

With The Gods 491

Chapter 491

C491

"I guess you made a deal with that guy too."

After the fight with Shub-Niggurath, one day, Mimir, who came to seek Zeus, said these words.

How did he know what he had done?

"Do you want to make a deal with me? A deal."

"I feel like vomiting just hearing the word 'deal.' Get lost."

"It won't be a loss for you. Why don't you listen first?"

He was already very sensitive because the energy that had entered his body was corroding his body and organs.

Mimir's outstretched arm made Zeus's nerves even more sensitive.

"There's probably no way for you to survive."

Craa-.

He almost dropped a Lightning Bolt on Mimir's body in response to those words.

But remembering his relationship with Odin and Mimir's abilities, he barely restrained himself.

He was known as the Sage for his brilliant intellect. How bright was he? So much that, due to his brilliant ability, he wasted most of his life locked in the curse of knowledge.

Zeus regained his composure.

"What do you mean by that? What deal are you talking about?"

"I'll show you a way to survive."

"You said just now that there wasn't any."

"Because it won't be here but there."

They were words devoid of meaning. Where was there, and where was here? And what significance did the place have with life and death?

"You don't have to do anything. Just take this with you."

Kak~

Before resolving that mystery, Mimir suddenly ripped out his only Eye with his hands.

Despite the grotesque nature, Zeus didn't frown. Instead, he asked with an expression questioning why he was given that.

"Do you just want me to have it?"

"Yes. Just take it with you."

Zeus grabbed Mimir's Eye with his hand.

The sensation wasn't as strange as he thought. It was more like holding an eye-shaped pearl than an eyeball.

He also felt something strange.

The eye of the wise Mimir.

He recalled the rumors circulating among the people.

They said that Mimir's wisdom was locked in his eyes, not in his head.

Zeus had vaguely heard those rumors, but he didn't pay much attention to them. In the case of baseless rumors, the probability of being unfounded was ninety percent.

However...

"Can I really gain your wisdom just with this Eye?"

"Do you believe in that rumor?"

"I don't. Still, now that I have it in my hands, I feel hopeful."

"Don't use it foolishly. You don't seem like a fool, even though you look like a fool."

"You're worrying too much. By the way, this isn't even a deal, right?"

"Instead..."

As expected, he also wanted something.

An Eye was a good exchange, even for Mimir. Zeus was prepared to give a lot in return.

However...

"Be a bit human, idiot."

"...Do you want to fight?"

At Mimir's words, Zeus frowned.

The phrase "be a bit human" sounded unpleasant to him.

Mimir didn't react to Zeus's growing magic. He closed his lost eyes and turned away.

How far could he go in that state?

'The Eye was useless.'

After the fight with Foolish Chaos...

Zeus felt like he was floating somewhere. Strangely, he didn't feel strength in his body, and only thoughts piled up in his head.

Meanwhile...

The first thing he remembered, and what he remembered the most, was the Eye that Mimir had given him.

'There's no way it's useless.'

Mimir was the wisest person in this Tower.

Indeed, is it possible to say that the reason why Asgard could become the strongest Guild in the Tower was due to Mimir's wisdom and not Odin's power?

Zeus also recognized those exceptional skills of Mimir.

That's why Zeus hoped the Eye would be as useful as he expected.

'Not here but there.'

He probably could only catch a glimpse of the answer to those words after some time.

Bubble-.

As his consciousness became clearer, the feeling of suffocation filled his throat.

When had he experienced that feeling?

A face appeared in his mind.

'...My annoying older brother?'

In the times when his relationship with Poseidon wasn't good, he had trapped him in the water several times. Although he had always escaped from that place frequently, the memories of then were still fresh in his mind.

Swu-

The view gradually returned.

He was definitely dead.

To destroy the Name that Foolish Chaos had, he had exhausted his body like a rag and had poured out all his strength.

Definitely, that's what he did.

Although breathing was uncomfortable and he didn't feel fear of being underwater, he had no thoughts that it was scary or uncomfortable.

Instead, he was more interested in the fact that he was alive.

'Where am I?'

Pum-.

He felt something pulling him upwards.

He still didn't have strength in his body.

In his place, Zeus's gaze turned to a thin thread in the water, mixed with impurities, becoming increasingly turbid.

"Thread?"

Shooaaah-.

The moment he understood, Zeus's body rose upwards, making its way through the water currents.

Gradually, a faint light became visible. Someone was pulling the thread, lifting Zeus's body.

Splash-

"We caught him!"

"...Is it a person?"

The voices of the two people he heard first.

Thump-

Zeus, caught on the hook, fell to the ground. Because he fell face down, it was quite impactful.

"Cough!"

He coughed a lot of water. He tried to get up, but his body still didn't move as he wanted.

Had he swallowed too much water? He felt heavy, and his Arcane Power was gone, leaving a sense of emptiness.

Still, fortunately, there was no pain.

'I'm alive, right?'

The certainty that he was alive.

More than anything, the damned energy of Foolish Chaos that didn't disappear within him had finally gone.

'I am alive.'

The lost Arcane Power would gradually recover.

Somehow, he had to give strength to his body. At least, he managed to lift the body with strength in his arms.

Hup-

At that moment...

Two people approached Zeus. He had heard the voices but hadn't seen the people well because of the water.

Or rather, he hadn't come out of the water, or rather, Zeus, who had been hoisted from the water, first examined the appearance of those two people.

"It's real."

"..."

They were familiar faces.

Of course, they weren't exactly the same.

Odin had a lot more gray hair and wrinkles than Zeus remembered.

But aside from that, his broad and muscular back remained the same. And there was no other king in this Tower who had such majesty apart from himself.

Next to him, Hercules had lost an arm, and his gaze had become quite wild.

"Is this place...?"

He might have suspected it, but it was true.

Zeus, who was silent for a moment, looked at the completely purple sky and spoke with confidence.

"It's the future."

Odin and Hercules doubted Zeus's existence.

It was natural since someone who had died suddenly came back to life. Even Zeus would find it difficult to believe that story.

But fortunately, that part was resolved quite easily.

"Mimir's Eye..."

He didn't fully understand it, but that didn't mean he couldn't accept it. If it was Mimir. Odin nodded.

Having sacrificed Chronos, he sent YuWon to the past and planned to send Son OhGong to the past using Mimir's Eyes.

However, Past Mimir learned about this through Son OhGong.

So, the reverse should be possible too.

'Why the hell does it have to be this guy...?'

Odin looked at Zeus and sank into his thoughts for a moment.

In the past, there were many more living people than now.

Vishnu, Asura, who died in the recent fight, and of course, the Bull Demon King, who no longer existed in the present, would be there.

So why?

'If Mimir sent this guy, he must have some value.'

Mimir was only awake for a short time, but when he was awake, he was a more reliable ally than anyone else.

Odin never had doubts. Because the living witness was himself.

And that...

Blink-.

Hercules also thought the same way.

"I know you hate me."

Maybe because he had rested a bit while talking, Zeus's complexion seemed much more relaxed than before.

"Although I don't plan to fight you yet. We leave that for later, as I have other enemies now."

"I have no intention of fighting. You mean nothing to me."

"That's even better."

Zeus's answer made Hercules's expression tremble for a moment.

Yes, in the end, he was that kind of person.

He didn't care at all. He was his father but not his family. From the beginning, his expectations were wrong.

"I'm sorry."

A word thrown suddenly.

Hercules's eyes blinked once again.

For a moment, he couldn't believe what he heard.

Whose was this?

'Zeus... isn't it?'

The Zeus he knew would never be a figure who offered apologies.

He thought it might be fake. Hercules looked again into Zeus's eyes.

There was no mistake.

It was real.

"It's okay."

Hercules didn't take long to respond.

"I killed my father here. My father was dethroned because of me and lost his life."

He had already had his revenge.

At that time, he had eliminated all the anger.

The only thing left was regret for not speaking before killing him.

"My father and I are done."

"...Is that so?"

For Zeus, it was also the first time he apologized to someone.

It was a thought he had after dying.

Hercules was forced to live an unwanted life according to his plans. And all the bad things he had done to "create" that Hercules.

He regretted not saying at least one word of apology, that thought suddenly came to his mind.

It was already too late. This wasn't the present he lived in, but the future. Zeus couldn't say how many more years had passed since then.

But...

"It's a relief."

By bending his pride a little, he felt refreshed inside.

It wasn't an unpleasant feeling.

'So this is what Mimir meant when he told me to be a bit human?'

But that feeling was also only for a moment.

"Hey, Odin!"

A familiar voice echoed from somewhere.

"What, Hercules is here too?"

Son OhGong had come to find Odin.

He found him alongside Hercules and waved his hand.

Considering that he had come this far, it seemed he was also bidding farewell to his other companions in his own way.

Son OhGong approached.

Zeus didn't turn his head. He didn't think he would encounter him so soon.

Son OhGong's gaze naturally turned toward Zeus.

"Who is this guy?"

"This guy is..."

Odin, upon receiving the question, frowned and scratched his head.

It was a difficult story to understand even for normal people.

But explaining that story to this stupid monkey already seemed difficult from the beginning.

When he still couldn't respond properly.

"I am Zeus."

Zeus stood up and introduced himself first.

Naturally, Son OhGong showed a perplexed expression.

"Zeus? Are you that guy's dad?"

"That's right."

"I thought you were dead."

"Well, you're wrong."

A shameless response.

Zeus looked at Hercules.

"It's strange that you say I'm dead when you're seeing me with your own eyes. Don't you think?"

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Fortunately, Hercules and Odin were quite perceptive.

It was Odin who first nodded and responded.

"It seems there's some misunderstanding."

"Yeah, th-that's right, I think so."

Unlike Hercules' slightly uncomfortable reaction, Zeus continued speaking with a shameless expression once again.

"Even though I disappeared, I didn't die. I took a sabbatical."

"You disappeared?"

Son OhGong scratched his head and mumbled, "Really?"

He couldn't understand how, in the midst of all this chaos, Zeus hadn't been revealed even for a moment. But, of course, Son OhGong wasn't the type to overthink things too much.

If two smart people said so, then it was so. OhGong thought that way and extended his hand.

"In any case, these are good news. By the way, it seems you've reconciled with that guy."

Reconciliation.

Apparently, he had heard Zeus apologize to Hercules.

Even though he was quite far away, it seemed he had heard that.

He must have very sharp ears.

"I trust you."

Zeus shook hands with Son OhGong without hesitation.

For the straightforward Son OhGong, the fact that there was another comrade who could help them was more important than why Zeus was alive.

The problem now was what came next.

'Why did you support that lie?'

'You did the same, didn't you?'

Odin and Hercules looked at each other.

They had said what they said impulsively, but now that was a problem.

They could let Son OhGong believe the story, but they couldn't deceive all their other comrades.

Son OhGong, who had come to meet Odin, stood by the pond.

Odin had already finished everything he had to do at the pond, but he inevitably grabbed the fishing rod again. It was unavoidable if he wanted to keep Son OhGong even for a moment.

Meanwhile...

Step, step...

Zeus and Hercules walked side by side.

Hercules led Zeus to where his comrades were. Before Son OhGong returned, he needed to explain to his comrades the purpose of Zeus' presence.

"Why did you tell that lie?"

"There's nothing good in telling him."

"Why?"

"That guy is going to the past like Kim YuWon. At that time, I don't want him to know I'm here."

Hercules' march stopped.

Zeus, who was walking a bit ahead without knowing the way, turned to look at him.

"Why are you acting like this?"

"Is it because of me?"

There was no basis.

He just had that thought.

If there was also a Hercules in the past. If he also felt the same disappointment and sadness he felt when Zeus died.

Wouldn't Zeus want Hercules to know of his existence?

But...

"The Great Sage, Heaven's Equal didn't know of my existence when he came to the past. If he had known, Kim YuWon would have known that I would come here after my death."

The reason Zeus didn't want Son OhGong to know of his existence was different.

"Then we shouldn't tell him. If that monkey learns about the facts here, the future could get entangled again."

"Even though it's the past... is it also the future there?" (?)

"Time is very confusing. But in the end, what must happen must happen."

Zeus' words made the corner of Hercules' mouth lift.

He felt fortunate.

He didn't know how the past Kim YuWon had returned was unfolding, but Zeus' words gave him a glimpse of hope.

Zeus didn't want the world where he was to change differently.

In other words, that meant the past was changing in the positive direction they had planned.

"They are doing well. Them."

"Then it's fine."

Step...

Hercules resumed his march.

"Let's go. Convincing the others will take some time before that monkey comes back."

The situation was positive.

That fact alone gave them enough reason to conspire together to deceive Son OhGong.

Deceiving that fool wouldn't be that difficult.

Step, step, step...

Hercules' hurried steps sounded much louder than before.

He had a rather cheerful expression.

"...That's right."

Zeus watched Hercules' back for a moment.

"Is it because of me?"

To that question, he hesitated briefly before giving an answer.

He acted as if it wasn't a big deal, but even for him, it was difficult to deceive himself.

'Because of you.'

Was that really the reason?

Zeus continued walking behind Hercules.

He thought it wasn't.

Fortunately, Odin kept Son OhGong occupied for quite some time.

He probably couldn't keep him busy with just fishing. While Hercules and Zeus headed to their lodging, they heard a loud sound from afar.

It was the sound of Odin and Son OhGong fighting.

"If we get caught, what are we going to do...?"

They had fled to a corner of the Tower to avoid the eyes of the Outers, but making so much noise was unexpected.

He was already thinking about relocating the base again, but just thinking about it gave him a headache.

Hercules headed towards where his comrades were with Zeus. The Rankers who knew Zeus' face were surprised to see him.

"From now on, I'll explain."

The explanation came from Zeus' mouth.

Certainly, Zeus' explanation was much clearer than Hercules'. The others just looked at Hercules wondering if what he said was true.

"It's true."

It was a clear answer.

To be sure, Hercules added an explanation.

"So, from now on, we just have to deceive Son OhGong."

Gathering three people to make one look foolish wasn't that difficult.

Especially if that person was already foolish from the beginning.

"So, now, I need everyone's cooperation."

Fortunately, Son OhGong seemed not to notice anything strange.

After a few days of the fight with Odin, Son OhGong approached Zeus and asked him.

"Do you want to fight me?"

Apparently, he didn't care about Zeus' divine appearance at all.

His only concern was facing Zeus, who once reigned as the King on Olympus.

However, unlike Son OhGong's wishes, unfortunately, Zeus didn't like meaningless fights.

"I'm not in good shape yet."

"When will you get better?"

"I don't know."

A tone that clearly showed his annoyance.

Son OhGong became gloomy and turned away.

"Kali, do you want...?"

"Go away, stupid monkey."

Kali rejected him with a venomous look in her eyes, as if she knew that would happen.

Son OhGong, once again, became sad and looked for someone else to play with.

And seeing Son OhGong that way...

"That fool..."

"He was really fooled."

Everyone thought the same.

Even if that was the case, it was surprising that someone who had died came back to life without questioning it.

Still, it was fortunate.

According to Zeus' explanation, it was convenient that Son OhGong was easily deceived.

"Father."

Sometime later.

As the day Son OhGong would travel to the past approached.

"The lord has awakened."

Odin's son, Thor, brought the news.

"I see. Let's go."

Odin's gaze turned to Zeus, who was standing with closed eyes. Somehow, Zeus nodded and stood up. The two left the hall and headed towards a quite distant castle.

"It's not a princess sleeping in a forest, and it's quite far."

"Even so, thanks to that, we got here quickly. We would have had to run a lot otherwise."

The castle they reached riding on Zeus' clouds was so deteriorated that it wouldn't be surprising if it collapsed at any moment.

At first, they couldn't recognize it, but it was clear that it was the palace of Asgard.

The world was in tumultuous change.

Looking at the castle, Zeus finally figured out on which floor of the Tower they were.

Floor 63.

It was the world where Asgard's palace was located.

Thud...

Stepping on the crumbling castle, the two saw Mimir standing at the end of the hallway, looking at them with crossed arms.

For a moment, a complex expression crossed Odin's face and then disappeared.

How much time has passed since he woke up?

Since he was his oldest friend, the joy of meeting again was considerable.

But only for a moment.

Odin remembered that he had to set aside the joy, excitement, and happiness of the reunion.

"Did you sleep well?"

Mimir turned towards them in response to Odin's greeting.

The introductions between the two were always like this.

Mimir, who plunged into sleep for a hundred years, was always treated by Odin as someone who had just awakened after sleeping for a day.

"I slept deeply. Very well."

"Then, that intelligent head will work perfectly again."

"It's natural."

Mimir's gaze turned to Zeus, who was standing behind Odin.

Even though a lot of time had passed, there was no way Mimir would have forgotten Zeus' face.

Still, even seeing Zeus, Mimir wasn't surprised.

"Have you come?"

"It seems there's no need for separate explanations."

Zeus smiled slightly at the idea of not having to repeat what he had already said.

Finally, an opponent with whom he could communicate properly was in front of him.

"I know what you're thinking."

"The only person who could understand my thoughts, even a little, was Kim YuWon."

Son OhGong.

The Hero Hercules.

Mimir's recommendation was the most decisive reason why YuWon returned to the past, surpassing those two.

And now...

Mimir looked at Zeus with the same eyes he looked at YuWon.

"However, now we have one more person."

Swish, swish-.

Odin alternated his gaze between Mimir and Zeus.

Mimir, caught in the Curse of Knowledge, didn't communicate well with most people. Not even the archmage Merlin, an expert in knowledge, could keep up with him.

But now, Mimir mentioned Zeus as someone he could talk to.

"It seems he succeeded, luckily."

"Three times in total."

"That means even Son OhGong succeeded."

"That's right."

"Now I'm confused. What is the past and what is the future, as both sides have achieved something...?"

Zeus clearly came from the past to this place. However, Zeus himself, who came from the past, knew that Son OhGong here had succeeded in returning to the past.

After thinking for a moment, Mimir easily organized his thoughts.

"It's an independent world, right?"

"Probably."

"Anyway, it seems the path has been laid out somehow."

Mimir's words made Zeus' eyes shine.

"Were you thinking about that too?"

"I thought about it much earlier than you."

"Then, I guess it will be much easier. I just thought about it; I can't carry it out like you."

Snap-.

Mimir took out an Eye.

One of the two eyes. Through this, he planned to use it to send Son OhGong back to the past along with YuWon.

"A pinhole has appeared in the sealed time."

Mimir bit his lips to resist the sleep that enveloped him.

The Mimir from the past and the Mimir from the future.

Two Mimirs who began drawing together.

"But at least the basic concepts have been drawn."

It was fortunate.

Up to this point, things had progressed smoothly.

Now, finally, there was a prospect of success, even if it was only 10%.

But...

"There's probably a drawing you don't know."

Just one.

There was something that Mimir didn't include in his calculations.

"Something I don't know?"

"It's what happened to Kim YuWon."

The first person to go back to the past in this plan.

That was the only thing that Mimir, in his calculation, overlooked.

"There's something inside that guy."

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Zeus was in the future.

An Eye of Mimir had disappeared...

'Perhaps...'

It's not like there wasn't a corner to point at.

YuWon's gaze turned towards Son OhGong.

'There's no way to confirm it.'

The guy kept sleeping while snoring.

Of the futures Son OhGong heard, the only thing that changed was that Zeus was alive.

Both he (YuWon) and Son OhGong had come from the future to this past.

So, why not do the opposite?

It was a story with enough possibility.

'But, why the hell?'

YuWon's eyebrow furrowed.

The Clock Movement was a joint creation of Chronos, Mimir, and Odin. The core of everything was Chronos, who possessed the principle and power of 'Time,' while the idea and creation of the Clock Movement were the work of Mimir. Odin was only there to assist these two.

The movement of the world through time using the Clock Movement.

The reason they tried it was that people from the future had decided that there was no hope left.

'Is there any reason to send Zeus?'

Thinking about it made certainty fade away.

Did Zeus really go to the future?

If so, why did Mimir make that choice?

Why did he give one of his Eyes to Zeus?

If not...

'Ugh, I don't know.'

The complex reflections made YuWon lift his head.

At this moment, he could only make guesses; there was nothing conclusive.

Mimir was an incomprehensible entity to YuWon. He couldn't understand his plans until he awakened him.

'After Shub-Niggurath died, that guy started having strange thoughts...'

Mimir began creating his own variables.

Since most of the time, he had to be immersed in sleep, the hope of getting useful information from him should be discarded.

'I can only think about what I can do.'

YuWon spent the night with open eyes.

One day.

It seemed that after one day passed, he would have to rely a lot on the monkey that was sleeping in front of him.

Drrr-.

Son OhGong was a heavy sleeper.

He spent most of his time eating and sleeping, aside from when he fought.

It had been two days. The time YuWon had been waiting for.

And finally...

Slap!

"Drr!"

Son OhGong, who was tossing in his sleep, opened his eyes to the sound of his own snoring.

In an instant, he looked up at YuWon.

"What's up?"

"How long do you plan to sleep?"

"If you're going to wake me up, do it gently."

"It's the first time I've seen someone who doesn't wake up with words, shakes, or cold water."

"And so you kick me?"

Son OhGong grunted.

Apparently, being rudely awakened while sleeping didn't sit well with him. In these moments, there were only two things that Son OhGong would ask for.

"You can only wake me up to eat or fight; if it's anything else, I won't let you off."

"Don't you know me?"

"Oh?"

Son OhGong blinked.

There was a certain expectation in his eyes. And based on that expectation, YuWon nodded.

"We're at the perfect moment. Luckily, this floor is already uninhabited."

"That means..."

Son OhGong widened his eyes, and his smile broadened.

The atmosphere was different from when they were just training. OhGong wanted something more genuine.

That's what he was hoping for.

"Let's speed up the journey."

Hargan was already gone. However, Pandora was still around.

In the fight between the two (YuWon VS OhGong), she might get involved.

Son OhGong, who called the Flying Nimbus, took YuWon and began to move.

Swish-!

Whooooo~

In an instant, the landscape around them changed dramatically.

The Flying Nimbus had the mobility to go back and forth between Floors in a short period.

The two headed to another place, to a devastated terrain.

The terrain where Ubbo-Sathla disappeared.

A hole so deep and wide that you couldn't see the bottom.

And above that, it had become another battlefield.

"Will it be okay here?"

"Perfect."

Puff-.

The Flying Nimbus holding YuWon's feet disappeared. Naturally, YuWon fell down and sat on a protruding rock.

Son OhGong, still the owner of the Flying Nimbus, remained in place.

This meant that there would be no comfort or kindness in carrying him anymore.

"So, what's up? What do you want?"

Boom, Bang-.

Ru Yi Bang moved smoothly from his fingertips.

The figure that was sleeping and drooling before couldn't be found anywhere. Now, when facing Son OhGong in combat, he had to be considered an entirely different person.

"Don't tell me you're asking me to fight you for no reason, right?"

When he was in the future, OhGong spent every day looking for someone to fight.

It was similar to a child crying to be taken to play. However, there was no one who could endure facing Son OhGong, who threw himself into the fight without getting tired for one or two days.

And at that moment, the people Son OhGong clung to the most were YuWon and Hercules.

"Eh? What do you mean?"

"This time it might be dangerous."

"A warning?"

"That's right."

Swish-.

YuWon drew a sword.

The Otherworld Sword didn't react to Son OhGong. It only responded when facing the Outers.

And the same went for the 'Otherworld Adversary.'

For the most part, YuWon's abilities weren't very suitable for facing Son OhGong.

However...

"You can die."

YuWon gave an unusual warning to Son OhGong.

Son OhGong, who possessed an astonishing property in the Tower, 'Immortality,' responded to those words.

"Who? Me?"

"Do you remember what you saw then?"

YuWon's question made a single image cross Son OhGong's mind.

The giant shadow that swallowed Ubbo-Sathla.

Even recalling that power made his fingers tremble slightly.

"And you also saw someone at that moment."

"Ah..."

Son OhGong nodded.

At this point, even if someone had a very foolish head, they could understand what YuWon wanted.

"This time, I'm going to use that again. So, he should appear again."

"It will be fun."

Smile~

The corner of Son OhGong's lips curved upward.

The moment he saw that power, Son OhGong thought it would be better not to fight with it if he could avoid it.

It wasn't a conscious thought.

It was a thought derived from things like fear, apprehension, and repulsion that arose from his subconscious.

But if someone asked him to choose whether to fight with it or not.

Son OhGong would happily choose to fight.

Energy sprouted from Son OhGong's body, holding the Ru Yi Bang.

Ssshh-.

And in response to that energy, the shadow began to flow slowly from YuWon's body.

['Amorphous Chaos' reveals its form]

Amorphous Chaos spread from YuWon's toes.

And within that, sharp teeth were hidden.

It was at that moment that YuWon warned Son OhGong about the possibility of dying...

Pat-.

Pot-.

YuWon and Son OhGong.

Both jumped towards each other at the same time.

Jjeoeong-!

Jjeong, Jjeojeojeong-!

Swat-, Bbeog-!

Swords and the staff moved rapidly, and YuWon's kick hit Son OhGong's chest.

Both looked with the same eyes. The two pairs of Golden Cinder Eyes of the same color moved rapidly, following each other's movements.

Pot-.

In an instant, the distance between YuWon and Son OhGong widened.

The opposite hand holding the sword.

Craaack-.

A long Lightning Bolt was compressed in YuWon's fist.

Tang-.

[The strength of a Giant is concentrated in your arms]

Gigantification.

A muscular enhancement ability that made Hercules' existence possible.

However, even with such an ability, there was a gap that couldn't be overcome.

"Huup-!"

Son OhGong, holding the Ru Yi Bang, took a deep breath and focused his strength on his entire body.

Naturally, the scales of the power balance leveled.

Or rather, YuWon's strength was pushed back.

Thud, bang-.

It was truly brute force.

Even in his Gigantification state, being pushed by force was unheard of.

But that didn't mean he could outperform Son OhGong in other technical aspects.

Buum-.

With the sword and staff facing each other, the Ru Yi Bang spun.

Jjeong, jjeojeojeong, with a light and blunt sound, YuWon's body was pushed by the force.

Although he thought it was quite well, he didn't have the feeling of hitting correctly.

"Tch."

Son OhGong clicked his tongue regretfully.

Swiftly picking up the staff he had swung, YuWon's eyes gleamed in a golden color.

"Is it necessary to use something so lethal?"

"What's lethal is the same for both."

["Eyes of Foreknowledge" predicts the immediate future.]

["Sensory Field" is activated.]

It felt like all perceptions around him were looking towards the palm of his hand. In just a moment, a very short future, lasting just over a second, was felt through his body.

Eyes of Foreknowledge and Sensory Field.

These two abilities, used with the Golden Cinder Eyes, allowed him to follow the sense of Son OhGong's battle, who had completed his transformation into Yokai.

Exactly, it was the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal.

However...

"It's quite impressive."

Suddenly a voice came from a short distance.

Sseut-.

"Still, that alone is not enough."

Thump-.

The end of the Ru Yi Bang touched YuWon's chest.

"Grow, Ruyi."

Thud-!

The extended staff pushed YuWon's body and crashed it into the wall. A staff with enough force to blow away a mountain covered YuWon's body.

The ground flipped due to the Ru Yi Bang and fell on him.

Fortunately, the impact wasn't too great.

Only once.

["Blessing of the Sea" is applied to the body.]

["Blessing of the Sea" has been damaged.]

YuWon had a trump card to withstand most attacks.

Hudduk-.

Small stones and sand embedded in his body fell. YuWon's body was firmly embedded in the rock and didn't fall.

Just for a moment.

It was a time of reflection.

'It's complicated.'

Using the Eyes of Foreknowledge and facing such an opponent was something new.

Various futures. He saw various Son OhGongs in his vision.

He couldn't keep up with the speed, so he decided to see the future. But even that future swayed uneasily and made YuWon's vision dizzy.

It seemed like he knew the reason.

Frrr~

A burning fire that continued to burn in front of his eyes.

The Golden Cinder Eyes, which had reached a level beyond their own, continued to shake the Eyes of Foreknowledge.

'Even though we're on the same side... I don't see a way out.'

At the moment the sword and staff clashed, Son OhGong became a completely different person.

There's no way to bring him down like this.

Even with the Golden Cinder Eyes that OhGong had, or even with a more valuable ability, the Eyes of Foreknowledge.

The Gigantification, a symbol of Hercules, and the Uranus Heart, which can handle Lightning.

All those tools were dismantled in an instant.

With this, it's still not enough.

"Is that all?"

It's impossible to break through the front line against Son OhGong, who has obtained Yokai Power.

Son OhGong, sitting in a lotus position while riding on the Flying Nimbus. He looked at YuWon, who was embedded in the wall, with a mocking smile.

It was a provocation.

Will you stop here?

Normally, after making that kind of laughter, YuWon would have felt his pride wounded and would have stood up to run towards Son OhGong.

But today the situation was a bit different.

"...Behind."

"Hm? What?"

As if he hadn't heard the small voice well, Son OhGong tilted his ear.

The moment he heard YuWon's continued words...

"Look behind, monkey."

Whoosh-. Son OhGong's head turned backward.

Chapter 494

C494

The reflection in Son OhGong's nervous eyes, who turned his head with a chilling feeling, was an unstable and slightly distorted shadow.

Ssu-.

It was just one.

The Name that YuWon possessed.

Amorphous Chaos

It wasn't as massive as when it devoured Ubbo-Sathla. Instead, despite being unstable, it had a more defined shape than at that time.

"I told you that you would see it, right?"

It was a wolf hiding its teeth in chaos.

"I don't want it to bite me."

"Now that I remember, it was for this."

Bum, bang~

Ru Yi Bang spun slightly.

Although it clearly had a blunt end, within it lay a sharpness.

Scaaah-!

Ru Yi Bang cut the wolf, drawing an X.

The shadows scattered.

"But actually, it's not a big deal, is it?"

"It's still a bit complicated."

Ssu-.

The dispersed shadow returned, reforming into its previous form.

A wolf appeared in front of YuWon, growling and baring its teeth at Son OhGong.

It was larger and had a more precise shape than before.

"I'm gradually getting used to it."

"Oh."

Son OhGong's eyes sparkled.

From the beginning, this fight was initiated so that YuWon could unleash his abilities.

For that, Son OhGong took it seriously, at least as much as when fighting the Outers.

If only YuWon could handle that strength skillfully...

If he could use that power he saw at that moment at will...

'The chances of winning will increase, right?'

Son OhGong also knew that.

Although he had achieved a lot, his chances of victory were still not very high.

So it was necessary.

A natural enemy of the Outers.

"All right, then..."

Bum-.

Frrr~

Lifting the Ru Yi Bang and spinning it, Son OhGong ignited his eyes.

"Let's see how far you can go."

Thump-!

Ru Yi Bang exploded the wolf's head.

The shadow lost its strength and scattered. The wolf that had raised its claws slowly faded away.

Crack, crack!

Lobos that approached from another direction were blocked by the staffs held by Son OhGong's clones.

The tough teeth couldn't break the Ru Yi Bang and got stuck halfway.

['Amorphous Chaos' takes form]

Teeth approached from behind Son OhGong.

"Now there are four, right?"

Buum-.

A Flying Nimbus enveloped in his fist.

The only magical property Son OhGong possessed.

Clang-!

Lightning Bolt.

The Lightning Bolt held by the Flying Nimbus exploded in the extended fist.

The body of the wolf created by the chaotic formless form was torn to pieces as it spread over the fist.

Clones. Ru Yi Bang. And Flying Nimbus.

The abilities representing Son OhGong were fully displayed. Son OhGong didn't allow the wolves to approach.

Thanks to that...

"It seems quite terrifying."

YuWon smoothly advanced into the range of Ru Yi Bang.

"So, will you give me all the space?"

Zzuh-!

Clang-!

A sword cut through the chest.

At the same time, the force of the Lightning Bolt infused in the sword threw Son OhGong's body backward.

Thud-.

Son OhGong's foot stepped into the void and stopped. Blood flowed slightly from his chest.

YuWon wielded the sword that had cut through Son OhGong's chest.

It was a sensation of colliding with a hard weapon rather than a living being.

"You still have a solid body."

"What's wrong? Didn't you want to practice with that?"

"Knowing how to use it also includes how I move along with it. If these things scare you, I can't help but take advantage of them."

Grrrr-.

Four wolves revealed their forms around YuWon.

At first, there was only one, but suddenly their number increased.

Each one was the size of a considerable tiger, black wolves with sharp teeth. They were the forms created in YuWon's mind.

If the Name had been used without any form, it would have appeared literally as an "amorphous" entity.

'Is it because I know Azathoth's name?'

Now it's no longer necessary to cling simply to the intangible power.

If one simply gets used to handling Names, they can use the force that was previously uncertain more concretely.

For example...

'In this way.'

Ssshhh~

By consuming Divine Power, the four wolves merged into one.

A larger wolf appeared after devouring the smaller wolves. It looked at OhGong and bared its teeth.

Grrr-.

"W-Wow."

Son OhGong marveled at the appearance of a more powerful summoning.

"So, this can also be done?"

The shape-shifting chaos.

That was precisely what YuWon wanted to practice in this fight.

Amorphous (무정형).

Without a defined form.

That's what YuWon thought until he knew Azathoth's name.

But it wasn't like that.

'It's not that it has no form, but it can become anything.'

The wolf's form was just something randomly created.

Initially, there was no form or set limit to this power.

One,

Fwoosh-.

Yuwon's use of Names was still not as proficient as Azathoth's.

The wolf's head pierced through the extension of Son OhGong's Ru Yi Bang.

"Grow, Ruyi."

Thud-!

The wolf's body exploded. Watching the torn form disperse under the influence of Ru Yi Bang, Son OhGong shrugged.

"It's still not a big deal."

"Yes."

Swoosh-.

Black smoke rose around Son OhGong.

Son OhGong's expression, which had been so energetic just a moment ago, stiffened.

"In any case, this guy is always a big talker."

Grrrr-.

Grrrr-.

Dozens of eyeless wolves appeared around him.

And in the shadow looming beneath YuWon's feet, a much larger presence was reflected.

"Is that him?"

Son OhGong's eyes saw it all.

Beneath YuWon's shadow.

The more the power of the Name manifested, the more the figure hidden within was revealed.

Frrr-.

A male figure reflected in Son OhGong's eyes.

It was undoubtedly the entity that had taken over YuWon's body.

"Why are you so distracted?"

YuWon's question made Son OhGong suddenly lift his head.

When was the last time he had done that?

When he had become distracted during a fight and lost sight of his opponent.

"Oh, sorry."

Creak, creak-.

Son OhGong shone his eyes again, looking at the wolves surrounding him.

'What was that again?'

Son OhGong's fist, holding the Ru Yi Bang, clenched tightly.

Sweat slid down his palm, slipping over the slippery handle. He felt every pore expanding, and his body heating up.

Fun?

That was already left behind.

This was the first time he felt like this since he gained the trait of immortality.

'This is tension and nervousness, right?'

The fear that he could die. The tension tightly gripping his heart to overcome that fear.

Thanks to that, Son OhGong smiled more brightly than ever.

"It's thrilling..."

A beastly voice erupted from his lips instead of a melodic tone.

"I'm so excited I'll go crazy... yes!"

Thud-!

Son OhGong struck the air.

In the midst of the pack of wolves summoned by YuWon...

A larger predator rushed in.

Kwaaaah-!

The end of the staff moved smoothly.

No.

Or was it sharp?

Bang-.

How long had it been since he saw the Ru Yi Bang swing so quickly?

Freely changing its length and thickness, it functioned both as an attack and defense. When the wolves' fangs approached, the Ru Yi Bang, which had imperceptibly shrunk, blocked the teeth.

"Grow."

Baaang-!

The enlarged Ru Yi Bang knocked down a wolf. When other wolves targeted Son OhGong from behind, he turned his body and suddenly held the shrunken Ru Yi Bang in his hand.

"Shrink, and then..."

Buum-!

"Extend."

The Ru Yi Bang, stretching so much that it couldn't even be seen, deftly cut through the surrounding cliffs, tracing a huge circle.

Fireee~

Red eyes flashed, tracing lines as they moved.

In that brief moment, Son OhGong's Ru Yi Bang returned to its size, fitting perfectly in his hand.

It was a phantasmagorical skill.

'Beyond manipulating the staff freely, he calculates the length and thickness of the staff. Moreover, even the speed of the staff is calculated...'

Twhack-!

The Ru Yi Bang flew past YuWon's head.

Using the Eyes of Foreknowledge, YuWon skillfully dodged it, following the rapidly shrinking Ru Yi Bang.

'Even the speed of the Ru Yi Bang is fast enough to make that possible.'

Who else in this Tower could handle such a changeable item so perfectly?

Among the Rankers YuWon knew, no one matched Son OhGong's sense of battle. At this moment, Son OhGong was not the usual foolish monkey.

'This is serious.'

Buum-.

Thud-!

YuWon's arm, blocking the Ru Yi Bang, trembled.

'It seems like this guy is slowly losing his mind.'

Son OhGong's eyes turned inward.

Although he was crazy about the fight, at least he didn't recklessly charge even in fights with his peers.

He knew it himself.

Although he looked human on the outside, his race was Yokai. Once they lost their reason and started running wild, it was difficult to control the excitement.

"Extend..."

Son OhGong was like that at the moment.

Buuuum-.

Regardless of how much space there was between them, the Ru Yi Bang swung as if it didn't care.

YuWon's arm, using Gigantification, blocked the Ru Yi Bang. There was a dull metallic sound as the bones broke a bit.

Normally, it wouldn't have come to this.

'Did I irritate him too much?'

Crack!

YuWon's body was thrown by the impact. Son OhGong continued flying and stuck to YuWon, who crashed into the wall.

Ssss-.

The shadow that spilled from YuWon's body enveloped Son OhGong. In an instant, Son OhGong, who was completely dark, quickly spun the Ru Yi Bang he held in his hand.

Buuum, thud, bang-.

Son OhGong's staff pierced the black shadow enveloping his body. Without delay, it shot toward YuWon.

Chiiing-!

The staff flying through the wind made a whistling noise.

YuWon's eyes moved.

'Two directions, no...'

Gi-iiing-.

The direction of the Ru Yi Bang seen through the Eyes of Foreknowledge.

'How many are there?'

In a brief moment, so many that he couldn't even see them with his eyes.

He couldn't avoid them all. The direction he could verify with his eyes was limited, and he also had a limit on the range in which he could move his body.

He had to choose one thing.

Finally...

Ppoyeok-!

YuWon's jaw was hit by the Ru Yi Bang, and his head lifted upward.

Jjiing-.

His head hurt. For a moment, his ears were plugged as all sounds around him disappeared.

But his body still moved. He lowered his gaze and saw Son OhGong swinging the Ru Yi Bang again.

Kkwak-.

The discomfort rose, and his hand clenched automatically.

"Like a madman...."

Wuuuu-.

['Amorphous Chaos' adheres to the 'Otherworld Sword (2nd version)']

The sword's body, otherwise black, took on an even darker tone.

The Ru Yi Bang coming again was stopped by YuWon's sword.

"What...?"

Son OhGong's voice sounded confused.

With a crisp sound, the part where Ru Yi Bang collided separated. Beyond that, the black sword that YuWon swung cut through Son OhGong's chest.

Slaash-!

Leaving a trail of blood, the black sword left a mark on Son OhGong's chest.

Tk, tuk-.

Son OhGong, who was treading on air, staggered with the impact, wobbling. If he hadn't called his Flying Nimbus quickly, he would have sunk into the ground and fallen into the infinite abyss.

Son OhGong, deeply immersed in the fight, finally regained consciousness.

On the other hand...

'What is this?'

YuWon realized thanks to that.

'Did it depend on my mood?'

Only for a training match.

With that mood, he realized that this Name was not easy to handle.

Chapter 495

C495

YuWon boasted of having the most Arcane Power in the Tower, excluding Son OhGong, of course.

It was natural.

While devising plans with the companions he had met in the future, he investigated various ways to increase his Arcane Power in many areas.

For Players, statistics were simply a quantification of their strength. They focused on improving those statistics, and in particular, on increasing Arcane Power, the most crucial part of those stats.

But that didn't mean Arcane Power was the highest stat YuWon possessed.

Originally, that was the plan.

[Divine Power: 197]

An unexpected stat intervened.

At the moment he acquired that stat, a question arose.

'What the hell is this for?'

At that time, he didn't know what Divine Power was.

But when he found out it was the stat required to use the power of the Name.

YuWon had this thought.

'If this were Arcane Power...'

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A stat he had never considered before.

'I might even beat that stupid monkey.'

And today...

That moment was about to come.

Aaaah!

A wolf with sharp fangs lunged at Son OhGong. It was much faster and had a stronger bite than before.

As if its goal from the beginning wasn't to tear the body apart, the wolf naturally lunged at the Ru Yi Bang.

Son OhGong's body recoiled.

The wolf, which had somehow increased in size, now had the size of a small rocky mountain.

"Uuuu..."

Holding his trembling arm, OhGong resisted.

While blocking the enormous teeth threatening to swallow his body, he felt a small fear.

If those teeth bit him...

Uff!

Pain spread across his chest. It was the wound caused by YuWon's sword.

"Grow!"

Son OhGong's clones.

Thuuuud-!

The Ru Yi Bangs fired by the ten clones pushed the wolf's body.

There was no time to catch a breath when an opening appeared.

Son OhGong, who was lying on the ground, jumped up as if bouncing.

And at that moment...

Shukaak-!

Kwakagakak-!

Several black swords flew from somewhere and cut the spot where Son OhGong had lain a moment ago.

If it had come a little late...

The moment he thought that, OhGong felt a chill, and his tension increased.

'If they had cut me...? Would I have died?'

Death.

It was a word he had forgotten for a long time, but now it came to his mind over and over again.

And to think he would think of that word while fighting against YuWon, his closest companion.

Sseueeu-.

With a bad feeling, Son OhGong looked around.

The surroundings had suddenly darkened.

Although the ground, which was close to the subsurface, was like that, even the sky, which had been sunny, had turned black.

'When did this happen?'

When he realized it, it was already too late.

He looked down. A huge monster awaited him with its mouth open.

He had plunged into chaos.

In that viscous darkness, YuWon approached Son OhGong.

Gulp-.

"Who... are you?"

Son OhGong's question made YuWon stop and cease walking towards him.

"Me? Who else?"

He answered nonchalantly, as if asked something obvious.

"I am me."

I am me.

It wasn't a very clear answer, but it could be seen in his eyes and expression the moment he said it.

Smile-!

The corner of Son OhGong's mouth lifted.

"Yes, you are Kim YuWon."

It could be understood from the expression and look. Both had been together for a long time, and Son OhGong was skilled enough at reading looks not to fall behind anyone.

Beeeeh-.

Beeeeh-...

It was then.

Countless goat surrounded Son OhGong.

"Shub-Niggurath?"

The presence of the goat.

It was a trauma that had strongly rooted in the minds not only of Son OhGong but also of several of his companions.

But fortunately, Shub-Niggurath was dead, and now one of those Names had passed to YuWon.

But now...

The name YuWon had to use was not 'The Black Goat of the Woods with a Thousand Young.'

"No, it wasn't my intention to fight with this..."

Son OhGong's red pupils shook as he heard the words.

It was different.

The goat that appeared here were not the goat led by Shub-Niggurath. Unlike the goat with purple fur, these were covered in black fur.

"So, why did you use them?"

"I just thought I could use it, and so I did."

I just thought I could use it...

Anyway, it was certain that this was not the name that Shub-Niggurath carried.

That was the only sure thing.

"What's happening here now?"

Dozens of question marks arose above Son OhGong's head.

Beeeh...

The surrounding goat approached Son OhGong and stared at his face. In a moment, Son OhGong, who was about to wield Ru Yi Bang toward them, held back.

"Well controlled."

Beeeh...

YuWon stroked the head of the nearby goat.

"I still can't control it completely."

"Are these things really safe?"

The Black Goat of the Woods with a Thousand Young.

Originally, that was the Name that represented Shub-Niggurath. And the terrifying part was not only the power of Shub-Niggurath's formidable body but also that it led herds of High-Ranker level goats in quantities of a thousand.

However, YuWon managed to use that power using another Name.

Was that possible?

'What exactly have you gained?'

Shoosh...

Son OhGong's gaze dropped.

'How the hell am I going to fight against this...?'

Whoosh...

A giant monster hidden in chaos, not revealing itself externally.

The monster that devoured Ubbo-Sathla was beneath his feet.

This was something that couldn't be won. It was the second time he was sure of defeat even before starting to fight.

Thump...

The sound of his heart pounding resonated in his ears.

Pupils fully opened. Thinking that he could fight against something like this, a sense of pleasure that surpassed fear and tension made his body tremble.

Shoosh...

Son OhGong, who was petting the goat, withdrew his hand.

"Anyway, it doesn't matter."

"Doesn't matter?"

"I've never thought so deeply while fighting."

Clang...

Son OhGong aimed Ru Yi Bang at YuWon's head again.

"First, clash weapons and then see what happens."

YuWon looked into Son OhGong's eyes, still burning without extinguishing.

He was a fool, truly.

He knew he couldn't win, but he didn't give up.

In the first place, he didn't fight to win. He just won when he fought.

Defeat and death were no obstacles for Son OhGong either.

'Sometimes, this lack of sense is also useful.'

Ssst-

Lowering the sword in his hand. When YuWon gave up the fight, Son OhGong also relaxed the hand holding Ru Yi Bang.

"What? What's happening?"

An expression of "Why aren't you raising the sword?"

As if wanting to show that there was no problem, YuWon sheathed the sword.

"Thanks."

"For what?"

"Thanks to you acting like a rabid dog, I've also been able to practice."

"Is it a compliment or a mockery?"

"It's a compliment as a mockery."

Pluck...

A thick vein appeared on Son OhGong's forehead. At the same time, his head tilted, as if accepting the compliment with his head but feeling awkward and confused.

YuWon, who laughed seeing that expression, suddenly put on a serious expression.

"OhGong-ah." (Note: -ah is a diminutive)

Son OhGong's eyebrows furrowed.

As if feeling chills, his body trembled.

"What? Why are you being cheesy?"

OhGong-ah.

Neither monkey nor demon, not even Son OhGong, but OhGong-ah.

When had YuWon affectionately called him that?

"Hey, you. When did you call me that?"

As he spoke...

Scenes overlapping with the current situation appeared in Son OhGong's head.

"OhGong-ah"

When was that?

It seemed like it was when they went out to the battlefield to fight Foolish Chaos.

"How many chances do we have to win?"

A difficult question was asked.

From the moment he heard the question, his mind complicated.

Chances of winning?

Son OhGong had heard YuWon, Mimir, and Odin talk about the possibility of winning in battle. But that kind of numbers and predictions were matters that were beyond Son OhGong's interest.

Of course, no one had asked him that question before.

So when he actually received the question, his mind could only become complicated.

"W-well, what if it's fifty-fifty?"

Winning or losing.

That was the only thing occupying Son OhGong's mind.

YuWon sighed.

That's right.

First of all, it was a mistake to ask that question.

"Fifty-fifty? If that were the case, there wouldn't be a reason to worry so much."

"Eh? We've worked hard too, isn't that enough?"

"10 percent... maybe that."

"A 10 percent chance? How big is that?"

"Just 10 percent. And that's me being generous."

"Just that?"

"Did you already forget? What we saw together at that moment."

Son OhGong's body trembled. Although his memory might be a bit deficient, his body remembered.

First of all, why did the companions from the future think together about returning to the past with the Clock Movement?

It was because of three people who seemed impossible to defeat no matter what.

Fortunately, one of them was defeated in the future, and another one in the past, which is this place, but...

"To overcome that, there's no other choice."

"Are you going to a certain death again?"

"When have I come back dead from there?"

"Then where are you going?"

"To look for a lost child."

YuWon explored the chaos he had created.

Azathoth.

The Name he had.

Perhaps, by walking through its interior, he could find Danpung, who had gotten lost. And if he found him, he could also learn more about the power of Azathoth.

Now, he had to embark on an adventure.

"By any chance..."

Son OhGong's eyes narrowed.

"Are you going to become someone like them?"

YuWon nodded.

It would have been better to overlook that. Son OhGong always had a creepy ability to notice at awkward times.

"That might happen."

The more he used the Name, the deeper and clearer he saw.

That was definitely the power of those guys. Maybe, by using it more, he would get closer to them.

Chronos.

Exactly like that.

"What about Pandora and the others?"

Was he trying to stop her?

Son OhGong's question made YuWon, who was turning around, pause for a moment.

Oddly, when he heard the name Pandora, it caught in his throat.

It wasn't love or affection. If YuWon had to say, a feeling like camaraderie was gradually growing.

But...

"Please take good care of her."

He didn't know if the place he was heading to from now on would be safe or not.

But there was no reason to linger anymore. Time kept moving even at this moment.

YuWon looked toward the direction his steps were taking her.

A place where Eyes of Foreknowledge and Golden Cinder Eyes couldn't reach.

[You are entering the 'Amorphous Chaos']

The more he used the Name, the sharper he saw as he saw more deeply.

That guy was definitely there. Sitting on a throne that didn't suit him well, murmuring the name of Azathoth over and over again.

Danpung.

That guy was waiting for him.

Chapter 496

C496

Pandora sat for a while, gazing at the black clouds covering the distant sky.

Although she couldn't see them, she could sense that YuWon and Son OhGong were fighting in the distance.

However, she didn't move. She had neither the ability nor the reason to intervene in the two's fight.

She didn't want to interfere.

But...

Suddenly, Pandora stood up and began to walk.

YuWon was definitely going somewhere.

She had to follow him. She was certain. Because she had been by YuWon's side only for this day.

Foolish Chaos leaned against the wall.

A black wall at the end of the world. It was the wall separating the Tower and the Outer, a wall that would never collapse.

"Umm...."

Groaning in pain, he raised his head.

He used to come here sometimes. It was the closest place to his home, so he felt a little calmer here.

The pain in his chest was quite intense.

Hercules.

A wound created by him and Zeus.

The wind made his hat move a bit. Covering himself again as if embarrassed to show his appearance outside, he adjusted his hat.

And suddenly...

"Do you feel ashamed?"

Unwanted memories came to his mind.

"Father..."

A faint whisper.

The face and name he would prefer to forget kept appearing over and over again. Those memories stirred Foolish Chaos's insides.

"Fool, and once again a fool, my father."

Fool.

He doesn't know how many times he must have repeated that curse.

But he never got to know.

What would happen because of his own foolishness.

"The day you feared so much has come."

Although he wouldn't hear it, probably.

Thump-.

Foolish Chaos passed the huge wall separating the Tower with the tips of his fingers.

"He will come here."

Crack-.

A part of the wall cracked.

At first glance, it seemed only a small crack. But the wall that seemed indestructible stretched following Foolish Chaos's gesture.

"Now, I can't stop him either. Didn't I tell you? If you kept giving so much, someday you would regret it, right?"

He scolded his father, whom he considered a fool. He asked him why he did it, if he had another choice.

"Don't be ashamed of your face. If you hide it, no one will see you."

The voice was gentle.

Undoubtedly, it was a phrase for him, but the hand that took off the hat, which had been pressed against his head, was truly repugnant.

"You are a presence that shines more than anyone. Trust yourself. And trust the name I gave you. Be proud and stand firm."

How much he would have liked that to be true.

If it had been, maybe at least he would have been by his side.

"If you had said that, you should have continued straight on the path."

But he chose everyone.

Foolish Chaos's gaze turned to the cracking wall.

That wall was the trial.

Crack, crack, crack.

"This wall you built no longer makes sense. I will destroy it."

The border between the outside and inside of the Tower.

That border crumbled.

Then...

[You have consumed Points]

[The wall created by 'Amorphous(無定形)' will collapse]

The crack probably wouldn't be as large as they had originally planned.

Certainly, their goal was to destroy all those walls and create a world without borders.

But even so, it wasn't so bad.

"If this place is so important to you, try blocking us once again."

Swoosh-.

The sky began to change with the collapse of the wall.

"Under that name that has become a rag. I..."

The voice continued in Foolish Chaos's mind.

"The reason I gave you names is for that purpose."

[You have entered 'Amorphous Chaos']

It was a strange sensation.

Although he was clearly moving his feet, the sound of his steps was not heard. He didn't know if he was walking on the ground or simply lifting his feet into the void. Even for YuWon, who moved on his own, it was confusing.

'But this feels familiar to me.'

A dark place like space. YuWon remembered being here before.

Probably when he slit Shub-Niggurath's throat.

'Was I here?'

Having made the decision to enter boldly, it turned out to be a place he had already visited. He wasn't sure whether to be glad to be in a familiar place or scared.

Back then, at least Danpung was there, but now there was no one by his side.

"Ah--!"

It was at that moment.

A familiar voice reached his ears, but it was slightly distorted. He couldn't tell if it was the distance or the special nature of this space.

He instinctively turned his head.

Yuwon's eyes widened in surprise.

"Pandora?"

Why was she here?

Pandora ran towards YuWon hastily. She seemed to be panting a bit, as if she had run from quite a distance.

"Come on, let's go together."

She said, panting between uneven breaths.

Yuwon looked at Pandora. He knew she had an unusually strong attachment to him, but he didn't expect her to follow him here.

And more than anything else.

'Even Son OhGong couldn't enter here.'

It wasn't only Pandora who tried not to leave him alone.

Although only for a moment, Son OhGong also tried to enter here with YuWon.

But from the beginning, that was impossible.

Only those bearing the name of Azathoth could enter here. Even if Son OhGong was considered a High-Ranker with outstanding power in the Tower, he was not someone allowed to enter.

So, who was Pandora?

'Is there something more?'

Certainly, he had the power of an Outer.

The one who gave him that power was Zeus, and the one who gave that power to Zeus was Foolish Chaos.

So, who gave that power to Foolish Chaos?

"...Yes."

When it came to that point, YuWon made a decision.

"Let's go together."

Perhaps this had something to do with Pandora's strong attachment to him, he thought.

Pandora's face lit up.

She began to follow YuWon, who walked while she caught her breath.

There was no more conversation.

There was no time to pay attention to Pandora, who was clinging to his back.

Step, step.

The sound of steps began again. It seemed that the journey through this void of chaos had finally come to an end.

He looked around.

A familiar place.

It was the Black Woods.

'I also came here at that time.'

Thinking about it, it was a funny scene.

"Danpung-ah! Danpung-ah!"

Yuwon searched for Danpung in this Black Woods along with Zeus.

They had traveled who knows how much to find the guy who suddenly disappeared. Blindly following, they ended up coming here.

But this place was Azathoth's space.

'Where did I find him back then?'

Yuwon tried to remember.

But no matter how much he thought, he didn't remember the way. He had been running non-stop, and it seemed like all parts of the forest looked the same.

'Maybe...'

['Eyes of Foreknowledge' read the path of the 'Black Woods']

'Will it work?'

A path shone in his golden eyes.

He saw densely planted trees. He saw himself and Pandora walking among them.

'Oh!'

It was such a complex and difficult path that it might have taken years. The Eyes of Foreknowledge consumed a large amount of Arcane Power.

It was a headache he hadn't felt in a long time.

However, thanks to that, it wasn't so difficult to find the way.

But then...

"There..."

Pandora pointed with her finger somewhere.

It was the same direction YuWon saw with the Eyes of Foreknowledge. Surprised, YuWon turned to look at Pandora, who had stuck to him.

"There?"

"Yes."

"And then?"

"Just pass three trees and turn right. And then..."

Pandora described the path that YuWon had read with difficulty.

In some ways, what she understood about the path turned out to be better than YuWon's convoluted path. Unlike YuWon's path that took unnecessary turns, the path she showed him was closer to being a shortcut.

And when the explanation of the path ended.

"He..."

Looking at something, Pandora spoke with a look as if she were enchanted.

"He is there."

Floor 63.

The world where the strongest Guild in the Tower, Asgard, is located.

In that world, signs of something unusual were glimpsed.

"He's not coming back."

"How many days has it been today?"

Asgard's Rankers looked at the sky, uneasy.

A sky tinted in purple.

At first glance, it was endlessly beautiful, but gradually that color became darker and deeper.

The change in the color of the clouds and the sky not only worried the Rankers but also became a topic of interest for anyone.

Recently, there were no places where this sky appeared without causing harm to life.

"Is it the fourth day?"

"The evacuation of the residents should be coming to an end."

"It's lucky. As nothing has happened yet, we've had time to evacuate."

The purple sky was an omen of the battle with the Outers.

However, that sky used to disappear after a day, at most two. It was already the first time that a sky like this persisted for four days.

Fortunately or unfortunately, that sky only changed color and did not cause any additional problems.

Thanks to that, residents and Players unrelated to Asgard had already evacuated.

Step, step...

From the top of the wall, they continued to watch the sky.

"Oh, Prince Thor..."

"Ah! Yo, Your Majesty?"

Thor and Odin climbed the wall together.

He was a king who had been sitting on his throne without moving for a long time. Although the sky within Asgard's territory turned purple, Odin barely moved.

But why?

"It seems that something is inevitably going to happen."

Craaack, craaack.

A blue lightning flowed from Thor's body.

He was the most belligerent character in Asgard, and he was increasing his tension before the battle. Thor, Odin's son, hoped that a day like this would come sooner or later.

"It's much faster than I thought. Too fast."

Odin looked toward the sky.

The sky turning purple.

It announced the end gradually, becoming darker and darker. The sky was getting closer and closer to the vision of the future that YuWon had told him.

"Zeus, it would have been good if that friend were here."

He had heard the news of Zeus's death.

He learned that he had disappeared from the Ranking and felt an inexplicable sadness for several days.

Had he become close enough to call him a friend? Or was it the fact that both shared the title of King that created an affinity between them?

Just for fun, Odin imagined Zeus standing in that place and reached out his hand.

And at that moment...

"Father."

Woo~

A white and pure spear formed in Odin's hand.

The Rankers standing on the wall were surprised and opened their eyes wide. Even among them, there were those who had been in Asgard for hundreds of years and had never seen that spear.

"That's..."

"Gungnir?"

One of the strongest items in the Tower.

The spear that symbolizes Odin and is Asgard's national treasure.

"There's no need to keep waiting, right?"

Odin, holding the spear, assumed a throwing posture.

The direction was the sky.

To announce the declaration of war, Odin activated Gungnir.

Chapter 497

C497

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'Amazing.'

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But the most astonishing thing was not that but Odin holding the spear and assuming the throwing posture.

Kugugug...

The arm muscles that couldn't withstand Gungnir's Arcane Power painfully contracted.

It wouldn't have been strange if he had immediately released the spear complaining of pain.

But if he had given up so easily, Odin would never have been the owner of Gungnir.

"Everyone, retreat!"

When Gungnir was activated, Thor ordered the surrounding Rankers to withdraw.

The Rankers, who were half-dazed, stepped back in the face of Gungnir's proximity.

It wasn't easy for someone who wasn't a High-Ranker to survive Gungnir's activation without being dragged by its magic.

Step!

Odin took a step forward.

Thus, Gungnir, held in his hand, shot into the sky, emitting a white light.

Tukugugu...! Tuwaak!

A mass of white light began to clear the purple clouds gathering in the sky.

Kugung, Gugugung!

An explosion of Arcane Power successively erupted along the spear's path.

The Rankers who suddenly saw the sky return to its original state murmured in admiration.

"Wow!"

"The sky!"

"Truly, King Odin..."

In an instant, Odin restored the sky to its original state.

Praises for him were understandable. Rankers who saw Gungnir for the first time were proud to have entered Asgard.

But...

"Don't rejoice yet."

Plop...

With his arms crushed by Gungnir's pressure, Odin looked at the Guild's Rankers.

"Prepare yourselves."

"Prepare ourselves?"

"What does he mean by preparing ourselves...?"

Gugugugu...

The earth shook, and the vibration transmitted to the castle wall.

The sky screamed. As if it were suffering the pain inflicted by Gungnir as if it were a living being.

In the distance...

On the horizon, irregularly rippling, purple waves began to appear.

"What... is coming?"

"Are they the Outers?"

Glug...

How many were there in total?

From octopus-like forms with dozens of tentacles to gigantic whale-like monsters flying into the sky, and creatures resembling Dragons.

And even forms mixed with countless living beings.

"The wall already collapsed."

Thud!

Gungnir returned to Odin's hand without warning.

He ascended the castle wall, struck the ground grandly, and a white wave rose above Asgard Castle.

Kihikihikihiiin!

Chunk, chunk, chunk...!

A herd of white Pegasus flying with wings spread, with warriors dressed in golden armor mounted on their backs.

Asgard's strongest military force. The combat unit formed by all Rankers, led by Brunhilde.

"Even the Valkyries..."

The fact that so many Valkyries were moving meant that a large-scale war was taking place.

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Odin jumped from the castle wall.

Sacred divinity emanated from his body, flooding the battlefield. With Gungnir in one hand and dozens of floating magic circles in the other.

"Today is the day."

It was faster than he thought, but the situation was already completely painted in his mind.

He recalled the conversation he had with YuWon in his mind.

"Someday, the wall will collapse."

"The wall? Do you mean the boundaries of the world?"

"Yes."

"Despite all attempts, it will finally collapse on its own. It's truly something incomprehensible."

The wall at the end of the world had never collapsed, no matter what they tried.

Not Gungnir from Odin. Not Son OhGong's Ru Yi Bang. Not Zeus's Lightning Bolt.

Nothing could leave a mark on the wall.

It was an incomprehensible barrier. Therefore, he thought it would be better if it didn't collapse.

But now, it was collapsing, and the Apocalypse was coming from the outside.

"When will that be?"

"The date doesn't matter."

"Why?"

"Because it can change at any moment. It could be a hundred years later, a thousand years later, or even tomorrow."

He knew the future, but he couldn't predict it. That's why YuWon left this message to Odin.

"So keep watching the wall."

"Is that my task?"

Yuwon nodded.

That was a sufficient answer.

After that, Odin kept his eyes on the wall. Since he didn't know when it would collapse, he had to prepare for what would happen someday.

And just today...

The day has come.

"I'll stand at the front."

A calm declaration spread across the battlefield.

Although the enemy was unknown, the one standing out in front was Odin.

The Tower's greatest Ranker. A King who had written much of the Tower's history.

Just by looking at his back, morale soared.

"Everyone, take note."

A purple wave was gradually approaching.

Odin's eyes lit up as he waited at the forefront of the battlefield.

"This place is the first line of defense, and it's the last line of defense that must not be penetrated."

It was a long journey.

Leading the way without anyone noticing was Pandora at the forefront.

Just in case, YuWon used the Eyes of Foreknowledge several times to confirm the path. But, as expected, the path she took was not wrong.

'It's longer than I thought.'

Thus, walking through the Black Woods for about 30 minutes, another path was seen in the distance.

It was the edge of the forest, devoid of trees.

Yuwon's steps momentarily halted.

"...Here it is."

A black throne stood in that place.

On it, sat the small Danpung.

Step~

Resuming his momentarily halted steps, Danpung crouched on the wide throne, his face resting on his knees.

He was still repeating the Name 'Azathoth' in a murmur. A Name he hadn't heard before, but this time, he heard it clearly.

"Hey, kid."

YuWon extended his hand towards Danpung.

"Stop doing that and get up."

"Azathoth."

"Yes. I know that Name now. So, stop..."

Danpung lifted his head.

Naturally, he thought Danpung would look at him, but his gaze went in another direction.

Automatically, YuWon's gaze followed Danpung's.

There she was.

'Pandora?'

Danpung's gaze towards her wasn't a mere coincidence.

Gradually, she began to look different.

She had gained Outer Power with the body of a Ranker.

She had read the hidden slabs inside Ubbo-Sathla.

Moreover, she knew the path in this forest.

Furthermore...

"Azathoth."

She knew that name.

Pandora reached out to Danpung. Carefully, as if handling something precious, she wrapped him in her arms.

"Foolishly. In the end, you're going to do this again."

Swoosh-.

Pandora and YuWon's eyes met as she turned her head.

"Azathoth."

She called him by another name that wasn't YuWon.

"Am I Azathoth?"

"Yes, it will be so now."

YuWon's eyes narrowed.

"Who are you?"

Instead of the Eyes of Foreknowledge, in YuWon's eyes appeared the Golden Cinder Eyes.

"You don't seem to be Pandora."

Since he entered here, he always felt that strange sensation. Through Pandora, someone else was reflected in her.

She had something in her body. It wasn't Pandora who showed him the way.

Moreover...

"Is it also your fault that Pandora is obsessed with me?"

Probably from the moment Zeus handed her the box. That entity had always been with Pandora.

Somehow, it seemed like she clung to him in a strange way.

"Don't misunderstand. There is a reason for that, but it's not just for that reason."

"Since when?"

"Since I found the slabs. Since I remembered that Name."

Not only YuWon changed after knowing the Name of Azathoth.

"Isn't it strange? Shouldn't you know a little more now? Azathoth. Do you know what that name means?"

That Name also had a strong influence on Pandora. Probably, she could read the Name of Azathoth because of something related to what was imbued in her body.

"Not everyone can read my Name. Even if they know it, they can't pronounce it lightly."

Pandora asked, looking at YuWon.

"How much do you know about me?"

At that moment, she looked down at Danpung in her lap.

"Are you Azathoth?"

"No. Azathoth is you."

"What are you saying, seriously?"

She claimed to be Azathoth.

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So, who was Pandora in front of him?

Why did she call herself Azathoth? And why was Danpung in her arms?

[Growth Rate: 100%]

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Why wasn't he growing?

"You are Azathoth, but I know more about Azathoth than you do."

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YuWon couldn't continue speaking.

Pandora, whom he had just spoken to, suddenly disappeared. The landscape around him instantly changed.

The nearby forest disappeared, and a purple desert stretched out before him. Perplexed, YuWon stood still for a moment, looking around.

-He has given up everything for you. He has always been waiting for your arrival and has tried not to forget your Name.

The autumn leaf had given up something for him.

What was he talking about?

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It was an obvious question.

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YuWon just wanted someone to answer that it was them.

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A hand pulled YuWon's sleeve.

When he turned his head, he saw a small, thin child.

With a twisted body and an empty face, the child didn't say a word as he pulled on his clothes.

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Apparently, she was instinctively drawn to him because of this.

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Chapter 498

C498

Step, step~

Two soft steps followed the sound of YuWon's footsteps.

He squinted his eyes and turned to see them. It was a small boy walking, holding the tail of a small goat, babbling as he hurried forward.

The words carved on the slab came to his mind.

I didn't give him any food or anything. Still, will he follow me? I thought to see how far he would go. Although the boy following him seemed weak, at the same time, he was fascinating. Where did the boy, who seemed like he could fall at any moment, get that strength? Why was he following so closely?

If he remembered correctly, this boy would probably keep chasing him.

YuWon already knew what would happen at the end of this path.

Finally, Azathoth would give a Name to this boy. It was because he grew fond of him.

Why was she showing these memories to himself?

'I know it's something I'll regret, but...'

Step~

YuWon stopped for a moment and turned.

'Anyway, there's nothing I can do.'

The little goat and the boy coming behind stopped.

The faceless boy tilted his head.

YuWon stared at him as he turned his body. Although he had no eyes, he could feel their gazes meeting.

A fire burned inside him.

'This kid.'

A faceless entity. One that led the collapse of the Tower, his nemesis.

Nyarlathep.

Known more among his peers as "Foolish Chaos."

'I'm the only one who knows this guy's name.'

Among his peers, no one knew the name Nyarlathotep.

Everyone who came to know that Name died. The only one who survived was YuWon.

Someday, this entity would bring destruction to the Tower.

This entity, at first, was just this little boy.

"Your name will be..."

Saying those words wasn't easy.

Anyway, to continue with these memories, he had to give him a Name.

Otherwise, there would be no way to know about Azathoth.

"Nyarlathotep. That will be your Name."

"Nyarlathotep..."

The boy.

Now, with the name Nyarlathotep, murmured his own Name several times.

He looked happy. He realized that he now had a new Name, even if he didn't know what it meant.

After watching that scene for a moment, YuWon continued walking.

Soon, the end of the desert became visible.

At the end of the desert, there was a large forest.

The familiar refreshing green couldn't be seen. The forest was already completely burnt.

A forest fire, perhaps?

Crackling, crackling.

In the extinguished forest, only one spark remained.

"What is this?"

YuWon asked as he looked at the flickering spark on the ground.

"Are you asking to be saved?"

Crackling.

Maybe there was some life in this small spark?

It probably wasn't even a Phoenix, but it responded to YuWon's question by rising even higher.

But that was only for a moment.

The spark became smaller and weaker than at the beginning.

He felt like giving it a Name.

YuWon continued giving Names.

Becoming Azathoth in this way, walking along with those memories.

'...I might find out as I continue.'

Though anxious, there was still confidence.

At the end of the path he was walking, there would be a clue to reverse the impossible struggle.

Thud-.

A giant octopus fell right in front of Odin.

An Outer with dozens of legs and a bursting head. Odin looked at it as if it were repulsive, then looked away.

"It's endless."

Outers kept coming in droves.

To stop them, Odin positioned himself at the forefront of the battlefield, swinging his fists and casting spells for over a day.

Swish-.

Odin's gaze turned back.

No matter how much effort he put in, facing this amount of enemies alone was an impossible task.

Regardless of strength, the numbers were too overwhelming. In the end, the enemies flowing into the castle could only be stopped by the Rankers of Asgard, including the valkyries.

"They're still holding up well."

Although the prolonged battle seemed to be taking its toll, they still stood firm.

And the reason they could do so...

"Asgard-!"

Thud thud-.

In response to Brunhilde's shout, the Valkyries stomped the ground with all their might, screaming.

"Live forever!"

['Battle Cry' activated.]

[Health of Players affiliated with 'Asgard' is restored.]

[Negative debuffs on Players affiliated with 'Asgard' are removed.]

[Players affiliated with 'Asgard'...]

Michael.

The leader of the Valkyries and the warrior Odin cherished the most.

Although Brunhilde's personal combat skills were slightly inferior, in these large-scale battles, she demonstrated superior abilities to any High-Ranker.

The Battle Cry boosted the morale and stats of Asgard's Rankers and Valkyries, restoring their health.

A powerful buff that covered the entire battlefield.

That was the skill Brunhilde possessed.

Thud-!

Thor, too, was doing his part.

As a descendant of Odin, he was a Ranker with a two-digit rank.

With every swing of his hammer, numerous Outers burst into pieces.

"How dare you invade sacred Asgard, filthy creatures!"

Boom-!

Thor's hammer never rested for a moment.

Sweat formed as his bulging muscles gradually lost their heat. Slowly, he, too, grew more tired.

Thud-.

And then...

A peculiar presence arrived on the battlefield.

-...Name...

Beep-.

A somewhat unnatural movement.

A massive mound shifted in the distance. Every time its stone body moved, the ground resonated with a screech.

-...Name...

Empty pupils raised their heads and looked at the sky. When their gaze turned to the castle of Asgard, the Valkyries fighting with swords and spears stopped.

Thud-.

"What is that...?"

"A mountain...?"

On the surface, it was just a huge mass of rocks.

Removing a mountain wasn't such a difficult task for high-level Rankers like Odin or Thor.

But the problem was the reaction of the Rankers who saw it with their own eyes.

"Uh... uh..."

"Ughhh..."

Rankers lost consciousness and collapsed to the ground.

Brunhilde desperately shouted 'Battle Cry.'

No...

"Asgar..."

She tried to shout.

['Battle Cry' is nullified by an unknown force.]

Zzing-.

All sounds around her disappeared. In an instant, everything she saw in front of her lost its color and turned white.

Dizziness threw Brunhilde's body off balance.

"Uwaaaah!"

After vomiting everything in her stomach, she barely managed to overcome the dizziness.

Brunhilde, catching her breath, opened her mouth again.

Somehow, she had to activate the Battle Cry again.

But...

"Don't do anything futile, Brunhilde."

Odin's voice.

Whoosh-.

Brunhilde, turning her head, sought Odin. Although it seemed like she heard him nearby, he was still far away.

Thud-.

Odin walked towards a gigantic mountain in motion.

His voice echoed in her ears like a close whisper.

"What will you do if you collapse?"

"But..."

"There are no 'buts,' wait."

If the impact from a moment ago transmitted again, Brunhilde would definitely faint.

If that happened,

This battlefield would flip in an instant.

That had to be avoided.

In this battlefield, Brunhilde's influence was second only to Odin.

"..."

Following Odin's command, Brunhilde pressed her lips together and lowered her head.

It was an order from the King. Especially in this crucial place.

Although she was the Leader of the Valkyries, she couldn't challenge the order recklessly.

'I can't allow Brunhilde to collapse.'

Thud-.

Odin looked at the moving mountain.

It was different from the others. Its presence was overwhelming, on the level of Shub-Niggurath or Foolish Chaos, right after them.

An overwhelming oppression.

Odin, already exhausted from the arduous fight, wondered if he could face it.

Of course...

Growl-.

Complaining wouldn't improve anything.

[The power of 'Yggdrasil' resides in your body.]

A green glow radiated from Odin's body.

Until now, he had been holding back his strength, but he no longer had the luxury to do so.

"It would be good if you came quickly."

Just like that.

With Gungnir in one hand and casting dozens of spells at once with the other, Odin was about to move.

"Ah...."

Odin stopped his movement for a moment and raised his head.

"Did you hear?"

Twinkle~

A small star shone in the sky.

Looking at the star falling rapidly from above, Odin smiled slightly.

"You've come quickly after I called you."

"Yeeeeeeeeeah-!"

Although the distance was considerable, the voice resonated throughout the battlefield. Loud enough to make eardrums resonate.

What seemed small as a dot, in an instant, enlarged rapidly.

Bigger than a mountain.

Made of a material harder than steel, the largest item in this Tower.

Baaang-!

That enormous mace from above crushed the gigantic mountain approaching Asgard.

A cloud of dust rose densely.

When the dust cleared, a pillar touching the sky was revealed.

And at the top of that great pillar...

"I've arrivvvvvved-!"

A monkey shouted with enthusiasm. With an excited voice that sounded like it was enjoying itself immensely.

Chapter 499

C499

[All Points have been depleted.]

It felt as if all strength had left his body, leaving him collapsed and weak.

Foolish Chaos lay on the ground, experiencing a relaxed and drowsy sensation.

"It would have been better if I had hurried a bit more."

Gigantification. Ragnarok. The Great Heaven Demon War and Nibelung...

Most plans crumbled like bubbles. He regretted not breaking down the wall a bit earlier, knowing this could happen.

Chiss...

Aaah!

In the sense of a presence near his head, Foolish Chaos turned to look back.

The Outers were desperately trying to get here, some managing to cross the borders while others were cut off or rejected.

Although the wall had collapsed, the border barrier didn't disappear completely.

"Tsk."

Despite knowing he was out of Points, Foolish Chaos checked the Points again unnecessarily.

As expected, the Points were 0.

All Points gained by sending many Rankers and Players to death in the Tower had been depleted and disappeared.

"It seems it's still not enough."

How many of them will be able to cross the barrier?

Judging by the situation, it will probably be half.

"Well, it doesn't matter anymore."

After a brief rest, he stood up again.

Some Outers crossed the barrier, while others couldn't.

Watching the Outers for a moment, Foolish Chaos muttered as he thought.

"In the end, it may not be so bad."

Buum...

At that moment, a vibrant sound was heard in the distance.

Ru Yi Bang soared into the sky.

Also, the sound of Odin's Gungnir flying was also present.

Foolish Chaos lifted his head.

"My father, as foolish and stupid as ever. Please wait a little longer there."

The prophesied day had finally come.

And that day took a different form thanks to someone. At first, it felt uncomfortable, but now it was different.

Azathoth.

He had returned.

Remembering that fact, Foolish Chaos muttered in the voice of the young Nyarlathotep, the Name Azathoth gave him.

"Soon, I will become you."

Through the shadows covering his face, sinister red eyes gleamed.

Daoloth.

The being known as "The Render of the Veils," was a massive block of metal.

The moment Daoloth's body was caught by the heavy Ru Yi Bang...

A strong spear made a hole in the chest of that huge mass as it received the powerful impact.

Wuuung...

Son OhGong's body, which was excited and shouting, tilted to the side.

If he hadn't quickly reduced the Ru Yi Bang, he might have fallen completely.

In a short time, the staff had shrunk to the point of fitting in Son OhGong's hand. The Flying Nimbus lifted Son OhGong's falling body and sent him flying towards Odin.

"Hey you! Did you also want to kill me with the Gungnir?"

"The Gungnir wasn't fully activated. It shouldn't be dangerous for you, right? Anyway, you're immortal."

The reason Odin could confidently throw the Gungnir was because of Son OhGong's characteristics.

Immortality.

It was a quite famous anecdote that Rankers from the Celestial Realm, including the Jade Emperor, couldn't kill him even though they caught and used all possible means.

"Anyway, it hurts if you hit me!"

"Now is not the time to discuss that, is it? Besides, you're too late."

Before this fight began, Odin had sent messages to the Rankers he could communicate with.

The sky of Asgard on the 63rd floor turned completely purple, as expected.

The prophesied moment had arrived.

As anticipated, the first to arrive was Son OhGong.

He was alone, had no trouble moving, and had the best means of transportation, the Flying Nimbus.

Ignoring Son OhGong's complaints expressing dissatisfaction, Odin looked away.

"Stop talking and focus."

Thump...

Although his body should have been clearly pierced...

"That guy still hasn't fallen."

Daoloth began to move again.

Odin prepared Gungnir again. Now that Son OhGong had joined the fight, he would handle close combat, while Odin would throw his spear from afar to avoid overlap in positions.

But...

"What do you see in that?"

Unexpectedly, Son OhGong, who had descended from the Flying Nimbus, threw a strange question.

"What are you saying?"

"Just that. How do you see it?"

Unlike other people, Son OhGong's question didn't require much reflection.

"It's a giant."

"Giant?"

"A giant made of rocks. It changed like that after the rocky mountain rose."

thud-.

The giant took another step.

In Odin's eyes, Daoloth unquestionably looked like a giant.

But Son OhGong wouldn't have asked this obvious question for nothing.

"Do you see something different in your eyes?"

"You're quite perceptive."

"If I wasn't, you wouldn't have asked me that question."

"Really?"

Son OhGong, who had been shaking his head, nodded.

Definitely, he looked different through Son OhGong's eyes. Sometimes he resembled the creature known as Mammoth, known for being ancient, and at other times, he looked like a monster with many more heads than Asura.

A common point.

Despite having various appearances, all elements forming his appearance were rocks.

Fireee~

But in an instant, Son OhGong's eyes turned red.

[Golden Cinder Eyes see the true nature of the Render of the Veils]

In his pupils, the true nature of Daoloth was reflected.

He smiled.

"I'm going to fight him."

"Alone?"

"Do you think I can't?"

Son OhGong had just arrived, maybe that's why he looked energetic.

In his bright eyes, a burning determination could be seen.

In any case, what does he see in those eyes?

Odin nodded.

"That's right."

"Perfect!"

Thud!

Son OhGong flew on the Flying Nimbus.

Ru Yi Bang flew from his hand and struck the rock giant on the head.

Baang-!

Immediately, fists and Ru Yi Bang clashed several times, generating shockwaves that spread throughout the surrounding area.

Although it was hard to believe, Odin briefly scoffed at that noisy action.

"Tsk... I had something to ask."

Where is Kim YuWon?

In situations like this, he seemed like he would be the first to arrive, why wasn't he even responding?

Before asking that question, Son OhGong moved immediately.

Anyway.

The fact that this monkey, known as a fighting maniac, endured so much in this vast battlefield was commendable.

'It seems like he has stopped.'

Bang-!

Watching the fight, it seemed like he was fighting noisily.

Fortunately, perhaps because he started paying attention to Son OhGong...

Daoloth's influence on the battlefield was gradually diminishing. Brunhilde was also slowly regaining her energy and focus.

Returning the battlefield to its original state was enough for Son OhGong to fulfill his role.

However...

'It would be good if that were all...'

Among the approaching Outers.

When he thought about whether there were more Outers with the same kind of power as Daoloth, he shook his head.

'It shouldn't be like that.'

So, from now on, it was necessary to prepare for a counterattack.

Oong-.

Odin's palm touched the ground.

Buum-.

The earth rose upwards.

The earth that rose to a size similar to a small hill wrinkled and compressed.

A simple spell creating a spear using nearby objects.

But from the moment it unfolded from Odin's hand, it was no longer just a simple spell.

Gooooo-.

A shadow covered Asgard's royal castle.

"A spear... made of earth?"

"Eh, really? Is that so?"

To boost fallen morale, he needed to show appropriate majesty and skill.

For that, Odin displayed maximum power with the simplest and easiest spell.

'We have seen this battle once already.'

Gwudeuk, gwaddeuk-.

A strong pressure was exerted on the spear.

'So, more fiercely.'

Preparing to throw it towards the approaching Outers, Odin illuminated his eyes.

'We have to fight.'

Thump-!

The spear, following Odin's fingertips, split the battlefield.

He gave Names to everything in the world.

Azathoth did not give any more Names. Everything in the world already had a Name, and a multitude of beings had emerged.

Azathoth.

No, YuWon, who stood up from the seat after taking over Azathoth's body, turned his head back.

-Where are you going?

"..."

YuWon didn't immediately respond and looked at the beautiful woman with pale skin.

It was a familiar face.

That's why it was even more surprising.

'At first, I was so surprised.'

YuWon was about to draw his sword reflexively at Shub-Niggurath's question, who raised her head.

At first, if he really had a sword at his waist, he might have wielded it against her.

But now he responded calmly.

"Someone seems to be calling me."

Now, this tone had become so natural that he barely remembered his original tone.

An old cabin.

YuWon walked out of there.

Creak-.

The door opened with a rusty and difficult sound. He had thought before that giving Names to things like this was nonsense, maybe that was a disease in itself.

But now, his thoughts had changed a lot.

There were reasons for that.

"As I thought..."

At this moment, right before his eyes.

"Have they all gathered?"

A show of vast purple waves spanning the world.

It was like the expansion of the apocalypse that YuWon had experienced. Many Outers he hadn't even seen in that long fight were waiting for Azathoth.

If he had seen this scene before, he would surely have despaired.

Countless purple waves. Innumerable stars spread across the sky.

He might have sunk and been overwhelmed by them, without even thinking about fighting.

But now, his thoughts were different.

Truly amazing.

'I suppose I forgot?'

It was so pathetic that he almost laughed.

'Their Names came from me.'

For quite a while,

Yuwon walked the path of Azathoth.

He gave Names to each of them and gave them power.

All the Names came from Azathoth. The entirety of the countless Names that unfolded before him, that was himself.

No, wait...

'... Me?'

Yuwon suddenly opened his eyes.

He realized too late that the stream of consciousness he had recalled was somewhat wrong.

He shouldn't get confused.

He was not Azathoth, but Kim YuWon. He had to remember that.

He shook his head to regain his senses.

First of all, there was something to do now.

"So, from now on-."

It was time to reclaim the Names he had given to those guys.

Thinking so, he reached his hand upwards.

Swish-.

The extended hand dropped down on its own.

'Why?'

He didn't understand.

If he wanted to, he could have reclaimed all those Names from those guys.

Although he had given them many Names, the most important Names were still possessed by Azathoth.

The True Name, Azathoth, was like a heart encompassing all those Names.

But why?

Kwak~

The stars in the sky fell. Many Outers, coveting the other Names that Azathoth possessed, dared to show their fangs.

In Azathoth's memory, bitten by countless fangs, YuWon asked.

'Why do you do that, Azathoth?'

A question for which he didn't expect an answer.

But as if to answer that question...

"I thought they would stop."

Azathoth opened his mouth.

Chapter 500

C500

Surrounded by countless Outers, the fear of being torn apart while still standing was an unforgettable memory.

Fortunately, there was no pain.

After all, this was not an "experience" but a "memory."

There shouldn't be pain in memories, and although he could hear the bites, there was no cold and icy sensation in the teeth.

"I thought they would stop."

It was from then on that Azathoth's voice was heard.

Hwaaa!

The landscape around him changed in an instant. The purple waves falling from the sky all distorted, revealing the original Black Woods.

"....."

Yuwon looked at his hands.

Slender, delicate hands, but covered in calluses.

It was his original hand, different from the white hand he had just seen.

And right in front of YuWon's eyes...

"You have a pretty foolish face."

Someone was standing there.

YuWon's eyes trembled.

Right now, he was inside "Amorphous Chaos."

Those not allowed or those unqualified couldn't set foot here.

That's why he was surprised when Pandora suddenly appeared.

That means...

"Are you Azathoth?"

This man was the same one who had been YuWon until a moment ago.

Hilk-.

YuWon observed Azathoth.

If Danpung were to become an adult, would it be like this?

The neatly ordered white hair and the face as pale as the color of his hair, the black clothes covering his body created a mysterious atmosphere with the combination of black and white.

"What kind of person are you to ask something you already know?"

"There was something I wanted to ask you when we met."

"What is it?"

"What is Danpung?"

YuWon had always been curious.

What was Danpung? Why did it come out of that small Egg?

And why, all of a sudden, did it disappear from his side?

"That kid, is it you? Or is it a Name that detached from you? Or is it just...."

YuWon stopped while asking these questions.

These were various conjectures he had been thinking by himself.

But anyway, after meeting Azathoth, the conjectures he made alone no longer made sense.

Anyway, he would have all the answers.

"That guy was Azathoth."

Azathoth opened his mouth.

And it was exactly as YuWon had expected.

However...

"It was almost like that."

Those words from Azathoth were instantly reversed.

"Almost, you say?"

"I don't die. It just seems like I die, and I feel sorry like that."

A word that felt familiar in some way.

"Even the mere Phoenix is reborn from the extinguished ashes. Shouldn't I be able to do that?"

YuWon had also heard these words.

‘Was this also back then?’

Azathoth was the one who cut Shub-Niggurath's neck and took back the Name. He conveyed to YuWon the story he had with Shub-Niggurath. And YuWon realized what Azathoth meant by those words.

"Was that Egg a means for your resurrection?"

Azathoth smiled weakly.

The meaning of that smile, was it positive or negative?

Azathoth smiled like that and raised his head. The black sky here was different from the purple sky outside that YuWon knew.

"You asked me, why I did it, right?"

He definitely did.

For a brief moment, YuWon became Azathoth and walked through his memory. His life was never understood, and his end was even more incomprehensible.

Why the hell did he do it?

Certainly, Azathoth had enough Names to overwhelm all those Outers.

"As I said before, I thought they would stop. I thought they would be satisfied after taking away all the Names I had left."

Did he sacrifice himself for that?

"Why did you have to do that? By doing that, you could only lose your power, right?"

"You still don't know me. Or do you know but ask anyway?"

It was a word that got straight to the point.

Actually, he knew why Azathoth made that decision.

However, he just wanted to hear it from his mouth once again.

"Why did you give Names to them?"

"Because they are your children."

"You know well."

He had no choice but to know.

For a moment, he became Azathoth. He had his memories, shared his thoughts.

Born amid terrible chaos, his only weakness... was his love for the things he named.

"Azathoth doesn't die."

He pronounced his name as if it were the Name of someone else.

"He only rebirths."

Azathoth's gaze turned to YuWon's feet.

YuWon's eyes followed Azathoth's eyes to see what he was seeing. And there was a familiar boy reaching out to YuWon.

"Abba-."

"Danpung?"

YuWon hugged Danpung approaching him. Somehow, he felt much heavier than before. He also seemed a bit taller.

"Amorphous Chaos. It was the first name that came to my mind for him."

"Are you talking about Danpung?"

"I really don't like that stupid Name, (I don't like that horrible name)."

"It's much easier and cuter than those weird and difficult names you come up with."

Without a doubt, the name that easily came up just by considering his appearance was "Danpung."

Amorphous Chaos, Black Goat of the Woods with a Thousand Young, Nyarlathotep, etc, etc, etc.

All kinds of complex, difficult, and vague names.

The Names given by YuWon and Azathoth were chosen in completely different ways.

"Isn't that right?"

"Abba."

In response to YuWon's question, Danpung raised his charming little hand and nodded repeatedly.

Danpung was already completely in love with his own Name. From his birth, he never heard another Name besides his own.

YuWon looked at Azathoth as if saying, "See?". Azathoth avoided his gaze and turned his head away.

He had a face that seemed somewhat disgusted.

"It doesn't matter. Anyway, from now on, you will be the one carrying the burden, not me."

"Me?"

"As I said before, Azathoth will not die. He will only be reborn."

Although they were the same words, the sense of acceptance was completely different.

YuWon looked at Danpung in his arms.

Although he seemed to know nothing, he was clearly destined to be the next Azathoth.

"Azathoth is a Name that does not disappear even if he disappears. He is reborn with a new form and regains his Name with the previous memories in the new body. That was how it was for me too, you know?"

Memory meant Pandora. What she had shown YuWon was undoubtedly Azathoth's past.

So, was the new body this?

'Is this kid?'

Danpung waved his arms and asked to be put down as he found it uncomfortable being cuddled.

YuWon put him down and heard the following words from Azathoth.

"That kid was the one I planned to be the next Azathoth, until you showed up."

"Why me?"

"This kid cared about you."

"For me?"

It was not surprising at all.

Danpung worrying about him was something YuWon knew from the beginning.

The kid had warned him of the 'Danger' when he asked for help in the battle against Shubh-Niggurath.

Those words undoubtedly stemmed from concern for YuWon.

"He wanted you to become Azathoth."

"Do you also think so?"

"Truthfully, I never thought about it until that moment, but I also believe that you are the most suitable."

"Why?"

"Because, unlike me, you hate them."

Them.

He referred to the Outers.

YuWon nodded at Azathoth's gaze, asking if that was true.

It was true.

He hated them.

"I didn't know that the body I planned would end up in the hands of someone like you. A being who knows the Outers. An enemy to them. Interestingly, the conditions fit perfectly like that."

A situation that not even Azathoth had foreseen.

That was YuWon's existence, and Azathoth's Name was in his hands.

It may have been perplexing, but it wasn't something bad.

If this was destiny.

According to that destiny, Azathoth was willing to obediently follow.

"You're a coward, huh?"

YuWon now understood Azathoth.

He knew how grand he was as a being and how weak he was inside.

Although he knew he had been insulted, Azathoth smiled.

He did not deny YuWon's words.

"There's something the kid told me in the end. 'My foolish, foolish father.'"

The faceless kid who followed Azathoth.

Nyarlathep. A traitor who stole the Name "Foolish Chaos" from Azathoth.

He called Azathoth foolish. Probably, what he meant was that Azathoth had foolishly given up all his Names.

"It's true. I was foolish. I couldn't strengthen my heart and vainly hoped they would stop."

"Because you had power from the beginning. But most are different."

YuWon climbed the Tower, passed the Trials, and became a Ranker.

In that process, he saw many Players. Those who cried with happiness after completing the Tutorial and reaching the first floor. Those who came with determination and resolution.

Surely, they were much stronger than at the beginning. But still, they climbed the Tower.

'I was also like that at the beginning.'

He remembered when he first entered the Tower.

Now, YuWon climbed the Tower at an astonishing speed.

He quickly made a name for himself by changing the rankings on each Floor. By the time he became a Ranker, YuWon was already on par with the High-Rankers.

And the reason he could do it was one...

The desire to climb higher.

"Once you have power, you want more. When you have more power, you want even more. And eventually, you don't know where to stop."

Words arising from experience.

Azathoth nodded.

He was a perfect existence from the beginning.

That was Azathoth's biggest flaw, and that's why he didn't realize that those to whom he gave Names were different from him.

"Even if you don't know it, that kid said something wise. 'My foolish and stupid father.' It suits you well."

"Aren't you different?"

Azathoth's expectations for YuWon.

It was because of YuWon's purpose, which was opposite to his.

"You have a goal."

YuWon closed his eyes.

The day he finished his fight against Foolish Chaos and went back in time.

Chronos handed him the Clock Movement and said.

"Start again."

Ssshhhh.

Azathoth's figure dispersed into black powder. Slowly disappearing from the feet to the waist, his existence began to vanish.

"Take back the Names of the things to which I gave Names and kill them again. That is why I chose you."

Azathoth reached his hand forward.

Finally, the day he had been waiting for had come.

Azathoth, who had existed for a long time, was no more. Now it was the turn of a new existence with his memories, power, and name.

"From now on, you are 'Azathoth'."

Pssss.

Azathoth's figure disappeared completely.

In the chaos where all sounds faded away...

Sshhh.

YuWon, who slowly opened his eyes, looked at Danpung rolling on the ground.

[A new Name is being engraved.]

[You have acquired the 'True Name (眞名) - Azathoth'.]

With eyes different from before, the eyes when Azathoth took over him.