

With The Gods 291

Chapter 291

C291

OhGong thought and thought.

A single strike powerful enough to pierce through Indra's armor.

What options were there?

That was the problem.

No matter how much he thought about it, he couldn't come up with that one strike.

"Ah, I don't know."

Scratching his head in frustration, OhGong raised his magic staff once again.

Anyway, he had already transmitted the information about Indra.

His role was considered finished.

Thump, puff-puff-puff!

Numerous Son OhGongs appeared around Indra.

The multiplication technique.

An ability that symbolized OhGong along with the Golden Cinder Eyes.

"Amazing."

Despite being surrounded by over a hundred clones, Indra showed no signs of weakening.

In fact...

Crack...

Keeping his legs firmly planted and standing with a straight posture as if ready to face off, Indra braced his waist.

"Grow-."

"Grow-."

"Grow-."

Dozens of magic staffs pointing in different directions.

Thud...

The strike of the magic staffs coming from different directions enveloped Indra's body.

No.

It appeared to envelop him.

Crack, clang...

The staffs broke. While the clones were fake and their staffs were too, they weren't that easy to break.

Bang, bang, bang!

Smashing the Ru Yi Bang with his fists, he destroyed one clone after another.

When Indra reached Son OhGong...

"What's this? Did you arrive first?"

Indra found Son OhGong muttering behind the vanished clones (alter egos).

And then...

Hwaaah...

Along with the red aura, six arms and six swords were revealed.

[Path of the Asura Demon]

The six swords approached simultaneously.

Indra, who was rushing towards Son OhGong, planted his feet on the ground, crossed his hands, and protected himself.

In the next moment...

Swaaah...

Asura's sword cut through Indra's chest.

Thud, crumble, crumble-

His body flew backward.

He couldn't hold his ground. Buried among the rubble of the rocky mountain, Indra touched the wound on his chest.

There was blood on it.

"It's the second time already..."

He received wounds twice.

That meant there were attacks that had pierced through the armor, albeit small ones. Whether it was due to carelessness or whatever, it was his own mistake.

Thud, thud, thud~

While holding onto the rock debris and getting up, Indra looked at the Ranker who was far away.

Three heads.

Six arms.

Although he had been halted by OhGong, it seemed like at any moment, he could run toward him.

An unforgettable appearance.

Moreover, he was a quite famous High-Ranker in this Tower.

"Asura."

The three-headed, six-armed demon.

He had created it himself.

Plop, plop...

Shaking off the dust from his body...

"You're a repulsive creature."

Indra recovered and looked at Fafnir, who had partially risen.

Thud, thud...

It was a fight to capture Fafnir.

But now, with the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal, and Asura, it seemed like the situation was escalating.

He didn't care much.

Even if he had wounds, they were nothing more than scratches.

'I don't know why the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal is here, but...'

Two dragons.

And now Asura.

Looking at the enemy in front of him, Indra felt a strange sensation.

A sensation of itchiness and frustration.

This kind of sensation usually didn't end well.

'Is this my turning point?'

Vritra and Fafnir.

If he killed the two dragons, his objective would be practically complete.

A race without its leader would fall. Once that happened, all that remained was to crush the dragons.

"The end is right before my eyes."

Zzziing...

Indra looked at Son OhGong and Asura who appeared in front of him.

He had no intention of backing down from here.

"Let me go."

Kwaaak-

Asura's arm tightened.

Son OhGong was holding onto his arm, while with his other hand, he scratched his head and asked.

"Are you trying to commit suicide or what?"

"Words don't work with you."

The eyes of the first head filled with killing intent, and the swords in his arms began to move.

The situation became urgent, and OhGong quickly dodged the swords, looking for another head.

"Hey, third head!"

The third head of Asura.

He was the only one he could communicate with.

"Are you really going to fight against me? If you do, you won't even have the strength to fight against that guy."

"....."

Asura didn't immediately respond.

But soon...

Thud-

The other two hands grabbed the hand that wielded the sword towards Son OhGong.

"What are you doing?"

"Don't do anything foolish."

The second head remained silent, and the third head reprimanded the first.

"It's too difficult to face both Indra and the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal."

"Yes, yes."

The third head made some sense. OhGong, who was already close enough, touched Asura on the shoulder.

"Let's fight together, you and me."

"....Together?"

Asura looked at Son OhGong with a suspicious expression.

It was an expression that asked, "Why you?".

"No way. He's mine alone," the first head said.

Son OhGong shrugged at those words.

"I don't like the idea of fighting together either. But..."

Kwaang-!

A pillar of lightning shot up from the sky.

"Do you have the confidence to handle him alone?"

"...."

Asura frowned at the magical power he could sense from a distance.

"I can't defeat him."

The second head, who had been silent all along, opened its mouth.

"Are you going to flee again?"

"No."

"Then what?"

The second and third heads looked in the same direction.

Naturally, the first head frowned.

"Do you really want us to fight together?"

It was a fierce response, as if it were absurd.

But it was also momentary.

Kururur-.

Their bodies trembled as they saw the dark clouds forming in the sky.

"Either you flee, or you fight and die trying."

"Or you beg for divine luck."

The words of the third head resonated with the second head.

Luck.

These were words spoken in the midst of a great battle with two Dragon Kings and the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal, as allies.

However, no one could deny those words in this situation.

Indra, who stood before them, had that kind of power.

"That guy is a monster on another level. If you want revenge, this is the only way."

"...Understood."

Although they didn't know the world above the Tower, Asura also felt that he was a level above them.

Therefore, even the first head, who had strong pride, had to finally suppress his pride.

"In return, his neck is mine."

With a firm voice that seemed to say he couldn't give in on that.

Of course, Son OhGong wasn't someone who cared about that kind of thing.

"Then let's do it."

Crackle, crunch-.

Within the towering pillar of lightning...

Indra, who had healed his chest wounds, walked out.

"As long as we can defeat him, that's what matters."

Due to the tension, sweat dripped down Son OhGong's forehead.

It had been a long time since he had thought about a fight where he wasn't sure if he could win.

Probably, it was the first time since the fight with the Outer Gods. Surt was also a difficult opponent to handle even for the current Son OhGong, but at that time, he had the powerful ally called Odin.

But now...

He didn't have such powerful allies. Indra's power was enough to threaten even Surt's rank, easily surpassing the top 5 of the ranking.

And because of that...

Ssss-.

At this moment, Son OhGong could smile happier than anyone else.

"Asura."

"What's up?"

"I'm sorry about your sect."

Asura's heads turned toward Son OhGong in unison.

The sect.

All the Asuras immediately understood what he was referring to.

"You, how...?"

Just as he was about to ask how he knew.

Clank-!

OhGong's body flew out.

Shooooosh-.

Crash-!

Son OhGong and Indra collided. Son OhGong, who was pushed back, immediately began to wield his staff with one hand.

Booom-.

Crack, crack-!

The staff swung in three directions. The staff moved smoothly but with impactful power.

'That's...'

"It's a familiar movement."

"Don't you know?"

Whirr, whirr, whirr-.

Smooth yet powerful movements of the staff.

"It's our staff style."

Furthermore, it was so complete that it could be clearly seen from afar.

Moreover, Son OhGong mentioned his sect.

Was this really a coincidence?

No.

No matter what else, that staff style couldn't be attributed to chance. You can gather information from anywhere, but you can't use a discipline without learning it.

"Why are you just standing there doing nothing?"

The two arms of the first Asura moved first.

"Aren't you going to fight?"

Thud-.

The hands holding the swords filled with strength. Asura, who was watching Son OhGong fighting against Indra, moved his six arms.

"Of course."

Smoothly moving arms.

At the same time...

Thud-.

Asura stomped on the ground forcefully.

Thud-.

Boom!

Indra's head turned. A sword strike flew from somewhere and struck his head. His body staggered from the impact, and immediately his pupils turned toward Asura.

Indra's fist extended forward.

Crackle-.

Crash-!

Along with the fist, a massive discharge burst forward.

Asura and Son OhGong.

As if they had made a promise, they separated and moved to the left and right.

"Definitely, both of them have exceptional skills in movement and coordination."

Whaack-!

The staff and swords extended simultaneously.

Kwoosh-!

The images of Son OhGong and Asura reflected in Indra's eyes as he crossed his arms to block the staff and swords.

"It's enough to make me want to learn."

It wasn't just a matter of strength.

Son OhGong seemed simple and primitive at first glance, but his staff wasn't rigid and appeared flexible, constantly changing.

Asura, even handling six different weapons*, seemed to know how to use each of them uniquely. Moreover, each of them had the same technical perfection as Son OhGong.

They were truly perfect in terms of skills.

However...

Zap, zap, rumble-!

No matter how perfect their skill was, it was insignificant in the face of overwhelming strength.

Thud-.

Indra entered the space between their weapons without any weapon of his own.

The first to react was Son OhGong.

"Grow..."

"Too late."

Son OhGong tried to push Indra using his Ru Yi Bang.

But Indra's fist extended forward.

Crash-!

A thunderous sound resonated on the ground. The light flashed intensely once, and OhGong was thrown so far that he couldn't be seen anymore.

Asura instinctively backed away.

No, he tried to back away.

But immediately...

"Don't be a coward."

The third head became the main axis of the body and began to move.

"If you have decided to fight, you must not retreat."

Indra's strength increased, and at the same time, Asura also gathered his Arcane Power.

Grrrr-.

Showing his determination not to retreat, Asura stepped forward decisively, without backing down, into the waves of lightning. Indra watched him with interest, as if finding his appearance immersed in that electric current fascinating.

"You're an energetic guy."

While the two were momentarily distracted.

Flutter-

The two Dragons recovered, spread their wings once again, and soared into the sky.

'But my target is still...'

Indra looked at the Dragons, showing his white teeth.

'Those guys.'

Chapter 292

Once upon a time, there was a human.

Raised by Dragons, he believed himself to be a Dragon.

As time passed, he realized that unlike him, the other Dragons did not change in the slightest.

When he realized he was not a Dragon, he set out to find out why he had been mixed with the Dragons.

The Dragon War.

A war among Dragons broke out to determine who would be the leader of the Dragons.

In one world, the Western Dragons and the Eastern Dragons fought, and countless people were drawn in and killed.

He realized.

He realized that he was one of the few survivors among the people who died in that way.

With time, he was chosen, climbed the Tower, and became a Ranker.

-Why are you doing this?

He killed the Dragons that raised him and bathed in their blood.

-At first, it was for revenge.

He recovered the memories erased by the Dragons and remembered his lost family and the people of the Indra Tribe.

A funeral to appease their spirits.

At first, that seemed to be the purpose.

-Now I want even greater power.

He called himself Indra.

That was the name of the God they worshipped, a mysterious God who possessed divine power that brought thunder and rain.

Using the name of a God.

When he began using that name, he vowed to himself to become a God.

Crack-!

He repeatedly severed the necks of the Dragons.

-This is not revenge.

He tore apart their blood and heart, drinking their blood incessantly.

[You have obtained the title of "Dragon Slayer."]

With the title, Indra was able to obtain their power.

-This is a hunt.

Indra, who declared war on the Dragons, pledged to kill all the Dragons and seize their power.

And finally, the Dragon Kings, Vritra and Fafnir. Indra vowed to rip out their hearts and drink their blood.

Flap-.

Vritra spread his wings.

Thud-.

Fafnir rose and blinked his eyes. Pushing Fafnir aside, Vritra bared his fangs.

-Stand back, Fafnir.

-I just lost one of mine.

-You've barely recovered enough to move.

Krrrr-.

Vritra's head turned.

The direction was where Indra, Son OhGong, and Asura were fighting.

-From now on, I'll be the one causing havoc.

Flap-.

Vritra opened his wings and flew upward. Fafnir also followed him into the sky and looked down at Indra.

Intense heat built up in Vritra's mouth.

Dragon's Breath.

The most powerful attack of the Dragon Race, a single technique that possessed lethal capabilities surpassing any other magic or skill.

That breath was shot toward Indra's body.

Roar-!

Covering the land with massive fire and dyeing it red. Asura hastily stomped on the ground, while Son OhGong soared into the air riding his Flying Nimbus.

Lightning bolts emanated from Indra's body.

Firmly keeping his two feet on the ground, Indra grasped a weapon in each hand.

The Golden Swords.

Indra enveloped each of them in lightning and stood firm without evading the breath.

-Do you intend to face the Breath?

The ground burned. In an instant, the breath swallowed the ground with Indra in an instant.

And amidst that...

Zap-!

A blue lightning bolt pierced through the flames, and a sharp Golden Sword flew toward Vritra.

Crash-!

The Golden Sword clashed against a staff.

Son OhGong, who was atop Vritra's head, had been watching the inside of Vritra's flames all along.

Facing Vritra's breath head-on meant Indra trusted himself.

"I knew you would."

Kagagak-.

Whoosh-!

Swinging his Ru Yi Bang, he pushed Indra backward, and in the next moment, Asura attacked from the other side with his six weapons.

However, Indra still had his Two Golden Swords.

With one hand, he blocked Asura's swords, and immediately, he spun his body and dove into his arms.

Whack-.

"...!"

The distance closed in an instant.

Boom-.

Indra's fist struck Asura's face.

Crack-!

With an explosion, Asura's head turned backwards. It was about to be blown away, but it didn't.

Thwack-!

Indra's eyes gleamed.

Asura, who had firmly grabbed Indra's arm, still held on. His arms were not two, and another arm was already lurking. (그의 팔은 두 개가 아니었으며, 다른 팔은 이미 자신을 노려 오고 있었다)

"You hold on tightly."

"Perhaps it's not easy for you either."

Son OhGong and Asura did not let go of Indra. No matter how powerful Indra was, it wouldn't be easy to get rid of the two.

At that moment...

Boom!

Indra's fists were blocked in mid-air.

A solid wall.

Boom!

However, Ru Yi Bang easily broke through that wall and extended.

Tsk-tsk!

Thanks to that, Indra took a blow to the chin and fleetingly glanced at Bhirtra and Fafnir, who were now preparing an even more powerful breath than before.

"They are adjusting their position."

Although initially everyone fought in a chaotic and disorderly manner, suddenly, each found their own role and began to move.

It probably wasn't something planned.

After starting the fight, they probably instinctively realized what they had to do.

At least, the two in front of him had enough skills to do so.

"But..."

Zap-

Crunch-!

Indra blocked the attacks from the two with his electric-charged arms.

Blood spurted from the arms cut by the weapons. The staff had also left small bruises, but that was all.

The price he paid by taking the blows was nothing compared to what they would pay next.

Crunch-!

"Kuh!"

Swinging his other Golden Sword, Indra struck Asura's abdomen.

He cut through the flesh and broke the bones.

No.

This couldn't simply be called flesh.

"No matter how hard you try."

Zap, zap-.

A lightning armor covered his body.

Unless they could penetrate this armor, they couldn't inflict a proper blow.

"I've broken through the ceiling."

"Grow-."

Ru Yi Bang approached quickly.

Tak~

Indra caught it with his hands.

"So, as I said, I am different from you..."

"What interesting lightning attribute magic you possess."

Zz-.

A creepy sensation was felt right behind him.

Since the fight began, it was the first time he felt danger. Indra let go of the staff he was holding and instinctively leaned down.

"I can throw you off balance with the same attribute magic."

"Ru Yi."

Boom!

An enormous staff extended over his head. Normally, he wouldn't be afraid of being swept away by it, but this time it wasn't the case.

Pazuz-.

The lightning armor surrounding him. At the moment the staff extended, the magic forming the armor distorted.

"There was someone else."

"I'm sorry for being late."

Crackle, crackle-.

Not far away. A man with golden hair pointed at himself with one hand.

He had such a striking and handsome face that you couldn't forget it if you saw it at least once.

"...Zeus."

Zeus.

The ancient king of Olympus.

He was also one of the few High-Rankers recognized by Indra.

The moment Indra saw Zeus's face, he could immediately understand what he wanted.

"So, you're aiming for my heart."

"That's right."

Unlike Son OhGong, whose goal was uncertain, Zeus's goal was too transparent.

Two High-Rankers who controlled the same lightning attribute magic.

Indra had consumed the heart and blood of the Dragon Race to obtain his current power.

That's why it was known that if someone obtained his heart, they would also obtain the immense power of the Dragon Race.

Crack, crack-.

Son OhGong and Asura.

The two stood, facing each other, focused on Indra.

In the distance, Zeus disrupted Indra's power, while the Dragons covered them with magic and brute strength.

It was quite a compelling position, and each of them was a top-tier High-Ranker in the Tower.

"Today is a special day, isn't it? What are non-partners doing working together?"

Just by seeing the brief teamwork between Son OhGong and Asura, one could tell.

Furthermore, initially, even if they were together, they didn't seem coordinated. Each acted on their own, indicating that they weren't part of a plan.

"Yes. We're still not partners."

Thud-.

Son OhGong in his most battered state. Still, OhGong aimed his staff at Indra once again.

"Yet..."

Yet.

It meant that eventually they would be.

If that happened, he thought that a truly impressive team would be formed.

At this moment, there were Asura, Son OhGong, Zeus, and even the leaders of the Dragons transcending their own race.

"Someday we will be partners. Even I find it hard to believe, but..."

Hwaruk-.

Son OhGong's Golden Cinder Eyes lit up.

"It is destined to happen."

It was a moment, but Indra felt the imposing pressure overwhelming him.

Son OhGong.

The so-called "Great Sage, Heaven's Equal," a High-Ranker who fought in a war against the Celestial Realm and ultimately triumphed.

Even when only hearing the rumors, he thought it was impressive, but upon meeting him personally, it turned out to be even more awe-inspiring.

"What an admirable spirit."

Although Indra didn't know why the hell Son OhGong had sought a fight against him.

Bang-.

"But for once, you're wrong."

With a clash of fists, Indra gained momentum.

If everyone really gathered here to capture him.

"If your intention was to trap me, you should have been much better prepared. You should have planned and coordinated for decades, even centuries."

Kugung, kugugung-.

Lightning burst from his fists.

"Unless you are a perfect team..."

The power to shake the heavens and earth gathered in his hands, and as if waiting for it, Zeus moved his golden lightning in response.

"Eventually, a weakness will be revealed."

Flash!

Crackle-!

In an instant, the blue lightning engulfed the golden lightning. The direction in which Indra threw his punch was straight towards where Zeus was.

Zeus was swept away by the wave of lightning.

On the other hand, Asura paused for a moment when he thought he would face it directly. As he was unaware of Zeus's involvement, it took him a little longer to comprehend the situation.

Phew-!

Meanwhile, Son OhGong raised his staff and swung it directly at Indra.

A brief empty space.

Son OhGong didn't allow for that space and shouted.

"What are you doing? Get closer!"

At Son OhGong's shout, Asura moved.

When the two closed in again, Indra couldn't simply ignore them. Both their weapons and the staff had quite an annoying power to ignore.

"I'll deal with the most annoying guy first."

Zeus.

A skilled High-Ranker in handling his magic, capable of reversing the opponent's attack.

He was the most annoying type among them. That's why, even if it was reckless, Indra moved to confront Zeus first.

Fortunately, however, Zeus made a big mistake.

"How is it possible for someone who can throw a spear from afar to get so close?"

If he had created lightning from a farther distance... The fight would probably have been much more bothersome and complicated.

But fortunately, Zeus entered his range.

And the result was...

Fizz-

But right at that moment...

"No matter how you think about it, it's a blow to one's pride."

A golden lightning appeared behind Indra.

Indra quickly turned his head towards that light.

"You didn't block it?"

Fizz-

Two lightning bolts of different colors but with similar properties collided with each other.

In that created space.

"I can't believe I'm acting as someone else's lackey."

With those words...

Shuak-

Shhh, shhhh-

The figures of Zeus, OhGong, and Asura disappeared into thin air.

And through the gap...

Flash-!

A black spear deeply pierced the air.

C293

Somehow, each had a role to play.

Vritra and Fafnir were aware of their roles, as were OhGong and Asura.

Indra's target was their own lives.

Initially, he hunted dragons out of revenge, but at some point, he started hunting them for greater power.

Once he gained the title of Dragon Slayer, his purpose became increasingly clear.

Dragon Slayer.

The effect of the title was to drain the power from the hearts of the dragons he killed.

-And to think this all started because of the insistence of the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal...

-Unexpectedly, this is how it ended up.

A team was suddenly forming.

Of course, they weren't close enough to be called colleagues.

Moreover, those two were not just a team but individuals capable enough to lead a large guild.

Vritra and Fafnir thought that depending on the outcome of this fight, there could be significant changes in the Tower.

-I suppose we should consider them a team.

-I never thought we would fight as a team, like players.

Unlike players and Rankers, Vritra and Fafnir were rankless beings who had lived for what seemed like an eternity and were powerful in their own right.

Naturally, they were not accustomed to fighting as a team like the Players.

But they were Dragons.

Since their birth, they had been great mages and had grown more proficient in magic as time went on.

Additionally, Dragons were beings gifted with exceptional intelligence.

-I will unleash a Dragon's Breath.

Fwoosh-

Vritra focused the breath in his mouth as he looked at Fafnir.

-You will protect them.

Ranged attacks and support.

Those two roles were their primary function.

Dragon's Breath consumed a lot of magic. Compared to Fafnir, who was more exhausted and injured, Vritra was in a better position.

-There's no other choice.

Fafnir put aside his pride for a moment and obeyed.

Right now, capturing Indra was more important than anything else.

Fwoosh-

At that moment, just as Vritra was about to unleash the Dragon's Breath.

"Wait a little longer."

Vritra closed his mouth slightly upon hearing a voice above his head.

And at the same time...

Boom-!

Zeus appeared behind Indra and collided with him. Fafnir turned his head to see the human who had climbed onto Vritra's head.

-Who are you?

"Another ally."

YuWon pointed to the three who were fighting against Indra.

At this moment, it would be more reliable to respond this way rather than giving a detailed explanation about himself.

-Did you bring Zeus with you?

Fortunately, Vritra and Fafnir recognized Zeus.

Of course.

His face was unforgettable for anyone who saw it once.

Moreover, they couldn't overlook someone emitting such a dazzling brilliance.

"Not just Zeus, but all of them."

-Are you the one who tried to persuade me through the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal?

Vritra remembered the words Son OhGong had told him when he sought him out.

It seemed he was trying to convey someone's message.

Probably that person was YuWon, who was standing on his head.

-Is it you who created this scenario?

If that was the case, he had an impressive ability, regardless of his actual skill.

Being able to gather those High-Rankers in such a way to fight together was astonishing.

"There's no time for idle talk."

Tsutsutsuts-

An ominous Arcane Power gathered in YuWon's hands. The Dark Attribute Arcane Power merged to form a spear and soon took on a defined shape.

-That is...

Fafnir, upon seeing the shape of the spear, spoke with a trembling voice.

A long, elongated spear.

YuWon, who displayed a familiar spear shape, began to activate it.

"Just listen carefully to what I have to say."

Pweoek-!

"....?"

Indra's eyes widened.

A spear pierced through his chest.

And suddenly, Son OhGong, Asura, and Zeus disappeared.

In an instant, he understood what was happening.

Indra searched for the other person who had thrown the spear.

"From where did they throw it...?"

Tuhwaak-.

That was when he felt a sinister presence at that moment.

The lightning armor that was briefly damaged by Zeus's lightning bolt.

In that space, the spear perfectly sank through his body.

Kwagwagwag-!

The powerful impact of the spear swallowed Indra's body.

The sound vanished, and darkness devoured Indra's lightning. The long, elongated impact of the spear created an endless black line in the sky.

Kugoo, googoogoo-.

For a moment, the colors of the world disappeared.

Looking at each other in black and white, Son OhGong and Asura showed confused expressions.

"What's happening?"

"I don't know either."

Son OhGong was equally puzzled about the situation.

He thought YuWon would do something, but he never imagined it would be like this.

The impact of the spear stretching across the sky resembled Gungnir in a certain sense.

The only difference was that, unlike the impact of Gungnir rising towards the sky, the impact unfolding before them extended like a long line.

How far had Indra been flown?

Son OhGong and Asura's gaze turned to Zeus, who appeared beside them.

"You must know something, right?"

YuWon decided to convince Zeus to join his side.

If Zeus had come to this place, he was surely part of YuWon's scenario.

"Although I doubted it..."

But in response to Son OhGong's question, Zeus merely watched the spectacle unfolding before his eyes without saying a word.

"Those were not baseless words."

"I will throw the spear." (YuWon)

When he first heard those words, Zeus thought YuWon had lost his mind.

How dare he say he will throw the spear while standing by his side?

But soon, upon seeing the spear YuWon held, resembling Gungnir, he decided to believe in him for once.

So he rode along with him on a cloud of his own creation.

YuWon prepared the combat position.

"The problem is the timing to throw the spear."

Here were OhGong and Asura.

Both were leading the fight at a relatively close range. If he threw the spear, they would undoubtedly be caught in it.

But if he separated them from Indra, there wouldn't be a suitable moment to hit with the spear.

That's why YuWon thought of only one way.

"We will need Dragon magic."

"Are you referring to teleportation?"

"That's right."

Dragons were the race with the greatest magical ability in the tower.

Furthermore, Vritra and Fafnir here were the leaders of that race, and they were on the same level as the highest-ranking members of the Tower.

The conditions were perfect for the use of teleportation, which could cover great distances in an instant.

The positions of Asura and OhGong, YuWon, and the Dragons were established.

And within those positions, Zeus found his role.

"I will block Indra's power."

"Is that possible?"

"Indra will definitely target me first. If I confirm that and set up a trap, nothing is impossible."

OhGong and Asura restrain Indra's movements, while Zeus tears apart his armor.

In that instant, YuWon threw the spear, and the Dragons rescued the three of them through teleportation.

That was the image that Zeus and YuWon had drawn.

The key was how powerful the spear thrown by YuWon would be.

And now, Zeus was witnessing the results with his own eyes.

"It's better if he doesn't turn into a potential enemy."

There was another being who had the same thought in mind.

Odin, the king of Asgard.

His spear was more powerful than any ability Zeus had seen before.

Although it may be slightly less intense in comparison, the sight unfolding before him also evoked a similar feeling.

Moreover, unlike Odin, one of the oldest Rankers, YuWon had lived the shortest amount of time among the current Rankers.

"If a little more time passes, he will become a true monster."

Furthermore, right in front of him was someone who had traveled to a higher world than his, the place he desperately desired.

He felt that he was close to his goal.

"Is it over already...?"

A dispirited voice resonated somewhere.

It was the murmuring of one of Asura's heads.

Surely, he wouldn't have thought that way after witnessing the spectacle unfolding before him.

But...

Phajjit-

Tsk-!

Zeus snapped his fingers and struck the back of Asura's neck, who was murmuring in that manner.

Asura, hit on the head by the lightning, turned to look at Zeus with a surprised expression.

"You relax too quickly."

"What are you doing?"

"Don't you know anything about Indra?"

Zeus's reprimand returned tension to Asura's body.

Then, Son OhGong, holding the Ru Yi Bang by his side, added with more force.

"That guy is immortal."

Immortal.

The power that had made him who he was, the power that had earned him the name Great Sage, Heaven's Equal.

"That's how he's supposed to be known."

Upon hearing those words, Zeus looked at Son OhGong with surprise, as if it was unexpected.

He thought Son OhGong had no brains, but apparently, it wasn't the case.

OhGong looked in the direction where Indra had flown after being hit by the spear. He couldn't see how far he had flown, even with his Golden Cinder Eyes.

"In reality, he's not immortal or anything like that, but you already knew that..."

And then.

Son OhGong turned to Asura and asked him:

"Right, Asura?"

A black line cut through the sky.

Indra's body defenses were not high enough to survive a direct hit like that.

It was the surrounding armor that was really tough, not his body.

"That's where the problem lies."

When Indra's immortality was in doubt.

Asura recounted his experience.

"The more Indra loses, the stronger he becomes. Although he doesn't have an infinite number of lives like that Monkey, but it's as if he has several extra lives compared to others."

"And that makes him stronger?"

Finite lives were good news, but becoming stronger with each death was another thing.

Considering Indra's ranking, becoming stronger from there was another separate problem.

"So, there won't be a solution for quite some time."

"If the information is correct, that guy is a monster beyond imagination. We may have to consider him completely outside our plans."

Even Odin, who knew Indra relatively well, couldn't find a way to deal with him.

The fact that he resurrects even after death and becomes stronger.

How are you supposed to catch someone with that kind of daunting ability?

When everyone was perplexed by the information about Indra.

"No matter how the process goes, in the end, that guy will cut off his head."

YuWon paid attention to the fact that Asura finally defeated Indra.

"I don't think the word 'surrender' will come out of his mouth."

Asura was a spirit obsessed with fighting.

Moreover, in terms of combativeness, he was comparable to Son OhGong or the like.

There was no way those words would come out of his mouth, urging him to surrender to the hunt for Indra, his sworn enemy.

However...

"That's right."

From the beginning, Asura had been speaking with the solution in mind.

And that solution was the most important reason why YuWon had sought Asura in this fight.

Zeus? Son OhGong? The Dragon Kings?

More than anyone else in this fight, Asura was important for a reason.

"If you're looking for answers about immortality, I have them."

He had the most crucial clue that could stop Indra's immortality.

Chapter 294

C294

"Is that so, Asura?"

Asura nodded in response to Son OhGong's question.

"If you kill him once, that's it."

"...?"

With a doubtful expression, Zeus looked at Asura.

Even if he was ignorant, it couldn't be that he didn't understand his words.

Moreover, Asura had been tracking Indra for much longer than anyone else and had gathered information about him.

Surely, he wouldn't be ignorant about Indra either.

Asura also knew that Indra wasn't easy to kill.

"He and I learned under the same master."

Swish~

Asura looked at the palm of his hand.

Blood flowed from his hand.

"We learned similar things too."

"Does that mean you have clues about immortality?"

Zeus didn't know much about Asura.

He only knew that he sought strong opponents, desired more power, and had a rivalry with Indra.

He didn't even know where he was born or who he had friendships with, even when he was the king of Olympus.

"Our sect was a small sect with only twelve members."

The Asuras opened their mouths.

That was the beginning.

"Indra was my Sahyung*."

"He was our Sahyung."

Swish.

Asura wiped the blood from his hand on his forehead as he spoke.

"The power we have gained and inherited is special. We devour each other, seize that power, and take away their lives."

Asura's gaze shifted towards OhGong.

"That's why Indra's life, unlike yours, is finite."

"Then, maybe..."

"Except for the three of us."

Asura's eyes turned red.

"That guy has taken everything from us. The reason why his life is ten times longer than ours is because of that."

Ten lives.

It was something that was only possible by learning and mastering the same thing.

Thus, Indra gained ten lives and, through multiple deaths, became the immortal existence in this Tower.

But.

"We chose a different path."

Asura's choice was different from Indra's.

"Instead of having one life, I gained the power of three people. Thanks to that, I became what you see now..."

The Three-Headed, Six-Armed Demon.

He didn't like that title.

Having three people living in one body was something terrible for anyone.

"But this is enough..."

Chii-ii-

Asura channeled his power through the blood on his forehead. The blood rose into the sky, creating a red vapor that then condensed into a form.

"Enough to put an end to that guy."

Hoo-doo-dook-

Indra, who was lying on the ground, raised his head.

Chunks of rock hit him on the head. Dazed for a moment, Indra looked at his chest.

"This... doesn't look good."

He had a massive hole in his chest.

His heart and internal organs were blown away. Although his vitality was strong, a wound like this should have been fatal.

But he had one more chance.

Thump, thump.

His missing heart returned to its place. His vision, which had become blurry for a moment, returned to normal, and he slowly felt vitality returning to his body.

And right at that moment...

Drrrr.

Someone broke through the pile of rocks and approached Indra.

".....?"

Indra frowned at the sight of YuWon's face.

They were not the same people he had been fighting moments ago. Seeing an unfamiliar face approaching, he felt something strange in the first place.

It wasn't a chance encounter as they passed by.

Although it was the first time he saw that face, he had a sense that the opponent knew him.

"Who are you?"

YuWon didn't respond.

Instead, through the long spear he held in his hand, Indra could determine YuWon's identity.

He was the person who threw the spear, taking one of his precious lives.

"So, it was you who threw it."

An unknown name, an unfamiliar face.

The energy he felt wasn't as impressive. Although he seemed to be a high-ranking practitioner, compared to figures like Asura, Son OhGong, or Zeus, it felt insufficient.

"Just wait until I recover and..."

"You don't have any chance left."

"What?"

Before he could finish speaking, something unsettling happened.

Thump.

The regenerating heartbeats of Indra slowed down. In an instant, his heart seemed to stop, his chest felt tight, and blood rose up his throat.

"What the hell did you do...?"

"It wasn't me."

Fortunately, it went as he expected.

"It was Asura."

The reason why Asura was able to defeat Indra.

For a long time, Asura had been searching for a way to consume Indra's remaining lives.

"I just need to kill you once." (Asura)

Just once.

And the blood of Indra, obtained through the fight. That was the condition to consume Indra's remaining lives.

"The lives consumed by Indra have the same roots as the absorption method. The problem is that you can only steal the power of someone who masters the same technique. That's why the original purpose was for the master to pass on power to the disciple when retiring."

"Was such a technique existed?"

"I have heard of the absorption technique. It's a forbidden technique in the Murim World... But I had never heard that there were restrictions like those."

"If such a technique exists, you would become infinitely stronger as generations pass."

"This is the first time I've heard of it."

The absorption technique, a technique known only to a few players in the martial arts world.

However, Asura's roots were similar yet different.

"What he learned wasn't simply stealing Arcane Power."

"Then?"

"The opponent's lives. Including their blood and soul."

Asura knew the roots of the technique that Indra had learned.

"That's the reason why that bastard had multiple lives and the reason why I was able to kill him."

YuWon looked at Indra's wounds.

The wounds weren't regenerating.

Rather, they were growing larger, while Indra's life grew weaker.

"If it were possible, I wish things hadn't come to this."

"Kulk!"

Indra coughed up blood.

Feeling frustrated, YuWon continued.

"No matter how many lives he has left, I thought I could just kill them all with the spear."

Even if he had Nir, his opponent was Indra.

The method that worked before wouldn't be effective this time. Even if he reloaded the spear, it would probably be difficult to hit.

Therefore, Asura had no choice but to make the same decision once again.

"All it takes to take a life is another life."

The first head of Asura.

He was unusually talkative compared to the second and third heads. He was also the most active, usually occupying the body and moving around.

The three heads of Asura died in different places.

The first to die was the first of the three heads.

He had lost his life in the final battle against Indra.

The same now.

"Before you go, let me ask you something."

The light in Indra's eyes was gradually fading.

When he still had a thread of life.

YuWon had a question he wanted to ask him.

"Do you know Foolish Chaos?"

Indra, who was tilting his head down, raised his head for a moment.

It was only for a brief moment, but it was enough for YuWon to hear the answer.

"...I see."

It was a fact that no one else had confirmed.

Whether he knew it or not didn't make a big difference, but he still wanted to confirm it.

"You were also part of the plan he prepared."

Indra.

Why he was raised among the Dragon Race. Why the Dragons raised the Human who had destroyed them.

And how Indra came to harbor resentment against the Dragons and ended up killing them.

He began to understand a little.

And at that moment...

"So, as we agreed..."

Crack!

Kwak-.

A hand that had been waiting all the time reached out from behind Indra.

"I'll take this."

Had he come running hastily after hearing Asura's explanation?

Zeus squeezed Indra's fading heart in his hand. Unlike a normal heart, his heart looked like a bluish, round jewel.

Crack, zzzt...

The uncontrollable electric current due to Indra's death began to gradually diminish. It seemed that Zeus, who held it, was controlling the energy instead of Indra.

By obtaining Indra's heart, he could obtain his power.

It seemed that claim wasn't just a mere superstition.

"Did it become something like an Inner Core*?"

A form found in ancient beings. First of all, most of the power Indra acquired wasn't his own, but rather part of his clan's or the Dragons' power.

Probably, through that, Zeus could regain his former power.

Or rather...

Perhaps he could obtain an even greater power than when he reigned as the King of Olympus in those days.

Twist...

Indra's body, which was about to die completely, moved at that moment.

"Once again, it's you."

The voice was the same.

But both YuWon and Zeus could tell that Indra was not the owner of that voice.

『**Kim YuWon**』

"Foolish Chaos?"

Foolish Chaos recognized YuWon.

Well.

It couldn't be unknown. So far, many of the things he had planned had been toppled by YuWon.

Still, YuWon wasn't very concerned about Foolish Chaos.

He only moved behind the scenes, and it would be a long time before Foolish Chaos could take the initiative.

"However, revealing an unexpected appearance probably means that..."

Through Indra's now violet eyes, YuWon looked at Foolish Chaos.

"It must be urgent."

He probably didn't appear for no reason.

He was an existence with the tongue of a snake that would lead this Tower into chaos.

"I have no idea what words or intentions he has in appearing, but..."

In comparison, Zeus was more impatient than YuWon.

"Just wait for me a little longer."

Padjit, Padjit-

He squeezed Indra's heart in his hand and stared fiercely at Foolish Chaos.

"I will come to find you soon."

Zeus had two objectives.

To pierce through the ceiling of the Tower and ascend to a higher place, and to catch Foolish Chaos who had shaken Olympus using his own body.

And now, having obtained Indra's heart as planned, he was one step closer to those two objectives.

『**Long time no see, great King of Olympus**』

The head of Foolish Chaos, which had borrowed Indra's body, turned.

『**My heartfelt congratulations to you, for you have lost much but gained something even greater**』

How much of it was sincere and how much of it was false?

There was power in Foolish Chaos' words.

High-Rankers weren't so foolish as to be deceived and dazzled by his words. Faced with Foolish Chaos, the High-Rankers spoke in unison.

When you exchange three words with Foolish Chaos, you begin to believe in him, and when you exchange three more words, you begin to consider him as a friend.

That's why YuWon never intended to engage in a conversation with him from the beginning.

『**But right now, I have business on the other side**』

Shh.

A red line was drawn horizontally across Indra's body.

Naturally, Foolish Chaos' voice, which had borrowed his body to speak, also stopped.

No matter how much he wanted to speak, if he didn't have a means to communicate, he couldn't convey his will.

『**Although you probably have matters to discuss with me...**』

Crack...

Indra's torn-apart body split apart and collapsed to the sides.

『**I don't have time for that**』

-

Chapter 295

C295

Crack-

The first head withered and twisted.

They knew that it had stopped speaking at some point, that it had lost its life.

However, the second and third heads showed no signs of recognition regarding that.

They had already held their own funeral long ago.

It was inevitable for him to sacrifice himself at some point to fulfill that promised fate. Because it was already sad enough, they had promised not to be saddened or despair at that moment.

"Goodbye."

The farewell with the twin they had lived with their whole life was strangely calm.

However, subtle aftermaths persisted and lingered for a long time.

Shuffle...

He felt a nearby presence.

Although he had sensed it before, he only turned his head belatedly.

Asura had spotted YuWon.

And then...

"I'm sorry," YuWon said, bowing his head.

"Why?"

"If I had been better prepared..."

He couldn't finish the sentence.

Deep disappointment could be felt in those unfinished words.

He wondered what he meant.

"You have nothing to apologize for."

If that apology has to do with the sacrifice of the first head...

"This was agreed upon long ago. Truly, a long time ago."

He couldn't remember how long had passed since that agreement.

Instead, Asura scratched his head and opened his mouth as he looked at YuWon in front of him.

"So, it has nothing to do with you. In fact..."

After a long pause, he also trailed off.

"Thank you."

The third head concluded that.

Regardless of the goal, it was an irrefutable fact that YuWon had helped in their revenge.

Of course.

"I sometimes think of the first one."

YuWon wasn't just apologizing to Asura here.

When the Clock Movement was first mentioned, when they were discussing who would go back in time.

Asura, unusually, claimed that he would go.

"Because if I go back, I'll be able to see you."

And everyone had promised that in response to Asura's words.

No matter who went back.

They agreed to make sure Asura wouldn't sacrifice himself in the fight against Indra.

'This is my first failure.'

He thought he couldn't achieve everything.

He expected some kind of failure or setback at some point.

After planning and acting so much, it was something that could happen at any moment.

That moment came now. And that was why YuWon apologized to Asura.

'After this is over...'

YuWon looked at the remaining heads of Asura.

They had also lost their lives in the battle against the Outer Gods. And YuWon couldn't prevent that from happening.

But.

'At that time, I hope they don't die again.'

At least, next time.

He hoped the outcome would be different.

YuWon lifted his head that had been bowed for a moment.

The battle with Indra had ended.

Everyone was devastated. Vritra and Fafnir fell into a deep sleep to recover their bodies.

And Zeus...

"Has Father gone?"

"He may not be entirely gone, maybe he's nearby."

Zeus had hidden his figure to gain power through Indra's heart.

Apparently, indirectly encountering Foolish Chaos had been a stimulus.

YuWon and Harggan shared a drink after a long time. It was a bar that served food from the Murim World that YuWon used to enjoy.

"Where do you think he is right now?"

"Maybe he's buried somewhere. Or maybe he's in the sky."

"What do you mean?"

"I mean he's in a place where there are no people."

YuWon poured a drink for Harggan.

It was quite full.

Then, as he watched YuWon pour the same amount of alcohol into his own glass, Harggan asked in surprise.

"What's wrong? Why so much?"

"There's no choice."

The alcohol was so strong that it was difficult to swallow without difficulty. YuWon had a body that only got drunk with that amount of alcohol, so he had no choice.

Clink.

Their glasses clinked, and YuWon downed the alcohol in one gulp.

He couldn't remember how many glasses he had had.

Drinking quickly made the intoxication start to surface, even if just a little.

"You don't seem to feel refreshed or happy."

"Does it seem so?"

"They managed to defeat Indra, the sixth-ranked."

Harggan had also heard a lot about Indra's name.

Among the Rankers who used Lightning, he was the strongest High-Ranker.

Just like Zeus, Harggan had idolized Indra for a long time.

He just didn't like the fact that Indra was the enemy of the Dragons.

"You've accomplished something historic."

"It depends on how you look at it."

As if asking for another glass, YuWon extended his empty glass.

The boy who used to prefer coffee over alcohol. Harggan followed suit with a mixture of concern and enjoyment.

"It's the first time I'm drinking alcohol with you."

"So it seems."

"I think when we drink, we become closer friends."

Clink-

The glasses clinked again.

"When we drink together, I feel like we become closer, so I like alcohol."

"I don't like it that much. If it's bitter liquids, I prefer coffee over alcohol."

"But why do you drink like this?"

"Just..."

Gulp.

While taking another sip of bitter alcohol, YuWon looked at himself reflected in his empty glass.

"I suddenly remembered something."

"...?"

What the hell had happened?

They couldn't fight together, so he had no way of knowing. At least according to the conversation they had before, no one died except for one of Asura's heads.

That level of sacrifice wasn't unusual in fights between Rankers.

Furthermore, YuWon had no close relationship with Asura.

He had already experienced many deaths while climbing to the top, and drinking alcohol to this extent made no sense.

It was strange in the eyes of Harggan, who didn't know the circumstances.

However...

"I couldn't do anything on the battlefield..."

His throat, already dry from the alcohol, burned intensely.

He remembered how he had watched the fight from a safe place, from a great distance.

Not being able to fight together there was pathetic.

"It's obvious. You're not a Ranker yet."

"You and I were Tutorial partners."

Unlike other people, those words didn't offer him comfort.

YuWon understood that too.

But he had no intention of explaining at length about those words or consoling him.

Harggan grew rapidly.

Even in YuWon's eyes, he grew astonishingly.

If observed closely, Harggan was developing at an even more irrational pace than himself.

And probably, the biggest influence on that was YuWon.

"I must have been a stimulant."

Companions.

That single word was the greatest stimulus for Harggan.

After overcoming the Tutorial together, YuWon was able to fight alongside his target and idol, Zeus, against Indra, the sixth-ranked player.

It was strange that it wasn't a stimulus for him.

"So, about that..."

YuWon erased the energetic expression on his face that he had shown moments ago.

With a change in his gaze from a moment ago, Harggan frowned and lowered his hand.

"Oh, what's going on now? Why has the atmosphere become so tense? If Brother Dionysus finds out you're acting like this with his precious alcohol, I'll get in trouble. Why are you ruining this precious moment with your attitude?"

Quickly, Harggan grabbed a nearby bottle of alcohol and showed him the text on the bottle label.

"Don't you see this?"

[Pure, clear, and safe. A strong and clear alcohol for you, who has become a Ranker. P.S.: Dionysus]

The slogan seemed familiar. On the bottle label, there was an image of Dionysus waving his silver hair while drinking from the bottle.

"After this, I'll really be scolded by my older brother."

"I thought you were supposed to be the younger brother calling the older brother."

"Oh, seriously. I thought of properly enjoying a drink, but it turns out..."

Harggan's sigh, followed by a groan, also dissipated his drunken state.

This time he wanted to take some time to enjoy a drink quietly, but it seems that time has passed.

There's nothing more boring than getting drunk alone.

"So, what's up?"

"Your father has a request for me."

"A request? What kind?"

"You."

"Me?"

Harggan furrowed his brow with a confused expression, as if he didn't understand what YuWon was talking about, but he soon understood and leaned back.

A sigh escaped from him.

No wonder he suddenly disappeared without saying a word.

"Does this have something to do with my training?"

"That's right."

"Harggan, he's the one who resembles me the most among my sons." (Zeus)

Zeus's affection for Harggan.

No, maybe it was ambition. He was hoping for another Zeus to emerge.

After leaving Asgard's prison and meeting Harggan, Zeus had been helping with Harggan's training all the time.

Anyway.

"Do you know why I haven't given my affection to Heracles?" (Zeus)

Zeus knew better than anyone about Harggan, who was of his own blood.

"Because it's Harggan. He is the finest jewel I have created." (Zeus)

After hearing those words.

YuWon's opinion of Harggan completely changed.

He was a jewel brighter than Heracles. He wanted to confirm why Zeus was speaking so highly of him, as YuWon only thought of him as a talented Player...

'Harggan was already getting attention for becoming a Ranker in the shortest time possible.'

Although they had different goals, Harggan and YuWon entered the Tower together, and Harggan climbed faster than YuWon.

Although YuWon had not yet reached the top of the Tower, he was registered in the Ranking and obtained the title of a player who became a High-Ranker in the shortest time possible, but his thinking was different.

He knew that he had only come this far through dishonest methods.

Using the Clock Movement, YuWon was already a High-Ranker Player who had surpassed the top of the Tower long ago.

From the beginning, Harggan and YuWon started from different starting lines.

That's why YuWon's evaluation of Harggan was also much higher than the evaluation of the outside world.

"It seems that you trust me a lot. You're not someone who delegates the tasks you used to do to others." (YuWon)

Perhaps it was a matter of pride.

They were both companions and friends.

At least, that's what Harggan thought.

But that didn't mean he considered YuWon as a rival or enemy. They had already grown too far apart to build their own pride.

"So, what's the matter? Are you willing to do it?" (Zeus)

"There's no reason not to. It's not something that takes much time." (YuWon)

After all, there were only a few days until Zeus returned. It was enough time to rest a little and calm the mind.

But Harggan's gaze towards YuWon, who saw it that way, was different.

"Really? I'm surprised."

In all the actions Harggan had seen from YuWon so far, there was always a reason and a purpose.

The boy who valued his time more than anyone else was willing to help him in his training.

That seemed strange.

"It's not that difficult to do."

If Harggan was truly a player with potential superior to Heracles, then his training would also be quite important to YuWon.

The more High-Ranker Players there were, the better. In the end, to prepare for the future battle against the Outer Gods, it was inevitable for the Tower's power to strengthen.

If there were even more High-Rankers like Zeus, that would be quite significant.

Furthermore...

"And I don't intend to just stand by."

Even if it was only a few days, YuWon had no intention of wasting time on this.

"Is your team on the 80th floor now, right?"

Thud.

As if declaring that the meeting was over, YuWon stood up from his seat.

"We'll do the training as we climb the Tower."

Chapter 296

C296

"Uh..."

"Team Leader, this is..."

Harggan's team members looked perplexed on the other side of the wide-open door.

Harggan had returned earlier than expected.

Furthermore, alongside him was a familiar face.

"Say hello. This is the team member who will climb the Tower with us starting today."

Harggan pointed to YuWon with a nod.

"I-It's... Kim YuWon...? Nice to meet you."

"N-Nice... to meet you."

The way they treated YuWon was quite different now.

During the tutorial, they simply thought he was exceptional compared to the others, but now it was not just that.

They were all Players who had crossed the Tower and reached this point.

Moreover, they were rookies approaching Ranker status.

Naturally, they had a clear understanding of the Ranker title and the existence of High-Rankers.

And YuWon, at that moment, had a rank that competed with the best even among those High-Rankers.

It was a completely different experience to climb the Tower with someone like YuWon.

And in the midst of it, there was one person who saw YuWon for a different reason than the others.

"Nice to meet you."

Lee Sung-yoon.

A player from Earth, just like YuWon.

Seeing someone from his homeland after a long time, Lee Sung-yoon reached out his hand towards YuWon.

"Oh, yeah."

YuWon shook hands with Lee Sung-yoon as a representative. It had been a while since he had seen those faces. It was comforting, if only a little.

But the greetings would have to wait.

"We have a trial tomorrow."

Now was not the time to chat and socialize informally.

"Go outside."

Before they could respond, YuWon immediately walked out the door.

Seeing YuWon leave without saying a word, the team members couldn't help but exchange glances.

Go outside.

Understanding their expressions, Harggan shrugged as if he understood.

"That's just how that guy is, anyway."

It was like telling them to do as they were asked.

Harggan was the first to follow YuWon outside.

The team's residence was a cabin located a little away from the city. There was a not-so-small yard in front, and YuWon stood right in the middle of it.

"Zeus has asked me a favor. He asked me to train his son."

The team members watched as Harggan and Zeus disappeared somewhere.

It turned out to be for training.

Training received from Zeus himself, a former Guild Master and one of the top High-Rankers in this massive Tower.

Surely, that was worth much more than could be quantified.

"Those who wield melee weapons, come this way. Harggan and Lee Sung-yoon, come this way."

Harggan's team had dwindled.

Half of their fellow members from the first Tutorial had dropped out. Now only Paladinthe and Elador, Yolche, Lee Sung-yoon, and two others remained.

The group split into two.

Those who wielded white weapons and those who fought with magical abilities.

In the midst of those divisions, YuWon summoned another leader.

Shh.

A pale-skinned swordsman with a somber gaze, wielding a blood-red sword.

Susanoo.

He appeared in front of YuWon and stood upright.

"I suppose you have an idea of what I'm going to ask of you, don't you?"

-Are you telling me to teach these rookies?

"Yes, exactly that."

With a firm response, Susanoo had nothing more to say.

After all, he was in a position where he could do nothing but obey YuWon's orders.

-...Understood.

If that's what you're asking of me, what can I do?

Susanoo looked at the Players in front of him as if venting his frustration.

-The way of wielding a sword is secondary. First, let's fix your mentality.

Tension could be felt among the team members facing Susanoo.

It would likely be quite difficult.

Receiving training from Susanoo was undoubtedly a challenging task.

But...

"There is no Ranker who wields the sword better than him." (Asura)

That was confirmed by Asura's own eyes.

At least in terms of sword skills, Susanoo surpassed Asura.

Which means...

He is the best sword wielder in this Tower.

We can entrust him with the weapon handling part.

But more than that, the most important thing for him at this moment was Harggan.

"There are three people left."

YuWon looked at the three players.

Harggan, Lee Sung-yoon, and Elador.

Undoubtedly, there were more people in the group who didn't wield weapons than those who did.

It was natural.

In this dangerous world, it's not easy to protect oneself without having a weapon.

However, having nothing in their hands meant...

"It means he has exceptional talent for magic."

YuWon already knew Harggan's talent.

Elador, the elf, also had the potential to become a skilled Ranker in the future.

Only one player remained.

"Lee Sung-yoon."

Originally, he was someone who wouldn't have passed the Tutorial. As such, YuWon didn't know how talented he was.

He had seen it with his own eyes.

Although he wasn't a Pure Blood of the Tower, he showed skills in using mana since the Tutorial.

YuWon wanted to confirm how far the player named Lee Sung-yoon could go.

"I have always believed that real experience is the best training."

Zzzzzz...

Colorless spheres appeared around YuWon.

"Even if you die during this training, I can't do anything about it. So..."

Shuaaaa...

Countless mana cannons came into existence.

Tens, hundreds.

Lee Sung-yoon widened his eyes and opened his mouth seeing the thousands of mana cannons.

"Try to block them as best as you can. The three of you must work together."

Glup...

They swallowed hard due to the accumulated tension. Although they had only seen Zeus, a High-Ranker, they were sure that Kim YuWon as a High-Ranker was not weak either.

Being able to handle that massive amount of mana cannons without a hint of hesitation required a skill that only a few in the Tower possessed.

It was as if merely observing was a learning experience in itself.

Such mastery exists...

Lee Sung-yoon could only be amazed by seeing this.

"It's good that it's simple."

Fwoshhhh!

Harggan also instantly elevated his power.

In the next moment...

Kwaang!

Harggan's team and YuWon's Arcane Power clashed.

"It's about concentration."

Boom, boom, boom, boom!

Amidst intense bombardment.

YuWon's voice was surprisingly clear.

"That's the most basic. Even if you can create and disperse mana cannons, if you can't hit properly, you'll be no different from a child holding a toy sword."

Lee Sung-yoon realized those words were directed at him.

Mana cannons.

It was the tool he had been working with since the Tutorial.

Now, YuWon was teaching him how to use it.

"While drawing a circle with your left hand, feel as if you're drawing a triangle with your right hand. It's the sensation that each entity is being handled by a completely different person. That's how you increase them one by one, adding different entities."

One by one, the number of mana cannons increased.

Following YuWon's instructions, Lee Sung-yoon imagined and created several additional mana cannons right in that spot.

And at that moment...

"Hey, dude!"

Kwarrng!

Harggan unleashed a lightning bolt as he raised his voice.

"Why do you only care about Lee Sung-yoon all day?"

"What, are you jealous now?"

"Don't you have anything else to say to me?"

"You're doing well."

"...Can't you praise me more cleverly, you bastard?"

It wasn't just a casual observation.

Indeed, Harggan had nothing to work on with YuWon.

Whether it was because he had followed an elite course since he was young, there were no issues like wasting his Arcane Power or not utilizing his skills properly.

Of course, if he wanted to, there was nothing he couldn't do.

It's not that there were no other problems aside from the fundamental skills.

But...

'For now, this guy comes first.'

YuWon's eyes shone as he looked at Lee Sung-yoon.

It had been a long time since he found a precious gem.

Why someone like him hadn't been known until now?

The world's evaluation of Lee Sung-yoon was nothing more than "Harggan's team member," nothing else was known.

Lee Sung-yoon had only played the support role for the team and hadn't stepped to the forefront, which was natural.

But what YuWon saw in him was a truly valuable talent.

"He is capable of absorbing everything he is taught. Whether it's improving the speed at which he fabricates his mana cannons or solving problems..."

In comparison, his physical abilities were nothing special.

He was better than players of a similar level, but compared to his talent, it was quite unsatisfactory.

However, Lee Sung-yoon's talent in relation to Mana was outstanding.

"A brilliant talent."

YuWon didn't ask for anything more.

He only practiced the amount of mana cannons he could create and his control over them.

For now, that was enough.

It wouldn't be too late to further polish those skills after becoming a Ranker.

If he found a suitable ability in the future, even if he didn't, his brilliant value would expand.

"Let's increase a little more."

With that idea in mind, YuWon pushed Lee Sung-yoon even harder.

The number of mana cannons falling from the sky increased.

Lee Sung-yoon, who had been defending himself to the limit, quickly noticed the change.

Zzzzz...

One more mana cannon was added to the ones Lee Sung-yoon already had.

Now they were one hundred.

It was a number that not even the top-ranked players could produce.

Hwaahhhh!

YuWon's attack on Lee Sung-yoon intensified. In response, Lee Sung-yoon increased his Arcane Power to keep up the pace.

To block it somehow.

Lee Sung-yoon's eyes, pushed to the extreme, gradually lost their focus.

"Is it a trance?"

It seemed like Lee Sung-yoon was very focused on increasing the number of mana cannons.

It's good that he's concentrated, but this is dangerous.

This was his limit.

Ung...

The mana cannons, totaling over a hundred, stopped.

Lee Sung-yoon halted when his magic power ceased to move as he wanted. In the next moment, he could meet YuWon's eyes.

Fwoosh...

YuWon's pupils burned in red.

His Golden Cinder Eyes countered Lee Sung-yoon's Arcane Power.

"Let's take a quick break."

"Ah, yes."

Thud-

After relaxing, Lee Sung-yoon slumped to the ground.

"You've worked hard..."

He felt dazed.

What had he exactly done?

Not only Lee Sung-yoon was surprised. Harggan was too.

And in that moment, YuWon, looking at Lee Sung-yoon, said.

"It's your team that ruined you."

YuWon dropped a bomb out of nowhere, a verbal bomb.

Naturally, there was no way Harggan would stay silent.

"What are you talking about?"

His team was the one that ruined Lee Sung-yoon.

As the team leader, Harggan couldn't let it pass.

"Don't misunderstand me. I didn't say it with ill intentions."

"Explain it properly, then."

He knew that YuWon wasn't someone who spoke empty words.

It was probably true that he didn't mean it seriously. But Harggan desperately wanted an explanation.

So...

"Throughout the way up the Tower..."

YuWon looked at Lee Sung-yoon and said, as if it were obvious.

"You have never experienced any dangerous moments, have you?"

Chapter 297

C297

YuWon's question left Lee Sung-yoon speechless.

He rewound in his mind the years he had spent climbing the tower up to that point.

The tutorial was difficult.

On the other hand, it seemed that it hadn't been particularly difficult since they entered the Tower.

"You are a shark trapped in a small aquarium. You don't know how vast the ocean is or how far you can swim."

YuWon's gaze slid towards Harggan.

"Let alone it's difficult to mistake that aquarium for the ocean when there's another shark living there as well."

In Lee Sung-yoon's team was Harggan.

His talent was so outstanding that Zeus recognized him over Heracles. If it were based solely on talent, he could be considered one of the best in the Tower.

With Harggan by his side, his own talent might not seem as impressive.

There hadn't been any dangers.

What Lee Sung-yoon needed was simple.

"You need an obstacle."

A crisis that would endanger his life.

And a tall, solid wall in front of him.

That was what Lee Sung-yoon really needed to grow.

And there was an ideal environment for that.

"Leave this team."

YuWon dropped the bomb.

The trial on the 80th floor consisted of ten teams.

Only three selected teams could pass the trial and move to the next floor, and it was practically impossible to pass the trial as an individual.

That's why those players who climbed the Tower without forming a team encountered an obstacle and formed teams.

They realized that there was a wall they couldn't overcome alone with their talent.

But now... Even so, there were two teams that had entered the trial as lone individuals.

[Lee Sung-yoon: Is this really a good idea?]

A message came from Lee Sung-yoon.

Ewon looked towards the distant horizon, where an endless meadow stretched out. The meadow, all green, had a refreshing effect on the eyes just by looking at it.

It was a landscape he wanted to keep looking at without thinking about anything else.

But he had to respond to the message.

[Good luck]

He seemed to hear a curse from Lee Sung-yoon at the unanswered response.

Although Harggan strongly objected, YuWon thought that this trial was something Lee Sung-yoon had to overcome alone.

Otherwise, he would just be going around in circles.

"Castle Defense Battle."

Defense and offense. Each team faced off in a siege battle for a total of five castles.

How many castles have been captured.

How long it took to capture the castles.

Progress was evaluated numerically, and the three teams with the highest scores would advance to the next level.

[Trial begins]

The opposing teams gathered outside the castles.

Anyway, the outcome of this trial was not of great interest.

Around twenty players.

YuWon had already gone through a similar trial and climbed up. He even had to deal with over ten thousand opponents at that time.

There was no excitement.

The problem lay on the other side.

"Harggan shouldn't have any problems..."

Harggan's team had failed the 80th floor trial last time.

It wasn't due to lack of skill.

Zeus's sudden intervention had forced them to abandon the trial.

If problems arose, Zeus would have been sanctioned by the Administrators as well, but Harggan hadn't.

This trial was the first time for them. Obviously, they would face the trial with determination and not fail.

But Lee Sung-yoon was different.

"If he can overcome himself, then I'll acknowledge his worth."

He was facing the trial alone, not forming a team with YuWon.
It meant he had to do the work of ten or twenty people alone.
And that was something impossible for the Lee Sung-yoon until now.
"First, before that..."

Fajjik-

YuWon shot a lightning bolt through the Uranus Heart.

A golden spear formed in his hand.

"I have to pass my own trial first."

And in that moment.

"I surrender."

The trial had ended.

"Huff, huff-."

Lee Sung-yoon climbed up the castle, breathing heavily.

Around him, the players attacking him were scattered.

They were formidable competitors too, as they had all reached the 80th floor.

He had fought against those opponents.

And he had done it alone.

This was the first time he had such an experience since he started climbing the Tower.

Puh-

He planted a flag in a designated spot.

Then.

[You have captured the first castle]

[You have gained 1,000 contribution points]

[27 minutes and 14 seconds]

[Additional contribution will be granted based on capture time]

[You have acquired 510 contribution points]

A message appeared stating that the siege of the second castle had ended.

It was a reassuring message, but now was not the time to celebrate.

Now he had to think about the next step.

Woosh-

He put a fruit in his mouth taken from the inventory. It was to help replenish his magical energy and hydrate himself a little.

They had succeeded in recapturing the castle.

Now came the defensive phase.

"Only one left now?"

He had already succeeded in two sieges and one defense.

Thanks to that, his stamina was quite depleted, but still, if he succeeded in one more defense, he would pass the trial.

This challenging trial was something new to him.

Originally, he should have had solid teammates to protect him and Harggan, the ultimate spear and shield, to face the trial.

But now he was alone. There was no one to protect him from the front or the back.

'I've been lucky not to encounter the team leader.'

He closed his eyes and rested while recalling the previous trials.

'The match-up isn't bad. I just have to pass the next trial.'

If he had to face Harggan's team, he wouldn't stand a chance. Even if only one member of that team came out, he wouldn't be able to defend himself.

'Please, let another team be chosen.'

As he prayed, Lee Sung-yoon awaited the next trial.

However...

"...Oh, seriously."

Thud-

Lee Sung-yoon lost his enthusiasm upon seeing the opponent that appeared before him.

"Is it necessary to do that?"

[Trial begins]

YuWon walked towards the castle.

Clearly, here, he was taking the same trial on equal terms as him.

But since yesterday's training, Lee Sung-yoon had realized that YuWon was a player who lived in a completely different dimension from his own.

Of course.

Although everyone in this tower surely knew that.

"Consider yourself unlucky."

YuWon's voice, already inside the castle, made Lee Sung-yoon turn his head.

Flutter-

He was already standing in front of the flag.

When did he arrive?

If YuWon took the flag, the trial would end. Still, he had won three sieges and three defenses, so there would be another chance.

But...

"What are you doing? Don't stop."

YuWon urged Lee Sung-yoon.

Lee Sung-yoon, who had halfway given up and was about to surrender the flag, asked confusedly.

"What?"

"This is a trial. Besides, I'm not even on your team."

Tsutsutsuts-

Mana Cannons appeared around YuWon.

He didn't need to count them to know.

A total of 101.

That was exactly the number Lee Sung-yoon couldn't block.

"Aren't you going to stop them?"

"Just because you don't stop them, doesn't mean you'll stop, right?"

Zzzzz-

Lee Sung-yoon also created mana in the form of projectiles (Mana Cannons).

The mana projectiles condensed a large amount of Arcane Power. There was more quantity than when he first encountered YuWon, and the quality of Arcane Power imbued in each of them had also increased.

"Let's go again."

Lee Sung-yoon's eyes gleamed.

And in that moment...

Vwoooosh-!

Mana shot out from the over hundred projectiles.

Pwoooosh-!

The walls of the castle they were standing on shook violently.

Kwagwagwagwagwag-

The colorless mana poured out like a waterfall.

The walls creaked as if they were about to collapse at any moment.

Lee Sung-yoon broke into a cold sweat as he saw the waves crashing in front of him.

However, he didn't seem as exhausted as before.

'I've adapted.'

He had adapted to handling over 100 Mana Cannons/Projectiles.

It's hard to believe he did it in just one day; it's a mystery that can't be explained by talent alone.

Which means...

'He has always had the ability to control this much.'

The real deal starts now.

In the midst of it all, Lee Sung-yoon shone brighter and brighter.

Lee Sung-yoon pondered a way to break through YuWon's magic.

If he created another mana cannon/projectile here, would it make any difference?

No, it wouldn't change anything.

Nothing would change. YuWon had enough mana to create any number of mana projectiles and the control to use them.

There must be another way, then.

Concentration.

The best he could do.

Lee Sung-yoon closed his eyes. YuWon's words resonated in his mind.

"Imagine drawing a circle with your left hand and a triangle with your right. Each object is handled by a completely different person."

The difference between knowing the principle and not knowing it was enormous.

Now he could find a way to develop it, whereas before it was just a hunch.

Tut, tut, tut-

Over a hundred mana projectiles merged into one. Such a large number of them should have increased in size, but Lee Sung-yoon's didn't.

But that made it even more intimidating.

'This should work.'

Confidence filled his chest.

At least it seemed like he could inflict some damage.

Imagination.

Lee Sung-yoon thought of the most powerful and simple weapon he could imagine.

And yes, it was...

'A handgun.'

He extended his hand forward.

A small and seemingly weak mana projectile.

Lee Sung-yoon aimed at it with his outstretched hand.

In that moment...

'This is the trigger.'

Vwoooosh-!

The mana projectile emitted a bright light.

A single shot.

Only one, but the power unleashed from the mana projectile was considerable. Lee Sung-yoon believed that it would be different this time and had no doubt about it.

But...

"Not bad."

Shwoooosh-!

Despite his effort, Lee Sung-yoon's attack was easily dispelled.

"!"

The sharpness of the sword swiftly approached his face.

In an instant, Lee Sung-yoon felt as if his body was cut in half and his breath was extinguished.

Instinctively, Lee Sung-yoon covered his neck with one hand.

But fortunately, only the mana projectile floating beside him was cut.

"You've just crossed the threshold."

YuWon sheathed the sword in his hand.

The sword he unsheathed reflexively. Even if he were to receive a blow, the Blessing of the Sea would activate, and he wouldn't suffer significant damage. Nonetheless, Lee Sung-yoon had managed to make YuWon unsheathe the sword.

And that meant his previous attack was better than the abilities of most rankers.

'With this... can I consider it approved?'

Lee Sung-yoon had the potential and skills to fully demonstrate this ability.

The growth in such a short time made no sense, and what YuWon had given him was simply bringing out his abilities that hadn't manifested until now.

"Now the problem is me."

Phaash-

YuWon loosened the grip of his hand holding the sword and looked at his black gauntlet.

The Uranus Heart.

An item that allowed him to wield mana of three attributes: Lightning, Darkness, and Water.

"Is that the item made with the Lightning you stole from me?" (Zeus)

When YuWon encountered Zeus again, Zeus noticed how YuWon wielded the Uranus Heart.

"You've been wasting my treasure."

Zeus, who had wielded Lightning for thousands of years.

Perhaps he knew.

How to wield the power of Uranus.

Chapter 298

C298

Three teams passed the trial on Floor 80.

Well, not really.

It was one team and two individuals.

"I didn't think we would actually pass."

"Yeah, was it luck?"

"Don't tease, I really thought I was going to die..."

A small bar in the city.

Lee Sung-yoon, surrounded by his original team members, slumped into his seat, complaining in pain.

After completing the trial and ascending to the next floor, Sung-yoon couldn't control his trembling legs.

And that fatigue and quickly released tension turned into resentment.

"After everything I did, couldn't you at least give me a flag?"

The object of his resentment, of course, was YuWon, who was naturally mixed with the team.

When they faced each other in the siege battle, YuWon clearly said that he had "passed."

That meant Sung-yoon had crossed the line of his expectations.

Of course, the result fell far below Lee Sung-yoon's expectations. It was a striking blow he dealt at the last moment, even to himself, but in the end, he couldn't even scratch YuWon.

However, after all, he had passed.

Sung-yoon secretly hoped that Won would give in a little.

But...

"When did I say I would help you in the trial? Ascend on your own, using your own power."

"Anyway, it was strange to participate alone in a team trial."

"Thanks to that, don't you know more now?"

YuWon raised his glass and took a sip before speaking.

"What makes you different from others."

"...."

Lee Sung-yoon, who would have shaken his head in disbelief before, was now dumbfounded.

He had come to understand as well.

What kind of talent he possessed. What his own worth was and how far he could go.

"The moment you set the ceiling for yourself, your ability is also reduced in the same measure. Only with that in mind can you improve much faster than now."

"I'll keep that in mind."

The boy who was complaining that it was difficult just a moment ago now nodded his head and pondered something in his mind.

Definitely, Sung-yoon was already quickly realizing his talents.

"These two have great potential."

It was a short journey that initially aimed to raise Harggan.

But for YuWon, Harggan had already grown enough, and his foundation was perfect.

As the Prince of Olympus, he had seen and learned a lot from a young age, and naturally, he had grand ideals and broad ambitions.

Lee Sung-yoon, on the other hand, stood beside Harggan and didn't fully realize his own worth.

"These two just need time."

The other team members also had qualities that didn't lack to become excellent high-rankers, but these two were different on a different level.

If they were just given time, they would surely become top-tier Rankers.

All YuWon had done was accelerate that time a little.

"So why are you here then?"

Harggan looked at YuWon curiously.

They were in a small bar in the city, celebrating passing the Trial.

It's not that he wasn't welcome, it just didn't seem as natural for YuWon to be present at this moment.

"You're wasting your precious time on these kinds of things."

In Harggan's mind, YuWon was such a busy friend that it was even difficult to have a drink together.

Of course, that included climbing the Tower together, let alone sharing this kind of celebration.

So why was YuWon here at this unusual moment?

"I'm waiting for someone."

"Who?"

"You'd probably be surprised if you hear it."

He couldn't believe YuWon said this.

The ears of the gathered team perked up. Everyone waited breathlessly for the next name, wondering who it would be.

But no matter how much time passed...

"So, who is it?"

There was no response from YuWon.

Pretending not to hear, YuWon raised an empty glass.

"One more drink here-"

"Hey!"

Fajik Jijik-!

A Golden Lightning filled YuWon's field of vision. In an instant, his vision darkened, and he instinctively extended his hand.

Kwang-!

A blunt fist collided with his hand. As his vision returned, Harggan's bewildered face came into view.

Boom-.

Crash-!

Harggan's head snapped back.

In an instant, his body, which had been flying forward, was sent flying in the opposite direction.

Bang, bang, bang, bang!

Several trees fell, creating a small path. YuWon walked toward Harggan, who was buried among the fallen trees.

"Your methods are so straightforward that they are clearly noticeable even without using abilities. If you keep going like this, you might defeat weaker opponents than you, but you will never be able to win against someone with similar or superior abilities."

"Damn it..."

Rubbing his sore jaw, Harggan stood up, groaning.

Although his jaw was numb, the blow wasn't strong enough to knock him unconscious. This meant that YuWon had enough control over his strength.

"You lack tension in your fights. You are too used to fighting weaker opponents."

"So, do you want me to get used to fighting strong opponents?"

"Defeating weaker opponents than oneself is obvious, but to truly become strong, one must win in a fight against someone stronger than oneself."

Harggan's magic was special.

Born with the blood of Zeus and the power of Lightning, he had been crashing into his opponents with overwhelming force since birth.

Right now, he could take down a team of players in an instant and face some Ranker Players.

And that turned out to be poisonous for Harggan.

A simple, primal fighting approach.

That fighting style had become stagnant and ingrained in him, becoming a habit.

Yuwon didn't consider himself capable of teaching Harggan better than Zeus in terms of skills related to Lightning.

After all, it would be impossible to become a superior master in skills related to Lightning compared to Zeus.

Therefore, YuWon decided to teach Harggan how to fight.

"Let's start again... Ugh!"

Harggan got up from his spot, frowning.

His legs were numb. Although the punches were weak, receiving them constantly throughout the day accumulated impact.

His legs wouldn't move.

YuWon, who had regained his magical energy, approached Harggan.

"Take a break for a moment."

"I'll be fine with a little rest."

"You need to rest enough. Resting is also important."

"That's something you're the worst at doing."

Tock, tock-

Though he complained, Harggan punched his leg with his fist and began applying ointment to his wounds with the other hand.

It was evident that he wanted to recover quickly and get back to fighting.

"It's nice to be together for a long time, you know." ("오래 붙어 있으니 좋긴 좋은데 말이야.")

Three days.

That was the time YuWon dedicated to training Harggan and Lee Sung-yun.

"How incredibly impressive does that person have to be for you to wait this long?"

Harggan, unable to bear the curiosity, was impatient by nature.

He had already asked that question more than ten times. However, YuWon pretended not to hear, averting his gaze and talking about other things.

"Isn't it about time you tell me?"

An impulsive comment out of frustration.

"I suppose so."

"Yes, go ahead... What?"

Harggan was bewildered by the sudden reaction.

Until just a few hours ago, it seemed like he would never utter a word. But now he was opening his mouth so easily.

"Then, who is it?"

"It's Zeus."

"Zeus? My father?"

Harggan jumped to his feet.

His legs were weak from how quickly he had stood up. YuWon looked at the hurried Harggan and asked.

"Are your legs okay?"

"Do you think my legs are the problem now?"

It was quite a hasty reaction.

Indeed.

That's why he hadn't answered Harggan all this time.

"He'll probably try to escape as soon as he realizes I'm back." (Zeus)

"Why? Harggan doesn't hate you that much." (YuWon)

"My training has been a bit harsh." (Zeus)

Zeus's response made YuWon think that Harggan wasn't as persistent as he thought.

But when he took charge of his training, as he had asked, he found out otherwise.

"So what did that guy do to get such a reaction from his son?"

Meanwhile, Harggan tried to escape from the place while dragging his trembling leg. His reaction seemed to indicate that Zeus would appear here any moment to catch him and devour him.

"Stay still. You can't go anywhere anyway."

"You don't know because you don't know him. My father is truly evil."

His voice trembled.

It was the first time Harggan had seen him so agitated.

"If I had stayed a few more days, I would have died. I couldn't do anything, I turned into a chicken... my father... is a demon..."

"Your language is quite harsh."

Harggan was very surprised.

Harggan, who had stiffened like a hamster, slowly turned his head. He hoped it wasn't true, but it turned out he hadn't misheard.

"Ah, father?"

Zeus.

A man one head taller than Harggan lay behind him, looking at him.

"I'm sorry."

YuWon's apology made Harggan realize that it was no coincidence that Zeus was here.

Now that their eyes had met, there was no way he could escape Zeus.

He was trapped now and would have to return to training under Zeus as before.

"As you said, this person really surprised me."

With a resigned voice, Harggan sat back on the ground.

YuWon looked at the eyes of Zeus that appeared behind Harggan.

"Something has changed."

It was hard to tell from his outward appearance.

He had the Heart of Indra.

It was the heart that occupied the sixth place in the ranking and had a large amount of Arcane Power and a strong nature to the Lightning Attribute, having consumed the blood of numerous Dragons.

Zeus, who had lost the Lightning, obtained it to regain his former power.

No.

If YuWon's assumptions were correct, he should have become stronger than when he had the Lightning.

'How much has he changed...'

His eyes shimmered gold.

YuWon looked at him and asked.

"Are you satisfied?"

"Not bad."

It was an acceptable answer.

Although he didn't seem completely satisfied, Zeus, who appeared not satisfied at all, gave a positive response.

Perhaps now, once again, there would be a great change in the rankings.

Zeus's head moved.

The surroundings became a mess due to the training with Harggan.

Rolling his golden eyes, Zeus opened his mouth.

"I see I was the last to arrive."

"And by far."

"...?"

Harggan was perplexed by the conversation between the two.

Late?

Harggan looked around in disbelief.

And then...

"I never thought I would see another day like this."

Swoosh-

A dense smoke rose.

At the same time, the bright day turned into night in an instant. In his blurry vision, Harggan discovered that someone who wasn't there a moment ago had appeared.

But that wasn't all.

"It's not a pleasant reunion."

The salty aroma of the sea tickled the tip of his nose.

This voice and this smell.

They were from someone unforgettable.

With the murmur of 'it can't be,' Harggan blinked.

And in the next instant...

"Oh..."

An incredible scene unfolded before his eyes.

Two people stood in front of Zeus.

Hades and Poseidon.

The three major Gods of Olympus gathered in one place.

Chapter 299

C299

Since his childhood, Harggan had grown up admiring three people.

Zeus, the God of the Sky.

Hades, the God of Death.

Poseidon, the God of the Sea.

Called the Three Gods of Olympus, they stood firm in their respective domains.

Zeus ruled the Heavens.

Hades controlled the Underworld.

Poseidon the Sea.

It was an unspoken agreement that they would not interfere with each other's territory, even without saying it.

It had been that way for a long time.

But now...

The three of them gathered.

Isn't this the first time they were together?

Harggan hadn't talked much with Zeus, his father.

But he had never heard that the three of them had ever gathered.

Olympus was a fiercely individualistic Great Guild.

"Is this the first time since that day?"

"We've never had the chance to gather like this before."

"It's been a long time, brothers."

Zeus greeted Hades and Poseidon.

A strange current flowed between the three. Although it was a reunion after a long time, no one seemed to be happy at this moment.

Although they were brothers, they now had a less close relationship than others.

Among them, Poseidon seemed particularly uncomfortable.

"We don't have a warm enough relationship to greet each other friendly, do we?" Poseidon, who had been imprisoned in Asgard's prison by Zeus until before the destruction of Olympus, said.

Of course, if he considered the time he had been alive, it wasn't such a long period. However, that didn't mean his sense of betrayal or anger had weakened.

"That's true."

"If you know that, how can you...?"

"Don't worry. I no longer have any attachment to Olympus."

Zeus's gaze turned towards Hades.

While Poseidon growled, showing his fangs, Hades, on the other hand, silently observed as usual.

"I've heard the news. It seems Olympus is in shambles."

Despite his calm tone, there was an implicit reprimand in his words.

How had Olympus come to this situation?

The mighty Guild that used to rule the Tower alongside Asgard had now become just another common Great Guild.

That was the recent reputation of Olympus since Zeus's disappearance.

Zeus: "The elder brother is a saint. That's why, as such, I think you're not fit for the leadership position."

Hades: "What do you mean by that?"

Zeus: "Olympus needs more power."

Hades: "The Gigantomachy has ended. Olympus is in an era of peace now. Instead of creating nonexistent enemies to strengthen ourselves, it's time to strengthen our foundation."

Zeus: "An era of peace, you say...?"

The corner of Zeus's lips lifted.

"Does it look like it?"

Hades showed a surprised expression at the reaction that seemed to know something. He had never seen Zeus react like this without an apparent reason before.

"He's not exactly a pleasant person, but I would prefer him to lead Olympus."

With that said, Zeus's gaze turned to YuWon.

Zeus, who had been looking at his brothers with disdain, now had his eyes wide open and looked straight ahead.

"Of everyone here, only he (YuWon) has his eyes wide open."

"....."

It was an unparalleled compliment.

In reality, YuWon had nothing to say about it. Until he returned using the Clock Movement, YuWon didn't know about the impending danger in this Tower.

But Zeus had seen that great current even without resorting to tricks.

Perhaps Zeus's existence was the most significant change that YuWon, who had returned to the past, had achieved.

"A catastrophe will soon come to the Tower."

"Disaster."

These were the words spoken by Zeus, who had experienced the cataclysm of the Gigantomachy. But his declaration was even greater, foretelling something that would transcend that war and happen in the future.

"Above the Tower. Or outside of it. There is something beyond our known world."

Zeus's words made YuWon frown.

It was not new information to him.

Zeus had encountered Foolish Chaos and gained power from it. But he was already aware of the existence of the "beyond" more than anyone else.

Could this be another change that he had invoked?

There were no certainties, but either way, Zeus turned out to be a much greater giant than YuWon had initially thought.

Zeus: "The virtues of a saint turn into incompetence with age, and that place is not for you, elder brother."

Hades: "Are you telling me to step down?"

Zeus: "It is a suggestion for you to behave properly, at least on this occasion."

Word by word.

They were words that pierced Hades's heart like daggers.

However, they were not words he could easily ignore. Despite their differences, they were brothers.

And Zeus was the creator of the current Mount Olympus, having built the place from scratch.

In that whole process, Zeus had never been wrong.

Hades closed his eyes, forgetting even the purpose of his visit to this place.

But only for a moment.

"Let's leave the family fights for later."

Clap.

The sound of applause, inappropriate for the atmosphere, drew everyone's attention.

Zeus, Hades, and Poseidon.

The three of them paid attention to the hand that YuWon had raised.

"Didn't you all come here because you were curious about it?"

There was only one reason why the three of them had gathered.

It was for an object called the Uranus Heart.

Zeus, who originally possessed the Lightning Bolt, Poseidon, who had long been searching for the Sea Stone, and Hades, who had also tirelessly sought the Darkness Stone. Now the three objects were the core of the Uranus Heart.

That could not go unnoticed.

"Originally, that was mine."

Poseidon's eyes gleamed with greed as he stared at the Uranus Heart.

"It is a reward I obtained by overcoming a legitimate trial. Of course, it is mine."

"Don't talk with your mouth open...". (“뚫린 입이라고 말은...”)

"Don't forget the conditions."

YuWon's words made Poseidon's eyes narrow.

Not long ago...

YuWon contacted Odin.

He borrowed Poseidon for a while.

Just like Zeus, who was released from his imprisonment in Asgard with the condition to help in the Ragnarok, he also had a condition in exchange for his freedom.

"You mean you want me to be your mentor?"

YuWon nodded.

"I'm not saying you'll be my mentor in the strict sense, but anyway. Also, promise that you won't cause any more trouble."

YuWon contacted Odin to borrow Poseidon.

Odin, who had already experienced Zeus's case, instead of showing surprise, first asked what the purpose was.

What he wanted to use Poseidon for.

Odin, who was indebted to YuWon because of the Ragnarok, agreed to the request. As a result, Poseidon came out and appeared in front of YuWon.

There could have been a possibility that Poseidon wouldn't keep his promise, but YuWon didn't believe that.

He knew how strong Poseidon's obsession with the Sea God Stone was.

The Three Gods of Olympus.

There was one thing that YuWon wished from them in common.

"I want to learn how to handle this object. For that, I need to be competent in all three of its attributes."

The treasure was being wasted.

True to Zeus's words, YuWon felt that he still hadn't fully mastered the Uranus Heart.

Although he could handle magic of various attributes, that was simply the skill borrowed from the power of the object.

In many ways, YuWon was still inexperienced in handling the different magical attributes.

"The debt will be repaid."

Poseidon paid the price of his freedom, and Zeus exchanged his training with Harggan as payment.

The only one who had come here driven solely by pure curiosity was Hades, so YuWon bowed his head to him.

Fortunately, however, Hades didn't move solely out of pure kindness.

"I'm only interested in Tartarus, I don't need anything else."

His eyes turned towards the Uranus Heart in YuWon's hand.

Both of them had what the other wanted.

With this, the story would be much easier to tell.

"Allow me to start first."

Step-

Poseidon approached YuWon first.

Fire glowed in his eyes. With a fierce look as if he could shatter the sky and the earth, Poseidon held his Trident in his hand.

It was obvious what his intention was.

It was an attempt to get back at YuWon through this training.

"Well..."

In the face of his obvious and childish intention, YuWon smiled faintly.

"As you wish, in whatever order you prefer."

He knew it would be like this.

Zeus helped Harggan to his feet. As Hades and the three moved away from each other, the stage was roughly set.

The air grew damp.

It had been a long time since he held a spear.

Excitement overcame Poseidon's entire body. He wanted to rush towards YuWon immediately and impale him with his spear.

But no.

'Let's not lower our guard'.

His past experiences told him so.

His opponent was not ordinary.

Just the fact that Zeus had descended from the throne of Olympus for YuWon proved it.

YuWon possessed something that surpassed his abilities.

Sighing to calm his excitement, Poseidon calmly looked at YuWon.

The damp air turned into mist immediately. In the blurry vision, Poseidon's blue glow flashed.

"You said you want teachings, right?"

Behind the mist.

YuWon's pupils turned red. In the moment he saw the flickering red and golden eyes, Poseidon felt a strange threat.

Something intangible.

Indeed, rushing in without thinking turned out to be an ineffective strategy.

Zuuh-.

Blue waves surrounded Poseidon.

The waves encircled Poseidon and gathered at the tip of his spear. The powerful momentum of a massive tidal wave concentrated in the small stream and encapsulated in his spear.

"Then, you must first adapt to water."

Kwaauuu-.

The spear moved, and the water spread in a parabolic shape.

In an instant, a gigantic ocean formed. Poseidon, who turned the surrounding terrain upside down in an instant, didn't stop there and continued moving his spear as if he were dancing.

Zuuu, zuu-.

The ocean sang as the waves surged.

The enormous creature called the ocean moved according to Poseidon's will. YuWon realized that if he wished, Poseidon could move that marine creature to crush him.

This was Poseidon.

The God of the Sea who manipulated the ocean at his will and used it to oppress his opponent.

"It was not in vain that I called for you."

Hwaryuk-.

The differently colored Golden Cinder Eyes gleamed as they looked at Poseidon and the sea around him.

Zuuuuuu-.

The twisted ocean rose.

Dozens of tsunamis surged and engulfed the surroundings. He felt a more solid sensation than when he was surrounded by thousands of players.

Poseidon, who created the tsunamis, moved his spear as his blue eyes shimmered.

'This is enough'.

In the face of the immense ocean, humans were nothing more than small pieces of flesh. Even water, which is everywhere, can weigh hundreds of millions of tons when gathered to form an ocean, and its power was truly divine.

This was the true strength that had earned him the title of God of the Sea.

No matter how high one flew or exerted themselves, there was still no player, not even a High-Ranker, who could evade or cunningly block it.

At least, that's what Poseidon thought at this moment.

But...

"He's so ignorant..."

Zeus, who was in the sky and watching his figure from a cloud, sneered as if it were pathetic.

"Come to think of it, since he recently got out of prison, he doesn't understand how the world works."

Hades muttered as if in agreement.

"He has no idea what Rank that guy is."

Chapter 300

Boom!

A gigantic tsunami converged at a point.

With one hand holding the trident and the other clenched tightly, sweat ran down Poseidon's forehead as he controlled the tsunami with the tip of his fingers.

Crack!

He squeezed so tightly that his hands trembled.

Within the tsunami, surrounded layer after layer.

YuWon's figure reflected transparently.

'I will only do enough to keep you from dying.'

After all, he needed YuWon to set him free.

So, he wouldn't kill him.

But that didn't mean he would simply let him go.

As much as his pride had suffered while locked in Asgard's prison, he wanted to make that guy suffer.

"Ignorant brat, to tell me, the proud God of the Sea, to teach you..."

But at that moment...

Craaack!

The tsunami split apart.

He knew YuWon was smart. It was something he could tell from seeing that incredible Zeus playing on the chessboard he had created.

But no matter how ingenious he was in strategy, he would inevitably be powerless against overwhelming power.

But why?

Shaaa!

The tsunami split to the sides. YuWon's figure, who had divided the tsunami with his sword, became clear.

Fwack!

Their gazes met.

At some point, YuWon was staring at him.

"It's not that I needed any teaching."

YuWon's gaze turned towards the tsunami surrounding him.

"I just needed to see."

"To see?"

What the hell did that mean?

Poseidon tensed again. The feeling that had been so light when he had decided to fight YuWon suddenly became heavy.

He had to be on guard.

If he lost here, he wouldn't be able to see the faces of the two people watching him from there.

'This shame is unacceptable.'

Crack!

The hand holding the Trident strengthened. He increased his Arcane Power and added more pressure to the tsunami. However, strangely, the tsunami remained unmoved.

What kind of magic was he using?

Poseidon's tsunami didn't come any closer to YuWon.

Something invisible was pushing Poseidon's tsunami back.

'It must be because of that.'

Ung~

The gleaming gloves on YuWon's hand.

The Uranus Heart.

It was an object with the added power of the Stone of the Sea God. Right now, the Stone of the Sea God alone had the ability to control the power of the sea.

However, that object had been strengthened by combining it with the other Divine Stones. The strength of that power couldn't even be estimated.

Bang!

Envy and jealousy easily blind people.

Veins bulged on Poseidon's forehead, and his teeth ground together.

"Using the power of an object to fight..."

Originally, the object should have been in his own hands.

No wonder he was greedy. And greed always led to anger.

"There are still a thousand years before you possess it!"

Swoosh-.

As the waves parted, Poseidon aimed his spear at YuWon.

Space narrowed in an instant.

The tip of Poseidon's spear reflected in YuWon's eyes.

And at that moment...

Boom-.

Boom!

A jet-black lance blocked Poseidon's trident.

"...?"

"If I wanted a spear fight, I wouldn't have called you."

Thud-.

YuWon's arm swelled.

An enormous amount of Arcane Power gathered. Poseidon's pupils dilated, and his hand on the trident trembled.

[The power of a Giant fills your arm]

Gigantification.

The ability that made Heracles, the Giant Slayer, what he is today.

YuWon's spear pushed back Poseidon's trident. In a contest of sheer strength and power, Poseidon was pushed back.

'How is this possible?'

This was ridiculous.

He had been overpowered.

Although there might be advantages due to the object, with himself holding a spear in a direct confrontation, even making an excuse was difficult.

He was literally being pushed back by the force in front of him.

Zzzt-!

Crackle-.

Poseidon, who was sent flying backward, stopped in mid-air as he swept away the flowing water.

With a snap, his teeth ground together once again.

Looking at YuWon holding the spear, Poseidon raised his voice.

"If only it weren't for Gigantification!"

"Exactly, if it weren't for that."

The voice was small but clear.

"That's why you're like this, you have so much to say."

The pitiful look in his eyes left Poseidon speechless. The flow of this fight was so different from what he had planned and expected.

"You're not even a ranker yet, how dare you..."

"Your rank is around 80."

Swoosh-.

The waves roared violently.

Flaring-.

And purple flames blocked them.

"No. Some have disappeared ahead, so now you'll be in the 70s range."

"...What do you mean by that?"

"It seems you still don't understand the world well."

Frustration began to choke him.

The fire pushed against the waves. Overwhelmed by YuWon's gaze, Poseidon unconsciously took a step back.

"Who sent those few who disappeared?"

The traces of those who disappeared from the Ranking.

Surt, Indra, and the Jade Emperor...

The names of the High-Rankers who used to cause a stir in the Tower had disappeared.

Poseidon was not aware of the recent changes in the Tower.

Of course, he knew that significant events had occurred, but he hadn't delved into the details.

But now, YuWon was talking about them.

"Who pushed them down from above?"

"Are you... talking about yourself?"

In an instant, the Destruction of Olympus came to his mind.

Hades, Poseidon, Zeus.

The three Gods had gathered in one place.

It was YuWon who created that scenario. And it was the magnificent Zeus who fell and was imprisoned in Asgard's prison.

It wasn't an unreal story.

But could it be possible?

Flaring-.

"When fire and water collide..."

There was an interaction between magical abilities.

Water overcomes Fire.

And Lightning overcomes Water.

And in this case, YuWon was invoking a magical ability that was unfavorable against both elements.

But...

"It will evaporate."

Chii-ii-ii-.

The steam rose to the sky, blurring the view. Poseidon watched as the water he had created disappeared and slowly opened his mouth that he had kept shut.

And just like him, YuWon was also watching him.

"Water is overcome by a greater fire. That's common sense."

Sssshhh...

A flame rose from the steam to the sky. Poseidon showed an expression of disbelief as he saw the gigantic flame.

"Common sense, you say?"

Fire requires much more strength than water to overcome it.

At this moment, YuWon's fire was proving that.

He was dominating Poseidon.

"There is no such common sense. A player who isn't even a High-Ranker..."

"When you have time later..."

Sssshhh...

The flames rose to the sky, forming the figure of a giant. Although it wasn't clear, Poseidon could clearly distinguish what it was and who it was.

"Surt."

The High-Ranker who wields the strongest fire in this Tower.

A monster who can easily eliminate multiple Guilds with his power alone.

He, now, had appeared here, amidst YuWon's fire.

And at that moment...

"Verify what rank I am."

Seeing the fire sword descending, Poseidon murmured.

"Rank?"

The Rank.

Surely YuWon hadn't climbed the entire Tower yet, how could he have a Rank?

The questions hadn't been resolved yet. Before those thoughts could finish, the fire sword fell upon Poseidon's head.

Sssshhh...

Boom!

The fire sword cut through the sea. With the vapor floating in the air, Poseidon's body fell downward.

Sssshhh...

The tsunami, which had been teetering precariously, collapsed downward. The briefly appeared figure of Surt also faded away unable to sustain itself.

Sssshhh...

YuWon, who had been enveloped in flames, let out a long sigh.

Sweat dripped from his forehead, sliding down his cheeks. The sudden use of an enormous amount of fire had left his vision blurry.

"Was it too much?"

He looked at the altered terrain and the burning trees. But he couldn't help it.

"If I don't press him once more, he will show his fangs again."

Poseidon's goal was to avenge himself and obtain the Uranus Heart. And for the most part, those of his kind didn't let go of their prey so easily if they believed they were weaker.

That's why YuWon had to conclusively crush Poseidon in this fight.

Fortunately, unlike when he destroyed Olympus, he now had enough strength to crush Poseidon.

Of course, that was also due to his confidence, and that's why he summoned Poseidon.

At that moment...

Tsuk-tsuk-tsuk...

A presence loomed directly over him.

YuWon raised his head. His eyes were dazzling, as if the sun floated directly above him.

"More than teaching, this feels like stealing."

"Are you next?"

"Do you want to continue or take a rest?"

"I can go a little longer."

"...Alright."

Fwizz, fadeaway-.

The figure of Zeus descending from the sky looked truly divine at first glance.

Even compared to Zeus a moment ago, it was a completely different sensation.

Whether it was compared to his splendor when he held the Lightning Bolt or compared to Zeus from just now, the current version looked much more superior.

It was like watching a volcano on the verge of erupting at any moment.

The Golden Lightning wrapped around his body occasionally mingled with Blue Lightning.

In that moment, he was both Zeus and Indra at the same time.

"By looking at the mana molecules reflected in your Golden Cinder Eyes, you can see the nature of attributes, was your intention to copy us?"

"More or less."

Taking several short breaths, YuWon hurried to recover his health and mana.

The Golden Cinder Eyes were capable of penetrating everything, from things seen with the eyes to abilities, even the short-term future.

Through his eyes, YuWon understood the magic that Poseidon wielded. He wanted to know how to properly handle water elemental magic, which was the magic he controlled the least.

Of course.

The battle was too short for that.

"Although it became more difficult because of your older brother."

"From the beginning, he was the most incompetent of the three. He only has a strong sense of pride and nothing more."

"I understand."

"What I'm saying is that you regain your senses."

With a sharp response, Zeus raised his hand.

"Do you want to know how to handle Lightning?"

Crackle, crack-.

The volcano began to tremble.

Zeus displayed his presence to the fullest, signaling that he would soon explode.

YuWon could feel the mana of the Dragons through him. It was the mana he obtained from Indra.

[The 'Golden Cinder Eyes' grasp the essence]

From now on, even a blink was a matter of caution.

Regardless of changes in his mood, Zeus decided to help him grow. It was different from Poseidon, who couldn't contain his anger and swung his spear a moment ago.

Perhaps after this moment, YuWon felt that he might be able to rise to greater heights.

Behold.

That dazzling Lightning that would cover the world.

What would happen if the Uranus Heart ended up in Zeus's hands?

Just by imagining it, his heart began to race. Perhaps with that alone, Zeus could have enough strength to threaten Odin.

But now, the Uranus Heart was in his own hands.

He had no intention of handing it over.

If the Uranus Heart ended up in Zeus's hands, he would surely gain tremendous power, but YuWon was looking towards an even higher place.

"Let's begin."