

## With The Gods 591

Chapter 591

Side Story 67

At the top of the blood-stained castle.

Odotok, odok-.

Under the blue sky where clouds descended, a hellish landscape unfolded.

Ananta, with the teeth of a yellow dragon chewing on the Envoys, savored the Administrator's flesh.

Ananta, blood at the corner of his mouth as he bit into the Administrator's flesh, raised his head.

"I was feeling a bit disappointed already..."

Suuk-.

Wiping the blood from his mouth with one hand, Ananta smiled widely.

"Welcome, all of you."

Four Administrators appeared above Ananta's head. They all concealed their bodies with the same robe, as if hiding something within.

Gugugugu-.

The Administrator's castle where Ananta had been sitting trembled. Furthermore, the Arcane Power emanating from the four Administrators and the wrath they unleashed made the Arcane Power of Floor 93 reveal its deadly strength to Ananta.

The pressure weighing on him. As the Arcane Power he commanded began to show a rejection reaction, Ananta's pupils, who were peacefully enjoying his meal, narrowed.

"That ability you have is truly repulsive."

Craack, craack-.

The electricity emanating from Ananta spread around. When it came to mastering Arcane Power, there was no one who could surpass an Administrator.

Except one, Ananta.

The Monster King, the most powerful creature in the Tower. The one who was already the strongest had increased in size by devouring several Administrators.

Then...

BAAAAAANG-!

Explosions echoed in the void. Although it was merely a move to regain control of Arcane Power, the explosive power was enough to threaten the four managers.

An overwhelming power difference beyond resisting domination.

That was the power gap between the four Administrators and Ananta.

"Insolent, Ananta."

"It was us who freed you from the seal."

"Do you intend to make us all your enemies?"

The Administrators shouted threateningly.

But Ananta had already made a decision.

"Weren't we mere pawns from the beginning?"

From the moment he first awakened from the seal.

No...

Long before that...

-- "We were just experience, weren't we?"

Ananta realized.

Monsters.

The meaning of their existence, living and breathing, with a self within the Tower.

-- "Hunt us, level up... Is that our meaning?"

After learning that fact, Ananta began leading an army of millions of monsters to attack the Players.

As a result...

Ananta and the monsters were defeated, and he was sealed for thousands of years.

"Do you think I wouldn't know anything for being sealed, Administrator Lords?"

Craack-le-.

Ananta's figure disappeared in the form of light. The Administrators were puzzled.

At that moment...

Kwaak-.

Ananta, who appeared behind an Administrator, pierced his torso with his hand.

Craaack-!

Electricity sprouted from the pierced arm. In an instant, the Administrator's body, completely charred, fell to the ground.

Black blood spurted from Ananta's hand. Licking the blood from his hand, he looked at the remaining Administrators.

"I have seen and heard everything."

Ananta's expression didn't change a bit, but his eyes burned with a different intensity. In his pupils, beautiful as jewels, a fiery rage toward the Administrators blazed.

"The screams of my children dying. The process of how they become experience and are devoured by those damn Players."

"The Players are the ones who killed them!"

"Yes, the Players hunt them, but weren't you the ones who created this System?"

It was an irrefutable argument. Players hunt monsters and level up. They level up, take Trials, strengthen themselves, and ascend. And then level up again.

The Administrators themselves were the ones who initially created this System.

"That's why I thought, if I break out of this damn seal, I'll kill you all."

Ananta smiled as he said this. With more anger than ever. As a king, he did not lose his smile.

"I will ask you, Administrator Lords."

Flutter~

Wings spread behind Ananta's back.

"Do you know how it feels to be hunted?"

They didn't know. They had never experienced it.

"Of course, you don't know. You are in a position of absolute power, where you don't need to be hunted or hunt."

The Administrators hesitated under the golden and shining gaze. And in that moment, when they were filled with fear...

Crunch-

Ananta began to move to devour the remaining Administrators.

"Thinking that awakening this guy would be a mistake."

"While he was sealed, did his anger turn towards us?"

"We should have come earlier."

Originally, they should have attacked when one of them was injured. But none of the Administrators could do it.

A massive Dragon stood before them.

Although its current size was small, they could feel it.

"-Don't worry too much."

The Monster King Ananta.

How much had the enormous Dragon with a thousand heads increased in size during its confinement?

"I will teach you."

-----

Floor 93 Administration Office.

Numerous Rankers surrounded the place.

Rankers with clothes boasting the emblems of Olympus and Asgard, raising their banners.

Among them were also High-Rankers representing each Guild.

"To think that so many people would gather already."

"The last time was 10 years ago."

"It feels like it was just yesterday."

That was the conversation among the Olympus Rankers, led by Artemis, Dionysus, and Hermes.

It wasn't common for two Grand Guilds to join forces. Especially when it came to large Guilds like Olympus and Asgard.

And to think that so many people had mobilized to hunt just one monster.

"Has all available personnel already gathered? Quite a number have assembled."

"Fortunately, most of the Rankers are above. They probably didn't send the summon order to those below floor 50, right?"

Dionysus and Hermes didn't feel a great sense of danger, perhaps due to the presence of Zeus and Hercules.

"This time, please, let no one die..."

Artemis clasped her hands in prayer, remembering Apollo, who had fallen in battle ten years ago.

In front of them, Hades, representing Olympus, shook hands with Thor.

"It's been a long time."

"Your Ranking has risen; you seem happier."

"Now I can even see a bit of Odin in you."

The two exchanged warm greetings for a moment before looking around. Thor, in particular, seemed to have a pained expression as he remembered the events of ten years ago.

"That day comes to mind."

"Both Olympus and Asgard. It's an impressive sight."

Only in this place had tens of thousands of Rankers gathered.

The forces of two colossal Guilds upholding the Tower. Although it wasn't comparable to ten years ago, it was evident that it was an excessive number to gather in one place.

And furthermore...

Craack-le~

Craack-le~

Two people stood in the center of the battlefield, raising their Lightning Bolts in silence.

Zeus and Hercules.

The two biggest Rankers in this Tower had gathered in one place.

"It seems the Monster King is truly formidable. Judging by the number of people these two have gathered."

"Our role is simply to buy time so that it doesn't escape."

"I've heard things, but is that really all?"

"They said we're allowed to provide long-range support. But not to approach under any circumstances."

Ananta had the power to devour living beings and take their strength. To not become the next meal for Ananta and hinder the battle, it was imperative not to approach. However, the reason why Zeus sought Asgard's cooperation and gathered so many people was one.

"Consider that if we let it escape here, the world will end."

It was because they had to catch Ananta here at all costs. Because if they let him escape again, this time he might grow uncontrollably.

Krung, kurur.

It was then that the sky began to rumble. The dark clouds rising gradually had already surpassed the top of the Administration Office and were rising much higher.

Craaack~

The Lightning Bolts emanating from Zeus's body ascended into the sky. And when the tips of Zeus's fingers began to rise...

"Here it begins."

Hades, who watched the scene from afar, had a tense expression.

'What does he mean by it begins?'

Thor also pulled out Mjölnir and assumed a battle stance.

However, the enemy had not yet appeared.

However, Zeus did not stop the hand raised towards the sky.

"Understand. That guy's personality has always been like this."

Zeus rarely took the initiative in battle. However, Hades, his brother who ascended the Tower with him, knew better than anyone how Zeus was when he fought.

"Young people these days would call him a 'veteran,' I suppose."

At that moment...

Flash!

The sight of everyone watching the office from a distance turned white for an instant.

And then...

Kaboom!

Zeus's Lightning Bolt descended upon the Administration Office.

Fzzt, fzzzt!

Kwang, kwaaarr!

A Lightning Bolt that not only enveloped the Administration Office but also pierced through the clouds and rose into the sky. The shockwaves from the Lightning even reached the forces of Olympus and Asgard, who had deliberately withdrawn.

"Stay away!"

"Watch out for the explosion!"

"Guild members with barrier abilities, hurry up!"

Artemis, Dionysus, and Hermes, leading the Olympus front, shouted.

The Valkyries, along with Brunhilde, also extended their shields forward to protect the Guild from the residual explosion of Zeus's Lightning Bolt.

Only after securing their safety from the repercussions of the Lightning...

Kururur-

Only then did the eyes of the Olympus and Asgard Rankers catch the Lightning Bolt that Zeus had unleashed.

The Rankers were dumbfounded.

And the same was happening with Thor, the leader of Asgard.

"That's... the Divine Lightning..."

Thor.

He too was a Player who wielded electricity. However, the Lightning Bolt of Zeus that he saw before his eyes was difficult to consider as the same Arcane Power affinity.

The way he could unleash such a powerful Lightning Bolt in such a wide range was...

Hades, though with a difference in degree, was also amazed.

"In the end... even as a King, he still doesn't care about his surroundings."

Kwauuuuu-

The Lightning did not dissipate for a while and continued to rise higher and higher.

A spectacle that blinded the eyes. And then, when everyone was absorbed in its power...

"...Here it comes."

"Eh?"

Thor was surprised and looked at Hades at his words.

"Hasn't it ended?"

Thor's gaze, thus asking, turned back to the huge pillar where the Lightning Bolt had fallen.

A monster that could survive inside that. He simply couldn't believe that an enemy could still be alive after receiving such a direct attack.

"That guy is not an idiot, and if this were it, he wouldn't have made such a fuss."

Hades spoke with certainty.

And as if responding to his words.

Chiik-.

A leg came out of the Lightning.

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Something flew away.

As calm as if nothing had happened, even as the Administration Office disintegrated.

The owner of slightly singed hair.

Ananta smiled as he saw the army filling his field of vision.

"And how did you all get here? You all look delicious."

Ananta's gaze shifted to Zeus and Hercules.

Seeing Hercules pounding his fists and increasing his aura, Ananta realized that these two were the core of this army.

"Sorry, but I'm full right now. I don't think I can eat more, even if you look appetizing."

Roar~

Kyaaaaaaaaaaa!

A dragon with yellow scales emerged from Ananta's arm.

A dragon that filled the battlefield with intimidation and a deafening roar.

Slowly walking towards the numerous Rankers, Ananta continued speaking in a friendly tone.

"Why don't you all go home? Then you'll be able to live a few more years without dying."

Just a few more years...

Those words contained a declaration of war, a warning that he would soon attack the Players.

However.

"Nothing will change."

Metal scraping sound~

As if he had expected it from the beginning, Zeus created a spear and challenged Ananta.

"You monsters are just experience points for Players, both yesterday and today."

"Experience points..."

And that taunt had a considerable effect.

Kyaaaaaaaaaaa!

The dragon roared. Ananta's figure, which had been looking at Zeus, disappeared at that moment.

Crash~

Kwaaaang!

A roar echoed from the midpoint between Zeus and Ananta.

It was the sound of Hercules and Ananta colliding.

"You won't be able to escape this time."

Grab~

Hercules grabbed the teeth of the dragon emerging from Ananta's arm.

Ananta, who had been running towards Zeus, shook his head at those words.

"I didn't even think about it."

Crash~

The two disappeared again.

Bang, bang, bang!

Hercules and Ananta collided over and over. Summoning Lightning and increasing his speed, Hercules infused the power of Gigantification throughout his body.

[The power of the Giant resides in your whole body]

[The power of Lightning resides in your whole body]

Hercules stomped the ground, releasing Lightning.

He was a Ranker known as the symbol of strength. Therefore, after gaining the power of Lightning, Hercules had focused on using it to increase his destructive power.

However...

'I need to be faster.'

Recent events had made him feel the need to be stronger.

If he hadn't given up to Ananta last time. If he had been able to catch Ananta, he would have made sure not to let him escape.

And so, for the first time in ten years.

Hercules went to find Zeus on his own.

-- "Teach me how to control Lightning."

Zeus.

He was the being that best mastered this power.

Hercules, who only knew how to release his strength brutishly, asked Zeus to teach him how to control Lightning.

-- "There are many ways to use strength. You don't have to throw a spear like me."

-- "Then what should I do?"



-- "It's not much different from what you're doing now. Above all, your strength is already perfect. It has always been that way for a long time."

There was no one in the Tower who could surpass Hercules's power by controlling Gigantification. Not even the Bull Demon King, known as the King of Great Power, nor The Great Sage, Heaven's Equal, Son OhGong.

A formidable body and strength. That was the path Hercules should follow.

-- "Increase your speed. More than now."

Craaack-le!

With an incongruent gesture, Zeus threw a punch. At a speed invisible to Hercules's eyes.

-- "Just change your perspective on using strength, and you'll see a different world."

That was it.

What Zeus taught Hercules.

But just by changing his "perspective," many things changed. The strength he had been using incorrectly until now now found the right path and finally spread its wings.

Craaack.

Faster.

More efficiently.

'More, more, more.'

Craaaaaaaack-le-.

Hercules's fist, moving like Lightning, headed towards Ananta.

Ananta disappeared with a thunderous sound.

Hercules accelerated to chase Ananta.

'I can be faster.'

Hercules had entered a different time than before. In the midst of the slowdown of everything, only Hercules and Ananta were moving.

And in that time...

Another Lightning spear came flying.

Kwarang!

The misplaced spear grazed Ananta's side. The spear turned into a dot in an instant.

Behind Ananta, who had stopped to avoid the spear, Hercules's fist plunged.

Baaang!

Ananta was sent flying with a thunder. A large crater formed where he crashed into the ground. Even the electric shield he deployed to protect his body was no match for Hercules's strength.

Uuk.

Pain in the back from the fist.

Ananta, who was trapped in the crater, recalled the connection between Hercules and Zeus.

'They are synchronizing more and more.'

Zeus and Hercules.

The two, who used the same type of power, had such a terrible affinity that it was hard to believe they were family.

An affinity that didn't even add up to 2 when 1 and 1 were put together.

But now they were much more synchronized than before.

Swoosh.

Ananta, lying on the ground, stroked his stomach. He could feel the thick Arcane Power bubbling inside his stomach. A pleasant feeling of satiety rose at the corners of his lips.

Siiik.

"Has the digestion finished already?"

The four Administrators he had hastily devoured.

Their blood, flesh, and Arcane Power.

As they were large, the time it took to digest them was not short.

While lying there, gazing at the sky for a moment.

Kururur~

Dark clouds swirled and roared threateningly.

Ananta, who had realized the impending situation, rose from the ground.

"Lightning, huh..."

Zeus and Hercules.

The leaders of the Players who occupied the first and second place in the Tower's Ranking.

Ananta found it amusing that they, of all others, wielded a power of the same type as his own.

"Today, I'll overeat."

Kururung!

At the moment a small bolt of Lightning fell from the sky under the dark clouds. Ananta's shadow, illuminated by the light, transformed into the shape of a Dragon.

-----

The Olympus Rankers distanced themselves from Zeus.

The same had happened when he destroyed the Administration Office with a single blow, but now they felt that if they got too close, they would be dragged along with him.

Craaack, craaack-le.

The Lightning emanating from Zeus rose towards the clouds.

The dark clouds grew larger and larger.

Zeus, with bright golden eyes, prepared for an attack.

"I don't know what you're planning, but..."

Ananta, struck by Hercules, was sent flying.

Zeus didn't bother to pursue him.

For the best spear thrower, distance and time were advantages.

"This time will be different."

Kurur.

To unleash an attack with all his might, the Arcane Power accumulated in the dark clouds overflowed, and Lightning randomly struck the land.

Zeus's state became vulnerable during this process, but it didn't matter. Because Hercules was in front of him.

Craaack-le!

The Lightning emanating from the dark clouds did not discharge all at once.

The golden streams concentrated and transformed into the shape of a giant spear.

Controlling the force with the tips of his fingers, Zeus created a spear of utmost sharpness and power.

'It can't be...'

Hades shouted as he observed the Arcane Power emanating from the dark clouds and the form Lightning took.

"Zeus! Aren't you considering collateral damage?"

Although the launch time was a problem, the spear Zeus was creating was too powerful.

It was so strong that it could even injure his allies.

However.

"That's your concern."

If he worried about such things, he wouldn't be Zeus.

"I have to throw it right now."

"That damned brother..."

Hwaaah!

Hades extended his arms and created a barrier of darkness to protect Olympus and Asgard.

If he didn't, the explosion from the spear could kill hundreds or thousands of Rankers.

Kwarung!

The Lightning that took the form of a giant spear roared.

A Lightning trident-shaped spear.

A set of giant Lightning that rose towards the sky, piercing the dark clouds.

[Divine Punishment - Astrape]

It was the most powerful spear Zeus could create, Astrape.

"Eat this."

Gooooo~

Astrape, revealed under the dark clouds, descended towards Ananta.

And at that moment...

Sssss!

Kyaaaah!

Ananta, who had been struck by Hercules and sent flying, revealed the form of a Dragon with a thousand heads.

A thousand dragons wrapped around and squeezed the giant spear, Astrape.

Astrape, descending, came to a sudden halt.

"Astrape...?"

Hades's eyes widened in surprise at the scene.

The Astrape Zeus had launched should now have power comparable to the Gungnir Odin wielded in his prime.

However, it was incredible to see Ananta stopping it with his naked body.

Even...

Cracks began to appear on the hardened surface of Astrape.

Baang!

Astrape exploded under the pressure of Ananta's body.

The explosion spread to the surroundings in an instant.

Thuuuuud!

Craaaaaack-le-!

The Lightning from Astrape, losing its spear form, turned into a storm in an instant.

However, fortunately, Hades was not someone who couldn't handle the consequences of a simple explosion.

[The 'King of the Dead' borrows the power of the dead]

[The 'Sea of the Dead' responds]

[You borrow the power of 'Tartarus']

Tsssss!

Darkness countered the power of Lightning.

The two powers of opposite properties collided and nullified each other.

Hades, who had sweated bullets over the Astrape Zeus had launched, glanced at Zeus's back, who had created the situation.

'There's no way he didn't foresee this.'

The power of Astrape was something Zeus, who had used it, knew better than anyone.

However, there was only one reason he had used such a powerful technique.

'Does it mean he doesn't have that much room to maneuver?'

Hades's gaze turned to Ananta, who had revealed the form of a giant Dragon. Fortunately, most of the impact from Astrape's explosion had been transmitted to Ananta, who had taken it head-on.

Instead of his body being pierced by the spear, the power of Astrape had enveloped Ananta in an explosion.

However...

Kyaaaah!

Kya!

Ananta roared menacingly, releasing an amount of Arcane Power even he couldn't control.

Seeing that scene, Hades recalled the first time he felt something like this.

"It feels like I've gone back ten years."

Ten years ago.

Beings outside the Tower that possessed power defying logic. Hades had felt exactly the same when he fought against them.

Although there were some burn marks, and some of his heads had disappeared, it couldn't be said to be significant damage compared to taking Astrape's impact directly.

And so, with Astrape's attack failing...

Thock!

Hercules, who had sent Ananta flying, approached him now enlarged and increased his battle aura.

"Well done."

Bang!

Two fists collided.

CRAAAACK!

Along with that, the Lightning emanating from the two fists clung to Hercules's body.

"It looks like it's going to taste good."

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The roar of the Dragon resonated with a force that made hearts and minds tremble. It was a common trait among all creatures with Dragon's blood, including the Dragon Race.

In particular, Dragons like Vritra and Fafnir could incapacitate High-Ranker Players with just their roar.

This power was called "Fear." It wasn't an ability based on Arcane Power but something much more primal. It was a power that stimulated the inherent fear in any living being.

And if the one wielding this power was Ananta, the creature at the top of all Dragons and Monsters...

"Uuuu..."

"What are we supposed to do against something like this?"

"Even Astrape was blocked...?"

Astrape, Zeus's representative ability, had rarely been seen in action.

The fact that it was blocked meant that even Zeus, the Tower's greatest Ranker, couldn't do anything against Ananta.

The morale, which had been high at the beginning, plummeted in an instant.

Kyaaaaah!

Ananta unleashed its Fear. At that moment, the Rankers who couldn't overcome their fear began to lose consciousness.

"Good."

Bang!

Hercules clashed his two fists and advanced.

"It seems like it's going to taste good."

His steps were firm.

Hercules stamped the ground with force.

Bang!

The sound of a Lightning Bolt resonated in the air.

A yellow Lightning Bolt shot towards Ananta like a flash, and his fist struck the Dragon's head.

Bang, bang, bang!

The fists fell one after another.

Ananta's electric fangs, with more than a thousand heads, shot towards Hercules, who received them with his whole body and continued to advance.

"Grrraaaah!"

Hercules shouted as he pierced Ananta's electric armor.

It seems like it's going to taste good.

Proving the truth of his words, he was truly dominating his opponent.

"What, what's happening?"

"Is it not working?"

"As expected, it's Hercules..."

The morale that had sunk began to rise slowly. In the face of Hercules's imposing figure facing such a monster head-on, the fear and terror within them gradually dissipated.

That's right...

Hercules, the Great Hero of the Gigantomachy, was on their side.

Just as their morale began to recover...

"What are you doing?!"

Baang!

Thor, who had been silently observing the scene, slammed the ground with Mjölnir and roared.

"Did you come here just to watch? From now on, we will protect Hercules!"

With those words, Thor drew Gungnir with his other hand.

The most powerful spear, inherited from Odin. Although he couldn't handle Gungnir as freely as Odin, it wasn't impossible for him to activate it, even if it took a little longer.

"Yes!"

"Let's protect Hercules!"

"Unleash the attack!"

"With a size like that, it'll be easy to aim!"

The Valkyries raised their bows and spears. The Olympian Rankers also prepared their long-range attack abilities.

Artemis tightened her bow. Dionysus drank wine to boost his stats. Athena infused a buff on the battlefield...

With Thor's signal, the siege on Ananta began.

"They entered at just the right moment."

Hades watched Thor, sweating cold as he prepared to activate Gungnir. He had given the order just as Hercules had boosted morale.

More time was needed to determine his qualities as a King, but at least he had the abilities to lead soldiers.

Ssssss-.

While the attacks from the two Guilds rained down on Ananta, Hades's figure sank into the ground.

Passing through the shadows, Hades reappeared behind Zeus.

"What do you think?"

Bang-!

Hercules continued to press Ananta, unleashing the power of the Lightning Bolt without rest.

He dodged heads and threw punches and club strikes.

At first glance, it seemed like he was dominating. However, Zeus shook his head.

"We can't handle him alone."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes."

Kwak-.

Zeus looked at Hercules lifting Ananta by its legs.

"That guy is overestimating himself right now."

Kwauuung-!

Gugugugu-.

The earth shook as a result of Ananta's fall.

But that was it.

Hercules couldn't deal with all of Ananta's heads on his own.

Kyaaaaah-!

One of the heads opened its mouth towards Hercules.

A breath roaring like thunder.

Zeus, who watched the battle between Hercules and Ananta, murmured with regret.

"Maybe... we should have killed him back then..."

When he was first released from the seal, Ananta wasn't such a formidable opponent.

Even without gathering so many troops, Zeus and Hercules could have taken him down together.

Perhaps that's why Ananta had chosen to flee at all costs.

"Is it an unexpected situation?"

Hades asked just in case, although he didn't believe it.

That was Zeus. A meticulous and cautious perfectionist like no other. It wasn't like him to throw himself into catching Ananta without thinking twice.

As expected...

"I had foreseen it. Though I don't like it after confirming."



Fortunately, the situation seemed to be within expectations. Zeus raised his head and looked towards the dark clouds.

"...Fortunately, he comes quickly in these cases."

No sooner had he finished speaking...

-Grow-.

Booooooom-.

Penetrating the dark clouds, the Ru Yi Bang descended like rain.

-Ruyi.

Penetrating Light Flash~!

-----

Kyaaaaah-!!

Ananta's Dragons howled.

Ananta's body, crushed by a hundred Ru Yi Bangs.

Hercules, struggling against Ananta, lifted his head and looked at the sky from where the Ru Yi Bangs came.

'This is...'

The corners of his lips curved slowly. Hercules roared with joy, thinking that a formidable ally had arrived.

"Why did you take so long, Monkey?"

"Who's a Monkey?!"

A roar that burst eardrums.

Bang!

At the same time, a Ru Yi Bang landed next to Hercules. It seemed that the comment about the Monkey had annoyed him a bit.

"Do you want a fight?"

"I was just joking; I'm glad to see you."

Hercules staggered as he spoke. The tension had dissipated, thinking that a friend had come to help.

Son OhGong's Cinder Eyes, activated, captured Hercules's state.

Sweat was pouring out of his body continuously.

The power of the Giant and the Lightning residing in his body was dispersing.

Son OhGong clicked his tongue briefly and asked.

"Why exert yourself so much alone, being so stubborn?"

"Stubborn...?"

Hercules was in shock. Hearing Son OhGong call him stubborn was the last thing he expected. He never thought this day would come.

"I had no other choice. If it weren't for the fear of his aura, the morale of our allies would have collapsed."

"What does it matter if those guys get scared by a simple aura?"

"Now is the time when we need more firepower."

"What lack of firepower can there be when I'm here?"

Son OhGong shrugged with an air of arrogance.

It was true that the firepower of the Ru Yi Bangs he could use, thanks to his clones, was considerable. However, seeing Son OhGong shrug after arriving so late, it was impossible for kind words to come out.

"You arrive late and talk..."

"Man, I found him before you did."

"Then why are you coming now?"

"You guys were just closer. Lucky for you."

"If you know, shut up."

"You should shut up yourself, speaking when you're about to die."

Whoosh-.

Son OhGong turned around and looked at Ananta fighting against the clones.

"Rest here. Don't be surprised to see this big brother fight."

Crack-.

With those words, Son OhGong leaped directly towards Ananta.

Son OhGong moved using the Flying Nimbus. Thanks to that, Hercules, who now had a little time to rest, sat down and caught his breath.

"Whew-."

Despite their fights, Son OhGong was one of the few fighters Hercules could trust. Although he was defeated by Ananta the last time, he now also had the support of Zeus.

So, he should be able to hold out.

All he had to do now was regain his strength as soon as possible and return to the front.

And then...

Woow-.

Above the dark clouds that Zeus had spread. He felt a flow of familiar Arcane Power.

'Administrators?'

The control of the Arcane Power that the Administrators were said to handle. That power was enveloping Ananta.

However...

'No, that person is...'

The one truly wielding that power was not an Administrator. A beautiful woman who even from afar in the clouds emanated beauty. He had a vague memory of seeing her fight ten years ago.

'Tsukuyomi?'

-----

Cracklebang-!

The Ru Yi Bangs thrown by Son OhGong's clones crushed Ananta's body.

Kyaaaaah-!

Ananta's Dragons unleashed a Lightning Bolt.

The clones exploded one after another from the electricity running through the Ru Yi Bangs. However, they were nothing but clones. Ananta's eyes sought Son OhGong's main body.

"Are you looking for me?"

Son OhGong sneered and descended onto Ananta's head. Clenching his fists with long nails, Son OhGong struck Ananta's head.

Bang, with a sound like hitting a rock, Son OhGong moved to the next head.

『Is it you again?』

Son OhGong. A High-Ranker nicknamed The Great Sage, Heaven's Equal. For Ananta, with his countless heads, he was an even more troublesome opponent than Hercules.

The Clone Technique. That top-tier skill had the power to take on an entire Guild by itself.

The only weakness of that skill is finding and subduing the main body. And foolishly, Son OhGong, even with such a skill, chose a frontal battle.

"Alright, here I go again."

Swish-.

Son OhGong aimed the Ru Yi Bang at Ananta's torso. His eyes were already shining with a golden color.

"Grow, Ruyi."

Clang-!

Son OhGong swung the Ru Yi Bang and quickly soared through the air, rising above Ananta's body.

"Did you escape well back then?"

Smack-.

Son OhGong tore more hair and tossed it into the air.

Clones that appeared using the hair as a medium. For Ananta, who had finally eliminated the clones, it felt like cockroaches were proliferating before his eyes.

"Keep up the nonsense-."

In the instant Ananta released a Lightning Bolt in irritation.

Crackle, crackle-.

For some reason, the Lightning Bolt did not detonate and was suppressed.

'This is...'

He had experienced a similar sensation many times lately.

The Administrators.

The strange ability they wielded overlapped with the phenomenon happening now.

Could it be that the Administrators had allied with the Players?

Thinking so, Ananta soon remembered a Player who had shown a similar ability to the current one.

"Right. There was one more."

Finding the culprit's location wasn't difficult for Ananta.

Ananta had countless eyes, and those eyes had no blind spots.

The heads that faced the sky, there, Tsukuyomi, who had been hiding among the dark clouds of the sky, looked down at Ananta.

"Izanagi No Okami."

---

Chapter 594

Side Story 70

[Izanagi Suppresses the Arcane Power of the Monster King Ananta]

[Izanagi Suppresses the Actions of Monster King Ananta]

[Monster King Ananta Resists Against Izanagi]

Groaning, groaning~

Her eyes ached. Her vision blurred. The eye pain gradually spread, turning into a headache.

But.

'Was there such a monster?'

She couldn't do anything now.

Monster King Ananta. To trap him, she needed the power of Izanagi.

'I still can't use it properly.'

How would it feel to effortlessly wield Izanagi?

Arcane Power, the force that forms the basis of this world. If she could freely master that power, control it infinitely.

She even thought she could become invincible.

As expected...

Zzzt-

Ananta's Lightning Bolt that spread rapidly gradually calmed down.

And Tsukuyomi's eyes that confirmed his appearance sparkled.

'It's possible.'

There was an overwhelming power difference between Tsukuyomi and Ananta.

Ananta was an opponent even Zeus, the number 1 in the ranking, and Hercules, the number 2, would have difficulty fighting together.

The power of Izanagi residing in Tsukuyomi's eyes was what could block the technique of such an opponent.

But at that moment...

Swoosh-.

Ananta's eyes turned towards Tsukuyomi.

'Izanagi No Okami.'

"...?"

Tsukuyomi's expression stiffened at the voice that came out of Ananta's mouth.

He knew the name Izanagi.

It was strange.

'Were there others who knew this name besides us?'

Kusanagi Sword.

Yata Mirror.

Magatama Jewel.

Only the Three Precious Children, including Tsukuyomi, knew about Izanagi, created by combining these elements.

Izanagi, known as the creator of Arcane Power. Legend has it that whoever gathers the Three Sacred Relics can obtain its power.

While Tsukuyomi was surprised.

Crack, crunch-.

One of Ananta's dragon heads prepared its breath.

Boom-!

The breath enveloped Tsukuyomi's body. Tsukuyomi, she, reached her hand forward and pushed the breath.

Zzzt, zzzt-!

Ananta's breath and Izanagi clashed. The breath that disappeared from Tsukuyomi's fingertips transmitted directly to her eyes as a burden.

Zzzt-.

The eye pain worsened. In an instant, her sight turned white, followed by dizziness. Tsukuyomi, who barely regained her senses, looked at Ananta and asked.

"How do you know this?"

"I can't help it. Since I've met him."

"Have you met Izanagi?"

Tsukuyomi's eyes widened.

How old was the monster in front of him?

Izanagi.

He was an ancient Ranker even older than Uranus and Tathagata. Moreover, even the Three Precious Children, who had been searching for records of Izanagi for all those years, had difficulty finding clear clues about him.

It was inevitable to be surprised that the monster in front of him had known such Izanagi.

Furthermore...

"Be careful. Izanagi, he also died depending on his eyes like you."

Ananta's words shook Tsukuyomi's mind, who was already feeling the burden of Izanagi.

'Depending on these eyes?'

Ukssin-.

A sudden pain was felt.

A bewildered voice came out of Tsukuyomi's mouth.

"What is this?"

-----

Son OhGong aimed his Ru Yi Bang at Ananta.

Ananta's Lightning Bolt had suddenly gone out.

At that moment, Son OhGong remembered the words Tsukuyomi had spoken.

-- "I will seal the power of that thing."

-- "How are you going to do it?"

-- "There are ways."

Tsukuyomi, she, had said those significant words while pointing at her eyes. At that time, Son OhGong had not believed her words.

No matter how powerful the item she had in her hands was, the Ananta he had seen was not an enemy Tsukuyomi could defeat. But she had really done it.

"It seems like that guy's Arcane Power has been sealed?"

He referred to the fact that Ananta's Arcane Power had been sealed.

Of course...

"It's a pity, that."

But Son OhGong was not the kind of person who would be glad about that.

Thud!

The elongated Ru Yi Bang hit Ananta's torso. Wielding the massive Ru Yi Bang, Son OhGong unleashed the Golden Cinder Eyes.

『Do you think I'll lose to a Monkey like you just because I don't have the Lightning Bolts?』

Growl~

Numerous Dragons bared their teeth.

The Dragons opened their jaws towards Son OhGong's clones and roared.

『Try it.』

Crack!

A clone's body was bitten by a Dragon's head. The clone crushed by the teeth disintegrated, and another clone collided with the head.

However, the clones and the main body were different.

Son OhGong, with the Ru Yi Bang in hand, managed to crush some heads and reach the torso.

"Ugh-!"

He grabbed the Ru Yi Bang upside down and lifted it over Ananta's body. Arcane Power flowed from Son OhGong's body to the Ru Yi Bang through his palms.

"Grow!-"

Ruyi.

Boom!

The Ru Yi Bang soared into the sky, piercing through the clouds.

Ananta's body sank deeply. The battlefield, which had been immersed in fear, flipped with the appearance of Son OhGong.

What are they doing?!

Boom!

Thor jumped with his hammer held high.

"Don't miss the opportunity!"

Under his command... The Valkyries and the Asgardian Rankers, along with the Olympian Rankers, began to use their abilities. Thousands of skills pierced Ananta's body, and swords and spears wounded his skin.

Crunch!

Ananta's teeth bit into Son OhGong's shoulder.

Tear~!

His clothes tore, and his shoulder was bitten, but...

"Haha!"

Son OhGong just laughed strangely and looked at Hercules.

"Hey, were you fighting against a guy like this?"

His bitten shoulder was completely fine. Ananta's teeth couldn't penetrate Son OhGong's skin. This was possible thanks to Son OhGong's exceptional physical ability. However, if only strength or physical toughness were considered, Hercules was one step ahead of Son OhGong.

"That Monkey...."

Hercules's eyebrows furrowed at Son OhGong's mockery. He was about to say that he himself had been defeated by this guy before when...

"Something's wrong."

For some reason, he knew that the guy's Arcane Power had been sealed. However, even if that were the case, it was strange for things to become so easy.

On the contrary, the easier the situation became, the more his anxiety grew.

Crack!

Perhaps because of that?

Hercules clenched his fists, and his eyes gleamed.

"His recovery is starting to accelerate."

Hoo-.

He breathed deeply, increasing the tension. Letting Son OhGong handle everything was a matter of pride.

"Let's go."

Hercules.

To join Son OhGong, he moved.

-----



Her vision was getting cloudier. Tsukuyomi, standing on the clouds, felt like she would faint at any moment.

--"Izanagi, he also died depending on his eyes like you."

Ananta's words echoed in her head.

Izanagi.

The great being who created the Three Sacred Relics. The God of the Three Precious Children, who is said to have died for not being able to control his own power.

'Will I also die like that soon?'

A strange thought took hold of her. And when she came to her senses, she was no longer in the sky.

In deep darkness. Tsukuyomi woke up.

"Where is this...?"

Her view was completely black. A world without light. In that place, only one thing was visible to Tsukuyomi's eyes.

"You've arrived."

A middle-aged man with his head and face bandaged. Although she couldn't see his face clearly due to the white bandages, Tsukuyomi recognized him instantly.

"Izanagi...?"

"Yes, it's me."

He approached her, stepping on the black ground.

"I am Izanagi."

His voice was calm. The eyes shining under the bandages were the same color as Tsukuyomi's.

"You are my daughter. Where are the other two?"

The other two...

Upon hearing those words, Tsukuyomi felt tears welling up in her eyes.

Amaterasu and Susanoo. The two who had been with her all her life were no longer by her side.

"The two... are dead."

"The sadness you carry inside is because of that."

Izanagi put his hand on her shoulder.

"Don't grieve so much. It's not your fault."

"Yes..."

"I will help you see them again."

Tsukuyomi raised her head in surprise.

To those two?

To Amaterasu and Susanoo?

"Really...?"

"Yes. Just trust me."

Crunch!

At that moment...

The head of a yellow Dragon appeared behind Tsukuyomi. With white teeth that didn't match the darkness.

About to bite Tsukuyomi's body...

However...

She hadn't noticed its presence until that moment. Izanagi turned his gaze towards the Dragon behind Tsukuyomi for a moment and then looked back at her.

"I will definitely help you reunite with them."

"Thank you... Thank you..."

Tsukuyomi bowed her head. The tears she had been holding back finally sprang from her heart and ran down her cheeks.

Not even when Susanoo died. Not even when Amaterasu died had she shed tears like this.

But the idea of seeing them again overwhelmed her.

And at that moment...

"It's funny how all the ancient Rankers think the same way."

A voice that interrupted her mixed emotions of joy and sadness.

Crack!

"Uranus, Tathagata, and you too are the same,"

Tsukuyomi, surprised, turned her head.

Kim YuHun, standing with bloodied hands. By his side was Ananta's head, the Dragon, crushed by YuWon's hand.

"Kim YuHun? What is this...?"

She still knew him as "Kim YuHun."

The Ranker who had defeated the Administrators in the Great Celestial War.

"Don't be fooled. That guy doesn't have the ability to reunite you with the dead."

Pum!

Yuwon kicked Ananta's crushed head with his foot while saying,

"That guy is playing dirty."

Their gazes met.

YuWon's eyes and Izanagi's eyes met. Izanagi's eyes, protruding from the bandages, shone with displeasure at the interruption.

"Who are you?"

"You wouldn't understand even if I explained, so don't bother."

"How insolent..."

Clang!

In that instant, a red line appeared on Izanagi's neck with a soft sound.

Everything happened in the blink of an eye.

Even though his neck had been cut, Izanagi turned his head with tenacity to see the face of the one who had beheaded him from behind.

"You... are..."

Hiss~!

Izanagi's head and body separated and fell to the ground.

"My... son..."

Even as he fell to the ground, he continued speaking.

'He's quite resilient.'

YuWon clicked his tongue at the sight of Izanagi.

Meanwhile...

"Son... What son? I haven't seen that guy in my life."

Tsukuyomi's expression wavered as she saw the face appearing behind Izanagi's severed neck.

"You, you..."

An expressionless man with a sword in hand. The man waved at Tsukuyomi.

"Hello."

The God of Wind and Storm, a Ranker from thousands of years ago.

Tsukuyomi, a member of the trio along with Amaterasu.

Susanoo.

He awkwardly greeted Tsukuyomi.

---

Chapter 595

Side Story 71

The black space disappeared completely.

Tsukuyomi was sitting in her place, crying. Thanks to that, Izanagi's power disappeared, but she was able to survive nonetheless.

'Was he trying to use Izanagi from the beginning... or maybe the other way around?'

Ananta and Izanagi.

It was unknown which of the two was trying to use whom. But one thing was for sure, both with only half of their remaining power were trying to join forces to bring down Tsukuyomi.

Fortunately, time didn't exactly help. At this moment, Tsukuyomi would probably be lying as if dead if it weren't for timely assistance.

"Susanoo."

-What's wrong, Master?

"Stop behaving unpleasantly. If you have something to say, say it later."

-Is that what you want them to hear?

Susanoo's words made Tsukuyomi suddenly wake up. She realized that not only Susanoo was present in this place.

Tsukuyomi, crying. Her gaze turned towards YuWon.

'Did he say Master?'

If there was anything like pride, Susanoo would probably be in the first place. That Susanoo, beyond recognizing someone else, even called him 'Master.'

Just his appearance alongside Susanoo was already surprising, and their relationship was even more unbelievable.

"Tsukuyomi."

"Uh, yes."

She responded with a confused voice to YuWon's sudden call.

"I'll give you time to gather later, so recover for now. How long will it take to use Izanagi again?"

"Well, I'm not sure."

"You can tell just by feeling it. It doesn't have to be long. It can be brief."

"If it's brief..."

Tsukuyomi, thinking for a moment, extended a hand.

"About 5 minutes. That should be enough."

"5 minutes."

YuWon, imagining the situation for a moment, nodded.

Down there, Ananta was fighting against Son OhGong and Hercules.

When Ananta, whose seal was broken, started running wild, the situation became tense again.

"So, we'll do what we can for 5 minutes. And Pandora..."

YuWon turned to Pandora, who was right behind him.

"Watch over Tsukuyomi from here."

"Me?"

"Yes. That guy might play tricks from afar."

Tsukuyomi, using Izanagi, was defenseless against external attacks.

Although his throat was cut, Izanagi didn't really disappear.

Since he was already dead from the beginning, it was impossible for him to die again.

To prevent that, someone needed to be close.

"Can you do it?"

"Yes."

When Pandora nodded, YuWon finally felt relieved.

If it's a direct fight, it might be fine, but if it's just a trick from afar, Pandora could stop it.

"YuWon."

Seeing sweat on YuWon's forehead, Pandora asked.

"Are you okay?"

Given the urgency of the situation, YuWon injected his own Arcane Power directly into the Sun Chariot to move it. He dispersed his Arcane Power as much as he could to increase speed and continued to ascend.

In addition, YuWon also spent a good amount of his own Arcane Power.

"Don't worry."

YuWon stroked Pandora's head to calm her anxiety.

"This time will be different from last time."

Golden eyes that shone intensely.

Throughout the way here, YuWon had been activating the "Eyes of Foreknowledge."

The Monster King Ananta.

Although saying "thanks" would be exaggerated, thanks to letting him escape, YuWon was able to regain composure.

Paff!

YuWon descended downward, beneath the clouds.

Susanoo followed closely.

Kyaaaaah!

The roar of the giant Dragons resonated in their ears, and YuWon's eyes gleamed.

"I won't let you escape this time."

-----

Kwaaaaah!

Ananta's heads unleashed an electric shock once again.

The Rankers of Olympus and Asgard were dragged by the shock, and Hades released his power to block the breath.

"This lizard!"

Zheek!

Kwaadak!

Son OhGong's fist crushed the Dragon's jaw. However, Ananta, now able to use his Arcane Power, was not as vulnerable as before.

"Do you remember?"

Krrrrrrr.

Two heads opened wide on both sides of Son OhGong.

Kiiiiiiiing.

"It seems like you got your ass kicked the same way back then, didn't you?"

Kwaaaaung!

The lightning echoed left and right, enveloping Son OhGong. A yellow lightning focused in a sphere, trapping Son OhGong.

Crackle!

"Are you so foolish to think you can attack me without thinking?"

Ananta's voice filled with mockery.

Zheek!

"Then, I'll devour you..."

"Kukuh... hehehe..."

At that moment...

Laughter erupted from Son OhGong's lips.

For a brief moment, Ananta was stunned by the inappropriate laughter for the situation.

"You're late but just in time."

Kwaat!

A black line traced on the Dragon's body. The power of corrosion spread from the tip of the sword that cut through the tough scales.

"Did you come flying?"

"No, I flew."

YuWon and Son OhGong's eyes met for a brief moment.

Paff!

The bonds holding him to Ananta came undone.

As he fell to the ground, Son OhGong, riding the Flying Nimbus, soared very high.

Tsusutsuutsu.

A black light emanated from the cold ring in YuWon's hand.

[The "King of the Dead" invokes the power of the dead.]

[The power of "Tartarus" is infused into the "Otherworld Sword."]

Kwaaat!

The sharp curved blade cut through the dragon's scales as if they were paper.

YuWon ran across Ananta's body, slashing it frantically with his sword.

Tsusu, tsusu.

The cut scales didn't regenerate easily.

Wounds imbued with the power of Tartarus.

Ananta looked at YuWon, who was tearing his body apart, with bright eyes.

"So, you've returned."

YuWon was the same one who had stopped Ananta once before when the latter had fled.

Like YuWon, burning with anger for letting Ananta escape due to his own complacency, Ananta also held a grudge.

"You're strange. I don't know where you came from. Or maybe you emerged out of nowhere. Neither I, nor Gandharva, nor anyone remembers you..."

A Ranker nobody remembers. A dangerous being who had cut half of himself.

"You emit a more dangerous smell than anyone else here."

That's why Ananta filled with greed.

"I can't resist it. You're so appetizing."

Kyaaaaah!

Dozens of heads turned towards YuWon in unison.

Intense lightning gathered inside their mouths.

Hercules, surprised by the sudden increase in Arcane Power, turned his head.

"YuWon!"

Although he was an idiot, Son OhGong was immortal. He was a guy one could have faith in, believing he would never die, even in the worst case.

However, YuWon was different.

"That guy is formidable too, but his opponent is Ananta. He even blocked my father's Astrape..."

Kwadduk-.

Hercules, breaking the neck of the Dragon he held between his two arms, headed towards YuWon.

"I'm the one who should stop him."

But at that moment...

Craaack!

A bolt of lightning erupted from YuWon's fingers, soaring into the sky.

[The power of "Lightning" is infused into the "Uranus Heart."]

Arcane Power released through the Uranus Heart.

A size not falling behind Ananta's lightning.

'Although my lightning skills don't come close to Zeus's.'

Craaack-.

A giant lightning spear rose into the sky.

'The power of Olympus is in my hands.'

YuWon suddenly felt curious. Ananta, the Monster King who controlled electricity. He wondered who, between him and Uranus, had greater control over the electric attribute.

"Let's do a test."

YuWon poured Arcane Power into the Uranus Heart.

Immediately...

The lightning YuWon held in his hand spread, countering Ananta's lightning.

"In my lightning...?"

Ananta's body swayed violently, perhaps puzzled by the power of the same kind emanating from YuWon's hands.

And in that next moment...

Hwarurur-.

A giant with red flames appeared next to him.

["The Heavenly Demon Spirit" controls the "Giant's Flame."]

Gooooo-.

The giant, absorbing Arcane Power and increasing its size, approached the size of Ananta. And with the appearance of the Heavenly Demon Spirit.

The battlefield fell into chaos again.

"A, a giant!"

"What is that?"

"Another monster?"



Giant.

It was a race with great significance for Asgard. Giants, who inhabited the land of fire Muspelheim, had been enemies of Asgard for a long time.

And among them...

There was only one with such size and burning fire.

"Surt...?"

Thor's eyes, in particular, widened.

Surt.

He was the enemy of his father, Odin. He was the biggest and hottest of the giants. And the giant that had just appeared. It resembled that Surt a lot.

Hwarurur-.

A flaming sword.

The moment that sword swung towards Ananta...

Kyaaaaah-!

Kwadduk-.

The Dragon's teeth bit into the Heavenly Demon Spirit's sword.

Srrurk, srrurk-.

The Dragon's heads coiled around the body of the Heavenly Demon Spirit.

YuWon's Heavenly Demon Spirit and Ananta faced each other.

Craaaaaack-le-.

Two powers of destructive nature, fire and lightning, blended. Sweat accumulated on YuWon's forehead as he moved the Heavenly Demon Spirit and directed the sword's tip.

And another person watching YuWon from afar.

"That guy..."

It was the first time in 10 years that Son OhGong saw YuWon use so much power.

"Why is he so angry?"

Son OhGong thought that YuWon wouldn't pay much attention to this since it wasn't related to the Outers.

He knew he would help, but he didn't expect him to be so active.

Although the Outers are the ones who destroyed YuWon's world.

Ananta had nothing to do with that.

Hwarururuk!

The flames rose to the sky as the Heavenly Demon Spirit cut off one of Ananta's heads.

Meanwhile, the bite wounds from Ananta's heads multiplied on the Heavenly Demon Spirit's body.

"It doesn't matter if you cut some of my heads."

Kyaaaaah!

Ananta's roar echoed on the battlefield. His eyes scanned the Rankers scattered across the battlefield, like Hades, Thor, and Zeus.

"There's a lot to eat here. I've never seen a feast like this."

Although he weakened a bit each time a head was cut. If he ate everyone here, maybe he could grow enough to swallow the Tower.

"Feast?"

The corner of YuWon's mouth lifted.

"That's our job, isn't it?"

Jebock-.

Inside the flame-wrapped Heavenly Demon Spirit. YuWon took a step forward, lowering the sword.

Ananta felt irritated. Both by the earlier words and his slow walk.

"Us? What are you talking about?"

"Aren't we? You monsters..."

Grrrrrrr-.

Now, with over a hundred heads crushed or cut, the remaining heads looked at YuWon in unison.

"From the beginning, you've always been our experience."

With those words...

Zheek-.

The black wounds left on Ananta's body opened.

[Tartarus is devouring the Monster King Ananta.]

The open wounds enveloped Ananta's body.

Ananta, surprised, felt strangely bewildered.

"What... what is this...!"

"It's because of your size, I suppose."

Kiiing-.

Golden eyes.

Activating the Eyes of Foreknowledge, YuWon murmured.

"It takes a bit to activate."

---

Chapter 596

Side Story 72

['Tartarus' Swallows 'Monster King Ananta']

['Monster King Ananta' Resists the Call of 'Tartarus']

Kyaaaah!

The horrifying roar of a Dragon shook the earth. Even covering their ears to avoid hearing it, the roar penetrated their hands, ears, and made their heads spin.

"Ugh..."

"Kyaaaah!"

Finally, some of the Rankers who couldn't bear it collapsed to the ground.

YuWon, who was standing nearby, felt a momentary chill.

Ananta.

The Arcane Power density he felt from him was not much different from that of an Outer God.

'Shub-Niggurath. I feel like I'm face to face with her.'

A being with power that ranks among the best even among the Outers.

The owner of the Black Woods came to mind, whom even Foolish Chaos, Nyarlathotep, feared.

"Who the hell are you?!"

Ananta's shout tore through the sky.

Chiiiiik-.

Tartarus, which had absorbed YuWon's power, grew in size.

Like a black hole. Drawing Ananta in more and more.

"It can't be that you fell from the sky all of a sudden! Are you also from outside this world?!"

Ananta had lost composure. That meant the aura emanating from Tartarus was ominous.

Once caught, it probably wouldn't be easy to escape from Tartarus. And furthermore, not only was YuWon there, but now there were several other enemies around.

Kkung-.

Securing his two legs firmly on the ground, Hercules began to push Ananta towards Tartarus.

"Let me help."

"Eh, tsk. Am I the sidekick again?"

Following Hercules, who offered to help enthusiastically, Son OhGong also aimed his Ru Yi Bang while muttering.

"Grow, Ruyi."

Baaaaaang!

The Ru Yi Bangs created from his hair pushed Ananta's body.

Heracles and Son OhGong.

The two strongest, started pushing Ananta at the same time.

In addition to that...

[Izanagi's Power Seals Monster King Ananta's Arcane Power]

[Arcane Power is temporarily limited.]

The fiercely burning lightning stopped. Ananta's heads turned towards the sky, looking at Tsukuyomi above the clouds.

"Izanagi...!"

Tsukuyomi with Izanagi's eyes. Her role was to seal Ananta's power.

Ananta, whose lightning ability was sealed. Meanwhile, YuWon opened Tartarus's gates wide.

"It seems I can help with this too."

[King of the Dead Expands Tartarus's Gate]

[King of the Dead Calls Monster King Ananta]

Sssus-.

As the Tartarus gate widened, the force attracting Ananta became stronger.

YuWon looked back.

"It's the first time we meet, but I don't feel strange. Is it because of that power?"

Hades.

Having received the title of King of the Dead, a High-Ranker from Olympus who rose to rank 10.

He was the one who aided YuWon.

"We'll talk introductions later."

"If we're talking introductions, we should do it. You're the one helping us."

"No."

YuWon's eyes gleamed.

"It's my job."

Zonggut-.

Far away, Son OhGong's ears, who had been eavesdropping on the conversation between YuWon and Hades, moved.

A tone that sounded a bit determined. And thinking about it, it was YuWon who finally let Ananta go.

"That guy is really motivated."

It seems he's more energetic than usual. And so, while Son OhGong's attention was elsewhere for a moment.

Dddddd-.

Ziik-.

The Ru Yi Bangs the clones held in their hands began to be gradually pushed back.

The ground beneath their feet started to slide and sink.

"...?"

Son OhGong's eyes widened. No matter how strong he is, Ananta had his Arcane Power sealed. And moreover, they were joining forces with Hercules and YuWon.

Even if the opponent were Shub-Niggurath. This was the minimum they should be able to do.

"Right."

Siiik-.

The corners of Son OhGong's lips lifted.

"That's how it should be, after all."

"That's your thinking, Monkey...!"

Kuuuuk-.

Hercules, with thick veins protruding from his arms, clenched his teeth.

"Show a little strength!"

Craaaaaack-le-!

Hercules emitted a lightning bolt from his hands and added strength.

Sweat ran down his forehead like rain.

Far from pushing him back, Ananta was fiercely resisting, shaking his hundreds of heads.

"It feels like pushing a mountain deeply rooted."

He was sure he wouldn't lose to anyone in terms of strength. However, pushing Ananta, who was determined to resist, felt even overwhelming for Hercules.

'What the hell has he been eating all this time?'

Ananta had been acting strangely since he woke up from the seal. He didn't know how much he had eaten and grown during that time.

'This is too heavy.'

The resistance was too strong. Having lost composure, Ananta was now resisting with all his might. That's why Hercules felt it instinctively. If they didn't catch Ananta here and now. There might not be another opportunity.

Jeobak-.

At that moment...

YuWon, who had been pouring his power into Tartarus, took a step forward.

"YuWon?"

If he were fighting alone, it would be one thing, but this was a battle no different from a war. And furthermore, the team now had him and Son OhGong. In this situation, he should have originally taken on the role of a rear archer.

That's why Hercules asked in surprise, "Why are you...?"

Hercules, who was about to ask why he was stepping forward, closed his mouth.

Bright golden pupils.

YuWon had been using the Eyes of Foreknowledge all this time, from the beginning.

'Has he been observing all along?'

That meant there must be a reason for stepping forward.

Ananta took a step.

Moving away from Tartarus.

『If I leave here...』

Numerous eyes looked at YuWon, showing their threatening teeth.

The Monster King spoke to YuWon.

『I will chew on you first. Just wait.』

"A bit presumptuous for someone who just had a breather."

YuWon was also in shock. He never thought they wouldn't be able to catch him even after doing all this.

Hercules. Son OhGong. Zeus. Hades. Even Thor. Seeing that they couldn't even catch him with this strength, it seemed he understood why the guy hadn't been killed and only sealed in the past.

However...

"I said it was for 5 minutes."

Jeobak-.

Looking closely at Ananta, YuWon continued.

"So I can't extend it any longer."

Tuk-.

Hercules heard a small sound of footsteps. Faster than him, Son OhGong realized YuWon's intention.

"And thinking about it, don't you know?"

Son OhGong smirked at Hercules. Hercules frowned at the mocking look.

"What are you talking about?"

"That guy's thing."

Son OhGong's gaze shifted.

Around Ananta. One by one, goats began to emerge from the Black Woods.

"There were still a few left."

Beeeeeh.

"Traces of those guys."

Numerous goats surrounded Ananta. From goats the size of a man to the size of a house.

Ananta's eyes widened at the appearance of the goats.

"That is..."

Suddenly. A scene flashed through Ananta's mind.

--"What are you?"

Before coming here. He had briefly encountered a small goat. A one-eyed goat that bleated upon seeing him.

--"You're not one of my children, are you?"

The creature, though small, was a monster, but it was not his child.

It seemed strange to him. All monsters in this Tower should be his children. And then the goat opened its mouth and bit Ananta's shoulder. He realized the true identity of the goat.

--"It's you who comes from outside."

Outside the Tower. Beings with unimaginable power, feared even by the Administrators, who hid.

The goat was a fragment of them.

That's what he thought at that moment...

But...

"It's you-!"

Kwaak, kwaaduk.

A thousand goats began to bite Ananta's body. His flesh was torn and ripped. The bleats of the goats echoed everywhere. And with the appearance of these goats. The alliance of Olympus and Asgard also descended into chaos.

"Ugh, ugh..."

"Hiik!"

"Those things are not..."

Most of the Rankers here were from Olympus and Asgard, and they had experienced the war against the Outers. Even some of them had fought against the goats in the two battles against Shub-Niggurath.

Shub-Niggurath.

The owner of the Black Woods and half of Yog-Sothoth, the leader of the Outers.

Ten years were not enough to forget that existence.

"That guy is determined."

Hercules smirked at the goats YuWon had summoned. There was no way YuWon didn't know how people would react to using the Names of the Outers on this battlefield.

He, along with Zeus, was better than anyone at reading the tide. And despite that, the only reason he called the goats was one. YuWon's determination to catch Ananta at all costs.

"Fool, now is not the time to be impressed!"

Hercules snapped back to attention at Son OhGong's shout. While the goats attacked Ananta. It was time to finish Ananta off once and for all.

-I like big guys like you.

Skit.

On Ananta's scales. Wounds appeared at a rapid pace, accompanied by a stormy wind.

-Since they are big, there's a lot to cut.

[Storm Dominion]

Kwagat, kwakagak-.

Kigigik.

Countless sword cuts that tore the tough scales one by one. Susanoo stood on Ananta's body, cutting it.

And that wasn't all...

Not only that.

Krung, kurur-.

Thunder resonating in the earth.

The Rankers' eyes turned there at the roar of the golden-tinged Lightning Bolt.

"It seems that before it was just big."

Craaaaaack-.

Astrape.

It was Zeus, preparing his ultimate attack again. Although he couldn't use it frequently due to its immense power. Depending on how it was used, this attack had the power to change the course of the battle.

"Be careful not to get caught."

Unlike his kind explanation. Zeus unleashed Astrape without caring about Son OhGong or Hercules who were nearby.

Tuhuak-!



Kwauuung-!

A giant Lightning Bolt spear pierced Ananta's body.

Kyaaaaaa-!

Ananta's body shook violently.

The Dragons screamed.

Hercules and Son OhGong absorbed the scattered Lightning Bolt from Astrape with their bodies and pushed Ananta's body towards Tartarus.

Kwadak, kwadadak-.

Beeeeeh-.

Bitten by the goats, Ananta looked at YuWon. At this point, he also knew. Victory had already tilted.

Ananta, with more than half of his body inside Tartarus, felt the strength in his body fading.

"I will curse you!"

He uttered the words using the heads he had left. Leaving a curse for YuWon. Paying no attention to his eyes, YuWon responded by touching his cold ring.

"I'll see you later."

At that moment, when Ananta's body sank completely into Tartarus...

Srrrrrr-.

[Tartarus welcomes 'Monster King Ananta']

In the center of the battlefield. An empty space was revealed where the huge Dragon had been.

Chapter 597

Side Story 73

[The Monster King Ananta has been sealed in '...?']

[Monster statistics decrease again]

A message simultaneously appeared for all Players.

It was the announcement of the end of the brief war.

The goats disappeared as soon as Ananta faded away.

In the center of the now empty battlefield,

Thor stood with a bewildered expression.

"Those things... just now..."

The goats that appeared and disappeared before he could comprehend the situation. The aura emanating from them was as vivid as if it were yesterday, even after 10 years.

"Have they returned?"

Thor felt invaded by a chilling sensation. Cold sweat ran down his back at the foreboding of something sinister. The name Outer was a lingering terror even for Thor, the current King of Asgard.

If his suspicions were true, this was not just a matter of the Monster King breaking free from the seal. A war colossal enough to change the Tower's history.

The possibility of that war repeating...

Toc-.

"Don't worry too much."

Zeus, with a worn-out face, told him while placing a hand on Thor's shoulder.

"What you fear won't happen."

"Zeus."

Zeus had approached him unnoticed. He had used Astrape twice in a short period, and for once, his face reflected obvious fatigue.

However, why?

Despite the appearance of Shub-Niggurath's offspring, an entity even more dangerous than Ananta, he didn't seem the least bit disturbed.

"Do you know something?"

"Yes, I do."

"How...?"

"I won't tell you now. Even if I told you, you wouldn't understand."

"Eh?"

Thor frowned, not grasping what he meant. Despite having seen YuWon fight against Ananta recently, he didn't suspect him.

Only one thing lingered in his mind: The Black Woods Goats.

The only information he had was that they were a remnant of Outer.

'If he remembered, he wouldn't react like this.'

This was the common reaction of those who had forgotten YuWon. They didn't try to remember him. Even when they approached a situation that could trigger his memory, something distracted them and prevented them from thinking about him.

And this time was no different. Despite having fought alongside YuWon recently,

Thor didn't suspect that he possessed the power of the Outers.

'This guy, in particular, hasn't had much contact with Kim YuWon.'

Unless he had seen him in person and experienced his power as Varuna did, it was doubtful he would remember YuWon just by hearing about him.

And most importantly,

YuWon had left right after the battle ended.

'Even the Monkey knows. That guy doesn't want to reveal his identity yet.'

YuWon had even started acting under a new name, "Kim YuHun," instead of his real name.

It was an action motivated by the fear that the Administrators would remember him if he revealed his name.

'He's a 'Hidden'. Depending on when and how he acts, he could tip the balance of the Tower.'

Hidden. The key that could change the course of the war. Zeus always emphasized these variables in all his plans.

'All we know is Shub-Niggurath's offspring. That's ideal for now.'

It wasn't necessary to reveal more information about YuWon at the moment. At least not until they had victory assured.

"Eh? Hey! YuWon! Where did you go? Kim Yu- Ugh! Ahem, ahem! @#\$\$%^&\*....."

"Watch what you say, Monkey."

Hercules covered Son OhGong's mouth, who was desperately looking for YuWon in the distance.

Zeus put his hand to his forehead and sighed at Son OhGong's reaction.

'That stupid monkey...'

He thought even a fool like Son OhGong would understand. It seems he had overestimated him.

-----

Right after the battle against Ananta. Tsukuyomi, who had been using Izanagi, lost consciousness.

A dream as deep as an abyss. In the depths of her dormant mind, a voice resonated.

"Whose side are you on?"

It was a familiar voice. She had heard it somewhere. Her thoughts wandered aimlessly. She felt like she had heard that voice somewhere.

"What do you mean?"

"Amaterasu? Or Susanoo?"

She seemed like she was going to remember. That question surprised her more than the news of Susanoo's death.

"If those two are enemies, whose side will you take?"

Under the name "Three Precious Children," the three had been bound by an unbreakable bond, as friends or as family.

For her, there was nothing harder than choosing between the two. However, she understood the intention behind the question.

"Did he really kill him? Susanoo?"

In reality, Tsukuyomi knew too. That something had intervened in Susanoo's death. And that her other brother was behind that intervention.

The man who asked her that question had only confirmed the suspicion she had harbored for a long time.

"It's rumored that he did it on purpose. That he orchestrated Susanoo's death."

'It can't be.'

That was impossible. It was a fact she denied within herself. For over a hundred years. Tsukuyomi had followed in the footsteps of Amaterasu over and over. To confirm that he hadn't planned Susanoo's death... No, to confirm that he hadn't.

'It can't be.'

"Tell me. What makes you so sure? Why do you say Amaterasu killed him?"

That's why she asked. How could he be so sure? Who was he to doubt her friend? Even to her, it seemed ridiculous. She had suspected Amaterasu for over a hundred years, but she didn't like someone else doing it.

She got angry.

With 'him,' who doubted her friend.

'Who is he?'

A distant memory. A Name that clearly existed somewhere in her memory but couldn't come to light. And this was a conversation with him.

"I heard it from him himself."

Slowly. Very slowly, she began to remember. How she became certain of Amaterasu's betrayal. What events and whose help contributed to that certainty.

"You should talk to him too."

Ssss~

The shadow stirred. His old friend appeared before her once again.

'It's true. That's how it happened.'

Why hadn't she thought about it before?

How she came to know about Amaterasu's betrayal and how she managed to defeat him?

An event that would never be forgotten even if a thousand or ten thousand years passed.

And not only that...

"They say there's an incredible guy down there."

"Who?"

"It seems he has already set records up to the 20th floor."

Memories of him started to surface one by one. Once activated, the memories vividly intertwined, revealing the complete story.

"A new Subchief was born in the Heavenly Demon Cult."

"They say The Great Sage, Heaven's Equal has been released."

"Yes. Celestial Realm is in complete chaos. The Great Sage, Heaven's Equal, The Great Sage, Who Pacifies Heaven, and were together."

His actions were always thunderous. With every step he took, the world changed. The death of Amaterasu and the dissolution of the Three Precious Children were just small events on his path.

"It seems Muspelheim has been destroyed this time. They say Surt is dead."

"An incredible monster appeared. Her name was Shub... What was it?"

"What's up with this guy, him? Why is he ranking up so fast? Isn't it a mistake?"

"Don't you know yet?"

Unnoticed by her, he had become an omnipresent figure in the Tower.

"He is leading the fight against the Outers..."

"Kim YuWon."

In the depths of the abyssal darkness. Tsukuyomi opened her eyes abruptly, with a shocked expression etched on her face.

She remembered. The name of 'him.'

-----

After the battle against Ananta, YuWon stayed on that Floor with Pandora. It was quite a spacious accommodation with about three rooms.

Olympus and Asgard thought the battle was over, but it wasn't. YuWon continued fighting for several hours afterward, in a rather arduous battle.

[The Monster King Ananta resists Tartarus]

[The Uranus Heart subdues the Monster King Ananta]

Even within Tartarus, Ananta continued resisting. Perhaps due to the disappearance of Izanagi's power, the resistance was quite fierce.

Furthermore, the resistance was intermittent.

Uuk-

The hand holding the ring began to throb. Seeing it, Pandora, sitting in front of him, took YuWon's hand.

"...You're okay."

YuWon leaned back in the chair as he wiped sweat from his forehead with the other hand.

"It's over now."

He had managed to trap Ananta in Tartarus. Once subdued by Tartarus, the creature was no longer alive.

"Huu-."

He let out a long sigh and relaxed. Pandora continued wiping the sweat running down YuWon's face.

Tiriring-.

Tiriring, tiriring-.

At that moment...

Several messages arrived on his device. YuWon, who had already caught his breath a bit, checked the messages.

[Son OhGong: Hey, where are you?]

[Hercules: There's a mess here. Are you okay?]

[Zeus: Paperwork will take a while. Hide for a few days.]

Only Zeus had contacted him for a specific reason.

YuWon called Hercules.

Anyway, they would probably be together.

[What's up? Are you okay?]

Hercules's voice echoed through the Player Kit.

[Hey! Where are you!]

As expected, Son OhGong's noisy voice resonated. He probably thought it was strange that YuWon disappeared suddenly.

"I found accommodation in a nearby village. Are you asking if my body is okay?"

[I don't care about you. Instead, I wonder if it's okay to show the Black Woods Goats to so many people.]

Hercules, after all, was more considerate than Son OhGong. It could be seen from the fact that he not only asked where he was but also mentioned the revelation of the Black Woods Goats first.

"It's fine. Anyway, no one who saw them will know who used them."

That's true, but if the Administrators find out about the Names...

"That's what I want."

[What do you mean?]

The question came at the end of the voice that imitated an echo. It seemed he needed an explanation.

"To trap Ananta, using the Names is a shortcut. Besides, if the Administrators get scared and abandon us, we'll be just illusions to them." (?)

What the Administrators feared the most was the existence of the Outers.

Nyarlathep. Shub-Niggurath. Yog-Sothoth...

And other beings that possessed incomprehensible and extraordinary power.

YuWon briefly showed them the power they possessed in this battle.

"We are buying time. We need it. They have been preparing for a long time, but we haven't."  
Time.

That was the most necessary resource for all Tower Players, and for YuWon.

Time to defend against the Administrators' attacks. And time to find Danpung, which everyone needed.

[Really? That's good... Hey! Where are you now?!]

Son OhGong suddenly interrupted.

He seemed not to care about why YuWon had called the goats.

"This place is..."

At that moment...

The door to the room where Tsukuyomi was sleeping opened. YuWon's gaze, who was in the middle of a sentence, turned toward Tsukuyomi.

She looked at him with eyes different from before.

And then...

"...Kim YuWon."

A different Name than before came out of her lips.

"I... remember everything."

---

Chapter 598

Side Story 74

"I remember everything."

"..."

"..."

Silence filled the room.

YuWon and Pandora looked at Tsukuyomi with sealed lips.

Judging by her expression, it seemed to be true.

[Hey, the situation has become interesting]

Son OhGong's mocking laughter resonated from the Player Kit. Hercules was also smiling.

"I'll hang up for now."

[Hey, hey! At least tell me where you are!]

Click.

YuWon ended the call and stored the Player Kit in his inventory.

Tsukuyomi, she, sat in front of YuWon. Pandora's eyes watched her suspiciously.

There was something on her face that Pandora didn't like.

"What do you remember?"

"Who are you. I told you before, didn't I? Kim YuWon."

The way she repeated his name indicated that it was real.

Indeed.

They had met too many times. Moreover, encountering Susanoo this time had been a quite impactful event.

'It was about time for her to remember.'

Although, for YuWon, who preferred to avoid the attention of the Administrators for the time being, it wasn't exactly a pleasant situation.

'She's not the type to go around gossiping. And even if she did, it wouldn't change anything.'

There was no need to think badly of her. In fact, to gain the cooperation of Tsukuyomi, who possessed the power of Izanagi, this situation might even be beneficial.

"Whoever I am, it doesn't really matter..."

"Don't try to evade it."

Tsukuyomi shook her head in disbelief.

"What kind of person are you that everyone has forgotten you? It's not even that they have completely forgotten, they can't remember your face after seeing it..."

Now that she remembered, it was incredible.

No one else but...

Kim YuWon.

"I too. Amaterasu is practically dead by your hand. How is it possible that I forgot you?"

It wasn't a natural phenomenon. Something had intervened. That was certain. And Tsukuyomi suspected that this intervention was the work of YuWon.

However...

"It's true. Everyone has forgotten."

"What?"

Tsukuyomi smiled ironically. In front of her, YuWon continued unfazed.

"It saddens me a bit. That no one remembers me. Even that idiot Son OhGong remembers me."

As he said it, he glanced sideways at Tsukuyomi. As if he were asking her why she couldn't remember him, just like Son OhGong.



"You, you..."

Tsukuyomi's face reddened as she understood the hidden meaning in YuWon's words.

Regardless of everything else, being compared to Son OhGong was...

Really an offense to anyone who knew the foolish side of the Great Sage, Heaven's Equal.

YuWon, having diverted the conversation by teasing Tsukuyomi, glanced sideways at Pandora. Pandora nodded in satisfaction, pleased to see Tsukuyomi's anger.

There was no specific reason why he hadn't explained.

'It's a hassle to explain. It won't change anything if I do.'

It was too difficult to make them understand why they had forgotten her. If possible, it was best for them to accept it as Varuna had done.

What mattered to her wasn't the "why."

Sss~

At that moment, Susanoo appeared behind YuWon.

Tsukuyomi, who was about to continue questioning YuWon, stopped.

-It seems you call me often. I was about to fall asleep.

"If you don't like it, go back to sleep."

-No, it's okay.

Susanoo responded hastily. Tsukuyomi, seeing this behavior for the first time, observed Susanoo with strange eyes for a moment before nodding.

It was understandable. If the opponent was YuWon, it made sense for Susanoo to recognize him. No matter how grand the Three Precious Children were, they were nothing compared to YuWon's achievements.

-Well... um...

Susanoo hesitated for a moment.

-You finally did it.

You did it...

The treasure the Three Precious Children sought: the Three Sacred Treasures.

The combined object referred to Izanagi.

"It's thanks to you."

With those words, Tsukuyomi's gaze shifted from Susanoo to YuWon.

Susanoo, who defeated Orochi and found Kusanagi.

YuWon, who found the Yata Mirror.

And Amaterasu, who had the Magatama Jewel.

In reality, Tsukuyomi hadn't gathered any of the Three Sacred Treasures.

But...

-Even so, you did well.

At those words, the corners of Tsukuyomi's lips lifted slightly.

First, Susanoo died.

Then, after Amaterasu's death.

She thought no one would know what she had achieved.

But still, one person.

He wasn't alive, but there was someone who recognized what she had accomplished.

'So there's also that side to him.'

YuWon looked at Susanoo, who couldn't properly look Tsukuyomi in the eyes.

He was known as the Killer. Susanoo, who considered human life like that of flies, played the most significant role in building the infamous reputation of the Three Precious Children.

In the end, for YuWon, it was nothing more than Susanoo and Tsukuyomi, who loved that Susanoo.

But it was evident that the two loved each other.

'Since things are like this...'

YuWon, who had been silently observing the awkward conversation between the two, opened his mouth.

"It will take time to control Izanagi."

Starting with those words, YuWon looked at Susanoo.

"Susanoo, you stay by Tsukuyomi's side. You can keep coming out for a while."

-Really...?

"Really?"

The two were surprised. YuWon's words were so unexpected. It was as if he were giving Susanoo a brief period of freedom, who was subdued as his familiar.

-Oh... my God.

Susanoo barely managed to express his gratitude. However, YuWon didn't let the misunderstanding persist for long.

"Wait a moment. It seems you're misunderstanding something."

YuWon shook his head.

"Tsukuyomi, you're the one who should stay by my side. I get tired if we're too far apart."

"Me?"

"Until you get familiar with Izanagi. And I'd like you to help me with this on this occasion."

The Eyes of Izanagi were useful. That skill had proven to be almost perfect for support tasks, more than in combat.

From YuWon's perspective, there was no better assistant than her.

"Help? What are you going to do?"

"There's something I need to find."

"What?"

"Danpung."

"..."

Tsukuyomi tilted her head at the Name that sounded like it was about to fall in autumn. She checked Susanoo's expression to see what it was, but he kept his mouth shut with a hardened face.

Tsukuyomi shrugged, thinking it wasn't necessary to keep asking. She would discover the details slowly later on, and she didn't really care much about what YuWon was looking for.

Anyway, the proposal to be able to accompany Susanoo for a while was quite nice.

"All right. If there's something I can help with, I'll do it. Anyway, I have nothing else to do."

"Thank you."

"And where are we going? Don't tell me you also want me to give you directions."

"I've already decided where we're going."

Although he had been delayed by Ananta. He already had a destination in mind.

"We're going Outside."

-----

All the Rankers from Olympus and Asgard who participated in the fight against Ananta. They were plunged into chaos at the appearance of the offspring of Shub-Niggurath.

A rumor circulated among the Rankers of Olympus and Asgard.

"It seems there are still some left."

"I remember those goats perfectly. How could I forget them?"

"Are the Outers... moving again?"

Those entities that were believed to have disappeared after the victory in the war ten years ago. The Tower was in a state of turmoil at the news of their return.

"It's good news."

Zeus, sweating profusely as he threw his spear into the sky, conversed with Hades, who had visited him.

"Good news?"

"Yes. Thanks to this, the Administrators have been quiet these last few days."

A servant, who had been waiting, approached with a towel for Zeus to wipe off the sweat.

"Are they worried about the Outers?"

"If it weren't for that, they wouldn't have stayed quiet at a time like this."

"Although that's true..."

Sigh~

Hades looked up at the sky.

"I, for my part, am more afraid of them."

The sky Zeus had thrown his spear into. It was clear and blue now, but there was a time when that sky was purple.

A purple sky that always seemed to be watching them. Every time he remembered it, Hades still felt fear.

"It's likely."

"Then, isn't this the time to join forces once again like we did that day?"

"There's no need for that."

"No need?"

Hades tilted his head, not understanding. He knew the relationship Foolish Chaos had with Zeus in the past, and he also knew how much Zeus feared the entities known as the Outers.

So, he thought he would react to this event more sensitively than anyone. However, his reaction was calmer than ever.

'I don't know why, but...'

Glup~

Hades observed Zeus's reaction while drinking the drink that had been served along with the towel. He realized he wouldn't get a detailed explanation.

'If he wanted to talk, he would have done it earlier.'

However, he didn't feel uneasy about Zeus's reaction. As a brother and as an elder, he had been watching him for a long time, but Zeus had never disappointed him.

Complacency? That word didn't apply to Zeus. There must be a reason for Zeus to show that reaction.

And that reason was one.

'Right now, even if he explained it, I wouldn't understand...'

Zeus, leaving the empty cup, glanced sideways at Hades.

'Thanks to this, I've gained some time.'

Fuu.

Kurung!

Exhaling a long sigh, he recreated the spear in his hand. In his mind, the battle against Ananta played out over and over. The impact of the first time he blocked the Astrape was not easy to forget.

Since that day...

Zeus had come here every day to throw his spear.

'The spearhead has become dull.'

Adopting a throwing stance, Zeus, with his shining golden eyes, threw the spear towards the clouds.

'It's time to sharpen it again.'

Kwa-rung!

-----

Pandora and Tsukuyomi.

And Susano, who had decided to stay Outside as long as he was with Tsukuyomi.

A group of four descended to the first floor.

Floor by floor.

An enormous black wall that rose to the end of the sky.

Tsukuyomi, who had reached the limit that separated the Tower from the Outside, asked.

"Are we really going to leave from here?"

"Yes."

"Is that possible?"

Perhaps because the answer was too easy?

Tsukuyomi still couldn't imagine leaving the Tower.

Since the wall cracked. And Shub-Niggurath revealed itself in the Tower from the Outside. It had become evident that it was possible to cross the wall that seemed to never fall.

But while the Outers could enter, no Inner had ever left.

'Even if it's possible, there must be no one who wants to leave.'

It was something she hadn't even imagined.

The Outers.

Beings that even the High-Rankers of the Tower feared.

Who would want to set foot in the world where they roamed?

The same was true for Tsukuyomi.

'Is that Danpung out there?'

The fact that YuWon had the Name of Shub-Niggurath was also something Tsukuyomi was learning for the first time. But it was unknown what relationship he had with Danpung, whom YuWon was looking for.

Step, step~

YuWon approached the wall. His heart was pounding. He had never been outside before, but for some reason, the feeling was familiar.

'I'm going to see it.'

The World outside the Tower, which was in Azathoth's memory.

Towards that world.

Swoosh.

YuWon reached out his hand.

Chapter 599

Side Story 75

The outstretched hand towards the wall encountered something in between.

Tschut-.

A wall not easily traversed.

YuWon frowned and extended another hand.

If it didn't allow passage, he was willing to force it open.

["The Nameless Wall" is evaluating the target.]

The wall didn't easily allow passage. It was natural, as it was created to make going back and forth impossible.

Even the Outers had to struggle for a long time to open this.

Even the Rankers inside the Tower diligently exerted themselves to pierce through this wall of unknown identity, but in the end, no one succeeded.

But...

'This is the wall I created.'

At this moment...

YuWon recalled his abandoned Name and Throne as he extended both hands towards the wall.

'So, open up immediately.'

["The Nameless Wall" feels confusion.]

["The Nameless Wall" is creating a path.]

Zi-iing-.

Like tearing paper with both hands, YuWon split the wall.

There were conditions to traverse the wall.

A firm belief was needed.

The current self was not Kim YuWon. He himself had created this wall and the Outside World, he is the father of all things, Azathoth.

Wung, wung, wungwung-.

Flashing in purple, it vibrated constantly on the other side.

YuWon looked at Pandora and Tsukuyomi.

"Ready."

Following the indication, Pandora took a step forward. Tsukuyomi paused for a moment and alternated between YuWon and the other side of the wall.

'Sure, before...'

It was just for a moment. At the moment the wall opened, just for a brief moment. She saw the figure of someone else superimposing over YuWon.

With a robe.

A man of unknown identity with a hood on.

Unlike the ordinary appearance of the man, when he caught Tsukuyomi's gaze, he felt larger than looking at this world from above at a glance.

'Did I see wrong? No, can someone mistake something like that?'

Wooong-.

The wall was still open.

Tsukuyomi swallowed saliva.

'How did he open it?'

A wall that no one could open, not even break. It was even known that the Outers invested a lot of time and effort into opening it.

But he opened it so easily.

"Who... the hell are you?"

Asking like that, Tsukuyomi looked at Susanoo. As if asking if he knew. With that gesture, Susanoo shrugged and replied.

-Why should I call that guy 'Master'?

A long time ago, Susanoo said that when he first submitted to YuWon.

If he managed to surpass him, he would recognize him as his Master.

Indeed, YuWon finally surpassed Susanoo. But if that was all, Susanoo's attitude towards YuWon wouldn't be the same as it is now.

'What else is there?'

Although Tsukuyomi succeeded in remembering YuWon. Unlike Hercules and Son OhGong, Tsukuyomi didn't know everything about YuWon.

No.

In the first place, except for Pandora, who is right next to him, and Susanoo, who is subordinated to him, there probably isn't anyone who "properly" knows YuWon.

Step~

YuWon and Pandora.

Both crossed the wall first.

When YuWon crossed the wall, the figure of Susanoo, his subordinate, quickly opened up.

Tsukuyomi, left alone, couldn't stay still any longer.

'Come on, for now.'

-----

The sensation of passing through the "Wall" was new even for YuWon. Azathoth had only created the wall; he had never crossed it.

He couldn't feel the passage of time or the distance traveled. However, the sensation of walking for a considerable time was present. Finally, alongside Pandora, they emerged on the other side of the wall that only existed in his memories.

YuWon breathed in the cold air that he had only experienced in his memory. A strong wind swept across the vast expanse of the desert. Strangely, the sand didn't rise. The sky was a dark purple color, and there were no signs of civilization. It was as if an arid desert had replaced the vast ocean.

Pandora, with her eyes wide open, exclaimed in admiration. It was the first time she had seen such an extensive desert.

Tsukuyomi, who arrived a little later, also showed a similar reaction.

"Wow!"

"Stop imitating her and follow me."

Walking on the sand, YuWon looked at Tsukuyomi.

"Be careful with your steps."

Just at the end of that sentence,

Boom!

A massive, elongated mouth emerged from the sand, rising upwards.

Aaaah!

Crash!

The mouth, which had leaped in front of Tsukuyomi, submerged back into the sand like a whale jumping over the water.

Tsukuyomi opened her eyes in surprise at the peculiar sight.

"There's everything here, huh?"



"It's common here. Don't be surprised by every little thing."

Tsukuyomi, surprised by the casual response, asked:

"Do you know this place?"

"A bit."

"How?"

"I have memories of living here."

I have memories...

Although memories and experiences were different, the average listener couldn't help but feel the same. Tsukuyomi, with her eyes wide open, realized that YuWon knew a lot about the Outside World.

"Is that why you could become a Ranker so fast?"

She was wrong. YuWon didn't live here before entering the Tower. And that's why he could ascend so quickly and become a Ranker to fight against the Outers.

'Although it's not exactly like that...'

Was it necessary to correct the misconception?

Ultimately, it was also true that Danpung had guided him so he could fight against the Outers and defeat them.

YuWon, instead of denying it, nodded.

"Something like that."

Walking with a steady pace, YuWon began to advance. A desert stretching like an endless horizon. In that place, where creatures of unknown Name occasionally jumped, four people moved.

-----

Boom!

The Temple of the God of Lightning resonated with the roar of lightning for months.

The inhabitants of the surrounding villages murmured as they looked at the shining sky.

"There it goes again."

"How long will this continue?"

"Shhh, don't say it too loud."

Initially, people thought it was another war. Zeus's Lightning Bolts were not something seen often, and the fact that he wielded his Lightning meant something serious had happened.

However, when one day turned into two, three, four, and then months, the story changed.

They had gotten used to it.

Climbing the temple stairs, Hercules muttered as he looked at the Lightning Zeus was releasing into the sky.

"Is he angry?"

It was challenging for Hercules to fully understand it as a son. However, over time, Hercules gradually came to know the "man" called Zeus.

He was a being who lived solely for his pride. And that pride had cracked in the recent battle against Ananta.

Upon reflection, Zeus's reaction wasn't so strange.

Step by step, Hercules entered the temple, increasing his presence. The temple's Rankers who approached, thinking he was a stranger, stepped aside after confirming Hercules's face.

Even Hades couldn't enter the Temple of Lightning without Zeus's permission.

And they had already received the order not to stop Hercules.

Kwa-rang!

"How long are you going to keep acting unpleasantly?"

Zeus released a Bolt into the sky, sweating profusely.

Hercules clicked his tongue as he watched.

"That battle is already over."

At that moment...

Bum!

A Bolt shot up into the sky.

Kwa-rang!

A roar echoed in their ears.

The broken Hercules brushed against Hercules's cheek.

Zeus turned around, dropping sweat on the floor.

"It's not because of that guy."

"I need a believable excuse-."

"It's because of me."

Hercules took the towel that the servant had left and handed it to Zeus.

Zeus wiped the sweat, but his eyes gleamed with intensity.

"I've become too lazy because there's no room to improve my rank."

Zzzt!

The power of the Golden Bolt swirled in his hand. He felt overwhelmed by the desire to wield the spear again.

Kwa-ak!

However, he didn't want to show that ugly image in front of Hercules.

Not in a hurry, but with all his might.

Besides...

There was another person in the same situation as him.

"Of course, I'm not the only one whose spear has dulled."

At Zeus's words, Hercules thought of a person.

Kim YuWon.

Zeus was one of the few who remembered him.

When he said the spear had dulled, he probably referred to him.

"Still, I came for that guy."

"I thought you would."

"Did you know?"

"You haven't come to build a father-son bond with me, have you?"

Words that hit the mark. And words that somehow hurt his heart.

Tuk~

Zeus offered him a chair, as if he didn't have time even to wash his body. Still with an indifferent face, he gestured for Hercules to sit.

"Tell me. A father-son bond, we can build it slowly with things like this."

At the tasteless words, Hercules wondered inwardly.

Do you intend to?

"That guy opened the wall."

"The wall?"

Rarely did Zeus show a surprised expression. If someone who didn't know him saw it, they would say it's not a big deal, but this was quite a reaction. That showed how groundbreaking the information Hercules had revealed was.

"Was it possible to open it?"

Even the Outers had taken a long time and effort to open the wall. And YuWon had opened it on his own. He thought there was nothing that would surprise him anymore, but this event made him reconsider.

"Well, yes. But judging by the fact that he tried it now, it seems there was no need to open it until now."

"Thinking the other way around, it means that now there is a need to open it."

There is a reason he opened the wall.

Zeus interpreted the meaning of those words as follows:

"That guy is also seeking answers in his own way."

Just like himself.

In the battle against the Administrators.

And in the battle against Ananta.

YuWon probably felt the void of the last 10 years.

And Hercules was feeling it too.

"Yes. He has changed a bit."

The exact point was right after the first battle against Ananta. His aura had become as sharp as it was 10 years ago. YuWon had returned to that feeling from back then.

This time was no different.

Acting in a way that was always hard for Hercules's mind to comprehend.

[YuWon: I have to go out for a while.]

YuWon opened the wall by himself and went out.

"It's fortunate that he has come to his senses. The role that guy will play in the battle against the Administrators will be crucial."

"Yes. But there's one more thing..."

Hercules spoke up, holding the Player Kit that looked like a small marble in his hand.

"I don't know how this guy knew, but..."

"What do you mean?"

"Look at this."

Sss~

Saying that, Hercules showed Zeus the complete message from YuWon.

[YuWon: By the way, the timeout is a bit different.]

After that.

YuWon, just in case Hercules misinterpreted it, added this explanation:

[YuWon: Don't be late.]

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Chapter 600

[Level Up with God Side Story Episode 76]

\* \* \*

Cough-.

Tsukuyomi coughed and rubbed his nose.

The cold air of the night seeped through my skin to the core.

Crack, crack, crack-.

In front of me, a hot bonfire was burning, spewing smoke high into the sky.

Tsukuyomi wasn't the only one coughing.

"Etchwi-!"

Opposite her.

Pandora was also sneezing as she reached out to the bonfire.

"are you okay? Are you okay?"

Yuwon, who started the fire, looked at the two people in turn and asked.

I handed the blanket I took out of my inventory to the two people.

Tsukuyomi, with a thick blanket wrapped around her body, opened her mouth and said that she would survive.

"The chill keeps building up."

It was strange.

Tsukuyomi, a high ranker who uses ice attribute magic, has never felt cold since some time ago.

Even if it is the North Sea of Murim, where it is winter all year round and the ice never melts.

however.

To feel this cold at best on a desert night.

"It won't just be cold."

"then?"

"You're constantly being threatened by something. So hold on well. "If you do it wrong, your spirit might be eaten away."

With those words, Yuwon's gaze turned to Pandora.

Horok-.

Pandora is drinking hot boiled water over a bonfire.

Yuwon sighed, remembering the first time he met her.

'Did I bring you here for no reason?'

I was secretly worried.

She had already experienced something similar to this once.

Moreover, it was harsher at the time than it is now.

Above all, she had the memories of Azathoth and the power of the Outerwear.

At this point, you may not feel anything, or you may be more distressed by past trauma.

-How long should I go?

In the meantime.

Susanoo, the dead man, seemed alone and peaceful.

-I don't know how time passes, but it feels like it's been more than 10 days.

"I don't know how far. "I'm just going to see it."

-Shouldn't you let him know what you're looking for?

Susanoo said while looking at Tsukuyomi who was wrapped in a blanket.

When she asked what the maple leaves were, Yuwon responded by saying, 'You'll know it when you see it.'

A vague answer whose meaning is difficult to understand.

But just because it was Yuwon didn't mean he didn't want to explain.

'I don't know how to explain it...'

How on earth should I explain this guy?

A person the size of your palm?

An amorphous being without form?

Either that or Azathoth?

'It must be... difficult to explain it like that.'

What form will this guy exist in?

Does it even exist?

There was nothing Yuwon could know.

Still, if I had to guess, there was just one thing.

"Ubo Satla."

"Ubo Satla? Are those autumn leaves?"

When Tsukuyomi questioned his words, Yuwon shook his head.

"no. "That's not it."

"then?"

"It was that guy's house. Originally."

A question mark appeared above Tsukuyomi's head.

but.

Whether it was maple leaves or Uvo Sarla, it was a difficult explanation for her.

"It was an outerwear that appeared in the Nibelungen. Have you heard of it?"

“To the Nibelungen... Ah!”

10 years ago.

A huge outerwear that appears turning over the land of Nibelungen.

There was a time when Nibelungen and Yuwon Jechon Daeseong joined forces to deal with a being the size of a city.

Although people left Yuwon out of that record, they remembered him.

The survivors of the Nibelungen narrated the events of that day in song.

“I know. Outerwear of the Nibelungen.”

“We just need to find that guy.”

“I heard you caught it then?”

“that’s right.”

Apparently, Ubo Satla disappeared from the spot that day.

It was crushed by Azathoth’s amorphous teeth, leaving no trace.

but.

It was just an entity created by Yog-Sothoth, who was there.

“Originally, that guy wasn’t alive.”

“then?”

“Autumn leaves were his home.”

“It was a house? that is?”

Yuwon nodded and looked up at the sky.

“This is the house where the world’s greatest father lived. Sothos was named after that.”

“...? ...? ...?”

“That is Uvo Satl, the formless idiot who created it.”

“Ubo... Satl... Idiot....”

Tsukuyomi felt like tearing out his head.

Sotos, the great father.

Ubo Satla, the formless idiot creator...

I’m sure I’m listening to the explanation. There were only a few words I could understand:

“I don’t understand a single word of what you’re saying.”

“That’s why I told you. Even if I told you, you wouldn’t understand.”

Yuwon

laughed and raised the flame.

[Smoke the ‘Flame of Death and Decay’.]

As the flame grew, the creepy bodies of Tsukuyomi and Pandora began to melt.

The Flame of Death and Decay.

That name. The size of the was so large that even the spirits of ordinary underwear could not dare to approach.

Pandora, who felt comfortable, was dozing off before she knew it.

Yuwon laid her head on her shoulder and said,

“Let’s close our eyes for a moment and move again.”

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\_ He heard the howl of a mountain goat.

It was a familiar cry.

Yuwon looked back at the mountain goat and suddenly came to his senses.

‘It’s not my memory.’

I couldn’t control my body.

Just when I thought it was a dream,

my feet started moving again. I walked along

the sandy

beach sloping down and took a mountain goat and a child home.

A cave leading underground.

A familiar figure . A mountain goat and a child are brought along the road.

[“Do you need food?”] He

bent down and looked at the child.

The child, who was watching, nodded and Yuwon’s body moved.



["Let's look for it. Look around slowly. Stay."]

Meeee...

The mountain goat pulled the child's body.

As if I were a senior. It told him to follow me.

["You have to follow me carefully. You might get lost."]

Look up once again. The child nodded.

Nyala Totep followed Shub

-Niggurath like that.

The body of the amusement park.

Azathoth, the father of the great world, walked around his house like that.

To find something for Nyala to eat.

So inside . Let's go in.

["How are you?"]

Blink-. Wiggle,

wiggle-.

Countless eyes and mouths are blinking and opening their mouths as if welcoming him.

["My children."]

\* \* \*

Pod-.

Hurrying from the nightmare. My eyes widened as if I was waking up.

I turned my head at the sound of a shiver and found Pandora sleeping, head to head. -Are you awake

?

Susanoo's voice.

With his sword half drawn, he was standing with the three sleeping people behind him. .

As if he were a bodyguard.

"Are you asleep?"

I never thought I would fall asleep like this without knowing the world. I don't even know when I fell asleep.

Susanoo said to Yuwon's muttering in confusion.

-It was strange.

"What?"

-It was so sudden. It made me wonder if he had fainted rather than fallen asleep.

Yuwon nodded at that.

It was strange.

I didn't think I needed to sleep, and I wasn't able to rest for a long time or was tired from the battle.

That's why I felt drowsy. Nor was he mentally weak enough to not be able to bear it.

'That dream...'

As his thoughts deepened, a deep line formed between Yuwon's eyebrows.

'Is it because of that?'

If someone had put him to sleep to make him dream that dream, then

it was understandable.

No matter how much he remembered, Yuwon had never had a dream about Azathoth in the past 10 years.

But, especially at this time.

The memory of Azathoth returning home with Shub Nigguras and Nyala Totep appeared in his dream.

'No way...'

Someone sent a signal to him.

Yuwon's eyes lit up as he remembered who that 'someone' might be. " Pandora . Tsukuyomi."

Yuwon hurriedly woke up the two people who were sleeping.

The two people who had been sleeping for a while opened their eyes.

Tsukuyomi rubbed his eyes and asked,

"Huh? why?"

"I need to hurry up."

Yuwon looked at the other side of the desert.

Before I had the dream, I had no idea where I was.

Now, strangely enough, the road that had seemed the same place for over 10 days looked different.

"It doesn't seem to be far."

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...

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\_ I looked at Yuwon's back as he was running towards one direction at high speed.

‘Why is he so fast?’

The reason he was riding on Susanoo's back was because it was difficult to chase after him.

That's how Yuwon was moving with all his might.

Just barely enough for the other party members to catch up.

‘As if he was sure of the path....’

I woke up the group who were sleeping and wondered where on earth they were going in such a hurry.

Passu. Yuwon,

who was moving forward quickly, stopped and signaled to go back.

The speed slowly slowed down.

At the same time, magic was in Tsukuyomi's eyes.

[ ‘Izanagi's Eyes’ are activated.]

Tsutsutsu —

I can see things that were not visible in the whitened eyes.

I saw something huge wriggling under the empty desert.

“It's coming.”

“come.”

Yuwon and Tsukuyomi spoke at the same time.

And at that moment.

Fuhua-!

A huge earthworm leaping out of the desert.

Yuwon and Tsukuyomi, who had known it from before, pulled out their swords and swung them.

A slash.

The outer body was split into four parts. He couldn't even scream and dropped the flesh on the floor.

The desert sand greedily sucked Outer's corpse into the sand, as if it had found prey after a long time.

However,

there was more than one opponent.

“...Sothos.”