

# Leveling with the Gods

## Chapter 16

The gate to cross over into the 4th Tutorial disappeared. And it wasn't just that. The horde of monsters also disappeared, and the bizarre plants that wrapped around the buildings vanished as buildings returned back to their original layout.

There were also some things that didn't change, such as the huge, invisible barrier that divided the sectors. But the biggest change was the sky.

"Long time no see."

The sky turned scarlet, and the temperature suddenly spiked. Luckily, YuWon didn't feel too hot.

YuWon checked the effects of the item he was wearing.

[Pyromancy Robe]

- ▷ A robe enchanted with ancient magic. It's made from a special material.
- ▷ Does not burn.
- ▷ Strong resistance to fire attributes.
- ▷ Increased magic resistance.

It didn't have a lengthy description. It was pretty bare-bones for a 60K point item.

'A strong resistance, huh...'

However, anyone that knew how to properly read an item's description would never deem this item 'bare-boned.'

'It's not a bad item.'

Countless items existed within the Tower. It was impossible to fathom the wide variety, and among the myriad of items, only a few had their names well known. This was because while there were many different items, there weren't many that had their values properly appraised. And YuWon had already seen many of the best items that existed.

The 「Pyromancy Robe」 of course couldn't hold a candle to the best items, but it had "strong resistance" against a specific attribute in its description. It should work as a pretty good defensive item against fire even in the Tower.

'It's definitely overkill to use it in the Tutorial.'

Protection from hot weather would be a piece of cake for the robe. Needless to say, it was only YuWon who was receiving protection from the hot weather.

"Why is it so hot?!"

"I-Is this the end of days?"

"Please save me! Please!"

Yuwon could hear screaming and crying in the distance. He turned his head towards the noise.

'So there are only three survivors...'

He could only hear and feel the presence of three people. The reason why those three were left behind is probably because all their essence combined totaled less than 50. They might have even surrendered their essence to someone else in order to avoid being murdered.

Yuwon started walking towards them. He couldn't feel the heat, but he could still tell that this place was getting progressively hotter.

"Y-You're!"

"Why haven't you crossed over...?"

The three people were confused to see YuWon. No one could have expected YuWon of all people to fail the Tutorial. How could they? He was skilled enough to amass over a thousand essence, far more than the required 50.

Yuwon glanced over their expressions. They looked as if they wanted something from YuWon. Did they want him to save them? But that was a pointless request. They were already drenched in sweat, their bodies unable to handle the heat.

'It looks like they're barely any different from normal people.'

Though it was a scorching 60°C,\* this much heat should have been manageable if they had raised their Constitution even a little bit. Yet they were sweating bullets, looking like they were about to faint at any moment, signifying that their Constitution stat was not even 15.

\*PR/N: 140°F

There was a reason why they were the ones to be eliminated.

“... So it's begun.”

YuWon looked up at the sky. It had turned a bright ruby red. The air wasn't getting any hotter, but the Annihilation had already started.

Gguuu, ggguuuuuh—

The earth shook, and the weather got as hot as it possibly could.

“It's so hot!”

“The ground is...!”

Kkk-crack—

The ground split apart and flames rose from the cracks.

Fwoosh—

“Ahhhhh!”

“I-It burns!”

Heatwaves continued to spew out of the ground until one man finally caught fire. And not longer after, the lady next to him also caught on fire.

“P-Please save me!”

“I'm begging you! Please!”

They reached out their hands towards YuWon.

YuWon thought about the ice crystals in his inventory. Would these three be able to live if he used the ice crystals to help them?

He didn't get to be lost in thought for too long.

Flash—

Crackle, crackle—

The flames that were rising from the ground weren't all that big, but it was more than what normal people could handle, and the fire swallowed them up in an instant.

YuWon shook his head and looked away. The world that had changed in a flash was laid out before his eyes.

Everything was on fire with nowhere to escape. However, this world wouldn't call it an "Annihilation" over some fire and brimstone.

[‘ANNIHILATION – THE 176TH GIANT’ WILL NOW BEGIN.]

Kkk-crack, crack—

Whoosh—

A long, skinny hand shot out from the fissure in the ground. The hand was on fire, the flesh melting right off of it. The owner of the hand climbed out of the ground with great difficulty.

Rattle, rattle—

It was a moving skeleton with almost no flesh. It wore clothes made of flames and held a torch in one hand. It was a trash-class Demon, a Skull.

It wasn't alone.

Rattle, rattle—

Coupled with flames, thin bones continued to pop out of the divided earth. Hundreds and thousands of Skulls made their appearance.

"... Yeesh. There sure are a lot," YuWon mumbled at the size of the horde.

Trash-class Demons were creatures that barely even qualified as Demons. Technically, they were more like servants of Demons, which is why they were called trash-class.

Demons were one of the ruling races of the Tower, along with Gods, Giants, and Dragons. Such beings appearing in the Tutorial was illogical. That's why it was called an "Annihilation."

[The Low-Class Demon – Suruhtra has appeared.]

Ggguuuuuh—

The ground rumbled, and all the Skulls stopped in their tracks, looked in the direction of an unknown something, and bowed their heads to it.

That could only signify one thing.

‘It really appeared.’

One might be unimpressed because it was called ‘low-class,’ but a Demon was still a Demon. And if it really was the 176th Giant that YuWon remembered, it should be more than capable of easily slaying a Dragon Hatchling.

“It wasn’t this small during Ragnarök.”

Thud—

A gigantic hand surfaced from the magma-like subterranean fire.

YuWon smiled as he greeted the creature that changed the landscape into hell with its appearance.

“So we meet here, Suruhtra.”

Suruhtra was Surtr’s 176th child. The first time YuWon met Suruhtra was during the “Annihilation Mythology,” Ragnarök.

Surtr was one of the key members behind the annihilation of Asgard. Surtr had hundreds of children. Some of them were born as Giants but lived their lives as humans while some climbed the Tower and became Rankers. Suruhtra was one of the Surtr’s children that was a Giant that turned into a low-class Demon.

During Ragnarök, Suruhtra was as big as a mountain, yet...

‘He’s only about as big as a house right now.’

Fwooosh—

With a skull face and a magma-red body, Suruhtra wielded a giant flaming sword. It looked up at the sky with great pride and arrogance. Suruhtra was the ‘Annihilation’ that had descended on this Tutorial sector.

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## **Reaper Scans**

Translator – NumbaWon

Proofreader – BringTheRayn

\* \* \*

“> And so another world is swallowed up by the Tower.”

Suruhtra appeared to be deep in contemplation. The fiery words it spoke were laced with all sorts of strong emotions like anger, resentment, and hatred.

Being the 176th child, it was among the weaker children of Surtr, but in terms of appearance, it resembled Surtr the most.

“> A world doomed to burn and vanish should have never been born...”

“Hey, Suruhtra.”

Suruhtra’s head turned.

Compared to the giant, YuWon looked as small as a mouse.

Unhappy its brooding was interrupted, Suruhtra glared down at YuWon.

“Are you going through menopause? Why are you so emotional when you’re only the 176th child? Now stop being so moody, and let’s get started.”

“> You...”

Suruhtra lowered its head and looked at YuWon. Upon taking a close look, surprise dawned on its face.

“> You have the same eyes as him.”

Yuwon immediately knew who Suruhtra meant by “him” because Yuwon currently had the eyes of “The Monkey from Mount Huaguo.”

Suruhtra’s put on a devilish smile. It was likely reminiscing an old memory.

“> I wonder. Will you also be able to escape from here?”

Guuuuuh—

The ground rose up, forming a giant, flaming chair. Suruhtra had used magic to create a throne so it could sit and look down at Yuwon fighting.

Once the Demon sat down on its high resting place, it raised its flaming sword up high.

Fuuuuuuuh—

Rattle, rattle, rattle, rattle—

All the surrounding Skulls started to approach YuWon. And once they were close enough to him...

Slash—

Crack—!

YuWon's new item, the 「Well-Sharpened Sword」 broke apart one Skull's cranium. And simultaneously...

Kaboom—!

The Skull's body exploded, and a black flame swallowed up YuWon.

"> Impressive."

Suruhtra couldn't help but compliment YuWon taking down a Skull with a single slash.

The smoke from the explosion subsided, and YuWon resurfaced from the black clouds, unharmed by the flames. A normal person would have been burnt to a crisp from that explosion, but YuWon's level and Constitution was already far beyond that of a 'normal person,' reaching that of a superhuman.

Also, the strength of items definitely couldn't be overlooked.

[「Pyromancy Robe」 has negated the heat from a Skull.]

[「Pyromancy Robe」 has gained additional resistance against fire attribute attacks.]

The 「Pyromancy Robe」 was a useful item not only in the Tutorial, but it would be pretty effective even as far up as the middle floors of the Tower. That, of course, meant that trash-class Demons like Skulls couldn't harm YuWon with their flames.

"> That's no normal robe."

Suruhtra recognized what YuWon was wearing. It was an item with a remarkably strong resistance to fire.

"> Did you prepare that so you could defeat me?"

YuWon shrugged his shoulders at Suruhtra's question.

"Nothing beats paying to win."

YuWon looked around at the Skulls surrounding him.

He didn't avoid the first explosion on purpose to test out the fire resistance of the 「Pyromancy Robe.」 The explosion from the Skull hurt no more than a pinch, but nothing good could come from stacking unnecessary damage.

The Skulls weren't all that agile, nor did they possess that high of a defense. And maybe it was because he wasn't imbuing his sword with [Arcane Sword,] but instead of cutting, it was more like he was breaking their bones with his sword.

Even being enveloped in fire attribute mana, except for the fact that they wore clothes made of fire, they weren't all that dangerous.

“I won't be running away, Suruhtra.”

YuWon smirked. He looked around at the surrounding Skulls before looking up at Suruhtra sitting high on its throne.

He would not run. That guy only barely managed to survive through this, and that wasn't enough.

The tip of YuWon's sword slowly rose, pointing at Suruhtra.

“Because I'm going to defeat you.”

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## **REAPER SCANS**

### **Leveling with the Gods**

[Translator – NumbaWon ]

[Proofreader – BringTheRayn ]

## **Chapter 17**

Suruhtra stared at the tip of YuWon's sword.

Maybe it was due to its fiery anger, but the Skulls that Suruhtra commanded stopped moving.



“> ‘You’ll defeat me,’ you say...”

Vooooooooom, wooooooooom—

The crimson skies shook from its anger. The ground became even hotter, scorching flames rising violently from the crevices.

Although it still had a ways to go until it was as powerful as it was during Ragnarök, Suruhtra was still a Demon and a descendant of a Giant. It was the power that Suruhtra—the one to lead the Annihilation of this world—possessed.

“> Such arrogant and impudent words.”

Despite overflowing with anger, Suruhtra did not descend from its throne. Instead, it continued to look down at YuWon while resting its chin on its hand.

“> Say that after you have managed to reach me, foolish human.”

Rattle, rattle—

Rattle—

The Skull Demons started to move again. Suruhtra managed to cool its anger and continue controlling its servants.

Yuwon scratched his head, knowing that this would be the case. There was no way Suruhtra would move from such light provocation.

“It really doesn’t like getting off its ass, does it?”

Suruhtra was one of the rare Demons that knew how to control its anger.

It was the 176th child of Surtr. Surtr’s children were weaker the higher their number, so Suruhtra wasn’t all that strong. However, it still came to be known as a dangerous Demon because of one single reason. It had an extremely cautious personality. It only ever appeared in battles it knew it could win and never once picked a fight it might lose.

“> Let’s see how much longer you can last.”

And today, it was being just as cautious as ever. Maybe it was because of the 「Pyromancy Robe」 but Suruhtra deemed YuWon to be tricky to handle.

Yuwon had no choice now but to get close to Suruhtra itself.

“You’re all talk, aren’t you?”

YuWon started rotating his ankles while staring at the giant horde of Skulls.

Rattle, rattle—

Jump—

YuWon jumped high into the center of the horde.

\* \* \*

Whoosh—

YuWon spun. Creating momentum at the end of his sword, he swung it around as if he was a Beyblade™.

Slash—!

In an instant, six Skulls were cut down.

Boom, b-b-boom—!

A flurry of explosions followed, and a thick smoke once again enveloped YuWon.

Fwoosh—!

From within the smoke, YuWon jumped out while holding a huge shield.

The 「Magic Nullification Shield.」 It had excellent magic resistance and cost a whopping 20,000 points. It was one of the items YuWon purchased specifically to protect himself in this fight.

Luckily, the Skulls' explosions weren't all that lethal. Or rather, they normally would have been, but the items that YuWon purchased were highly effective at protecting him.

However, just like how you can get drenched if you stand out in a drizzle long enough, damage will eventually rack up over an extended fight, which is why YuWon needed more than just the 「Pyromancy Robe」 to protect himself.

[You leveled up.]

[Dexterity increased by 1.]

[Constitution increased by 1.]

[Arcane Power increased by 1.]

YuWon thought that was always a delightful message to hear. After fighting for two hours, he had already leveled up three times, and the distribution of stats weren't so bad either. Constitution, which was an essential stat at the moment, and Arcane Power, the hardest stat to raise, both increased.

Since Skulls were a much higher tier monster than anything you could normally encounter during the Tutorial, it was unsurprising that they gave a lot of EXP.

“Pheew—”

YuWon let out a deep sigh. Thanks to the increase in Constitution, it relieved a bit of the tension in his lungs, but he still felt a bit cooked from breathing in nothing but hot air for two hours.

Though Skulls didn't have that strong of an attack, their post-death explosions were problematic, not because they dealt a lot of damage, but because they were unavoidable.

‘Without a ranged attack, I have no choice but to take their explosions head on.’

YuWon was the kind of guy that liked to jump in and fight in the center of the battle. He did have [Mana Blast] in his arsenal, but that skill required too much mana. It wasn't a viable strategy for prolonged combat.

‘As for my shield...’

Crack—

A chip started to form in the 「Magic Nullification Shield.」 It was at a point where it required maintenance.

‘It's starting to reach its limit.’

YuWon had killed almost a thousand Skulls in the past two hours. It wasn't surprising that the shield was reaching its breaking point after taking all those explosions.

“Hey, Suruhtra!”

While looking at the greatly thinned horde of Skulls, YuWon talked to Suruhtra for the first time in two hours.

“Why don't you come on down already? And let these small fry go home.”

YuWon's words made the red vein on Suruhtra's forehead convulse. YuWon had gotten pretty close to Suruhtra, to the point that he could reach Suruhtra whenever he felt like it.

Suruhtra finally stopped resting its chin on its arm and got up.

“> They truly are... amazing items.”

Fwoosh—

Suruhtra suddenly jumped up. And in a flash, Suruhtra’s giant body landed directly in front of YuWon.

Thump—!

The ground shook. After descending from its throne, Suruhtra swung its gigantic sword up onto its shoulder.

“> I’m honestly quite curious how you were able to get ahold of such items in the Tutorial.”

Facing Suruhtra up close, YuWon felt a far greater pressure than he had been experiencing. Suruhtra broiled the already hot air, to the point that it penetrated the heat resistance of the 「Pyromancy Robe.」 It was as expected of Surtr’s child.

“What about you? Shouldn’t you feel ashamed for going on a rampage in the Tutorial?”

“> It is simply a punishment for those who are not worthy. I do find it odd, though.”

Suruhtra pointed its gigantic sword at YuWon.

“> You are worthy. You have what it takes to climb the expansive Tower and become a Ranker. So why are you here? Did you perhaps sacrifice yourself for a comrade?”

“Didn’t I tell you already?” YuWon said while picking his ear, annoyed by how loud Suruhtra was. “I’m going to defeat you.”

“> You’ll defeat me?”

Suruhtra erupted into laughter.

“> Haha! Hahahaha! I see. Well then, it’s only right that I face you.”

Suruhtra raised its giant sword to the sky. YuWon looked up at the sword. The sword enveloped in Demon fire looked hot enough to burn everything in the world to ashes.

‘This will be it.’

YuWon clenched his teeth and held up his shield. He had already accumulated enough fiery aura inside his body and was ready for everything to be over.

Fwoooooosh—!

As Suruhtra's sword started descending, the 「Magic Nullification Shield」 started displaying more fractures.

Kk-crack—

Shatter—

The shield broke, and Suruhtra's flaming sword landed directly on YuWon, crushing him into the ground. YuWon tensed his body to try and endure it, but the ground underneath him started to give. Unable to stand the pressure, the ground eventually caved in.

Rumble, crash, crumble—

In the middle of Hongdae, a giant hole was created.

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## **Reaper Scans**

Translator – NumbaWon

Proofreader – BringTheRayn

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YuWon and Son OhGong were never really all that close. As a battle maniac, Son OhGong constantly nagged YuWon to fight him. Son OhGong's reason was quite simple—because it was fun.

YuWon found Son OhGong annoying because of that. He wouldn't stop pestering YuWon for a fight when YuWon didn't enjoy fighting all that much in the first place.

Still, Son OhGong was a great opponent for YuWon. He had a true talent for fighting, and he taught YuWon his knowledge and techniques. He was frankly more of a master than a friend. And among his teachings...

“These eyes?”

“Yeah. I can't beat you because of ‘em.”

“Your Sensory Field is a cheat ability as well.”

“But it’s still nothing compared to your eyes.”

YuWon had repeatedly lost against Son OhGong. After hundreds of fights, YuWon had only managed to beat Son OhGong a couple of times. There were a few reasons for that: 「Ruyi Jingu,」 the staff capable of extending infinitely; 「Flying Nimbus,」 the first cloud to ever come into existence, capable of raining down thunder and reaching the ends of space with its speed; and the infinite amount of Arcane Power he had gained by eating all the peaches of immortality in the Heavenly Peach Garden, a treasure of the Heavenly Realm.

However, none of them were the main reason why Son OhGong was so hard to fight against. It was his eyes, the [Golden Cinder Eyes.]

“How I got these?”

YuWon once asked Son OhGong. He had to know in case he ever needed to return to the past to escape from the war.

“It was quite unusual. Do you remember the Tutorial?”

“Which one?”

“Number 3.”

“I do.”

“Yeah, I failed that one.”

That was a surprise. Son OhGong of all people failed the 3rd Tutorial? He had unparalleled talent for fighting. There was no way he would have failed the Tutorial because he couldn’t gather a measly 50 essence.

“Well, there’s a reason why I failed, but that’s not what’s important. What’s important is what came after.”

“After?”

“Do you know what the ‘Annihilation’ that came to the Tutorial was?”

There was no way YuWon knew. Actually, almost no one knew. No one else around had failed the 3rd Tutorial, especially since failing the Tutorial signified death. So it was a very interesting story.

YuWon silently stared at Son OhGong, signaling him to go on.

Enjoying YuWon's company, Son OhGong smirked as he continued talking, "Okay, listen closely. These eyes were..."

\* \* \*

The ground caved in from the flames of the sword.

Suruhtra looked down into the hole created by the Flame Sword.

Fwoosh, woosh—

The hole was smoldering with crimson fire. This fire would never die, unless Suruhtra ran out of power. Suruhtra thought that no matter how great the items he possessed were, YuWon should have either died or at least been gravely injured.

"> ... How odd."

It appeared to Suruhtra that YuWon purposely took the attack instead of dodging it. But why did YuWon purposely take on the hellfire? Suruhtra pondered while looking down into the depths of the crater.

At that moment...

Fwoosh—

From within the fiery pit...

Step, step—

YuWon slowly walked out, his body scorched black.

"... I thought I'd die from how hot it was."

While breathing out the fiery aura built up in his body, YuWon stared back at Suruhtra. And when their eyes locked, Suruhtra's eyes widened.

"> You—your eyes..."

Fwoosh—

His irises had turned scarlet.

The eyes capable of observing and seeing through all of creation. The second stage of the [Golden Cinder Eyes.] The power of the Great God, "The Great Sage, Heaven's Equal."

[You have fulfilled the conditions for the hidden piece.\*]

\*TL/N: Hidden piece means a hidden part of the system. It's a Korean video game term for hidden elements such as items and skills that actually affect the game. In this context, they are hidden secrets that affect the Tower's system.

[Monkey's Eyes will evolve.]

[You have obtained Cinder Eyes.]

"Thanks, Suruhtra."

The Great God's power had now descended into YuWon's eyes.

"Now... Why don't we get started?"

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## **REAPER SCANS**

### **Leveling with the Gods**

[Translator – NumbaWon ]

[Proofreader – BringTheRayn ]

## **Chapter 18**

Fwoosh—

Everything looked new with his flaming eyes. His body's senses felt as fired up as a forge's roaring furnace, and he felt as if he was constantly in the heat of battle.

'So this is... Cinder Eyes.'

There were three stages to the [Golden Cinder Eyes.] The first is [Monkey's Eyes]—eyes that Son OhGong, the monkey of Mount Huaguo, possessed. The second was [Cinder Eyes]—eyes that swallowed Demon fire.

The only way to awaken the [Cinder Eyes] was to swallow a Demon's fire with the hidden piece of the Tutorial and imbue them into your eyes.



‘I never thought a day would come where I would respect that idiot.’

Suruhtra’s fire was indeed hot. But it wasn’t just hot. YuWon’s entire body was engulfed in flame, burning his skin off. It was a level of pain that would have made anyone with weak focus and mental fortitude go insane. That was what he felt while wearing the 「Pyromancy Robe.」 But what about Son OhGong?

‘His body defies all logic.’

Without any special items, Son OhGong was able to hold his ground against Suruhtra until he obtained the [Cinder Eyes.] Son OhGong told YuWon that he was physically on another level from birth. Turned out he wasn’t exaggerating.

[Cinder Eyes]

▷ Rank : A

▷ Proficiency : 12.14%

▷ Monkey’s Eyes that synchronized with Demon fire. It is able to tell apart good and evil as well as truth and lies.

▷ Strong resistance to fire.

▷ Sensory amplification.

▷ Battle prediction.

An A-rank skill. It was nothing compared to [Master of Mana,] an Authority of an Administrator, but S-rank skills should have been unattainable in the Tutorial anyways. And A-rank skills were so rare that even Rankers only possessed a few of them.

What was really great is that [Cinder Eyes] already had over 10% proficiency. The higher the rank of the skill, the harder it was to raise its proficiency. So, taking that into account, 12% honestly felt like cheating.

‘I’m glad I raised the proficiency early on.’

As a skill obtained by evolving [Monkey’s Eyes] with a hidden piece, it was only natural for some properties to carry over.

It was easy to raise the proficiency of [Monkey’s Eyes], it being only an F-rank skill. And YuWon kept the skill active almost the entire time after obtaining it. Because it was a low-rank skill, it didn’t consume much mana, so YuWon intended to raise the proficiency as high as he could.

“> ‘You want to get started’?”

Suruhtra smirked faintly. It was shocked after seeing YuWon walk out of the flaming pit, but the surprise didn’t last too long. YuWon’s body was covered in burns, not to mention he was unable to dissipate the fiery aura from within his body.

“> And what exactly do you want to start when your body’s in such a state?”

It was only natural for Suruhtra to look down on YuWon. It was not only the child of the Giant Surtr, it was also a Demon, one of the races that ruled the Tower. Though it was weaker due to the restrictions of the Tutorial, it still couldn’t help but look at the gravely wounded YuWon as nothing more than a pest.

“This is nothing.”

Whoom—

YuWon extended his arm, and the space in front of him started to ripple. It was his 「Mid-Grade Personal Inventory.」 YuWon reached both his hands into his inventory, and from within, he pulled out a weapon and a medicine ball.

“> That’s...”

Suruhtra squinted its eye, closely observing the sword in YuWon’s hand. A sword with a white blade and hilt. The oddly-colored, simple-looking sword radiated an icy aura that felt like one touch would give you frostbite.

Kk-crack—

Shhhh—

The icy aura of the 「Arctic Steel Sword」 seeped into YuWon’s body. It started to cool him down. It collided with the fiery aura that had accumulated within his body, and the two nullified each other.

This, of course, wasn’t all that YuWon had prepared.

Gulp—

YuWon swallowed the two medicine balls.

[You have consumed an 「Ice Crystal.」 ]

[You have consumed an 「Ice Crystal.」 ]

[Your body temperature steadily drops.]

[Neutralizing status effect : Burn.]

[Attribute : Ice has been added to your Arcane Power.]

The extreme heat and awful burn that enveloped YuWon disappeared. But in their place, a deep chill took over his body.

“Fuuu—”

YuWon started breathing out frost. And even though he was still surrounded by a sea of fire, he could no longer feel the heat. It was thanks to the two 「Ice Crystals」 he consumed and the 「Arctic Steel Sword」 in his hand.

‘I actually feel a bit chilly now.’

\* \* \*

## Reaper Scans

Translator – NumbaWon

Proofreader – BringTheRayn

\* \* \*

The 「Ice Crystals」 and the 「Arctic Steel Sword」 possessed an aura that was the polar opposite of fire, especially the 「Arctic Steel Sword」.

It was forged from a glacier and was sharper than most steel swords. The 「Arctic Steel Sword」 possessed a powerful icy aura, but as a side effect, it slowly froze the user.

‘That’s why...’

Suhurtra flinched from the aura emanating from the sword. It realized that the aura coming off of YuWon and the sword could actually hurt it.

‘... This just might be doable.’

Suruhtra, the low-class Demon.

Now that YuWon had obtained the [Cinder Eyes,] it was finally time to defeat Suruhtra.

Thud—

YuWon stepped foot onto level ground as Suruhtra's sword swung down at him.

Fwooosh—!

A giant flame engulfed YuWon. Instead of trying to dodge it, he swung his sword at the fire.

[「Pyromancy Robe」 is resisting Suruhtra's Flames of Annihilation.]

[「Pyromancy Robe」 has gained additional resistance against Fire Attribute attacks.]

[Cinder Eyes are resisting Suruhtra's Flames of Annihilation.]

[Cinder Eyes are absorbing Suruhtra's Flames of Annihilation.]

This was an attack that just moments ago broke the 「Magic Nullification Shield」 and almost killed YuWon. However, in a short span of time, things had changed greatly.

[Your body temperature is rapidly decreasing.]

[Resisting status effect : Burn.]

[Cinder Eyes.] 「Pyromancy Robe.」 As well as the 「Ice Crystals」 and the 「Arctic Steel Sword.」 The combined forces of the skills and items allowed YuWon to cut through Suruhtra's flames.

Slash—!

YuWon managed to cut a path through the flames for himself. Leaping high into the air, YuWon entered Suruhtra's personal space near its waist...

Slash—!

... And slashed Suruhtra's torso, cutting through its armor of fire.

“> Ahhhhh!”

Suruhtra screamed in agony.

It was working. Normally, such a feat would be inconceivable because one couldn't normally pierce through Suruhtra's armor of fire, even with high Strength and Arcane Power stats. Yet YuWon had managed to do exactly that thanks to the power of the 「Arctic Steel Sword」 and the 「Ice Crystals.」

“> You...!”

The 「Arctic Steel Sword」 was indeed great at cutting. In return for slowly freezing the user with its icy aura, the sword was capable of slicing and freezing almost anything.

Hot blood spouted from the wound to Suruhtra's torso.

Fwooosh—

Suruhtra became enraged, its body slowly turning black. And from within its hand, a crimson and black infernal flame materialized. The onyx-colored flame was most definitely a threat.

‘I need to dodge it.’

YuWon's vision was tinted red thanks to the power of [Cinder Eyes.] And within his vision, a path was drawn. He could instinctively feel it. That was where he had to move to. It was one of the powers of the [Cinder Eyes,] ‘Battle Prediction.’

Wooosh—

Boom, b-boom—!

Suruhtra's black flames started incinerating the entire area. The black flames differed from the normal fire that was prevalent until a moment ago. Instead of simply scorching the ground, these flames were capable of completely melting earth away. It was one of the Authorities of a Demon, the ability to call forth Hellfire.

“Kugh...”

Thankfully, YuWon was able to avoid being incinerated by the black flames, but he was unable to come out fully unscathed. He tried to dissipate the heat with the 「Arctic Steel Sword,」 but it was no use. He wasn't strong enough to fight against Suruhtra yet.

‘Two crystals weren't enough.’

YuWon pulled out the other two 「Ice Crystals」 from his inventory and swallowed them.

[Your body temperature greatly drops.]

[You are now affected by the status effect : Frostbite.]

The icy aura of the 「Arctic Steel Sword」 had been gradually taking over YuWon's body. Despite the fact that he was being blasted with heat, his body was now full of icy aura.

To get burned and frostbite at the same time. YuWon had faced all sorts of situations in the Tower, but this was the first time he had experienced anything like this.

'I won't last much longer.'

The Ice Attribute was a natural weakness for a Giant of fire like Suruhtra, but the problem was that YuWon wasn't physically capable of handling so much icy aura yet.

'I need to finish this quickly.'

With this much icy aura, he could somewhat fight against Suruhtra's flames.

His heart and chest felt like they were now frozen solid. Feeling as if he was suffocating from the cold, YuWon let out a deep breath, barely managing to exhale some of the icy aura within him.

While he was exhaling, Suruhtra's sword descended upon him.

Craaaash—!

The black flames split apart the earth.

YuWon twisted his body, dodging the attack. Moving away from the melting ground, YuWon ran towards Suruhtra.

Slash—

YuWon jumped at Suruhtra's legs. He was running out of time. He no longer had the luxury of conserving his mana.

[Arcane Sword]

Woom, woom—

The [Arcane Sword] extended a few inches beyond the 「Arctic Steel Sword.」

YuWon swung his sword against Suruhtra's leg with all his might.

Slice—

YuWon inflicted a clean cut on Suruhtra's leg.

“> Aaaagh!”

Suruhtra cried in agony. Losing its balance from the loss of one leg, Suruhtra fell to its knees with a thud.

Searching for YuWon, Suruhtra quickly raised its head, but before it could find him...

Woom, woom—

... A white ball of ice mana flew right into Suruhtra's face.

[Mana Blast]

Boom—!

Kk-kk-crack—

A [Mana Blast] reinforced with the power of the 「Ice Crystals」 landed a direct hit to Suruhtra's face and Suruhtra's flaming head froze in an instant. This caused Suruhtra to lose its balance and sway.

But it didn't last long.

Fwoosh—

Fire rose from Suruhtra's head once again. Suruhtra might have a weakness against ice, but the difference in power between Suruhtra and YuWon was far too great.

But for YuWon, disrupting Suruhtra's balance for just a moment was more than enough.

‘I can see it.’

With the power of the [Cinder Eyes,] the world appeared like it had slowed down a tempo. Suruhtra's swaying body was definitely large, but it wasn't impossible to climb up, so YuWon got on top of Suruhtra's back.

Feeling YuWon standing on its neck, Suruhtra shook its head.

“> You insolent bastard! How dare you! You're a brat that hasn't even climbed the Tower yet...!”

Fwoosh—!

Flames started raging across Suruhtra's body. They were the [Flames of Annihilation.] It was a fire that was mixed with black Hellfire—the fire that would destroy this Tutorial. And YuWon was not yet at a level where he could handle these flames.

[Attribute : Ice is resisting Suruhtra's Flames of Annihilation.]

[「Pyromancy Robe」 is resisting Suruhtra's Flames of Annihilation.]

[Cinder Eyes is resisting Suruhtra's Flames of Annihilation.]

[Cinder Eyes is absorbing Suruhtra's Flames of Annihilation.]

[You have failed to resist Suruhtra's Flames of Annihilation.]

[Status effect: Burn increased to level 2.]

[Status effect: Burn increased to level 3.]

[Your fire resistance increased by 1.]

YuWon had prepared various countermeasures against Suruhtra's fire. However, even with all those preparations, his body was still being burnt black. That was the power of the 3rd Tutorial's Annihilation and the gap in power between YuWon and Suruhtra.

But...

“Still...”

YuWon managed to get on top of Suruhtra's head.

The low-class Demon Suruhtra only possessed a single fatal weakness.

“I'll be the one to win.”

YuWon wielded his 「Arctic Steel Sword」 in reverse.

Suruhtra screamed after realizing that YuWon had managed to get on its head.

“> W-Wait...”

Stab—!

YuWon's sword dug deep into its head, and the sword slowly dissipated icy aura into Suruhtra.

Kk-crack—

Shatter—!



The 「Arctic Steel Sword」 forged from pure ice broke, and the Flames of Annihilation on Suruhtra's body were extinguished.

And then...

[You have defeated the Annihilation of the Tutorial.]

[You have accomplished an inconceivable achievement.]

[Due to accomplishing an impossible achievement, the calculation of your reward will be delayed.]

[You have leveled up.]

[You have leveled up.]

[You have leveled...]

While his consciousness faded, sweet messages continued to ring in his head.

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## **REAPER SCANS**

### **Leveling with the Gods**

[Translator – NumbaWon ]

[Proofreader – BringTheRayn ]

## **Chapter 19**

After passing out on the ground, quite a bit of time passed before YuWon managed to wake up. He wondered how many hours had gone by. His body was still a mess. Seeing how he had just managed to gain consciousness with none of his burns having healed yet, YuWon assumed not too many hours had passed.

Yuwon's whole body ached from the burns. And that wasn't the last of it.

‘The icy aura is still the same.’

The burns weren't his biggest problem. It was the icy aura that remained inside him after handling the 「Arctic Steel Sword」 and four 「Ice Crystals.」

YuWon's lips were cracked dry, yet his insides felt frozen over. Simply put, his body was a wreck.

'I almost died.'

That was the first thought YuWon had after waking up. He really had approached the brink of death.

'It could have gone real bad if I had been even a little slower.'

After getting up, YuWon saw that he was surrounded by Skull remains and Suruhtra's corpse. YuWon's guess was that he must have tumbled off of Suruhtra's head after losing consciousness.

"... I actually defeated him."

And with that, YuWon had obtained [Cinder Eyes,] the thing he really needed to obtain in the Tutorial. It was the halfway point to obtaining the [Golden Cinder Eyes.] However, the Tutorial had yet to end.

'How is this not the end?'

YuWon couldn't help but laugh to himself.

"This really is a turbulent journey, you bastards," he mumbled while remembering his comrades that decided to send him back to the past.

This was just the 3rd Tutorial. He still had a long ways to go.

Step—

YuWon climbed up Suruhtra's corpse. With the fires extinguished, Suruhtra's body looked quite unimpressive. It looked like the corpse of a normal giant. However, this was no normal corpse.

'Every single by-product of a Demon's corpse is an item.'

Demons were beings of high prestige that one could normally only see on the upper floors of the Tower. And even then, Suruhtra was quite special for having been born as Surtr's child, even if it was only a low-class Demon.

Riiip, crack—

YuWon rummaged through Suruhtra's corpse. He tore out a rib before digging into its chest until he found an empty space. Well, almost empty.

'There it is.'

He found a bright red orb. It was located around Suruhtra's heart, but it was more like a gem than a heart. This orb was both Suruhtra's heart and the source of its powers.

Grasp—

YuWon pulled out Suruhtra's heart and firmly held it in his hand, feeling the intense heat.

[Giant's Heart]

▷ Classification : Elixir.

▷ The heart of the Demon-Giant Suruhtra. Born in the fire nation, Suruhtra exuded the strength of a Giant and a fiery aura with this heart.

▷ It holds a great amount of mana.

▷ It holds the power of a Giant.

The red gem was an 'elixir' by the name of 「Giant's Heart.」

'I want to take it right now...'

YuWon inspected the status of his body.

'But that might be difficult.'

「Giant's Heart」 was a pretty dangerous elixir. Not only did it hold a great amount of mana, it was an elixir that changed the musculoskeletal structure of the person that consumed it. It required a great amount of stamina to intake so much power.

Right now, YuWon's body was a wreck after the fight with Suruhtra. On top of that, the icy aura from the 「Arctic Steel Sword」 and 「Ice Crystals」 was still inside him, so there was a great chance that the icy aura would dilute the fiery aura.

“▷ Are you finished?”

YuWon turned around to see the source of the voice behind him. He replied after putting the 「Giant's Heart」 in his inventory, “I'm about halfway done.”

The Administrator massaged his forehead. He knew what was coming.

“Time for me to get my reward.”

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## **Reaper Scans**

Translator – NumbaWon

Proofreader – BringTheRayn

\* \* \*

“▷ I already heard an earful from the other guys because of you, and now you...”

The Administrator shook his head and let out a deep sigh. He must have had a pretty big headache.

“▷ The balance of this Tutorial is completely fucked.”

Yet even while voicing his frustrations, the Administrator couldn't do a thing to YuWon. Administrators were beings that had to precisely follow the rules of the Tower. As long as YuWon continued to act within the rules of the Tower, his insane rampage would continue.

“▷ Well, you are first going to go to the final area. The 4th Tutorial is currently in progress, and it's almost over.”

“It's almost over?”

YuWon realized that he must have actually been passed out for a while. The 4th Tutorial's theme was a defense that lasted a whole day. He had assumed that he wouldn't be able to join the 4th Tutorial midway, but things were progressing much faster than he had anticipated.

“How much time is left?”

“▷ There's four hours remaining. You can just relax and wait until then.”

“Four hours, you say...”

The 5th Tutorial was the final trial required to enter the Tower. Because of that, it had the highest difficulty, as well as the longest duration.

Four hours.

YuWon nodded his head.

“Okay, that’ll be enough.”

“▷ I would hope so.”

“Has the reward been decided yet? It seems like it took you quite a bit of time.”

“▷ It took a long time to decide what to give you because I had to consult the other guys this time.”

The “other guys” that the Administrator was referring to were probably the Administrators of other floors. That meant that this was a decision so hard, a single Administrator couldn’t decide by himself.

This was honestly not a surprise. Even though it was weakened from the intervention of the Tower, a ‘newbie’ that has yet to even complete the Tutorial defeated Suruhtra. In the first place, Suruhtra was meant to bring Annihilation to the Tutorial area. It was not intended to be defeated at all.

[You have obtained 10000 points.]

[You have obtained the skill Heaven-Slaying Star.]

[All your stats increased by 3.]

YuWon was pleasantly surprised. He hadn’t anticipated that he’d be given a skill.

‘Heaven-Slaying Star?’

A star that slays the heavens. It was truly a grandiose name. Though, maybe the grandiose name was warranted considering YuWon had defeated the Giant Suruhtra, the Annihilation of the Tutorial.

However, a skill by the name of [Heaven-Slaying Star] didn’t exist within YuWon’s memories.

‘A skill I’ve never heard of...’

YuWon thought that he knew most of the high-rank skills.

‘Well, I guess it doesn’t matter.’

The Tower never betrays one's efforts and hard work. When one perfectly passes a difficult trial, the Tower will always present them a suitable reward. That was a fundamental truth of this world that YuWon knew, and he knew this truth would remain true far into the future.

'I bet it's something pretty good.'

YuWon quickly checked his new skill.

[Heaven-Slaying Star]

▷ Rank : A+

▷ Completion rate: 0.00%

▷ You possess the fate and talent to slay the heavens. From here on, your fate and worth will change depending on what the life you kill is worth.

▷ Your stats increase depending on the number of opponents killed, as well as who your opponents were.

▷ All stats increased by 3.

An A plus-rank skill. At half a rank higher than [Cinder Eyes,] it was definitely a skill that should have been impossible to obtain in the Tutorial, and it was a testament to how difficult a trial it was to defeat Suruhtra and prevent the Annihilation.

YuWon found the rank satisfactory, but the effect was a bit underwhelming. Still, an increase for all stats was definitely a plus.

'This is definitely better than any mediocre skill.'

It wasn't necessarily a good thing for a skill to be high-rank. Depending on one's combat style, a lower-rank skill might be more efficient than a high-rank skill. Meanwhile, a skill that raised one's stats was useful to just about everyone.

But the increase in stats wasn't the only thing that caught YuWon's attention.

'Completion rate...'

YuWon looked closely at the 'completion rate' that was in place of 'proficiency.'

'Does this mean it's not a complete skill yet?'

Though rare, there were growth-type items in this world that grew stronger with the user over time. However, YuWon had never heard of a growth-type skill that had a completion rate instead of proficiency.

‘Whatever the case is, there’s probably no better skill to compensate for my lack of stats.’

YuWon paid no mind to the 10,000 points he was rewarded.

The skill started off by increasing every stat by three. This included Arcane Power for a whopping total of 15 stat points. This was a far greater change than just leveling up five times. Leveling up became increasingly difficult with higher levels, yet stats gained from the [Heaven-Slaying Star] were not connected to levels at all. So in total, it wasn’t a bad reward.

“▷ Do you require anything else?”

YuWon nodded at the Administrator’s question.

“Please give me one Lesser Scarlet Medicine Ball.”

“▷ You’re not even batting an eye while buying such an expensive item.”

The Administrator grumbled while handing a bright red medicine ball to YuWon.

[You have spent 10000 points.]

[You have obtained a 「Lesser Scarlet Medicine Ball.」 ]

YuWon took it from him. The 「Great Scarlet Medicine Ball」 was a far more effective item, but that wasn’t something he could purchase right now, as it cost hundreds of thousands of points to buy it from the Shop.

He had no choice but to be satisfied with his current purchase.

“▷ Anything else?”

“That’s it for me.”

“▷ Then wait here for a bit. Take that and get some good rest.”

And with those words, the Administrator vanished.

There were four hours remaining. Within that time, he had to heal from his burns and injuries while preparing for the 5th Tutorial.

Crunch—

YuWon put the medicine ball in his mouth and started chewing. It tasted like it was made with every single bitter plant in the world.

‘I lost too much time from fainting. I also need to consume Suruhtra’s heart...’

Gulp—

YuWon swallowed the 「Lesser Scarlet Medicine Ball」 and sat down on the ground. He could feel a refreshing energy circulate within his body. He closed his eyes and let his heart absorb the energy of the medicine ball.

[Your Arcane Power increased by 1.]

[Your Constitution increased by 1.]

[Your injuries and stamina start to recover quickly.]

The 「Lesser Scarlet Medicine Ball」 was a valuable elixir in any world outside the Tower. As an item that increased your Arcane Power and Constitution, it gave you a significant amount of stats the first time you consumed it.

‘Two stats. Is that the limit?’

It would be a different story with a 「Great Scarlet Medicine Ball,」 but it was useless to want more stats from the 「Lesser Scarlet Medicine Ball.」 Had YuWon taken it while he was a lower level, he might have been able to get one or two more stats from it.

But YuWon didn’t waste too much time wondering about what-ifs. There were plenty of ways to gather more points in the future, and gaining two stats at his level was still pretty good. Besides, the primary reason he took the medicine ball was to quickly recover from the injuries that Suruhtra inflicted on him.

Taking the 「Lesser Scarlet Medicine Ball」 to recover from injuries was normally only something that high rankers could do as a display of extreme wealth, but...

‘I have no choice right now.’

Time passed quickly.

Was it because he took the medicine ball? YuWon’s wreck of a body started healing rapidly.

Time continued to flow.



YuWon had closed his eyes waiting for the 4th Tutorial to end. He opened his eyes, instinctively feeling the will of the Tower calling for him.

‘It’s starting.’

YuWon got up from his spot, and at that moment...

Woom, woom—

The air around him started to vibrate. His body floated up, and his vision started to blur. Like paint being mixed together, the sky and the ground blended into black. YuWon floated high up in the air, as if he was being separated from the world, and his sights changed.

Disconnecting from this world and connecting to a different world.

The world that had condensed together and turned black suddenly separated, and another world made of completely different colors appeared.

The air that had turned hot from the battle with Suruhtra turned cool. The sky was clear, and there was the scent of salty ocean. And in front of YuWon, a great forest could be seen spanning the horizon.

A lot of people started appearing around YuWon.

“Where is this?”

“Is this the 5th Tutorial?”

“There’s a lot of people here.”

“How big is this place?”

There were approximately a little over a hundred people.

Some people were on alert, thinking that there were too many people. That was because up until now, some of the missions required people to attack each other.

However, these people had no idea how different the final Tutorial would be compared to any of the other Tutorials they had faced before. They would come to learn how small the world they had been living in was.

‘This is the first place where Tutorial participants from various worlds will gather for the first time.’

This was the starting point where people from an infinite number of worlds gathered for the massive world that was the Tower. And the Tutorial called this place...

[THE FINAL TUTORIAL WILL NOW BEGIN.]

... The “Collective World.”

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## **REAPER SCANS**

### **Leveling with the Gods**

[Translator – NumbaWon ]

[Proofreader – BringTheRayn ]

## **Chapter 20**

People murmured after being told that this was the final Tutorial.

“Final?”

“As in the last one?”

“So it’s finally going to be over?”

“No way. It’s called the ‘Tutorial.’”

“Can you please shut up?”

In the midst of the crowd, there were some people who didn’t like the commotion.

The messages continued.

[‘Barragánda Island’ is slowly sinking into the sea. There is only one condition needed to prove your worth in order to escape the island.]

[DEFEAT THE BOSS AT THE PEAK OF THE ISLAND.]

[You will be given a score depending on your contribution towards defeating the boss.]

[The final reward will be decided based on your score and how long it took for the boss to fall.]

[The time limit is 30 days.]

[Once the time limit passes, the island will sink completely.]

[TIME LIMIT : 720 : 00 : 00]

“What?”

“A month?”

Maybe because of the unexpectedly long time limit, a lot of people voiced their shock. Up until now, the Tutorial was at most four days long, with some tutorials being as short as one hour. Therefore it couldn't be helped that they were surprised by the sudden large increase in the time limit.

However, this news didn't bring chaos or anything. In fact, most people looked relieved by it, since it meant that they didn't have to raise their weapons and fight the people around them. Also, having more time was better for achieving a specific goal. However...

‘Some of them must have noticed...’

YuWon saw that a few people in the crowd were tensing up rather than relaxing.

‘... Why we were given such a long time limit.’

A month's time. It was so much time that the duration was long enough for people to get complacent. However, they weren't given a month for nothing. It meant that they had a month to get as strong as possible in order to achieve their objective, which was a single boss. Most of them couldn't even fathom how strong the boss had to be.

Maybe it was because these were people that had managed to make it to the last Tutorial, but one by one, the participants started to get moving. And inevitably...

“You all heard that? I think it was meant for us to meet up like this. Why don't we form a team together?”

... Things started off with people forming groups.

“Should we?”

“That sounds good to me. Why don't we take this opportunity to learn each other's names...”

“I refuse.”

An authoritative voice rang through the area, capturing everyone’s attention. YuWon also shifted his sights to the source of the voice.

‘Right. He was here as well.’

It was a blonde-haired, golden-eyed man wrapped in a white cloth. His white outfit looked out of place in the chaos of the Tutorial.

The man’s name was Hargaan.

Hargaan looked at his surroundings with an arrogant look on his face.

“Who said you could just become my comrade? A comrade should be someone I can trust my sides and back with. That’s why I’ll pick my own comrades.”

Hargaan mocked the people whose attention he garnered.

“By the looks of it, I don’t think you guys are worthy of being my comrades.”

“What did you just say?”

“You arrogant prick...”

When a guy standing next to Hargaan took a step towards him...

Flash—

Rumble, crash—!

“Ahhhhh!”

“Kugh...!”

With a yellow electric blast, every single person around Hargaan was sent flying into the air.

“W-What the fuck!”

“What was that?”

“Was that a skill?”

It was a very powerful electric attack, annihilating everyone within a five meter radius.

Despite having just made enemies out of almost a hundred participants, Hargaan looked unconcerned.

“You guys are nothing but cannon fodder.”

Crackle, crackle—

Around Hargaan, an electric field made from an immense amount of mana continued to convulse around him.

Even in the lower floors of the Tower, it was rare to see someone with this much Arcane Power, but Hargaan was no normal Tutorial participant.

‘The self-proclaimed successor of Olympus. A descendant of Zeus.’

He was a being of a different class compared to your average Tutorial participants.

‘So that’s the power of a Pure-Blood.’

Pure-Bloods referred to beings that were selected to climb the Tower after being born and raised inside the Tower.

Pure-Bloods had already experienced the Tower’s magnificence from the moment they were born, so it was only natural that they possessed far greater power compared to people who had only just been selected to participate in the Tutorial.

‘And thus the fairness of this game ends here.’

Some might disagree, but the Tutorial had been pretty fair up to this point. The stats that each individual had might have differed, but at least they had lived through the same world under similar circumstances. However, that was no longer the case starting with the final Tutorial, and this of course applied throughout the Tower as well.

Some entered the Tower having already experienced the magical nature of the Tower as a Pure-Blood, while others entered the Tower possessing magical abilities that were impossible for a normal human to have. And among those people, Hargaan was someone that was set to inherit the power of Olympus. That’s why it was only natural that he was powerful, even for a Pure-Blood.

‘To already be this strong at the start of the 5th Tutorial...’

YuWon nodded his head,

‘No wonder he got the Tower’s attention.’

Hargaan was a participant that had received the Tower's attention during YuWon's first time through the Tutorial. Not only was he an Olympus Pure-Blood, he was a descendant of Zeus, becoming known as the participant that had inherited the power of thunder. That's why when the Tutorial ended, many different guilds inside the Tower paid close attention to see how fast he'd become a Ranker.

'He was also the one who made the biggest contribution in defeating the boss during my previous life.'

YuWon quickly finished reminiscing about the past and decided to stop paying attention to Hargaan. YuWon had no intention of getting too involved with him.

"Huh?" Hargaan remarked. In the midst of exuding electricity to threaten those around him, he spotted YuWon. While everyone else was standing still, paying close attention to him, YuWon was walking away somewhere.

"Hey, you!" shouted Hargaan, looking at YuWon.

YuWon stopped in his tracks and turned his head. In an instant, Hargaan had walked over to YuWon and now stood right in front of him.

"Are you talking to me?" YuWon said.

"What are you?"

"What are you talking about?"

"Isn't that a Pyromancy Robe?"

Having resided in the Tower for a long time, Hargaan seemed to know about the 「Pyromancy Robe.」 Although, that wasn't very surprising. Olympus was a group full of Rankers, so Hargaan had probably seen the robe during his time in Olympus.

YuWon answered, "You're right," while thinking about how things might have been about to get annoying.

"How did you get this? This item shouldn't be something you can obtain in the tutorial."

"I bought it. With points."

"You bought it...?"

YuWon's short answer as if it was an easy and obvious thing put a confused look on Hargaan's face. It was a face that was saying, 'How did you buy such an expensive item with points?'

On the other hand, Hargaan was also equipped with items far better than what the average participant could ever have.

‘Though they’re nothing compared to the Pyromancy Robe,’ thought YuWon.

Hargaan showed a sudden interest in YuWon, realizing that the man who was wearing the 「Pyromancy Robe」 was different from the other participants.

“What’s your level?” asked Hargaan.

“Don’t you know that it’s impolite to ask someone their level?”

“Uh... You’re not wrong... But is that already a common practice in the Tutorial?” Hargaan asked while scratching his head. He then nodded his head, saying, “Okay. I understand. I won’t ask about your level again. Instead, would you like to form a team with me?”

The 「Pyromancy Robe」 must have seriously piqued Hargaan’s interest. His face looked like he was waiting for YuWon to say yes. Hargaan must have thought that YuWon would definitely accept his offer since YuWon should have seen his display of might.

A Pure-Blood that knew who Hargaan was would have probably accepted his offer. Even though he didn’t have ‘the System’s Blessing’ until recently, as he had yet to climb the Tower, Hargaan was a Pure-Blood from Olympus, of all places. That meant that his nature of potential was of a different caliber.

However...

“Not particularly. See ya.”

... YuWon didn’t find much merit in Hargaan’s offer.

“...?”

Hargaan blinked in silence as if he had become mute. Never could he have imagined having his offer turned down after showing off his skills.

YuWon walked straight past Hargaan after giving him his answer.

‘Is this because he doesn’t know who I am?’ Hargaan thought while turning his head to look at YuWon.

“Wait. I’m...”

But YuWon was already far off in the distance.

“What the...?”

With his pride damaged from being ignored, Hargaan frowned as he tensed up his calves.

Krshhh—

Hargaan imbued the power of thunder into his legs before running after YuWon in a fury.

Rrrumble—!

“Stop right there—!”

\* \* \*

## **Reaper Scans**

Translator – NumbaWon

Proofreader – BringTheRayn

\* \* \*

Hargaan chased after YuWon for a while.

He wondered how long he'd been running for.

Every once in a while, a monster would attack him, but Hargaan was able to blow it up in an instant before continuing to chase after YuWon.

“Huff, huff—”

But Hargaan eventually gave up on chasing YuWon, deciding to rest and catch his breath. The distance between the two had widened to a point where Hargaan could no longer see YuWon.

‘How is he so fast?’

Hargaan was absolutely bamboozled. How was he unable to catch up, even though he had run with everything he had? Hargaan didn't think YuWon was using some sort of special skill that raised his movement speed. Because if that was the case, there was no way he would have failed to detect the flow of mana.



That could only mean one thing.

‘How high are his stats...?’

It meant that YuWon had been running solely using the power of his stats.

Hargaan was speechless.

‘Is that guy also a Pure-Blood?’

But to be faster than him, who was an Olympus Pure-Blood...

‘Let’s see. Who were some fast groups? Maybe he’s from Elforado. Or maybe he’s an expert from the martial realm? Or could he maybe be a descendant of Hermes?’

After thinking for a minute, Hargaan decided to just let it go, since he’d get nowhere by just thinking about it alone. But there was one thing Hargaan was sure of...

“And here I was, thinking that this was going to be boring...”

Krshhh—

Hargaan grinned widely and let a bit of electric current flow out of him. His golden eyes stared out in the direction that YuWon disappeared to.

“This is going to be interesting.”

\* \* \*

‘Did I lose him?’ thought YuWon.

Seeing that Hargaan was no longer following him, YuWon finally stopped running.

It had taken five minutes for YuWon to lose him. It was no wonder that Hargaan went around claiming to be Zeus’s successor.

‘He really is fast.’

The electric attack he showed off was quite a threat, but his running speed was really something. His physical abilities were astounding for someone who had only just finished the 4th Tutorial. And from what YuWon remembered, his specialty wasn’t speed, but extreme brute force which utilized his electric powers.

Hargaan was strong even for a Pure-Blood, possessing enough power to completely ruin the ecosystem of the Tutorial.

YuWon had a flashback of something the Administrator had said.

“▷ The balance of this Tutorial is completely fucked.”

YuWon realized that maybe the Administrator wasn't just talking about him.

Hargaan, an Olympus Pure-Blood, was already enough to bring chaos to the Tutorial's ecosystem, but the Administrator also had YuWon running around and doing whatever he pleased.

‘Not that that's any of my problem.’

YuWon found a cave inside the forest. And inside the cave there were dozens of Gnolls inhabiting it. Gnolls were monsters with the heads of wolves.

YuWon slayed all of them and took the cave for himself.

[You have defeated a Groll.]

[Heaven-Slaying Star's completion rate increased by 0.001%.]

[You have defeated a Groll.]

[Heaven-Slaying Star's completion rate...]

[You have obtained 3cp.\*]

\*TL/N: CP = contribution points

After killing a few Gnolls, the completion rate for [Heaven-Slaying Star] increased by a little bit. It was a really little bit. After killing dozens of Gnolls, the completion rate wasn't even 0.01%.

‘I'll have to kill the creatures in higher locations if I want to properly raise the completion rate.’

However, YuWon's objective for finding this cave wasn't to hunt monsters.

YuWon sprinkled the 「Scentless Powder」 he had purchased earlier at the entrance and deep inside the cave. He did this to prevent other monsters from detecting his scent and coming inside.

‘I think that should do it.’

He had consumed the 「Lesser Scarlet Medicine Ball」 and recovered his body more than sufficiently. On top of that, the icy aura from the 「Arctic Steel Sword」 and 「Ice Crystals」 was all gone now. YuWon had finished preparing as much as he could.

YuWon inserted his hand inside his inventory and pulled out a bright red crystal.

[Giant's Heart]

Along with the [Heaven-Slaying Star,] it was one of the prizes YuWon gained from defeating Suruhtra.

In fact, the 「Giant's Heart」 was the most valuable elixir that was possible to obtain in the Tutorial.

“Listen closely, Kim YuWon.”

YuWon took a deep breath and opened his mouth wide.

Finally...

“The Giant's Heart has to—”

Crunch—

YuWon chewed and ate the crimson gem.

“—be consumed before the Tutorial is over.”

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