

With The Gods 421

Chapter 421

C421

Vishnu's green eyes blinked.

It was at that moment when they looked at each other.

Vishnu felt for the first time in his life that someone was reading his thoughts.

"You are not allowed to meet..."

Although a subject was missing in the sentence, Vishnu immediately understood who YuWon was referring to.

"Why?"

"You won't get the outcome you desire."

YuWon approached Vishnu and leaned on the railing.

"They just won't be able to meet, so leave before it's too late."

Vishnu was sure of one thing.

The reason YuWon was here was to stop him.

"I don't know if you'll believe this, but I see fate."

He believed it.

Because it was none other than Vishnu.

But what he called "fate" was not as grand as it sounded.

"Even though I call it fate, it's just a limited fragment."

"Regardless of what you believe, what's the reason for telling me this?"

"I have seen fate."

The long red thread he had been casting.

When he saw the fate at the end of that thread, Vishnu decided to attend this meeting.

"A fate that cannot be avoided."

"What was it?"

"I can't say."

"Why?"

"Once I say it, fate changes. And it tends to change toward something more negative."

YuWon had never seen what Vishnu called "fate."

So he didn't know what fate was or why he shouldn't talk about it.

But not only at this moment but also in the distant future.

Vishnu had never revealed to anyone what he had seen as fate.

"It's to prevent it."

"Can't you find another way?"

"There's no other way."

An absolute refusal.

YuWon sighed as if he had known that there was no way to persuade this stubborn old man.

He had unwavering faith in the fate he had seen.

More than anything else.

'The problem is that fate is unchangeable.'

YuWon hadn't anticipated this situation.

Vishnu had seen the fate.

Even if it was fragmentary information, if the accuracy of that information was 100%, then it was not information that could be ignored.

"To see Vishnu talk like this, it's definitely not a good fate... Moreover, Vishnu has acted to stop that fate..."

Vishnu looked at YuWon's expression from the side. After a considerable amount of reflection, YuWon asked a question.

"When you say 'fate,' exactly which moment are you referring to?"

"Which moment?"

"I'm asking about the period of time. Is it today, tomorrow, or how many years from now?"

Vishnu had a confused expression.

As if the explanation had been insufficient, YuWon added:

"I'm asking when this fate you're trying to avoid will happen."

"What do you want to know for?"

"Did you say that if the fate is revealed, it will become worse?"

After some deliberation, YuWon devised a trick.

He still wasn't sure if it would be possible.

"If you tell me when it will happen, I will figure it out on my own."

"Tomorrow."

"Tomorrow?!"

YuWon's eyebrows furrowed.

Time was not on his side. The situation was not conducive to taking things slowly.

'I guess I should hurry.'

You couldn't predict what was going to happen.

But Vishnu had clear reasons for speaking so urgently.

To prevent Vishnu from making a hasty decision, it was crucial to prevent what was going to happen tomorrow.

"There's not much time. Haven't I said it? There is no other way."

"Maybe there's no way for you, not for me."

"Do you have a way? You, who don't even know what's going to happen?"

"From now on, I'm going to find one."

YuWon touched Vishnu's shoulder.

"So for now, stay put until tomorrow..."

As he was about to continue speaking, YuWon turned his head.

For a while now, he had felt an unsettling presence that was now directed straight at him.

Step by step, a well-dressed man with neatly combed black hair advanced toward YuWon and Vishnu. Despite his slender physique, he emitted a considerable threat.

His face resembled young Hades. He approached YuWon and Vishnu, exuding a menacing energy.

"What do you mean by 'stay still'?"

For some reason, he had overheard the conversation but wondered why they were silent.

Instead of responding to the young man's question, YuWon looked at Vishnu with a frustrated expression.

"Did you call your friend?"

"This friend is very hasty by nature, you know."

Vishnu sighed deeply, as if he hadn't desired this situation.

"If you don't want to die, run away for now. Even if you escape now, you might survive. You're not destined to die yet."

"Of course. Why would I want to die?"

YuWon observed the man who was gradually approaching while emanating dark energy.

At that moment, information about a High-Ranker popped into YuWon's mind.

'Asura, he's the 15th in the High-Ranker rankings. The leader of Deva.'

Deva had three leaders: Vishnu, Brahma, and Shiva.

Despite the differences in their ranks, they all held equal positions within Deva. Additionally, they never acted together and changed leaders every few millennia. So far, they had made Deva into the most powerful Guild rivaling Asgard.

Currently, Shiva was leading Deva.

The black-haired man before his eyes was Shiva.

Yuu-.

Shiva came to a stop in front of YuWon.

Barely five steps away.

And for a High-Ranker player like Shiva, that distance was virtually non-existent.

"You don't plan to run, do you?"

"Run... well..."

The corner of YuWon's lips lifted.

An expression of disdain.

"Even if you've secluded yourself from the world and lived in isolation, I don't think you wouldn't know who I am."

"Of course I know. You've been very famous in the Tower in recent years."

Naturally, Shiva was familiar with YuWon.

After not being active for thousands of years, Vishnu and Brahma couldn't compare to Shiva's status, who led Deva. He must have had information about YuWon.

"But what does that matter?"

As if the Rankings were irrelevant, Shiva looked at YuWon with determination.

"Do you think you're special because of your ranking, or because the Administration has raised your potential? Either way, your words a moment ago were a bit arrogant."

He had been listening to the conversation between Vishnu and YuWon all the time.

YuWon sighed in response to Shiva's words and then looked at Vishnu as if he were a little annoyed.

"I guess I also have a chance to make a friend, right?"

In this situation, YuWon, who still appeared calm, gave a faint smile as he looked at Vishnu.

After a long time, Vishnu also smiled slightly.

It was a fun situation they hadn't experienced in a long time.

"Well, of course."

Approval came ominously.

"It was a good idea to follow you."

Ruuuuuumble.

The sky in Valhalla turned red, and an intruder burst through the three of them, including YuWon.

"It would be a shame to miss this kind of fight."

Juuk-.

If Shiva was by Vishnu's side, YuWon was being followed by Diablo as he walked out onto the balcony.

Shiva looked at Diablo, who openly radiated his energy. He was a red-haired man with a gaze that could kill someone with just a glance, and his eyes burned with a red energy that seemed lethal.

Although he had only seen him once, his impression was unforgettable.

"Is this Diablo?"

"We are leaders of powerful guilds."

Both of them were leaders of Great Guilds. Although they had only crossed paths once before, Shiva and Diablo had met on that occasion.

At that time, Shiva, who was the leader of the Deva Guild, was interested in the Great Heaven Demon War.

"I heard that you completed the Great Heaven Demon War without our help. But in the end, you relied on humans."

"Don't talk nonsense if you don't even know. This guy is half-demon, after all."

Clearly frustrated, Diablo began to raise his horns above his head.

"So he became our race's second-in-command."

In other words, he was suggesting they shouldn't mess with YuWon unless they wanted to deal with the Demon Kings.

And Diablo was more than willing to see that situation through, even more than anyone else.

Since he had encountered Shiva in the past.

Diablo had been waiting for the day when he would finally fight him.

"I'm not one of those people who talk too much. So let's stop the nonsense and..."

Diablo's eyes widened.

A fist that completely filled his field of vision.

Jwaa-!

Thwaaack-!

Diablo's body, which received a punch to the face, flew off the balcony, defying gravity, and rolled across the floor.

It happened in an instant.

Even YuWon, who wasn't using the Golden Cinder Eyes, could barely follow the incredibly fast movement.

Or rather.

'He leaped a distance.'

Like the Flash Step that bends space and moves through it.

Shiva didn't leap toward Diablo; he literally leaped through space to deliver the punch.

It was a peculiar ability.

He thought that if he had a skill like that, he wouldn't lose in a speed contest.

Furthermore, he had the strength to send someone like Diablo, who had an extremely tough and resistant body, flying.

"Rankings really aren't reliable."

Diablo, who was flying through the air before landing on the ground, got back up in his place.

Although he might have been upset before, he now had an even broader smile than before.

"Rank 15, huh?"

Diablo had encountered many High-Ranker characters.

But with just one recent move, he had learned a lesson.

Rankings were just number games.

Ziiing-.

Diablo's horns rose above his head.

The red hue in the sky grew darker. Diablo had decided to reveal his true form to fight Shiva.

It was an explosive situation.

Psh-.

YuWon and Vishnu moved at the same time and interposed themselves between the two.

"Stop it."

"Are you thinking of destroying the castle?"

Vishnu blocked Shiva's path, and YuWon blocked Diablo's.

Unlike Diablo, who seemed to be asking what they were doing, Shiva accepted Vishnu's suggestion without issue.

"Don't do useless things."

"I know."

Vishnu looked at YuWon as if asking if this would be the end of it.

But YuWon's words clearly turned into a thorn in his throat.

"Let's go."

"Hey! Where do you think you're going?"

The moment Diablo tried to shove YuWon and run toward Shiva.

Swoosh-.

The appearances of Shiva and Vishnu became an illusion and disappeared. Diablo, who had pulled out his horns and was about to release his Demon Energy, let out a laugh as he relaxed, feeling his strength being unleashed.

"He escaped?"

"To say he escaped, it was you who got hit."

Juuk-.

YuWon, who confirmed that Shiva and Vishnu had disappeared, began to walk.

Diablo, who had come out onto the balcony with the excitement of a fight, now asked curiously when YuWon tried to leave his spot.

"Where are you going again?"

"I'm not going to fight this time, so don't follow me."

"Where...?"

YuWon jumped from the balcony down to the garden of Valhalla Castle before Diablo could keep bothering him.

After landing in the garden of Valhalla Castle, YuWon continued to walk out of the castle.

"Shiva and Vishnu have met."

From the moment Vishnu originally began moving, the meeting between the two was destined to happen.

He couldn't force them to separate.

"Now, first, I have to find out what this new variable that has arisen is."

Fireee~

YuWon's eyes gleamed golden as he began to glimpse the future.

"What fate has Vishnu seen?"

Chapter 422

C422

Goo-ong-.

Beyond the immense Demon Energy covering Valhalla Castle, the sky occasionally glimpsed through the windows was dyed red.

Some of the Rankers struggled to breathe and, unnaturally, covered their mouths and breathed.

"What's happening?"

"Could there be a fight outside?"

"Who dares to do this...?"

This place was Asgard.

And among them, it was a place where the High-Rankers of various Great Guilds gathered to unite.

They decided to step out onto the balcony to resolve the situation immediately.

Of course.

Even though no one dared to think of it because of the significance of the red sky.

"Everything will be fine."

A word from Odin filled the audience.

The Rankers who were about to move stopped. And right after Odin's words fell like lightning, the sky's color changed again.

Swoosh-.

Gugugug-.

The Demon Energy pressing down on their bodies disappeared, and the sky turned blue again.

The gazes turned back to Odin.

As if he was watching the situation outside from here. Odin already knew that the fight was over.

"So, may I continue?"

When Odin stepped onto the stage to give a speech, the audience nodded one by one.

A formality.

A greeting for the Rankers from the Great Guilds who had illuminated this place and were scattered throughout the castle.

It was dull, but as the king of a nation, he couldn't help it.

'That guy has started moving too.'

Odin, who casually looked outside with a sidelong glance, nodded his head.

Vishnu and Shiva had met.

Everyone present might think of this place as an occasion for a speech aimed at harmony, but it wasn't.

The historic moment wasn't here but outside, where the red sky extended.

"You're Vishnu from Deva, aren't you?"

When he first met Vishnu.

Mimir, who was traveling with Odin, took his hand and said.

"A half-man."

Odin looked at Mimir as if asking him what he was talking about.

A half-man.

It was a word that could have been disrespectful, but he didn't think that Mimir, who was smarter than anyone in this Tower, would say such a thing without reason.

Or perhaps not.

"I suppose you're like me. Mimir."

Vishnu told his story as he spoke.

Odin, who listened with his ears wide open while hearing his story, was finally able to shake off the doubts he had harbored for a long time.

"...So that's what happened."

Mimir was also surprised. Although he didn't have the ability to see fate like Vishnu due to the Curse of Knowledge, he had been anticipating most of the future events due to his knowledge.

However, even he had not anticipated a story like Vishnu's this time.

"But why is he telling us this story?"

"Someday that moment will come."

"And when it comes?"

"If something goes wrong, you might have to intervene."

What kind of fate would Vishnu have seen back then?

At that time, that conversation seemed more like an omen of a dark future, not just a mere illusion.

At this moment, during the Meeting, Odin felt a sense of unease in his chest, perhaps because of the red sky created by Diablo.

'There hasn't been a single time when this negative hunch has been wrong.'

Normally, the premonitions of a High-Ranker like Odin were dismissed as mere intuitions, but sometimes they were more accurate than objective facts or evidence.

However...

-Beeeeeeeeeh.

He couldn't ignore that creature's bleating.

Odin resumed his speech after a brief pause. Although his mouth kept talking, the thought that crossed his mind didn't easily fade.

And so, the first day of the Meeting passed.

After Odin's speech,

The reception continued as a place for friendship among various Guilds.

Grand General Lee Rangjin, who rarely appeared in crowded places, smiled outwardly but had a bitter expression inside.

'What chaos.'

As the leader of the Celestial Realm, he had faced all kinds of problems over the years.

But undoubtedly, no fight was as difficult as having to put on an expression he didn't want to and say words he didn't feel in front of the people.

He hadn't undergone a trial like this before.

So, he drank expensive wine that he didn't like in front of the Rankers from various guilds.

"Grand General Lee Rangjin."

Someone approached Lee Rangjin and offered him a bottle of clear, strong liquor.

"It's a pleasure to see you again after so long."

A handsome man with black hair and a bright smile.

It had been about a thousand years since he had seen that face.

"Shiva? You've changed a lot."

"One has to take care of their appearance when they're in a place like this."

Shiva laughed merrily as he shook the bottle of liquor.

Lee Rangjin put his glass on the table and took the bottle Shiva offered. It was liquor that the Celestial Generals used to enjoy.

"Thank you."

"You're welcome. You've suffered drinking that tasteless liquor all this time."

"Each floor has its own liquor. Valhalla's wine is excellent too."

Despite his words, Lee Rangjin smiled as he received the bottle from Shiva.

Valhalla's liquor really tasted bland in Lee Rangjin's mouth.

"Ha, it's good to see you enjoy it!"

After enjoying the liquor, Lee Rangjin finally noticed the green-haired man who was with Shiva.

He bore a resemblance to Shiva somewhere, but his gaze and atmosphere were entirely different.

"Who is he?"

"Oh, let me introduce you. This is Vishnu."

"Vishnu?"

Lee Rangjin's eyes lit up.

Vishnu was the leader of the Deva Guild, considered one of the oldest Rankers alongside Odin. Although he hadn't been active for a long time, the Administration had ranked him third in the Ranking, after Odin.

"So, you're associated with a colossal figure."

"Haha, and aren't you a colossus too? You lead the Celestial Realm."

"Well, that's a good thing. Anyway, it's a pleasure to meet you. I'm Lee Rangjin."

"I'm Vishnu."

Vishnu shook the hand Lee Rangjin offered. The hand was as delicate and smooth as that of a small child, and Lee Rangjin looked at Vishnu for a moment, his eyes sparkling.

"It was a pleasure to meet you. I hope to see you often in the future."

Lee Rangjin quickly concluded his greeting and waved the bottle of liquor he held.

"I'll drink this gladly."

"Alright then. See you later."

Shiva nodded to Lee Rangjin and went to greet other Rankers.

As he watched Shiva greet others, the General next to Lee Rangjin muttered:

"He seems much more polite than I had heard."

"Well, who knows, really."

Lee Rangjin looked at the bottle of liquor Shiva had given him.

"Is it sincerity, or is it hypocrisy?"

During the peak of the Meeting,

YuWon hurried back to his lodging.

Hercules, who shared the room with him, hadn't returned yet.

It was understandable.

After all, he was an Olympus prince and was attending the meeting.

'He must be going through a hard time.'

Hercules' uncomfortable expression, who stood next to Zeus, was still fresh in his memory.

At one point, they had a hostile relationship and sought each other to kill. It wasn't surprising that Hercules still harbored deep anger toward Zeus, whom he blamed for the death of his mother, Alcmena.

YuWon lay down on the spacious bed he had chosen.

From his more comfortable position, a dark shadow loomed.

"What's going on?"

Susanoo looked around as soon as he appeared.

There were no enemies in sight, and the lodging seemed safer than any other place.

It was strange to be called upon to bring forth what was once known as the best swordsman in the Tower, in a place like this.

"I have a task for you."

"What?"

"Please, stay by my side for a moment."

"What?"

A look of disgust formed on Susanoo's face.

Had he really been called to give such an absurd order?

Susanoo, one of the most powerful swordsmen in the Tower, was being used as little more than a simple bodyguard.

"Call someone else. I don't want to get involved in something that doesn't fit my position."

"I can't call anyone else."

"Why not?"

"Because, apart from you, I don't fully trust anyone else."

"What?"

A muffled sound.

Susanoo slightly raised the corners of his lips, returning to his original expression for a moment, before nodding.

"If you ask that way, fine."

Susanoo positioned himself in front of YuWon, looking quite imposing.

YuWon didn't know that a simple compliment could change Susanoo's mind.

'It's surprisingly simple.'

YuWon was confident that, anyway, Susanoo was bound to follow his orders. However, due to the nature of undead summoning, Susanoo was usually more efficient when performing tasks he wanted to do himself.

That's why he had issued the request.

'Well, as long as he does it this way.'

With Susanoo guarding his side, YuWon felt safe enough.

Even if the true entity of Foolish Chaos were to try to attack him, at least for a while, he could rely on Susanoo to protect him.

So YuWon sat on the bed with his eyes open.

Brrring-.

['Eyes of Foreknowledge' is activated]

By using the ability, YuWon experienced a vision entirely different from anything he had seen before.

Initially, the differences were very subtle. Susanoo, who used to roam around YuWon, occasionally looked out of the window.

1 second, 2 seconds, 3 seconds...

The events that would eventually unfold after a short time.

Dozens, even hundreds of possible futures unfolded before YuWon's eyes.

'The important part starts from here.'

YuWon activated his Golden Cinder Eyes ability and, among the countless possibilities presented to him, he selected the ones that seemed most likely and relevant. Among all these options, he chose one in particular.

And what he needed to verify was the "fate" that Vishnu had seen for the next day.

'This is the first time I've seen such a distant future...'

From seconds to minutes, and then to hours in the future, as YuWon began to glimpse events that would occur in the distant future, he began to experience a persistent headache.

A sharp and persistent pain.

Even though his body had been considerably strengthened thanks to the Physical Enhancement Ritual and gaining Divinity by breaking through the Tower's ceiling, seeing the distant future was not an easy task.

'It's not simple.'

However, YuWon comforted himself with the fact that he would eventually master the use of Eyes of Foreknowledge without experiencing these pains.

It wasn't unbearable.

It felt like he was time-traveling.

Although his body was still sitting on the bed, he didn't feel like he was actually there. He navigated the dark, gravity-less universe as the threads of time passed around him.

Night turned into day, and so came the next day, the day when the prominent High-Rankers of the guilds invited by Odin would gather.

'This is...'

The headache intensified.

It became increasingly difficult to endure.

Thus, the many possibilities that had presented themselves earlier began to fade, and only one scene surrounded YuWon.

[Proficiency of 'Eyes of Foreknowledge' increases significantly]

'This is not just a simple possibility.'

After spending a long time using Eyes of Foreknowledge and concentrating intensely, YuWon finally reached a conclusion about what would happen the next day.

Chik!

Finally, the door swung open wide.

Chapter 423

C423

In an instant, countless scenes that stretched before his eyes, tens of millions, even billions, vanished into a bright light.

The only scene that appeared afterward was one.

It wasn't a possibility but a definite future.

The truth he had seen through the Eyes of Foreknowledge.

[The 'Eyes of Foreknowledge' ability has increased dramatically.]

Once again, YuWon observed the landscape unfolding before him in response to the message that appeared.

It was the Castle of Valhalla of tomorrow.

And...

"Why so soon?"

"Zeus has returned. Is there any other blessing like this on Olympus?"

"You've joined the Asgard Meeting that kept you captive. You really have a deep heart."

"Hahaha. Thank you. Next time, come visit us on Olympus. We'll treat you well so you don't feel uncomfortable."

A shameless compliment to the sight, and Zeus responded with a carefree laugh.

Around him were the sons of Zeus, including Hercules, Apollo, Artemis, and Hargan.

A boring and awkward moment.

"It's been a while since we've seen each other, Apollo."

"That's right. I knew you would come. Did I hear that something significant happened on the first floor?"

"Probably, that's why this place was created. It was a big problem."

"You've worked hard. Let's talk in more detail later..."

Among Zeus's children, Apollo was the best at dealing with people.

Until Hercules appeared, Apollo was considered the most likely candidate to succeed Zeus.

This kind of behavior was something he had been working on for a long time.

"Do you feel uncomfortable?"

Hercules nodded in response to Hargan's question as he approached.

"Very."

"Me too. These kinds of gatherings are uncomfortable."

"You're not cut out for politics, are you?"

"I prefer fighting enemies to drinking tasteless alcohol in an uncomfortable place like this."

Hercules smiled slightly.

Despite the discomfort, at least he had found someone he felt a bit more comfortable with.

"Where is YuWon?"

"We split up right after arriving here. He said he had a place he needed to be."

"You pushed him away."

"I did."

"Don't blame him too much. Wasn't it me who found out something about him before my brother did? He must have something in mind."

"Something in mind..."

Hercules looked at Zeus.

His father was busy greeting officials from other guilds one by one.

Having reclaimed the throne of Olympus after Hades left, he showed the same appearance as in the past.

"It's obvious what you're thinking."

"What?"

"That we need to reconcile. We need our father's strength."

Zeus's power was such that it would be difficult to find a rival.

From the start, he was strong enough to fight two of the Three Gods and Hercules simultaneously. After that, he lost the power of the Lightning Bolt, and his ranking fell, but he gained the power and Divinity of Indra.

Now, his ranking and abilities were much higher than in his glory days.

Literally, it was a new period of splendor.

Despite gaining the same Divinity, Hercules had the feeling that Zeus, who stood before him, was still out of reach.

"Just because we need his strength?"

Hargan's gaze also turned toward Zeus in the same way.

Although Zeus surely noticed their looks, he didn't seem to mind.

Was he deliberately ignoring them, or did he have other deep thoughts on his mind?

Hargan wondered why YuWon had sent Hercules to Zeus.

"It's not just for that."

"Then what?"

"Don't you know? He's not the kind of person who allies with anyone just because he needs strength."

"Well."

YuWon was one of the smartest individuals Hercules had ever met.

He was the one who introduced him to the world while living in the pit called Olympus.

Moreover, he was one step ahead of Zeus, who seemed to know everything in this world, and it was he who turned Olympus upside down.

"What is he thinking exactly? Seriously."

It would be better if he could at least clearly state what he was thinking.

Hercules sat and drank with Hargan. Continuously drinking alcohol that didn't intoxicate him was simply because he was bored.

How much time had passed like this?

"Hercules."

Hercules was startled by feeling a presence behind him.

Zeus had approached him first.

"...What is it?"

"I have something to tell you. Come with me for a moment."

In response to Zeus's gesture, Hercules looked at him without knowing what it meant.

From the side, Hargan closed one eye and sent a signal to Hercules to go and come back safely. His lips curved into a smile.

"Stay strong, big brother!"

He sent Hercules an encouraging message without Zeus hearing it.

And at that moment...

"Hargan."

"Yes?"

"You come with me too."

With those words, Zeus quickly turned around and began to walk.

Confused by what was happening, Hargan looked at Hercules with a pleading face, asking for help.

Then...

"Stay strong, little brother."

Hercules pulled his hand away sharply.

The night grew deeper.

Hercules, who had been with Hargan for a considerable time after meeting Zeus, walked with a pensive expression.

"I have something to tell you guys."

Under the twilight sky, Zeus set an atmosphere.

Facing Zeus like this, Hargan asked with a cold voice.

"Do you have something to tell only us two?"

"Yes."

Unlike the nervous Hercules, Hargan's response was cold.

"What do you want now?"

His tone and expression were cruel.

Indeed, Hargan felt so overwhelmed by those words that he lost his breath for a while and knelt on the ground, awaiting Zeus's response.

"Aren't you worried that your brother is suffering by your side?"

Hercules felt as though a bolt of lightning had passed through his body with Zeus's gesture.

Hargan, whose breath returned with difficulty, finally breathed strongly.

Hercules looked at Zeus with curious eyes.

In the past, even if his child was having trouble breathing or was gasping for breath next to him, someone like Zeus wouldn't have shown interest. So, what had changed?

Although he thought he could consider it as a compassionate father, Zeus's next words were still distant enough not to consider him a loving father.

People don't change that easily.

Especially someone like Zeus, a High-Ranker who had lived for thousands of years, would be even further from changing.

Hercules slowly walked to his lodging while organizing his thoughts.

The night grew deeper.

As he opened the door to his lodging, he felt an unsettling sensation on the back of his neck.

"What is this?"

-Don't enter so abruptly.

A voice full of power.

Hercules turned his head and saw Susanoo, whose complexion was pale, near his throat.

He already knew that Susanoo was a Summon of YuWon due to their previous encounter in battle.

"Is Kim Yuwon inside?"

-He's in there.

"But..."

-He told me not to let anyone in.

"Kim Yuwon?"

Hercules looked at the closed door with curiosity.

What the hell was going on inside?

Susanoo, a Summon of YuWon, shouldn't harm YuWon, and if he had given orders, there must be a reason for it.

"I understand."

With a whisper, Hercules moved Kusanagi away from Susanoo with the tips of his fingers.

"Still, you shouldn't provoke situations like this. It's dangerous."

-You're not exactly the most suitable person to say that, considering who you are.

Susanoo recalled when he fought Hercules. Hercules was a stunning and unknown opponent to Susanoo, who had been called the 'Sword Demon' for thousands of years.

A body that wouldn't give in.

He felt like he was fighting solid steel with his sword, and he wondered who his opponent could be.

-Next time will be different.

Hercules leaned against the wall, just a step from the door, and raised his head.

"Different from what?"

What was this guy saying?

-That resilient body.

Susanoo looked at Hercules with bright blue eyes.

-I will definitely cut it into pieces.

"Really?"

Hercules lightly patted Susanoo's shoulder.

"Before that, who knows if we'll have a chance to fight again?"

While watching Hercules pass by him, Susanoo showed a hint of disdain.

Still, he didn't immediately unsheathe his sword. He knew he wasn't a match for Hercules at the moment, and Hercules had no intention of harming YuWon.

So Susanoo and Hercules stood with their arms crossed in front of YuWon's door.

At that moment...

"Mama!"

The players climbing the stairs were surprised to see Susanoo and Hercules standing face to face. To reach their own rooms, they had to pass between these two.

Gulp~

Cautiously, the two companions swallowed hard and went down the stairs. Hercules glanced at them out of the corner of his eye.

"Do we have to keep this up?"

-If you want to enter, defeat me first.

"You're a loyal servant."

Hercules sighed and stepped away from the wall, starting to walk.

"I'd better leave."

We're inconveniencing the people passing by.

As long as he's present, Susanoo will continue to emit a hostile aura as he has been doing.

Hercules decided to step aside until YuWon came out first.

And then...

The door of the room YuWon was in opened.

Yuwon came out.

Hercules and Susanoo were in a standoff. YuWon looked at them with tired eyes at the unusual scene.

"What are you doing?"

"Nothing at all."

"Did you fight?"

Hercules shrugged and nodded towards Susanoo with a head gesture.

In response, YuWon nodded, apparently understanding the situation.

"And you? What did you do to prevent him from entering?"

"I was stargazing."

"Stargazing?"

"Did you talk to Zeus? You seemed uncomfortable."

The question made Hercules frown and look like he was chewing gum.

It wasn't common to see Hercules with that expression, indicating that his mood was far from good.

"Don't do foolish things like this next time."

Saying that, Hercules walked past YuWon and entered the room.

"Let's set that question aside."

Yuwon took a step to the side and blocked Hercules' path.

"Sorry, but we can't just set that aside."

"What?"

"Because there's a matter to attend to on that side."

YuWon, after coming out of his room, looked at Hercules with satisfaction. In moments like this, it was reassuring to have a reliable ally by his side.

"Where is Zeus?"

Chapter 423

C423

In an instant, countless scenes that stretched before his eyes, tens of millions, even billions, vanished into a bright light.

The only scene that appeared afterward was one.

It wasn't a possibility but a definite future.

The truth he had seen through the Eyes of Foreknowledge.

[The 'Eyes of Foreknowledge' ability has increased dramatically.]

Once again, YuWon observed the landscape unfolding before him in response to the message that appeared.

It was the Castle of Valhalla of tomorrow.

And...

"Why so soon?"

"Zeus has returned. Is there any other blessing like this on Olympus?"

"You've joined the Asgard Meeting that kept you captive. You really have a deep heart."

"Hahaha. Thank you. Next time, come visit us on Olympus. We'll treat you well so you don't feel uncomfortable."

A shameless compliment to the sight, and Zeus responded with a carefree laugh.

Around him were the sons of Zeus, including Hercules, Apollo, Artemis, and Hargan.

A boring and awkward moment.

"It's been a while since we've seen each other, Apollo."

"That's right. I knew you would come. Did I hear that something significant happened on the first floor?"

"Probably, that's why this place was created. It was a big problem."

"You've worked hard. Let's talk in more detail later..."

Among Zeus's children, Apollo was the best at dealing with people.

Until Hercules appeared, Apollo was considered the most likely candidate to succeed Zeus.

This kind of behavior was something he had been working on for a long time.

"Do you feel uncomfortable?"

Hercules nodded in response to Hargan's question as he approached.

"Very."

"Me too. These kinds of gatherings are uncomfortable."

"You're not cut out for politics, are you?"

"I prefer fighting enemies to drinking tasteless alcohol in an uncomfortable place like this."

Hercules smiled slightly.

Despite the discomfort, at least he had found someone he felt a bit more comfortable with.

"Where is YuWon?"

"We split up right after arriving here. He said he had a place he needed to be."

"You pushed him away."

"I did."

"Don't blame him too much. Wasn't it me who found out something about him before my brother did? He must have something in mind."

"Something in mind..."

Hercules looked at Zeus.

His father was busy greeting officials from other guilds one by one.

Having reclaimed the throne of Olympus after Hades left, he showed the same appearance as in the past.

"It's obvious what you're thinking."

"What?"

"That we need to reconcile. We need our father's strength."

Zeus's power was such that it would be difficult to find a rival.

From the start, he was strong enough to fight two of the Three Gods and Hercules simultaneously. After that, he lost the power of the Lightning Bolt, and his ranking fell, but he gained the power and Divinity of Indra.

Now, his ranking and abilities were much higher than in his glory days.

Literally, it was a new period of splendor.

Despite gaining the same Divinity, Hercules had the feeling that Zeus, who stood before him, was still out of reach.

"Just because we need his strength?"

Hargan's gaze also turned toward Zeus in the same way.

Although Zeus surely noticed their looks, he didn't seem to mind.

Was he deliberately ignoring them, or did he have other deep thoughts on his mind?

Hargan wondered why YuWon had sent Hercules to Zeus.

"It's not just for that."

"Then what?"

"Don't you know? He's not the kind of person who allies with anyone just because he needs strength."

"Well."

Yuwon was one of the smartest individuals Hercules had ever met.

He was the one who introduced him to the world while living in the pit called Olympus.

Moreover, he was one step ahead of Zeus, who seemed to know everything in this world, and it was he who turned Olympus upside down.

"What is he thinking exactly? Seriously."

It would be better if he could at least clearly state what he was thinking.

Hercules sat and drank with Hargan. Continuously drinking alcohol that didn't intoxicate him was simply because he was bored.

How much time had passed like this?

"Hercules."

Hercules was startled by feeling a presence behind him.

Zeus had approached him first.

"...What is it?"

"I have something to tell you. Come with me for a moment."

In response to Zeus's gesture, Hercules looked at him without knowing what it meant.

From the side, Hargan closed one eye and sent a signal to Hercules to go and come back safely. His lips curved into a smile.

"Stay strong, big brother!"

He sent Hercules an encouraging message without Zeus hearing it.

And at that moment...

"Hargan."

"Yes?"

"You come with me too."

With those words, Zeus quickly turned around and began to walk.

Confused by what was happening, Hargan looked at Hercules with a pleading face, asking for help. Then...

"Stay strong, little brother."

Hercules pulled his hand away sharply.

The night grew deeper.

Hercules, who had been with Hargan for a considerable time after meeting Zeus, walked with a pensive expression.

"I have something to tell you guys."

Under the twilight sky, Zeus set an atmosphere.

Facing Zeus like this, Hargan asked with a cold voice.

"Do you have something to tell only us two?"

"Yes."

Unlike the nervous Hercules, Hargan's response was cold.

"What do you want now?"

His tone and expression were cruel.

Indeed, Hargan felt so overwhelmed by those words that he lost his breath for a while and knelt on the ground, awaiting Zeus's response.

"Aren't you worried that your brother is suffering by your side?"

Hercules felt as though a bolt of lightning had passed through his body with Zeus's gesture.

Hargan, whose breath returned with difficulty, finally breathed strongly.

Hercules looked at Zeus with curious eyes.

In the past, even if his child was having trouble breathing or was gasping for breath next to him, someone like Zeus wouldn't have shown interest. So, what had changed?

Although he thought he could consider it as a compassionate father, Zeus's next words were still distant enough not to consider him a loving father.

People don't change that easily.

Especially someone like Zeus, a High-Ranker who had lived for thousands of years, would be even further from changing.

Hercules slowly walked to his lodging while organizing his thoughts.

The night grew deeper.

As he opened the door to his lodging, he felt an unsettling sensation on the back of his neck.

"What is this?"

-Don't enter so abruptly.

A voice full of power.

Hercules turned his head and saw Susanoo, whose complexion was pale, near his throat.

He already knew that Susanoo was a Summon of YuWon due to their previous encounter in battle.

"Is Kim Yuwon inside?"

-He's in there.

"But..."

-He told me not to let anyone in.

"Kim Yuwon?"

Hercules looked at the closed door with curiosity.

What the hell was going on inside?

Susanoo, a Summon of YuWon, shouldn't harm YuWon, and if he had given orders, there must be a reason for it.

"I understand."

With a whisper, Hercules moved Kusanagi away from Susanoo with the tips of his fingers.

"Still, you shouldn't provoke situations like this. It's dangerous."

-You're not exactly the most suitable person to say that, considering who you are.

Susanoo recalled when he fought Hercules. Hercules was a stunning and unknown opponent to Susanoo, who had been called the 'Sword Demon' for thousands of years.

A body that wouldn't give in.

He felt like he was fighting solid steel with his sword, and he wondered who his opponent could be.

-Next time will be different.

Hercules leaned against the wall, just a step from the door, and raised his head.

"Different from what?"

What was this guy saying?

-That resilient body.

Susanoo looked at Hercules with bright blue eyes.

-I will definitely cut it into pieces.

"Really?"

Hercules lightly patted Susanoo's shoulder.

"Before that, who knows if we'll have a chance to fight again?"

While watching Hercules pass by him, Susanoo showed a hint of disdain.

Still, he didn't immediately unsheathe his sword. He knew he wasn't a match for Hercules at the moment, and Hercules had no intention of harming YuWon.

So Susanoo and Hercules stood with their arms crossed in front of YuWon's door.

At that moment...

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Gulp~

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"Where is Zeus?"

Chapter 424

C424

Zeus looked up at the sky.

A clear sky with not a single cloud in sight. The moon's rays shone on the clouds gathering on his back.

Swoosh...

His eyelids, which had been half-closed, opened slowly.

As if he had been waiting for a rendezvous.

The guest he had been waiting for had come to seek him.

"You've arrived."

Despite his friendly tone, his eyes were filled with hostility.

Craack, craaack-le...

Golden currents began to flow around him.

Boom!

Thunder rumbled from the clouds, and a heavy rain began to pour down.

One way or another.

Zeus ascended above the clouds. As he did so, he realized that someone else was standing in the clear sky, where no one should be.

"I thought you wouldn't come."

A faceless figure, a hooded robe covering its head.

Foolish Chaos.

He bowed with clasped hands in a greeting gesture towards Zeus.

"Interesting, you've really grown."

"And you seem smaller."

"Because this is the only way to approach at this moment."

Foolish Chaos looked small and disheveled in front of Zeus. It was an ephemeral presence, one that seemed like it would disappear with a simple gesture, like a candle, without the need to create a Lightning Bolt or something similar.

"Still, isn't it enough to keep up appearances? After all, I didn't come to fight."

"How long do you plan to hide behind that false appearance?"

"When I really have to fight..."

Swiish...

Foolish Chaos approached Zeus and pushed his head forward.

"Are you sure you'll have the confidence to handle it?"

"..."

Within the black robe.

Although the occasional existence peeked out there, it wasn't visible at all.

Even though it was within arm's reach.

"You'll find out when the time comes."

"Confidence is something you have in abundance."

"I wonder if your mouth would float in the water if I cut it off."

"Hahaha."

With an uneasy laugh, Foolish Chaos passed by Zeus.

"Do you have any wishes?"

"If I didn't, I wouldn't have waited to see you again."

"So, that's it. It won't be easy to talk for long then. Please, hurry up and let's talk quickly."

The two faced each other as they turned their backs and conversed.

So, a few minutes passed.

When Zeus finished speaking, Foolish Chaos opened his mouth with a voice that mixed laughter, as if he had expected it to happen.

"Both you and he have very interesting stories."

"He?"

Quickly...

Zeus turned to look at Foolish Chaos.

There was someone else who had had similar conversations as his. Only one person came to mind.

"Is it Kim YuWon again?"

"It seems you've become close to him. It appears you even refer to him in a friendly manner."

"It seems so."

"You must value the person who made you fall from the throne you once valued so much. You truly are a saint..."

Boom!

Foolish Chaos's speech was drowned out by the roar of the Lightning Bolt.

In the blink of an eye, Foolish Chaos's body was torn apart into bright vapor by a brilliant Lightning Bolt.

A simple finger movement by Zeus.

With that single movement, Foolish Chaos's already imperfect form became even harder to maintain.

"Stop talking nonsense. Tell me if you're going to do it or not."

"If both of us desire the same thing, it's natural."

"Are you agreeing?"

"Yes."

He received an affirmative answer.

So, there were no more negotiations to be had.

Zeus's finger moved once again.

Flash!

Foolish Chaos's body was enveloped in a golden light.

"If you've finished talking, leave and don't open that filthy mouth again."

"...You act similarly."

"Keep your promise."

"As you wish."

With that whisper...

Foolish Chaos, who no longer had a reason to maintain his manifest form, disappeared completely.

After that...

"These guys are quite annoying, aren't they?"

It wasn't worth going up to the clouds, as a new client had arrived.

"I had a hard time finding you thanks to them."

Huff...

YuWon stepped on the clouds and ascended.

Zeus looked beneath YuWon's feet, wondering how he could stand on the clouds as if they were solid ground.

Icy white clouds.

Thanks to that, YuWon, as well as Hercules, who accompanied him, could stand on the clouds as if they were solid ground.

"Were you looking for me?"

"Yes."

"Why now? If you intended to greet me, you should have done so earlier."

"We're not so close for that. You two should greet each other."

YuWon said this while looking at Hercules. Hercules, as if wondering why he was talking about unnecessary things, frowned and nodded slightly.

It was during that brief moment when YuWon and Hercules locked eyes.

"That guy is gone."

Zeus brought up the topic suddenly.

As close as they might be, Zeus had no intention of exchanging trivial greetings with YuWon. Although he could be a reliable companion for fighting together, they were still not close friends.

Only for important matters. That's what YuWon desired as well.

"What kind of conversation did you have?"

"He said you also talked about the same thing."

"...So you too?"

YuWon's eyes narrowed. He had no idea how many times Zeus had been reassessed in his mind.

How many minds gathered to plan this operation?

Even colleagues spent a long time thinking before coming to this thought. Moreover, how many people were involved in reviewing and confirming the plan?

Zeus, on the other hand, was alone.

He was the only one who had succeeded in devising this plan to this point.

But...

"Although we seem to have the same thoughts, our timeline is a bit different."

"Different?"

"I was thinking of a much more distant future."

YuWon said this while looking toward where Foolish Chaos had been before.

"But it seems that was not the case with you."

The transaction with Foolish Chaos was based on the same purpose.

However, no agreement was reached about the process.

"It seems the agenda suddenly advanced."

"That's right."

"Is it my fault?"

YuWon shrugged.

"Not necessarily. Anyway, even if it wasn't you, that guy would have moved in the same way."

With the same plan in mind, Foolish Chaos separately met with YuWon and Zeus.

It seemed that he knew their general intent.

"However, I guess he was trying to confuse me about when to start."

Interference of information with time differences.

And the aggravation of damage through it.

Foolish Chaos wanted YuWon and Zeus to prepare and divert each other, even if they knew when it was going to happen.

"It seems he failed."

"That's right."

"So, what are we going to do? Should we delay the moment as you wish?"

Zeus's question made YuWon shake his head.

The future seen through the Eyes of Foreknowledge.

He didn't think he could change that future with such a simple method right away.

'If we can't change the future right away...'

YuWon had a resolution.

"We'll go according to plan."

If they can't avoid it, they will face it.

That was his philosophy, and YuWon had always survived that way.

"Are you sure?"

"Of course, if we want to minimize the damage on this side, we must prepare."

After saying that, YuWon squinted at Zeus.

Unlike him, who was thinking about the future, Zeus was ready to face it immediately.

That meant...

"Do you have a contingency plan too?"

Zeus already had an alternative plan prepared.

And, as expected...

"It's him."

Zeus pointed to Hercules, who stood on the side, with a nod of his head.

"Him?"

YuWon furrowed his brow with an expression of disbelief.

There was no explanation.

Zeus simply nodded as if he wanted YuWon to understand it that way.

"Now, pay attention to your own matters. Your face looks half-worn."

YuWon's face was considerably paler than usual, perhaps due to the excessive use of the Eyes of Foreknowledge.

In this condition, he was so tired that he wondered if he could properly fight the next day.

"I had a bit of a tiring day."

"Are you okay?"

"I'll recover after a night's sleep. It's just that my power was drained for a moment."

"I understand."

Zeus's concerns ended there.

Slowly, his body descended below the clouds. He had completed his task, so there was no reason to stay here any longer.

"Well, we'll see each other at the meeting tomorrow."

"Of course."

And so, YuWon watched as Zeus slowly moved away beneath the clouds.

"We'll see each other tomorrow at the meeting."

Beeeeeeeh~

Beeh~

Inevitably, the sound of sheep's bleating resonated in the forest.

For those who entered without permission, hearing that sound was enough to drive them mad.

However, Foolish Chaos advanced without paying attention to the threatening looks of the sheep.

Goooh...

Within the lush forest, even the light seemed to be absorbed. Amidst that, two golden cinder eyes opened and shone brightly.

A gigantic sheep raised its head.

"You should have thought twice before coming back here."

Foolish Chaos didn't flinch at Shub-Niggurath's warning gaze.

"I've warned you, right?"

Foolish Chaos courteously saluted Shub-Niggurath's threat with clasped hands.

He was the king of this forest. Although Shub-Niggurath was a dominant figure everywhere, in this forest, it was even more so.

"Don't be too cautious."

"Cautious? Of you?"

Beeeh...

The other sheep began to bleat, as if openly mocking Foolish Chaos. Faced with such blatant contempt, Foolish Chaos barely smiled beneath his robe.

"Didn't I say that from the beginning?"

Pointing to his own face with his fingers, Foolish Chaos uttered a word that struck Shub-Niggurath to the heart.

"Ever since I got this name."

Shub-Niggurath remained silent.

In that silence, Foolish Chaos felt deeper anger than in any other words.

Had he said something unnecessary?

Shub-Niggurath raised its head and roared into the purple sky.

-Beeeeeh-.

Gugugugugu-.

Foolish Chaos felt like his body was going to be crushed. He stood his ground, barely bending his knees.

Undoubtedly, it was Shub-Niggurath, undoubtedly, it was the Black Woods.

In this place, the world changes with only its bleat.

"Why have you come and said something like that?"

"I want to make a request."

"A request? Do you have something to tell me?"

"Yes. But in return, I will give you what you desire once everything is finished."

It was a bold proposition.

The only thought that crossed Shub-Niggurath's mind upon hearing those words was one.

"You don't know what I want, do you?"

"Yes, I do."

Foolish Chaos squinted his eyes at Shub-Niggurath.

Now was the time to bow his head.

"I will give you this name."

"Name..."

Shub-Niggurath's voice trembled.

Beeeeh-.

Beeeeeeh-.

Beeeeeeeeh-.

As if in tune, the Black Goat of the Woods began to howl.

The goats were another aspect of Shub-Niggurath.

Through their bleats, Foolish Chaos could understand how much this proposal had affected Shub-Niggurath.

And the offer that Foolish Chaos had made a moment ago...

"It's okay."

It was an offer that Shub-Niggurath couldn't refuse.

"Accompany me for a while."

Chapter 425

C425

The Valkyries were summoned.

This was an order that summoned not only thousands of troops, all composed of elite soldiers, but also their leader, Brunhilde.

The warriors of Valhalla were ready for battle, armed with spears and swords, prepared to fight at any moment.

"What's going on?"

"Vice Commander, have you heard anything?"

"Nothing has been transmitted yet. We were just told to prepare and keep our weapons ready."

Vice Commander Sieglinde didn't understand the situation at all.

The order they received simply instructed them to prepare for battle and keep the Valkyries on standby.

"Today should be the day of the Meeting..."

A place where the leaders of the Great Guilds, or the Rankers among the top 100, would gather to form alliances and discuss future agreements.

Furthermore, the Meeting Day would last for a full three days starting today, which meant that matters related to the Tower's exterior would be discussed with great importance.

But...

"Why were we ordered to fight on a day like this?"

At that moment, the leader of the Valkyries arrived armed to the teeth.

And right at that moment, Sieglinde, who was already anxious for answers, bowed before Brunhilde.

"You've arrived."

"It seems everyone is ready."

"That's correct, but..."

"Why was this order issued?"

Sieglinde nodded.

It was a completely justified question.

But Brunhilde couldn't answer that question.

"The order was issued by His Majesty."

"His Majesty?"

"I don't know the reason."

Even though she didn't know the reason, Brunhilde's expression showed not the slightest doubt.

"Nevertheless, it's an order from His Majesty."

"Yes."

Sieglinde also agreed with those words.

And it was none other than Odin who made the Valkyries understand it that way.

They had no doubts about the actions of Odin, the great being who established Valhalla and trained the Valkyries in this world filled with monsters, and even less so, a proper country.

Brunhilde made them understand it that way.

'However...'

She looked at the Valkyries, all of them ready and armed, waiting for the next order.

'I hope His Majesty doesn't make a mistake this time.'

Although she knew there was no room for error, she still felt uneasy.

When had there ever been an occasion where such a large number of Valkyries were mobilized? Probably not since Ragnarok, after all.

But now, in Valhalla, when the Tower's most powerful forces had gathered.

Keeping the Valkyries armed and on standby meant only one thing.

'Are we expecting an even bigger battle than Ragnarok?'

The doors of Valhalla Castle opened.

Looking at Odin, who was inside his room, Mimir, who had entered, spoke.

"As always, you're here."

Odin, like a gardener, was watering the trees that had grown in the room in a place where there was no sunlight.

Mimir: "Why do you keep coming to this unpleasant place?"

Odin: "Probably, in this place, only you make Yggdrasil uncomfortable."

Mimir: "Of course. Because of this damned tree, I've been sleeping for years."

Yggdrasil.

In Asgard, it was the Tree of Life and the source of all Arcane Power.

But for Mimir, Yggdrasil was his enemy, an enemy that had plunged him into a deep sleep, an enemy that couldn't be burned or destroyed even if he tried.

However, Odin had moved Yggdrasil to his room and cared for it with devotion, so he couldn't help but feel uncomfortable.

"Don't overdo it. Yggdrasil is the cause of your Curse, but it's also the only way to lift your Curse."

Words that hit the mark.

Mimir knew it too.

The only way to free himself from his Curse was through Yggdrasil.

"But what's been happening since this morning?"

"Don't you have something to ask of me?"

"The Valkyries?"

"Yes. It seems they are ready."

"Brunhilde, as always. Faster than I expected."

Odin, who was carefully bent over Yggdrasil as he spoke, smiled with satisfaction.

How long had he been here exactly?

Thinking about Odin, who hadn't been seen since last night, Mimir asked.

"Have you been here the whole time?"

"Well, where else would I go?"

"You didn't even sleep?"

"You didn't sleep either, did you? There's no problem in not sleeping for a day, so don't worry."

Mimir had spent ninety-nine years sleeping. Perhaps that was why he never slept when he was awake.

In any case, he would soon sleep enough, so he enjoyed being awake at this moment.

But...

"It seems you're very nervous."

Mimir and Odin were different.

Odin had never intentionally stayed awake as he was doing now. Although there was no major issue in spending a sleepless night, he valued regularity.

He understood.

Given what had happened recently.

"Even when we fought against Surt, I didn't feel like this."

Tak~

Odin, who was watering the roots of Yggdrasil, removed the straw hat he was wearing on his head and asked.

"Is it really today?"

A question he had already heard several times.

"Yes."

"Today will be remembered by a name other than the Day of Harmony or Meeting Day."

"It can't be helped. There's no other day like today to unite those guys who do as they please."

"I understand."

Those were words he could agree with.

Even the Rankers he had met last night were like that.

Rankers were those who had conquered the Tower to the top and had demonstrated their skills.

The probability of being chosen as a Player and becoming a Ranker was extremely low, almost one in ten thousand, so all of them were chosen beings.

Furthermore, the High Rankers were the ones competing for supremacy even among those Rankers.

"Even if it's just Diablo, it won't be easy to control him."

The Tower was scattered across multiple factions.

Under the name of Guilds. And divided into different floors, each with its own world.

The true purpose of "harmony" today was to unify these divided forces into one.

"Are there others who know about this matter?"

"There are two more."

"Two?"

He had considered that there might be at least one more, but two was unexpected.

Mimir nodded at Odin's puzzled expression.

"Kim YuWon and Zeus. At least those two know."

"It's fine for Kim YuWon to know, but even Zeus?"

One of them made sense.

YuWon returned as the Chosen of the Clock Movement. Furthermore, he had already planned things related to future events through Mimir's knowledge.

But Zeus was a surprise.

"I did well in releasing him."

Perhaps Zeus might also become an indispensable ally in the fight against the creatures outside the Tower, just like YuWon. Odin had that hope.

But...

"Don't trust him too much."

Mimir's thoughts were quite different from Odin's.

"Kim YuWon might be like that, but Zeus is a bit dangerous."

"Dangerous?"

"Although they have the same goal, their methods and means are different. Zeus is someone who won't hesitate to give up or sacrifice something if necessary to achieve his goal."

"Why do you think that?"

"Because that's how Olympus was formed."

"..."

Mimir's words made Odin remember the past history of Olympus.

A Guild established by the Three Gods, including Zeus. In that Guild, Zeus became King and ruled.

While he had observed the process of how Olympus was formed as the King of Asgard, it certainly hadn't been a smooth process.

"Certainly. I'll keep my guard up."

"Well, anyway, for now, they are the most solid allies we have."

"What else can be done?"

As he muttered complicated words, Odin changed his clothes.

Although he had only taken off the straw hat and changed his clothes, he exuded majesty.

Mimir followed Odin down the hallway as his expression changed.

It was about time.

"Has the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal, not arrived yet?"

"I investigated, but he's missing."

"That's a shame. He would have been a great force if he were here."

"No doubt about his ability. He'll probably become the most powerful entity in this Tower in the future."

"The most powerful? Even more than me?"

"Probably. He's currently searching for the Celestial Floor."

"The Celestial Floor..."

Both of them looked towards the door.

The meeting room for today's grand gathering.

Inside, no doubt, many prominent Rankers from various Guilds would assemble.

"If the Bull Demon King is with him, there should be no problem in finding him."

"Probably."

"Then let's leave that for now."

Click.

Odin gripped the doorknob of the meeting room's door.

"Let's get to work."

Squeak...

The door leading to the meeting room swung wide open.

It was a thick door, but it wasn't even a single foot thick.

As Odin opened the door and entered, he felt the air around him change.

Dozens of Rankers were filling the meeting room.

He stood before them and spoke.

"It's only been a day."

There was no pomp or pretense.

If that were the case, yesterday would have sufficed.

"Surely you all know what kind of occasion today is, right?"

There was no response.

But they all knew.

They knew that this meeting was about preparing for the beings outside the Tower.

'Agni, Kubera.'

Odin's gaze swept the audience.

He found the Rankers who had fought alongside him on the first floor against Shub-Niggurath.

'Zeus.'

Agni, Kubera, and Zeus.

When the invitation was sent, all who knew about Shub-Niggurath had gathered here.

They would be the ones to testify about the beings outside the Tower at this meeting.

And furthermore...

'Kim YuWon...'

Probably, YuWon knew more than them.

But...

Knock, knock.

Mimir pinched Odin's finger from behind.

He knew.

He had eyes too, so he was watching.

'He's not here.'

He should definitely be here.

"Why... Kim YuWon...?"

At the same time.

In a village at the edge of the world, where a black wall stretched up to the sky...

Clang...

The peasants who were digging with their hoes today turned especially to look at the wall they had been seeing.

"Today's the day, right? They say they're having a harmony meeting in the capital."

"Really? Well, it's because some monsters have been attacking from outside the wall."

"It's unsettling."

"We should move soon."

The conversation began after they momentarily straightened up and left the field.

Farmers who had come out of their fields and sat in place began preparing the new crops.

"Well, what can we common folk do? We just have to take care of our mouths and survive, right?"

"Right, right. Odin will solve everything."

Even so, they couldn't help but feel uneasy.

Since the wall collapsed, and the beings outside the Tower revealed their appearance for the first time, there have been cases of villagers worldwide moving massively.

The reason was one.

They no longer had faith that their villages were safe.

"Isn't that what the Meeting is for? After a few days, we'll eventually find answers."

"True. Don't worry so much. Wanna have a drink for now...?"

Crack...

A sound echoed from somewhere.

It wasn't very loud, but it pierced deep into everyone's ears.

"Crack?"

The heads of the gathered village residents all turned in the same direction as if there was an implicit agreement.

That's how their eyes landed on the wall that had started to crack again.

Chapter 426

C426

Valhalla Castle was in sight.

Just a few more steps, and they would arrive, but Vishnu couldn't move forward.

He was blocked by an intruder.

"Who are you?"

"I only have something to tell you."

It was Kim YuWon, whom Vishnu had met the day before.

As he looked at him, Vishnu sighed and shook his head.

"Whatever you say, this doesn't mean it won't happen."

"I know. Destiny cannot be changed."

That was an expression Vishnu used to say as if it were a habit.

Changing an already established destiny is impossible. The only way to change a predetermined future is by changing what has already happened in the past.

That's why, according to YuWon, the only way to change the future was through the Clock Movement. YuWon had heard that same phrase more than ten times.

"But that doesn't mean you know everything, does it?"

"What do you mean?"

"Anyway, since it's going to happen anyway, we can't just stand by and do nothing."

Fireee...

YuWon's eyes turned golden.

When his eyes met Vishnu's, the latter realized that YuWon had seen the same thing as him.

"Let's do our best to change things for the better."

"...Did you see it too?"

Eyes of Foreknowledge.

Eyes with transcendental powers to enter a different timeline and see the future.

If those eyes could see destiny just like Vishnu, then maybe they could do it much more accurately.

"Then, wouldn't you know even more? There's no other way."

YuWon didn't respond.

Feeling frustrated, Vishnu sighed deeply and looked at the sky.

"The Calamity is looming."

The sky was still blue up until now.

But who knew if it would remain so until the end of the day.

"To prevent it..."

"Isn't there another way?"

Click...

YuWon's head turned.

"You're here."

A small child who barely reached his waist.

With candy in his mouth, the child walked behind YuWon.

"Another way."

"Is he the one you mentioned?"

Despite his childlike appearance, he spoke with an elderly tone that didn't match at all.

When the last guest he had been waiting for finally joined them, YuWon finally said what he had been holding back.

"The three of you must not meet."

"As I heard, you're saying strange things."

Chuck, Chuck-.

Brahma approached YuWon.

He was such a small child, looking cute, but he was a presence that YuWon couldn't understand any better than Vishnu or Shiva.

"Why are you stopping us?"

"Weren't the three of you originally one?"

Brahma's eyes narrowed.

He didn't show surprise. From the moment he heard YuWon speak, he had anticipated this.

Swipe...

Yuwon took out a Player Kit he had on his lap.

On the Kit's screen, countless names and numbers appeared. These were the rankings of the Rankers, managed by the Administrator.

[1st place: ?]

[2nd place: Odin]

[3rd place: Vishnu]

[4th place: Zeus]

And so on...

From the 1st to the 100th place, the names and rankings of the Rankers were displayed. Of all of them, YuWon expanded a specific ranking with his finger.

"This."

[1st place: ?]

The ranking that had never changed in the long history of the Tower.

The undeniable number one that not even the great King of Asgard could surpass.

"Aren't you three?"

They were the Three Main Devas.

"One and three. Three and one. An ancient story known only to the Administration and the Administrators for a long time."

"Two more people know it."

Brahma responded to YuWon's expression, asking who they were.

"Odin and Mimir."

"Really?"

So those two knew about the ancient Deva story.

"I don't know everything about everyone."

Anyway, it wasn't an important story. What was important now was the story of the three, including Vishnu.

"Did Odin mention it?"

It was Vishnu who told that story to YuWon.

"How did you know?"

"No, it's not important how you found out."

"No, what's important..."

"What's important now is who has control."

Brahma's expression distorted slightly at YuWon's words.

"Control?"

"How long has it been since one split into three?"

"What?"

Their initial reaction was as if they didn't understand why they were suddenly being asked that question. But then, slowly, they seemed to be lost in thought, trying to calculate a significant amount of time.

At that moment...

"It's been a little over ten thousand years," Vishnu answered after finishing his calculations.

Ten thousand years. Even for a Ranker without longevity restrictions, it was a difficult period to grasp. It was probably more or less the same time that Deva was founded.

"It seems like a long time."

"But what does it have to do with...?"

"What do you think Shiva did for thousands of years?"

YuWon's question left Vishnu and Brahma without an answer. It was natural.

"How much do you know about each other?"

They knew nothing about each other.

Odin, who arrived in the meeting room, fell silent for a moment. While looking for YuWon, he realized the other two were not present.

"Vishnu and Brahma are not here either."

"That's correct."

It wasn't an incomprehensible situation. They knew what would happen if all three of them gathered in one place. Still, they assumed that at least two of them would be present.

"What are you thinking about for so long?"

The seat closest to the podium. Zeus urged Odin to start as if he were an old friend. It wasn't the first time they faced each other and conversed. Odin and Zeus had had several interactions as guild leaders representing the Tower.

But, well, Odin had never seen him as an equal who was at his level. In the first place, he had never seen Zeus as a figure on the same level as him.

"He has changed a lot."

Now, however, there was no doubt that Zeus was not inferior to him. Or rather, according to Mimir's words, maybe Zeus might be looking to an even higher place than him right now.

"Alright, let's talk about the reason we've gathered here."

After Odin's statement, someone who had been patiently waiting to speak finally opened his mouth.

"Let's strike first from our side."

A man with a fierce look, sitting with his arms crossed.

Asura. He gave a gaze full of murderous intent.

"It seems this guy only knows how to talk about fighting. As if he wants to fight as soon as he opens his mouth."

"Exactly. We're not in the Murim World where he used to live."

"And the Chief of the Murim World is calm right now."

"Well, although Asura's rank is much higher..."

Asura's words stirred murmurs in the audience. While this might have been acceptable elsewhere, this was a gathering place for the Great Guilds. Even Rankers within the top 100 gathered here, like Asura, who had come in response to an invitation. It was not appropriate for him to cause trouble here, let alone on his own.

Furthermore...

"It's impossible."

The opinion expressed by Asura from the beginning was unacceptable from the start.

"You have no chance with your skills."

"My skills?"

Asura's eyebrows twitched at Zeus's words. There was clear hostility, and with a mocking gesture, as if licking his lips, Zeus shook his head.

"Those obsessed with fighting, like you and Diablo..."

"Once you fell from the throne, it seems you believe that everything in this world belongs to you."

Ssss...

One of Asura's heads poked out. A term used to refer to him for a long time. Samduyukbi (Three heads and six arms). One of his heads was now fully exposed.

"It seems you now have only two heads and are suffering."

"Come outside already."

"If you want to fight, I'll beat you up later."

"It's not a matter of later..."

"Do you really know nothing about him?"

Zeus's words made Asura, who had been about to rise from his seat, sit back down. An interesting topic had arisen, and it was confirmed that Zeus had no intention of fighting here immediately. After all, Asura didn't like fighting with opponents who weren't willing to face him.

"So, tell us. Who exactly is he?"

Most of the Rankers present in this room had not seen Shub-Niggurath in person. Most had only seen photographs taken by someone else and heard about him this way. Still, this was enough to arouse vigilance in them. After all, even Odin couldn't prevent this entity from entering the Tower.

"There's no need to go to such lengths to tell it."

Odin was the one who ended the confrontation between Zeus and Asura.

"Anyway, we'll get to know him soon."

"...?"

As if they were asking what was going on, all eyes turned to Odin.

Odin was looking at Zeus.

Their eyes met, and at that moment, Zeus realized that Odin was thinking the same thing as him.

And so...

"First, let me apologize to all of you."

Odin bowed his head.

Most of the people present were shocked. As the King of Asgard, known as the greatest Ranker in history, bowing to so many people was astonishing.

After raising his head again, Odin began to share what he had been hiding.

"Today, this gathering is not about 'Harmony'."

Growls and murmurs.

Seizing the opportunity, the ceiling of Valhalla's Castle trembled, and pens on the conference table fell to the floor.

"Today, I organized this event to fight alongside all of you."

"To fight?"

"Against whom?"

There were people whose eyes sparkled with determination. Rankers who had a thirst for battle, like Asura and Cheon Mujin. For those who were not particularly interested in the tedious reconciliation and harmony, Odin's words were quite exciting.

"I've been thinking about this since I fought against it. Great Sage, Equal to Heaven, Zeus, and even thousands of Rankers. How can we deal with that being that all we could do together was to cast it out?"

-Beeeeeeeh

Far, far away...

A distant and remote bleat was heard from the other end of the world.

Upon hearing the sound of that bleat, Odin's fist clenched.

"Asgard alone is not enough. Not even close. But here, with all of you, I feel like we could give it a try."

Shub-Niggurath.

A God that controls countless Goats in the outer world of the Tower.

To defeat him, they needed the strength of the Rankers outside of Asgard.

"I've deceived you all."

Chapter 427

C427

The entire village was rising altogether.

The residents living there had bewildered expressions, unable to comprehend the situation or faces filled with fear.

"What the hell is happening?"

"For God's sake, the village..."

The village was moving upward along with the land.

Beyond the mountain in their sight, they could see the wall cracking and collapsing.

Although it hadn't completely collapsed yet.

-Beeeeeh-.

The residents fell one after another to the ground upon vaguely hearing the bleating that leaked from there.

"This is..."

And suddenly, Mimir, who had infiltrated among them, turned his head towards the direction of the newly formed rift.

"We need to stop the noise first."

Um, um-.

A Magic Circle formed at the tips of Mimir's fingers.

Odin, known as the greatest Mage of the Tower.

But it was Mimir who first taught him the technique of magic before Odin fought as a barbarian with a spear.

Although his ranking has now significantly dropped due to the Curse of Knowledge, Mimir once ascended the Tower alongside Odin as a Ranker.

Blocking out the sound wasn't a big issue.

"Hey, wake up!"

"Hey, you! Get up!"

"The world is collapsing...!"

The unconscious residents were splashed with water. About half of them still had their wits about them.

Fortunately, due to blocking out the sound, there were no severe issues.

Mimir felt more frustration over this.

'It can shake the mind purely with sound, without any special magic transmission.'

A victim of the Curse of Knowledge, the one who knew everything in this Tower.

Mimir took pride in knowing everything in this Tower. And with that knowledge, he knew that all the laws of the Tower were determined by Arcane Power, Demonic Energy, and Points.

For all outcomes, causes were required, and the price of power that came with them.

That's why, more than ever...

"Could this really happen?"

Mimir couldn't understand what was happening at that moment.

The rift that was gradually opening.

The outside world was literally an incomprehensible realm, even for the one cursed by knowledge.

-Beeeeeh-.

A familiar bleat was heard.

Vishnu raised his head. The color of the sky was gradually changing.

Behind him, Brahma dropped the candy he had in his mouth and murmured.

"Seeing it is really creepier than hearing it."

There had been occasions in the Tower where a purple sky like this had been observed.

But the most recent highlight was when Shub-Niggurath appeared on the first floor.

"It's also the fate I saw."

YuWon nodded at Vishnu's words.

He already knew, but this was the fate Vishnu had seen.

Shub-Niggurath.

An immense calamity that was nearly impossible to stop in its current state.

That was why Vishnu, Brahma, and Shiva were reuniting.

"Damn you."

In his mind, he blamed Foolish Chaos, who had created this situation.

Why now?

And how could it be now?

Two thoughts crossed, and his mouth moved before his mind.

"We must stop it."

It was an obvious statement.

"Don't you know why we're going through this?"

At Brahma's direct question, YuWon shook his head.

"No."

"Then stop saying nonsense and get out of the way."

"Haven't you heard what I said before?"

"Oh, what are we supposed to do then?"

Irritated, Brahma looked at Vishnu behind YuWon.

"Hey! Have you not seen anything? About what this guy said."

"I can't see it."

"Curse of Fate! Will it really not help in a time like this...?"

"The fate I saw extends up to here."

Vishnu raised his head.

He looked at the sky that had turned purple and spoke.

"Under that sky, all fate disappears."

"What?"

Fate wasn't working.

The unexpected words caused Brahma's eyes to widen.

"Has there ever been anything like this...?"

"No, there hasn't."

"Cursed..."

Even though it was the same sky, it looked different from how it had always been.

"Could it be that the world is really coming to an end?"

Although the words were muttered without much thought, they seemed very realistic to Yuwon.

Yes.

If it continues like this, the world will collapse.

And it will do so very chaotically.

"You also know quite a bit about that guy, right? You said you saw him directly."

"I saw him."

"We actually don't know much about each other. I don't know what Shiva has been doing for thousands of years."

Vishnu and Brahma were different from Shiva.

It was Vishnu who founded Deva and fought for order and balance in the Tower, but in reality, Shiva took over Deva's power.

"I've been sleeping all this time, while that guy has been wasting time fishing and watching fate."

"But...?"

"We don't know much about each other, that's true, but..."

"Still, there's no other option but this."

Vishnu continued Brahma's words.

Swish-.

Without warning, Brahma passed by YuWon.

As if he had nothing more to say.

"Go and do your job. We will deal with our own issues."

Step, step-.

Both walked toward the castle together.

YuWon looked at Vishnu and Brahma's backs that way.

The place where the two of them passed.

Swoosh-.

-Was it not a failure?

The shadow that emerged under YuWon, Susanoo, asked.

In the end, YuWon failed to persuade Vishnu and Brahma. If things continued this way, it was inevitable that the three of them would meet again.

But.

"No, it's a success."

YuWon responded to Susanoo's words as he watched the two of them walking away.

"Because I gave them the benefit of the doubt. And it was with two out of the three."

From the beginning, YuWon knew he couldn't stop the two with his persuasion.

Vishnu and Brahma had been anticipating this moment for a long time. Especially Vishnu had long believed that when an uncontrollable catastrophe came to the Tower after thousands of years, they should become one again.

A concern that has lasted for thousands of years, reaching 10,000 years. And it was a decision made after much consideration.

No matter how convincing his words were, they couldn't have been stopped.

That's why YuWon shifted his focus and decided to sow the seed of doubt in their minds.

-So, what do we do now? I don't know what you think, but those guys' words don't seem to be wrong.

Shub-Niggurath.

A calamity that neither Odin, Son OhGong, nor Zeus could handle.

-Do you have any other ideas?

"It's not that I don't have a backup plan."

-That's true, but...

"All right, for now, let's do what those guys said and do what we have to do."

Swish-.

YuWon handed a sword to Susanoo.

An item even redder than blood.

Furthermore, YuWon also gave Susanoo the Yata Mirror and the Magatama Jewel.

"I'm going my way, you go yours."

-Understood.

-...As you command.

Following Susanoo, Arturo, and Ares.

The three of them.

That's the number of summons YuWon could handle smoothly at the moment.

Nodding, YuWon's gaze turned to the point in the distance where the purple sky began.

The world in which Shub-Niggurath made its appearance.

It might have been a little rushed, but maybe that's for the best.

"It's finally starting, isn't it?"

Outer Gods.

And in particular, the battle against a towering God.

"Although it's a bit regrettable that Son OhGong isn't here..."

For this day, YuWon sharpened his sword.

"Still, I've gathered all the puzzle pieces my way."

A small city that leads to Valhalla.

Numerous soldiers lined up in front of the city gates.

"What's happening here?"

"The sky..."

"Has anyone ever seen anything like this before?"

The army of Asgard, composed of a small number of Rankers and a multitude of Players.

Even in terms of numbers, they easily outnumbered in the thousands. But upon hearing the distant sound, they trembled.

-Beeeeeeeeeh

They fell to the ground, powerless.

Stumbling.

Falling flat.

Those who could barely cling to the railings were unable to hold on and collapsed.

And the Rankers who were barely standing held up the falling soldiers.

"Recover!"

"What the hell... is going on here?"

"Is it because of that sound?"

There was no clear sign apart from the bleating sound. No enemies were seen, and no particular magic was detected. In fact, the cannons installed on the outskirts of the castle were still immobile, as if they hadn't detected the enemy.

But then...

Beeeeeh-.

A sharp, clear bleat rang out from somewhere. It was different from the bleat heard moments before. It didn't evoke a fundamental fear but was a sensation that reached directly under the skin.

However, even though the sensation was different, all the soldiers felt that, upon hearing the bleat, everything was connected.

The reason they felt this sensation was one.

The lament was closer.

Beeeeeh-.

Suddenly, a Goat appeared among the soldiers. It was a small Goat that looked like a child.

"W-what...?"

As soon as the soldiers saw the Goat, blood gushed from the eyes of the soldier nearest to it.

"Blood...!"

The soldier collapsed, vomiting blood, just from encountering the Goat's gaze. And at that moment...

"Everyone who is not a Ranker, step back!"

The Ranker leading them stood in front of the soldiers, shouting. At that moment, they realized that only individuals with Ranker-level abilities or higher could confront this Goat. Normal soldiers would only be an obstacle.

Beeeeeh-.

The Goat approached slowly.

When had it climbed the high castle wall? How could such a small creature emanate such presence?

Woosh-.

A general-rank Ranker, Holt, firmly gripped the spear in his hand and sent a signal with a gesture.

"When I give the signal, we'll all move at the same time."

The Rankers on the castle wall nodded in response.

One, two.

And three.

Kwuuung-.

Holt's spear swung in the wind and pierced the Goat's throat. At the same time, as if trying to block any potential escape, a dozen spears and arrows were hurled at the Goat.

Kwaaaat!

Kugugung!

Dust billowed over the castle wall, and the section of the wall where the Goat was collapsed completely.

It was quite a strong blow, but they didn't feel like they had pierced the Goat completely.

Guaaaack.

Holt, who had thrown his spear with all his might, clenched his hand nervously.

Then the dust dissipated...

Beeeeeh-.

And the young Goat reappeared, with only a few wounds on its body.

"Wow..."

"Did we really only manage to cause this minimal amount of damage?"

"Where the hell did this monster come from...?"

They were sure the fight wouldn't be easy.

But that lasted only briefly.

'Even so, it's fortunate.'

Compared to the eerie feeling Holt had felt through the bleating, this opponent didn't seem so formidable.

'It's much better than the anxiety I felt at the beginning...'

Just at that moment...

Beeeeeeeeeh-.

A chill ran down his spine, and his body became rigid.

It wasn't just Holt.

All the Rankers who had been with him felt the same way.

"This is... unbelievable..."

"Insane..."

Unbeknownst to them, the soldiers around them had lost their sanity, some unconscious and others laughing like maniacs.

They were standing around the wall.

Beeeeeh-.

Beeeeeh-.

Beeeeeh-.

Beee-.

Hundreds of Goats swarmed over the bodies of the soldiers, devouring them while emitting loud bleats.

Chapter 428

C428

The world turned into chaos in the blink of an eye.

"Stop them! Stop them!"

"What are we supposed to stop?! First, let's run!"

"Damn it, are the Valkyries not here yet?"

Beeeeeh...

Suddenly, herds of goats invaded the world.

At first glance, they seemed like just small goats, but to the average Rankers, they were insurmountable monsters.

"This shouldn't be happening to us!"

"Aaaaah! Save us..."

Crunch!

The goats wreaked havoc.

They couldn't handle even a single goat, and the heads and limbs of the High-Rank Rankers were torn off, and a river of blood was already flowing beneath the collapsed castle wall.

"It's total annihilation."

Beeeeeh...

The castle wall overseer tightly shut his eyes.

A goat that was swiftly approaching opened its mouth. Seeing that his body was paralyzed and unresponsive, he thought it would be his end.

But at that moment...

Pshoo!

A spear thrown from somewhere pierced through the goat's body.

"...Huh?"

"Look, they're here!"

"It's the Valkyries!"

The castle wall overseer, who was laughing with joy, soon showed a surprised expression.

'How did they get here so fast?'

The incident had occurred just thirty minutes ago. Even if the Valkyries were fast, it would still take time for so many of them to prepare and move.

It was an urgent situation, but the reason they had decided to defend the walls to the end was because they knew they were probably getting ready.

But it seemed like...

'Were they prepared in advance?'

On this peaceful day known as the Day of Reunion, it appeared they had prepared for an emergency.

Doubt arose but lasted only a moment.

They were safe anyway. The Valkyries had arrived, so they could feel relieved for now.

Slash!

Brunhilde wielded her sword and spear at the same time, cutting through the goats.

She was the most brilliant among the many Valkyries.

But even that was only for a moment.

"What's going on with these guys?"

Beeeeeh...

Brunhilde looked at the goats moving around bleating while their necks were being cut by her sword.

She felt some unease somewhere.

'It feels like I'm fighting against an opponent that's not alive.'

Clearly, the goats in front of her were small.

They didn't have great strength, nor were they particularly energetic. They occasionally opened their mouths wide enough to be threatening, but they were not a threat to High-Rank Rankers.

However, the more she fought against them, the more it felt like she was weakening.

'Am I getting weaker?'

Crunch~

She applied more force to her grip.

Her pride was wounded.

Kiiing~

Her sword started to shine brightly.

It shone intensely from Brunhilde's eyes.

['Light' has been activated]

A skill of Brunhilde that cut everything around her in all directions.

The Valkyries who noticed it moved away.

"Retreat, everyone!"

"The commander is acting!"

Brunhilde's sword did not distinguish between friends and enemies. That's why the moment Brunhilde used her power, the Valkyries moved as far away from her as possible.

Ahhhh!

The world was filled with a yellow glow everywhere.

Kwuuuuu~

Kwuuu~

Brunhilde's Arcane Power devoured the goats.

In an instant, the purple sky turned bright. Brunhilde, who had created that beautiful landscape, raised her sword high and shouted:

"For Asgard!"

"Yes!"

['Battle Cry' has been activated]

[Increases the statistics of affiliated Valkyrie players!]

[Eliminates negative effects on affiliated Valkyrie players!]

[Affiliated Valkyrie players...!]

Numerous effects on the Valkyries. A single buff was enough to show its effect. 'Battle Cry' was the skill that turned Brunhilde into the leader of the Valkyries.

Brunhilde's rank was at 182nd place, just behind YuWon. However, when she fought alongside the Valkyries, she exerted influence and power befitting a double-digit Ranker.

The morale of the Valkyries soared.

Of course, Brunhilde thought the opposite.

"Did I overdo it?"

A bead of sweat trickled from Brunhilde's forehead, who had spent half her Arcane Power in the blink of an eye.

She regretted it instantly.

In a time when she didn't know how long the battle would last.

It seemed that the previous attack had been excessive, but she couldn't help it.

The goats wouldn't easily die from normal attacks, and this unique attack was intended to eliminate that unknown fear.

She decided that this battle was more important to boost the morale of the Valkyries than anything else.

"Even so, this should be enough..."

Beeeeeh...

A bleat echoed amid the bright light.

A chill ran down Brunhilde's back, who had momentarily overcome her fear.

The light gradually diminished, revealing the distorted faces of the goats.

Beeeeeh...

Beeeeeh...

The goats hadn't died.

Instead, they maliciously laughed. Brunhilde's radiance hadn't inflicted mortal wounds on them.

"...I was wondering why the Valkyries had been preparing from the start."

It was evident that the Valkyries were not enough.

The morale that had increased for a moment began to waver again.

Beeeeeh...

Thud.

The goats approached, opening their mouths as they advanced.

Kwaak...

Brunhilde gripped her sword and spear tightly, preparing for what was coming.

"It looks like this is the end for me."

Prepared to die.

-Asgard said the Valkyries were amazing.

Swoosh...

A shadow passed by Brunhilde.

-It was just an absurd rumor.

"Who...?"

Brunhilde squinted as she wondered who it was.

That person's face was pale, and his lips were blue. Seeing those goats, there was even pleasure in his expression, and occasional madness could be perceived.

An undead, clad in a blue robe and holding a red sword.

Asgard also had information about him.

"Susanoo?"

-That's right.

Although Susanoo belonged to the Three Precious Kids, he was free. He sought many strong individuals, and among them was Brunhilde.

Although he couldn't kill the leader of the Valkyries, Brunhilde, at that moment, victory was clearly on Susanoo's side.

"You've become Kim YuWon's servant, haven't you?"

-That's how it happened.

"Then I guess he's the one who sent you here."

-That's right.

Brunhilde nodded.

In other words, YuWon and Odin had the same idea at the same time.

Beeeeh...

The eyes of the goats turned toward Susanoo.

They didn't have time to chat and converse.

"It would be better to be careful. They don't die easily."

-"Careful?"

Bam.

One goat's mouth loomed over Susanoo.

Crack!

The goat's mouth swallowed him. In the blink of an eye, Brunhilde was amazed and tried to move again.

No, she tried to move.

Swaaark!

Fwoooooosh!

The goat's body was torn apart before it could fully swallow Susanoo.

"You shouldn't put me on the same level as you Valkyries."

Thud, thump.

Susanoo, who cut through the goat and emerged from its mouth, placed Kusanagi on his shoulder with an arrogant look on his face.

"It might be better for you not to die. You'll be able to enjoy my power for a longer time."

Ooooh, ooooooh.

The Magatama Jewel hanging from Susanoo's arm shone brightly.

In one hand, he held the Yata Mirror. In the other, the Magatama.

Brunhilde hadn't even seen when Susanoo swung his sword a few moments ago.

The goat had already been cut before it attempted to swallow Susanoo.

She knew Susanoo's rank in life.

57th.

Even then, he was the highest among the Three Precious Kids. If he were still alive, he might have been ranked much higher at this moment.

He was undeniably superior to anyone in this Tower when it came to sword skills.

However...

"It seems like he's become stronger after becoming undead."

Even just considering his basic physical abilities, it was astounding.

It was natural for one to weaken upon becoming undead. Unless the Arcane Power of the invoker controlling the undead was infinite, they couldn't help but be weaker than when they were alive.

However, in this case, it was quite the opposite.

"Is Kim YuWon's ability really that amazing?"

YuWon had a high ranking. And no one questioned YuWon's reputation anymore.

But even so, Susanoo's strength in the face of her was incomprehensible.

Moreover, he now held the Three Sacred Treasures that the Three Precious Kids could never obtain.

Whoosh...

Susanoo raised Kusanagi and looked at the goats that had gathered around him.

An eerie glow emanated from the depths of his heart. For most people, that would have been terrifying, but for Susanoo, it was different.

"I'm grateful to the point of madness."

Before coming here.

YuWon gave Susanoo a single order.

"Go and wreak havoc. Just make sure to distinguish between friends and enemies."

Go and wreak havoc!

That's exactly what Susanoo did. In addition to the Three Sacred Treasures, his Arcane Power also flowed abundantly.

It was as if he was in his prime, even better than when he was alive.

Smile~

A smile formed on his face.

-Thank you, master.

Susanoo.

Now he joined the battlefield.

Apolo boarded the Sun Chariot.

Artemis, who got on the Celestial Horse's seat to drive the chariot together, looked toward the Valhalla Castle.

"Shouldn't we hurry?"

Apolo nodded at Artemis's words.

In all likelihood, the battle had already begun by now. The Valkyries had already departed, and those with impetuous temperaments, like Diablo, would have too.

They were no different.

In such an urgent situation, leaving the Sun Chariot as it was, was heart-wrenching even for Apollo.

But...

"We can't leave Dad behind, can we?"

Zeus had not arrived yet.

And that's not all.

Hercules, one of the highest powers of Olympus, was in the same situation.

It might not compare to those two, but Hargan was also absent.

The three of them were in separate locations.

And at that moment...

On top of the Valhalla Castle.

"What was destined has happened."

"....."

"....."

Hercules and Hargan stood side by side, facing Zeus.

The conversation from the previous day.

That conversation was really before their eyes, as if it were reality.

"Is there no other choice?"

Zeus nodded in response to Hercules' question.

"At least not for me."

"Haa..."

At Zeus's answer, Hercules let out a long sigh.

The answer was not from anyone else but Zeus himself. He had even seen Shub-Niggurath on the first floor.

If that was Zeus's judgment, it would surely be final.

'Who the hell is that guy?'

Hercules looked toward the darkening sky.

The external being they had barely expelled had reappeared.

If it continued like this, the 64th floor would be destroyed.

But making a decision was not easy.

'Even so...'

While Hercules was pondering that, Hargan beside him said:

"I'll do it."

And at that moment.

"Really?"

Zeus's gaze became even more serious.

Finally, the moment had come.

Hercules and Hargan.

The appearance of the two was reflected in Zeus's eyes.

'Finally, the fruit is ripe.'

Chapter 429

C429

Everyone had left the meeting room and disappeared. Only one person sat in a chair, fists clenched, waiting for someone.

The door swung open, and someone entered.

With closed eyes, Shiva, who was sitting and waiting, raised his head to greet Brahma.

"You've come?"

"Don't you see?"

"You arrived a little late. No, you arrived very late."

Originally, according to the agreement, they should have become one again at this moment. But it didn't happen that way.

'Vishnu...'

Shiva looked behind Brahma.

Originally, they should have come together as well. But that plan had gone astray.

Brahma was alone.

"Something must have happened."

"What happened?"

Brahma responded vaguely as he sat down in front of Shiva.

A small child crossed his legs while sitting. Naturally, Shiva's gaze lowered.

Now, out of the two, only one more had to come.

And that other one, Vishnu...

"He's close."

They weren't completely separated.

He was observing them from a nearby place. Probably, through the threads connected to his fingers, seeing the invisible to the eye was not a problem for someone like him.

Again...

'Things are a bit off.'

There was no need to panic.

From the start, if they had never intended to become one again, neither Brahma nor Vishnu would have come this far.

Their decision had not changed yet.

"Why are you on guard?"

"Huh? Why?"

"You can't act, Brahma."

Shiva burst into laughter.

"Trust me. I don't know what you're watching or worrying about, but from the beginning, we've always been one."

"I don't doubt that. It's just..."

"Just what?"

"There's an urgent matter."

"Urgent?"

"Well, it's..."

"That?"

Shiva's expression, which had seemed like he was joking before, twisted slightly as if he was asking if this was a joke.

An unusual breeze flowed. Cracks appeared on the wall, as if representing Shiva's mood.

But Brahma, without hesitation, pulled out a piece of candy he had stored in his inventory.

"It's just something I have to do. You've waited ten thousand years; can't you wait a few more hours?"

"It's not as we agreed."

"Don't worry. In the end, we'll become one."

"..."

Shiva stared at Brahma intently. He probably wasn't speaking in vain. You could feel that his words were sincere.

But still, it felt uncomfortable.

'Why the hell do I feel this way...?'

At that moment, someone else entered the meeting room.

And in the moment he saw...

"There was one more."

Shiva could understand why the original plan had gone awry.

"That's right; you were here."

Sitting on the stone that had originally belonged to Odin, he raised both legs onto the round table.

YuWon waved his hand while looking at Shiva's red eyes without avoiding them.

"Pleased to meet you."

"Why greet so awkwardly?"

"Insincere greetings are always awkward."

"You've messed everything up."

"Don't speak so bitterly."

As if he knew it would be like this, YuWon glanced at Brahma, who was stubbornly avoiding his eyes.

"It hasn't even started yet."

Slash-.

Kusanagi drew a red line and cut through the body of a goat.

The goat tore apart like a block of tofu. In the short period, he didn't know how many times he had swung the sword, but the goat split into thousands and tens of thousands of pieces.

But...

"Beeh-."

Even in the midst of such tearing, the goat's pupil remained intact, looking greedily at Susanoo.

"Isn't this enough?"

He clicked his tongue. Susanoo's hand holding Kusanagi tightened.

Woosh-.

The power of the Magatama Jewel emanated from Susanoo's hand holding Kusanagi. The Arcane Power surrounding Susanoo began to tremble unusually.

If it didn't die even after being cut into thousands of pieces...

"Then, I'll turn you into dust."

SLAAAASH-.

The sound of the wind blowing and the sound of the sword moving blended together.

Susanoo lifted Kusanagi high with one hand.

He whispered lowly so only Brunhilde, who was fighting around him, could hear.

"If possible, get as far away as you can."

Whooooosh-.

The wind gathered at a point.

Before the words could continue, Brunhilde shouted to the other Valkyries.

"Everyone, get away from here!"

And, as expected.

"I don't want you to be swept away by the storm and die for nothing."

Whoosh-!

[Storm Cut]

The wind gathered at the tip of Susanoo's sword split into hundreds of thousands of blades, cutting everything around.

Kwaaaah-!

The goat's body literally crumbled into dust. Even when cut into such small pieces that it couldn't be seen, the goat couldn't survive.

After cutting another goat like that, Susanoo was profusely sweating.

"Is this enough for five?"

Killing them one by one was quite challenging. If it was just about endurance, they could be defeated slowly, but the teeth of these creatures were strong and threatening enough to make the Yata Mirror crack.

Beeeeeh-.

Beeeh-.

There were still many goats left.

Numerical disadvantage. Among the Rankers currently in the area, Brunhilde was the only one with the ability to directly assist Susanoo.

"Was this what he was paying close attention to?"

Susanoo had been acting alongside YuWon for a long time.

During that time, YuWon seemed to be constantly preparing for something, and Susanoo considered it excessive.

If he continued like this, it seemed that YuWon would become one of the Tower's top Rankers in a hundred years, and YuWon had been moving to attract several Great Guilds, including Olympus and Asgard, to join his side.

Plus, counting the Bull Demon King, Son OhGong, Asura, and other High-Rankers.

'I just thought it was excessive perfectionism...'

But after directly fighting against these guys, he understood why YuWon acted that way.

If he had to fight against enemies like these, even if he became stronger, he would feel inadequate.

"Susanoo!"

Brunhilde's shout.

Susanoo, who was momentarily lost in different thoughts, snapped back to attention.

But on the battlefield, even a brief moment of distraction could cost you your life.

Zwack-.

Susanoo realized he had already entered the gigantic mouth.

"Cursed..."

Oong-.

The Yata Mirror emitted light. It was already too late to jump and dodge with his own legs.

At this moment, he could only rely on the power of the item.

Just as the Yata Mirror was about to emit light...

Thud, thud-.

Two hands and two feet blocked the goat's mouth from closing.

Before he could even think "Who is it?" the goat was thrown backward. The sound of the goats' bleating intensified with the appearance of a new enemy.

Diablo, shaking the hand he used to push the goat, looked at Susanoo.

"What's this? This kid?"

This kid...

That's what he said to Susanoo, the great Susanoo.

Normally, if it were the usual Susanoo, he would have drawn his sword immediately.

But it wasn't the time to argue about those things.

"He hasn't died yet."

"What?"

Zwack-.

Diablo turned.

A punch extended reflexively. And at the same time, the goat's teeth bit into Diablo's arm.

Kwaduck-!

Phwoosh-.

The goat's teeth pierced Diablo's shoulder. It wasn't a deep wound, but Diablo's furrowed brows showed he was in pain.

"What are these things?"

"I told you, right? He hadn't died."

Szzz-.

The goat's head was torn off.

Diablo quickly kicked the goat and stepped away. Susanoo looked at Diablo and asked.

"So, who is this kid?"

"...They don't seem to be easy enemies."

Diablo.

As soon as he heard the news at the Meeting, he was the first to run.

When it comes to a fight, he loves it more than anyone else, which is natural.

And for someone like him, the presence of the goats in front of him...

He hissed.

"This is going to be incredible."

He approached with indescribable pleasure.

Boom!

Diablo pushed forward and flew. While watching Diablo, who began swinging his fists as he flew towards the goats, Susanoo chuckled and stuck out his tongue with an empty laugh.

"I've never seen anyone crazier than me in a fight."

He also lived for blood, battle, and the sword.

But this guy in front of him, as passionate about fighting as he himself was, was something he had never seen before.

"Is that how others see me?"

Then, a giant shadow covered Susanoo's body. It was shortly after Diablo arrived.

Goooooooo...

He raised his head and looked up.

Countless ships soared in the sky.

"Are they the Devas and Asgard?"

The ships of the Devas and Asgard arrived on the battlefield.

The Guilds representing this Tower.

And in addition, on the ground, Demons and Angels also gathered.

An army that appeared in the blink of an eye.

The Valkyries pushing the goats suddenly stopped. Brunhilde, who was panting, also took a moment to catch her breath.

"They've finally arrived."

The tension that had been present until a moment ago melted away as if it were dissolving.

After living for so long, she had never imagined that she would see something like this with her own eyes.

The mere sight made her heart beat forcefully. No matter how magnificent an entity might be, it was meaningless if they couldn't stop this.

"Is this it?"

But she forgot something important.

That the first bleat she heard wasn't the same as the bleats of the goats around her.

-BEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEH-.

The bleats spread under the purple sky.

A chill ran down her spine.

The tension that had disappeared for a moment increased again. No, it wasn't just tension that could describe it.

It was terror, despair, and discouragement.

"What the hell...?"

Even with all these Guilds and Rankers as allies, it was an overwhelming fear.

Brunhilde searched for the origin of the bleat as stillness spread across the battlefield.

And then...

Beeeeeh...

A goat turned its head while letting out a bleat.

Beeeeeh...

Beeeeeh...

Beeeeeeeh...

The goats began bleating towards a particular place. Watching the goats move slowly, the armies of Asgard and the Devas, as well as Diablo, who was wreaking havoc, came to a stop.

Gulp...

Not even Diablo realized what was happening.

That he was feeling fear and trying to swallow his own saliva with effort.

Jiiiiik...

A goat's belly opened.

It was the largest goat among the crowd, and it seemed that the lamb in its belly was freeing itself, killing its mother in the process.

And so, by opening the goat's belly, a human with two horns slowly emerged into the world.

"Has... this been here from before?"

When Diablo asked the question, Susanoo shook his head.

"No, there's no way."

Beeeeeeeh...

A body over two meters long, with skin so pale it was almost white, and dark purple eyes without sclera.

She was a beautiful woman.

The goats followed her as if she were their mother while bleating.

And upon seeing her...

"...If it had been like that, we would all already be completely annihilated."

Because he had just realized that the owner of the bleats he had heard moments ago was her.

For the first time in his life, Susanoo felt what desperation was.

Chapter 430

C430

The mother opened her son's stomach and came out.

The woman who defied the natural order and manifested herself in the world raised her head.

The sky turned purple.

This world was the same.

"...I'm finally here."

She closed her eyes and took a deep breath.

At that moment, a fresh air that she had never experienced before entered her lungs.

"It's really pleasant. The air of the living world."

Before, she had only caught a whiff of it.

Before she could properly enter this world, she was expelled by them and banished to the outside world.

She still felt bitter when remembering those times.

But now, she could endure it.

Swoosh-.

The woman turned her head.

In the place where her gaze landed, Agni and Kubera stood, as still as statues.

"It's been a long time."

They were definitely at a certain distance.

Far away, far enough to appear small as dots.

But somehow, the woman's voice seemed to be right in front of their noses.

"Have you been well all this time?"

Thud-.

Agni sat on the ground.

In his eyes, which had seen that woman before, it was evident.

The woman who had emerged from the belly of a goat.

Behind her was an enormous goat leading a group of goats.

-Beeeeeh-

That was the chilling bleat of Shub-Niggurath.

"She has finally... entered..."

It had come back.

The existence they had considered a calamity the moment it entered the Tower. A monster whose name they didn't even know.

"Pull yourself together."

Kubera grabbed Agni's nape, who was on the ground, and lifted him up abruptly.

Agni, forced to stand again, looked at Kubera.

She was trembling too.

But in the end, Kubera had a stronger will.

"The situation is different now than it was back then."

Agni's gaze roamed around his surroundings at Kubera's words.

From the Demon Kings to Heaven, Asgard, and the Devas.

At this moment, countless High-Ranker Rankers were scattered all over this world.

As if they had been preparing for this day in advance, Odin had united the forces of the Guilds scattered throughout the Tower under the name of the "Day of the Meeting."

'...That's right.'

They had to stop her somehow.

They couldn't do anything kneeling on the ground. If they didn't defeat Shub-Niggurath, the fight would never end.

This was their only chance to win.

Whoosh-

Crimson flames erupted around Agni.

Surrounded by dozens of fireballs, Agni illuminated his eyes the same color as the flames.

"Our goal is one."

"That's right."

"The Three Main Gods (Vishnu, Brahma, Shiva) shouldn't be here yet, right?"

"I'm not sure how long it will take them. They are very mysterious beings."

"...Is that so?"

They held back the fear squeezing their chests with their mental strength.

Only a few knew the true nature of Shub-Niggurath, including Agni and Kubera.

"Somehow, we have to stand together."

Until the Three Main Gods arrived, they had no other choice.

"Let's go."

Agni's command was given.

Gooooooooo-.

The ship carrying the Deva Rankers started moving again. Shub-Niggurath's arrival had briefly halted the battlefield, but now life was flowing once more.

They had to fight.

That was the only thing they could do right now.

"Have you found hope?"

In Shub-Niggurath's eyes, who looked at Agni and Kubera, a sinister gleam appeared.

Her focused pupil had a smirking expression.

She remembered the moments when she simply slept in the dark forest.

A world where everything was futile.

Inside her, she even felt a kind of gratitude toward Foolish Chaos that brought her out of there.

Furthermore...

"I'll give you a name."

It was a deal that should not have been made.

Despite knowing what her goal was, the stakes were too high.

An irresistible offer.

"That name. Make sure to carry it well."

Chaang-!

Chaahng-!

Shub-Niggurath was surrounded by countless Rankers.

From the Valkyries of Asgard to the Deva Rankers and the Demon Kings, even the Angels of the Heavens.

Spears and swords were raised, and arrows were nocked. Tens of thousands of Rankers readied their skills to hunt down a single entity.

"Don't be afraid."

"It's no different from before. Think of her as hunting a high-level dungeon boss."

"Do not deviate from your position, and do not be swayed by friendly attacks..."

The Rankers moved frantically.

However, from the start, their affiliations were diverse, and they weren't organized to fight like an army.

"This one's mine!"

Swish-!

Long nails closed in on Shub-Niggurath's eyes.

One of the Demon Kings representing the Demon Kings, Asmodeus, was attacking. His nails seemed about to pierce Shub-Niggurath's eyes and split her head.

However, that...

Gyeeeeng-!

Before reaching Shub-Niggurath's eyes, the nails abruptly stopped in front of her pupils and could no longer approach.

"The first sheep/goat is you."

Swoosh-.

Shub-Niggurath extended her hand.

Asmodeus, feeling the threat, hastily retreated. If an attack failed against an opponent stronger than him, he had to pull back.

But...

"My body...?"

His outstretched nails, his fist, and his two legs on the ground...

None of them moved.

"Congratulations."

Squelch, squelch-.

Asmodeus's skin began to peel.

He couldn't do anything. When facing Shub-Niggurath at such close quarters, he felt his bones and muscles contorting, and his skin changing color.

"You will be my first sheep."

At the moment he heard her voice...

"Beeh-."

He let out a sound he had never made before.

His consciousness faded away, and all that remained was his loyalty to Shub-Niggurath before him.

Beeeeeeh-.

And thus, another sheep was born.

"What...?"

"What is happening...?"

"Asmodeus..."

It happened in the blink of an eye.

Asmodeus was the first to charge bravely toward Shub-Niggurath.

And now, like the other sheep surrounding Shub-Niggurath, he transformed into the same appearance.

Asmodeus was someone important.

He was also one of the High-Rankers, ranked in the top 300.

But he couldn't harm Shub-Niggurath and couldn't even touch her.

"One, two, three, four..."

At that moment...

The Rankers surrounding Shub-Niggurath heard the sound of numbers she was counting.

"Throughout this time, we have lost twelve."

Twelve.

It was the number of sheep that had died.

Shub-Niggurath's eyes softened. She looked at the Rankers surrounding her and pointed her finger, as if choosing prey.

"Whom should I choose..."

Shiver~

The Rankers, realizing it was senseless to charge forward, began stepping back one by one.

This battle wasn't merely a matter of life and death.

Surviving wasn't the issue. Being a Ranker wasn't just about survival.

Most of them had come this far prepared to die.

But the idea of "might die" was very different from the idea of "it won't be me anymore."

No one truly wanted to engage in an utterly senseless fight.

Watching the Rankers retreat on their own, Shub-Niggurath spoke in a soothing tone, as if consoling a child.

"Don't worry too much."

As they took a step back, she moved closer again.

"Anyway, everyone will get to enjoy the same honor..."

Peww-!

At that moment, a white light spear thrown from a distance pierced Shub-Niggurath's body.

A spear that went through her heart. Shub-Niggurath's body staggered for a moment, but her head slowly turned forward.

"That's right."

Despite her heart being pierced, she spoke calmly.

As if she had no heart in that place.

"You were there too."

Beeeeeeh-.

Beeeeh-.

Not only Shub-Niggurath.

The other sheep following her began to bleat in the direction of the Ranker who threw the spear.

The Rankers parted left and right. Through the path thus created, a warrior in golden armor walked slowly.

Peww-.

A presence that dominated the entire battlefield.

"It has arrived..."

"At last..."

The Rankers who had been overwhelmed by Shub-Niggurath just a moment ago regained their confidence.

That's right.

With him, they could win.

"We'll see each other rather quickly."

Shub-Niggurath smiled.

With a captivating smile, she broke the white lance embedded in her chest with just the strength of her hand and asked as she caressed the sheep by her side.

"May I ask your name?"

Beeeeeeeh-.

The sheep was Asmodeus.

Now he was just one of Shub-Niggurath's thousand sheep.

Shub-Niggurath knew the name of the man approaching her.

"My name is Odin."

Shub-Niggurath.

She and Odin faced each other.

"You seem to have a strong name."

Inside the meeting room, tension hung in the air.

Shiva stared at YuWon as if he were about to kill him.

"What are you doing right now?"

Tsu, tsu, tsu...

Dark Arcane Power surrounded YuWon. Among all the attributes, darkness was particularly destructive.

"The third should back off. If you don't want to die for real."

"Try."

"What?"

"Try it. If you can."

Swish...

YuWon straightened his posture and sat down.

It was as if he were opening his chest widely and saying, "try to stab me."

However...

"..."

Shiva only made threats and did not use his power directly against YuWon.

So far, it had been the same.

The distance between YuWon and Shiva was about the width of a table. It was a distance Shiva could cross at any moment and attack.

"It's not a matter of skill right now. Well, even if it's not now, you won't die at my hands anyway, but in any case..."

Swish...

YuWon stood up from his seat.

"The reason you can't kill me right now is due to the situation, isn't it?"

YuWon smiled.

The reason why Shiva only made threats and didn't use his strength against YuWon.

"In order for you to take control, you shouldn't weaken yourself in advance, right?"

That was because they had to prepare for when the three became one again.

But naturally, Shiva did not accept YuWon's words. Instead, it seemed that he had noticed something. He sat aside and gave Brahma, who was sucking on candies, a sharp look.

"Brahma."

"What?"

"Are you just going to stay here and watch this guy?"

"And what's wrong with that? He's just sitting here doing nothing."

An indifferent response.

Well.

He wasn't wrong.

YuWon hadn't threatened Shiva or Brahma. He simply sat quietly on the side.

In fact, it was Shiva who had driven out YuWon and incited a fight by showing his killer intent.

"Don't worry too much. Anyway, when we become one again, someone like him..."

"...Is fine."

Shiva's eyebrows moved slightly at Brahma's words.

"I understand."

Despite that, the uncomfortable feeling persisted. Although Brahma's words were not wrong, YuWon's constant presence by their side was like a thorn in their throat.

Things can't go awry because of that guy.

As the uncomfortable feeling grew...

"Well, anyway..."

Swish...

Brahma stood up from his seat and turned towards the door.

"The three of us are together again."