

Bloodline 251

Chapter 251 - Power Of Life Sign Tracking

Gustav sight changed, and the view that appeared in front of him was that of a different location entirely.

"What is this? Angy?" Gustav instantly sat up as he noticed something or rather someone in his line of sight.

"What in the world is that?"

Gustav could see Angy and a group of four going against a shadowy humanoid-looking creature.

The creature would merge into structures, and the next time it appeared would be from another location. The instant it grabbed onto a person, the person's body part it made contact with would be covered in a web of blackish substance. Instantly, that body part will lose function, and the creature would gain control of it.

At the moment, piles of body parts could be seen on the ground. Heads, limbs, ears, eyeballs, e.t.c.

A boy sporting white dreadlocks was currently engaging in the battle with a single arm. His left arm was among the arms sprawled all over the place. Gustav could already guess what happened when he noticed those tendrils of the black web on the body parts scattered all across the place.

Gustav could only see what was going on, but he couldn't hear anything. When he tried looking down, he could see eyelashes and a pointy nose that obviously belonged to that of a girl.

Gustav could tell that he was seeing from the position of her forehead, but that didn't last for long.

He suddenly noticed the creature appear in front of his line of sight, covering the whole view. The next thing that happened was his line of vision tilted before he was disconnected from the girl.

'What just happened? Did she just get decapitated?' Gustav said internally as he hurriedly stood to his feet.

'That thing was like a physical shadow... could that be the silhouette I've heard about?' A frown appeared on Gustav's face as he figured that this was the case.

"To fight something that cannot be touched physically is practically impossible for Angy... If she wanted to use accumulative blast, she would need a large space to run in. Also, it isn't very advisable to use an attack that covers a wide range underground due to possible structural collapse. She must be limiting her abilities because of the group," Gustav sighed as he made an analysis based on what he saw a while ago.

"Sigh, Angy is just being Angy... This situation just had to happen in my current circumstance," Gustav sighed as he spoke.

He checked his stats and noticed that they had truly been halved. Although Gustav was surprised when he noticed the silhouette, he wasn't really worried because he knew Angy could escape from that place

with her full speed if she wanted to. The only problem was she wouldn't be willing to leave the rest of the group to battle with the silhouette on their own.

He already saw tears in her eyes as her teammates were being butchered.

"I have to go," Gustav's face turned serious as he started to transform.

Black scales appeared on his body as ram horns grew out of his head. In a few seconds, Gustav had completely transformed into a large mixedbreed serpent.

His clothes were torn apart in the process as his current size took nearly half of the space in the cave-like hole.

He hissed as his body wriggled out of the hole with speed and started climbing upwards towards the top of the hole.

[Sprint has been activated]

Swwooonnn!

Gustav, in his transformed state, crawled upwards across the walls of the hole. He coupled Sprint with the normal speed of the Savirinia Serpent Mixedbreed.

'At least the stats getting halved didn't affect my bloodlines or skills... I can still make use of them at their original power,' Gustav said internally as he noticed this.

His speed may have been reduced, but it was still fast when he coupled Sprint with the serpent's transformation.

In about two minutes, Gustav had climbed out of the hole and transformed back into human form before letting his feet take the form of the bloodwolf.

Originally, the bloodwolf could move at a hundred feet per second. Still, when Gustav activated Sprint, it was close to his original speed when Sprint was activated.

The Bloodwolf was the fastest transformation in his possession, so that was the best to use for the current situation.

Swooosshhh!

Gustav dashed with speed across the passageway he first came into contact with. Even though Life Sign Tracking had been deactivated, Gustav was still able to sense how to get to the location.

He moved as fast as he could at the moment. He could have still boosted his speed by combining Dash and Sprint. However, he felt he should conserve energy for the upcoming battle since he only had little information about the silhouette.

'Be okay till I get there, Ancy,' Gustav couldn't just get rid of the nagging feeling tugging at the back of his mind.

In the part of the ruins where the battle was ongoing, four participants with fatigued looking faces engaged the silhouette in front.

They couldn't touch the creature since a single touch would cause their hands to be infected with blackish energy. '

Even their long-ranged attacks were barely effective.

Ancy was practically useless in the fight. All she could do was run around throwing some things she picked up at it.

The silhouette was currently handling their attacks with ease while feeding on the arm of a team member. Slurping and crunching sound reverberated across the place as it chewed casually.

It was almost like it was mocking them.

"You bastard!!! How could you eat Maddie?!!!" One of them shouted out as he swung out spiky rocks towards the silhouette.

Tears and snot had covered his face, which was filled with panic and rage.

"Hehehe. She's delicious, delicious, yummy, tasty...." Laughter could be heard coming from the silhouette as it phased into the ground dodging the attacks before phasing out of another part of the ground where corpses could be seen.

The silhouette quickly grabbed onto the leg of a female corpse and tore it from her body.

A wide opening appeared in its face area, and it proceeded to dip half of the leg from the thigh area into its mouth before biting down with intensity.

The group eyes turned red even more as they witnessed that. However, before they could attack it, it disappeared once again, only for it to reappear about three hundred feet away.

It stared at the group with a taunting look as it feasted on the legs of the girl.

"Ahhhhh!" One of them shouted out and dashed towards it with a crazed look.

"Johnson, no!" The group screamed out, but he totally ignored them.

A large grin appeared on the face of the creature as it watched the boy approach him.

Just as it was preparing to attack the boy...

Swwoosshh!

Angy swooped in and grabbed onto the boy before forcefully returning back to their initial position.

"Don't be stupid. The closer we are to it, the more shadows it will be able to manipulate and deal with us," Angy voiced out with a slightly annoyed tone.

Chapter 252 - One On One Battle With The Silhouette

She was also angered and pained by what had gone down here today. She watched her group members get slaughtered like live stocks, and she blamed herself for it.

She wanted to find the teammate that disappeared by all means and ended up dragging the rest of the teammates into the current predicament.

Not only had the teammate who they had been looking for died, some of them that followed her here had also lost their lives to the silhouette.

One of the four teammates who were currently alive had lost his left arm because he had to cut it off the moment it became infected with the blackish web gotten from making contact with the silhouette.

He didn't want to end up attacking anyone due to his body being manipulated, which was why he had to make that decision.

"We're at a disadvantage because we're in a dim vicinity," Angy muttered.

Angy and her teammates had been avoiding areas that had shadows cast over them because the silhouette was capable of manipulating that.

This not only restricted their movement range but also affected their battle performance.

Had the boy who Angy just saved moved a foot further, he would have stepped within the Silhouette range of attack. A single strike was what the silhouette needed to end anyone's life.

The silhouette just stood about three hundred feet ahead, leaning on a pointy rock and munching on a leg while staring at the group in front. It didn't seem bothered, almost like it was sure these kids were incapable of causing it any issues.

"You guys should go get help from other groups... I have a plan," Angy proposed.

The three beside her stared at her with a confused expression.

"Aren't you coming with us?" The kid with white dreadlocks asked.

"No, I have to stay here and stall it, or none of us will be able to leave here successfully," Angy replied.

The boy thought about it and remembered that participants had been avoiding this area, particularly because of the rumors on the silhouette, so he knew it wouldn't be easy to find a group.

Even if they did find a group, he wondered if they'd be willing to assist them in dealing with the silhouette.

"No, that isn't an option. We're going to deal with it together," The kid voiced out.

"If we do that, we'll all die here... Like I said, I have a plan. If you all don't go, I can't execute it," Angy said.

They stared at her with a contemplative expression.

The other girl who had green-colored hair decided to say something, "What are you planning?" She asked.

"Something that will either knock that thing out or damage it severely... Don't worry, I'll be okay. It can't catch up to me, remember?" Angy assured them.

"Hmm, alright, we'll go and get help... Stay safe,"

The rest of the group finally agreed and started moving backward slowly.

This particular area had three to four feet rocks protruding from different parts of the ground, which caused shadows to be cast almost everywhere.

However, one of their teammates blasted apart a lot of them before he was taken down, which gave the participants a place where they could stand and be safe from the silhouette assaults.

For some reason, it was unable to make use of living things' shadows, but it could use that of inanimate things.

Angy fixed her eyes on the silhouette as her teammates moved to the back.

They suddenly started running towards the passageway a thousand feet behind.

Angy kept watching the silhouette without moving. The silhouette didn't even act like they were trying to get away.

It still continued eating body parts.

In a few seconds, Angy teammates were out of sight.

"Now it's just you and me," Angy voiced out with a tone of anguish as her eyebrows creased together.

'I'm going to have to use it... I don't care if I get buried here. I won't let this thing run amok slaughtering more innocents,' Tears rolled down Angy's eyes as she came to this conclusion.

"Hehehe, the most delicious one has stayed behind! Slurp, now that the distractions are gone, I can enjoy you properly,"

The silhouette phased into the ground as those words were uttered.

Zwwwwoosshh!

Angy, too had also dashed out.

When the silhouette phased out of the ground a few feet towards the right from Angy's initial position, she had already disappeared.

Swoooooshhh!

Another horn grew out of Angy's forehead as she started running in a circular format around the vicinity.

Swweeooooosssshhhhhh!

The silhouette was extremely shocked as it stood in place, staring at the multiple afterimages circulating around it.

It couldn't tell where Angy was at the moment due to her immense speed.

"Slurp even going to be more delicious. I can't wait to feast on him..." The silhouette suddenly sensed something and paused its speech.

Whitish energy started building around the afterimages it was seeing circulating around it.

It could sense immense destructive energy from the whitish energy circulating around Angy.

Zwwwwoosshh!

Angy kept running around it, building up the destructive whitish force of energy surrounding her.

The silhouette started phasing into the ground and appearing in different places trying to catch Angy's figure, but it was of no use.

Bam!

When it got too close, It was blasted aside by the force gathering around Angy.

'Impossible... This little one,' It stared at Angy afterimages from its position in the middle.

Angy had now gathered energy to the extent that the ground began to quake gently, and the rocks protruding from the ceiling started to crumble.

"Hehehe good, this is good... It will only make you more delicious," The large silhouette set of pointy teeth were revealed as it laughed.

Angy frowned more as she dashed towards the silhouette with the purpose of releasing the gathered energy once she had closed in on it.

The silhouette suddenly grinned again and slapped its hands on the ground.

Pah!

Dark energy suddenly spread from its position, and shadowy black tendrils shot out of every part of the ground.

Swweeii!

Angy's legs were suddenly wrapped by these tendrils.

"Huh?" Due to the tendrils suddenly hindering her movement and all the speed she had gathered, she found herself somersaulting forward.

Angy's body spun severally in mid-air before slamming onto the wall on the side.

Bang!

The wall vibrated, and a large chunk of rock broke apart before falling on the lower part of her body.

"Kiiaarrhhh!" Angy screamed out in pain as a pointed part of the rock stabbed into her left thigh.

"Hehehe, I will enjoy tasting your meat, slurp!" The silhouette voiced out as it approached Angy.

It squatted and pulled the rock off her before lifting her.

"Let her go!"

A loud voice was heard from behind.

Chapter 253 - Angy's Confusion

"Hehehe, I will enjoy tasting your meat, slurp!" The silhouette voiced out as it approached Angy.

It squatted and pulled the rock off her before lifting her.

"Let her go!"

A loud voice was heard from behind.

The silhouette's greyish tongue was only inches away from touching Angy's face when the shout was heard.

The silhouette grin broadened, "Yet another delicious one has appeared slurp!" It made slurping sounds as it spoke and released Angy's neck from his grip.

It turned around to see who had just arrived, not even bothering about Angy escaping since he knew her legs were in a damaged state at the moment.

Two girls could be seen moving in her direction several hundred feet away.

One of them had long white hair, a pretty face, and a tall figure, while the other was a green-skinned girl with a long brown tail.

The girl with white hair was the one who shouted out earlier.

Even the silhouette had thought it was a single person, but the moment he turned around, he figured he was wrong.

'I didn't sense the presence of that green-skinned girl,' The Silhouette stared at the green-skinned girl in particular with knitted eyes.

Both girls were obviously Glade and Maltida. They had arrived just in time before the silhouette could finish Angy off.

"Angy, are you okay?" Maltida shouted as they closed in on them.

Angy gathered her strength and pulled her body to the side before replying, "I'm okay,"

Even though her thigh was bleeding, she didn't want to be a dead weight, so she tried to get out of their range.

The silhouette scrutinized Glade intensely and noticed something, 'What is the red energy that covered her entire figure?' It wondered. However, before it had enough time to gather, it's thought Glade suddenly dashed out.

Zwwwoosshh!

Although her speed was nothing compared to that of Angy's, her explosiveness was nothing to scoff at.

The red aura-like energy covering her entire figure intensified, and two large red sickles were conjured out of thin air.

Grab! Grab!

Glade grabbed them both and hacked down at the silhouette in an 'X' format with both sickles.

The air vibrated as both sickles travelled towards the neck area of the silhouette with intensity.

Fwooommm!

The silhouette bent backward to the extent that its back nearly made contact with the three-foot pointy rock protruding from the ground behind him.

Both attacks missed him as he used that opportunity to sink into the shadows and appear behind Glade.

Glade had extremely fast reflexes, so she responded by spinning and swinging her left arm out in the process.

Slash!

Once again, her sickle aimed for the head of the silhouette, who dodged quickly towards the side.

Slash! Swerve! Slash! Swerve! Slash! Swerve!

Glade was not giving the silhouette any leeway or time to think as she kept bombarding it with different attacks.

While Glade was busy engaging the silhouette, Maltida had approached Angy's position.

'Amazing... She's handling it all by herself,' Angy was astonished as she watched from the side.

"Don't let it touch you! It's dangerous!" Angy voiced out with a tone of worry as she noticed the silhouette nearly grazed its fingers against Glade's arm as they battled.

"Come on, let's go," Maltida squatted as she helped Angy up.

Angy held onto Maltida for support as they moved away from the battle range.

When they got to the far end of the area where different passageways could be seen, Maltida kept taking her further.

"Erm Maltida, you can leave me here... I'll take some healing meds. You should go help Glade out because she can't take on that silhouette by herself," Angy said while gesturing at a particular spot upfront.

However, for some reason, Maltida ignored her statement and kept moving forward.

"Erm, Maltida..." Angy kept calling out to her, but Maltida ignored her and kept supporting Angy's movement as they entered the fourth passageway.

"Maltida, where are you taking me?" Angy asked as they kept moving through the passageway.

"Maltida!" Angy shouted out and pulled her arm from Maltida's grip.

Plop!

She fell to the ground and started making use of her hands to pulling her body backward.

Maltida turned around to stare at Angy with glowing purple eyes.

"I know about your power, kid! You will be useful in helping me find what I want," A deep masculine but monotonous voice could be heard coming from Maltida's mouth as she spoke.

"What is with you? Maltida? What's happening?" Angy crawled backward with all her might and even tried standing to her feet, but the intense pain in her thighs caused her to fall again.

Spurt! Spurt!

Due to her repeatedly trying to stand, more blood started spilling out from the injury on her thighs.

Not understanding the situation and not wanting to be caught, Angy used the other leg, which wasn't as badly injured as the left, and started hopping.

Maltida followed behind her with a frown.

"All this is futile. You shall come with me and become one of my loyal puppets," Maltida voiced out as she caught up with the leaping Angy.

Grab!

She grabbed Angy's neck from behind and lifted her with ease.

"Let us go," She said while turning Angy around and placing Angy on her right shoulder.

Angy tried resisting by punching out with super speed. However, a silver panel appeared on Maltida's body when her fist made contact.

This protected Maltida, rendering her punches futile.

'What is going on? Why is Maltida like this? It seems like she is being controlled by something,' Angy mind was in a state of disarray at the moment.

'If she's like this, then does that mean Glade is also...' Angy's face shone panic as Maltida turned around to continue heading down the passageway.

Just when Angy's mind was in a state of intense confusion and panic, a loud whooshing sound was heard coming from up ahead.

Swooooooshhh!

Angy was the first to notice this since she was a speedster, but Maltida was slower. By the time she noticed it, a fist was already in front of her face.

Chapter 254 - I Shall Have You

Pah!

A loud collision rang out, followed by a female body travelling in an arc across the air.

Bang!

Maltida's body slammed into the wall, and her eyes turned blurry. Still, she could partially see a familiar male figure in front of her.

A silver covering could be seen on the left side of her face, which took the force of the punch.

"Gustav?" Angy voiced out from the ground.

'Hmm, even with that amount of force, she didn't pass out... This proves that I have truly weakened,' Gustav stared at his fist as he lowered it.

He was using sprint so, due to his speed, the force of his punch was multiplied by four. Originally, that would be enough to nearly decapitate a mixedblood of Maltida's strength, but now that he had been weakened, it could only do this much.

"Are you okay?" Gustav asked as he squatted in front of Angy.

Angy eyes were already watering as she stared at Gustav's face. She remembered everything she had gone through since the start of this phase. The deaths she had to witnessed and the decisions she made.

"Gustav!" She didn't know where the strength came from as she jumped into his embrace.

Gustav was a bit surprised by her action, but when he thought about the current situation, he had a vague idea of why she acted in this way.

Gustav looked down at Angy's head resting on his chest and raised his hand before bringing it down on her hair.

He gently caressed her silver and pink hair as his jaw made contact with her horns.

"It's alright. Everything is gonna be fine now," Gustav had never said these words before, but for some reason, he felt good saying it.

Maybe that feeling of wanting to do heroic deeds was still there but just not present with everyone.

Gustav noticed that Maltida had come back to her senses and was ready to attack him. So, he quickly found a spot and dropped Angy there.

"So, we finally meet!" The same masculine voice was heard from Maltida's mouth as she spoke with a huge frown.

"Be careful. She's not in her right senses," Angy voiced out as Gustav approached Maltida.

"Thanks for stating the obvious, Angy... Anything else you'd like to add?" Gustav said while standing several feet away from Maltida, who still had glowing purple eyes.

Angy giggled lightly after hearing that, "Just be careful. I think Glade is also the same way," Angy voiced out.

"Glade?" Before Gustav could try and find out more, Maltida dashed forward as liquid-like silver started coating her entire body from head to toe.

'What exactly is wrong? I have to engage her first before making any assumptions,' Gustav said internally as he also dashed forward.

Maltida conjured a silver-like spear from her body and swung it at Gustav.

Gustav swerved to the left, but the instant he dodged it, Maltida swung it towards the left with force.

Zwwwwoosshh!

Gustav straightened his left palm before sending it towards the side body of the spear.

[Palm Strike has been activated]

Bam!

Gustav's palm slammed into the body of the spear, sending it flying from Maltida's hand.

Swooonn!

Immediately his left palm made contact, he spun around and sent his right elbow out towards Maltida's face.

Bam!

Maltida blocked it with her right arm, but the force still caused her to slide backward by several feet.

The instant she dropped her arm, which was currently blocking her sight since she used it in blocking Gustav's attack, she noticed the large brownish foot laced with sharp claws headed for her chest.

Sshhiiookkk!

Silver-like spikes suddenly protruded from her body as Gustav's foot travelled in mid-air towards her chest.

Gustav, who was in mid-air, was unable to stop his movement, so he quickly spun and sent his right foot hurling towards the left side of Maltida's face.

Bam!

Gustav's right leg slammed into Maltida's face sending her flying towards the side.

Swoooooshhh!

Gustav didn't wait for an instant. The moment his foot touched the ground, he dashed out again as his fist got covered with a layer of icicle-like covering.

Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam!

He repeatedly threw out fists at Maltida even though her body was still full of silver-like spikes.

Each time his fist made contact, the spikes would be blasted apart, giving Gustav the chance to punch her silver covering.

Maltida's silver covering was very hard and protected against every kind of attack. However, once Gustav started gaining the upper hand, throwing out punches repeatedly, he let his arm take the form of

the mutated bull. His fist was also covered with the Iro silk from the Kilapisole alien Lifeform he took, along with atomic disintegration coating both his arms. Maltida's silver outer covering was riddled with holes in a few minutes.

Bam! Swweeii!

Gustav's fist sent Maltida flying again before she slammed into the wall.

Bang! Blergh!

She spat out blood before sliding to the ground. Still, her eyes had a purplish glow even they had slightly dimmed.

"Interesting! Looks like the information my puppets have fed me was true," Maltida voiced out.

"What information?" Gustav asked as he started walking towards Maltida.

"About your excellence! You are truly what I need!" Maltida replied.

"What do you mean by that?" Gustav asked with a confused expression.

"Hahaha, I have found the one! Surrender yourself to me, kid!" Maltida shouted out while standing to her feet.

"Do you not see the situation you're in? Why would I surrender to you?" Gustav responded as he continued walking towards her.

"If you want this vessel to be free, you have to?" Maltida said with a smile, "I'm sure you share some attachments to this person,"

Gustav stood in front of Maltida and smiled, "You think I care?" He voiced out before grabbing Maltida by the neck.

Cough! Cough! Cough!

Gustav gripped her neck tightly as he spoke, "Haha, did you really think you could get me with this?" He continued to squeeze as he spoke.

'Did I miscalculate? How could she share such memories with him, and he holds no regard for her?' Maltida's face showed a choking look as the being controlling her mind thought.

The being stared at Gustav's expression from his Maltida's point of view, 'He's a crazed kid this one... He's not bluffing. He doesn't care,' The being realized this as he stared at Gustav's uncaring expression.

'I better withdraw from this vessel before I get affected by her death... I cannot afford to lose a single ounce of power,' The being concluded.

"Do not delude yourself, kid... I shall have you soon. My puppets shall bring you to me in due time!"

Gustav heard these words in his mind as the purplish glow in Maltida's eyes faded.

The voice sounded exactly the same as the one coming from Maltida's mouth earlier.

Plop!

Maltida fell to the ground and passed out afterward.

"Maltida!" Angy shouted out from behind and ran towards Gustav and Maltida's position.

She took a healing capsule a while ago, so her injuries had almost healed up completely.

"Is she dead?" Angy asked while staring at the unconscious body of Maltida, which was still without any movement on the ground.

Chapter 255 - Wanted By Maniacs

"Is she dead?" Angy asked while staring at the unconscious body of Maltida, which was still without any movement on the ground.

Angy checked if Maltida was breathing and found out that she wasn't. Angy still checked for her pulse, but there were still no signs of life.

Angy stared at Gustav, whose face was still as uncaring as ever, "You didn't have to..." Angy didn't even know what to say.

She understood how everything got to this point, but she still felt conflicted because this was someone who had ties to Gustav.

Gustav turned around and started walking away.

"Recheck her pulse," Gustav instructed as he walked forward

Angy didn't understand why he said that, but she decided to do as instructed.

"Huh?" She suddenly felt pulse movement from Maltida.

Twitch! Twitch!

Maltida's eyelids twitched twice, proving that she was still alive.

'How? I clearly felt no pulse from her a while ago?' Angy checked again to be sure and even placed her fingers underneath Maltida's nostrils. She had started breathing once again.

Angy stared at Gustav's back with a look of astonishment, wondering what he did.

Unbeknownst to her, Gustav never intended to kill Maltida. He knew so well about mixedbloods anatomy, so he had applied pressure on the part of Matilda's neck that cut off her oxygen supply for a few seconds. It also caused the throbbing of her pulse to slow down.

Angy had thought she was dead due to all these.

Gustav questioned Angy about the situation so he could get as much info as possible to deal with the threat at hand.

She explained to him all that had happened so far, including how her group ran into the silhouette and nearly got wiped out. She also told him how Maltida and Glade came to her rescue, which led to the current scenario.

However, when it came to the current scene, which led to the battle between Gustav and Maltida, Angy was just as clueless as Gustav.

The only thing she could mention was that whoever was controlling the mind of Maltida wanted her for an unknown reason, and now Gustav knew that the unknown person also wanted him.

The question that plagued their minds now was, "Why?"

For what purpose would that person be after them?

Gustav started drawing out possible reasons and plots in his mind. Nevertheless, without more information, he couldn't narrow down the thousands of possible reasons this would be happening.

However, one thing Gustav was sure of was the fact that whoever was doing this is definitely an alien inmate. His reason for thinking this way was based on the level of strength of every inmate he had met so far. Every inmate was within the serial rank, but when it came to aliens who didn't have the same power system as mixedbloods, their strength varied. The Kilapisole and Archinades were proof of that. They were way more powerful than the mixedblood inmates.

Gustav could tell that it would be impossible for a mixedblood on the serial ranked level to control multiple minds simultaneously. Since the person mentioned that they would be sending more puppets after Gustav, it was safe to assume they controlled more participants aside from Glade and Maltida.

Although this wasn't a very useful fact, it made Gustav prepare his state of mind for whatever was going to come next.

'Around five hours left,' Gustav said internally while staring at Angy and Maltida, who was still unconscious on the ground.

He would have liked to ask Maltida about the being that inhabited her mind, but time was of the essence. He couldn't wait for her to regain consciousness because he could tell that whatever this was, carried more danger than the silhouette.

"You're gonna stay here with her Angy, I'll have to deal with this on my own," Gustav stated as he started walking forward.

"No, we're going to deal with it together!" Angy voiced out with a look of determination while standing up.

At this point, her injuries had healed completely. However, a look of fatigue could be seen on her face. Even though she had healed up due to the meds, her energy had almost been completely depleted. She and the group had been battling the silhouette for a long time, and the meds also made use of her energy to grant her healing.

Gustav paused his footsteps and turned around to stare at her.

[God Eyes have been activated]

"It's not up for a debate...." Gustav voiced out before turning around to keep moving.

"Take care of her and hide out somewhere till I'm back...." Gustav instructed before dashing forward with speed,

Angy wanted to follow, but she remembered that Maltida was still unconscious behind her, so she stopped herself.

Gustav was out of sight in no time.

"Please wake up soon so we can go help Gustav," Angy hoped with a low tone while squatting to lift Maltida up.

Gustav had already arrived in front of Glade and the silhouette's battle scene, and to his surprise, he could still hear the sounds of attacks as he closed in on the area.

He paused thousands of feet behind and watched Glade engage the silhouette masterfully.

According to Angy, making contact with the silhouette wasn't an option but what he saw made him doubt that claim.

Glade was currently engaging the silhouette with her bare hands. Although the silhouette was obviously stronger in terms of strength, the expression of disbelief was still noticeable on the silhouette's faceless face area.

Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam!

It made contact with Glade repeatedly, but she was unaffected by its touches.

"Why don't you join me, and I shall restore you back to your full glory once I have gotten what I want?" The same voice heard from the mouth of Maltida could be heard coming from Glade's mouth also as she engaged the silhouette.

"Hehehe, slurp! I don't care about all that, slurp! I only want to eat," The silhouette responded with this while increasing the force of its attacks.

Chapter 256 - Fight For Possession Of Gustav

Gustav had already seen what happened to others when the silhouette touched any part of their body, so he wondered why Glade was a different case.

[God Eyes have been activated]

Gustav made an analysis of the battle using God Eyes. He noticed that the reddish aura-like energy surrounding Glade's figure was what prevented her body parts from being infected by the silhouette's blackish web-like tendrils.

'Maybe I can try something,' A plan started formulating in his mind upon figuring out the reason behind Glade's immunity.

However, Gustav's plan formulation was cut short as two pairs of menacing-looking eyes turned around and stared in his direction.

Shhhsshh! Shhhsshh!

Glade and the Silhouette had just exchanged another blow, so they were still sliding away from each other after making contact. That was when they noticed Gustav squatting behind a pillar-like rock, thousands of feet behind.

The silhouette's dark eyes widened as it stared at Gustav.

"Slurp, I want that one even more," It voiced out while phasing into the shadows on the ground.

"Oh no, you don't! He's mine!" Glade voiced out before dashing forward with speed.

However, the silhouette only needed an instant to arrive behind Gustav.

Slash!

The instant it was phasing out of the ground, it had already transformed its arm into a large shadowy one with seventeen blackish claws.

Thoom!

Gustav leaped backward, dodging the slash of the claws, which slammed into the pillar-like rock he was standing behind, causing a chunk of it to get smashed to pieces.

Debris scattered across the place, but the silhouette didn't wait for a second more before dashing forward towards Gustav again.

This was when Glade arrived and parried the second slash with her reddish energy sickle.

"I said he's mine! You can have your pick of anyone else after joining me," The masculine monotonous voice could be heard coming from Glade's mouth once again as she and the silhouette pushed against each other.

"I want this one slurp! He tastes very delicious," The silhouette voiced out as dark tendrils shot out of the shadows surrounding them towards Gustav.

Thoom!

Gustav once again leaped upwards and spun, dodging some of the tendrils while activating atomic disintegration to cut through the ones he couldn't dodge.

Bam! Shhhsshh!

Gustav landed about a hundred feet towards the left and slid backward by a few feet.

Glade only waved her sickle about three times to cut through the dark tendrils that came for her.

'If I'm not careful, its attack will make contact with me soon... It will take some time to activate that ability, so I have to be careful,' Gustav said internally while staring at the silhouette from his position.

At the moment, the silhouette was kind of in the middle, while Gustav was on the left and Glade on the right.

The three stared at one another warily for a few seconds.

None of them were allies, but at the moment, Gustav knew who to work with.

Swooooshhh!

Glade dashed towards the silhouette once again, swinging her sickle.

The silhouette dodged them tactfully and sunk into the shadows only to appear beside Gustav again.

This time it reached out very fast and almost touched Gustav's neck. However, Gustav was able to evade his touch by a few centimeters and quickly countered by sending out a palm Strike.

Swoooooshhh!

Silver-like energy covered his palm as it traveled towards the shoulder area of the silhouette.

Fwooommm!

Gustav's palm passed through thin air as the silhouette disappeared again and appeared on his right.

"Slurp!"

Gustav heard the slurping and tried turning around as fast as possible to counter. Still, the silhouette's face was just about two inches away from his neck.

Shwwiinngg!

A red sickle appeared in between the two inches space before Gustav and the silhouette.

It traveled in and horizontally towards the neck of the silhouette.

Fwooommm!

The silhouette was forced to sink into the shadows again to dodge Glade's sickle attack.

"Hehehe, you're a nuisance, slurp! What happened to "giving me everything I wanted?" The silhouette who appeared on the far east voiced out.

"This one is off-limits; I shall have him for myself!" Glade voiced out.

"You can have the others. I want to taste this one, or we can each take a portion of him. Slurp!" The silhouette responded with this.

"Keep talking like I'm not right here," Gustav stated with a slightly offended tone from the side.

Unknown to both of them, he had was building his energy internally in accordance with his plan.

"This isn't up for debate! He is mine!" Glade totally ignored Gustav's statement and shouted out to the silhouette.

"Slurp! Not if I have him first," The silhouette voiced out as it clasped its hands together.

Fwwerooooowww!

Darkness suddenly started spreading out of its body.

"Carpet of darkness!" The silhouette voiced out as it stomped its right foot on the ground.

The shadows in the vicinity suddenly started swirling and expanding.

Zzzooooooooonnnn!

In a few seconds, on the ground, a radius of over seven thousand feet had been covered in darkness.

"You can only escape from this if you have flight ability, but even with that, hehehe, slurp!" The silhouette made another slurping sound as it spoke.

Gustav wanted to take a step forward when large black arms suddenly shot out of the ground from his right and left sides.

The palms of both hands were so big that their height was comparable to the pillar-like rock Gustav was hiding behind earlier.

Glade's eyes widened as she saw it and dashed forward with all her might. Gustav also leaped upwards to dodge the concentration area, but before they could move further than a foot...

Clasp!

Both hands clasped together with immense speed and force, covering Gustav's figure in an instant.

Bam!

"No!" Glade shouted out with a look of fury.

It was still suspended in mid air but with the amount of force at which both palms clasped together, all his bones would have been broken and would have probably turned into mince meat by now.

Chapter 257 - The Power Of The Coat Of Flames

It was still suspended in mid-air, but with the amount of force at which both palms clasped together, all his bones would have been broken and probably turned into mincemeat.

"Hehehe, he's mine now. Even if you want him, you can't get him because every part of his body will belong to me," The silhouette laughed while speaking.

"You idiot! I could have become powerful enough to grant you freedom and give you the opportunity to leave this hole!" Glade voiced out with a tone of anguish while staring at the silhouette.

"Hehe, you better mind how you speak to me. He is in my hands n..." The silhouette paused as it sensed something.

Rays of bright yellow light started to shoot out of the palms.

Holes appeared in different spots on the dark palms, and more rays of light shot out of them.

Fwooommm!

The arms were suddenly blasted apart as Gustav's figure floated in mid-air while being surrounded by flames for a few seconds before landing on the ground.

Bam!

His glowing figure drove the darkness in the vicinity away.

His upper body was covered in a long coat of burning yellow flames. In contrast, his lower half was covered in silver-coloured energy.

Gustav smiled as he stared at the silhouette, who was slowly taking steps backwards.

"Let's see you try to touch me now," He voiced out with a confident look.

Gustav activated his new bloodline, Coat of Flames, while also using Atomic disintegration to cover parts of his body that were still exposed.

This was the reason why he had to build energy because he was using the technique he got from the system two months back.

Energy distribution!

If he wanted to use atomic disintegration to cover his entire body, it would take up so much energy, and he would be drained in a matter of seconds. This was why he decided to use a coat of flames since that one was a more natural ability from the bloodline.

It wouldn't take up much energy compared to using Atomic Disintegration.

"Now that I can finally touch you, how about we go again?"

Swoooooshhh!

Gustav hadn't finished speaking before his figure disappeared from that spot and appeared in front of the silhouette.

"Hehe, don't get cocky just because you became a glowing stick slurp!" The silhouette voiced out and slashed at him.

Gustav's claws were also traveling towards him.

Gustav swerved and dodged the claws while his attack kept travelling forward.

Bam!

The silhouette accurately grabbed hold of his arm and turned around to swing Gustav away.

Gustav's body travelled across the air, with his back facing the pillar-like wall up ahead.

Just when he was inches away, he suddenly spun in mid-air and landed both feet on the pillar-like rock.

Fwooommm!

He pushed out both legs, using the rock to push himself forward.

Swwoon!

Gustav somersaulted in mid-air and brought down his extended right leg on the head of the silhouette.

The silhouette was unable to phase into the shadows due to Gustav's coat of flames that drove all the shadows away.

Grab!

It was able to grab onto Gustav's leg before it slammed into his head.

Crumble!

The ground underneath cracked due to the intense force, and the silhouette growled slightly in pain.

Sweeiii!

Out of nowhere, a sickle came slicing through the air.

Bam!

It slammed into the shoulder of the silhouette, causing it to shriek in pain as it nearly tore off its entire left arm.

As the silhouette was sent crashing forward, Gustav landed on his feet and activated combination.

[Sprint + Dash]

Swwoooooosshh!

Gustav was finally able to use the speed that was a little bit faster than his original using sprint.

His body travelled forward with speed while his left arm swung forward towards the left shoulder area of the silhouette.

Slash! Prriuuikkhh!

The silhouette's left arm was finally severed from its shoulder, and black blood started flowing out of it.

"Grrhhhh!"

The silhouette growled in pain as it slammed into the wall on the other side due to Gustav's added force.

Gustav quickly deactivated combination so as not to use up more energy than he already had.

The instant the silhouette slammed into the wall, it sank into the shadows again.

Gustav didn't move too close to it, so that place had some shadows.

Gustav only stood in position and smiled, "You can't get away... Haven't you sensed it already?"

The instant those words were uttered, a figure fell from the top of the ceiling area on the west side.

Bam!

It was the silhouette.

"Cough! Cough!"

It coughed out droplets of yellow liquid from its mouth repeatedly.

When the yellowish liquid made contact with the ground, a sizzling sound was heard.

"What is this? What's happening? Cough! Cough!" It kept coughing out the yellow liquid as it spoke.

It could feel its body getting weaker, and glowing yellowish scalds began to appear on different parts of its figure.

"I poisoned you... I didn't really know how this poison works since this is the first time for me, but hey... you turned out to be a good specimen. I can't seem to hear those slurping sounds anymore..." Gustav laughed lightly as he approached the silhouette.

The silhouette forcefully pushed itself up and tried to escape by moving closer to areas with shadow. However, Gustav closed in on him, making that impossible.

Swooooooshhh!

Gustav dashed forward and slashed at the silhouette, who quickly turned around and parried with its right arm.

Slash!

Gustav's claws smoothly cut through it, causing the silhouette to become limbless.

It growled out in pain again as it lost its second arm.

'I can heal back if only I reach the darkness,' The silhouette thought as it turned around to run. Still, the moment it did that, Gustav threw out his right fist coated in flames and silver colored energy.

Bam! Pluusshhh!

Gustav's fist penetrated through the back of the silhouette and came out through the front of its chest.

It was still blazing with flames burning through the chest of the silhouette.

Chapter 258 - End Of A Nightmarish Existence

Gustav retracted his fist quickly before the flames could die out, and black blood started pouring out of the fist-sized hole.

The silhouette stared at the hole in its chest with a confused expression before falling face flat to the ground.

'So, this is how it ends?'

The silhouette had thought the situation would end with it tasting Gustav's flesh, but to its disappointment, it tried biting off more than it could chew.

Gustav raised his foot and brought it down on the head of the silhouette.

Bang!

Its head burst apart with black liquid flying in all directions.

The insatiable silhouette ended up dying with a mind full of confusion. It died without understanding Gustav's existence.

Gustav had made use of the coat of flames that poisoned the surroundings with an airborne poison.

This helped in weakening the silhouette. Not only had the brightness of the flames helped in restricting the silhouette abilities, but it also helped in poisoning it.

Without Coat of Flames, Gustav would have spent way longer time fighting it, and he wouldn't have been able to escape without grievous injuries if he managed to defeat it.

The silhouette was stronger than he was at the moment and was also an alien.

The system notified him of it the moment he arrived on the scene.

Sshhhhsssshhh!

"Huh?" Gustav noticed the silhouette's corpse was disintegrating into smoke after its death.

Gustav quickly squatted and placed his hand on the corpse, trying to see if he could acquire its power. Instead, his hand got burnt due to the high temperature of the corpse.

He quickly retracted his hand, but when he noticed no system notification, he placed his hand on the corpse again.

Gustav bore the pain and started stabbing his claws into different parts of the silhouette's body, hoping a system notification would pop up, but that didn't happen.

In a few more seconds, the body had almost disintegrated into black smoke completely.

Gustav retracted his hand and sighed.

'What a waste,' He said internally before turning around after the body disappeared completely.

"Hmm?" Gustav felt something and turned around.

He stared at the spot where the silhouette's body had disintegrated.

A small round stone could be seen in the middle of the ash body outline on the ground.

Gustav squatted and picked it up.

[You Have Acquired An Ulovonturian gem]

(The core of an Ulovonturia. An alien species said to evolve by feeding on other beings with power)

[Evolution Stage: Five]

Gustav stared at the system notification with an expression of understanding.

'So, this is why... If its core kept evolving, would it have acquired enough power to escape from the ruins?' Gustav wondered.

'Definitely not... I'm sure the MBO already knows this too. They wouldn't let it run amok if they didn't know how to catch it if it managed to acquire enough power,' Gustav answered his question himself.

'Anyways, I'm taking this,' Gustav put the core in his storage device and turned around.

Glade was nowhere to be found.

Smirk!

'As expected, he made use of the moment I was distracted to leave,' Gustav already knew this would happen.

In fact, he had hoped this would happen because he already had a plan in mind.

[God Eyes has been activated]

Gustav's irises turned green and scarlet as he activated God Eyes.

[Life sign tracking has been activated]

Gustav's eyes instantly changed color, becoming bright gold. It was glowing so much that it looked like two small fireflies flying side by side in the distance.

Gustav picture a life sign in his mind that looked like, '*+*' and what appeared in his line of sight was a different environment from the one he was currently in.

Earlier, when Gustav was watching Glade and the Silhouette battle using God Eyes, he saved Glade's life sign.

Now he was currently connecting to her life sign and seeing from her point of view.

Glade was obviously in motion due to the constant up and down movement as well as the stalactites being dodged and passing by the sides.

Glade was currently moving very fast in an area that had lots of greenish-looking stalactites and stalagmites.

Gustav kept watching through her line of sight, wanting to see where she was headed to.

Glade felt weird as she moved but looking around, she didn't notice anything, so she decided not to bother.

She kept running, and after leaving the area, she went through another passageway.

Even though his energy was being depleted, Gustav had to keep watching so he would discover the location of the person he was dealing with.

If he had decided to surrender and follow Maltida, he would have discovered the place. Still, he wouldn't know what to expect, so that would have been a truly foolish decision.

This way, he could gather more information without being noticed.

After another twenty minutes went by, Glade arrived in a particular massive passageway.

This one was the biggest so far that Gustav had seen, and it also looked familiar to him.

Glade moved forward more and turned towards the left when she got to a particular place.

A large wall could be seen when she passed through the exit point of the passageway.

It was literally a dead end.

However, Gustav could see about two more participants walking out with purplish glowing eyes like Maltida and Glade.

This was also when he noticed the huge hole in the wall where a square-shaped rock was positioned.

Zwwiiiiinnnn!

Two eyes suddenly opened up on the rock, and they also glowed purple like the others.

Glade knelt on the ground the moment those eyes were opened.

'So, that is it? So much different from what I envisioned,' Gustav stared at the rock. He immediately understood that it was the reason for the current situation.

What he wanted to know at the moment was the plan of this rock being.

"YOU HAVE PROVEN TO BE QUITE USEFUL,"

The same voice that was heard from the mouths of Maltida and Glade could be heard coming from the rock.

"TOO BAD YOU COULDN'T GET HIM FOR ME! HE IS A BIT TOO MUCH TO HANDLE,"

Chapter 259 - Spotted

"HOWEVER HE IS BETTER THAN I EXPECTED!"

"I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD FIND SOMEONE WITH MULTIPLE ABILITIES,"

"THE INFORMATION YOU ALL HAVE ON HIM DOESN'T DO JUSTICE TO HIS CAPABILITIES!"

Gustav couldn't hear audio when Tracking Life signs but surprisingly this one was heard.

Gustav wondered why he would be able to hear the voice of the rock being and the only sensible reason he could come up with was the fact that it spoke to the minds.

Gustav still couldn't hear Glade speaking but every time the rock stated something, he would hear it.

"THERE IS NO NEED FOR WORRIES!"

"HE IS MY TICKET OUT OF HERE,"

"HE SHALL BE MINE!"

"GO AND GATHER MORE OF THOSE STONES FOR ME, I WANT EVERYTHING TO BE PREPARED FOR MY FREEDOM THE MOMENT I HAVE HIM IN MY POSSESSION!"

Gustav could more or less guess what Glade was saying from the rock's reply.

And from what he had gathered so far, this rock being needed him and some unknown stones which Gustav assumed were the grand stones, to escape from here.

It didn't make sense to Gustav. Why must it be him specifically.

"DO NOT WORRY ABOUT THAT, THEY SHOULD BE ARRIVING AT HIS LOCATION ANY TIME FROM NOW!"

The instant Gustav heard those words he suddenly felt a sense of foreboding.

His perception picked up on something in his surroundings and he instantly deactivated Life Signs Tracking.

Gustav's vision returned back to his surroundings and he stared at the passageways up ahead and behind.

This particular area was very large but in front and behind were more than seven passageways in total.

Tap! Tap! Tap! Tap! Tap! Tap!

Multiple feet tapping on the surface of the ground could be heard coming from every one of these passageways.

It was obvious that a crowd of people were headed this way.

"Seven... Twelve... Nineteen... Twenty two... Twenty nine..." Gustav made use of his great hearing ability to count the number of people headed this way.

They hadn't entered his range of perception so he could only use his hearing.

"So many..." Gustav could already tell that there were coming for him.

The instant one of them entered his range of perception, he scanned them with his senses and confirmed that they were indeed participants.

-Energy : 1200/2125

Gustav checked his remaining energy, "I won't be able to go against so many with such low energy unless I fight without making use of powerful skills," He muttered with a contemplative look.

Tap! Tap! Tap! Tap! Tap! Tap!

The tapping sounds kept getting louder. It was obvious they were getting closer. Some had even successfully passed through the passageway and were currently in the vicinity.

In a few more seconds waves and waves of participants started streaming out of the passageway and into the area.

They arrived at the middle in no time and paused their movements after noticing that the area was empty.

They all had purplish glowing eyes and were numbered in the forties to fifties.

Chatter! Chatter! Chatter!

-"The great lord said he would be here,"

-"This location is accurate, how come its empty?"

Although they were all being mind controlled, at the moment they could think for themselves. They were in control of their own body movement, however their minds were plagued with one thought which was, to capture Gustav.

Gustav who was being sourced for positioned himself in between two stalactites hanging from the ceiling area with his legs and arms tightly holding onto them both.

He watched the crowd of participants from above with a look of astonishment. They had occupied almost every spot below due to their large number.

'just how powerful must the rock mental capability be to mind control this amount of participants at the same time,' Gustav felt the situation was a bit more dangerous than he thought.

Not because of the large number of participants looking to abduct him but because of the rock itself.

'There's still about three hours left before my stats return back to normal... I have to hide out for now till that time,' Gustav didn't want to confront the rock as he was now.

He had enough strength to hold onto these stalactites for three days if he wanted to so staying up here wasn't a problem. The only thing he was currently worried about was Angy. He hoped she and Maltida had found a place to hide out.

Gustav was currently naked as he held onto both stalactites. His skin tone had changed to match with the color of the stalactites.

Even if any of the participants looked upwards, they wouldn't notice because he was currently like a chameleon blending in, also the way he positioned allowed more than half of his body to be blocked by the rocks in some angles.

Or so he thought...

Gustav suddenly felt a chill run down his spine and looked downwards towards the west.

Glare!

A pair of glowing blue eyes were staring in his direction and the moment he looked down, their eyes connected.

'Oh well... shit,' Gustav cursed internally as the female participant pointed in his direction.

"There he is!"

The entire crowd raised their heads to stare in Gustav's direction but unlike the girl some of them didn't notice anything. The distance from the ground to the ceiling area was big so that made it harder for them to spot any difference.

It was obvious that her eyes were special. A few participants who had very good perception were the ones who noticed that something was off with that particular spot.

"He's right there!"

The few that noticed it shouted out and started firing attacks at that spot.

In the secluded room where dignitaries gathered to watch the performance of the participants as well as converse about the observations gathered from seeing them perform, the room was currently giving off a sombre vibe.

The MBO higher ups watched the projections in front with slightly confused expressions.

"The participants are going after one another now, ambushing others to steal grandstones, however we it doesn't look natural in anyway," One of them voiced out.

Chapter 260 - Battling A Crowd

"The ones we've seen so far had purplish glowing eyes and after a successful ambush head towards the same direction... too bad we cannot observe them further due to transmission interference but obviously there's something at play here," Another one of them voiced out again.

"I suspect a mind control but our database doesn't mention anyone with that ability among the inmates... participants with mind control related ability will not be able to perform on such a scale,"

"Can you see that they are all headed towards a particular direction of the ruins in massive numbers,"

Everyone stared at the projections and observed that this was truly the case. About four different projections showed participants with purplish glowing eyes moving in groups in different locations through passageways.

When the map of the ruins were displayed it could be seen that they were all truly headed in the same direction, encircling it from different pathways like they were trying to trap something.

They watched the projections and instructed the AIs controlling the invisible cams to follow the participants. However the further they went the worse the transmission became.

It would seem that the area they were headed for had a higher concentration of energy.

- "I suggest we send a person down there to investigate these strange occurrences,"

- "we cannot interfere with the Test phase, we have to let them handle whatever situations may arise within by themselves, that is how we can know if they truly belong here,"

- "And what happens if the situation is beyond their capability?"

- "The research team has properly investigated the ruins before the start of the fifth phase so I believe candidates with potential should be able to handle it?"

The higher ups argued back and forth on the decision to make about the current situation.

Great commander Shion had a contemplative look on his face as he leaned forward and placed his hands that were clasped together on the table.

"I agree with them Great commander Shion... We could send someone in with the command to not interfere," Yung Jo finally picked his side.

Great commander Shion still sat with a contemplative expression on his face.

The room turned silent because they could tell that he was about to make a critical decision.

'Those four geezers left observation of the last phase to me without any plans of attending. Now I have to make all the decisions myself,' Great commander Shion gave a low sigh as he thought.

"We shall send in an official to go in and observe the happenings with the command to not interfere... The official will only interfere if the danger of the situation is beyond the level that the participants can handle," Great commander Shion voiced out.

"The official will infiltrate the ruins as a new inmate... The only issue now is who to send," Grand commander Shion added.

"Well, Great commander Shion... I have someone in mind," Yung Jo said with a straight face, but internally he was grinning.

'This way, his secrets will be revealed to me,' Yung thought.

"Oh, and who would that be, young Jo?" Great commander Shion asked while running his fingers through his yellow beards.

"His n..." Before Yung Jo could complete his sentence, a loud sound of collision was heard.

Bang!

The door was blasted to the side by a foot. A blue-colored female shoe with heels was the first thing that was noticed since it was responsible for blasting the door to the side.

Step! Step! Step! Step!

A lady with beautiful ash-colored hair and an aloof expression walked in. She was dressed in a knee-length red gown with a long green jacket draped around her shoulders.

This person happened to be miss Aimee.

- "What is she doing here?"

This was the thought of everyone as she walked in.

"I'm so sorry, Sir's, ma's, she got in before I was able to stop her!" A male official ran in behind her, begging.

"Not to worry, you can go back to your work position," Grand commander Shion stopped the official before he could continue speaking.

"What did you say about sending someone in..." Miss Aimee voiced out while standing in front of the huge table.

Yung Jo squinted his eyes while staring at miss Aimee, 'An unexpected variable has appeared,'

Pah! Bam! Pah! Bang! Boom! Sweeiii! Bang!

Sounds of attacks rang out as a battle between a single person and a group of participants played out in a particular part of the ruins.

Gustav was currently surrounded by numerous participants being mind-controlled by the rock.

Earlier after finding out his location, Gustav had to jump down from the rock due to the bombardment of attacks. The moment he did that, he knew he'd have to face this mob.

His body was no longer looking camouflaged, so they could see him unless he repeatedly made changes to blend into the environment while fighting them, which is impossible.

Their objective was to bring him to the rock being. So, they went full force on him according to its will.

Gustav had to fight this mob without the intention to kill. This is because he felt killing this number of participants would cause some issues for him in the future, especially when they were mind-controlled.

This didn't necessarily make him pull his punches because his stats were still halved.

Bang! Bang!

Gustav blocked two full-powered attacks with his arms crossed from a participant with a massive build.

He slid back a bit and used the force to do a flip, kicking two participants in the face that way.

"Puh!" Gustav spat out blood towards the side and cleaned his lips before leaping upwards to dodge the attacks headed for his direction.

He threw out his fist and legs, repeatedly slamming into the participants surrounding him and putting them out of commission.

Every one of his kicks and punches sent them flying. However, he was also on the receiving end of some attacks. Due to the numbers, he wasn't able to dodge them all.