that the group of beasts had entered the range of her AoEs. She smiled and touched the innermost circle of the spectral rune in front of her before making a rotating action.

"Blue Fire Domain!"

Becky cursed herself for opening her mouth to often argue with Eren after hearing his battle plan for this Besanc mission. But it was not like she enjoyed doing it. There was something about the guy that would just tick her off.

She would argue with Eren all the time, yes. But she would also ponder over why she argued with him at the end of the day. Because Eren would always manage to come on top every time she did.

Her elemental affinity and inherent nature had granted her unique ability. The ability to sense the coldness of a ranker's aura. And she had sensed that out of all the rankers she had met in her life, Eren's aura was the coldest.

Becky's spells could be considered as unique as the combination of her affinity and inherent nature. Her hybrid elemental affinity was fire, which was considered a normal affinity. But her inherent nature was the coldness, which had given her spell-generated fire a unique effect.

Her fire would burn blue. And instead of scorching things, the fire would absorb all the heat from its targets, practically freezing them after their regular temperatures were brought down forcefully.

[Chapter 250 - Cold Haze](#)

Becky had two AoEs in her repertoire; Domain of Blue Fire and Cold Haze. She could only execute them when there were no allies around in the spell's range.

That's why Becky wanted Eren to prioritize her AoE execution before any of her teammates started with their moves. She couldn't control her AoEs the way she wanted to. She couldn't make her spell exclude her teammates and only affect the team's opponents.

So instead of trying to control what she couldn't, Becky wanted the team to start with her spell. In a way, her thinking was not wrong.

She wanted to cast her AoEs with peace of mind. Then she would retreat from the frontline and let her teammates take care of the remaining targets that survived her spell.

But the butcher was thinking long term. He had asked her to learn to control her AoEs. With her AoEs, it was possible. She was just lacking the motivation to do so.

So Eren gave her just that. He started suppressing her AoE executions under the pretext that his teammates' battle styles weren't able to accommodate her AoE executions.

He also gave a reason that her spells would be used as a backup plan if and when things start turning sour for the team. All the members of the team would retreat to the backline during crunch time and her AoEs would be used for Eren and the rest to catch a breather mid-battle.

As Eren demonstrated to Becky, they both can play the game of making battle strategies tailored to their tastes without caring about others. He came up with a plan that was as right as hers without treating her AoEs as opening salvos.

Meanwhile, Eren also told Becky that if she could optimally control her AoEs so that they won't harm the teammates, then she could cast them almost anytime she saw fit. With this subtle suppression, he had given her the motivation she needed to work on her control.

Now she just needed to act on that motivation. But instead of getting riled up, Becky procrastinated. The procrastination led to dissatisfaction, which in turn became the reason behind her sour mood every time Eren said something.

Eren eventually figured out the reason behind why Becky was trying to pick a fight with him. But he just smiled in his head and carried on doing what he had planned, ignoring the teen's tantrums.

So when the chance to showcase her prowess was given to her, Becky decided to let it all out and release all her frustration.

"Blue Fire Domain!"

Becky executed her AoE as soon as the beast group got into the spell's range. The ground beneath her had gotten covered in sky blue flames which started spreading in all directions. They covered the position the beasts were in while running. And only then did the flames stop spreading.

When the flames touched the boars' hooves, they began to climb on them as if they were searching for food. Preys that radiated body heat.

The flames didn't burn the beasts' skin. But the beasts felt like their hibernation period had suddenly sneaked upon them. Their bodies' temperatures dropped at an alarming rate.

As a result, the beasts couldn't help but slow down their advance. The sky blue flames started showing a darker shade of blue as they absorbed the body heat of the beasts. The flames seemed even hungrier and started to absorb more of what they craved. As if these flames were intoxicated by the warmth of their targets.

Almost no beast could fight off the sudden lethargy felt by them because of the blue flames. They stopped in their tracks as their bodies started turning stiff because of the thin layer of ice formed over their skin.

The spell did not cast ice. It was the surrounding moisture getting condensed on the beast's bodies that had eventually turned into the thin layer of ice after whatever minuscule heat was drained from it.

Becky felt glad that her AoE was working fine mid-battle just the way she wanted to. She had subconsciously feared that whatever bare minimum control she had over her spell would have been lost because of Eren's suppression of not letting her use it during their ranking battles.

But soon she got tense after seeing that two beasts from the group were still approaching her. Becky was sent alone in this direction. She didn't have her usual tank protection acting as a net to fall back on. She knew Eren was trying to push her over the edge with a formation like this.

Haash! Becky sighed and made a fist of determination with her hands. If Eren wanted to force the best mage dormant in her, she would just show him that what she had right now was still enough to make him listen to her.

Becky maintained the Blue Fire Domain's runic circle with her right hand to keep the spell active. And with her left hand, she started drawing another runic circle in the void.

"Cold Haze!"

Becky executed another of her AoE. She had practised hard at stacking her AoEs. it wasn't easy to stack spells in the F-Rank. And it became even more difficult to combine something like two AoEs. These few months of rigorous training were fruitful for her.

As a result of her spell stacking, Becky started sweating lightly. She had the wild thought of cooling herself down with her flames too. But too bad, her body as a source of the flames was immune to the spell's effect. The school of spell had been designed as such after all.

The effects of Cold Haze paired up well with the Blue Fire Domain. Instead of using the flames as a medium to absorb the heat, this AoE would use air to absorb the warmth from the surroundings.

The two beasts that were slowly but surely approaching the mage felt that their lungs had been filled with ice. The mana layer that had protected their bodies from external harm was already weakened by Becky's first spell. So when she executed her second AoE, the boars didn't have a way to fight back.

The two boars in the lead along with their mates behind them froze to death when Becky was done with them. Notably, the boars in the lead were only a few steps away from their now-panting target when they lost their lives.