

D. of Pride 871

Chapter 871- The Mirage (3)

The instant that they moved, everything was covered in a flash of light. The hall was engulfed in a maelstrom of energy, the force of the explosion tearing through everything, even the space shook violently straining to contain it.

The ground shook violently as shockwaves rippled outward, sending debris flying in all directions.

This brought them back to the present...

Gil-Garna and Shasurna looked on in surprise at the devastation and power packed within that skill which had clearly surpassed the power that a level 500 monster should have. In fact, it had even reached a level where it could give them a sense of danger albeit extremely faint.

There was no doubt in their mind that had it been them in the place of Yverza they might have been a little injured or taken some damage from that attack. Yet the Ivory Terraquake Rhino came out completely unscathed even from that.

One really had to be jealous of that natural gift of his.

That aside, the power packed in that attack... No wonder so many of their subordinates died here, it was because these places were filled with monsters just like the one they saw.

"So even that wasn't enough to cause a scratch in his armour huh?"

Shasurna muttered in a low voice while caressing his harpoon. It was unknown what he was thinking.

"That message we received from the dungeon, it was misleading" Gil-Garna spoke still staring at the area where the mass giant previously stood.

"What about it?"...

"It said that the thing was called Crypt Wight right?"

Shasurna nodded his head, the notification indeed said as such.

"It was no Crypt Wight but something even stranger and much higher level than that"

Right before the end when the mass giant was about to blow itself, Gil-Garna feeling something amiss, used his appraisal skill on the creature only to feel shocked and doubtful the next second.

The reason for that was because the information that he was able to gain from the skill was completely different from what the notification informed them about.

Gil-Garna clearly remembered that the dungeon told them to defeat the Crpyt Wight and take its key if they wanted its treasure. However, when he used the appraisal on that thing, he was able to see that it was no Crypt wWght but rather a creature called the Tomb Tyrant.

What's more the numerous unusual and high tier skills it had, was even able to dazzle him.

Race- Tomb Tyrant

Level- 510

Skills- [Poison Immunity], [Dark Magic Resistance], [Ultra Enhanced Strength], [Super Enhanced Endurance], [Ultra Enhanced Magic], [Bandage Bind], [Scarab Swarm], [Sarcophagus Slam], [Tomb Tendrils], [Curse of the Crypt], [Mummy's Wrath], [Tomb Guardian], [Writhing Bandages], [Corrosive], [Curse of Frailty], [Scarab infestation], [Body Slam], [Suffocate], [Decay Aura], [Pharaoh's Fury]... No wonder the creature was strong. Gil-garna reckoned that the last skill that the creature used was called the [Pharaoh's Fury] and was truly an ability that had the fury of the Pharaoh contained within it.

"ShaShaSha... Well, who cares if the creature is what the dungeon told us or not? Doesn't it all become meaningless once we subdue this dungeon"

Shasurna laughed thinking nothing much about this incident. Even if the situation turned out to be a little different and the enemy was stronger than they imagined, it hardly mattered to beings like them.

"Well, aren't you something? You took on the full brunt of the blast from point blank distance and still came out unscathed. That armour of yours, does it even have any weakness?"

The Emerald Viperlord slithered towards where Yverza was and spoke with a hearty laugh.

The latter showed a smile and thumped his chest. Immediately, a steel like clang rang out. "Haha, there is no way an attack like that would be able to breach my armour" he proudly boasted.

However, under the façade of that proud smug, there was some hidden anxiety. Only he who had taken the force of the blast head on understood how powerful the attack was. If not for his endogenous armour, he reckoned that he would have been injured by it.

That said, and it was something he didn't want to admit but even with his armour, he felt a sense of danger. This danger led him to activate...

Yverza hid his right arm which was of a different colour than the rest of his armour.

"We have defeated the Crypt Wight, what now?"

With the defeat of the Crypt Wight, there was no longer any enemy left behind in this hall.

"The notification told us that we need to destroy the coffin and take his key to get his treasure" Gil-Garna pointed, his eyebrows still furrowed from the previous incident.

"So all we need to do now is break that coffin huh"

Yverza strode towards where the coffin had fallen after being blown off by that blast and used his foot to stomp it.

BANG... the coffin unlike the crypt Wight, was fragile and easily broke apart. At the same instance, a notification appeared before them.

[You have broken the Crypt Wight's curse. Proceed with the key to get his treasures]. An exit also appeared at the same time as the notification popped up.

"Ah, I found the key" Yverza looked down and found a key inside the broken remains of the coffin.

"Finally we get to see the treasure" Shasurna remarked.

The two of them quickly strut forth towards the exit. Gil-Garna followed a second later as he gave the hall one last look. He didn't know why but he felt a sense of foreboding from all the unusual things he had witnessed about the dungeon so far.

However he quickly shook that feeling off once he saw the vast amount of treasure waiting for them at the end of the exit.

"Well, I will be damned. No wonder those idiotic subordinates of ours were blinded by greed to the point of wanting to force their way in... ShaShaSha"

Shasurna licked his lips, his eyes glimmering from the mountain of treasure right in front of him. Whether it be Mana Crystals, Mystical plants or herbs, artefacts or even high quality ores, this room was full of it.

"Check this out, these Mana Crystals, they are above grade five. Not to mention I even see some Mana Crystal Essence placed among them. That Crypt wight treasury is not bad"...

"Right, these artefacts are all [A] tier. This place is truly a treasure vault"

Gil-Garna and Shasurna were from the tribe who had the ability to discern treasure with just a look. As such, they knew that the treasure in front of them was genuine and not a fake article.

"Let's divide them and get out of here. We have been here for a while. Our subordinates must have already explored quite a bit of the floor by now"

The fact that no report came from Gish-bagh or any of his subordinates bugged him a little. However, he didn't think much of it. Once they divided and hoarded the treasure in three equal parts, they exited the ruins from the teleportation circle set up at the end.

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Main Floor... Simon was looking at the window with a pleased expression. After a while, he sighed and looked at Coleus.

"I guess I need to retract my statement. Your creations are not completely being dismantled. On the contrary, they managed to do something out of my expectation"...

"You praise me too much lord Simon" Coleus hurriedly shook his head, a look of excitement flashed in his eyes.

"You too, Fey. That was an excellent trap".

"I am grateful that lord Simon liked it".

The mood in the hall instantly became jubilant once again as they celebrated their first success over the invaders.

What was this success they were all celebrating? Of course, it was the demise of some of the invaders.

The dungeon was full of dangers and the lower floors more so. It was filled with DP burning traps, special areas, labyrinths, Afflictions and [Stories]. It was not unusual for these unsuspecting invaders to die from it.

However, the one to die this time was not just your ordinary footmen or some weak level subordinate but a genuinely powerful enemy who had breached level 600 and was a force on its own.

It needs to be mentioned that an enemy on that level was not something that the monsters in dungeon laplace were capable of taking down.

It would be one thing if it was the denizens of the dungeon or his subordinates who took a defeated a being of level 600. However that was not the case, the one who defeated such a powerful enemy was not the denizens of the dungeon or his subordinates but the monsters spawned by the dungeon.

That's right, the one to take down a high level invader who was probably a right hand man or direct subordinate of one of the Seven Kings, was one of the spawned monsters of the dungeon.

Of course, calling a mutated one would be straining that fact but the crystal and monster were ultimately spawned by the dungeon as such, the statement was not completely wrong.

"I wonder how they will react once they get out"

From another window, he could see the seven kings who had just finished dividing the treasures and were ready to get out. He was sure that they wouldn't be pleased by the news that even managed to surprise him.

He wanted to see their reaction and feel their despair. His demonic blood boiled in excitement. What greater pleasure could be there for a demon than to watch its prey slowly fall into his trap?

In this case, the prey were the seven kings.

Chapter 872- The Mirage (4)

"Call the Chloro Arsenalis back. Now that things have transpired the way they did, it would be useless to keep them there. And besides, its too soon for us to reveal all our cards. We need to reduce their numbers and pit more of the monsters against them. These Chloro Arsenalis who bring in the element of surprise will be crucial" Simon commanded.

The Chloro Aresenalis that he mentioned were none other than unique mutated plant type monsters that were a result of Prime and Coleus working together.

That's right not only do these mutated monsters have assimilated with mutation crystals and he stressed mutation crystals, but they were also equipped with high tech gears and weapons.

The thing that had been attacking the invaders and the seven kings in the darkness with the quantum blasters were none other than these highly stealthy Chloro Aresenalis. The reason why he was

bringing them back was because they had shown plenty of their strength by actually killing a level 600 being.

Now even if they stayed there, the enemy who had become highly cautious wouldn't fall for the same thing again. It was better to bring them back and keep the element of surprise going rather than revealing them so soon.

"Yes"

Maya nodded. She took a few Dryads along with her and brought the Chloro Arsenalis back.

85th floor... Gil-Garna and the others exited the ruins. The place they were teleported to was a distant land that was far away from the ruins they were just in.

"It looks like we were teleported quite far" he commented.

Just as his words rang out, the ground beneath them trembled and along with displacing large swathes of sand, huge sandworms whose size could easily reach twenty meters, emerged from the ground.

Decked out in spikes all around their body and razor sharp hideous mouths, the creatures immediately attacked the three. In return, all that the seven kings did was snort and wave their hands.

Berserk mana erupted and quickly crushed the oncoming sandworms into bloody paste.

"Hmph, they forget their place"

Shasurna snorted. He seemed to be in a good mood after getting his hands on so many treasures when suddenly his expression fluctuated. It was not only him, Gil-Garna and Yverza by the side also felt their transmission conch buzz at this moment.

The former picked his transmission conch.

"Ah, it finally connected. Lord Gil-Garna are you alright?" A voice that contained part anxiety and part urgency came from the other side of the conch.

"Of course I am alright. What can happen to me? Anyways, why do you sound like that and what do you mean by you finally connected?"...

"About that, I have been trying to reach you for a while. However, every time I try, the transmission fails. It was for this reason that I thought that something might have happened..."

The person who spoke was none other than the right hand man of Gil-Garna, Gish-Bagh.

"I was inside a ruin, since you couldn't contact me, it must mean that something was interfering with the transmission inside the ruin. Anyways, why do you sound so urgent?"...

"That..." Gish-Bagh hesitated for a second before putting his words together "I think you need to see this Lord Gil-Garna. Surtana the Venomclaw has fallen. We found his corpse near one of the special areas of this floor, the mirage"...

"What?!!"

The king of the black ogres couldn't help but doubt his ears for a second and lost control of his voice as he heard those words.

What was the other party saying? Surtana fell? Gil-Garna was so shocked that he had difficulty believing the contents of his own subordinate's report.

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It took them a while but the seven kings finally arrived at the scene.

BOOOMM... a sonic boom reverberated through the sky and a black streak could be seen zipping through at an extremely fast speed.

"Where is Surtana? There is no way he can fall. You guys are lying, I will cut off all of your tongues"

The sky darkened and powerful pressure descended onto the area along with the emergence of one of the seven kings who appeared here the fastest. Shasurna raged, one could imagine the pressure born from a being of above level 700 who was clearly enraged.

None of the people gathered in the area had the ability to look up at him and were pressured to the point where they even had difficulty standing.

"I believe I asked you all a question. Where is Surtana? Bring him out!!" Shasurna glared at everyone below but no one dared to reply or match his gaze.

BOOM... BOOM... at this moment two more streaks appeared from the sky at a supersonic speed.

"Shasurna calm down. Let's analyse the situation first" Gil-Garna spoke trying to reason. However, it seemed that the other party had lost his reasoning.

"Shut up!! How can I calm down in a situation like this? You can be all calm because it's not you who have lost a direct subordinate?".

The comment caused the ogre king's eyes to narrow.

"Hmph"

Shasurna snorted and descended down. The next second he furiously barged into one of the special areas of the floor, The Mirage. As one would expect of a trap that was no less trickier than the ruins they had been, the atmosphere and the monsters there were quite powerful.

However, in front of the pure power incarnate that was the seven kings, traps and such of this level meant nothing much. They absolutely or more like Shasurna absolutely steamrolled through the entire thing. A few meters behind him, Gil-garna and Yverza looked at the special area.

"So [The Mirage] is an illusion of a Safe Haven, a forest in the middle of the desert huh? Talk about using annoying means"

The ogre king clicked his tongue. The forest was an illusion created from the effects of a powerful array that messed with one mind. If one did not possess high level power or special skills that allowed them to see through simple deceptions, one would be thinking that the forest is real.

"This is an enormous quicksand. It is so huge that one cannot see its boundary at a glance. No wonder we didn't see it from the outside" Yverza commented feeling himself quickly getting pulled towards the centre of the pit.

"Right, but that is not all. There is something peculiar about this place, something that even I can pinpoint".

The seven kings were in fact right, the entire place was like a giant trap that made it difficult for one to leave once they entered, disguised as a forest in the middle of the desert or also known as The Mirage.

However, not everything was an illusion. A few things like the trees and plants in some areas of the quicksand were real. In fact, they were carnivorous plant type monsters that quietly waited in place for their unsuspecting prey to approach and take shade in them.

It was not only that, but there were also quite a few special trees planted in the area that produced a psychedelic effect that messed with one's mind, making the illusion even more real.

These trees were unique to dungeon Laplace and were items that were originally in the [Shop] of the Laplace menu. It was no wonder that Gil-Garna and Yverza were unable to recognise it.

Nevertheless, due to possessing a high level, they were innately able to resist it. Up ahead, Shasurna crushed everything in his path, whether it be carnivorous plants, psychedelic trees or monsters that came out of the quicksand, nothing could stop him.

And so just like this, they quickly arrived at the centre of this place. At the centre, a serene pond with clear deep water could be seen quietly shimmering with the wind, promising a moment of respite amidst the chaos of the dungeon.

Its surface was crystal clear, reflecting the azure hues of the sky above like a mirror. Of course, the scene was just an illusion for the unsuspecting crowd. To the discerning eyes of the seven kings, the truth was far more sinister.

The true nature of the pond was in actuality a dark enormous gaping maw, yawning wide like the jaws of a fiend. The edges of the monstrous mouth were jagged and uneven, Dark tendrils of shadow snaked around from their edges.

The sheer size of the maw was staggering, stretching wide for dozens of meters. It was so big that it could swallow a giant whole without so much as a second thought.

The dark gaping thing seemed to reach down into the very depths of the earth, disappearing into darkness so deep that not even the faintest glimmer of light could penetrate its depths.

The scene was enough to evoke fear and send chills down the spine of even the most bravest of the soul here. How many lives have been claimed by the voracious appetite of the creature that lay in wait below?

The sight was a stark reminder for even the likes of the seven kings that the place they entered, was not a garden in their backyard but a dungeon where danger lurked at every corner.

The body lying next to the maw served as a sobering testament to the unforgiving nature of the world they inhabited, where even the most innocent seeming facade could conceal a deadly trap.

"This can't be?! Suratana?"

Shasurna quickly rushed towards the body. The body which was missing the entire lower half where the serpentine tail of a snakemen should be and was dotted with numerous gaping holes and injuries, was none other than the direct subordinate of Shasurna, Surtana.

Chapter 873- 90th Floor

Just as the report said, he had indeed died inside one of the special areas of the dungeon.

Gil-Garna and Yverza looked at the wounds of the snakeman with a grave expression on their face. Why would they not? After all, if even a being like Surtana who was above level 600 and could match up to their own direct subordinate could die here, then who is to say their own subordinates wouldn't?

Heck, it meant that even they had a chance of dying no matter how low the possibility was. At this moment, the seven kings realised that they had underestimated the dungeon.

"Dammit, who did this to him? I will rip them apart"

Shasurna shouted in rage. The loss of a being above level 600 was not a simple matter. Surtana was not only his direct subordinate and strongest after him in the snake clan, but he was also the only snakemen who had the ability to reach level 600 from their clan.

Surtana's death was a huge blow for the snakemen something which they wouldn't be able to recover from even if they were given another hundred years.

"It's that thing isn't it? It's what killed him"

In his rage, the Emerald Viperlord unleashed a storm of attack on the enormous maw that was posing as a lake. Each of his attacks carried a catastrophic level of power capable of shaping the very topography of this floor.

At this moment, one of the seven kings the Emerald Viperlord had stopped holding back and displayed his true powers.

In the blink of an eye, the area was complexly devastated and held no semblance of the safe haven that the mirage was. However that said, no matter how much Shasurna attacked the being in the centre of this place, there was no point to it.

Before coming here, Gil-Garna and Yverza had already checked on the being and knew that it had no life remaining. Which is to say, it had already died. The numerous marks and injuries that covered its maw showed the signs of a fierce battle that had occurred here.

Although this creature managed to kill Surtana, the price it had to pay was its life. Yverza's expression was especially grave, it was not long before he had met a similar creature who wanted to kill him at the cost of its own.

If not because he had activated that skill timely, then perhaps even he would have been injured.

Such wits and prudence, it was impossible for a mere monsters to think like that. At first, he believed that it was just a coincidence; however, now that he was witnessing a similar scene, he couldn't help but wonder... the way these monsters were thinking was as if they possessed extreme intelligence.

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BOOM... BOOM... BOOM...

Shasurna continued bombarding the creature with his attacks until not even its corpse remained intact, almost as if venting his anger.

When the creature's enormous body came out of the pit- in pieces, they were finally able to make out how it looked. A gigantic antlion larvae with unique features that separated it from the rest of its race.

Whoosh... finally as if having vented enough or perhaps there was nothing remaining for him to take his anger on, the Emerald Viperlord landed on the ground. His eyes stared at his fallen subordinate for a while before he shifted it.

"Where are you going?" Gil-Garna asked when he saw him turning away to leave.

"I am going where the allied clans are. I am going to command them to quickly find the exit"...

"Calm down, you are not the only one who has lost his subordinate. They are already searching the floor with all their might. Even if you command them to hurry up, other than increasing the rate of accidents, it will achieve nothing else. Calm down, I feel your anger, we shall make the demon pay for what he did".

On Gil-Garna's words, some reasoning finally returned to Shasurna's eyes. He hissed a couple of times before finally calming down.

"Fine, but you better tell them to hurry up. I can't wait to tear that demon with my own hands".

The black ogre's eyes narrowed at that comment "I already have. That aside, no matter how much you hate the demon, he is not yours to kill?".

"Why? It's because of his damn traps that I have lost my direct subordinate. How can I settle my anger if I don't tear him into a thousand pieces"...

"Has your anger inhibited your ability to think? If you kill the demon, the dungeon will also collapse. Our objective is not to destroy the dungeon but to subjugate it and use it for farming resources"

Gil-Garna spoke with a rare austere voice. He could ignore Shasurna's repeated offences towards him. However, this was the only point he wasn't willing to relent on.

The latter was taken aback, he didn't think that the ogre king would come at him this strong for something that he said out of anger.

Sparks erupted as the two kings glared at each other. For a second, the entire area around descended into a complete silence with the aura of the two kings spreading everywhere, pressuring and scaring everyone who was exposed to this aura.

In the distance, the black ogres following their king's intentions also glared at the tribe of Snakemen. The latter also did the same and it looked like a war between the two clans would break out any second if their leaders just gave the command.

"Why don't you two both cool your heads. We didn't enter all the way here just to fight among ourselves did we? And besides, if we do that, won't we just provide the perfect opportunity for that demon to attack us? What we must focus on is subjugating the dungeon. Once all of this is over, we can then try to kill each other"

At this moment, Yverza came in to intervene. Just like he said this was a partnership, they were only working with each other because their goal aligned. Once they have accomplished their goals, they can always go back to being enemies.

Doing so right now, when they had yet to achieve anything was extremely foolish.

"I understand" Shasurna shifted his eyes and retracted his aura. He was not a mindless beast and could see the bigger picture.

Gil-Garna having accomplished his goal, also backed away.

"By the way, have you looked at the injuries of your subordinate?"...

"What do you want to say?"

The atmosphere was still a little strained.

"If you have not noticed, the injuries on the body of your subordinate seem to be from a fierce struggle. The sign shows that, he was pierced and attacked by powerful heat spells numerous times. The antlion doesn't seem to be capable of such attacks as it is physically impossible. Which is to say, there were other enemies here".

A rational assessment, Shasurna couldn't find any faults with that. However, it was just that even if he knew about it right now, it made no difference as his subordinate was already dead.

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After their kings calmed down, the exploration progressed as usual. Though this time, the allied clans were more cautious of the special areas and avoided them when they could. The teams had slight difficulty defeating the monsters thanks to the friction that appeared among the allied clans.

This affected their coordination which in turn led to more injuries. However, that said it wasn't to the point where the teams were unable to clear the floor.

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Time passed by and soon a whole day was gone. The allied army and the seven kings were still stuck on the 85th floor.

"How is the progress?"

Sitting on top of a large construct that was located near the centre of this floor and worked as a landmark, were the three kings. Gil-Garna opened his eyes to question. A subordinate was currently kneeling on one knee in front of him. It was Gish-Bagh.

"Reporting to the Supreme Chief, we have almost explored the entire floor and have narrowed down the places where the entrance to the next floor could be. However, those places are near the special areas. As such, it is taking some time. But do not worry my lords, we will soon..."

the latter who was in the midst of a report, suddenly felt his transmission conch buzzing.

"Pick it up, it might be important"...

Gish-Bagh did not hesitate and quickly answered the call. As it turned out, while he was giving his reports to the kings, the allied clans found the entrance to the next floor.

"Hoh, although it took some time because of the vastness of the floor and those deceptive traps, this was easier than the previous floor. Are you sure that there are no formations or traps around the area where the exit is?" Gil-Garna questioned.

"None that we have found so far"...

"Good, then let us move. We have been here long enough. Pass my commands to the allied clans, they are to organise near the entrance as soon as possible".

Gish Bagh immediately left to carry out his orders. Not long afterwards, the entirety of the three clans that had been spread out on the floor, gathered near the north western region of the floor where the entrance to the next floor was.

As it turned out, the reason why it took them so much time to find the exit was because it was located inside one of the special areas.

Chapter 874- 90th Floor (2)

Gil-Garna and the other two kings stood before the allied clans who stood at ready to march. The former noticed the atmosphere of the allied clans which was palpably tense, a far cry from the strong unity and determination with which they entered the dungeon first. Friction simmered beneath the surface, threatening to fracture the alliance any second.

Gil-Garna was perfectly aware of the reason and recognised that this was not a good sign for them. He had to do something to get them back to giving their all even if it meant he had to lie to them.

With a sigh, Gil-Garna clicked his tongue at the source of the discontent. The trials inside the dungeon had proven to be beyond his expectations and taken their toll on the allied clans, slowly chipping away at their strength sowing doubt and discord among their ranks.

If this was the demon's plan, then he must admit that the latter was quite the strategist. That being said, if the other party thought they could destroy them with just this, they were severely mistaken.

Taking a deep breath, Gil-Garna addressed the allied clans with a voice that rang out clear and commanding.

"My fellow clansmen and the king clans of the Ghastly Winding Forest. The moment to conquer the dungeon is near. I can tell that the demon is trying to use all of his means and powers in his hand to contain us on these floors. The trials are hard and the obstacles waiting for us in the upcoming floors might be even harder"

"However, he had forgotten one thing. We are nothing like the humans he is used to entertaining in his dungeon. We are the king clans of the Ghastly Winding Forest who are used to the laws of the jungle. No matter what obstacle lay in front of us, we had always overcome it with unyielding grit and strength"

"The demon might think that he is in control here; however, he couldn't be any more wrong. If anything, it is us who are in control. I can tell you all that the dungeon core is not far away. As proof, you all have seen and experienced for yourselves the increasing complexity of the floors. He has employed all means and tricks he could use to try to faze our morals and keep us from advancing any further"

"In short, he is panicking. He didn't expect us to invade his dungeon through that shortcut. This is enough to tell us that the floor where the dungeon core is located is not far. The demon is cunning, but he is not infallible, his every move betrays his desperation, and his fear of what lies ahead. As such, I command that you all continue giving your best. For our shared goals, and the day when the names of our clans is counted amongst the legendary clans in the entire world"

Gil-Garna spoke, his voice ringing with conviction. As he had hoped, his words rekindled the determination and fire amongst the allied clans. He could see resolve through their eyes.

The doubts that had clouded their minds began to dissipate, replaced by a renewed sense of purpose and goal. His words reminded them of the honour and glory that waited for them once they emerged victorious from all of this.

Compared to that, what was enduring a little bit of hardship?

In the end, with a loud roar from him, the allied clan began to march orderly and proceed towards the entrance to the next floor.

Observing everything from his standpoint, Gil-garna knew that the road ahead would not be easy but he was confident in the strength of the alliance and his own might and preparations that they would prevail.

And besides, what he said before, not everything was a lie. He did believe that the end was near, that the dungeon core was not far. The dungeon's increasing complexity was a sure sign that he was getting closer to his ultimate goal.

The myriad traps, illusions, formations and tricks they had encountered so far, each one more cunning and treacherous than the last, was something that one could only encounter in a high ranking dungeon.

From sprawling mirages shrouded in illusion and deadly traps to ruins, the dungeon had thrown every obstacle imaginable in their path.

Although he had to admit that it did manage to daunt him for a second to almost change his idea over this whole ordeal, it was only for a second when he cleared his mind and thought about it properly, a thread of logic arrived in his mind that hinted at the true nature of the dungeon.

Although he wasn't completely clear on the finer details of the dungeon and how it works, he did know that for everything there was a cost. It was the same for the dungeon too, the many traps, formations and monsters that they saw here, clearly came at a cost.

What's more, the cost had to be significant given the power and complexity of these traps. Furthermore, given the fact that the demon was utilising such mechanisms all around the floors when it was clear that they cost a ton of money, hinted at something.

And that was either he was panicking or that the dungeon core was near. It was natural to assume that one would protect the most important thing in their lair to the best of their ability.

And so, with their hearts set for victory, the allied clans marched into the stairway to the next floor completely unaware of what lay in their fate.

Gil-Garna's assumptions were logical and his preparations were enough to take down any intermediate tier dungeon. However, that was only for any other dungeon.

Dungeon Laplace was far different from all the other dungeons in the world and did not conform to any logic. Trying to make sense of the things that occurred here was like asking to be humiliated.

Gil-Garna's assumptions couldn't be any further from the truth.

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Sitting in his seat, while lazily glancing at the scene in front of him, Simon gave a wide grin. Unbeknownst to the intruders, a device that was carefully hidden was transmitting all of their voices and action back to the main floor of the dungeon. As a result of which, they could hear and see what the intruders were going to do next.

"That ogre king, I don't know whether to call him smart or an idiot. To think that out of all the things he could say, he would say that the dungeon core is near... If he is deliberately trying to fool his clan members to increase their morals, he is quite the character. Otherwise, he is just a fool like all the others who have been here before him"

Coleus commented, a look of intrigue in his eyes.

"He still dares to spout nonsense even after all this? Looks like the trap on those floors weren't enough..."

Maya grit her teeth clearly annoyed by the statement made by the ogre king.

It was not only her, many others in the room who revered Simon were angered by that statement. After all, the former not only slighted their lord, but also demeaned their home the dungeon.

"Calm down you all, it's only natural that the Ogre King is trying to put down the dungeon and its master, me. After all, when you are going against someone, you have to believe that you are superior to them to maintain the moral. The ogre king's assumptions are reasonable, in fact we should be happy that our ruse worked after hearing his words"

That was right, the very fact that they believed they used a shortcut to come here and that the complexity of the floors was an indication of the demon panicking or the dungeon core being near, was absolutely great for them.

This was their plan from the very beginning anyways.

Simon's words calmed everyone down. He then next looked at the window depicting the scene on the 86th floor and muttered to himself—

"Fifteen floors more to go. Though after I'm done executing all of my plans, I wonder how far they will be able to reach. I hope they are able to help me test out the Faux Boss Areas".

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Time passed by and after a day and a half of intense struggle and many losses, the three allied clans were finally able to clear the 86th floor and proceed towards the 87th.

The subsequent floor just like the 85th, had its own environment, habitat, monsters and conditions for clearing. Of course, the very fact that they were placed lower than 85th floor meant that they were far more difficult to clear.

Not only were the floors bigger, but the complexity of the formations, traps, special areas, mutated monsters, Afflictions, [Scenarios] and everything else were far more dangerous and troublesome to deal with.

With the case of Surtana, the allied army learned their lesson and although they ignored the Special Areas which were obvious traps laid for them, they still suffered a loss from the many powerful mutated monsters and tricky magical traps.

With the case of Surtana, the allied army learned their lesson and although they ignored the Special Areas which were obvious traps laid for them, they still suffered a loss from the many powerful mutated monsters and tricky magical traps.

Even in cases where they had to dive inside the special areas, they did so in massive groups and pitted their numbers against it.

Even the direct subordinates of the three kings had to team up if they wanted to clear the special areas.

Anyways, after going through the gruelling number of challenges in the subsequent floors, even with their warring nature the allied clans became tired and their morals were starting to falter.

Chapter 875- 90th Floor (3)

One of the seven kings and the supreme chief in charge of the attack on the dungeon stated that the end was near. Yet even after they cleared two more floors which were far more trickier and dangerous than the previous floors, no end of the dungeon could be seen in sight.

In fact, the deeper they went, the stifling the feeling of being choked got. It was unbearable and nerve wracking. However, since they have got so far and exchanged so much blood and sweat to reach this stage, they couldn't back down now. The only option they had was to proceed forward.

Although the Ogre king tried to rally their morals with his heated speech and promise of a triumphant and beautiful future, it was clear that his words had less of an effect this time compared to the first time.

Fortunately for them, the upcoming floors— the 88th and 89th floors were far more mellow and easier to clear than compared to all the other floors they had cleared so far. It was so much so that the allied clans felt inadvertently more tense than they were on the other floors.

They couldn't be blamed for feeling like this, after all, the previous floors were harrowing enough for them to warrant the caution.

No mutated monsters, no tricky formations, magical traps, special areas, Afflictions or false environment for that case. The floors were so normal with normal monsters that for a long time, the allied clans couldn't come to terms with themselves that they were still inside the same dungeon.

The difference was that stark.

Thanks to the severe drop in the danger levels, they were able to finally take a breather and compose their resolve and spirits once again. The floors had also provided the allied clans with a safe haven to recover from their exhaustion and the friction that was apparent among the clans.

It also provided them with time to think about their strategy and the abnormality displayed by the dungeon.

Of course, it was not without reason that the floors became far more easier to clear than before even though these floors were placed below the others. If one thought that it was easy to clear, then they would be gravely mistaken and fall for the trap laid by the demon, just like the allied clans did.

Simon looked at the invaders who had just cleared the 89th floor seemingly easily and grinned. The reason why the 88th and the 89th floors were designed to be so easy and had no complex designs and mechanisms like the other floors before it, was because the floors were designed by him to be like that.

The 88th and 89th floors had something in them that the other floors didn't. It was because of the existence of these things that he specifically barred anyone from his side from entering those floors.

The Forest Spring Sprits were denied access to these floors nor any mutated monster or special mechanism was placed here.

It was because it would simply be a waste of resources. The things that were on these floors, were incompatible with others and affected everything around them even things that originated from the dungeon itself.

The very fact that whatever that was inside these floors even affected things from the dungeon, meant that it didn't originate from the dungeon. And in fact, that was the case.

The things that were placed on these floors were although bought from the [Shop], were in fact originally something that could only be purchased from the [Shop] option of the Laplace menu.

That is to say, they were things that didn't belong to the dungeon.

It was no wonder that it was incompatible with all the things around the dungeon and even affected everything around it. What's more, given the extreme inconspicuous nature of these things, the enemy had no idea that they had already fallen for his traps.

Their faces were excited and jubilant from thinking that the dungeon was finally out of resources to throw at them.

Little did they know that, it was only just the beginning. These floors were the only areas they could breathe in respite. The upcoming floors were far more challenging and dangerous than the ones they have experienced so far.

"Inform Melinda, it is finally time we expand this small chink that appeared on their armour"

Simon commanded. It was time he initiated the next part of his plans. Bea beside him nodded and left to execute his command.

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89th floor... In front of a large rotating spherical monument, Gil-Garna and the other two kings stood as they observed the construct.

"Are you two sure? This thing does not look like an exit to me?"

The one to ask the question was Yverza. As someone from the race of Terraquake Rhinos who were gifted with strong physical bodies and no talent for magic, he was unable to spot anything special about the construct.

"We are not wrong, this thing is giving off a stable spatial fluctuation. There is no doubt, it is our exit from this floor. What do you think Shasurna?" Gil-Garna mused and turned towards his fellow seven king beside him.

"I also feel the same. We have already searched the other areas of this floor completely and other than this unique construct, there is no other thing that looks like our ticket to the next floor" Shasurna agreed.

"But how is that thing going to lead us to the next floor? It does not even have stairs or an exit that we can use?" Yverza voiced his doubts.

Up until now, they had used the stairs every time they descended to the next floor. This time however, things were different. There was no entrance or stairs leading to the next floor, instead, there was this thing that was rotating in a steady and mysterious manner.

"Just as I thought this thing is indeed trying to pull us in. If I am not mistaken, the place where it wants to pull us in should be the next floor. The place might as well be where the dungeon core is located. It will definitely be guarded by that demon, his subordinates and Melinda. We need to be careful" Gil-Garna cautioned.

"Your race does not possess a shred of talent for magic, there is no way you can sense the vast spatial fluctuation coming off from this thing. Just wait and watch, this is our ticket to the next floor"

Shasurna replied offhandedly. He then along with Gil-Garna started probing it with their mana and the next second, their eyes widened in surprise.

"Just as I thought this thing is indeed trying to pull us in. If I am not mistaken, the place where it wants to pull us in should be the next floor. The place might as well be where the dungeon core is located. It will definitely be guarded by that demon, his subordinates and Melinda. We need to be careful" Gil-Garna cautioned.

Just like they had thought, this unusual construct was none other than a teleportation gate that led to the next floor. Given that the exit was so special and different this time, it led him to believe that dungeon core was not far.

At his command, the allied clans started moving and preparing to descend to the next floor, their spirits high from the rest they just had.

Just as they were preparing to set off, Yverza who was unusually quiet, couldn't help but speak out.

"Do the both of you also feel a little odd after coming out from that area?"

He pointed at a network of mountainous caverns in the distance. Although that place was no special area, it was still windingly long with lots of monsters present. To get to the area they were currently in, one must either fly above it in which case they had to deal with aerial monsters or navigate through the cavern.

He and the others chose to navigate through the winding tunnels and ever since coming out of it, he has been feeling a little odd. However, no matter how much he thought, he couldn't figure out where this feeling originated from.

"Now that you mentioned it, I also had a similar feeling after I cleared the mountainous region. At first, I thought it was just me. But since you are also saying that, there must be something odd" Gil-Garna added thinking things through.

"You guys are worrying too much. It might be the sense of exhilaration for being this close to conquering the dungeon that you are feeling" Shasurna laughed casually dismissing their worries.

The two kings looked at each other before nodding their heads. Shasurna might be right. They were the Seven Kings of this forest, there was hardly anything that could affect them.

And so, brushing off their odd feeling, they proceeded towards the next floor. On the instructions of the three kings, the allied clans roused their mana and probed the teleport gate.

Immediately, a suction force enveloped each and every one of them and with a flash of light, they disappeared from the area.

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Gil-Garna felt an unknown energy envelop every inch of his body before everything around him was covered in white.

How long had passed? When he came back to himself, he found himself inside some kind of chamber that was half flooded with water. Sounds of running streams and splashing water could heard from the distance, evidence that he was not alone.

There was no one beside him, the fellow kings, the ogre clan or the allied army. There was not even a trace of them that could be sensed here.

"Were we teleported randomly all around this floor?" Gil-Garna narrowed his eyes. His body moved at a breakneck speed and his hands erupted into infernal fire that dug into an alligator like monster that jumped at him.

SPLASH... there was a splash of blood and a few dying growls before the alligator like monster succumbed to its fate.

Chapter 876- Three Kings Vs Three Overlords

After quickly disposing of the monster, he looked around him.

"I can't sense any familiar presence here. I must have been teleported quite far away. Talk about creating something annoying"

Gil-Garna clicked his tongue. He was sure that they had all been teleported to the next floor. However, where he was or where did the others got teleported to, he had no idea.

"So he plans to separate us this time huh? I am quite sure many of the members of our allied clan would have a tough time if they were to encounter those unusual monsters. There might be some casualty this time" he narrowed his eyes.

"Well there is no point thinking about it. Let's clear this area as fast as possible so I can meet with others".

And so, the Black Ogre King started to pulverise through everything as he proceeded forward. The place he was in, was called the Underground Chamber which was on the verge of being submerged and harboured many aquatic monsters.

On his way, he met many unusual beings that were no less strange than the Crypt Scarabs he had met on the previous floors. As for their levels, they were all above level 400.

However, unlike the crypt scarabs who had mind boggling numbers, the creatures in this submerged chamber had their own unique point and that was they were able to coordinate with each other and attack even from underwater.

It need not even be mentioned how much of an edge being able to coordinate an attack from underwater gave this monster. On many occasions, Gil-Garna had quite a headache to deal with them.

Heck, the idea of evaporating this place down even crossed his mind for a second there. That said, no matter how much trouble these monsters were to deal with, the opponent they were facing was after all one of the Seven Kings and the king of the black ogre, a rare individual who was able to grow a violet horn.

Heck, the idea of evaporating this place down even crossed his mind for a second there. That said, no matter how much trouble these monsters were to deal with, the opponent they were facing was after all one of the Seven Kings and the king of the black ogre, a rare individual who was able to grow a violet horn.

Adept in both magic and close combat, these monster stood no chance against him. And so, after a long while of gruelling fight and exhausting travel, Gil-Garna finally arrived in front of a stupendously large gate that seemed like the exit from this place.

Ding... [You have arrived before the Submerged Well. Defeat the Deep Sea Alligator King to exit the place] And of course, this place also had its own [Scenario].

"Hmm? Deep Sea Alligator King?"

Gil-Garna frowned. The name sounded oddly familiar to him. In fact, he had met such a being before too, someone who tried to challenge them once a long time ago and was chased away from the Western region of the forest.

"It couldn't be those letdowns who occupied the northern region of the forest right?".

In any case, he pushed the massive gate open and was immediately flooded by waves of water that poured in. Beyond the gate, was a massive hall submerged in water that reached up to an adult human's head.

Even with his height, which was well over 6 feet, Gil-Garna was barely able to stand still. In the middle of the hall, there was an enormous dark well that looked like the maw of the abyss.

A faint presence could be felt from deep inside that well. When the Ogre King entered inside the hall, the gate closed behind him leaving no room for retreat.

The place was dark with no light present. An eerie silence pervaded the place and the only sound that rang out was the splashing noise from his movements.

Time passed by... just as Gil-Garna slowly made his way over to the edges of the well, the entire place started trembling with waves crashing all over the room. A massive column of water rose from the well and besieged the hall in all directions.

Its first target was the ogre king who deftly avoided the attack and retreated back. Nevertheless, with so much water filling the hall, the overall level of water rose, making it impossible for anyone to remain standing.

Gil-Garna was forced to use his Mana Wings.

"So you are finally willing to show yourself huh?" As he started at the dark well, an enormous figure emerged from within. Its eyes glowed underwater and when it finally peeked its head out, its figure could finally be seen clearly.

Pointed snout, elongated jaws riddled with razor sharp teeth and menacing appearance that could scare anyone. The creature had blackish grey skin covered with bony plate shaped scales that indicated its powerful defence.

It had an enormous body and an equally long tail to boot. There was no doubt, it was the Deep Sea Alligator King that Gil-Garna was familiar of.

"Hoh, to think that I would meet you here. Did you bow in submission to that demon?"...

"Insolence, you dare speak to my master like that?"

The Deep Sea Alligator King roared in anger. Its large murky brown eyes stared at the ogre king without a shred of fear. If it was previously, the former wouldn't even dare to peek its head out of the water after all, it still vividly remembered the defeat he had once suffered from one of the seven kings, the Emerald Viperlord Shasurna.

However, this time was different. Not only was he far stronger than before, but he also found an ideal home where he and his clansmen could grow stronger without needing to be in the fear of the seven kings continuously.

As could be seen from the faint changes that occurred to the appearance of the Deep Sea Alligator King. It could now stand on its two hindlegs and showed high intelligence, a tell tale sign that it was not far away from achieving a humanoid form.

It now not only dared to peak its head in front of one of the beings who stood on an equal level as the Emerald Viperlord, but even argue back.

"Heh, it looks like you have grown quite some galls in these few years. Did you forget about that humiliating defeat you suffered under the hands of Shasurna? I remember him telling me how you pathetically begged for your life and had to leave your former home behind"

Gil-Garna mocked, recounting the tales he heard from the Emerald Viperlord. However, contrary to his expectation, not only did the Deep Sea Alligator King not get angry, but it even grinned in return.

"That was past, this time if we were to fight again, the results would be quite different from before"...

"Hoh?!! How so? Let me experience where you are getting that confidence from for myself" Gil-Garna clenched his hands, the powerful aura of a being well above level 700 descended onto the place.

Facing that pressure, the eyes of the Deep Sea Alligator King shook for a second but was covered with an unyielding determination the next second.

He had been given a mission by his lord and master who provided him with all sorts of unconditional resources and environment to grow. If he didn't show the results of his growth, then it would only be shaming itself.

And so giving a deep guttural roar that vibrated the very air, the deep sea alligator king roused its own powers. The energy of a level 600 being flooded the place and clashed against the Ogre King's.

"Interesting... show me what you have got"

Feeling the surge of power, Gil-Garna grinned widely. The next second he activated his own skill Infernal Claws to clash against the massive barbed tail that came swatting at him.

BOOM... air was blasted apart and massive waves churned inside the room. The skill from Gil-Garna caused a small part of the tail to become charred black; nevertheless, the force from it was still able to push him back and crash into the wall.

BANG... BANG... BANG... right after that huge water missiles spewed by the Deep Sea Alligator King came targeting him.

"Hellfire Blaze" a soft mutter leaked from Gil-Garna and at the same time a powerful heat capable enough to instantly evaporate the surrounding water and the water missiles before they even got close, radiated out of his body.

Flames churned and revolved around him like a tornado. Any attack and skills that came at him were instantly evaporated. Not only that, the violet horn on his forehead flashed and extreme winds capable enough to tear anything apart, started brewing around with him at the centre.

Two advanced magic at the same time and all it took was a couple of seconds to invoke them. From this, one could gauge how powerful one of the Seven Kings was.

"This isn't everything that you can do right? Come, show me your abilities".

In return to his taunt, the Deep Sea Aligator King thrashed around creating swirls in the surface of the water all around the hall. What came out of those swirls a few seconds later were beings who resembled lizzardmen but were made of water.

ROAARRR... at his roar, these lizzardmen charged towards Gil-Garna unafraid of life and death. That was not all, after creating numerous lizzardmen, the Deep Sea Alligator king submerged itself back into the water and started circling around his opponent.

Its massive body along with its momentum created a huge whirlpool that offset some of the heat and wind from the two advanced magic. Utilising this chance, the lizzardmen who now transformed into a jet of water came crashing down on Gil-Garna.

"Not bad..." the latter grinned. A crimson shade appeared on his skin and his body increased in size in the blink of an eye.

Chapter 877- Three Kings Vs Three Overlords (2)

"[Raging Havoc Smash]"

BANG... he blasted a punch in the air that created a tunnel of vacuum that blew apart any and all incoming attacks. The race of Black Ogres were not only blessed in magic, but they were also gifted with a strong physical body for close combat.

And even among his race, Gil-Garna was a step above. The punch he threw just now was one of exclusive abilities of his race that utilised the berserk mana flowing into the body and the powerful physical body of an Ogre to create a physical chaotic effect.

A single punch destroyed all the attacks from the Deep Sea Alligator King. However, the battle was far from over. The eyes of one of the former overlord of the north, said it all.

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While Gil-Garna was battling the Deep Sea Alligator King, on another corner of the floor, Yverza and Shasurna who were similarly teleported to a random place on the 90th floor, were also engaged in a fierce fight against the Lightning Draconic Serpent and the Earth Shattering Lower Dragon.

The former overlords of the north were now acting as the defence and shield of the dungeon fighting against the rulers of the forest, the seven kings.

From the blinding flashes and roaring explosions that shook the ground for dozens of miles, creating craters and devastating every structure around them, the intensity of the fight could be imagined.

The three overlords of the north although strong, weren't at the levels they were in right now previously. It was only after submitting to Simon and coming to the dungeon did they start growing.

Their level which had stagnated at the late level 400, exploded and helped them reach levels beyond their expectations from the numerous resources they received from the demon and the dungeon.

In fact, the quantity and quality of resources they received, was multiple times greater than even some of the Seven Kings who had their lair in mana enriched places of the forest.

Given the numerous advantages and the effects of pride that extended to any and all beings under Simon's dominion, it was only natural that they broke out of their shells and reached levels unimaginable even to them.

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BOOOM... two massive forces collided, sending shockwaves that reverberated through the battlefield, shaking the very foundations of the earth. A tiny and a massive figure charged at each other, massive craters formed wherever their attacks landed in a violent display of power.

One of them had a lower serpentine body with emerald scales decorating their body and utilising a long harpoon while the other figure had a gigantic body with sturdy looking crystal like scales protruding from every corner of their body.

A wide jaw filled with spear like teeth and large horns that looked like millennium old rocks, decorated their head. The being stared on with its two draconic eyes and opened its mouth to dish out a powerful breath attack.

The two figures were none other than Shasurna the Emerald Viperlord and the Earth Shattering Lower Dragon.

Tsk... the former clicked his tongue and swiftly avoided the breath attack. Even for Shasurna that attack was dangerous and would no doubt injure him. He was not Yverza and didn't have the natural fortress like armour the latter did.

That said, as a rare individual from his race, the way he fought and the abilities he possessed did give him the right to call himself one of the seven kings. As could be seen from the way he easily manoeuvred through the terrain going around the many earth spikes, boulder like mountains and cracked earth to reach his opponent.

The terrain no doubt gave an absolute advantage to his opponent; however, that was not a problem for Shasurna. In fact, even as the Earth Shattering Lower Dragon hid himself inside the earth and used its powerful earth manipulation skill to deal surprise attacks from below, he who could see the heat signs of his target thanks to the exclusive skill he possessed could easily dodge them.

Not only that, his attacks were as unusual as his maniacal movements.

"[Ice Serpent Strike]" Using a rock to change direction abruptly using her tail, Shasurna leapt up, swirled her harpoon and thrust towards the earth thrice.

Extreme cold haze that took the shapes of snakes the next second slithered out of the harpoon and charged in a motion that seemed like they were actual living entities. The ice snakes that were each ten feet long, tunnelled inside the earth while leaving an extreme cold wind behind.

"Haha, this is fun. I have fought with the likes of you before. What was it? Ah, that's right you call yourselves the three overlords of the north. Right, Deep Sea Alligator King was it? Anyways, I have fought with that brat before. However, unlike you, he wasn't able to give me as much excitement in battle as I am having right now".

He kept dishing out attacks as he spoke. Large swathes of earth and mountains were quickly covered in ice wherever he went.

"Honestly, that guy was a disappointment. At first, I thought that I would make him my subordinate; however, when I saw him begging for his life when he lost to me, I felt so repulsed that I changed my mind. Instead, I kicked him out of the western region of the forest".

BOOM... finally as if unable to handle the attack that tunnelled into the ground, the Earth Shattering Lower dragon surfaced out.

Large swathes of sand and dirt fell down along with large clusters of ice, signs that even after tunnelling into the ground, they did not lose any of their power.

"Aren't you something? This is the first time somebody is able to take on so many of my attacks and still stay standing. How about it? Do you want to become my subordinate? As it turns out, the position of my direct subordinate is empty right now"

"If you are willing to bow to me, I can give you that seat. You shall enjoy resources and power that no ordinary monster in this forest would even dream of" Shasurna looked at the Earth Shattering Lower Dragon and offered.

Even though a large portion of its body was covered in ice and those sturdy ancient crystals on its back were cracked and broken, the latter still stood there standing defiantly.

"Fool who doesn't know what's better for them. Very well, I shall show you how naive your thoughts are. Did you really think you can win against me, one of the seven kings of the Ghastly Winding Forest just because you have breached level 600? Let me show you what it means to stand on the realm that we are in... Arctic Harpoon Fury"

Right as he spoke those words, a powerful cold to the extreme blizzard emitted out of the harpoon covered the area, freezing the lands in the blink of an eye.

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While this happened, in another area, somewhere on the 90th floor.

"[Titanic Adamantine Barrage]" Yverza who was facing the Lightning Draconic Serpent utilised his own advanced skill.

"[World Thunder Dome]"

Facing the attack that was a pure marvel of physical strength and extreme defence, the Lightning Draconic Serpent did not dare to slight it and used its own most powerful attack.

The peak of the mountain was immediately covered with crimson thunder clouds that generated an extreme amount of thunder. Even before their attacks collided, the air crackled with raw magic and sheer physical force.

BOOOM... and then with a devastating might that blew apart the very mountain and everything and anything in dozens of miles around them, the two attacks collided.

"Dammit, I was blown back quite far"

Yverza commented as he slowly pulled himself out of the debris of the mountain. The force from their previous collision had sent him flying from the top of the mountain peak to here. Nevertheless, thanks to his endogenous armour, he suffered minimal damage.

"Alright, I admit you are quite good. Amongst my subordinates, only Grom and Durak can match up to you. However, it is still too naive for you to think that you can defeat me. Lightning Draconic Serpent, how about we end this.... Huh?"

Yverza who was in the midst of giving an internal monologue, suddenly noticed that his opponent was missing. Heck, forget about their presence, not even the sign of their existence could be felt.

The only thing that was left in place of them was the quietly rotating formation which slowly got smaller before disappearing completely.

At the same time, similar scenes also occurred in the other places. Shasurna noticed the disappearance of the Earth Shattering Lower Dragon after it suddenly went berserk and unleashed all of its strength at once to counter his [Arctic Harpoon Fury].

Inside the submerged chamber, Gil-Garna looked at the disappearing formation at the bottom of the well before muttering in an annoyed and frustrated tone.

"So it ran away huh? Dammit, I will not forgive you for insulting my honour" He grit his teeth releasing his skill [Ogre Overlord's Prestige].

His skin slowly returned to normal and he was back to his original size from the hulking three meter crimson giant he had become.

[Ogre Overlord's Prestige] A lost ancient exclusive skill that allows him to utilise the full strength in his blood and revert to his original form. Given that he had invested so much of his time and even resorted to using one of his most powerful skills and trump cards to fight his opponent, the latter's retreat naturally pissed him off.

Chapter 878- Call from Melinda

Ding... at this moment, a notification from the dungeon appeared in front of Gil-garna.

[You have defeated the Deep Sea Alligator King. Proceed towards the exit to receive the reward].

The Ogre King read the notification and frowned. Although his opponent ran away from him, it still technically counted as him defeating his opponent. In any case, now that there was nothing for him to do here, he did as per the notification and headed for the exit that appeared after he defeated his opponent.

The reward for defeating the Deep Sea Alligator king was quite grand and was many times more rare than what they got hold of in the previous floors after defeating the Tomb Tyrant.

Hoarding everything that was there, Gil-Garna stood in front of the teleportation circle and in the next second with a flash of light he was teleported to a different place.

A wide sky and a lush green land, the first thing the ogre king noticed was that he was no longer in that submerged chamber. He was out!

BUZZ... just as he was about to take flight and regroup with his subordinates that he could sense in the distance, an object that was placed near him in an oh so conspicuous manner, buzzed.

Shifting his head, he noticed that it was a transmission conch. That's right, the buzzing noise came from the transmission conch that was placed near him.

In the middle of wide plains surrounded by nothing but tall grass and wild plants, there was a dais and on top of that dais there was a transmission conch which was receiving a signal at this moment.

Now if one looked at the situation, anyone with half a brain could tell that this was a set up. Or else how could anyone place a transmission conch exactly at the area where he would exit from?

Gil-Garna had no doubt that this was something that was done by the enemy. For the other side to contact him in such a manner, naturally he was intrigued.

And so, he picked up the call and the voice that came from the other side— was as expected from the enemy.

"Huhu, Congratulations on winning that fight against the Deep Sea Alligator King. That was an exhilarating show or should I say as expected of someone who holds the same rank as me? It was a good fight".

A feminine voice that carried an inborn seductiveness and provocation to it, rang out.

Hearing that voice, Gil-Garna was stunned for a second, his mind raced with numerous thoughts as he tried to put the situation together.

"So it's you huh? Why are you trying to contact me after ignoring all of my communication for the past couple of months?" he questioned, his tone not so friendly.

"You don't seem surprised that I am calling you from the enemy's side? It looks like you had already foreseen this development. Hehe, you have a good head on top of your shoulders"...

"Stop with your nonsense, Melinda. Do you think I'm like those ordinary ogres who would fall for it? Speak, why did you call me?" the voice coming from the other side was none other than from the Queen of the Harpies and one of the Seven Kings.

"Booo~ you are no fun. That said, I called you for a very important reason" Melinda spoke provocatively.

"Oh and what's that?"...

"Hehe, I called you to suggest an alliance?"...

"Alliance?!!" Gil-Garna's brows twitched and he replied in an indignant manner "After rejecting my offer of forming an alliance all this time, you have some nerve to suggest one now"

"What is your motive? Don't tell me that you finally realise how foolish of an idea it was to ally yourself with the demon? Or is this one of your ruse huh?".

No matter how furious he acted outwardly, he was still rational. If it was any other ogre they would immediately fall for the provocative and coquettish voice coming from the conch and agree to her terms immediately.

However, he was different, he knew this cunning woman very well as such, he could tell that it was a trap set by her to destroy them.

It was either that or she realised that she was in grave danger now that they were this close to the dungeon core, she wanted to switch boats.

Since she has allied herself with the demon or perhaps seduced the demon and made him her puppet of sorts, in any case, her fate was now closely linked to the dungeon. If it falls, it would also spell the end for her and leave her and her clansmen vulnerable to their attacks.

She must have realised that she didn't stand a chance at resisting against three of the Seven Kings after seeing their army arrive so close to the dungeon core and was thus planning to change boats.

No matter what it was, whether it was a trap or not, it did not matter at this point.

"Do you recall the words I sent my subordinate to give you? I told you that you would regret not joining my alliance. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity and if you miss it, you won't be able to join again. Are you regretting your choice now?"...

"Come on, don't be like that. Okay, I admit that I made a mistake by not joining your alliance previously. So give me a chance now. If you want, I can even give you a free pass to the dungeon core floor"..

"You should know me, I have already brainwashed the mind of the demon who is the master of this place. If I want to, I can easily manipulate him to do my bidding. There are still a couple of floors left before you reach here. You don't want more casualties to appear in your clan right?"

The voice spoke in a mellow yet threatening tone.

Hearing her words, the first reaction that Gil-Garna had was disbelief. "Impossible, you are simply throwing around empty words".

Chapter 879- Three Headed Boss Frog

They had already descended so many floors and overcame numerous monsters and complex mechanisms on their way. Even if it was an unusual dungeon, there has to be a limit for things right? There is no way there could be more floors like these after this.

"It's your wish if you want to believe me or not. In any case, you can always give it a try. However, I wonder if you really want to gamble with the remaining lives of your clansmen"...

"I know you are a very ambitious men. You have been amassing your strength and slowly building your clan to eventually surpass all the other king clans. You don't want to share the throne but sit on it by yourself. So do you really want to destroy all your efforts like this?"

There was a silence for a while as none of the parties said anything after that. However, this silence didn't last for long and was broken by Gil-Garna who tightly gripped the transmission conch.

"Enough with your nonsense. I know that you won't allow a safe passage to the dungeon core without any reason. What are you scheming?" he barked out.

"What a rude thing to say. However, since you have asked let me tell you what I want..."...

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A few distance away, the allied clans who felt the presence of one of the seven kings, started gathering near him.

They who had been randomly teleported to all across the floor, were struggling to fight the monsters and working their way out.

To make matters worse, they couldn't even contact their superiors or the ones directly above them. In a state where they were uncertain about what was going on, they could only wander around randomly trying to find their comrades and superiors.

At a time like this, the ogre king's presence was like a beacon of light drawing the uncertain and the lost towards him. .

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"How about it? That way, you get what you want and I get what I want"

"Hmph"

Crack... When they arrived at the scene, they saw the ogre king talking to someone on the transmission conch before breaking it.

Seeing that his mood didn't look good, they didn't know whether to approach him or not. Some time passed by, it was then that the ogre king turned towards them and commanded.

"What are you all standing around for? Quickly form teams to search for others. The allied clans have been teleported randomly all around the floor. Find them and get to clearing the place"

On Gil-Garna's command, the clan members hurriedly left to carry out his orders. After that, he hurriedly unfolded his mana wings and took to the skies.

He seemed to be in a particularly bad mood as such, he failed to notice that his entire conversation had been spied on by a couple of allied clan members who had good hearing.

Nevertheless, since their position was much below the seven kings, they did not dare to speak about it out loud nor ask about it from him. That said, even though they couldn't discuss it with one of the seven kings, it was only a matter of time before it spread amongst the allied clans.

In another corner of the 90th floor, just like how Gil-Garna was teleported to a random place after he cleared the area he was in, the other two kings were also similarly teleported to a random place.

With a flash of light, Yverza found himself on top of the roof of a ruin. Abandoned buildings with dust and cracks covered his vision and there was a bright blue sky above him. He was out!! "Right now, we were in the midst of exploring this area of the floor. We just came here thinking that we might discover something inside the ruins, when we found you here"...

12:48

However, unlike Gil-Garna he wasn't alone nor was there a transmission conch placed in front of him. It was just him and a couple of members of the allied clans who were also teleported here randomly.

"Lord Yverza!!"

When these members saw him, they hurriedly kneeled and gave their respect.

The former nodded, looked around before asking "Do any of you know where we are?"...

"Yes, this area seems to be the border of south eastern region of the floor. If we head further south from here, we will eventually hit the wall" one of the subordinates answered.

"I see, it looks like we were teleported quite far. Anyways, how is the exploration going? Have you guys met with the others yet?"...

"About that, we tried to contact our superiors and leaders. However, we are unable to get in touch with them. We also tried to find others around the area but other than the ones we started with, we haven't found anyone else yet"...

"Right now, we were in the midst of exploring this area of the floor. We just came here thinking that we might discover something inside the ruins, when we found you here"...

Hearing the subordinates reply, Yverza made a conflicted face. From what he could tell, quite some time must have passed while he was clearing the area he was teleported to.

Then there was also the fight he was engaged not long ago. Adding up all that, quite some time must have passed. By now, the allied army which was scattered throughout the floor should have gathered themselves or at least made communication with the rest of the allied or clan or so he thought.

However, the answer he received was different from his expectations.

What was going on? Why didn't any of the leaders and direct subordinates selected to lead the allied clans send any reports or try to handle the situation yet?

Feeling something off, Yverza took out his transmission conch. That was when he noticed that he had received several transmission calls from his subordinates.

However, the transmissions were all interrupted and weren't properly disseminated.

"Gorm can you hear? Durak are you there? Respond if you find my transmission. Dammit, what are they doing? Why is no one picking up my transmission?" the Ivory Terraquake Rhino spat in frustration.

Chapter 880- Three Headed Boss Frog (2)

"Lord Yverza, what are your orders for us?"

The group of allied members kneeling in front of him questioned. He was just about to respond to them, when the transmission conch in his hand buzzed.

Seeing that it was from one of his direct subordinates, he quickly picked up the call.

"ZZZzzz.... TZZzzz Haa!... Haa!... L-lord Yverza..." The sound that came from the other end of the conch, contained a lot of static and huffing. The transmission also disconnected and connected intermittently making it very difficult to make any sense.

"Gorm?! Is that you? Where are you and what are you doing? Why aren't you not responding to my transmission?"...

"L-lord... Yverza.. I am... sorry... that... it was not my fault... that monster.. suddenly... we were... unexpected. We tried contacting... Durak... he... there was..." The voice was clearly panicked muttering gibberish that did not make any sense.

"Calm down, you are not making any sense. Did you say Durak? Is he with you? Why is he not responding to my calls?"

On Yverza's words, the voice on the other end finally calmed down.

"About that..." Gorm slowly recounted the event that occurred after all of them were teleported randomly on this floor.

As it turned out just like him, his two subordinates were also sent to a special place and had to clear the scenarios if they wanted to get out. Fortunately for them, they were teleported to the same area as such after meeting with each other, they started clearing the place together.

Two beings above level 600, needless to say, they absolutely steamrolled through the trial defeating any obstacle and monster standing in their way.

Things seemed normal and alright so far until they reached the final chamber. That's when things started going straight downhill. The monster in the final chamber was a three headed bipedal frog like monster that was more than ten feet tall.

Not only could it spit acid and lacerate a substance that made physical attacks less effective on it, but it could also use three types of elements from each of its heads.

What's more the central head could even cast some powerful advanced magic. This coupled with the numerous unusual and high grade lost skills it possessed the creature was a force on its own.

For the race of Terraquake Rhino whose gifts were their powerful endogenous armour and physical body, the monster was their worst matchup.

Nevertheless, their levels were not for show. They were beings who were above level 600 and the monster was only around the middle stages of level 500.

With them working together, although it took some time but they finally defeated it. Or so they had thought; however, things transpired far different from what they had imagined.

Yverza locked his brows and tightly clenched his hands while he listened to the latter half of the story which had a surprising climax. As it turns out, the thing didn't die even after they killed it. It possessed multiple lives.

To be more exact, it only had one life; however, to kill it, one had to cull down all three of its heads at once or else it would keep coming back to life again and again sprouting new heads.

This was a piece of information they weren't aware of it at that point in time and the way they got to know about it was in exchange for a very heavy price.

They who thought that they had defeated the monster, let their guard down, a mistake they paid with blood.

It happened in the next instant, the extremely long and strange tongue of the monster wrapped around Durak and pulled him inside the stomach of the monster where extremely potent gastric juices were stored.

Grom who was taken aback by the whole scene, reacted a moment too late. He attacked the monsters by utilising his full strength and managed to bring it down many times.

Nevertheless, every time he thought the monster died it would strangely heal itself back and return to life. What happened next could be imagined. It was a nightmarish scene.

Durak who was trapped inside the stomach of the monster was slowly suffocated inside while the highly potent gastric juices slowly melted away the extremely sturdy endogenous armour of the Terraquake Rhino.

Gorm fought to save his comrade; however, he who couldn't find the weakness of the monster, couldn't do anything.

To make matters worse, this was the worst possible matchup for him and he was pressed for time. To make matters even worse, the Three Headed Boss Frog was a highly sentient monster, as soon as it trapped one enemy, it started avoiding the other... jumping from one corner of the hall to another.

In such a situation, with all the odds stacked against him, it was almost impossible for Gorm to save Durak. And so by the time, the former figured out the trick behind the opponent's immortality and defeated it, it was already too late.

Too much time had passed since Durak was trapped inside the stomach of the Three Headed Boss Frog.

Being suffocated and surrounded by extremely potent gastric juices, his whole body had melted, his life drained, leaving only the most sturdiest part of the Terraquake Rhino their skeleton.

And just like that, a level 600 being who invoked terror and reverence just by their name, a Direct subordinate of the Seven King_____ died.

Durak the Metal Tower and one of the right hand man of the Ivroy Terraquake Rhino, Yverza was dead. There was an absolute silence... however, under this silence, a terrible pressure enough to instantly knock out any low level being, brew.

Heck, the pressure was so great that even the ground bore the mark. A depression formed on the ground with him at the centre.

The Ivory Terrauake Rhino, one of the Seven kings was so furious after listening to the report of his subordinate that he blanked out for a second letting loose all of his aura without any constraint.