

With The Gods 221

Chapter 221

The tip of the sword tilted forcefully.

It wasn't a dueling mindset.

"Total power" wasn't just about working hard.

Tak, tak, tak!

The Bull Demon King had obtained that power with his own hands.

Of course, that didn't mean the Bull Demon King was looking out for YuWon.

For a High Ranker like him, his 'body' was a weapon that could be wielded better than any other.

Crunch.

The flames at the tip of the sword spread in an instant.

Violet flames engulfed the body of the Bull Demon King.

Seeing the Sacred Fire, the Bull Demon King opened his mouth.

".....?"

What the hell is he trying to do?

The Bull Demon King sucked in the flames that engulfed his body.

"Whoosh!"

With his mouth.

Gulp-.

Having swallowed the Sacred Fire in one gulp, the Bull Demon King furrowed his brow.

It was because of the burning sensation in his stomach.

"It's a very hot fire."

But it wasn't a big reaction for someone who had just swallowed the Sacred Fire.

How the hell did he obtain that body?

YuWon suddenly felt like he was dealing with Hercules.

"Then..."

Kwak-.

The Bull Demon King clenched his fist.

"It's my turn."

And at that reaction, YuWon felt chills and his skin crawled.

Arcane Power in his fist.

The moment it stretched forward.

'This madman...'

There was no time to curse.

The Uranus Heart YuWon carried glowed.

[Summoning 'Tartarus']

Tsutsutsuts-.

Arcane Power began to well up from his hand.

The Arcane Power emanating from the inferno called Tartarus enveloped his hands. It was an ability he had started using from the beginning of the battle, but now he had opened the door to Tartarus even wider.

Hwaahhh-!

Zz-!

The fist and the sword clashed.

Their bodies bounced off and flew in opposite directions.

Chak-.

The two people being pushed forcefully stopped on the ground. The Bull Demon King twisted his hands and looked at YuWon.

'A mysterious power.'

Fajit, Fajit-.

Arcane Power traveled from his hand to his sword.

Of course, using mana that isn't one's own in that way is bound to put strain on the body.

But that object was suppressing it.

It was none other than the most dangerous of all attributes, darkness.

'A power that corrodes the user's body and makes them stronger. That power must be...'

The Bull Demon King narrowed his eyes.

That guy.

Uranus.

The worst monster he had fought and defeated, along with countless Rankers.

He suddenly remembered him while fighting against YuWon.

'And that armor.'

Kak-.

The Water-based Arcane Power protecting YuWon's body.

All those abilities were also seen in Uranus.

It felt like he was fighting a miniature Uranus.

No.

'Maybe he'll grow even stronger than that.'

In the midst of battle, he forgot.

He forgot that YuWon in front of him wasn't a Ranker.

But right now...

Fajit, fajit-.

From the signs of penalty sanction that started flowing through his body, the Bull Demon King could tell that he was still not a Ranker player.

'The Tower cannot lie. It's obvious he's not a Ranker...'

The Bull Demon King was deeply concerned.

'Is this possible?'

The first time he met Son OhGong.

Even then, he was shocked. He was amazed at the talent, at how such a young player could grow so fast.

But there was a power in front of him that couldn't be measured by mere 'talent'.

The Power of Uranus.

Moreover, he had Son OhGong's eyes, even if it was just half, and he even mastered Hercules' symbol, Gigantification.

And on top of that...

'This is not over yet.'

The Bull Demon King had a hunch that YuWon had not finished showing everything yet.

Drip~.

A drop of crimson blood fell from YuWon's grip and landed on the ground.

It was the Bull Demon King's hand that clashed with his sword, but it was YuWon's hand that tore.

'He's serious.'

Such strength with a body that hasn't fully recovered.

The Bull Demon King didn't seem to have any intention of taking this duel lightly. Perhaps he was eager to see the full extent of Uranus' Heart capabilities.

[The power of the Giant permeates your entire body]

[The blood of a Giant permeates your left arm]

Wook-.

The Arcane Power flowing through YuWon's body surged into his right arm.

The opponent was the Bull Demon King.

Until Hercules appeared, he was known as the King of Great Power.

Against him, this level of gigantification was natural.

Kujik-.

YuWon took a step forward with power surging from his body.

Kwaang-!

The ground beneath his feet collapsed, and his body shot forward.

Feeling a power different from his own, the Bull Demon King narrowed his eyes even more and increased his Arcane Power.

And just as the two were about to collide.

[Sensory Field activated]

['Cinder Eyes' read the movement]

YuWon's eyes read the Bull Demon King's movements.

Tak, tak, tak!

YuWon's fist struck the Bull Demon King's chest.

The Bull Demon King was pushed back. YuWon swung his sword directly at him.

Puck, puck, puck-!

Chhhhhh!

YuWon's fists and sword tore through the Bull Demon King's body.

The sword with Tartarus' Mana left black scars on the Bull Demon King's body, while the fist with the power of Gigantification pushed the Bull Demon King back.

At the same time, YuWon felt strange.

'Why is this so easy...'

YuWon lifted his head.

He could see the gleam in the Bull Demon King's eyes that he hadn't been able to see due to the vast height difference.

And at that moment...

Boom-boom-.

Tak-tak-!

The Bull Demon King's fist came crashing down, turning the poor ground upside down.

Goo-goo, goo-goo-goo-.

The ground trembled.

And the ground rose from the impact of the fist.

Kujijik-.

The landscape that the Bull Demon King had created trembled, and the ground that was rising was no longer pure white clouds.

Looking at the fragments of earth that had been lifted, YuWon, who had momentarily retreated, stuck out his tongue.

"So there was another Hercules."

What would have happened if he hadn't avoided that?

Just the thought sent a shiver down his spine.

"Is it because of those eyes? Or is there something else?"

Boom.

The Bull Demon King returned to the side of the elevated terrain.

"You're good at dodging."

The whites of his eyes turned crimson.

His gentle gaze was nowhere to be seen, and his eyes grew cold as if they contained life.

"Let's see if you can dodge this one."

'... What's up with this guy?'

Clearly, he had been the one attacking just a moment ago.

He unleashed several blows with the power of his Gigantification, and he felt the tip of his sword cutting through.

However...

The Bull Demon King in front of him didn't seem to care about any of that.

The wound on his chest wasn't very deep, and even where the fist had landed, there were only a couple of small bruises.

What a despicably strong body.

Moreover...

'The atmosphere is different from before.'

An alarm bell rang in YuWon's head.

This was really dangerous.

It was said to be even worse than Son OhGong when it came to not stopping once his eyes were blinded, and this was what he was talking about.

"The Uranus Heart."

For a moment, YuWon felt panic at the Bull Demon King's sudden awakening.

YuWon quickly regained his composure.

Panicking wouldn't solve anything.

'It's coming.'

Boom-boom-.

The sound of a swinging fist was clearly audible.

The Sensory Field expanded. His senses sharpened, and he could see and feel the Bull Demon King's fist.

Kwaang-!

As he dodged punch after punch, YuWon felt as if he were hanging between life and death.

There was no room for a counterattack.

It wasn't just that his fists were powerful, they were also fast.

He could only dodge by focusing on the fist through his eyes and leveraging his Sensory Field.

"You can't win just by dodging."

Boom-.

The Bull Demon King's fist grazed the side of YuWon's head again.

This was ridiculous.

Can't win? It was obvious.

YuWon hadn't started this fight to win in the first place.

His opponent was the Bull Demon King.

A High Ranker who had existed for many thousands of years and was on par with the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal.

Winning against him was impossible...

"Is something wrong?"

"Nothing, just that if you don't win..."

Woo~.

The voice came from behind his back.

"You will die."

Qua-ang-!

Ziying-.

His head spun.

He could feel his body defying gravity and soaring through the air. It was a collision he couldn't overcome with his own strength.

He flew like that for a long time.

Jii-yin-.

After narrowly avoiding crashing into the ground, YuWon stopped, gripping the ground with his hands.

The world in front of him turned upside down.

"Is he serious?"

Kwak~

The Bull Demon King pounced on him.

He was like a raging bull, charging straight at YuWon.

Is he really serious?

A battle against the Celestial Realm.

It was a battle as grand as the destruction of Olympus, perhaps even greater.

And the Bull Demon King was one of the key pieces that YuWon had prepared to win such a battle against the Celestial Realm.

Moreover...

It was also a gift from YuWon to Son OhGong, who missed him.

But what was happening here?

[The 'Blessing of the Sea' protects your body]

Boom!

Breaking through the mana enveloping his body, the Bull Demon King's fist crashed into YuWon's stomach.

"Kugh!"

In an instant, a shock that felt like his intestines were exploding surged through his entire body.

The Bull Demon King closed in.

YuWon's hand, which had been waiting for that moment, grabbed the Bull Demon King's arm.

Bang.

Flash!

A jet-black lightning bolt erupted within the Bull Demon King's body. Along with the lightning, the Arcane Power of Tartarus flowed through the Bull Demon King's body.

Pajik, Pajijik, Pajijijik-!

The lightning burst at the nearest distance.

YuWon was also affected by the power. For this one opportunity, YuWon threw wide open the gates of Tartarus through the Uranus Heart.

Of course, that didn't make him immune to the explosion, but...

Kwak-.

The shock was much greater for the directly affected Bull Demon King.

"As expected, this is quite threatening."

The full force of the explosion shook the Bull Demon King's body for a moment, as it sent a significant shockwave through his already weary body.

And then...

Thud-.

Flick-.

After the Bull Demon King's punch, YuWon's body, which had been engulfed by the power of Tartarus, collapsed on the spot.

"Your mental strength is truly astonishing."

The Bull Demon King looked at YuWon's hand, which hadn't let go of his arm despite losing consciousness and collapsing.

Because of that, YuWon still seemed to be halfway standing even though he had fallen.

His knees touched the ground, but his head hadn't yet touched the ground.

And in the midst of it...

"Baat-."

A small child, the size of a palm, wriggled on YuWon's shoulder.

"Baat, baat-!"

Danpung looked at the Bull Demon King and squealed, as if telling him not to mess with him anymore.

He looked more small and ridiculous than majestic.

However, despite his appearance, as he looked at Danpung, the Bull Demon King exuded a tension that he had not even felt during his fight against YuWon.

"...It's you."

Tak-tak-.

The Bull Demon King looked at the dozens of mouths and creatures that appeared around YuWon in the form of Danpung.

"The monster that lived inside this guy."

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"It's you... the monster living inside him."

Jjoeok-, jjoeok-.

Dozens of mouths bared their teeth as if they wanted to threaten the Bull Demon King.

It was a type of monster he had never seen before, and its mere sight instilled instinctive fear in him.

'But it only appeared at the moment its owner was about to die,' he thought.

The Bull Demon King pushed YuWon to the limit to bring out the creature.

And that creature made him feel like he could die at any moment.

In other words, the existence of the Predator that appeared threatened the Bull Demon King, instilling a sense of impending death.

Hiss, hiss-.

Countless mouths drew closer.

The Bull Demon King reached out his hand towards them.

And then...

Bang!

Sharp teeth bit into the Bull Demon King's hand.

A throbbing pain shot through his hand. The Bull Demon King extended his other hand towards it and patted around the mouth.

"I don't want to hurt you."

He turned his head and looked at Danpung.

Instinctively, he realized that this multi-mouthed monster with sharp teeth was the little one in front of him.

"Abba...?"

Danpung shook his head.

He seemed clueless, like a newborn child, but he was anything but.

His purpose was clear: to protect YuWon who lay beneath.

"I'm not trying to fight. I just wanted to confirm it with my own eyes."

"Baah, baah-."

"I'm not sure what you're saying, but..."

Danpung understood what he was saying. But on the other hand, the Bull Demon King couldn't understand him.

The Bull Demon King's gaze shifted to the Predator that had clamped onto his hand and refused to let go.

"If you don't let go, I'll have no choice but to make a move."

Kaaaak-.

Mana flowed into the remaining hand.

At the same time, a fist charged with Arcane Power swung towards the teeth of the Predator biting him.

Tak, tak, tak!

Thud, thud, thud.

The Predator's teeth shattered.

At the same time, countless other teeth began to alert the Bull Demon King.

The hand that pushed through the teeth.

There were clear bite marks on his hand.

"I'm not looking for a fight."

Pulling his scar-filled hand away, the Bull Demon King directed his gaze at Danpung.

"I have no intention of fighting, and I have no intention of losing to someone as young as you."

Those teeth were certainly intimidating.

Hard and sharp enough to cut through one's own body, they could probably chew through anything in this Tower.

But still, the Bull Demon King was confident that he would not be defeated by this thing.

The being before him had barely come out of infancy, let alone being a child.

It never occurred to him that he could lose to such a creature.

Of course not.

"Abaat-?"

Regardless of the Bull Demon King's words, Danpung's response was no different from before.

"I'm frustrated because I can't understand you..."

Turning his head in frustration, the Bull Demon King saw thousands of teeth surrounding him.

They were threatening him.

No, rather, a single being was threatening him.

Its purpose was clear, and it made no sense to fight against it here.

"Let me ask you a question."

The Bull Demon King raised both hands.

The child needed to be spoken to at an appropriate height for his age.

The Bull Demon King raised his right hand.

"Is this guy your master? Or..."

Then, raising his other left hand, the Bull Demon King tried to communicate with the uncommunicative Danpung.

"Is he a prey?"

It had been a long time since he had fallen unconscious.

As if he had fallen into a deep sleep, his consciousness, which had been dormant for a long time, slowly rose.

"That madman."

The Bull Demon King had said it seriously.

As if wanting to say that he couldn't take it anymore, his eyes lit up and he pounced on him.

Two strikes to the head and stomach, and YuWon lost consciousness.

In the last second, he thought he had at least landed a hit, but...

"He didn't even feel it."

He had two contradictory feelings.

"There's still a long way to go."

He had come this far.

Still, he left a scar on the Bull Demon King's body. A scar on the body of a true High Ranker.

An extraordinary achievement.

And then there were doubts.

"He didn't want to kill me."

As he had already regained consciousness, his blurred vision was clearing up, but YuWon almost shouted at the face that appeared in front of him.

"Are you awake?"

"...What's with that reaction?"

The Bull Demon King was sitting on a chair next to the bed, looking at him.

He had placed a damp towel on YuWon's forehead, as if he had been taking care of him all night.

And then...

"Baat-."

Even Danpung was outside.

"You must have been exhausted. You suddenly fainted."

"That's because you..."

Yuwon frowned as he sat up.

His head was dizzy and his stomach hurt. Every part of his body was a mess.

In the face of his expression, the Bull Demon King shook his head.

"Don't force yourself to get up, and rest a little longer. Resting is also training."

"I don't think that's something you... should be saying."

"I'm sorry."

His face as kind as the first time.

He couldn't believe that just moments ago he had been looking at him as if he was going to kill him.

What the hell was that reaction?

"Why did you do that?"

"Because of him."

The Bull Demon King's gaze turned to Danpung.

"Abba...?"

Tilting his head, the boy walked up to YuWon's face.

YuWon, who looked at Danpung stretching his cheeks as if he was having fun, asked as if he was bewildered.

"Are you blaming this little one for that?"

"Well, it seems that way on the surface, but..."

On the surface.

The words reminded YuWon of Uranus' words.

- **"Does he look small in your eyes?"**

In Uranus' eyes, Danpung seemed different.

Maybe, just maybe...

"How does he look to you?"

"This guy?"

The Bull Demon King's gaze turned to Danpung.

Their eyes met, and he thought for a moment before responding.

"He looks like a dumpling."

"A dumpling?"

"He's cute."

It wasn't the answer he expected.

That's when YuWon let out a small sigh of disappointment.

"But there's more to him than meets the eye."

".....?"

"He's quite fierce, especially those teeth."

Woosh-.

The Bull Demon King rolled up his sleeves.

Marks of sharp teeth near his fists.

What the hell had happened?

YuWon's gaze shifted to Danpung, who had grabbed his cheek and wouldn't let go. His eyes asked him what had happened, but YuWon didn't understand what he was referring to.

But...

Even if he knew, he wouldn't be able to understand.

In the end, YuWon couldn't help but feel uneasy and asked the Bull Demon King.

"Was that why you wanted to kill me?"

"If it weren't for that, I wouldn't have come out."

He wasn't wrong.

YuWon remembered the first time Danpung had reacted during their fight against Chryses.

The first fight that had been so intense it had left him unconscious.

In that fight, when he was still an Egg, he had first revealed the Predator inside him.

It only showed itself when he was in danger of death.

'The Predator didn't appear until it was time to fight the Outer Gods. The same goes for Danpung...'

But the fact that such a guy had appeared in the fight against the Bull Demon King.

"Are you saying you won't let me die?"

YuWon's feelings became complicated as he looked at Danpung stretching his cheeks.

He remembered the Predator that had shown its teeth for the first time.

Did he really consider himself as his master, or did he see him as prey?

It wasn't easy to know, which is why he had been debating whether to break the Egg or not since Danpung was inside it.

By now, it had already hatched.

If he thought of him as prey rather than his master, he was literally holding a time bomb that could explode at any moment.

"I needed to make sure. If it's a power that's not suitable to have, I'll have to cut it off."

"Baat, ba, baba-!"

Upon hearing those words, Danpung glared at the Bull Demon King and shouted something.

Apparently, the word "cut off" was quite offensive.

But the Bull Demon King didn't mind and asked YuWon.

"What do you think?"

YuWon knew more about the Predator, at least more than the Bull Demon King.

They had been together for some time now, and he was getting to know Danpung a little better.

And as time went by, YuWon became convinced.

It was clear that it was a dangerous power to possess.

But still, he needed it.

"High risk, high reward. That's exactly what I'm looking for."

YuWon didn't have much time.

He didn't know what would happen in his limited time, nor what fate awaited this World.

He had seen it all, experienced it all, and what may have seemed like a long and vague period of time for others was too short and clear for him.

That's why YuWon needed Danpung.

A monster that devoured the Outer Gods.

The natural enemy of the Outer Gods.

And the power to eat them and grow stronger.

Danpung's presence gave YuWon hope.

"...Really?"

After pondering YuWon's response for a moment, the Bull Demon King nodded.

"It's yours, so I won't bother you anymore. I won't force you. Who knows, maybe it'll save your life a few times."

Kirik-.

The Bull Demon King stood up from his seat.

"Leave when you feel better. It'll be hard for you to move now."

"Do you have anything else to do?"

"Aren't we going to rescue the youngest once my body is fully healed?"

As he approached the doorknob to leave, the Bull Demon King turned around.

"We don't have much power right now. The strongest power here is me, and then the alter egos of the youngest."

He was right.

Most of the power was currently focused on the Bull Demon King. As powerful as Son OhGong's alter egos might be, they were no match for a single Bull Demon King.

They still lacked a lot of power.

Knowing that, YuWon could only nod.

"And you."

"Are you referring to me?"

"The more power you can replenish in the remaining time, the better. And it will be you, the Player who is not yet a Ranker, who will see the best short-term results."

"That's right, that's right."

YuWon looked up at the voice he heard from above.

"Honestly, it's true, isn't it? You're the weakest among us."

Since when?

Son OhGong floated on a cloud above YuWon's head, floating in a semi-reclining position.

"It's not even a bunk bed."

YuWon sighed.

The Bull Demon King and Son OhGong's first alter ego.

They were good enough people to help.

"That's a lot of progress in a short period of time...."

YuWon stared at Son OhGong's alter ego.

"It's not like there's no path."

Still, the plan after reaching the 50th floor wasn't just to rescue Son OhGong.

It was to rescue the Bull Demon King, rescue Son OhGong.

Fight against the Celestial Realm.

And...

"These eyes."

Hwaryuk-.

YuWon's eyes turned red.

[The 'Cinder Eyes' resonate]

Within those pupils, Son OhGong's right eye shone with a golden color.

"It's still only halfway, isn't it?"

Chapter 223

"Speaking of the later floors, if we're referring to the 50th floor, then..."

"Are you referring to the next level of the Cinder Eyes?"

"That's where I obtained the Golden Cinder Eyes, so I'd say it's most likely."

From the tutorial, to the first floor, to the second floor...

And up to the 50th floor.

As they figured out what to do on each floor, the topic of the 50th floor came up.

"What's the difference between the Cinder Eyes and the Golden Cinder Eyes? We haven't used them, so we don't know."

"Are you asking about the difference? Well, it's enormous."

When the conversation turned to him, Son OhGong responded with his usual arrogant phrases.

"The Cinder Eyes were good eyes, that's what I thought at first."

In hindsight, the Cinder Eyes weren't a great ability compared to its rank.

Being able to anticipate an opponent's movements and react to them was a decent advantage, but it wasn't enough to make it an A-grade ability.

"But as I acquired more skill, I started seeing things differently. I could see and feel my opponent's movements in advance. I could see the truth and the lies."

Of course, Son OhGong didn't find this strange.

To him, a skill's score was just a letter, nothing more, nothing less.

But when he fought Surtra in the tutorial, obtained the Cinder Eyes, and reached the 50th floor, obtaining the Golden Cinder Eyes...

"These eyes are still not in their final stage."

Son OhGong gradually learned more about his Eyes.

"The Golden Cinder Eyes are just the path towards the Eye of Foreknowledge."

The Eye of Foreknowledge.

It is said to have the power to see the future, an ability that is only legendary in the Tower.

When Son OhGong mentioned it, the room erupted into a frenzy.

It was said that if Son OhGong had acquired that ability, maybe they wouldn't have lost the battle against the Outer Gods.

Of course.

"If he had obtained it, what would have changed..."

YuWon looked up at the red-tinted sky and smiled.

Son OhGong.

Despite being one of the top-ranked among the top 10, he wasn't very intelligent.

He's smarter than anyone when it comes to fighting but dumber than anyone in everything else.

That's why when the time came to choose a master for the Clock Movement, YuWon was chosen, not Son OhGong.

"I know the future anyway... Still, if I manage to acquire the Eye of Foreknowledge..."

No.

On the contrary, the Eye of Foreknowledge was even more necessary for his goal.

It was an ability that no one had ever acquired, so no one knew exactly what it did, but it was clear that it had the power to see the future.

YuWon trusted Son OhGong's information.

More precisely, he trusted his senses, which had almost reached the Eye of Foreknowledge when he opened the Golden Cinder Eyes.

Foreknowledge was definitely a real ability.

Bam!

OhGong, who had been walking ahead, turned his head.

"Can you endure?"

Hwarrrrrr-.

Lava flowed from the rocks and the ground.

Even the sky had turned fiery red from the scorching heat.

This was an infernal place where even a Ranker could barely stand.

"It's hot."

[The Cinder Eyes withstand the 'Inferno'].

[Resistance successful.]

Of course, YuWon was not one to succumb to this.

Among YuWon's attributes, fire was the most resistant.

In addition to the resistance of the Cinder Eyes, YuWon's own resistance to fire was considerable.

"It's good that it's hot. Yes. That's good for your growth."

With a cheerful smile on his face, Son OhGong took the lead.

Son OhGong's first alter ego.

He was the strongest among the alter egos and, of course, the one who wielded the power of the Golden Cinder Eyes with the greatest freedom.

The Bull Demon King did not follow them.

First of all, this is a land abandoned by the Celestial Realm, and even if it was just Son OhGong, there was no great danger.

For now, he needed to regain strength.

YuWon, who had been chasing after Son OhGong, sighed and looked back at the surrounding landscape.

"It's an inferno."

He had heard the stories.

A place of scorching lava, where even Rankers fear to enter.

A place where not a single human is found, and it is a place where criminals who committed serious crimes were imprisoned until the prisons were established in the Celestial Realm.

'Nevertheless...'

YuWon frowned as he noticed sweat running down his forehead.

"It's quite hot."

He had thought that if he simply set foot here, he would be able to endure enough.

Indeed, he felt no heat at first. But soon, the flames had broken through his resistance and made him feel the heat.

The sweat on his forehead increased. YuWon finally raised his Arcane Power to protect himself.

How long had they been walking?

"We're here."

Son OhGong whistled at the distant landscape.

Although it was now a land abandoned by the Celestial Realm, there were still remnants of the old times.

Large cages.

Long chains connecting to the ground.

A vast prison, capable of holding tens of thousands of people, stood in the midst of the blazing plains.

"The Eight Trigrams (八卦炉)."

The Eight Trigrams.

A celestial prison where Son OhGong had been imprisoned for over a hundred years.

No.

"It was an execution ground for criminals who had committed serious crimes."

A prison that emanated infernal heat from its unbreakable bars.

Therefore, the Eight Trigrams were not just a prison but had long been used as an execution site to imprison and kill sinners of the Celestial Realm.

Of course.

That use was completely abandoned thousands of years ago by Son OhGong.

"My main body survived there, it's a contraption created harnessing the mana of the world, attracting flames hotter than lava."

Son OhGong turned his head to look at YuWon.

"I obtained these eyes through this."

The Cinder Eyes were obtained by fighting against the tutorial boss, Surtra.

However, the true culmination came right here, at the Eight Trigrams.

That was the story of the creation of the Golden Cinder Eyes.

YuWon now faced the task of repeating that history.

"What do you think? Is it worth it?"

"Let's give it a try..."

Bam~

Without hesitation, YuWon walked towards the Eight Trigrams.

The path to the Eight Trigrams was much farther than he had initially thought.

It only seemed close because it was very large.

It was like a massive baseball stadium capable of holding tens of thousands of spectators.

'I also feel sorry for them.'

He thought to himself.

To think that this magnificent structure, built by who knows who, was abandoned because it couldn't execute a single Son OhGong.

'Of course...'

YuWon smiled as he thought about it.

'In this era of peace, simply existing is something ugly.'

In the thousand years since the outbreak of the Great Celestial War and the Gigantomachy, the Tower had been very peaceful.

Without major incidents or wars, the Heavens had been busy filling their stomachs day after day.

And it wasn't just the Heavens.

The Murim, Olympus, Asgard, etc...

All the guilds and worlds were the same.

They forgot...

That the struggle that comes after a long peace can be as great a war as the long peace itself.

'Furthermore...'

YuWon pointed towards the door of the Eight Trigrams.

'An execution unit that cannot kill people no longer serves a purpose.'

Chii-

A sensation of burning was transmitted through the cage handles.

A hot flame radiated through the palm of his hand.

For a moment, he realized he was walking towards a pit of fire.

The moment he opened the door.

The flames that had consumed the Eight Trigrams for so long would consume him.

"That's right..."

Gulp-.

YuWon remembered what kind of person Son OhGong was.

"I wonder how he survived in a place like this."

Kik-.

YuWon pushed the door to open it.

And then...

Fireeeeeeeee!

A giant demon-like fire attacked YuWon.

Hwah, hwah, hwah-.

The first thing he felt was the heat on his face.

The moisture covering his skin instantly dried up and twisted, burning him to the bones.

That was when YuWon understood why the Eight Trigrams were used as execution sites and not just prisons.

['Cinder Eyes' resist the 'Eight Trigrams'].

[Resistance fails]

['Attire of the Four Spirits' resists the 'Eight Trigrams']

[Resistance fails]

['Sacred Fire' resists the 'Eight Trigrams']

[Resistance partially fails]

It couldn't be resisted by any ability or object.

The flames of the Eight Trigrams were hot enough to make the air outside of Hell feel cold.

'I trusted in my ability to resist fire.'

At first, YuWon thought it would take him at least ten years to complete this trial.

Maybe twenty, thirty years if it was longer. But even though he was a bit overwhelmed by his faster growth than expected, he decided to accept the challenge immediately.

With an Arcane Power stat of over 120, a Resistance stat of over 100, and even a skill called Sacred Fire.

He believed he had enough fire resistance.

However...

"Ugh."

Still, he couldn't let his guard down.

Exhaling the hot flames that had entered the depths of his lungs in an instant with his breath, YuWon prepared himself.

'I can't lose here.'

If he lost to this fire, not only would he not obtain the Golden Cinder Eyes, but he would also die here.

'I'm not immortal, unlike OhGong.'

Son OhGong had acquired an immortal body.

The Celestial Realm, which tried to kill him with the Eight Trigrams, ultimately failed.

In the process, Son OhGong absorbed the power of the Eight Trigrams and obtained the Golden Cinder Eyes.

[The Eight Trigrams trial begins].

[Resist the Flames of the Eight Trigrams].

[24:00:00]

Twenty-four hours.

It was a dizzying amount of time.

Twenty-four hours in this scorching fire.

No.

'It's actually going to be much more than that.'

The question was.

Was the Eight Trigrams trial really a trial that Son OhGong, who had an immortal body, could overcome?

The power of immortality was not a power that could be obtained no matter how far back in time he went. Furthermore, it was a power that would be useless in the fight against the Outer Gods in the first place, so there was no need to covet it.

How many days had Son OhGong been trapped in the Eight Trigrams?

"I was trapped there for days..."

When asked how long he had to be locked in the Eight Trigrams to obtain the Golden Cinder Eyes, Son OhGong counted on his fingers and replied.

"I think I was locked up for a hundred days, and maybe two more. Now that I think about it, I was bored, so I don't know how I did it. Plus, I don't really like the heat."

He didn't really like the heat.

It was none other than the Flames of the Eight Trigrams. Even if one consumed the entirety of the Immortal Peach Garden, the heat of the Eight Trigrams would not be easy to endure.

But due to Son OhGong's appraisal, YuWon inwardly scorned the Eight Trigrams.

'I have the Cinder Eyes, and I have the Attire of the Four Great Spirits.'

If Son OhGong could do it, he thought, he could too.

But then...

"This...."

Hwareuk, Hwareuk-.

After a while, YuWon, whose entire body was burning with intense redness, murmured.

"It's a little difficult, isn't it?"

['Cinder Eyes' react to the flames of the 'Eight Trigrams'].

After losing the battle with the Celestial Realm, Son OhGong was trapped in the Eight Trigrams.

And now, YuWon began the trial that Son OhGong had gone through.

Chapter 224

[You have passed the third trial of the Eight Trigrams]

[The fourth trial of the Eight Trigrams begins]

[Endure the flames of the Eight Trigrams]

Fire-!

"I wonder if this is what they mean when they talk about being overwhelmed."

The flames of the Eight Trigrams grew stronger and stronger as time passed. It was as if they were trying to kill the sinner within.

"You're going to get yourself killed."

"...Don't talk to me."

Sweating profusely, YuWon was unnecessarily irritated with Son OhGong outside the cage.

He felt more exhausted than ever. Besides feeling like he was being set on fire, the sensation of all the water leaving his body was unbearable.

"Why don't you give up? It seems difficult."

"Your main body managed it."

"That's because my body was invincible."

"Not invincible, but immortal, that's why this trial was easy."

In Son OhGong's case, the Eight Trigrams didn't mean much.

Once he became immortal, he was able to survive for a hundred days and a thousand days in the Eight Trigrams.

YuWon lasted just over three days.

But that wasn't enough to complete the Golden Cinder Eyes.

"It's an impossible challenge."

Son OhGong's alter ego interrupted YuWon.

He also knew that he could only overcome this trial because he had an immortal body.

Therefore, this was a trial that only he could overcome.

"So give up now. Don't cling to things that can't be."

"Who says it can't be?"

"Just look..."

"Your main body didn't know."

Son OhGong stared at YuWon and was stunned.

Although he was sweating as if it were raining and his body was dry as a raisin, YuWon's gaze was no different from the first time.

No.

"That their alter egos... are different."

On the contrary, it had become even hotter than before.

Venomous.

That was the only way to describe it.

Son OhGong hesitated for a moment. He didn't dare tell YuWon to give up with those eyes.

"Fuuuu-."

Another long sigh.

The heat that had penetrated deep into his lungs was expelled again. But that was only for a moment, and when he breathed in again, the heat of the Eight Trigrams seeped back into his lungs.

The body was at its limit.

His lungs, just like his skin, were covered in burns.

Even the strongest of bodies wouldn't have lasted this long in the Eight Trigrams Cauldron. It was fortunate that he had a high resistance to fire, or he would have turned black and burned long ago.

But now he was also at his limit.

It was time to try something else.

"But isn't that a trial only you can do?"

Discussing the acquisition of the Golden Cinder Eyes.

It was Odin who got to the heart of the matter.

"In the Eight Trigrams, it would be impossible for anyone to survive a hundred days in it, even if they had obtained the Cinder Eyes."

"I see. It's not a place you can survive in just by knowing how..."

"Well, well. Then I should give up, right?"

Everyone was disappointed to hear that they wouldn't obtain the Golden Cinder Eyes.

They were the Golden Cinder Eyes and nothing more.

It was an ability that represented the highest level of the Celestial Realm, and if Son OhGong was correct, it was probably the path to the Eye of Foreknowledge.

If they couldn't obtain that ability, their plans would suffer a severe setback.

"The Eye of Foreknowledge must be obtained. Even if you know the future, if you change the past, the future will naturally change."

"If that's the case, can't you find out through Mimir?"

"The future that Mimir can see is limited. You can't see the future you want, and the number of times is limited."

The Eyes of Mimir were known for seeing the future.

It was the only one that could be compared to Son OhGong's Golden Cinder Eyes.

But even the Eyes of Mimir couldn't compare to the legendary Eye of Foreknowledge.

"That's why we have to obtain it. And if the Monkey is right, then the Golden Cinder Eyes are necessary for that."

As he said this, Odin's gaze naturally turned to Son OhGong, who was yawning on the side of the room.

"Why are you so uninterested?"

Odin was genuinely intrigued by Son OhGong's reaction.

Whenever Son OhGong reacted like this, always, always there was an answer.

"I'm sure the Cinder Eyes will be there by then, right?"

"I think so."

"That's right. Isn't it?"

YuWon remembered Son OhGong cleaning his ears as if he wasn't really interested in the topic.

"Then it's just a matter of controlling it, I suppose."

"...just controlling it isn't enough help, Monkey."

YuWon muttered, spitting out the word "Monkey," which he only used when he was annoyed with Son OhGong.

Still, Son OhGong's advice was quite helpful.

Until now, he had managed to withstand the fire and had been able to conserve enough mana to survive.

Hwareuk-.

His pupils turned bright red.

YuWon's eyes were burning.

Literally.

[The 'Cinder Eyes' control fire]

The blazing flames within the Eight Trigrams moved.

No.

It wasn't just the flames within the Eight Trigrams.

[The 'Cinder Eyes' control fire]

[State Anomaly: Burns decrease to Stage 3]

The Flames of the Eight Trigrams permeated YuWon's eyes.

The fire that burned his body slowly dissipated, but the refined mana remained intact.

The fire that had been tormenting his entire body, including his lungs, escaped.

This was the power of the Cinder Eyes.

"The Cinder Eyes have the power to control fire, and that includes the fire that enters within you."

[State Anomaly: Burns decrease to Stage 2]

[State Anomaly: Burns...]

The burns were disappearing.

Moreover...

YuWon no longer felt the fire of the Eight Trigrams as hot.

"The fire of the Eight Trigrams has no master. It is not a living being but an execution platform that extracts fire from the surroundings and uses it to execute criminals."

Fire-.

YuWon unleashed the mana he had been storing and activated his Cinder Eyes.

"And a fire without a master isn't too difficult to control with the Cinder Eyes."

"From now on..."

YuWon, who hadn't moved a single step since entering the Eight Trigrams, stood up from his place.

"I am your master."

Kak-.

With each step, the flames within the Eight Trigrams flickered.

"And this is how you're going to save time."

As YuWon's mastery of the Cinder Eyes increased, Son OhGong recalled the situation at that moment.

How could he survive the Flames of the Eight Trigrams?

He found the answer in the Cinder Eyes.

"Conserve your mana for now. As much as you can. You'll probably even lose consciousness because of it, but you have to do it."

"If I can use the Cinder Eyes to control the Eight Trigrams, why bother?"

"Because enduring the Eight Trigrams trial makes sense only by enduring it for a long time. Shouldn't we also take the reward from the trial itself?"

"...Why do you say such clever things?"

"That's just who I am."

Son OhGong shrugged.

[Arcane Power has increased by 1]

Mana from the Eight Trigrams began to flow through the Cinder Eyes.

For the first time in his life, the ownerless weapon reacted to its master. From now on, all YuWon had to do was use the Cinder Eyes to control the fire energy within the Eight Trigrams.

"This is what Danpung feels like."

It seemed as if he hadn't had a proper meal in a long time, and although he was hungry, he felt full even without eating.

Enormous flames filled the air.

In YuWon's eyes, the flames seemed like the most appetizing feast he had ever had.

"I'll devour them."

Outside the Eight Trigrams Cauldron.

Son OhGong's alter ego was attentive to his surroundings.

He was riding on the back of a cloud, half reclining.

"This is quite boring."

At least in a certain sense, it was also a relief.

Perhaps because he thought YuWon wouldn't last long.

"Well, he lasted quite a while."

The fourth day.

That was more than he expected, considering the time he had been in that cage.

At first, he wasn't thrilled when YuWon told him he was going to take the Eight Trigrams trial. It was because the trial itself wasn't so rewarding, and he thought it would be impossible to pass. "I wouldn't be surprised if his body turned to ashes at any moment."

Yuwon's body was almost devoid of moisture, and it wouldn't be strange for him to faint at any moment.

For the past three days, Son OhGong had been advising YuWon to give up.

A trial that couldn't succeed in the first place.

It made no sense to die for nothing.

"Perhaps he possesses strong control over the Cinder Eyes..."

Son OhGong shook his head as he thought about it.

"Not even close."

It wasn't until hundreds of years after acquiring the Cinder Eyes that he could control the Flames of the Eight Trigrams with the power of the Cinder Eyes.

Yuwon, on the other hand, no matter how strong he was as a player on the 50th floor, was still a child who had only been cultivating for a few years.

Skill wasn't just a matter of being strong or weak. Mastery of a skill was something that couldn't be overcome simply by increasing or decreasing mana.

"As expected, it's still not enough."

That's when Son OhGong predicted YuWon's failure.

Hwareuk-!

The heat within the Eight Trigrams became even more intense.

An unusual flow of mana.

Son OhGong turned his head in surprise.

"What's happening?"

Hwarrrrr, hwarrrrr-.

Through the bars of the cage, his insides burned a bright red.

The heat was so intense that even Son OhGong's face burned as he looked through the bars.

"What the hell is going on?"

No matter how much he searched his mind, using the memories of his main body, he couldn't recall any moment when the Eight Trigrams burned in such a way.

"Damn it..."

The worry didn't last long.

YuWon was vital for Son OhGong's rescue and for the future of the tower.

He couldn't let him die here.

"I didn't realize it would take this much effort."

Chi-ii-.

Son OhGong grabbed the handle of the Eight Trigrams door and opened it.

He felt a burning sensation, but he didn't care; his mind was still filled with the experience of being trapped in the Eight Trigrams for over a hundred days.

The flames were blazing from within.

The flames burned so fiercely that they blinded him.

Through it all, Son OhGong searched for YuWon.

"Where are you?"

There was no response.

For whatever reason, there was no way YuWon could withstand this fire.

The area of the Eight Trigrams was vast.

It wasn't going to be easy to find YuWon in such blinding fire.

"I hope I'm not too late..."

Kwok.

After much deliberation.

Son OhGong finally held Ru Yi in his hand.

"Grow."

There was no time to waste, so first, he had to extinguish this blazing disaster.

"Ru Yi..."

"Your ignorant personality is no different from your main body or your alter ego."

The voice came just as the Ru Yi Bang was about to stir the Eight Trigrams.

Hwaruk, Hwarreu-.

Son OhGong's gaze turned towards the direction of the voice.

"Are you asking me to die? If you swing your staff in this narrow place, I'll be caught in the crossfire."

Kak-.

YuWon emerged from the flames.

For a moment, Son OhGong felt relieved that he was alive.

But he was surprised to see YuWon's eyes as he passed through the flames.

"You, those eyes..."

The red eye on the right.

And the golden, shining eye on the left.

[The 'Golden Cinder Eyes' resonate]

Hwareuk-.

At the moment their eyes met, Son OhGong smiled.

The second master of the Golden Cinder Eyes had been born.

Chapter 225

Fiireee-.

The flames inside the Eight Trigrams darkened his vision.

It was no longer hot. YuWon used his eyes to continue draining the flames of the Eight Trigrams, using their power as his own.

Crunch-.

A piece of dry meat entered his mouth.

The jerky from his inventory had burned as soon as he took it out.

[Passed the 21st trial of the Eight Trigrams]

[The 22nd trial of the Eight Trigrams begins]

[Endure the flames of the Eight Trigrams]

[24:00:00]

Another trial had begun.

It had been 22 days since he ate anything other than burnt jerky, and 22 days since he slept.

He was gradually reaching his physical limits.

"I can't believe it, man."

Son OhGong looked incredulous.

He stared silently at YuWon for a while, then repeated the same words like a parrot.

"How did you do it?"

Son OhGong's eyes reflected YuWon's own.

What he saw before him was a pair of eyes like his own, only unlike those of his alter ego, they were more real.

"I've been telling you for a long time that I have a lot of talent for this."

"Don't be arrogant."

"I'm not arrogant."

YuWon's response was always the same.

And every time, Son OhGong wondered if he had any secrets.

He had so much talent.

He was too good to be true.

But then....

'Could it be true?'

He had heard the same response so many times that he couldn't help but believe it.

When he thought about it, it wasn't unbelievable.

Players grow stronger through stats, skills, and items by leveling up. And how you get stronger through those three things, and how you use them to fight, all falls under the category of "talent."

And in that sense, YuWon's talent was unquestionable.

Even if he used the Clock Movement to go back in time.

"Just have a little faith."

What Son OhGong still couldn't believe was nothing special to YuWon.

"It's because of that talent that I was chosen."

It was embarrassing to hear himself say it, but it was true.

The reason for his return.

It was because he was strong enough to stand shoulder to shoulder with them, even though he was the last one to enter the Tower among the High Ranks gathered at the table.

"If I had to choose one, it would be Kim YuWon."

Odin.

He recommended YuWon above all others for a reason.

"That guy will quickly learn whatever he learns."

Son OhGong was definitely stronger.

In combat, he was naturally more gifted than YuWon.

In fact, YuWon rarely won against Son OhGong, so naturally, many people favored Son OhGong.

But in the end, YuWon was the chosen one.

'Son OhGong wasn't... good at learning things.'

Son OhGong only had a handful of skills.

Of course, he was able to use those few abilities with almost 100% skill, but still, he wasn't a complete talent.

"But it's definitely difficult, this."

Kak-.

YuWon rubbed his eyes as his vision became increasingly blurred.

[Golden Cinder Eyes resist the Eight Trigrams]

[Resistance was successful]

[Golden Cinder Eyes control the Eight Trigrams]

[Your competence is insufficient]

[Competence of Golden Cinder Eyes increases by 0.01%]

While using the Golden Cinder Eyes to control the Eight Trigrams, YuWon felt that he was reaching his limits.

His Mana was at its limit, and so was his concentration.

He hadn't slept for so long that his fatigue was at its peak.

"That's it."

There was nothing more to gain from the Eight Trigrams.

He just needed to learn how to use the Golden Cinder Eyes. There was no need to insist on the Eight Trigrams trial.

If he lost his mind here and died in the Flames of the Eight Trigrams without being able to use the Golden Cinder Eyes, then everything would be for nothing.

Kirik-.

YuWon finally exited Day 22, satisfied.

He wanted to surpass Son OhGong's achievement if he could, but...

Surpassing 100 days was impossible for him.

[You have passed the twenty-first trial of the Eight Trigrams]

[You have acquired the Power/Mana of the Eight Trigrams]

[Your Arcane Power increases by 2]

[Your Fire Resistance increases significantly]

A reward for enduring 22 days in the Eight Trigrams.

It wasn't a bad reward. It took a long time, but it was worth it for the two increases in his Arcane Power statistic.

No.

In fact, it wasn't just two.

"Three points of Arcane Power from the Eight Trigrams Cauldron and two more points as the final reward."

The Arcane Power of the Eight Trigrams he had obtained through the Golden Cinder Eyes was as much as the final reward.

Thus, the total amount of Arcane Power obtained from the Eight Trigrams Trial was five.

Additionally, there was another highlighted message.

"Significant increase in resistance..."

He couldn't believe it when he saw it.

Not just an increase, but a "significant" increase.

He had never seen a message like this before.

Attribute resistance was a statistic that was not visible to the naked eye, and it was not usually easy to increase the resistance of these attributes.

But it wasn't just an increase; it was a "significant" (enormous) increase.

He thought, "Perhaps this is a better reward than the Arcane Power statistic."

There were many ways to increase Arcane Power. He would have to fight the Outer Gods in the future and then devour them.

There were many other ways to level up and increase his statistics in his mind.

However, it wasn't attribute resistance. Furthermore, Fire resistance was a statistic that would be very useful to YuWon in the future.

"The preparations for Ragnarok have become much easier."

Indeed, it was known that Son OhGong had a resistance that could be called almost invincible when it came to the Fire attribute.

YuWon had thought that it was resistance obtained solely through the Golden Cinder Eyes, but apparently, that wasn't the case.

And this resistance would be useful to him later, in the great war of Asgard, Ragnarok.

Whirring-

When he emerged from the Eight Trigrams Cauldron, a hot wind blew from the outside.

It was hot enough to make even the Rankers feel the heat from the earth around them.

However, this heat felt like a breeze to YuWon.

"...pleasant."

YuWon burst into laughter even after saying that.

The resistance to the fire element had increased dramatically, and now that he was out of the scorching fire, the hot air felt cool.

YuWon turned to Son OhGong, who was still waiting outside the Eight Trigrams.

"Do me a favor."

"Sure."

Pap-

A pure white cloud appeared in front of him.

As soon as he saw it, his body relaxed into it.

It was quite a deep sleep.

YuWon, who always kept his eyes half-open for any possible situation, fell asleep for the first time in a long time, unaware of the passing time.

Time passed like that.

"Are you awake?"

Tak-tak-.

YuWon woke up and fixed his gaze on the Bull Demon King, who was preparing tea in his room.

"How are you feeling?" YuWon asked.

"I should be asking you that."

Nodding, YuWon stretched the upper part of his body and nodded.

He wanted to ask how the Bull Demon King's body had recovered, but it was him who had fainted and woke up after all.

"I'm fine, not hurt much."

"I know. You've been in that fire for over twenty days without sleep, and you deserved it."

Dulcak-.

Leaving the teapot, the Bull Demon King offered YuWon a cup of tea.

"Drink it. It will clear your mind and refresh you."

"Thank you."

As YuWon received the tea cup and drank it, the Bull Demon King began preparing another cup of tea.

"My body is fine. I'm almost recovered."

"Almost, but not entirely, right?"

"Not for long."

Dud, dud, dud-.

The tea cup in YuWon's hand trembled.

The Bull Demon King's Arcane Power had begun to go out of control and fill the room. Not only the room where the two of them were, but the Arcane Power seeped into the floor and shook the atmosphere.

Bam-.

"Aren't you getting too excited?"

YuWon asked, looking at the cracked tea cup, and the Bull Demon King startled and withdrew his Arcane Power.

"...I'm sorry."

"No need to apologize."

Tak-.

The tea seeped through the cracks in the tea cup. YuWon drank the hot tea in one gulp and left the broken cup on the nightstand.

"Be careful not to rush out immediately. I've told you before, you'll need to be at your best to win this battle."

"I know. I'm not the youngest, don't worry too much."

YuWon nodded at the Bull Demon King's response.

He had only brought it up just in case, but he wasn't too worried.

"I'm glad he's not like Son OhGong in that aspect."

Relieved by the Bull Demon King's answer, YuWon got up from the bed.

"Is it okay if I move right away?"

"It doesn't matter, I feel like I'm about to fly after a good night's sleep."

"Really?"

The Bull Demon King turned his head to look out the window.

"It seems like he's still waiting for you."

"I see."

Gee-ing-.

In the same way, a golden stream of air moved through YuWon's pupils as he followed the Bull Demon King's gaze.

[Golden Cinder Eyes activated]

[Golden Cinder Eyes resonating]

"Me too."

"I've heard the stories, but... it's amazing to see those eyes like that."

The Bull Demon King wore an expression of curiosity as he looked at YuWon, who had the Golden Cinder Eyes.

Outside, YuWon could feel the gazes of the many Son OhGongs. And among them, there was one that stood out especially towards YuWon.

"Are you going to fight him?"

"I believe so."

"Sounds interesting. Take care of him."

With that, the Bull Demon King patted YuWon on the shoulder.

YuWon opened the door and stepped out of the cabin.

And then...

Jak, jak, jak-.

In line with YuWon's steps, a Son OhGong walked towards him.

"You said you knew my main body, right?"

Perhaps he found out about YuWon through the twelfth alter ego.

YuWon nodded. Although the eyes he had gained this time were not clairvoyant, somehow he could see what the alter ego in front of him was going to say.

"Then you already know my personality, and... I don't need to say much."

The corners of Son OhGong's lips twisted.

He couldn't stay still, his shoulders, hands, and feet were trembling.

This was a reaction of not being able to bear it anymore and wanting to have fun.

"They do look alike."

YuWon had seen Son OhGong with that expression many times.

Whirligig-.

Son OhGong pulled his staff from behind his back and twirled it in his hand.

"I want to fight you."

With excitement in his voice, he pointed the tip of his staff at YuWon.

"Fight me."

Hwareuk-.

Son OhGong's first alter ego.

His strongest alter ego challenged YuWon to a fight.

Chapter 226

Son OhGong was an unusually peculiar character among the Rankers that YuWon knew.

He was sometimes even considered a pervert. He enjoyed fighting almost as much as eating.

Fighting, getting hit, what was enjoyable about it?

'That kind of thing suited Asura well.'

Asura and Son OhGong.

The two of them fought almost every day.

Son OhGong usually came out as the winner, but Asura wasn't far behind.

When it came to combat, Asura was also a genius equal to Son OhGong.

Two people who loved to fight.

It was exhausting to be caught between them.

But it seemed that the alter ego was the same.

Boo-.

YuWon looked at the back of Son OhGong as he rode on the Flying Nimbus.

Son OhGong's first alter ego.

He knew that the personality changed slightly depending on the number of alter egos.

Right now, the twelfth Son OhGong alone was quite different from the main Son OhGong.

But somehow...

The way he walked, full of joy, resembled Son OhGong a lot.

'The closer to the first, the closer to the real one...'

YuWon exhaled, his Mana bubbling like an active volcano.

'I wonder how strong he'll be.'

He was very excited.

What difference would there be between the first alter ego and the twelfth?

How much would the first Son OhGong resemble the main body?

The answers were about to come.

Bam~

Landing softly on the ground, Son OhGong looked at the wall in front of him.

"Shouldn't this be enough?"

Swoosh.

A black, solid wall.

It was the farthest point the Flying Nimbus could reach.

"This should be enough to escape the eyes of the heavens. We've come a long way."

Half a day riding on the Flying Nimbus.

Son OhGong's Flying Nimbus had the speed to travel to the ends of the world and back in a single day.

"You can let loose here. So you shouldn't worry too much either...."

Hwareuk-.

"Let us unleash our power from the depths of our hearts."

Son OhGong's eyes ignited in flames.

For a moment, YuWon felt as if Ragnarok had been recreated.

But only for a moment.

'He's serious.'

The illusion was fleeting, and YuWon felt his shoulders crushed by the power of Son OhGong that surrounded him.

It wasn't the Flames of the Eight Trigrams.

The Golden Cinder Eyes, which appeared in Son OhGong's eyes, brought the Mana around YuWon under his control.

His breath was cut off.

But he wasn't the only one with those eyes.

[The 'Golden Cinder Eyes' resist the 'Golden Cinder Eyes'.]

Hwahhhhhh-!

The Mana around YuWon began to burn.

The Arcane Power around the two was shaken by the different forces.

Yuwon's eyes never left Son OhGong's.

Even though he had been using the Golden Cinder Eyes for a long time, he was nothing more than an alter ego.

Moreover, YuWon didn't just have the Golden Cinder Eyes.

['Mana Master' is active]

[The mastery of the 'Golden Cinder Eyes' is increasing]

The Golden Cinder Eyes had the power to control the Mana in the air, and Mana Master had a similar effect as it granted you control over the Mana in the atmosphere.

The two abilities, with their similar powers, had a synergistic effect, giving him the power to counter Son OhGong's Golden Cinder Eyes.

"Not bad for something you just acquired."

Son OhGong no longer focused on the Golden Cinder Eyes.

The strength that had been holding his breath had disappeared. YuWon unleashed the power of his eyes and began to move his feet, just like Son OhGong.

Bam-.

The two walked toward each other at the same time.

Whirligig-.

OhGong spun Ru Yi Bang in his hand.

Scott-.

Yuwon did the same and unsheathed his sword.

There was no need to fight with their eyes anymore. From now on, they would fight in a different way.

Kek-.

The distance closed.

And in that moment...

Kwiiiik-.

Tak, tak, tak!

Without anyone saying who would go first, the two lunged at each other.

Goo-.

Ru Yi and YuWon's sword clashed.

Kwalung-!

The collision dug a deep hole in the ground, opening a rift in the clouds above where the two collided.

Son OhGong's eyes widened. It was just a clash, but it was enough to measure his opponent's strength.

'This guy?'

He expected him to be strong, but he was more than he had imagined.

Apparently, according to the twelfth alter ego, he was nothing more than a child with the abilities of a high-ranking player.

'Why is he so fast?'

The speed at which he was growing was beyond imagination. He had no idea how many levels he had or how many stats he possessed.

Bum-.

Son OhGong swung his Ru Yi again.

In YuWon's eyes, there were instantly dozens of them.

Thud, thud, thud!

The sword pierced through all of them.

YuWon carefully examined the tips of the Ru Yi Bang.

None of them were fake.

Normally, when suddenly faced with dozens of strikes like this, one would try to find the one true strike.

But YuWon had fought against OhGong many, many times.

And now, unlike before, he had the Sensory Field and the Golden Cinder Eyes.

"I'll accept them all."

Shuk-.

Kak!

"...!"

The tip of the Ru Yi Bang pointed towards the sky.

Son OhGong appeared frightened.

Then, YuWon's sword pierced Son OhGong's neck.

"....."

The tip of YuWon's sword gleamed in Son OhGong's pupils.

The sword halted in midair.

Son OhGong looked at YuWon, as if asking him what the hell he was doing.

"I don't want you to disappear."

The first alter ego was certainly similar to the main body.

It wasn't just the personality or disposition; it was the way he fought.

Son OhGong was not afraid to die. No, in the first place, he believed in his body as immortal.

An undying body.

Using that advantage as a key to cheat, Son OhGong's fighting style, although seemingly ignorant, was the most efficient way to make the most of that advantage.

But...

The 'alter ego' is different.

Swish~.

YuWon sheathed the sword he had held against Son OhGong's throat and turned to walk in the opposite direction.

'An alter ego that has suffered near-fatal damage disappears. Immortality is an advantage possessed only by the main body.'

And that was a fact that the Son OhGong standing before him had overlooked.

"Don't be so dismissive. See? I'm better than you think, much better."

"...Yes. Sure."

Son OhGong scratched his head.

Actually, he didn't think he had ignored it.

In the first place, he hadn't ignored it.

YuWon was already strong enough.

Stronger than most High Ranks.

But that wasn't all.

'He's much stronger than I thought.'

A moment ago...

For a split second, OhGong didn't see YuWon's sword pointing at his throat.

And it wasn't a movement he had seen with his clear vision; it was clearly a slash, not a stab, and before he knew it, the sword had reached his uvula.

His pride was wounded.

He clearly lost the close-quarters combat.

"This is exhilarating."

The Mana enveloping Son OhGong overflowed.

Boom-.

From the trembling of his shoulders, YuWon was certain.

'From now on...'

From now on, Son OhGong would be aware that he was an alter ego, and he would fight cautiously, wary of YuWon's abilities.

Furthermore...

'He probably won't give me the same distance as before.'

As expected.

Chuck-.

"Grow-."

The tip of Son OhGong's Ru Yi Bang pointed at YuWon's head.

"Ru Yi."

BOOM-!

GUOONG-!

The ground shook, and the mountain's peak flew off.

The mountain had a circular hole.

And inside the mountain's hole, Son OhGong chased after YuWon.

Boo-boo-!

Kwaang-!

The elongated stick struck YuWon's head from a distance. YuWon's body was forcefully sent flying and buried into the mountain's hole.

Kurrrr-.

Bum, bum, bum, bum.

The mountain, which had been precariously swaying under the impact of Ru Yi Bang's swings, collapsed. Watching the cascading mudslide, OhGong used his Golden Cinder Eyes to look inside.

"Where are you hiding?"

Different-colored eyes rolled around.

His eyes searched for YuWon for a moment.

Flash!

A blinding flash of light.

OhGong squinted for a moment, and then YuWon's sword flew out.

Swoosh-!

Bum!

This time, OhGong's body was pushed back and sent flying.

The distance widened.

And at that moment...

[Uranus Heart generates a Lightning Bolt].

Fajijijjik-!

A black lightning formed in YuWon's hand.

"Grow-."

Boom-!

The lightning shot out from YuWon's hand.

"Ru Yi."

Twack-!

Twack-!

The lightning clashed with Ru Yi Bang in the air.

The lightning focused into a single point. And so did the collision of Ru Yi.

It reminded him of the lightning that struck Camelot, and the clash between them. Back then, the alter ego, who was assisting YuWon, hadn't been able to stop the Lightning Bolt in the end, but this time was different.

Crunch, crunch, crunch-.

The two forces clashed, each unable to overcome the other, and the struggle continued for some time.

And then it happened.

OhGong charged towards YuWon.

Boom-boom-.

Thwack!

OhGong's fist slammed into his stomach.

His fist was as hard as stone, and for a moment, YuWon's body trembled.

But only for an instant.

'Why didn't he dodge...'

The fact that YuWon didn't dodge, even though he believed he could, made OhGong pause for a moment.

At that moment...

[The 'Blessing of the Sea' dwells in your body]

OhGong realized that the sensation in his fist wasn't what he expected.

He thought the attack had landed, but it wasn't so.

His fist didn't enter, it was drawn in.

Kwak.

YuWon's hand grabbed OhGong's arm.

And at that moment, a scene flashed through OhGong's mind.

"...Damn it."

Fajik, jijijijik-!

OhGong gritted his teeth as electricity surged through his body.

It was an ability that had shocked even the Bull Demon King. If he couldn't get away, he would immediately lose the fight.

"Return."

Shuuuk-.

Ru Yi Bang was once again in his hand.

Enduring the electric shock with his body, OhGong aimed the tip of the staff at YuWon.

"G-Grow..."

YuWon's eyes widened.

No way, not at such a close distance.

"Ru Yi."

Boom!

The staff soared into the sky, sending YuWon and OhGong flying upwards.

[The 'Blessing of the Sea' trembles.]

"Kugh..."

Up in the clouds, YuWon frowned as he felt the jolt in his chest.

It felt like his ribs had been broken. Even with the sea's protection around him, the flying staff from such a close distance was still too threatening.

Furthermore, his attack wasn't over yet.

'Where...'

Pak.

Using his Golden Cinder Eyes, YuWon saw Son OhGong within his field of vision.

A future that hadn't happened, just a little while later.

YuWon's head jerked back.

And at that moment...

Bam-.

OhGong's hand grabbed YuWon's shoulder.

"You can't be thinking..."

"What you eat, you figure out."

The corner of his lips lifted.

Slowly, gravity began to pull the two of them downwards from the peak.

And then...

"Let's fall together."

Clutching onto YuWon's men, OhGong started their descent towards the ground.

As if he were riding his Flying Nimbus.

Chapter 227

Grrrrr-.

The ground trembled.

Just for a moment.

Drrrr-.

The man who opened the window and looked out murmured.

"What is it, an earthquake?"

It was only for a moment, but he could feel the ground shake. He was worried, but that was all.

And a long way from there, to the end of the world.

There was a deep pit.

Goo-goo-goo-.

A massive pit, tens of meters deep, and so wide that it's hard to imagine its length.

Dddd-

In the midst of it, Son OhGong stood up, staggering.

"Ugh..."

Son OhGong held his head.

A sharp headache took hold of him. Looking up, he realized why.

"This is huge, man."

This big pit was created when they fell.

The ground shook with a momentary earthquake-like impact, and it was their fall and YuWon's that created it.

"Ughh."

Ddddddd-

Yuwon emerged, clearing the pile of rocks with his hands.

"You really did it, you damn Monkey."

Jiing-.

It seemed like a voice was tinkling in his head. YuWon shook his head, his head spinning, and his brain throbbed.

"You're the same. How do you not faint after all this?"

And the same happened to Son OhGong.

For a while, both of them shook their dizzy heads.

Finally, they slumped back into their places.

It seemed that if they continued fighting any longer, one of the two would die or be annihilated.

"Your body is just as tough."

"Do you rely on that tough body to create this mess?"

Yuwon laughed incredulously.

It had been a long time since he had a fight this ridiculous. At the height of the battle, Son OhGong relied on his body to make that final move.

"So what can I rely on?"

"And what if you really die? You're not even the main body."

"I've done enough not to die. Don't worry."

"I don't believe you."

It wasn't just falling, it was falling at full speed.

I don't know what else he could have thought, but this wasn't any different from dying together.

The ignorance was the same for both the body and the alter ego. Suddenly, YuWon remembered the moment he fought against Son OhGong a long time ago.

"He's very similar."

Although he knew it was an alter ego, he strangely felt comfortable with him.

"Still, the idea was good."

If what was in front of him was his main body instead of an alter ego.

If it was the Son OhGong with an immortal body, it would be a valid fighting method.

"I'll have to let him know later."

Time passed for a while as he held his head in his hands.

When the piercing pain in his head subsided, YuWon stood up.

"... Shall we go back?"

"... Let's go."

OhGong nodded.

And with that, the two climbed back onto the Flying Nimbus.

After that day.

Yuwon and OhGong fought almost every day.

Over the course of a few days, YuWon mastered the use of the Golden Cinder Eyes.

[Competence of Golden Cinder Eyes increased by 0.07%.]

Getting used to the eyes meant increasing competence.

And in the process, YuWon could vaguely understand what the 'Eye of Foreknowledge' mentioned by Son OhGong was.

'For a moment. The power to foresee the future ahead.'

The Cinder Eyes could read the subtleties of an opponent's muscles and movements.

The Golden Cinder Eyes had the power to go beyond that, to see the 'future' of what was actually going to happen.

The difference was significant. Although not as effective as having the same eyes, the ability to see the future was still quite useful in the fight against Son OhGong.

'With this, I can win a fight against an unbeatable enemy.'

An opponent that cannot be defeated with his current abilities.

Even in a fight against such an opponent, he felt that with this power, it would be possible.

Just like that, when the training was in full swing.

"Let's start now."

One day, out of the blue, the Bull Demon King spoke at the dinner table.

Son OhGong, who was eagerly eating the deer meat he had caught in the mountains, looked up.

"Are you serious?"

"Why do you keep coming down here when I told you to stay up there?"

"It's because of this guy, I guess."

OhGong shrugged, looking back at the rest of the group.

"I'm taking care of him, right?"

He was referring to helping YuWon train.

But the Bull Demon King, who had seen the two fight a few times, shook his head.

"The odds are about 50/50, and lately, you've been losing more."

OhGong's shoulders trembled slightly.

"No, it's just that..."

"Do you feel better now? (몸은 다 괜찮아지신 겁니까?)"

Son OhGong, who was left speechless, turned his head and let out a sigh of relief.

The Bull Demon King tossed the meat he was holding into the fire and replied.

"It's been a few days. Still, I was waiting just in case."

"You're being cautious."

"I must be cautious. To be in perfect condition."

The Bull Demon King's gaze turned towards the waning sun.

The evening sky.

As he gazed at it, the Bull Demon King spoke, his voice trembling slightly.

"We will set out as soon as the sun rises."

He seemed determined, the color returning to his face unlike the first time he emerged from his prison.

"To save the Youngest."

Dawn arrived.

It was a strange sensation.

He should have been nervous, but he felt nothing out of the ordinary.

In fact, he felt his head even clearer than usual.

Outside the window, he heard the birds singing.

A cooler breeze entered the room, and a cold aura slipped out from under the blanket.

It took a moment for him to realize he was awake.

"That's it."

That was all.

No more words came out of his mouth.

A bunch of words raced through his head, but he didn't have to say them.

Floor 50.

And the rescue of Son OhGong.

That was one of YuWon's objectives.

"We're halfway there."

Rescuing OhGong sooner rather than later was one of the most important things planned for the future.

He could arguably be called the most talented High Ranker aside from YuWon.

Moreover, the battle against the Celestial Realm couldn't even be organized without him.

Kik-.

The birds' singing drilled into his ears, and YuWon got up from the bed and approached the window sill.

"I lasted a long time."

Sometimes Son OhGong would say things like that.

How long had he been trapped in that suffocating pile of rocks?

How dark, suffocating, and lonely it was.

He seemed the saddest when he talked about it.

Now that he had saved the Bull Demon King.

"Now, I will go and save him."

It was Son OhGong's turn.

Five Elements Mountain (Marble Mountain).

The hardest rock mountain in the 50th Floor world, where Son OhGong was born and raised.

Normally a heavily guarded place, it had turned into a celestial fortress in recent months.

"How many Generals are there?"

"The Generals are the problem. There are at least five High-Rank ones."

"And then there's Lee Rangjin's Army..."

Rankers from the Celestial Realm were scattered throughout the Five Elements Mountain.

There were hundreds of them, including many High-Rankers, and even Lee Rangjin, the highest power in the Celestial Realm.

"Haven't the conflicts with the Demons escalated recently? What's a Grand General from the Celestial Realm doing here?"

"And it seems Ne Zha is also going to appear."

"What's going on? Is there a war?"

"It's rumored that the Bull Demon King has escaped."

"The Bull Demon King? Wasn't he killed in the last war?"

"He's still in the rankings. The Ranking Office deemed him not dead yet."

"Don't they make mistakes sometimes too?"

"How many times has that happened, besides with Surt?"

"Well..."

The Celestial Realm soldiers stationed on the Five Elements Mountain grew restless and chatty.

The Bull Demon King had escaped.

If what they said was true, it meant that the Second Celestial War would break out again.

The relationship between the Bull Demon King and Son OhGong was no secret to the Tower Players, let alone the soldiers of the Celestial Realm.

Furthermore, as rumors circulated that the reason Son OhGong was imprisoned in the Marble Mountains was to rescue the Bull Demon King, fear of the Bull Demon King grew even stronger.

If the Bull Demon King were to leave the world, he would surely also try to save Son OhGong.

"The location of the Bull Demon King is still unknown?"

Inside the Five Elements Mountain, in a cave.

Lee Rangjin was using torches to illuminate the cave used by mountain beasts. It might be too shabby for a Celestial Grand General, but it wasn't so bad in the current environment.

And inside, the Celestial Generals were seated.

"No, not yet... I'm sorry."

"No need to apologize."

Since he had asked without expectations, Lee Rangjin was not disappointed.

"If the Bull Demon King wants to hide in the first place, we won't be able to find him. He's the best shaman/sorcerer I know."

Interestingly, there was no trace of the Bull Demon King anywhere.

The Celestial Realm wielded immense influence on the 50th floor, but even they couldn't find a single trace of his Mana.

"So, we can only wait like this?"

Upon hearing the General's question, Lee Rangjin nodded.

"More or less, but don't stop searching, just in case."

"Perhaps he has already escaped to another world, and..."

"No."

Unusually, Lee Rangjin cut off his words as if they were no longer worth hearing and responded.

"He will definitely come."

His voice was filled with conviction, not an ounce of doubt.

The other Generals couldn't argue with him.

The meeting didn't last long.

In fact, there was nothing to say.

All the Generals stationed in the Five Elements Mountain could do was wait.

Until the Bull Demon King made his move.

"Hahh~"

After a long silence, a General opened his mouth to yawn.

But the small yawn caught everyone's attention, so the General looked around and closed his mouth carefully.

"I..."

No one blamed him.

Everyone in the room knew that there was nothing to be done.

But that didn't excuse the fact that he was relaxing in a place like this.

"I'm sorry."

"....."

The apology went unanswered.

After a moment of stunned silence, the General stood up from his seat and bowed his head.

"I apologize, Grand General."

Lee Rangjin raised his hand.

He wondered what was going on, but Lee Rangjin covered his mouth with his finger.

It was a gesture to ask for silence.

"...?"

He wondered what was happening.

The cave, which had been silent before, was now so quiet that he could barely hear his own breathing.

All he could hear now was the crawling of insects that lived in the cave.

At that moment...

"It's here."

"What? What do you mean?"

Regardless of what he had heard, Lee Rangjin stood up and picked up his sword that he had left aside.

No, he tried to reach for it.

But then...

Right then, Lee Rangjin's hand, which was trying to reach his sword, stopped.

"This...?"

Lee Rangjin-gun raised his head and looked at the ceiling of the cave.

And at that moment...

Thud-.

The Five Elements Mountain, the place where Son OhGong was sealed, began to tremble.

Chapter 228

Thump, thump-.

The Five Elements Mountain trembled.

Standing on the clouds at the summit, Son OhGong frowned.

"That thing is damn tough."

"I told you not to do that."

Son OhGong scratched his head at the words of the Bull Demon King.

"We need to break the mountain's spell. That's our first objective."

"Yes, yes."

Boom, Chuck-.

The shrunken Ru Yi Bang was once again in Son OhGong's hand.

"Looks like there are some High Ranks around here. Doesn't look too bad, huh?"

"Six, if you count Lee Rangjin. One of them is Li Jing*." **(*: Also known as the Pagoda-Bearing Heavenly King)**

"Li Jing... who's that?"

Son OhGong scratched his head at that unfamiliar name; he didn't remember many unless they had directly fought against him.

"He's Ne Zha's father, and he's an ancient warrior. Even in an era when the level of the Celestial Realm was generally low, he had a fairly high rank."

"He's an ancient warrior..."

"He's nothing compared to his son, Ne Zha, but he also has great talent."

"Really?"

Son OhGong's eyes gleamed.

"Then he's mine."

"Is that alright?"

"What's the point of dying anyway? I'm just an alter ego."

He wasn't wrong.

There was no death for an alter ego; they had been created by Son OhGong, and their deaths resembled more annihilation than death.

"Still, don't push yourself too hard. There are quite a few of them on this side."

"Are you worried? Is that Ji Ling really that strong?"

"He's strong. He's a Ranker from the same era as me."

"He's from the same era as you... Then he must already have one foot in the grave."

"Are you mocking me for being old?"

"If that's how it sounded, you heard right."

Son OhGong chuckled.

There was no sense of tension at all. This appearance was exactly the same as Son OhGong's main body, but this time, he couldn't simply ignore it.

"If you let your guard down like that, I might impale you without you realizing."

The Bull Demon King said, sensing the commotion beneath the Five Elements Mountain.

"In the end, he crashed against a wall and couldn't go any further, but his ranking used to be in the top ten."

"Now that you mention it, I'm even more curious."

The Bull Demon King shook his head at Son OhGong's reaction.

That's right.

Son OhGong wasn't the type of person to be cautious about these things.

But...

"Now is the time when this kind of personality is needed."

This battle couldn't be lost.

Many Rankers, including the Celestial Grand General, Lee Rangjin, were stationed here.

Hundreds in number alone.

If we add Ranker Players of all levels, there were thousands of troops.

It wasn't an easy fight.

Therefore, to win, they had to risk their lives.

Of course.

"All that is fine, but no individual actions."

YuWon was perplexed by Son OhGong's bubbly personality.

"Stay in position. If one is out of place, everything is out of place."

"...Ah, yes."

Son OhGong scratched his head at YuWon's words.

It felt like his brain was overloaded.

The position YuWon was talking about was something that rarely existed in Son OhGong's life.

"Are you sure you understand?"

"Yes, yes, it's difficult, but I'll try."

"Really stupid as always."

"...Do you feel like fighting me first now?"

"Fight me later. Don't talk nonsense now."

After subduing Son OhGong with a single word, the Bull Demon King looked at the Five Elements Mountain, where the Celestial Realm's army was gathered.

"Let's go."

Bum~

The two horns on his head rose higher and higher.

And at that moment...

Gii-.

The entire surrounding landscape of the Five Elements Mountain turned black.

"They're coming!"

"Stop them!"

The countless Players covering the Five Elements Mountain wielded their weapons and showcased their abilities.

Monsters pounced on them.

In the 50th Floor world, countless monsters called Yokai rushed towards the Five Elements Mountain.

Kiki, Kiki-!

Mmmmmmmm-!

A giant monkey monster over two meters tall and a herd of bulls the size of small elephants.

In an instant, the Five Elements Mountain transformed into a chaotic scene.

"Don't be fooled, it's the Bull Demon King's spell!"

"Where are you stabbing? There's nothing there!"

Rankers, who had decent rankings, fought and shouted as they watched Players collapse in their positions.

A spell suddenly spread around the Five Elements Mountain.

Players who fell under the spell started fighting against invisible and virtual enemies.

"Holy sh*t....."

"Break the spell first!"

"What do you mean?"

"Don't we have any shamans on our side?"

"Yes, we do, but our opponent is the Bull Demon King!"

"If that doesn't work, smash through with force!"

Black mist surrounded the Five Elements Mountain.

Anyone could tell that the mist was the medium of the spell.

Knowing this, the Ranker Players began to dissipate it to rescue the Players under their command.

But then...

Boom-.

Bang!

Ranker Players who were charging into the mist were thrown back, flying and crashing into the walls of the Five Elements Mountain.

"General Dong Cheon!"

"General!"

In the blink of an eye, ten Rankers were sent flying, making the astonished Celestial Realm Soldiers doubt.

And beyond the mist into which they had rushed...

Pap-.

A step was heard, a presence that could be felt by everyone.

A tall man with two enormous horns sprouting from his body.

He slowly approached the Celestial Army and spoke to them.

"If you stay there, you will all die."

Goo-goo, goo-goo-.

Jek-, jek-.

An overwhelming force weighing down on their shoulders.

Feeling the weight hindering the movement of their bodies, the Celestial Soldiers knelt in confusion.

"What in the world... is that ability...?"

"It's not an ability."

In the face of the soldiers' panic, the ranking Generals shook their heads.

"It's just Mana movement."

A Ranker could tell.

It wasn't a special ability; the weight on their shoulders was simply the weight of Arcane Power that the Bull Demon King had spread.

He was the sworn brother of the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal.

Only the two of them had fought in a war against the Celestial Realm.

Kak-.

The closer he got, the heavier the weight on their shoulders became.

"If you don't have much loyalty to the Celestial Realm, I advise you to step aside."

Kudeuk, Koodd-.

Tap, Tap, Tap.

The ground rose beneath the Bull Demon King's feet, and behind him, a giant bull rose up.

"Otherwise, you will all die."

Gulp-.

For a moment, the immense pressure made it hard for them to breathe.

"...Stop him!"

The Celestial Generals began to run toward the Bull Demon King.

No.

They were about to charge...

"Step back."

But a low, deep voice was heard.

It was calm, but it resonated across the battlefield, and the armies of the Celestial Realm charging toward the Bull Demon King halted.

All eyes turned to look.

At the same time, the Soldiers who had spotted the owner of the voice moved apart, forming a path.

Pang-.

Heavy footsteps.

At the end of the divided path, the Bull Demon King and Lee Rangjin stood facing each other.

"It's been a long time, Great Sage, Who Pacifies Heaven."

Great Sage, Who Pacifies Heaven.

It was a title highly esteemed in the world, much like the title of Great Sage, Heaven's Equal.

Though he was an enemy, Lee Rangjin did not disrespect the Bull Demon King.

On the contrary, he respected him more than anyone else.

"Long time no see, kid."

Kid.

It was a rather condescending way to address the eldest Celestial General of the Celestial Realm.

However, Lee Rangjin didn't seem offended by being called that.

The Bull Demon King in front of him was a being with enough qualifications.

A High Rank older than the history of the Celestial Realm.

Just like the current Jade Emperor, he was one of the oldest High Ranks.

Only based on his ability and the history of his existence, Lee Rangjin believed that he deserved to be called kid by him.

But...

"Your hands seem a little empty."

Now it was a different story.

The Bull Demon King's empty hands.

He should have been holding his signature weapon, the Honchulgon (Mixed Iron Rod).

"I left it behind because it was too ugly to use against a child."

"Your weapon is currently stored in the Celestial Realm's warehouse."

"Keep it there, I'll come back for it soon."

"Are you sure you don't want to join us?"

The Bull Demon King's eyebrows twitched at Lee Rangjin's suggestion.

"I've heard you say that many times in the past thousand years."

Why had the heavens forgiven the Bull Demon King?

It was to place him in the seat of the next Great Warlord (Grand General).

The Celestial Realm had grown stronger over time. Both the position of Warrior and the position of General were constantly replaced by stronger individuals.

And the Bull Demon King was more than worthy of such a position.

"If you come, I can offer you the position of Grand General, as well as the authority of Grand General and the full support of the Heavens..."

"I am the older brother of the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal."

The Bull Demon King looked beyond Lee Rangjin's army toward the Five Elements Mountain where Son OhGong was imprisoned.

"As such, I should not be able to join hands with the Heavens."

"Are you sure you want to do that?"

"If you truly need me, my requirements are no different from before."

Boom-.

The Bull Demon King's fist struck his own palm.

"The head of the Jade Emperor. That is my requirement."

"...I see that any further conversation will be futile."

"Do you understand now?"

Swish-.

Lee Rangjin drew his Unbreakable Sword.

The heavy weight of the Unbreakable Sword was felt in his hand. Fortunately, the monster in front of him did not have the Mixed Iron Rod in his hands.

"I'm coming."

Bam-.

Lee Rangjin jumped.

In the moment his weapon's tip turned towards the sky.

Boom!

The mist created by the Bull Demon King split in half.

On the other side of the Five Elements Mountain.

The Celestial Soldiers trembled at the sound from the other side.

"Has a fight already broken out?"

"With Arcane Power of this magnitude, I suppose it's a... Grand General."

"It's enormous, really. For such a long distance..."

The flow of energy from the clash between a Grand General and the Bull Demon King was enough to send chills across the mountain.

Internally, they felt relieved to not be in the midst of it, but also nervous that the battle between the High Ranks had escalated to this point.

"By the way, why didn't the Grand General give such an order? Telling us to stay still here even if a fight breaks out..."

"He must have something in mind."

Before the fight began, Lee Rangjin had sent a message to his soldiers through their player kits.

Never move, even if the fight breaks out elsewhere.

If it hadn't been for that message, they would have moved in principle to assist in the battle.

And just like that, the fight started, and after a while...

Pajik-.

Kurrr-.

A rumble came from the clouds looming over the sky.

"It looks like it's going to rain... huh?"

"W-What?"

The condition of the clouds was unusual.

Meanwhile...

Flash-!

Crackle-!

A lightning bolt crashed through the densely packed Celestial Soldiers.

Kwaaang-!

"Aaah!"

"What, what's happening?"

"The lightning struck..."

Countless soldiers who had been hit by the lightning screamed, and those who managed to escape its reach or were not hit by it, became wary of their surroundings.

In case another enemy had appeared.

Or maybe something different.

"This is tough."

YuWon, who had appeared with the lightning, sighed as he unsheathed his sword.

It would have been much easier for them to move if the Bull Demon King had drawn his attention to the other side.

"It's Lee Rangjin's fault."

"It's because of him."

"It's Lee Rangjin's fault..."

The voice sounded like an echo.

Above the strong echo, YuWon nodded and waved his hand to hurry them.

"Let's go."

Kak-.

"They're Son OhGongs."

Chapter 229

Ru Yi Bang fell from the sky.

Kwaang-!

Guuuuurrrrrrrrrr.

The sound and impact did not stop at once.

Goo, goo, goo, goo.

The Five Elements Mountain trembled.

Beyond that, Lee Rangjin brandished his Unbreakable Sword and opened his mouth.

"It seems the alter egos have moved."

Twack-!

The attack was blocked by the Bull Demon King's fist, and Lee Rangjin moved his body again, spinning the Unbreakable Sword in circles.

Bum!

Kwagwagwagwagw-!

A storm erupted from the tip of the sword. Tiny scar-like forms appeared all over the Bull Demon King's body, which was trapped within it, and at the same time, his hand reached forward.

Kwak-.

Boom-.

Grasping Lee Rangjin's hidden fist in the storm, the Bull Demon King immediately threw it downward.

Kwaaang-!

Koo-koo-koo-koo-.

The ground gave way.

Lee Rangjin's body trembled for a moment.

But only for a moment.

Drrrr-.

Lee Rangjin stood up from the ground, dusting off his clothes.

"So, this is your plan?"

Dozens of alter egos.

Even the Celestial Realm knew that there were dozens of Son OhGong's alter egos scattered throughout this Tower, and although they knew their power was not insignificant, the Celestial Realm could only look the other way.

They didn't know where they were or how they were hiding.

And yet, so many had gathered.

It was impossible to know what had happened or why.

"It's only been a month since I escaped from your prison."

The Bull Demon King looked through the Five Elements Mountain towards where YuWon and the Son OhGongs were fighting.

"How could I have gathered all those selfish bastards?"

"Then..."

Kaaaak-.

Lee Rangjin's hand, holding the Unbreakable Sword, grew stronger.

"Was it really Kim YuWon?"

"...You're wrong."

"You're lying."

Lee Rangjin opened his mouth with a slightly bitter expression.

"I suppose it's true."

He was a coveted talent.

No.

Not only was he coveted by the Celestial Realm, Lee Rangjin wanted him so much that he could even entrust him with the future of the Celestial Realm.

All the more reason to hope that he wasn't the cause of this.

But apparently, it was in vain.

"I cannot give you the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal."

"You speak as if he's yours."

"He is the greatest sinner of the Heavens."

"He is my younger brother."

A red aura glowed in the Bull Demon King's eyes.

Thud-.

Opening his fist and flexing his knuckles, the Bull Demon King stomped and headed towards Lee Rangjin.

"If you stand in my way, I will cut your neck first."

Thud-.

The presence was even greater than before.

That was when Lee Rangjin thought of the Bull Demon King's other title.

"Great Power Demon King."

Apart from Hercules, he was the strongest High Rank in the Tower.

And so, he began to display his power to the fullest.

"Grow."

"Grow."

"Grow."

Three Son OhGongs simultaneously pointed their staffs to the sky.

In response to their actions, the Generals of the Celestial Realm took a step forward.

"Stop!"

"It's Ru Yi Bang!"

The Generals and Soldiers rushed forward.

Hundreds of Soldiers stood in front of Ru Yi, weapons unsheathed, and one of them, wielding a hammer the size of a house, struck the staff with an outstretched hand.

Boom!

Zhiyiying-.

The two weapons clashed, creating a deafening noise. After knocking down Ru Yi Bang, the Ranker puffed his chest with pride and shouted.

"The Great Sage, Heaven's Equal is no longer great in this world!"

"Long live the Celestial Realm!"

"Woah-!"

Morale skyrocketed.

After deflecting Ru Yi, the Ranker smiled satisfactorily and spun his hammer in the air.

"If I do well in this fight, my rank will rise even higher. I might even get a promotion..."

But then...

Crunch.

The sensation of the hammer in his hand changed.

The weight of the hammer grew lighter and lighter.

Thud, thud, thud-.

Shattered fragments of the hammer fell.

It had been shattered by the impact of the strike that blocked OhGong's Ru Yi Bang a moment ago.

"Eh...?"

The bewildered Ranker's pupils blinked.

And at that moment...

Shhhhh-.

Skaaak-.

A single vertical red line was drawn on the Ranker's body.

And that was it.

Screech-!

"General Bukcheon!"

"With just one strike of his sword..."

"That's not Son OhGong, who is this guy?"

YuWon, who had entered the depths of the battlefield in an instant, wiped the blood off his sword and looked around.

With morale plummeting again, the Celestial Realm's Soldiers were unable to withstand the onslaught of Son OhGong.

"What, isn't this too easy?"

The first alter ego murmured somewhat incredulously, with Ru Yi hanging from his shoulder.

The fight was more one-sided than he had thought.

Power was unequally distributed.

Moreover, Lee Rangjin, who could be said to be the greatest power in the Celestial Realm, was being held back by the Bull Demon King.

The power difference was already too great. Each and every one of OhGong's alter egos possessed High Rank power.

Furthermore, among them, the alter egos with a certain degree of rank had skills as good as most High Rank ones.

With such overwhelming power difference, it shouldn't be difficult to break through this battlefield.

"Break the spell first. Don't focus too much on the fight."

"Ah, yes."

The first alter ego nodded at YuWon's words but continued to grumble.

"You're not my mother to be scolding me like this..."

Fortunately, however, Son OhGong listened quite well to YuWon.

Kwak~.

And in the midst of all the chaos on the battlefield.

The heads of YuWon and OhGong turned at the same time.

In the middle of this vast battlefield, they immediately recognized the key player.

"Mm?"

"Is that Li Jing?"

"Probably, unless it's Lee Rangjin."

Somehow, it was too easy.

Even the Celestial Realm knew that OhGong's alter egos and the Bull Demon King had joined forces, so they couldn't rely solely on Lee Rangjin to save the day.

Li Jing, the Pagoda-Bearing Heavenly King.

As a warrior from the previous generation, he was probably the one who had prepared to capture the Bull Demon King along with Lee Rangjin.

"It is an honor to meet the rumored Great Sage, Heaven's Equal."

An old man with a hunched back.

Such an old man wore a blue dragon-scale armor and alternately looked at Son OhGong and YuWon.

"Um... I see there is an unexpected person here."

Goo-goo, goo-goo-.

As if refusing to engage in further trivial conversations, he immediately released his Mana.

The path that had seemed so easy to navigate a moment ago now felt blocked.

If they wanted to rescue Son OhGong, they would have to reach the interior of the Five Elements Mountain, and Li Jing stood firm in front of them, aiming to stop them.

"That guy is mine."

"Didn't you hear me? You have another job to do."

"Tch..."

OhGong scratched his head, annoyed, with his head lowered as if he disliked something.

But only for a moment.

"Alright."

OhGong obediently nodded and walked toward the Heavenly King of Li Pagoda.

Jeobuck, Jeobuck-.

The distance between them closed little by little.

Soon, their paths crossed, but Son OhGong continued forward, leaving Li Jing behind.

"You feel inspired, don't you?"

"Don't worry, I will catch up with you soon."

Neither of them looked at each other, as Li Jing couldn't take his eyes off YuWon.

YuWon walked toward Li Jing.

Around him, the three Son OhGong clung to each other. It seemed that the other OhGongs wanted to confront him.

YuWon didn't bother to stop them.

The Li Jing before him was an opponent of whom he couldn't even be sure of victory or defeat.

Li Jing looked YuWon in the face and gripped the spear he carried on his shoulder.

"I haven't seen you before, who are you?"

"Do you need to know?"

"You seem young, but you're a bit short on words."

"Why be polite when we're about to kill each other anyway?"

"Hmm, fair enough."

Boom-boom-.

The tip of Li Jing's spear moved.

Kak-.

A small scratch appeared on YuWon's cheek.

A wound that wasn't very deep. A wound so superficial that it didn't even bleed, caused by the tip of the spear of the Heavenly King of Li Pagoda, which had leaped the distance.

Hwareuk-.

YuWon's Golden Cinder Eyes shimmered.

With a single move of his spear, Li Jing looked at YuWon with even more interest than before.

"Good judgment. Is it because of those eyes?"

A moment ago.

Li Jing's movement was to cut everywhere except for the place where YuWon stood.

If YuWon had moved to avoid the spear, he would have been forced out of his only safe spot.

'He's not an easy opponent.' YuWon thought.

Through the Golden Cinder Eyes, Li Jing's body was clearly visible.

The hidden Mana flow within the armor. That flow was speaking to him, telling him that Ji Ling was dangerous.

"As for the Rankers to watch out for in the Celestial Realm, everyone knows they are the Jade Emperor, Lee Rangjin (Erlang Shen), and Ne Zha."

When asked about the Celestial Realm, Son OhGong wasn't much help.

He hadn't created a faction or thought too much about things, so his knowledge was limited, and most of what he knew was what others knew.

Thus it was, until Odin mentioned the Pagoda-Bearing Heavenly King.

"The Pagoda-Bearing Heavenly King, he must also be in the Celestial Realm."

"The Pagoda-Bearing Heavenly King?"

"He may not be as prominent as the top three, but all of you know his name, right?"

"I know his name, but didn't he retire?"

"He retired during the last Great Celestial War, so he's more or less a forgotten Ranker."

A forgotten Ranker.

It meant a Ranker who remained in the rankings but whose name had been forgotten due to their lack of activity.

Such was the case with Li Jing.

A being who was active during the founding of the Celestial Realm long ago but had since become a recluse, leaving most of his activities to his son, Ne Zha.

And now, he was here to prevent the resurrection of the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal.

"At least a power on the level of Poseidon. He didn't come here to be my opponent in the first place."

The Celestial Realm was unaware of YuWon's existence in this matter. The only reason he was here was to capture the Bull Demon King with Lee Rangjin.

One of the Three Gods, a Ranker comparable to Poseidon.

A fighter from the previous generation, he was quite a daunting opponent for the current YuWon.

Therefore...

Thump, thump-.

[The power of a giant permeates your entire body]

[The power of a giant is imbued in your right arm]

[You have partially achieved "complete gigantification"]

[You have achieved "complete gigantification" of the right arm]

On the outside, it didn't look any different from normal, but YuWon's arm felt like a balloon that would burst if touched.

At the same time, an enormous amount of Arcane Power surged through his right arm, something he had never felt before.

Gigantification.

YuWon was one step closer to the final stage of gigantification that Hercules had mastered.

"Gigantification, as well as the Golden Cinder Eyes... Hehe, you truly are someone special."

As an old Ranker, Li Jing instantly recognized the abilities used by YuWon.

"A peculiar fellow is my opponent."

Perhaps thinking that further conversation would be a waste of time, Li Jing moved his lance once again.

And at that moment...

Boom!

The Pagoda-Bearing Heavenly King's lance stabbed at YuWon's head.

Pang!

YuWon's sword and Li Jing's lance clashed.

Fajijijik!

Then, Li Jing's lance, which was precisely aimed at YuWon's head, began to show signs of penalty.

"You..."

Li Jing's eyes widened at this unexpected penalty.

"Aren't you a Ranker?"

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Boom!

YuWon's body was thrown backward and flew through the air.

The same happened to Li Jing, who murmured in confusion.

"There's no way the system is lying to me... then it means you're not really a Ranker..."

Li Jing smiled satisfied and looked at YuWon.

"I see."

Kwak-.

Power flowed into his hand through the tip of the lance.

"You must be the player, Kim YuWon."

Although he had been inactive, it seemed he was not completely indifferent to the events of the world.

At this moment, YuWon's name was well-known to most Ranker players. From being known as the strongest player in the lower levels, YuWon had now reached a considerably high level.

What would it be like if he became a Ranker?

There were already many Rankers curious about it, and there were also Rankers who anticipated or feared the next Great Sage, Heaven's Equal.

However.

"I must have been mistaken, I thought you were a promising player, but you have already bloomed and borne fruit..."

In Li Jing's eyes, the alter egos of Son OhGong, including YuWon, were reflected.

"From now on, I will consider you an enemy of the Celestial Realm like the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal."

Bam!

The Bull Demon King's body was sent flying backward after being struck by the Unbreakable Sword.

Wobbling on the ground, the Bull Demon King touched his chest wound.

There was blood on it.

It was a deep wound, not fatal, but not small either.

"You've grown a lot since then."

"You're welcome."

Lee Rangjin stood up, swaying.

It wasn't just the Bull Demon King who was sent flying.

He had also been sent flying by the Bull Demon King's fist, crashing into the wall of the Five Elements Mountain.

"My shoulder got dislocated."

Thud-.

Lee Rangjin forcefully put his dislocated shoulder back in place.

Sweat broke out on his forehead from the pain, but the fact that he had left a scar on the Bull Demon King in front of him was quite significant.

"He still has a strong body."

This was his third fight with the Bull Demon King.

He had fought fierce battles with Son OhGong countless times, but unlike Son OhGong, who grew rapidly, the Bull Demon King was a monster from the moment Lee Rangjin entered the Celestial Realm.

Although OhGong was now better ranked, it was clear that the Bull Demon King was also a talented person not lacking much.

"It's hard to do it alone."

That's why the Celestial Realm had sent two people to capture the Bull Demon King. Lee Rangjin and Li Jing.

But right now, Li Jing was held up elsewhere.

"Just a little more..."

Boom-.

Lee Rangjin's Unbreakable Sword danced lightly.

"I'll go strong."

Teng-!

The form of a dragon emerged from the tip of the sword.

Instead of dodging it, the Bull Demon King raised his arm to block it.

Pak-!

A wound appeared on the arm that blocked the Unbreakable Sword.

His body, which had been strengthened by concentrating Arcane Power, was no longer able to block Lee Rangjin's Unbreakable Sword.

Pit, pit, pit, pit, pit.

Cha-cha-cha-cha-cha!

In an instant, the wounds on the Bull Demon King's body multiplied.

"Changing the way of fighting... is not a bad idea."

A moment ago, Lee Rangjin had used the weight of the Unbreakable Sword to unleash a devastating spear attack. (Note: Although the weapon is called Unbreakable Sword, it seems to be a spear)

Indeed, each strike of his Unbreakable Sword had the power to split mountains.

But now, it was different.

It was faster, sharper.

The spear's tip wouldn't leave a mortal wound on the Bull Demon King, but it would create a series of small cuts.

Furthermore...

Hua Yak-.

Jijik-.

The extended hand of the Bull Demon King tore through Lee Rangjin's cloak.

Lee Rangjin narrowly escaped his grasp.

At that moment, a flash of Lee Rangjin's Unbreakable Sword shone before the eyes of the Bull Demon King.

Kwat-!

A rather sharp spear tip.

It was fast and intense. It seemed as if a storm was unleashed around it.

No...

In reality, it was.

The Bull Demon King looked towards the storm raging around him.

"Hmm..."

The storm was intensifying rapidly.

As he watched, the corner of his mouth lifted.

"You must be in a hurry."

Goo-goo, goo-goo-.

The Bull Demon King's hands filled with Mana.

"Such nimble movement."

At the same time, his fist stretched forward.

Pow!

The power of his fist pierced through the swirling storm.

Lee Rangjin's figure was revealed, and the rapidly moving spear tip trembled.

Clang.

The Bull Demon King's hand finally grasped Lee Rangjin's throat.

His body rose in the air, moving as lightly as a piece of paper.

Kwaaaaaaang-!

Goo-.

The ground shook with an earthquake-like impact.

Lee Rangjin's eyes turned white. For a brief moment, he felt his consciousness fading away.

Thud-.

He gritted his teeth.

As he fell to the ground, he clung to his fading consciousness and wrapped his Mana around the Unbreakable Sword.

Kwaaat-!

Kwak-!

A fairly deep wound appeared on the Bull Demon King's chest.

The distance between them widened. On the crumbling ground below, Lee Rangjin stood on his trembling legs without falling.

"I guess the title 'Demon King of Great Power' was not earned for nothing."

"Your spear has become very sharp."

The Bull Demon King looked at the cross-shaped wound on his chest.

Lee Rangjin's strength had definitely increased since before.

His mental strength was still there, and his rank was much higher than it had been thousands of years ago when he fought the Monkey King.

He was no longer distracted.

It didn't seem like it would be easy to pierce through the Warrior Lee Rangjin standing before him.

'Mmm'.

Furthermore, the Bull Demon King managed to understand the meaning behind Lee Rangjin's behavior.

Why didn't he call Li Jing here?

Why was he alone facing him?

His intentions were clear.

"No matter what, we will win this fight."

Chuck-.

Lee Rangjin couldn't deny those words and raised his Unbreakable Sword once again.

He waited for his moment to confront the Bull Demon King.

It was not an easy task, but he was more than capable of carrying it out.

"You called for reinforcements."

"Because there is not just one, but several alter egos."

Lee Rangjin nodded.

"It's an obvious choice."

Lee Rangjin had requested reinforcements before this battle had even begun.

He didn't trust his own abilities too much.

Whether his opponent was the Bull Demon King or one of his many alter egos, he couldn't guarantee victory with his current strength.

"No matter how tough you are, you won't easily escape from here either."

Therefore, instead of taking credit for himself, Lee Rangjin asked for more troops from the Celestial Realm.

And now...

Those troops were coming here.

"I have no intention of leaving either."

Boom.

The Bull Demon King walked toward Lee Rangjin.

"I intend to capture you here."

"..what?"

Lee Rangjin's eyes widened.

To capture him...

His purpose must be to rescue OhGong, and for that, the Bull Demon King had no choice but to go to OhGong, who was trapped inside the Five Elements Mountain.

Only a capable shaman/wizard like the Bull Demon King could break the spell and rescue him from his confinement in the Five Elements Mountain.

Naturally, then, one cannot help but think that he was running out of time to accomplish his goal.

And Lee Rangjin precisely aimed at that.

But why...

'No way.'

A thought passed through his mind.

Then, he threw his head back. He could see the Five Elements Mountain, and beyond that, he could feel the personifications of Son OhGong's alter egos.

His doubt quickly turned into certainty.

The corner of the Bull Demon King's mouth twitched at the idea.

"There are many ways to break a spell. You can destroy it while you are present, or you can use an item that has an effect that can destroy powerful spells..."

The Bull Demon King was the best in the Tower when it came to sorcery.

As such, breaking the spell of the Five Elements Mountain was not a difficult task for him.

And it didn't necessarily have to be through his own actions.

"While we're at it, perhaps the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal is already being released."

Jiik-.

Lee Rangjin turned around.

No, he was about to turn around.

"I have no intention of letting you go."

Jiik-.

Before he knew it, the Bull Demon King was standing in front of him.

A cold sweat broke out on his forehead.

He thought it was the other way around.

But it was he who was caught, rather.

"Don't think about escaping."

The corner of the Bull Demon King's mouth lifted.

"Lee Rangjin is a cautious man."

The previous night.

YuWon had summoned Son OhGong and his alter egos for a meeting to plan the rescue of the main body.

"He is a man in the position of a Grand General of War, and he desires the safety and peace of the Heavens more than he desires to make a name for himself."

"Do you know Lee Rangjin-gun?"

"Older Brother, this guy only..."

YuWon carelessly closed the mouth of the alter ego that opened it.

The Bull Demon King showed a puzzled expression. YuWon, who had blocked the mouth of that Son OhGong, opened it again.

"No matter how many troops from the Celestial Realm are gathered, as soon as they realize that there is not a single alter ego, they will immediately request reinforcements."

"That sounds like a possibility."

"Given his cautious nature, it is difficult to expect Lee Rangjin to stick to his initial plan now that there is a change of scenario."

Jiik-.

YuWon drew a round circle on the ground.

It was the Five Elements Mountain.

"The alter ego will enter through here. But Lee Rangjin-gun will probably try to stop the Bull Demon King."

"He will think that if I enter the Five Elements Mountain, the younger one will be released."

"Yes."

"Should I then enter from the other side?"

"No."

Jiik-.

YuWon drew a line a short distance from the Five Elements Mountain.

"The Bull Demon King must not cross this line."

"Why?"

"Our first priority is to get Lee Rangjin out of the Five Elements Mountain, and perhaps when the Bull Demon King makes his appearance, Lee Rangjin will follow suit."

YuWon, who had been drawing on the ground with a wooden stick, looked at the Bull Demon King.

"The only thing that can stop you, I'm afraid, is Lee Rangjin-gun."

"And I am the only one among us who can face Lee Rangjin, the man we will drag there."

"That's right."

YuWon's gaze shifted to the first of OhGong's alter egos, the one who had fought him so many times.

"Keep that in mind. Our first goal is to rescue the main body. If that doesn't work, there is no second or third."

He was a little worried.

But.

As YuWon said, it wasn't so easy to get past Lee Rangjin and save Son OhGong.

In the end, they would succeed, but time was of the essence.

If reinforcements from the Celestial Realm arrived before they could get past Lee Rangjin, they would be in trouble.

"He used his brain quite well."

He used himself to lure Lee Rangjin and rescue Son OhGong in the meantime.

It was the most likely plan, as far as the Bull Demon King was concerned.

And so, the Bull Demon King managed to capture Lee Rangjin.

The first prerequisite for the first goal has been fulfilled.

The second task was out of their hands.

"Now all I have to do is endure and wait for you..."

Woong-.

The flow and vibration of Arcane Power came from the other side of the Five Elements Mountain.

On the other side, YuWon and Li Jing were fighting.

"Kim YuWon."