

Bloodline 341

Chapter 341 - Suspicious Approach

Everyone started laughing after hearing that, and Glade decided to throw in a little something extra too.

"Wait, till he starts opening his mouth... You'll be assaulted by flying white bullets,"

"Haha, that's his bloodline ability, right?" E.E asked cluelessly, but from the weird stares and laughter of

everyone besides Ria, he figured out what she meant.

Ria and Glade started arguing once again while Gustav discussed with E.E.

They started catching up on some things that had happened recently.

The place remained lively as different performances were done in the middle of the large living room.

Matilda had sneakily waved to them several times from her sitting position. She was dressed like a princess today.

She would have gone to meet them, but she had to stay up there and look pretty as many people came up one after the other to offer their congratulations.

On one of the three tables to the right of Gustav was another group of people in luxurious outfits.

They seemed to be a family due to the presence of two elderly men among the group of five.

A particular green-haired kid in their midst stared at Gustav's table and nodded, "Now that I'm seeing him in person, he just might be strong enough to contend with me," He voiced out.

"Haha, Deitrick, are you kidding? There's no way that clown can match your strength..." The other kid beside him with green and white-coloured hair voiced out.

"He's no clown Carter... I can se..." Before Deitrick could complete his statement, one of the middle-aged men in their midst interrupted.

"You still held back during the test phase... If you didn't, you'd be a special class candidate by now," He said with a dissatisfied expression.

"If I didn't, I'd be interrogated and examined just like he's going to be when he enters the MBO camp," Deitrick said as he stared at the man, "Would you like for that to happen, Uncle Garit?" He asked.

"Hmph! Of course not. We don't want to draw their attention and find out... It's better he's drawing all the attention to himself," The one called Uncle Garit responded.

They all looked a bit similar to one another, which was enough to figure out that they were under the banner of one family.

"Let's just seal the deal with the princess of the Kwoiune family today... I hope you're ready Deitrick, we came all the way from our city just for this," The other elder with large circular eyes voiced out.

"...Yes," Deitrick answered while turning back to stare at Matilda, who was currently smiling while staring in the direction of Gustav's and Angy's table.

Matilda's family had seats positioned right behind her. Several elders with haughty expressions could be seen among the other youngsters in the Kwoiune family.

They all had white hair or partly white hair like Matilda.

Once again, Gustav was unable to leave after an hour had gone by.

E.E's appearance, along with the rest, made him change his mind. He hadn't expected to meet them here today, so he decided to still spend some more time here.

After another hour went by, the youngsters were called to the middle of the living room to dance.

Lots of the youngsters went over to Matilda to request her hand to dance but, she gave them one excuse or the other.

Someone from her family came over to her to whisper something in her ear, "When Deitrick from the Odaly family comes to ask you to dance, accept... This is the order from the elders,"

The young lady moved back to her sitting position after voicing this in Matilda's ear.

Matilda's bright expression darkened a little. She forced a smile as she sneakily stared in the left direction, where a green-haired kid could be seen sitting in the midst of a group of five.

"Come on, go now and ask for her hand... She doesn't dare say no," Deitrick's uncle urged while whispering in his ear.

Deitrick noticed Matilda's brief gaze and stood up just as his uncle instructed and started moving forward.

Matilda's right finger trembled slightly as she gulped down saliva.

She suddenly stood up and started walking forward.

"Oh, looks like she's quite sensible going to meet up with him," The uncle muttered as they stared at Matilda walking forward.

To their surprise, Matilda suddenly turned to the right, distancing herself from Deitrick's reach and arrived in front of Gustav's table.

"Please dance with me," She voiced out the instant she arrived in front of their table while stretching her hand towards Gustav.

The guests and youngsters on the dance floor had astonished looks on their faces. Matilda was said to be very snobbish, so they didn't expect that she would ask Gustav to dance despite his status.

The Kwoiune family behind all had looks of confusion.

"What is she doing? Did you give her the wrong message?" One of the elders asked the lady who went to whisper to her ear the other time.

"No, I told her the decision of the elders," The lady answered with a look of confusion also.

Angy, Glade and the rest of them on the table were surprised at the sudden request, so they stared at Gustav, waiting for his response.

'Aw, I didn't bargain for this,' Gustav said internally. He didn't want to accept because he'd just draw more attention to himself, so he was hesitant.

Matilda still had a smile on her face, but within her, she was begging and hoping that Gustav would agree.

From the corner of her eyes, she could still see Deitrick approaching her current position.

'Please say yes, Gustav,' Matilda was hoping internally, but Gustav was yet to respond.

He raised his head up and stared at her eyes.

'Just what is she playing at? She should know that I wouldn't like this kind of stuff,' Gustav said Internally, not knowing that Matilda couldn't voice out her true intentions.

Just as he was about to respond, Deitrick arrived before their table and stretched out his hand to Matilda.

"I humbly request for your hand in a dance," Deitrick voiced out.

Matilda turned to stare at him, then at Gustav, "I'm sorry, but I already asked for Gustav's hand," Matilda replied.

"He doesn't seem interested. Take my hand instead," Deitrick said with a charming smile hung on his face.

Gustav stared at Matilda's expression. It was only for a moment, but he noticed that displeasure and slight trembling as her outstretched hand slowly descended.

"I accept," Gustav said as he reached out his hand and grabbed that of Matilda's before it dropped completely.

Hope flashed in Matilda's eyes as she turned back to stare at Gustav with an even broader smile.

Chapter 342 - Betrothal Plans

"I accept," Gustav said as he reached out his hand and grabbed that of Matilda's before it dropped completely.

Hope flashed in Matilda's eyes as she turned back to stare at Gustav with an even broader smile.

Gustav stood to his feet and moved forward while still holding onto Matilda's hand.

The members of the Kwoiune and Odaly family that were present had conflicted expressions on their faces as they watched Gustav and Matilda walk towards the dance floor hand in hand.

Gustav didn't even spare Deitrick a glance as he walked past him with an unbothered expression.

Even the other youngsters from prestigious families had heard of the Odaly family but knowing Matilda's attitude, they wouldn't be surprised if she declined him despite their family's powerful status.

They had no idea that in this situation, Matilda didn't really have a choice. She would have accepted if Gustav had refused her hand.

Deitrick stared at Gustav's and Matilda's back as they approached the dance floor with a wry smile on his face.

'I don't think that was not intentional,' He said internally as he started moving towards his seating area.

Some girls around walked up to him to ask for a dance, but he declined them all.

The Odaly family was known for being a very large family in the far east, four cities away.

They were even larger than three large families combined because they had businesses in about ten different cities.

Deitrick is among their youngest heirs, who is said to be the strongest in his generational line. He also took part in the MBO test entrance and performed wonderfully, being among the top five worldwide.

Although Gustav was currently more popular than any of them, Deitrick had been well known for a long time.

Gustav and Matilda's bodies hugged each other as they swayed beautifully from place to place across the dance floor.

Matilda leaned her chin on Gustav's left shoulder area as they danced.

'Hmm? What's wrong with her?' Gustav could feel her hurried breath on his neck.

It was like she was scared of something, which had Gustav wondering.

"Matilda, what's happening?" Gustav whispered the question into her ears.

"I... I... I can't explain everything here... But I promise to tell you everything when I get the chance, please, for now, bear with my actions," Matilda pleaded.

Gustav could feel the trembling in her voice as she pleaded.

"Hmm, alright, just don't go overboard," Gustav replied.

He could tell it had something to do with the presence of the youngster that asked for her hand.

"By the way, who is that guy?" Gustav asked as they kept dancing.

"His name is Deitrick, he is from the Odaly family. One of the most prestigious families in the deep east," Matilda explained.

"Obviously, he is... The haughty look, I'm familiar with that," Gustav said.

Back in the seating area of the Odaly's, Deitrick's uncle was voicing out harshly.

"She decided to pick that kid over you just because of momentary fame... Tch, the Kwoiune family, lacks foresight," The uncle voiced out.

"It's fine, uncle. She was already headed for him before I arrived. I heard that she even got to be a special class because of him, so Gustav is nothing to scoff at," Deitrick stated.

"Hmph! Because they're both special class candidates now, the Kwoiune family looks down on us," The other kid voiced out.

Gustav and Matilda continued to dance together for about thirty minutes until they finally decided to separate because Matilda had already come up with a plan to deal with her current predicament.

She once again begged Gustav to follow up with whatever actions she performed later on.

Gustav didn't like being kept in the dark, but he understood that whatever was happening was something she would spend a lot of time explaining, so he decided not to bother her about it right now until they were together alone.

Matilda returned to her sitting position with a slightly tired look on her face.

Anyone that asked her for a dance at this point was turned down with the excuse that she was tired.

Deitrick noticed this and figured out that this would be the same outcome if he went over to ask her for a dance again, so he decided against it.

After about an hour, the party was finally coming to an end.

This was when families started coming forward to present gifts and ask for Matilda's hand for their sons, who were around the same age as Matilda.

Gustav was really surprised to see such things happening.

'Is this how big families act?' He didn't expect these people to be shameless enough to parade their heirs and sing the praises of their descendants as they requested Matilda to be betrothed to them.

-"Our very own beloved son, Fresces, placed top hundred in the world ranking... I'm sure he's worthy enough,"

-"Not only is our family influential in the transport business, but our very own son is also placed among the top hundred... I hope the Kwoiune family sees him as worthy enough,"

They came out one after the other, dropping gifts in front of Matilda.

At the moment, a middle-aged man with white and grey hair was standing on the left side of Matilda while another man who looked no older than thirty years with very similar facial features to Matilda stood on her left.

"Thank you, we will wait for Matilda to consider and make a choice herself," The man on the left answered them one after the other with the same statement.

'She doesn't even know them, why would she accep... Could this be why she acted like that earlier,' Gustav started to put two and two together.

This was practically no longer a party. It had practically turned into a betrothal ceremony since Matilda had no choice but to pick someone at the end of the day.

'What is this? The ancient times?' Gustav had a repressed look as he watched the display.

"Yo, I didn't know that this was even a thing," E.E voiced out.

E.E, Gustav, and Angy were the only ones with confused looks here.

Glade, Ria, and Teemee didn't look surprised as they watched the display.

Chapter 343 - My Only Requirement

"Arranged marriage is a normal thing in big families... They are most likely to pair powerful mixedbloods from their families together to create even more powerful offspring," Glade decided to explain to Gustav, E.E, and Angy.

"But that's awful... She looks like she doesn't want it," Angy said with a disturbed look.

"She doesn't have a choice," Gustav responded.

'This might have something to do with why she wanted my help since the beginning,' Gustav thought.

The whole charade continued on for about twenty minutes till the Odaly family present finally stood to their feet.

The five of them walked towards the front, Deitrick included.

Everyone's eyes focused on them, and even the people in front asking for Matilda's hand had to give way.

- "Don't tell me the Odaly family is also interested?"

- "Damn, if they ask for her hand, I don't see anyone else getting her besides Deitrick,"

- "Deitrick is in the top five... The rest can't even stand in his shadows... The only people comparable to him here is those seating on Gustav's table,"

The guests spoke amongst themselves as they noticed the Odaly family's actions.

"Young Miss Matilda, as you know, our young blood here is among the top five MBO test participants worldwide... Our family is among the most prestigious on the planet. What more could you need that can't be found in a young man such as Deitrick?" Deitrick's uncle stated while making gestures.

Carts and carts of different things were brought into the place.

Unlike the other families who brought gifts, the Odaly family gifts were way too Plentiful and massive.

"Some of the gifts can fit into your living room, so we have placed them outside," The other kid spoke.

It was practically like the Odaly family came over to flex.

"You both are going to be in the MBO camp, which means you will have more time to get to know each other and do great things together," The uncle started speaking again.

"This is a great opportunity for both families' collaboration and creation of even more powerful offspring for the future generation... Don't you think so, Elder Mue?" The uncle turned to stare at the middle-aged-looking man on Matilda's right after voicing out his question.

"And you, sir Bill, your daughter will be in great hands... Who else would you have as your son-in-law?" He turned to face the man on Matilda's left before voicing out.

It turned out the man on Matilda's left was actually her father.

The Elder leaned slightly and whispered in Matilda's ear, "You know who to pick... Do not disappoint me and go for Deitrick now,"

Matilda's face at the moment didn't have a smile anymore. She hid her current emotions under a poker expression.

Matilda's father leaned slightly and whispered, "It's all up to you, darling... It doesn't have to be Deitrick, but you know you have to pick someone here, or the elders will not let me off... Just go for someone that you feel you might like later on,"

Matilda's eyes squinted as she heard that. She stared at Deitrick, who was currently scrutinizing her from head to toe, with a smile.

The other male youngsters in the vicinity already had lost hope of having Matilda the moment the Odaly family became involved, but they still stood there and waited for Matilda's decision.

Matilda turned her face to the side to stare in Gustav's direction. She and Gustav made eye contact, and Gustav instantly understood that she was about to make a decision that would include him.

'I guess I just have to go with it,' Gustav sighed internally.

Matilda stood to her feet and moved two steps forward.

She turned left and right to stare at all the kids like she was observing them.

The atmosphere turned tense as everyone waited for her decision.

After a few more seconds, she spoke, "Just like you said, Elder Garit, it would be wonderful to bear powerful offsprings that we can be proud of in the future, which is why for that I want a very powerful partner,"

"Which is exactly why my Nephew is perfect for you... No one here can match his strength," Deitrick's uncle replied.

"That is not quite true," Matilda replied.

"What? Check out these losers, which one of them can be compared to Deitrick haha, none of them even managed to make top fifty worldwide," Deitrick's uncle said with a burst of light laughter while pointing at the rest of the youngsters currently standing in front.

- "Hey, just because they come from a big family doesn't mean they should bully others,"

- "Tch, that old man is so cocky just because they're from the Ogaly family,"

Most of them in the vicinity were not happy with what they heard. No one would like to be called a loser even though they were inferior.

These youngsters felt wronged, but they had forgotten that they were also quite cocky, and if they were in Deitrick's shoes, they'd also look down on others weaker than themselves.

"Not them, but yes, there is one that your nephew isn't as powerful as," Matilda voiced out.

'Just who is she talking about?' the youngsters stared at themselves, wondering who that person was.

"Gustav Crimson," Matilda said with a loud voice that echoed in the vicinity.

Everyone's eyes slightly widened as they heard that. This was no doubt triggering since it was very true.

Deitrick might be top five, but Gustav was currently known as the undisputed first position, which was said to rival special class candidates before he even became one.

The Odaly family had an expression of dissatisfaction as they heard that.

They would have loved to dispute the claim, but they couldn't.

"I don't see him among the young men asking for your hand, so what do you mean, young miss," Deitrick's uncle asked.

This was also the question on everyone's mind since they wanted to know where Matilda was going with this.

Gustav also squinted his eyes as he stared in her direction.

"Of course I know that... What I am trying to say is..." Matilda paused for a bit before deciding to continue.

"My standards for a partner are high because of Gustav's level of strength, so right now, I have only one requirement," Matilda added.

"Which is?" Deitrick's uncle asked.

"I will only agree to take a partner that can defeat Gustav," Matilda voiced out.

"This is my only requirement... Defeat Gustav, and you can have my hand,"

Chapter 344 - The First Challenge

"I will only agree to take a partner that can defeat Gustav," Matilda voiced out.

"This is my only requirement... Defeat Gustav, and you can have my hand,"

Chatter! Chatter! Chatter!

The entire place became noisy as they heard and processed Matilda's statement.

-"She wants what?"

-"This might become an impossible task,"

-"I'm still gonna try... I just have to defeat Gustav,"

-"If I defeat him, I can have the Kwoiune family princess... I will have to train hard and try my luck,"

Everyone interested in Matilda turned to stare at Gustav.

Gustav felt a bit uncomfortable seeing everyone turn to give him different kinds of stares.

Some were stares of anticipation, some were stares of hopelessness, while some gave him crafty glances.

A lot of them started formulating different plans in their minds.

'So this was her plan all along... Hmm, I guess I just have to make sure none of these guys ever defeat me,' Gustav said internally as he noted the looks of every suitor present today.

"So, Young Miss, if I heard you correctly... As long as anyone can defeat that boy Gustav, they can have your hand?" Deitrick's uncle asked again.

"Yes..." Matilda said with a look of conviction.

"Hmm, I see... So you want to be assured of strength. Don't go back on your word later when my nephew defeats that boy in a battle," Deitrick's uncle stated while pointing at Gustav.

Chatter! Chatter! Chatter!

"If that does happen, I will not shy away from accepting Deitrick's hand," Matilda said before moving back towards her sitting position.

"What are you doing?" The elder on her right whispered in her ear as she sat down.

"Elder, isn't the main purpose of doing this for us to bear the powerful offsprings that will represent both families in the next generation? I will not accept a partner that is weaker or less promising than Gustav... This is the best course of action, and I did it for the betterment of our family," Matilda answered without hesitation.

The elder had a contemplative expression as he thought of her words.

"So when does this challenge start?" Deitrick asked.

"It has started... You lots are free to challenge Gustav at any time, and if you ever do win, there has to be proof if I'm not present at that time," Matilda stated.

"But we still have to ask for his consent... Don't you think?" Deitrick's uncle stated.

'If Gustav refuses, all this will crumble,' Deitrick's uncle said internally as he turned to stare at Gustav.

"What do you say, young man? Will you be able to handle the challenges of every young man that is interested in Young Miss Matilda? Think about it carefully; you have to handle numerous challenges every day," Deitrick's uncle said with a threatening tone.

Gustav stared at him and Deitrick's for a few moments before turning to stare at Matilda, who had a longing look in her eyes.

"Of course I accept... I will be able to handle all of your challenges. Come at me when you lots are ready," Gustav stated with an unconcerned expression.

Matilda sighed in relief internally as she heard that, 'Thank you, Gustav,'

"Uncle, what do we do now?" Deitrick moved over to his uncle's side and asked.

"Revealing your true strength right now is out of the question, but... Challenge him right now to probe his strength level, so we will come up with the best way for you to defeat him later on," Deitrick's uncle whispered back to Deitrick.

"Is there a limit to how many times we can challenge Gustav?" Deitrick asked.

"Yes, you cannot challenge him anymore after being defeated five times..." Matilda replied.

"Alright," Deitrick said before turning around.

"Gustav, I challenge you to a duel now... This would mean I have only four more tries after this," Deitrick added.

Chatter! Chatter! Chatter!

- "He didn't even wait for the party to come to an end first,"

- "Looks like Deitrick is keen on embarrassing himself in front of everyone,"

- "I would at least go train and come back to try fighting Gustav first,"

Some of the youngsters in front felt Deitrick was stupid challenging Gustav right now, but they had no idea that this was just a ploy.

"Hmm? Where would the battle hold?" Gustav asked after hearing that.

He was quite surprised himself that someone would challenge him right on the spot.

'This Deitrick doesn't seem like an overconfident idiot like most guys, so why would he decide to challenge me right now if he knows he can't win?' Gustav wondered.

"We could move over to the Kwoiune family training ground... The duel can be held there," Matilda responded.

The elders quickly acted and voiced out for the guests who were interested in watching to follow them as they led the way.

Of course, no one left because everyone was interested in seeing how the battle between two top-five would be. Especially when Gustav was involved.

The others who were also interested in Matilda decided that they would use this as a means to observe and analyse Gustav.

Everyone moved towards the southeastern area of the estate-like area where a small thirty-three-meter mountain could be seen.

Everyone moved up the mountain area and arrived at the top, where about twelve different stage-like fighting rings could be seen positioned around.

Also, several robotic-like machines could be seen positioned in different places. A massive target practice was placed in front along with other pieces of equipment arranged all across the place.

Gustav and Deitrick picked a stage that was somewhere on the left side of the mountain area.

An electromagnetic barrier was immediately erected around the stage the instant they went in. The stage covered a radius of over four thousand feet, so it was large enough, but the barrier was mostly to prevent stray attacks from making contact with the guests.

The two hundred plus guests gathered around the place and focused their eyes on Gustav and Deitrick.

Gustav and Deitrick stood in front of each other, scrutinizing themselves.

"Shall we?"

Chapter 345 - Weird Body Pokes

"Shall we?" Deitrick asked as he took a few steps forward.

"After you," Gustav said as he raised his right hand.

"Hmm, alright," Deitrick replied before raising his finger and poking his neck, chest and belly region.

Gustav and practically everyone around was oblivious to the meaning behind his actions but in the next second red glowing lines started appearing all over his face and exposed skin.

Gustav suddenly felt the environment filled with pressure.

Fwwooosshhhh!

Wind started blowing all around Deitrick, causing his green hair to float upwards.

'He just activated gate one... I have told him not to go beyond gate three in this duel. He better listen,' Deitrick's uncle said internally as he stared at Deitrick.

'Hoo, he's pretty strong... Underestimating him would not be a sensible thing to do,' Gustav said internally as he activated Sprint.

Swwoooooosshh!

It was as if both of them were in sync as they dashed forward at the same time.

Deitrick straightened his left palm in a chop format as he swung it towards Gustav's neck.

Swweeii!

Gustav spun and dodged the swing while swinging out his own leg in response.

Bam!

Leg and arm collided, causing Deitrick to spin from the colliding force, but then, as he did a three hundred-degree turn, he stabbed his right hand towards Gustav's chest.

Gustav responded by slapping the arm away and pushing his right hand forward.

[Palm Strike has been activated]

The air was pierced through fiercely as Gustav's palm travelled towards Deitrick's chest.

Deitrick reacted quickly by raising up his left arm to block his chest.

Bam!

Gustav's palm collided with his arm causing him to be sent sliding backwards by several ten feet.

Sshhhsss!

'He's not as fast as I am, but he reacts quite well to every one of my attacks,' Gustav noticed this and stared at Deitrick, who was up ahead with a suspicious look.

'Damn, he is strong,' Deitrick said internally as he slowly lowered his trembling left arm down.

'My bone almost got fractured from that hit,' He stared at Gustav in front with an astonished gaze.

As they paused for these brief moments, Deitrick raised his right finger and poked his left arm, right and left rib cage area, as well as his abdomen.

Fwwooosshhhh!

The wind surrounding him quickly became more intense as he stared at Gustav.

'Gate two,' Deitrick's uncle said internally after noticing Deitrick perform that action.

Deitrick raised his finger once more and pointed it at Gustav.

"Air pressure... force one!" The instant he voiced that out, the air surrounding Gustav suddenly got sucked into a small circle in front of him...

Gustav felt the environment void of oxygen and dashed forward as he held his breath, but just as he took a step forward...

Booom!

The sucked-in air suddenly exploded outwards with intensity.

Krrrryyhhhhh! Fwoooooommmmmssshhh!

Gustav had already moved several steps forward, but he still got caught up in the wind pressure explosion, which turned the vicinity of a hundred feet into a small crater.

Bang!

The wind knocked Gustav forward, sending him flying towards Deitrick, who responded by swinging out his right arm.

Gustav raised his arms upwards for protection since he wasn't able to counter the attack fast enough.

Bang!

It was like metal hitting metal as Deitrick's hand in a chop-like format collided with Gustav's arms sending him flying backwards.

Gustav did a flip in the air and landed several hundred feet away.

'He has gotten stronger,' Gustav was able to notice this the instant both of their bodies made contact.

The back of Gustav's shirt had been torn apart due to the pressure of the wind earlier, but he was glad he already pulled his jacket off earlier and gave it to E.E to hold for him.

'How is he still uninjured? That wind explosion is capable of knocking down a twelve inches thick brick wall... My strike earlier also barely had any effect,' Deitrick noticed this.

He and Gustav dashed forward again and traded blows.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

With every hit, Gustav was able to confirm that Deitrick did get stronger after performing the actions he did earlier.

Gustav was only a tiny bit more powerful in levels of strength right now.

Deitrick used several air attacks as they battled, but Gustav was able to dodge every one of them this time since he wasn't taken unawares like before again.

'Impeccable speed, wonderful reflexes, top-notch fighting skills and unmatched strength all without even activating his bloodline,' Deitrick noted as they battled.

He was slowly getting beat back and receiving minor injuries as the battle went on, but he wasn't ready to quit yet.

- "Amazing, he's going against Gustav for this long,"

- "Yeah, I didn't even know that he would last this long,"

- "Gustav still hasn't made use of his bloodline ability, though,"

- "Yeah, wasn't it transformation..?"

The guests said amongst themselves as they watched.

Gustav bent backwards as he dodged an air Cannon firing from Deitrick and placed his hands on the ground.

He made use of his palms to lift his entire body up and push his legs forward.

Bang!

His foot slammed into Deitrick's jaw, sending him flying backwards as blood flew out of his mouth.

The ground beneath Gustav cracked open due to the hit.

Gustav had managed to successfully land hits on Deitrick earlier, but this happened to be the most powerful one.

Gustav landed back on his feet and dashed forward again.

[Combination activated]

[Sprint + Dash]

Swwooooooooosshh!

Everyone was amazed by the immense acceleration as Gustav arrived in front of Deitrick's soaring body with an outstretched palm.

Deitrick's body was currently upside down as it flew across the air with his back facing Gustav.

[Palm Strike Activated]

Bam!

Gustav's palm slammed into Deitrick's back, causing a loud bone-cracking sound to ring out as a gust of wind blasted across the place.

Swweeii!

Deitrick's body catapulted forward like a rocket launch as he slammed into the barrier on the other end while coughing out blood.

Gasp!

The entire crowd was wowed after witnessing this. It was expected, but they thought Deitrick would at least make Gustav activate his bloodline, but this didn't seem to be the case.

Deitrick slid down the barrier, which was over a thousand feet from Gustav's current position and landed on his knees.

Gustav stared at him with a suspicious look, "Stay down," he voiced out.

Deitrick opened his eyes, which were blurry due to the intense hit, and stared at the ground.

He smiled as he wiped the blood from his mouth and nostrils before raising his head up to stare at Gustav.

"I'm not done yet," He muttered as he stood to his feet and raised his right finger.

He started poking different parts of his body again.

[Combination has been activated]

[Sprint + Dash]

Swwwoooosshhhhh!

"Not this time Sheldon," Gustav closed in the distance between them in almost an instant as he threw out his arched back right hand.

Bang!

His fist slammed into Deitrick's stomach, causing him to slam into the barrier again before passing out.

Krrhhkkkk!

Cracks appeared on the barrier as Deitrick's body slid down.

"This time, you are staying down," Gustav said as he turned around.

"Deitrick!"

Deitrick's uncle and other relatives that were present shouted with looks of concern as they stared at Deitrick, who had passed out on the stage.

Chapter 346 - Ploy

-"Gustav won as expected,"

-"We have no chance of winning since Deitrick was not even able to get him to activate his bloodline,"

- "If he activates his transformation bloodline, that would mean he had gotten serious,"

"This shows that I need to train harder and become stronger than I am before trying to fight him,"

Gustav had suddenly become a source of motivation for his peers who were interested in Matilda.

The barrier was deactivated, and the Odaly family quickly went upstage to give Deitrick medical attention.

Gustav walked down the stage and quickly took his jacket and wore it to cover the back of his clothes that were completely torn apart.

"Good job, man... You just saved Matilda from the torture she would have gone through getting married to someone she didn't like," E.E said to Gustav.

"Hmm, I still wonder what she's playing at... And how long she intends to keep this going," Gustav said with a slightly suspicious look.

Glade, Ria, Teemee and Angy also stared in Matilda's direction as they heard that.

"Go talk to her," E.E suggested.

"I tried that before... I'll try something else this time," Gustav said as he walked away.

"Wait, Gus... tav," Angy called out, but he was already gone...

The guests stared at Gustav with looks of admiration and envy as he moved towards Matilda.

Angy stood beside Glade with a suspicious look on her face.

"Did he tell you anything beforehand about his invitation?" Glade asked.

"No, he didn't say anything... I also didn't tell him I was invited, so..." Angy responded but didn't complete her sentence.

"Why does the atmosphere between you, two, seem off?" Glade asked while pulling Angy to the side.

"Well, that's because... Something happened yesterday," Angy muttered.

Glade raised one eyebrow up as she heard that, "Tell me everything,"

Over on Matilda's family side, she had just finished arguing with some of her family members over her requirement.

They had to agree with her after she mentioned some things.

"So what if no one is eventually able to defeat Gustav?" One of the elders asked.

Matilda had a look of contemplation on her face as she heard this. She was unable to give an answer for a few seconds.

"I will take up the responsibility of marrying her myself," Gustav spoke up from up ahead as he approached the group.

"Huh? You will?" Some of the elders voiced out at the same time.

"Yes, or am I not worthy enough?" Gustav asked as he arrived in front of them.

"Ah no, no, haha, you certainly are worthy enough... The Kwoiune family will be extremely blessed to have someone like you as our son-in-law," The elder who was initially bereaving Matilda voiced out with a smile.

Matilda had widened eyes as she stared at Gustav with a look of disbelief, 'What is he doing?'

"But that is only based on if none of her suitors are able to defeat me in the future... If I am defeated by any of them, she'll still have to become engaged with that person," Gustav stated.

"Yes, of course, we understand," The elders, as well as Matilda's father, smiled and nodded as they spoke.

"Now, if you lots don't mind, I have to speak with her alone," Gustav said as he held onto Matilda's hand and pulled with him as he walked away from the training ground.

Angy and Glade didn't notice Gustav leaving the area hand-in-hand with Matilda because Angy was currently explaining what happened with Endric to Glade.

"Everyone, thank you for coming... According to our young princess requirements, anyone that is able to defeat Gustav will get her hand in marriage." One of the elders announced again.

"There is something else I would like to announce..." The elder said, causing everyone's attention to be drawn towards him, Angy included.

"If no one can defeat Gustav in the future, our daughter will be betrothed to him,"

It was like a bomb went off as he revealed that.

Everyone's eyes widened in surprise as the entire place became noisy.

"What?" Angy voiced out subconsciously as she heard that.

"Where's Gustav," She said while turning around to look.

She felt indescribable mixed feelings welling up within as she looked around the place for Gustav.

Glade quickly followed behind her along with E.E, Ria and Teemee.

This marked the end of today's event. As the guests slowly began to file out of the Kwoiune family residence.

The Odaly family also bid their farewells as they promised that Deitrick would eventually defeat Gustav.

Deitrick had been fed some recovery pills and was now back on his feet.

He had checked for Gustav, wanted to have a word with him after gaining consciousness, but he couldn't find him anywhere, so he left with his family.

Several minutes later, as they sat inside the private aircraft that was going to fly them back to their city, their uncle spoke.

"You did well today," He voiced out.

"Hmm, but was that really necessary?" Deitrick asked.

"Yes... The next time you fight him, you will defeat him because now, he, along with everyone else, believes you have to poke different parts of your body to increase strength when in fact, you don't have to... Next time you're fighting him, taunt him with that a little more and then open the seventh gate suddenly to finish him off... I can guarantee you that he won't see it coming," Deitrick's uncle laughed lightly as he voiced out.

"Hmm, alright, uncle, but he is quite powerful too... Who knows how powerful he will be the next time I fight him," Deitrick said with a wary look.

"No matter how powerful he becomes, the seventh gate will be enough to end him since it's powerful enough to handle a peak Gilberk rank right now... Just make sure you fight him without anyone in attendance. We will make a video recording as proof, but no one must witness the fight between you two," Deitrick's uncle stated with a warning look.

Gustav had brought Matilda to an unknown place within the Kwoiune family residence where flowers could be seen planted around a four hundred feet reddish and brown colored tree.

He leaned against the tree and stared at Matilda in front of him.

"Now, tell me what you're hiding from everyone? What exactly are you planning?" Gustav asked while squinting his eyes.

Chapter 347 - Princess Dahria

"Now, tell me what you're hiding from everyone? What exactly are you planning?" Gustav asked while squinting his eyes.

Matilda stood in place for a few seconds with a myriad of expressions displayed on her face before moving close to the tree and also leaning her back against it.

"It's a long story... Are you ready to listen?" Matilda asked.

"Hmm," Gustav nodded slightly in response before saying, it's not like I have a choice now, do I?"

A wry smile appeared on Matilda's face after hearing Gustav's response.

She understood that she had put him on the spot today, but she had decided to make up for it in the future.

Her face turned serious again before she started speaking.

"When I was seven years old, I had a friend," Matilda stated.

"This friend of mine was from a different place entirely, lived an entirely different kind of lifestyle, but she and I became close really fast because the relationship between our parents was tight... We bonded even though we came from two different places. I showed her my way of life, and she showed me hers along with some of her memories.

It was wonderful because we both saw beauty in our different lifestyles.

This place you brought happens to be among the places we shared memories as kids," Matilda placed her hand on the tree and rubbed it while looking around with a smile on her face.

"Although her looks were different, I felt it was normal since lots of mixedbloods look different compared to humans. However, I later found out how wrong I was... My friend was an alien from the planet Abruikis.

At that time, I never knew why she couldn't go to school, but every time I came back from school, we would meet here, and I would share stories with her.

We were together for three years until one day..." Matilda's voice and expression turned sad as she got to this point.

"Several spacecraft landed in our residence, and they took my friend and her parents away... I knew something wasn't right that day because I remember they were forced away like criminals on the run.

I kept begging my father to do something about it, but I remember the look of helplessness on his face like it was yesterday.

For some reason, my father couldn't do anything, and I had to watch my best friend being dragged away amidst tears," Matilda's eyes had turned red and watery at this point.

"It has been seven years since I last saw her... At least that would have been the case if she didn't send me a message two years back," Matilda voiced out as she touched her storage bracelet.

Zing!

A small circular but flat-shaped object appeared in her hand.

Gustav's eyes squinted as he stared at the device.

"I suppose a recorded footage is stored there," Gustav muttered, and Matilda replied by nodding before tapping onto the surface of the object.

Troooiinnn!

The image of a beautiful-looking girl with two pear-shaped golden eyes and purplish skin along with silky long black hair appeared above the device.

There was a square-shaped black mark on her forehead along with green contour marks surrounding it.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Sounds of an explosion could be heard coming from the footage as it would seem that chaos surrounded her.

The footage shook severally, and although the visibility of the surroundings was low, Gustav could see tiny red glowing particles in the surroundings.

"Matilda, I need your help... I didn't tell you the truth all those years ago, but I'm actually a princess to the largest empire on Abruikis.

We are currently at war. My empire is lacking in forces after my grandfather, the Emperor, was assassinated, and my father also went missing leaving me to cater for the kingdom. I lost over thirty percent of my forces to bad leadership, and some even defected to the other kingdoms after deeming me unworthy to lead..." Tears started streaming out of her eyes as she got to this point.

"I don't want my people to perish, so I will have to surrender... I know many of them will meet their end because of my decision, but I have no other choice so long as some lives can be preserved. I have repeatedly requested help from earth, but they ignored my pleas saying they cannot interfere in interplanetary wars.

I do not wish to disturb you with my problems, but if this message does get to you... Please, Matilda, get help for my people... I know you, Matilda, you're strong... When you become powerful enough, please try to save my people.

If you can't, it's okay too; just make sure you live your life to the fullest and be happy... Regardless of what comes to be, I have always loved you, and I will always love you.

I haven't forgotten all the times we spent together... Our fond memories are one of the things that kept me going through the toughest times.

If I ca..."

Sshhrrrkkyhhh!

The footage suddenly came to an end before the princess was able to complete her statement.

Matilda raised her hand and used her sleeves to clean her teary eyes.

"I always still wonder what she wanted to say at the end. I can tell that something happened..." Matilda muttered with a sad look.

Gustav, at this point, could more or less understand things.

He began to put two and two together, "This is why you don't want to get betrothed to anyone... You still intend to travel to her planet and save her people?" Gustav voiced out with a contemplative expression.

"Yes... Although I love my family and wish for them to form connections, become larger and flourish, even more, they can survive without making use of me... Unlike Dahria, I'm her only hope right now. Getting betrothed means being chained down, and I need freedom, so I can perform this task in the future," Matilda explained.

Chapter 348 - Gustav's Agreement

"Hmm, but what if she's already dead? It's been two years, and before you even manage to get strong enough to go on intergalactic missions, more years will pass... Even if she's alive now, what makes you think she will still be alive then?" Gustav asked pessimistically.

"I have faith that she still is," Matilda answered.

"That's just being naive," Gustav replied while shaking his head in pity.

"It's better than being saddled down in despair..." Matilda said with a look of determination, "I will save Dahria and her people... If Dahria is d..d..dead... I will make sure I honor her memory by saving her people,"

Gustav sighed as he heard that and turned to face Matilda.

"So, the main reason you actually needed me was not just to stall your betrothal but also to help you save this girl and her people, right?" Gustav stated.

"Yes, please... I'm sorry for keeping everything from you till now... I will totally understand if you decide to back out now," Matilda stared at the ground as she spoke.

Gustav stood in front of Matilda and raised his right hand before placing it on her head.

"I think it's admirable that you'd think of doing something like that for someone you've been disconnected from for up to seven years," Gustav said as he raised her head up to stare at him.

"I was skeptical about your intentions at first, but now it's all good," Gustav said as a small smile appeared on his face.

"I'll help you..."

The instant those words dropped from his mouth, a broad smile appeared on Matilda's face as she jumped into Gustav's embrace.

"Thank you," She muttered cheerfully as she hugged his body to hers.

"Whoa," Gustav was surprised by the sudden embrace and was pushed backwards till his back was placed against the tree.

"Ahem," Gustav voiced out, causing the teary-eyed Matilda to regain her senses.

Her eyes widened as she quickly separated herself from him.

"You didn't let me finish... I'll help so long as it doesn't clash with my goals because I also have plans of touring galaxies," Gustav stated.

"That's still fine by me," Matilda displayed her full set of beautiful white teeth as she voiced out.

"Hmm, alright," Gustav had expected her to be disappointed by his statement, but she still seemed hyper.

"That being said, we need to start making plans as soon as possible, and you need to become po..." Before Gustav could complete his sentence, someone screamed out his name from up ahead.

Matilda turned around and noticed Angy far in the distance.

"We'll discuss this later," Gustav said as both of them started walking forward.

Angy was coming towards that direction with E.E, Glade, Ria and Teemee, along with a few guards from the Kwoiune family.

They noticed Gustav and Matilda coming from up ahead side by side.

Some of the guards even started voicing out their admiration as they noticed Gustav and Matilda.

-"Young Miss Matilda and Young sir Gustav are a perfect match,"

One of them voiced out.

Angy's forehead creased as she heard that. She was tempted to scream, 'Shut up,' but she held herself back.

"Gustav, Matilda, you both have been gone for quite some time..." Ria voiced out the moment they were close.

"We had personal business to talk about..." Gustav replied as they arrived in front of them.

"Personal business like..?"

This was the same question on everyone's mind, but Ria was the only one dumb enough to voice it out.

"None of your business," Matilda responded.

Ria; "..."

"Hey man, imma have to leave now. I need to get back home to my momma," E.E voiced out as he stood in front of Gustav.

"You should meet my sister one of these days... She's a huge fan," E.E added.

"Oh, I wouldn't mind that," Gustav replied.

"You two would make cute babies together... She's single," E.E winked as he added, causing Ria and Teemee to burst into laughter behind.

Angy was not finding that remark funny, so her forehead creased even more.

Glade was on her friend's side, so she also didn't laugh.

Gustav laughed lightly before speaking, "Alright, you need to go,"

"Yeah, I think I do... before Angy stares me to death," E.E said as he noticed Angy's dark glance.

"Take care, man,"

E.E shook Gustav's hand before turning around with some of the guards escorting him.

"I think I'll leave you girls to catch up first," Gustav said as he started walking away also.

Ria and Teemee followed behind, leaving Angy, Glade and Matilda there.

Matilda smiled at both of them before gesturing for them to follow her back to their house.

Several minutes later, the three girls sat in the dining area and started discussing.

"Matilda, do you like Gustav?" Angy asked with a slightly shaky voice.

"Huh?" Matilda exclaimed with a confused expression.

An hour later, Gustav and Angy arrived back home.

Angy looked swell and quite delighted as they got down from the ride that brought them back.

She and Gustav walked upstairs to the last floor amidst the glares and looks of admiration their neighbors were throwing at them.

As they arrived at the corridor, Angy spoke.

"Gustav, do you still remember our date tomorrow?" Angy asked.

"Sure I do... Where do you want us to go?" Gustav asked.

"Let's meet up at the Kremlin Restaurant by five pm tomorrow, is that okay?" Angy asked.

"Five pm... Alright, cool," Gustav responded as they arrived in front of each other's apartments.

Angy bid him goodbye and walked into her apartment.

As she shut the door behind, she breathed out a long breath and placed her back against the door, "I'll have to make use of the advice Glade gave me," She muttered underneath her breath before moving forward.

Gustav also arrived within his apartment and took off his jacket.

"I can just hold off whatever I want to say till tomorrow," Gustav muttered as he proceeded to head towards the bathroom.

Several minutes later, he finished showering and moved to his bedroom to change.

"I might have to spend the entire night within the borders testing out my Yarki," Gustav said as he got clothed in black.

"I will also be getting my armor clothing tomorrow... Friday hunting the mixedbreeds needed for the new department Mr. Gon is giving me..." Gustav's mind suddenly recalled something as he got to this point.

"I am yet to open the package Mr. Gon gave me," Gustav stated.

He finished putting on his clothes and walked towards the living room.

He grabbed the small box on his reading tab and started to unwrap it.

Chapter 349 - Mr Gon's Gift

He grabbed the small box on his reading tab and started to unwrap it.

He already knew what was within was recorded footage, so he wasted no time tapping the play button.

Troooiinnn!

A holographic footage displaying a particular part of the city appeared before him.

The moment Gustav saw the highrise buildings on both sides of the road, he instantly recognized this part of the city.

The footage focused on the part of the road where the transportation spatial ring could be seen.

"Isn't this...?" Gustav mumbled as he kept watching the bleeping dark blue and purplish waves within the spatial ring.

Zwwhhooooonmn!

The spatial ring made some weird sounds and brightened up a little, and in the next instant, Gustav saw himself walking out of the ring naked.

"Just as I thought... It was truly that day," Gustav said with a look of displeasure.

'How is it that I didn't notice this?' Gustav wondered as he kept watching the footage.

He could be seen breathing in and out profusely as he walked a few steps forward.

'Based on the closeness of the recording device, this is within my range of detection, which means it was zoomed in from far away,' Gustav analysed.

As Gustav sped off into the distance a few moments later, the recording device zoomed out, and Gustav figured out just how far it was from his location.

His speculation was right because he could tell that the video was taken from more than ten blocks away.

"We got him," These were the next words Guatav heard before the footage came to an end.

"For Mr. Gon to give me this... He must have gone through some trouble to acquire it," Gustav muttered with a look of gratitude as a milky glow covered his hands.

[Atomic Disintegration Has Been Activated]

The object that displayed the footage slowly disintegrated and started to disappear into thin air.

"This shows his sincerity," Gustav said as he closed his palm completely after the object had been completely incinerated.

He knew how this would have caused a big stir if it was revealed to the general public since no Zulu ranked mixedblood was supposed to have a body as sturdy as his.

A lot had already been revealed to the general public, and he was still being questioned based on those revelations.

This would make things far worse than the current situation.

Gustav decided that he would call Mr. Gon later to thank him.

A few moments later, he proceeded to leave the house.

After several hours had gone by, Gustav was within the border, standing on a rocky path with a pinkish glow spread outwards from his body.

A large crab-like creature with green pincers could be seen moving according to the movement of his fingers and words.

"Stop," Gustav commanded, and the creature immediately came to a stop.

Gustav checked on his Yarki and noticed that he still had around thirty percent of energy left.

"I'm able to keep level seven mixedbreeds under my control for about thirty minutes before running out of energy." Gustav took note of this.

In the last few hours, he had been using his Yarki on different levels of mixedbreeds and calculating the usage of energy in tune with the time he spent putting them under his control.

He has only used his Yarki on the mixedbreed in front of him for about five minutes, but he was able to calculate the time he would be able to keep them under his control if his energy was full.

'That's enough experimenting for today...' Gustav dashed forward and used slash repeatedly.

[Slash has been activated]

His arms were coated in a milky glow as they sliced through the legs of the creature, making it handicapped a few moments later.

[You have killed a Quintlet mutated Crab]

[+20,000 EXP]

Gustav deactivated his Yarki afterwards and took the remains of the mixedbreed before leaving the scene.

He didn't want to make the mistake of overusing his Yarki once again, but with today's experiment, he could more or less understand how his Yarki worked.

It would be able to affect creatures and beings three to four levels higher than him, but the higher the level, the lesser the amount of time they will remain under its influence.

The serpentine creature he fought the other time was only under its control for less than a minute. Gustav could tell that if he wanted to make use of his Yarki on a creature one level higher, it wouldn't last up to a second.

He decided he would come here again tomorrow to test it out and keep training with it for the next few days that he was going to be around the neighborhood.

Gustav got back into his apartment close to midnight and immediately started the process of recharging his Yarki.

This time it was way faster than before since it didn't completely run out of energy.

In a few hours, Gustav went to bed after it got recharged back to a hundred percent.

Gustav woke up around ten am in the morning, different from his usual time of waking up.

Because of his lack of sleep during these days, he had actually slept longer than he wanted to.

("Good morning sunshine,")

Gustav heard the voice of the system as he stood to his feet.

"What's with the cheesy greeting?" Gustav had a weird look on his face as he spoke.

("Have you forgotten when you mentioned that I didn't interact with you..? Well, I'm doing that now,")
The girly voice of the system turned cuter as it spoke.

"That sounds quite disgusting... Stop it," Gustav said with a look of discomfort.

("Guess what's disgusting? Your morning breath,") The system voiced out with a slightly annoyed tone.

Gustav; "..."

("Aren't you forgetting something?") The system asked.

"Hmm... Forgetting what?" Gustav asked.

("Your daily tasks,") The system reminded.

"I didn't forget my daily tasks. I'm not about to start today's daily task... I'm not that dum..." Gustav paused as he remembered something.

"I missed two days... Which means I have to complete three days worth of daily tasks. A total of nine today..." Gustav stated with a look of realisation.

("There you go Sherlock,") The system voiced out with a solemn tone.

("Failure to complete even one of these tasks will result in a three-day punishment,")

Chapter 350 - Nine Daily Tasks

("Failure to complete even one of these tasks will result in a three-day punishment,") The system added before displaying the three days worth of daily tasks together.

Gustav's eyes opened wider as he stared at the nine daily tasks.

[Daily Tasks]

<Description (1/9) > Do a consecutive front and back six meters leap seventy times>

<Description (2/9) > Use a single finger to support your entire body weight for three hours>

<Description (3/9) > Stop a stranger on the road and give them a lift on your back to their destination>

<Description (4/9) > Hunt and defeat two Level ten Giorno Stallion mixedbreeds>

<Daily Tasks (5/9) > Survive underwater for two hours without any equipment>

....

Gustav kept reading the descriptions one after the other, and for each one, his facial expression would change.

This kept happening till he completed the last one.

"What is up with these weird quests? And I have to finish them today?" Gustav said with a tone of disbelief as he stared at the list from top to bottom and from bottom to top repeatedly.

("What do you mean weird? You better check out the punishments before thinking of trying to ditch any of these,") The system voiced out.

[Punishment for failing to complete tasks]

<Halved stats for a day>

<-500 Credits from shop currency>

<Teleportation>

[Rewards for completion]

<+1,200,000 EXP>

<All skills level up>

<+2 Stats points for all attributes>

<Recreation Evolution>

Gustav stared at the punishments and scoffed, "Who are you trying to scare with those? I'll definitely complete the tasks even though they are just as weird as you are," Gustav voiced out.

("Look who's talking? Don't get me started with you, Virgin,") The system retorted back.

Gustav; "..."

"By the way, what's that teleportation thing? How is that a punishment?" Gustav asked.

("You'll find out when you fail... If you're so curious, why don't you consider failing?") The system laughed lightly as it suggested.

Gustav ignored its words, reminding himself not to ask the system any questions anymore.

He moved out of his apartment a few minutes later and went on to start the daily tasks.

He decided to hunt for the mixedbreed needed first. The Giorno Stallion mixedbreed was a muscular and rare type of mixedbreed.

It was like a combination of a gorilla and a horse due to its very muscular limbs.

Gustav had only come into contact with this type of mixedbreed once within the border, and at that time, he was unable to defeat it because of its speed and power.

With a pound of its two front legs, it was capable of crushing objects with a sturdy weight of four thousand pounds.

Gustav had already done research on them, so he knew they liked to hang out in moist areas to moisturize their hoofs.

Swwoooooosshh!

Gustav arrived within the border in a few minutes and started moving towards the northwestern area.

He used the map to move towards a place within the border where a small swamp was located.

Gustav arrived at the swampy area in a few and made use of one of the vines to climb atop a tree to scout the place.

He kept looking around for the next thirty minutes till he finally found one, a Giorno Stallion mixedbreed standing in a muddy, swampy area in between two trees.

Gustav slowly and silently advanced by making use of the vines to swing forward before landing on a tree branch a few meters from the position of the mixedbreed.

The instant Gustav landed on the tree, the mixedbreed noticed his presence and instantly turned around with an alarmed look.

It stared at Gustav and suddenly jumped forward before Gustav could get to analyze the situation.

Thoomm! Thoom!

Its two front legs crashed into the tree just as Gustav also jumped away from it.

Bang!

The tree was sent crashing down instantly, causing a loud sound of snapping branches to reverberated across the place.

Gustav grabbed a vine and swung forward as the mixedbreed chased after from behind.

The Giorno Stallion mixedbreed was also capable of leaping far distances with its powerful legs.

The instant this particular one leapt, it arrived behind Gustav with its two front legs pounding forward with intensity.

Gustav let go of the vine and started free falling, which allowed him to miss the leg of the mixedbreed.

'First off, before I waste my time... Is that a level ten?' Gustav asked.

("That is a level 10... Lucky for you, it's still bordering on the line of breakthrough into level 11,") The system replied, causing Gustav to sigh in relief.

("But guess how many levels it will go up if it manages to eat you?") The system added.

Gustav; "..."

Gustav quickly leaped backwards in the next instant, dodging the landing of the creature.

Mud was sent splashing everywhere, but Gustav still bolted forward with speed in the next instant.

His speed was reduced due to the thick mud that kept splattering everywhere as he moved forward.

The Giorno Stallion also leaped forward, stomping towards Gustav's face.

Gustav could feel the intensity and the amount of force those mighty legs carried as they moved towards his face.

Luckily he was only slower than it a little when making use of sprint.

Gustav spun around and sent his palm towards the right front leg of the creature.

[Slash has been activated]

A milky glow coated his palm as it arrived before the leg and slammed into it.

Thhhiinnngg!

A loud metallic sound rang out as the creature spiralled across the air and landed several meters towards the side due to the collision.

'Looks like what they say about its legs being extremely sturdy is no joke,' Gustav said Internally as he discovered that his hit didn't manage to damage the creature's legs.

The Giorno Stallion quickly jumped back to its feet again after being beaten down and ran towards Gustav.

Gustav, who had realised that he shouldn't aim for its legs, started transforming into the mutated bull.

His legs that were initially being trapped by the slightly deep mud were now moving with ease.