

Destiny 1121

Chapter 1121 Escape (Part 2)

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Shin had released an illusion barrier right after he had freed himself to cover the cameras monitoring the room. Then he used the limited amount of Mental Energy to fight the rest of the battle while working with Leonard.

The two were able to quickly end everything before the guards could even call for reinforcements.

Then, right after that, they quickly sat down and recuperated their injuries to make sure that they would be in their best condition.

Shin was able to immediately restore his Mental Energy within a short period of time before standing up and walking to Leonard. He then released his Mental Energy with the Fire Elemental Attribute and helped Leonard in healing his injuries.

Once they were done, the two stood up and swept their gazes at their surroundings.

"So, what is the plan?" asked Leonard.

Shin pursed his lips and turned to the door where the old scientist went. It seemed like the room was equipped with isolation and silencing barriers, so the people inside would not know what was happening on the outside and vice versa.

Noticing his gaze, Leonard could not help but ask. "Are we going to save Old Man Roger?"

Shin thought for a moment before shaking his head. "Even if we want to, we will not be able to do so. That old scientist seems to be a strong expert even though he is not in a Domain Realm. We will only be presenting ourselves to him if we tried to enter."

"But we have the element of surprise. If we manage to wake Old Man Roger up and you help him heal, do we still not have the chance?" asked Leonard.

Shin quickly shook his head. "It is not that simple. The old man is seriously injured, and it seems like they had injected a certain substance within his body to prevent him from healing his injuries."

"It will take some time before I can heal him," he added.

Leonard stared at the tightly shut door before asking. "So, are we going to leave him like that."

"We can't do anything for now, but we can come back here after we rescued the elite seniors," said Shin before continuing. "First, we have to look for them as well are our weapons."

"With the current chaos within the laboratory, blending in their ranks would be much easier," he added as he started taking off the clothes of the assistant near him.

Leonard quickly understood what Shin was planning to do and quickly looked for the guard with fewer bloodstains and took their clothes.

After that, Shin cast an illusion technique on the two of them to change their appearances to the guard and the assistant.

Then they started moving the corpses to the corner of the room and covered them. They also put two of the bodies on the patient's bed after they picked those up and fix them a little.

When they were done, the two tidied up themselves before Shin used the ID of the assistant to open the door and walked out naturally. Behind him, Leonard followed in a similar manner.

As they walked through the corridor, Shin sued a voice transmission technique. "I have a rough idea where the seniors are being held, so we will head there first before finding the location of our weapons where.

Leonard slightly nodded his head and followed after Shin silently, acting like a real guard.

As they were traversing the corridor, the two came across multiple guards rushing toward a certain direction. Shin had guessed that it might be the sector that the radio had mentioned earlier.

Shin and Leonard ignored everyone else and continued to move ahead. But at the same time, they were casually glancing at every room that they passed through, peeking at what was going inside.

Shin had already 'seen' everything earlier through his Spiritual Sense, so he had a rough idea of what they were doing. But seeing it with his two eyes made him frown quite deeply.

Fortunately, he was able to quickly regain his composure and continued to walk forward. Not long after, they finally arrived at the place that he had marked inside his head. It was the place where he remembered that they were being held earlier.

It was a long corridor with multiple rooms with guards busily patrolling. From what he had guessed, this place should be where all the captives were being held.

Shin exchanged glances with Leonard before nodding their heads. Then they continued walking forward while casually glancing in every room.

For every two rooms, they were a pair of guards standing in the middle. Shin ignored those places as he believed that the elite students of the Magic Ace Academy would not be held in such places with pretty lax security.

The guards quickly bowed their heads and saluted to Shin whenever he went past them. But he ignored all of them and when deeper in place until they reached the place where there were a lot of guards were currently stationed.

"This must be the place," whispered Shin, signaling Leonard to get ready.

Leonard nodded his head solemnly before relaxing his muscles and preparing for the battle.

When they arrived in front of a huge door, Shin turned to one of the guards guarding it and said in a commanding tone. "Open the door. Professor wants me to bring one of the subjects inside."

Shin mimicked the voice of the assistant based on what he had remembered. He also copied the manner of speech of the person to the best of his abilities to make sure that the guards would not be suspicious.

The guard hesitated for a moment before carefully responding. "B-but... Sir Norman... didn't you order us to not let anyone inside even if it is you? You said that the Professor is preparing something for the captives inside."

"We have gathered them together to make sure that they would not dare to detonate the explosive device that they had injected in their bodies."

"I-if we tried to take away one of them, then that person can blow himself up and it will cause serious damage to the laboratory," added the guard while keeping his head low.

He did not want to question this person since he was the personal 'assistant' of the professor aside from Shaun. Disobeying their orders would put his life at risk, but he had to follow the procedure if he did not want to lose his life later.

With those words, Shin finally confirmed that they were in the right place. But at the same time, he could not help but frown deeply.

It was not because the guard refused to comply. Instead, it was because of the words that the guard had said. 'Explosive device? So, the seniors injected an explosive device within their bodies to prevent themselves from being experimented on here.'

He did not know what to say about it, but he had to admit that he was impressed. He even suspected that it was an arrangement prepared by the academy to make sure that they would be able to protect themselves when the situation went in their favor.

He then quickly regained his composure before glaring at the guard. "Are you questioning the orders of the Professor? If you have questions, then ask the professor yourself!"

"Are you opening this thing, or do you want me to do it myself?" asked Shin with a threatening tone.

"I-... I'll do it, Sir!" said the guard in panic and quickly went to open the massive door.

While the huge metal door was slowly opening, the voice suddenly sounded from behind them.

"What are you doing here, Norman? Don't you accompany the professor on testing the new subjects that we have brought earlier?"

Shin did not have to turn around to know who the owner of that voice was. He was sure that it was Shaun, who fought with him earlier.

Shin could not help but cluck his tongue inside while thinking to himself. 'Talking about bad timing.'

He then turned around as naturally as he could before saying. "That is none of your business, Shaun."

Based on the tone that Shaun had, Shin could tell that the two did not have a good relationship with each other. If he was guessing right, then the two might be rivals with a deep hatred of each other.

So, Shin used a cold voice when he was saying those words.

On the other hand, Shaun squinted his eyes before replying coldly. "Don't you think you are getting ahead of yourself, Norman?"

"Even if you become the assistant of the professor, that doesn't mean that you are going to be in the same standing as me. I am still the first to follow him, so I should be your senior."

Hearing that, Shin smirked and said with a provoking tone. "Ah~! I see. But why do you think the professor is entrusting me with these tasks instead of you?"

"Don't you think that is because you are not being trusted enough? I wonder," he added as a mocking expression appeared on his face.

Shin was purposely agitating the latter since he could use this situation to invite Shaun to attack him, giving him a reason to fight back. And when it happened, the guards would either not do anything and watch from the sideline or try to mediate in the middle.

In either case, Shin and Leonard would be able to use that opportunity to create chaos where they could save their seniors.

Seeing that Shaun's expression was slowly getting dark, Shin smiled before quickly adding. "Oh! And I also heard that you lost to the opponent who is much weaker than you."

"Tsk! Such a disgrace," he had remembered the words that Butcher had said earlier, so he would be using them now to agitate Shaun even more.

The result?

It was very effective!

Shaun could no longer hold his anger and quickly took out his black spears and charged forward.

'That's easy!' thought Shin as quickly moved to the side to dodge while also giving some secret signals to Leonard.

Chapter 1122 Escape (Part 3): Club Seniors

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Shin and Leonard quickly sprang into action right after Shaun made his move. The former moved to the side and avoided the black spear that was thrown at him, letting it hit the huge metal door behind him.

He then charged forward, engaging in a melee battle against Shaun.

In the meantime, Leonard swiftly pounced at the two guards near them and knocked them back before quickly charging toward Shaun with a sudden burst of speed. He was planning to work with Shin to take down this opponent as soon as possible.

The two of them could just let Shaun be on a rampage. Then they could act innocently while also framing Shaun for being a traitor. But the problem was their cover being blown right after Shin tried to defend himself.

Shaun was not a total idiot to the point that he would not notice the difference between Shin and the real assistant. Especially when the two had already fought against each other earlier.

The moment Shin made his move, Shaun would instantly realize that Shin was an impostor, and he could use that chance to inform the guards. When that happened, Shin and Leonard had to deal with the attacks from every direction.

Given that, it would be better to take advantage of the confusion of the opposing sides and take them down as soon as possible, not giving them any time to respond.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Shin and Leonard quickly pincered Shaun right after he went past them. The former kicked while targeting the waist of their opponent while the latter swung his fist and threw it straight to the opponent's face.

Shaun was caught off-guard by the sudden retaliation from the two, especially when he saw Leonard knock down the two guards.

The 'Norman' that he knew would provoke him all the time and argued with him, but that guy would never retaliate when a fight broke out. At most, he would remain standing and let Shaun hit him a couple of times while wearing a provoking look on his face.

Due to that, he was unable to properly respond to it. But at the very least, he was able to protect himself at the final moment.

Shaun was able to raise his arms and crossed them in front of his face, blocking the incoming fist. And at the same time, he also raised his legged up to his waist to block at kicked from Shin.

Bang! Bang!

A pair of dull sounds reverberated in the corridor as Shaun was sent flying by the two.

Shin wanted to take that opportunity to finish off Shaun, but he knew that they did not have the time for it, especially when the latter flew quite a distance while the other guards were able to regain their senses.

Shin could only signal Leonard to retreat and head inside the room behind them. The metal door was already opened. Though, it was unable to be fully opened due to the spear being deeply stuck in it.

The two quickly hopped back and went inside before Shin used the ID of Norman on his hands to close it once again before the guards could even respond.

Shaun, who just got up on his feet threw the other spear on his hand and sent it flying straight to Shin. Unfortunately, the metal door was already shut tight, letting the spear land on it instead.

"F*ck!"

Shaun could only shout frustratedly and cursed at the top of his lungs. He then turned to the guards that were staring blankly at him before yelling at them. "What are you standing there for? Contact the command and tell them that we have been infiltrated!"

He then went to the door and pressed a couple of buttons on the monitor beside it. But no matter how much he tried, he could not reopen the door since the commands had already been changed.

He raised his brows and could not help but become suspicious. "How did they know the secret combination? Is that guy really Norman?"

Shaun was starting to have some doubts as he discovered that he was unable to open the door. He was suspecting that Norman had betrayed them since an impostor would not know about the secret code of the laboratory unless that person was someone who had a certain authority within the organization.

Shaun was planning to conduct a secret experiment on himself while using one of the captive students inside. Since he heard from the conversation between Butcher and the Professor that everyone here would be disposed of once everything was over, he was preparing to betray the organization first and steal a few data from them before they could throw him away.

Due to that, he could only think that Norman might have also heard about the plans of the Professor and was planning to do the same.

He was currently in a confused state right now.

From the exchange earlier, he could tell that the other party was not the Norman he knew, which was why he thought that they were impostors. But after learning that they knew about the secret code, he was now starting to doubt a lot of things.

In the meantime, while Shaun was thinking about himself, Shin and Leonard were already releasing their current disguise. Though, they still did not reveal their real appearance – just a form of precaution.

After locking the metal door completely and changing the locked combination while using the code that Shin had remembered from Norman earlier, Shin lead Leonard deeper into the room.

There, they finally saw the seniors that they were looking for.

There were multiple cages inside, which was where the elite students were being held. Each of them was also being restrained by the restriction handcuffs with the highest restrictive strength, preventing them from doing anything.

Deeper inside, there were three figures hanging on the wall while being bound by restriction chains.

One of those three was a bulky and muscular guy with a two-meter height. He had messy hair that was covering his eyes. A single look at him was more than enough for Shin and Leonard to know that he was a powerful physical practitioner.

He was a type of Martial Artist that majored mainly in body-strengthening techniques and physical enhancement skills.

He was without a doubt a member of the Combat Department, though the duo was still not sure which club he belonged to.

Besides that person was a lean yet muscular young man. He had a clean look on his face and despite his small frame and average body size, the muscles that he had were properly trained, which seemed to be chiseled by a great craftsman.

He might not be as strong-looking as the previous guy, but Shin could feel the same level of a threat despite that person being bound by the restriction chains. This guy should be much stronger than Shaun, who was currently banging the metal door outside.

Then there was the final figure.

The last person was a young woman with a lean and petite body. She might not have the most perfect womanly physique nor a seductive figure. But she had a certain level of sex appeal that was more than enough to attract most of the men around her.

Shin and Leonard could not clearly see her face, but from the outline and image that they saw in the dark, they could tell that she was somewhat beautiful. She might not have the pure womanly vibe, but the two could still rank her high in their standards.

After having briefly observed the three figures hanging on the wall, Shin and Leonard could guess that they were the captains and presidents of the elite clubs that were sent here.

"Seniors, we are here to save you," Shin went directly to the point as he understood that they did not have the time for the chitchat.

But when he was about to open the cages, he noticed that everyone was looking at them cautiously.

Sensing their unfriendly gazes, Shin could only smile awkwardly before continuing. "I am sorry, Seniors. But we don't have the time to properly explain the situation. We can just do it while preparing to escape."

He then ignored their gazes and started opening the cages alongside Leonard but did not quickly free them from the restriction cuffs because they were afraid that these seniors would suddenly attack them due to their suspicions.

While the two were busy freeing everyone, one of the guys hanging on the wall, the person in the middle, suddenly asked in a calm tone. "You are calling us seniors, so you guys may be from the academy. Which department are you from?"

Shin and Leonard paused briefly before the former turned his head toward that person and answered calmly. "I am sorry, Senior. But we are not from the academy. We are sent here by the military."

"Top Military School?" asked that person.

Shin shook his head and answered. "Not that either, Senior. We are sent here by the military forces."

"I see," that person nodded his head and calmly watched Shin and Leonard do their work.

He could see the cautiousness of the pair as they did not immediately free everyone from the restriction cuffs. Such a level of cautiousness could not be seen from ordinary students when doing this kind of mission. Especially when it came to people at a very young age.

He could tell that Shin and Leonard had already done this kind of mission multiple times for them to be able to act as calm as this yet also very efficient.

Then the woman on his left suddenly whispered. "He is telling half of the truth. They are indeed sent by the military forces and here to rescue us."

"But about them not being from the academy – I think he is trying to hide that fact," she added.

The guy slightly tilted his head to the side before saying. "It is to avoid unnecessary trouble once all of this is over. If we really escape here and they are the ones the reason for that, the opposing forces will definitely target them due to their achievement."

"They are just being cautious, and I like that," he added with a smile.

"Can you forget about recruitment for now? Our situation is still not that good," said the woman, reprimanding him.

"I'm sorry. Old habits die hard. You can blame me for that since I am a club president," he added while observing Shin and Leonard.

Chapter 1123 Escape (Part 4): Preparations

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The seniors from the elite clubs quickly sat on the ground and started meditating right after Shin and Leonard freed them. They had no time to ask more questions of the two as they fully understood their current situation. They had to regain their strength as soon as possible before the enemies broke inside their cell.

They must have enough strength for the upcoming battle if they wanted to escape from here in one piece.

At the same time, the three club presidents walked toward the duo to introduce themselves.

"Hello, juniors. I am Lester Castillo, president of Warrior College. It is nice meeting you," said by the lean yet muscular guy as he extended his hand to the two.

Shin and Leonard accepted the handshake one after another while also giving out their simple fake names.

"Sid, a cadet."

"Levi, also a cadet."

Then the young woman walked forward and gave the two a meaningful look before smiling and extending her hand. "Julieta Miles, president of the Student Assistant Association. It is nice to meet you and thank you for saving us."

Shin felt a little uncomfortable by her gaze as he felt that she seemed to be able to see through their lies. He smiled while accepting the handshake. "Thank us once we are finally able to get out of here alive."

Leonard was also feeling the same, so he just shook her hand while nodding his head.

After her, the tall and bulky guy finally walked forward and introduced himself. "Tir Velkason, Marial and Mentalism Union."

He did not even approach the two as he only said that from a distance. It seemed like he was the type of person who was very cold to others.

Noticing that this would lead to an awkward situation, Lester quickly jumped in and said. "Don't mind him. He is just not used to seeing other people, much less being saved by them."

"You should mind your own business, Lester. We are still not done with what you have done," said Tir in a cold tone.

"Yeah, yeah! I know. But we don't have a choice, do we? If I did not use that explosive device and inject it at everyone, then we will be an experimental subject by those guys without a doubt," said Lester with a smile.

"You must admit that the devices that the Researcher Union has given us are pretty useful," he added with a smug look on his face.

Hearing that, Shin finally understood the situation. It seemed like before everyone got captured, this senior from the Warrior College was able to use a certain device on all the seniors, which prevented the worst-case scenario.

"Alright, guys. Calm down a little. We can't afford to fight among ourselves if we want to escape from here," said Julieta before turning to Shin with a smile. "How about this junior explain the situation to us?"

"Let's start with how you are able to enter and how can you override the commands from that door?" she added with a curious look on her face.

Shin thought for a moment before quickly explaining everything to them. He also added the information that he had gathered by listening to the guards earlier.

After a few moments, the seniors finally got a rough idea of the general situation.

"I see, so the military is dispatching their forces to raid this base. What they needed right now is the exact location," muttered Lester while digesting more information.

"You also said that the Magic Ace Academy is also sending reinforcements?" asked Julieta.

Shin nodded and answered briefly. "We are not sure of that side exactly. But from what our superiors have said, it seems like they are sending a force led by the other elite clubs."

"Tsk! Looks like we are going to be in debt once again," muttered Lester as he clicked his tongue.

Then Julieta suddenly asked another question. "And you said that an expert from the military is currently fighting outside, and these rumblings and trembling of the place are because of the shockwaves of the collision?"

Shin and Leonard nodded their heads, confirming what she just said.

After that, the three club presidents turned silent as they fell into deep thought. They were re-evaluating the plan that Shin had provided them before turning back to him.

"I agree with this junior. We have to take advantage of the chaos to escape," said Julieta, agreeing with the plan that Shin had given them.

"We have to move fast if we want it to succeed," added Lester.

"But we can't just focus solely on that thing," commented Tir before quickly adding. "We also have to find the location where they are hiding our weapons and retrieve them."

"We also have to find their command room if we want the outside to know our exact location," said Lester.

"Let's divide our forces," Julieta suggested. She knew that this would be dangerous for them, but they did not have much choice. At worst, they could just threaten the opposing side with the explosive device that they had hidden inside their bodies.

"Three forces," she added while pointing at the two. "Tir and the Martial and Mentalism Union will create more chaos and confusion while Lester and the rest of the Warrior College will look for our weapons."

"As for myself and my club, we are going to look for the command room and find a way to send a signal on the outside."

She then paused and looked at Shin and Leonard before adding. "We will be bringing these two juniors with us. After all, they have a way to override their commands and can bypass a lot of security measures."

Hearing that, Shin thought for a moment before being injected. "It is mostly because of the ID that I've got from them. But we can't be sure that it will still work later since they have already known about our cover."

"But I can manually infiltrate their system, though it will take some time," he added.

"That is more than enough," said Lester before quickly adding. "The problem is how are we going to open the room where our weapons are located? It will be hard to destroy them given the materials that the doors and walls have."

Shin thought briefly before saying. "There is a guy named Shaun outside. He seemed to have pretty high authority within this base. If we manage to steal his ID, we can use it to bypass a lot of security measures."

"He must be outside of this cell and waiting for us," he added.

Then he suddenly paused as he noticed the sudden change in atmosphere. And when he raised his head and looked at the three club presidents, he noticed that all of them were wearing cold looks on their faces while also emitting an immense intent to kill.

"That traitor," muttered Julieta coldly.

Shin could tell that there must be more in this story than he had thought. But he did not ask anything about it since it was not the time for gossip.

"What do you think, Seniors?" asked Shin with a careful tone while waiting for their response.

It was at this moment when the three club presidents snapped out of their thoughts and nodded.

Lester then added. "I know that all of us want to teach that guy a lesson, but you can leave him to me. I need his ID for my task, so I am more fit for this job."

Julieta and Tir had unwilling look on their faces but still nodded their heads.

Then Shin suddenly turned to Leonard and added. "If that is the case, then I am more than enough for the third group. Senior Lester can bring Levi with him while looking for our weapons."

"I can sense the major location of our weapons. My weapons are in Blood Contract with me, so they are bound to me," added Leonard, supporting what Shin had said.

The three seniors looked at them with surprised expressions, especially Lester and Tir, who were from the Combat Department.

Forming a Blood Contract with a weapon required a lot of prerequisites and all of them were not simple. Even the two of them, who were seniors from their department, could not form a Blood Contract with their respective weapons, yet this junior from the military force did?

They must admit that these two juniors were not simple. They now understood why the military entrusted the job to this duo despite their younger age.

"Another thing, seniors. What are we going to do if we encounter Butcher and Coffin Maker during our operation?" asked Shin in a careful tone.

The biggest problem that they currently had were not all the things that they had previously addressed. Instead, it was the existence of those two Domain Realm Experts that could take all of them down with ease.

Lester thought for a moment before saying. "Don't you have said that the Dragon King is currently fighting outside, right? Then I can guarantee that Butcher will not be here."

"Even though there is another expert holding the Dragon King down, the organization can not afford to let their guard down, especially when they are facing an expert on that level. They have to at least leave someone outside, who can delay him from assaulting this place if they don't want this entire base to be flattened."

"Butcher is most likely to be put on that task. That leaves the Coffin Maker alone. But even if he is an expert in the Domain Realm, he is not suited for frontal confrontation, so we can still buy enough time for the others to do their respective task."

"Moreover, he is only alone, so we can't catch all of us, especially when we have divided our forces," he added.

At the same time, Tir suddenly injected confidently. "As for the experts that are in Void Manifestation Realm, you juniors don't have to worry about them. The three of us will not be club president without a good reason."

"Dealing with ordinary experts will not be a problem to us," he added as an intense fighting intent was being emitted from his body.

Julieta did not say anything but the confident look on her face clearly indicated that she agreed with what the bulky guy had said.

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With all of that, the group was finally able to divide all the tasks equally and started preparing.

They only had a single chance here, so they had to act fast to guarantee their success and be able to escape this place.

If no accidents happened, then their chances of succeeding in this were pretty high. As long as Shin and the others sent a signal to the outside, then the military forces would immediately flood in and rescue them.

All they had to do was to make sure that everything was well and according to plan.

Chapter 1124 Experimental Subject (Part 1)

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Outside the huge metal doors of the confinement room, which was also the cell of the captured students, Shaun had gathered all the guards that he could gather.

The laboratory was currently in a state of chaos due to the repeated bombardment of shockwaves outside. Some of the defensive walls that they had built were starting to crumble as the battle outside progressed, so some of the personnel within the laboratory were helping on fixing those places.

They had to fix the walls as soon as possible and restore the security system back to its perfect state before the outside could discover their exact location.

The command room had already spotted the large forces of the military moving within the mountain range and constantly looking for their exact location. Once the military noticed the abnormality within the vicinity and found the entrance of the laboratory base, a huge battle would break out.

The organization knew that they would be at a great disadvantage once the military forces found them, especially when the number of guards and personnel within the laboratory was currently low.

It was because of the recent battles that had occurred during the past few days.

The first huge loss that the organization suffered was during its first encounter with the elite students sent by the Magic Ace Academy. Even though they won in the end and captured almost all of those students with the help of Butcher, the laboratory still lost quite a lot of guards.

Then there was the battle between Shin and Leonard. When the guards were chasing after those two, they lost the majority of their forces during the chase.

Right now, the number of guards that could fight against the elite students were currently at its lowest. The only good news about this was the fact that all of these remaining guards were of the best quality.

They were the strongest guards that the laboratory.

Shaun tried his best to open the metal door – he had even brought some of the personnel of the laboratory assigned to security. But despite their efforts, they could not bypass the security features that Shin had set up, much less override the new code that it had.

They also knew better than anyone that they could not force their way in. The materials of that metal door were the best that they had, so trying to force their way was pretty much impossible.

Who would have thought that the room that they had prepared to prevent the captives from escaping would be used to defend against them?

Shaun could only order the guards to stand in formation outside that door and wait for the elite students to come out. He refused to believe that those students would hide inside forever.

After all, Butcher could come here and blast the metal doors himself.

If the elite students wanted to escape, then they have to open those doors and force their way out against the blockade of guards.

Clank!

Not long after, the sounds of the door opening from the other side could be heard.

The guards quickly readied themselves and prepared for battle right after hearing that. And when the metal doors slowly opened, the tenseness that everyone was feeling reached its peak.

Bang!

The guards did not immediately attack when the doors fully opened. They knew that this particular room had an innermost part, where the elite students could hide while the guards were exhausting themselves during the attack.

Darkness greeted Shaun and the guards as they stared at the confinement room. They could not see anything side, but everyone knew that the elite students were currently observing them.

Shaun raised his hand, signaling the guards to be ready anytime. And in response, the guards raised the guns that they were holding and aimed at the darkness inside the room.

Shaun knew that the elite students did not have any kind of weapons, so his side should still be an advantage.

At least, that was what he believed until he saw a hail of steel bars flying in their direction.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

"What!?" Shaun was surprised and confused at the same time when he saw the incoming steel bars.

He then quickly jumped back while telling the guards to dodge and start attacking.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Gunshots started filling the air as the guards finally pulled the trigger and fired at the darkness inside the room. They also started retreating while firing to avoid the flying steel bars.

Some of the guards were unfortunate enough to be caught by an unexpected attack and got themselves pierced by the steel bars and impaled on the ground, either killing them on the spot or critically injuring them.

It was at that moment when Shaun got a better look at those steel bars. He then noticed that those steel bars were the ones used to cage the students inside.

"They broke those bars apart and used them as weapons?" thought Shaun as rapid footsteps could be heard from behind.

Looking over his shoulder, he saw more guards coming to their aid.

"Perfect timing!" he muttered before signaling everyone to attack.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

But while most of the guards were reloading their guns, a pair of figures suddenly rushed out of the room and flew straight to their ranks.

They dodged the bullets of the guards who remained firing while charging ahead. One of the figures was like a bulldozer that charged through everyone who was blocking their path while the other went straight to Shaun who was in the middle of giving out commands.

Bang! Bang!

Swoosh!

The guards were immediately thrown into chaos due to Tir suddenly charging at them. Despite his heavy, huge, and bulky body, he was able to move quickly and agilely.

He even used some of the guards as a human shield while hiding from the bullets flying at him from certain directions. At the same time, he was crushing everyone with his overwhelming might, throwing the guards into a panic.

While he was busy drawing the attention of the guards, Lester, who just arrived in front of Shaun started an onslaught of attacks. He repeatedly threw his fist at the latter, forcing the guy to consciously retreat.

And when he finally saw a gap between Shaun's defenses, Lester quickly grabbed that opportunity to throw a straight punch that flew past in between his opponent's arms and headed straight for the face.

Bang!

Shaun was thrown flying in the air as he got hit by that attack. But he quickly flipped a couple of times to relieve some of the force from the impact before landing back steady on the ground.

"Is this all you have gained by betraying the academy?" said Lester as he glared at Shaun.

Shaun did not reply and just remained standing on his spot while looking cautiously at Lester. He knew that he was no match against this guy despite all the resources and nurturing that he had gotten from the organization.

His current strength was enough to face this guy, who was said to be unrivaled in terms of absolute control over his Martial Art Techniques.

"Tsk! I want to use this after I've undergone the preparation procedure, but I guess I don't have a choice," muttered Shaun before taking out a syringe from his body and quickly stabbing it into his arm.

This was a special serum that he stole from the main lab of the Professor earlier. He was planning to use it after absorbing enough life force from a few of the captured students.

Since he had overheard from the conversation between the Professor and Butcher that they would be disposing of everyone alongside the entire laboratory base once all of this was over, he was planning to betray them first.

He took the special serum that the Professor had prepared for the final stages of their research and used it for himself.

He still lacked some of the necessary preparations, but since the situation was currently like this, he did not have a choice but to take the risk.

There was no immediate change when he injected the serum into his arm.

Thump!

But after a few seconds, Shaun felt that his heart started beating much faster than its normal rate. It slowly gathered momentum before beating twice as fast, then thrice before beating like it was about to explode.

During the entire process, the veins on Shaun's body started popping out, particularly around his neck as well as the corner of his eyes and his forehead.

His eyes turned bloodshot and his skin was turning purple.

Alongside those changes, the Internal Qi that was within his body started surging like a tidal wave before turning into his Natural Force. And his current Natural Force also took some changes, clearly showing its mutation.

Lester quickly noticed the strange changes in Shaun after seeing the latter inject something into his arm.

He wanted to do something to stop the transformation, but the force that was coming from Shaun was pushing him away, making him unable to approach.

"This is becoming more and more serious," muttered Lester as he started to feel the immense threat coming from Shaun.

Chapter 1125 Experimental Subject (Part 2)

.....

Lester was staring cautiously at the transforming Shaun. He wanted to do something to prevent the latter from continuing but he could not do anything about it due to the strong force pushing him away.

Behind him, Shin and the rest of the elite students finally charged out of the confinement room and helped Tir dispose of the remaining guards. And when they were done, they quickly reached Lester's side and witnessed Shaun who was in the middle of transforming into a hideous creature.

"Will you be fine?" asked Julieta when she saw the current form that Shaun was undertaking.

Lester frowned slightly before nodding his head. "I can handle this. His strength might have been boosted but his mind is definitely not in a good state."

"That should be the price for having a power that is not supposedly his," commented Tir from the side.

Lester nodded his head slightly before saying to them. "We are going to stick to our plan. Leave him to me and my club members while you do your jobs."

"Don't forget that you must still look for our weapons."

"Alright."

"Take care of yourself."

"Good luck, Senior."

Tir, Julieta, Shin, and Leonard nodded and quickly went to their respective groups. They waited for Shaun to complete his transformation before quickly charging ahead.

The guards that were rushing behind Shaun could not help but halt their steps when they saw him undergoing a transformation. They were from this place, so they were aware of what was happening to Shaun right now. They knew that he was turning into a mindless monster that could not distinguish his friends and foes.

"Halt! Let him complete his transformation. We will set up a blockade on this area," said a guard leading the group before quickly instructing the rest to start preparing.

Boom!

Not long after, Shaun finally finished transforming with the cost of losing his reason. He then released a deafening roar that also shook the place before turning to the group in front of him.

Seeing them, he quickly roared for another time before charging at them.

Swoosh!

"Let me let you a hand before we leave," said Tir as he suddenly launched forward and met Shaun.

He extended his hands forward and reached out to Shaun, grabbing the hands of the latter.

Bang!

There was a loud explosion when the two sides met they quickly halted in the middle of the corridor. The ground underneath them sank as they put more force into their feet, trying to push one another.

Roar!

But of them possessed a monstrous strength that could crush a fully grown bear with their bare hands. And when they used that strength to try crushing each other, it resulted in a strong collision that even affected the surroundings.

Unfortunately for Shaun, he was currently alone while his opponent had two more powerful people on their team.

Julieta suddenly appeared behind Shaun like a ghost before sending a powerful double-palm strike on his back.

Swoosh!

Shaun's instincts were pretty sharp which made his body want to dodge and escape the current predicament. But Tir refused to let him go, which made the incoming palm strikes land on his back.

Bang!

Tir only let go of the latter when the palm strikes landed before quickly swatting his hips and putting his arms in front of his head. He then suddenly charged forward, meeting Shaun who was sent forward by the previous strikes.

Bang!

Julieta already moved away right after throwing her palm strikes, which was why Shaun was sent flying straight to the guards in the middle of setting up a blockade in the distance.

Swoosh!

Boom!

He landed right at the center of their ranks, making the guards quickly run away, afraid that they would be attacked by him.

Their ranks were quickly thrown into chaos due to what happened.

Shin and the rest did not care about them. They quickly rushed forward and brushed past them as fast as they could while also taking a couple of guards who were unlikely to block their path.

They were trying to lessen the number of guards so that Lester and his group would have an easier time fighting. After all, their group still has to look for their weapons after cleaning up this place.

During their charge, there were two people who purposely attracted the attention of the guards to lessen the burden and pressure that the rest were facing.

They were naturally the leaders of the group – Tir, who was bulldozing everyone in his path, and Julieta, who looked like a ghost who was ripping the lives of every guard that she came across.

With the two of them in the lead, the group was able to break through the blockade. Then they separated into two more groups, one being led by Tir while the other had Julieta in their lead.

The two groups went in different directions, heading for their respective task.

In the meantime, inside the special experimentation lab, the Professor just finished preparing the body in front of him for the experiment.

It was Old Man Roger who was still in an unconscious state.

"This body is perfectly suited for the experiment. It will be the most perfect subject that I've put my hands on since the start of the project. It seems like we are finally going to create the vessel to host the inheritance of the Thunder Lord!"

He could not help but feel excited when he thought about that. This would be one of his successful projects yet again.

With that, he could not help but pause for a moment to relax himself. The next part of the experiment was extremely important, so he had to focus entirely on it.

While resting, he could not help but look at one of the screens projected on the side of the lab. Those screens were showing what was happening outside the room. Then he saw that the entire laboratory was currently in a state of total chaos.

"What is happening?" he then turned to the one showing what was happening in the adjacent room. He saw that the two patient's beds were currently left behind while his assistants and the guards were nowhere to be found.

He immediately contacted the command room and demanded an explanation right after the call connected. "What the hell is going on? Why is the entire lab in chaos?"

The person responsible for the command room nervously replied. "Professor, the captive students escaped from their cells! They are currently wreaking havoc inside the laboratory."

"What!? How did that happen?" asked the Professor.

The person on the other side of the line became even more nervous as he did not know how to answer. All he knew was that the captives broke out while Shaun suddenly turned into a mindless monster.

All he could do was to tell the Profess everything he know while waiting to be scolded.

Naturally, the Professor yelled at him multiple times while berating his work. It was supposedly his job to monitor everything happening inside and outside the laboratory, so it was his responsibility to make sure that everything was going smoothly.

The Professor then turned to the screen that was projecting the battle between Lester and the turned monster Shaun.

He then thought for a moment and muttered to himself. "So, that idiot indeed went into it and grabbed the Serum-X."

He then scoffed before instructing. "Keep an eye on this battle and record everything. Send it to me later when everything is done."

He was about to end the call when another series of alarms sounded from the other side of the line. The Professor frowned deeply and asked hoarsely. "What is it this time?"

The person in charge of the command room nervously replied. "S-Sir-... It seems like the military and the academy are making their move. They are starting to search the mountain range. And based on their movements, it seems like they have a rough idea of our location."

"That is impossible! We are underground – without knowing the entrance, they will never discover our exact location," refuted the Professor before continuing. "This will be a good opportunity to gather more data."

"Release all of the failed subjects and let them deal with these intruders," he instructed.

"B-But Sir-... those mindless subjects can attack our people," said the other person.

"Idiot! Of course, we are pulling back our people from the surface. Recall them back in the lab and let them help suppress the escapees!" said the Professor.

"Just gather all the data that you can get from the battles of the failed subjects. Gather as much as you can and send it to me directly. Don't miss a single one!" he instructed.

"I am in the most crucial part of the project, so don't let anyone disturb me. Deal with everything yourselves," he said before quickly ending the call.

He then turned to unconscious Old Man Roger before quickly pressing a couple of buttons on the apparatuses beside him.

This time, he would make sure that the experiment would be successful.

Chapter 1126 Warning

.....

An hour after Shin and Leonard got abducted.

David was diligently serving his purpose as a distraction while waiting for the opposing organization to take the bait. He had been exploring the city at the other end of the Easter Sea Region alongside his three friends, acting as if they were investigating a case.

The underworld organizations were currently keeping an eye on him since he was one of the people that could threaten their operations at the most unexpected time. When they realized that they had been targeted by this person, it was already too late to retreat.

One of the best examples was the recent incident where the operation of the Hextech Laboratory was compromised, which also lead to a lot of their men being captured.

David was a special existence that became a huge thorn in the side of underworld organizations. They want to eliminate him, but they could not act rashly because of the mysterious and powerful master that was backing him.

Moreover, he also had a lot of connections and knew quite a number of top experts. And once the large underworld organizations tried to send powerful agents after him, those top experts would definitely interfere with them, and a huge battle would break out.

Their younger generations and some of the talents that they had nurtured could not touch him either because he was too powerful for them. If they wanted to deal with him using their most talented agents, then they had to reveal their most outstanding individuals. But that was way too risky since there was still a possibility of them losing to him – worse, getting captured.

The ones that could match him were currently in important missions, so they could not risk blowing up their covers just to get rid of him.

With that, these underworld organizations could only keep a low profile whenever he showed some signs of targeting them.

For the time being, they could only observe him from a distance and avoid getting in direct conflict with him.

...

"Tsk! You are sure a big shot in the underworld. To think that there are a lot of 'fans' watching every move you make? Even the top experts did not have this much monitoring," commented Jeremiah as he took a sip of his coffee while glancing at their surroundings.

Up until now, they had discovered dozens of spies watching their moves and monitoring their activities. Such a number of people could make anyone suspect that they were being assassinated.

"Do we still have no news about Brother Shin and the others?" asked Vincent in a whispering tone while covering his mouth with the teacup that he was holding.

David was leisurely sitting on the steel chair and enjoying the sun. When he heard that question from Vincent, he briefly glanced at the surroundings before looking at his advanced watch.

He pursed his lips when he saw that there were no messages on it. He shrugged his shoulders and pursed his lips, indicating that there was still no update on the other side.

He then turned to the side and looked at the other guy sitting beside him. "Hey, Laurent. How is your date yesterday? Have you scored a goal or something?"

That person sighed helplessly and said. "I told you multiple times that it is not a date. It is a business meeting, alright? A business."

"Yeah, yeah, business it is. So, how is it?" pressed David.

Laurent sighed for another time before answering. "It is fine. She agreed to help me talk with her family to work on my business. The paper works will be signed after that."

"I see," nodded David. Then his gaze suddenly turned sharp while his voice became cold. "Then what about the business that you talk about those juniors? Are you involving them in one of your shady businesses?"

Laurent was suddenly taken aback at the sudden change and stared at David with a surprised look on his face. He then started chuckling before replying in a helpless manner. "I have already told you before, it is not something like that. I am just helping them progress faster by putting a little bit of pressure on them."

David kept his cold tone as he pressed further. "Helping them progress by purposely giving out those classified information? I must remind you that without sufficient strength, their lives will only be at risk by holding that information."

Laurent gave David an unfazed gaze and refuted. "The situation is slowly getting out of hand. The underworld organizations are using underhanded means to find those inheritances and other worldly treasures. If we don't do anything and let the situation continue to escalate like this, then we will be on the losing end when the time comes."

David shook his head. "You are not wrong, but involving those juniors will make the situation escalates faster. It will also ruin the balance that the two sides currently have, and a huge war will break out."

Laurent was about to refute once again when David quickly cut him off. "Don't think that I don't know what you are thinking."

"Those juniors are from prestigious and powerful families. And with such a background, they will at least have certain protection when they tried to look for those 'opportunities' hidden around the world."

"But when the situation suddenly got out of hand, and something happened to them, then those families and other forces backing them will have no choice but to get involved."

"I can see through your plan, and it is actually not bad. But if things really reach that point, then will become the spark that will start the war."

"When that happens, the world be in chaos," he continued before briefly adding. "That is the reason why everyone is trying their best to keep the balance and let everything flow naturally."

Laurent smiled bitterly and muttered. "The 'Opportunities' will land on the hands of the destined people – that is what the prophecy has said."

He then raised his head and stared at David straight to the eyes before continuing. "But it is also stated that it will be the start of the unveiling of the truth of the world – which will still lead to chaos."

"If the world will still fall in chaos either way, then why don't we seize those 'Opportunities' and control them ourselves? That way we will hold on to an advantage, rather than watching ourselves get overwhelmed by the opposing side," he asked.

David shook his head and said. "You don't understand. Fate is hard to seize, and destiny can't be easily overturned. You must pay a heavy price if you want to defy the will of Heaven."

"That is exactly the point! We, humans, always pursue greatness and always want to challenge our fates and defy heaven! That is why we have to act now!" said Laurent.

David inhaled deeply before smiling bitterly and shaking his head repeatedly as he exhaled. He then continued. "As I said, you don't understand."

He paused for a moment before strengthening the isolation and sound-suppressing barrier that was surrounding them, then continued. "I know someone, who is close to unveiling the 'truth' of the past era. But in exchange, they unknowingly touched the taboo and accidentally released the 'Demons' of the past, who scattered around the world and secretly pulled the strings while hiding in the dark."

"These 'Ancient Demons' are sowing discord in every place that they went through."

"Up until now, they are still looking for those 'Ancient Demons' and hunt them down one after another. Since they are the ones who released those 'demons', then it is their responsibility to subdue and eliminate them."

He then took another pause and took a sip of his tea to wet his throat before continuing. "There is also the man who is not supposed to be born. Heaven wants to eliminate him, but he repeatedly defied everything and still lives in the end."

"Then he is cursed to be alone since he is a monster that is created by the taboo. But he was still able to find friends that trusted and treated him like any other people."

"Then he is cursed by Heaven to not have an offspring due to the constitution of his body. He is cursed not to have a child even if he managed to attain total rejuvenation when stepping into the Transcendent Realm."

"Yet, he still finds a way to defy the will of Heaven and reconstructed his body through special means and created a constitution that is no different to ordinary people, which also gives him the ability to have a child."

"He repeatedly defies the will of Heaven, controlled his own fate, and decides his own destiny. Yet, Heaven still finds a way to forcefully separate him from his child. It also 'sent' envoys to eliminate him."

"His entire existence is a taboo and a disaster for the world, which also upsets the balance that it has. Heaven wants to eliminate him and erase him from history to restore everything back to the right track."

Then David turned back to Laurent and said warningly. "These were only the outcome when an individual tried to defy Heaven, yet you want to get the world to fight Heaven itself?"

He started smiling bitterly and shook his head repeatedly once again before continuing. "It is not because the world doesn't want to seize those 'Opportunities' for themselves, but because they are afraid that a disaster will befall entire humanity and trigger the 'Great Restoration'."

"They don't want to have the same outcome as those Primordial Creatures and Ancient Cultivators of the previous eras."

Then David's eyes turned serious and said. "If you truly want to defy the will of Heaven, then do it yourself, and don't drag the entire world with you."

Silence enveloped the atmosphere when he was done talking. The three, Vincent, Jeremiah, and Laurent fell in deep thought as they tried to digest everything that they just heard, especially the latter who seemed to finally realize his and his family's mistake.

Beep! Beep!

While they were lost in their thoughts, David suddenly received a message, updating him on the situation on the other side. He pursed his lips after reading everything before standing.

"Alright, our targets seem to have taken the bait – it is time for us to move," he said as he started walking toward the nearby inn where they were temporarily staying.

Chapter 1127 Rescue Mission

...

Inside the room that David and the others had rented, the group geared themselves up with their respective weapons and combat uniforms. This battle shouldn't be simple given that the opposing organization had a quite remarkable strength, so they at least had to put an effort on gearing themselves.

They were wearing a combat uniform that was provided by the academy, which resembled the military uniforms but had noticeable differences.

David was not caring any weapons, but it was different for the others.

Vincent was checking on his dagger and making sure that they were properly sharpened. He flipped, twirled, and tossed a little before putting them in their respective sheath.

After playing with his daggers, he unfolded a leather wrap on the table in front of him and checked on the flying daggers and needles on it before putting a tactical belt around his waist. He then started putting the daggers one after another as well as the stack of needles.

Sitting on the nearby bed, Jerimiah just finished tying the lace of his combat boots. He then stood up and hopped up and down, checking the weight of his body. And when he was done, he felt pretty satisfied and nodded his head.

After that, he fastened the knuckle gloves that he had and bumped his fists together, producing a clanking sound. He then took on a stance before throwing a series of punches in the air. His entire figure flickered continuously as he did his shadowboxing practice.

Laurent, who was sitting on the bed across, also just finished wearing his combat uniform. He then stood up and picked up the two segments of a spear laid on the bed. He put them together and locked them with a twist before twirling them around his body.

The almost two-and-a-half-meter spear flashed around him as he showcased the dexterity of his hands. He then took a stance and inhaled deeply before performing a series of slow yet firm moves. Just by looking at him, anyone could tell that he had a very solid foundation in spearmanship.

David watched them prepare from the side and patiently waited. And when they were done with their preparations, they walked toward him and said simultaneously.

"We're ready."

"I hope that this will be fun."

"Let's get this over with, so I can finally have a proper rest."

David pursed his lips a little before nodding his head. He then took out a talisman from his tactical belt and held it in front of him between his index and middle fingers.

He then took a deep breath and focused his mind before channeling his Spiritual Force on it. Then the runes on the talisman glowed intensely alongside the formation drawn on the ground, circling the group.

A sneering smile flashed on David's lips as he muttered. "Let's go!"

Swoosh!

Then the four of them suddenly turned into lights that disappeared in the air alongside the rune formation on the ground. They had disappeared into the room as if they had never been there.

...

Outside the inn, the spies that were supposed to monitor the movement of the group were still waiting patiently. They were observing the inn from different places around it afraid that the group would escape their surveillance.

Unknown to them, what they feared the most, actually happened.

Their targets had already escaped!

Swoosh!

On one of the peaks within the mountain range, David and the group suddenly appeared.

The three shook their heads a little to adjust their minds and massaged their temples gently. They feel intense dizziness due to them traveling such a long distance through Mentalism Formation.

"Mentalism sure is wonderous. To think we can travel such long distances within an instant," commented Jeremiah after adjusting himself.

"This is pretty convenient. This can be a tactical move the military can use. Heck! It is even perfect for assassinations and escaping!" he added excitedly.

Hearing that, the corner of David's mouth suddenly twitched before glaring at Jeremiah. "Do you really think that it is that simple?"

"I've paid a heavy price just to set up the formation in two places. It even consumes a lot of Spiritual Force. If not for the Spatial Fruit that the Springfield Family had provided, then achieving such a feat is impossible!"

"And do you think Spatial Fruits can be found anywhere like cabbages?" he continued to berate Jeremiah as the other two shook their heads.

BOOM!

Then they heard a loud explosion coming from a certain distance, which was immediately followed by a strong gale that swept through all directions. The ground also shook, making the group slightly lose their footing.

Swoosh!

Rumble!

Fortunately, they had quick reflexes which made them respond to the current situation almost instantly.

The four of them quickly took a stance and placed their arms in front of them, facing the strong gale and firmly planting their feet on the ground.

They protected their bodies with their respective Natural and Spiritual Forces while also focusing some of them on their feet to make sure that they would not be swept by the strong gust of wind.

"What was that?"

When everything calmed down a little, the group was finally able to raise their heads and looked at the source of the explosion. Then they saw two colossi fighting in the distance – a humongous humanoid creature that was clad with lightning armor and a gigantic serpent dragon swimming in the clouds with its blazing body.

After focusing their respective energies on their eyes and activating their ocular skills, they saw a figure standing in the air, a few distances away from the lightning giant. And after taking a closer look at that figure, they finally realized who it was.

"So, it is really Sir Nathan."

"Whoa! That is what a top expert can do!"

"Commander Nathan Springfield of the Military?"

"Isn't that the Dragon King?"

David had already been briefed by John about the situation in this place, so he knew that there was a huge battle going on.

But hearing and seeing it were two different experiences. What they were seeing right now really exceeded their expectations.

The group watched the battle for a few moments before the three of them started murmuring with each other.

"What is that thing that he is fighting?"

"It looks so strong! It can even wield lighting as its armor and weapon."

"It feels like it has ancient powers."

David, who was clearer about the situation, did not say anything and just shook his head. He then turned to the others and said. "Let's forget about that battle and focus on the task on our hands. Our time is pretty limited."

Despite their reluctance, the three nodded their heads and listened to him. They had to finish the task they had first before they could enjoy watching such a peak battle.

When they finally calmed down, David briefed them on their task once again, making sure that the three hadn't forgotten about it yet. "Our main task is to save the captives, especially the two junior brothers sent by the military. This is of utmost importance."

"We can leave the rest of the fighting to the military forces and the reinforcements of the academy, so all we have to do is focus on our rescuing mission."

The expression of the three finally turned serious as they were reminded of their task. They were not afraid of the forces of their opposing organization given their respective strengths. Even if they faced a Void Manifestation Stage Martial Artist or a Mentalist in Rulers Realm, they would not be afraid of the fight.

The problem was the opponents beyond that level, particularly the Domain Realm Expert that the opposing side had, was Butcher. Especially when the top expert on their side was currently occupied with the strange lightning giant.

"Alright!"

"Understood!"

"Got it!"

The three nodded their heads and they quickly sprung into action.

"I already have the coordinates, so we got a rough idea of where we can look for the entrance of their base while waiting for the signal that the infiltration team will give us," he added before continuing. "If we can find the entrance early, then it will be for the best. So, we must do our best."

They were in the middle of a discussion when they suddenly heard a series of deafening roars coming from different parts of the mountain forest.

Roar! Roar!

"What are those?" asked Jeremiah out of habit.

Not long after, they heard a series of sounds in different directions. And from what they could deduce, it seemed like a huge battle broke out between their side and the opposing faction.

The signal in this place was quite terrible due to the residual energy scattered in the air, produced by the battle between Nathan and the Thunder Lord's inheritance.

Fortunately, John and his team were quite capable as they were able to quickly establish steady communication after much effort.

"What is the situation?" asked David as he pressed on the communication device attached to his ears.

Not long after, John quickly replied. "The combined forces of the military and the academy are currently engaging in an intense battle against hideous creatures that come from the mountain forest."

"They seem to be failed experiment subjects. They are coming in all directions and their strength is not a laughing matter either. They are very agile and are super strong."

"Your group may be strong, but you guys still must be careful when you encounter them. The mountain forest is a favorable environment for them," he added with a serious tone.

Hearing that, David, and the others, who were quietly listening through their respective communication device, nodded their heads with full seriousness.

After that, David looked at the trio and slightly tilted his head to the side. "It seems like we are going to have a pretty good warm-up before we go with the real deal."

Chapter 1128 Rescue Mission (Part 2): Request From The Head Priestess

...

With David leading, the group surveyed the mountain forest. And during their descent, they did not encounter any failed experimental subjects for some unknown reason. This made them frown deeply.

"Are we being purposely evaded?" asked Jerimiah in confusion.

"There is no rush, we haven't surveyed the entire area, after all. Let's continue with our task first before anything else," said David, though he was also quite confused.

"Maybe this mountain where we landed is the reason," said Laurent as he swept his gaze at the surroundings. From what he could see, the forest that they were in was giving off a different feeling.

Not long after, they arrived in front of a hut. The group could not help but halt in their tracks when they saw that hut standing in the middle of nowhere.

"Careful. There are multiple Mentalism Formations surrounding this hut," warned David with a series tone as he could see series after series of formations through his 'Enlightened Eyes'.

The three nodded their heads as a solemn look appeared on their faces. Then they followed David, copying his every step, as he traversed through the series of formations with extreme caution.

They just took a couple of steps when they saw that their surrounding changed all of a sudden. The surrounding trees and bushes seemed to disappear as the mountain forest was replaced by the scenery of a sky.

Clouds and the blue sky surrounded them. And in the middle of it was the simple hut that they had seen earlier.

"An illusion barrier?" asked Vincent as he surveyed the surroundings cautiously. From what he could see, they seemed to be sent into the sky for real.

Jerimiah and Laurent felt the same. No matter what they did, they felt that they were indeed standing in the sky.

David was wearing a solemn look. It was because he was the same as those three. He, who possessed the Enlightened Eyes that could see through all kinds of illusions and truths, could not tell whether they were inside an illusion barrier or not.

Then they saw a group of maidens surrounding the hut.

The pupils of the four suddenly contracted when they saw that because those shrine maidens seemed to appear out of nowhere. Moreover, they could not sense their presence at all! They seemed like a group of ghosts that did not have any kind of vitality or sense of life.

When the group was about to raise their weapons and fight, they suddenly heard a voice coming from inside the hut.

"Don't be afraid. We are not your enemies."

The group could not help but stop in their tracks when they heard that voice. That voice was so gentle and pleasing to the ears. It was as if their minds were suddenly cleansed, removing all kinds of impurities and useless thoughts when they heard that voice.

They could not help but feel stunned when that happened. Their minds instantly reached their peak just hearing the gentle voice. Moreover, their mentality also broke through a certain threshold.

"What the hell?"

"What kind of sorcery is this?"

"I feel like I can do anything I want right now."

Other than David, the other three could not believe what just happened. It was not because they were the ones who got affected the most.

If fact, David was the one who got his mind cleansed the most because he was carrying a lot of burdens on his shoulders, especially the revenge that he wanted and the responsibility of rebuilding his fallen kingdom.

Jerimiah, who possessed a Killing Star – a tool for slaughter, was only second to David. He felt that this dangerous power that he was suppressing all the time suddenly calmed down after hearing that gentle voice.

What surprised David was that he was aware of this kind of technique. His Master was also able to achieve similar results. The only difference was his Master was able to suppress this passive ability while the owner of that gentle voice could not control it.

Whoever was the owner of that voice, she could not control her powers properly which resulted in Mind Cleansing Speech naturally flowing out of her mouth.

'To reach this level, this senior is most likely be at the peak of the Venerable Realm and half step away from reaching the Exalted Realm in the path of Mentalism.'

'To think that there is an absolute expert living in such a secluded area. The world sure hides a lot of hidden experts,' thought David as the expression on his face became even more solemn.

The Mind Cleanse Speech might have a positive almost every time. But if some from the lower realms got exposed to it too much, then they could lose their minds and get addicted to it. At worst, they would become mindless puppets once their minds got cleansed repeatedly, affecting their memories, and leading to them losing their selves.

If used incorrectly, this Mind Cleansing Speech could become Bewitching Whispers, which was a very dangerous Advanced Mentalism Technique.

"Guard your minds, do not get affected too much by her voice. You will lose yourselves if you get exposed too much to it," whispered David, warning the other three.

He then took out a jade seal from his pocket and released the second phase of his Limit Break directly while infusing his Mental Energy into the seal.

Not long after, a transparent jade-like barrier surrounded the group, protecting them.

Seeing that, the person quickly understood what David was thinking. She was also aware of his cautiousness.

She could not help but smile. "As expected as one of the brightest stars of this generation. You sure know a lot of things."

"I must apologize as I can't control this power yet, which is why I chose to seclude myself in such a remote place."

She had just broken through her current realm just recently after receiving the blessings of the mountain guardian, so she could not control her powers properly yet. Even the shrine maidens had to purposely deafen themselves so that her Mind Cleansing Speech could not affect them.

David quickly gave her a salute, which was unique to young mentalists when they were meeting their seniors, before asking. "Can we learn the esteemed name of Senior? How are we going to address you?"

The person inside the hut quickly replied. "I don't have a name. Since I became the Head Priestess of our Shrine Temple, I've long abandoned my mortal name."

"What I follow now is the will of the mountain guardian."

"You can address me as Head Priestess just like everyone is calling me."

Hearing that, David finally came to a realization. 'So, is the missing priestess according to the report? She is already powerful, yet she still did not make a move when her people are being slaughtered by the Butcher. There must be a reason.'

The Head Priestess seemed to be able to read what he was thinking and quickly said. "As an envoy of the mountain guardian, I can't let myself get involved in these mortal matters. Or else, I will lose the connection between me and the mountain guardians."

"Unless the inheritance finds its destined host, I can't break this rule," she added.

In understanding, David nodded his head. "We understand, Senior."

"Our time is already running out, so let's discuss the main point of why I invited you here," said the Head Priestess, making the four quickly listen.

Then she continued. "These vermin that are coveting the inheritance of the mountain guardian are trying to do something that will upset the balance of the world. Once they become successful, chaos and destruction will plague not only our city but also the entire region."

"Since your goal and my purpose are aligned, I hope we can work together," she added.

Hearing that, the four quickly knelt like a knight before simultaneously replying. "We are glad to help you, Head Priestess!"

The Head Priestess nodded her head and said. "I can't point you where those vermin are hiding, but I can point you in their general direction. This will minimize the law of causality that can affect me."

"I just have one request. Please bring the destined host to me once you got your friends out," she added.

The four remained silent for a few moments before David could not help but ask. "By the 'destined host' that you mean, how can we find or identify them?"

"You will not be able to," said the Head Priestess. And when the group heard that, they could not help but frown deeply. They were about to ask again when she suddenly added. "But that destined host will instantly recognize that they are the one who will receive the inheritance of the mountain guard once they laid their eyes on that apparition."

The group understood which apparition she was talking about. It was most likely the giant armored being that the Dragon King was currently fighting. But they were still confused about this so-called host.

"The destined host is a descendant of the God of War from a distant era. They are a member of the courageous tribe of the Great Crimson Lions - the Asad Tribe. You will instantly recognize him when the time is right," she continued.

After that, she seemed to feel something before saying to them. "Our time is up. It is time for you to go back to the physical world."

Swoosh!

The four of them were still confused by her words and currently digesting the information inside their heads when they were sent out.

When they arrived at the place where they found the strange hut earlier, he could not help but stare blankly in the air before exchanging glances with each other.

"What just happened?" – seemed to be the thoughts running inside the heads of the three while David fell into serious and deep thought.

He seemed to have an idea of who the Head Priestess was talking about. It was because he knew someone from his fallen kingdom who was related to the tribe that she had mentioned.

"If they are related to the 'Asad Tribe', then there can only be a single person."

Chapter 1129 Rescue Mission (Part 3)

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"Hey, David! Are you sure about this? Do you really know who is the host that the Head Priestess is talking about?" asked Jerimiah as they surveyed their surroundings, looking for the entrance that the opposing organization had.

David thought for a moment before replying. "I am still not 100% sure, but I've got a rough idea of who is it."

"Asad Tribe? Isn't it that one tribe that lives in the land between the borders of the Golden Sand Desert and the Giant Silver Rainforest?" muttered Laurent.

David nodded. "Yeah. It is most likely that tribe."

"Hey! That is quite far! It is the farthest end of our Lost Soul Continent. Heck! It is even at the isolated region that no one dares to venture," commented Jeremiah before asking. "How come a member of that anti-social tribe is here?"

Based on the positions of the Soaring Continent and the Lost Soul Continent in the current world map, these two countries were the farthest from each other aside from the Dark Continent that the southern part of the world.

And within the Lost Soul Continent, the region where the said Asad Tribe was located at the land that even the great organizations and prestigious families of the continent were unwilling to go.

Not only the region was far, but quite dangerous as well, especially when one had to go through a few forbidden lands before reaching it.

"I heard that the Asad Tribe is also a mercenary group. Is that true?" asked Laurent. His family was running an information merchant group, so it was normal for someone like him to be interested in this kind of thing.

Vincent thought for a moment before nodding his head. "Yeah. From what I know, the Asad Tribe can be hired as mercenaries. But there are a series of complicated procedures before anyone can hire them."

"Now only that. You also must possess a certain level of strength before you are qualified to invite or hire them," he added as he recalled the information about the tribe from the archive of their family.

"I heard that they have strong tribe members," said Laurent.

This time, it was David who answered. "They are not only strong but very strong. Each member of their tribe is a true warrior gifted with superhuman strength and an innate talent for battle. Their battle senses are insanely good."

"A single member of their tribe is enough to slaughter an entire company of veteran mercenaries or an elite unit of the military."

Laurent could not help but feel that David was just exaggerating it and said with a little sarcasm. "They are that strong? Are they stronger than the great noble and ancient families?"

David thought for a moment before answering. "Let's forget about the families from other continents. Let's talk about the Martial Arts and Mentalism Families of this country."

"If we compare them to the Asad Tribe, only the Springfield Family can rival them in terms of battle strength. And the outcome of the battle, if those two forces fight, is most likely to end in a draw."

"The Stuart and Potter Families can also be on the same level. But if it is a life-and-death situation, then the Asad Tribe will without a doubt win that battle," he added.

Vincent and Jeremiah frowned slightly when they heard that. They had long heard about that tribe. Even the Valentine Family that they belonged to was quite wary of that tribe. But they did not expect that David saw that tribe at that level.

"You sound like you are familiar with them. Have you met them before?" Laurent, who was quite sharp when it came to this kind of information, quickly asked.

David did not deny it and nodded his head. "Yeah. I lived with a member of the Asad Tribe for quite some time."

He hesitated for a moment before continuing. "My Uncle-Master married a woman from that tribe, and she is stupidly strong. I must say that she can fight anyone on the same level as the Dragon King if she wants to."

This time the faces of the three turned serious. If a random member of that tribe could face an expert on the same level as Dragon King Nathan, then the Asad Tribe was not only as strong as the Springfield Family. They might even be stronger.

Little did they know, the person that David was talking about was the princess of that tribe, so it was natural for her to be on the same level as Nathan due to her powerful bloodline that came from the direct line, which was no worse than the other families with a long and ancient history.

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The group continued to head forward and follow the direction that the Head Priestess had pointed until they finally encountered the first batch of failed experimental subjects.

"What a hideous look. They are no different from those mutated in-game monsters," commented Jerimiah as he saw the experiment subjects from a distance.

Ahead of them, there was a group of failed experimental subjects and their sizes varied differently.

Some had huge and muscular bodies, some had a deformed hand with the other was a little oversized and larger than its body. There were also others that had fat and ballooned bellies while sticky goo continuously came out from its mouth. There was another that was relatively thinner compared to the rest but stinky-looking smoke came out from its body.

These failed experimental subjects might be different, but they had something in common. Their skins were all dried up while green veins were popping out on different parts of their bodies. The color of their skin was also in different shades of purple color, signifying how much their bodies were contaminated.

The group observed the subjects for a couple of moments before Vincent pointed something out. "Their Qi Circulation is in a chaotic state, but they are still emitting a powerful aura."

"They look like a group of Martial Artists that suffer a Qi Affliction and are unable to fix it," commented Laurent.

"But you can tell that they are much stronger than Martial Artists that are suffering in that state," added Jeremiah.

"Forget about talking and just get rid of them. Our time is limited," said David before quickly charging ahead fearlessly.

Swoosh!

He made a series of seals with his hand before releasing his Spiritual Force. Rune after rune appeared and floated behind him before fusing with his body. He then turned into a stream of light that charged forward before piercing through the failed experimental subjects blocking his path.

The experimental subjects were either knocked to the side or pushed toward the nearby trees. But despite facing such a powerful charge head-on, neither of the subjects suffered any serious injuries.

In fact, they quickly retaliated right after regaining their footing.

The subject with a fat and round belly opened its mouth and vomited a huge slimy goo that flew toward David in a disgusting way. And when the latter saw that, right after he turned around, he quickly pushed his hands forward and released a Spiritual Force that turned into a dome-shaped barrier that protected him.

Whoosh!

He might have protected himself from the goo, but his barrier failed to totally repel that sticky goo. Instead, it stuck on his barrier and slowly slid on it as if it was trying to wrap itself around the barrier.

Boom!

Swoosh!

At the same time, one of the subjects, which had an oversized arm, suddenly charged forward. It positioned its arm in front of it as if it was trying to ram that arm into the barrier.

The zombie-like subject with a thinner body also made its move. It opened its mouth, which released a stinky green miasma that spread in every direction. It slowly moved forward, covering a large portion of the area, hiding the rest of the subjects as they slowly picked themselves up from the ground.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

At this moment, the three quickly made their moves. They sprinted forward and jumped into the green miasma without any hesitation.

Laurent twirled his spear around while running. He flipped it continuously with both of his hands while gathering an overwhelming momentum. Not long after, his actions created a spiraling vortex that sucked the surrounding miasma before sending it toward the sky, clearing the surrounding.

This gave Vincent and Jerimiah a clear field of vision. They charged toward their respective target while leaving their afterimages behind.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Jerimiah charged with a sudden burst of speed and rushed toward the subject with an oversized arm. He intercepted the charge of the latter and sent it flying right after the collision.

Vincent, on the other hand, headed straight to the subject that released the green miasma earlier and threw a series of flying needles that pierced through the throat of the latter. It prevented the subject from releasing more miasma as he immediately engaged in a melee battle.

Laurent also did not wait after he cleared the previous miasma. He quickly kicked the ground and headed straight to the subject with a fat and rounded belly. He then struck with his spear, planning to put a hole in its body.

But to his surprise, his spear was unable to push deep into the body of the experimental subject. The tip of his spear only pushed the surface of the belly when it touched it, unable to penetrate any deeper. It was as if he tried to stab a thick and elastic rubber ball that could not be pierced by ordinary means.

"I am worried that that disgusting goo will cover my body if I pop this round belly. But from the looks of it I don't have to worry about it," he muttered with a smile before a violent gust of wind suddenly caught up to his figure and suddenly blasted forward.

That gust of wind blew the fat test subject and sent it flying alongside it.

Laurent did not chase after it and quickly looked for another target, helping the others.

With that, a chaotic battle quickly broke out as the four took down a failed experimental subject one after another.

Chapter 1130 Rescue Mission (Part 4): Unexpected

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Inside the underground laboratory, the situation was already in a very chaotic state. Not only a lot of facilities were destroyed due to the chaos, but a lot of guards were either killed or critically injured.

But despite the side of Shin and the students having an overwhelming advantage, they still suffered quite a few losses. Some of the students were heavily injured. Their lives might not be in danger, but their battle capabilities were currently crippled. They even burdened the group due to the rest needing to protect them while trying to escape.

The one that suffered the most was the team that Tir was leading. Since they were the ones who were mainly causing havoc anywhere their group went, the forces within the laboratory were much more focused on them compared to the rest.

Following them was the team led by Lester. Their forces suffered the most during the first collision with Shaun and the rest of the guards waiting outside the confinement room. Their injured members grew in numbers when Shaun suddenly underwent a mutation.

Lester also got seriously injured after daring to get his left arm to get seriously broken just to take care of Shaun as soon as possible. But despite all his efforts, he still failed to finish off the latter and let the mutated person escape at the most critical moment.

But at the very least, he was able to force Shaun to run away, lessening the burden that the group had. Without the pressure that was coming from such a powerful mutated creature, the group was able to deal with the rest of the guards.

They also already found their storage room where their weapons were located and quickly took everything with them, including some of the supply weapons of the laboratory. And once they made sure that they had already gotten everything, they destroyed the rest and made sure that the guards would not be able to get anything.

After that, they quickly went to find Tir and his group to give their weapons. And once they regrouped, their forces became much stronger despite having some injured people within their ranks. With their weapons, they were able to slaughter their way out of the place while protecting the rest.

Of course, they still have to look for Shin and the others and made sure that their group was fine. They also have to return the weapons of the others to make their escape easier.

During that time, Leonard volunteered himself to lead the group that would bring the weapons of Shin and the others while Tir would bring the rest to the rendezvous point that they agreed upon.

With Lester unable to showcase his real potential due to his broken arm, and the rest of the injured students, it was quite inconvenient for the group to move together while looking at Shin and the others.

Their forces might be stronger together, but it would also make it easier for the guards of the laboratory to trap them in a certain area, making it hard for them to escape.

But if they moved separately, they would be able to force the guards to divide themselves to deal with multiple groups, which was quite favorable for Tir and the rest of his group, especially now that they had gotten back their main weapons.

Moreover, Leonard was more fitted to look for Shin since he was more familiar with the latter. He could at least predict how the latter would move in every situation due to their familiarity with each other.

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In the meantime, Shin and Julieta were currently discussing as they rush over to the command room. They could not help but praise the designer of the laboratory as they placed the command room very far from the cell rooms and the storage room.

This was the reason, why they took a long to reach that room. It was mainly because of the distance. And on top of that, they continuously ran into quite a lot of guards along the way. They had to constantly fight while running toward that place.

But compared to the two groups, their job was quite smooth. They did not even encounter a powerful opponent or a larger number of guards than more than they could handle.

But despite having smooth sailing, Shin could not help but frown deeply. It was because of something that kept on bothering him as he moved toward the command room.

Julietta quickly noticed it and immediately asked. "What's wrong, Junior? Is something bothering you?"

Shin looked at her briefly before nodding his head. "There is indeed something that is bothering me, Senior."

"What is it? Let me hear it out," said Julietta.

Shin hesitated for a moment before tilting his head to the side and pursing his lips. "It's just I feel that there is something wrong. We have been creating chaos within the laboratory but neither of our groups found any traces of their real experts, especially Coffin Maker, who is supposedly the one monitoring the situation within this place."

"From the signals that the other groups were giving us, it seems like they did not encounter him either. Aside from those mutated subjects and slightly stronger guards, they did not encounter many problems."

"I heard from the guards earlier, the experiment that they are undergoing is already at the most crucial stages, so isn't it more than a reason to keep on preventing us from doing whatever we want?"

He paused for a moment and frowned deeper before continuing. "Moreover, the other side must have noticed that my partner and I have already escaped, so it is impossible for them not to do anything about it. Especially when we are one of the current 'subjects' that they can only use for the experiment."

"Their lack of response is really bothering me. They may be planning something bigger than we are expecting."

Hearing his reasoning, Julieta also found it odd. They could forget about Lester and their group, but Tir and the rest of his team were the ones who were destroying the laboratory the most, yet they did not encounter any powerful guards.

If not for the number of guards that were continuously pouring their way, then Julieta might suspect that the top personnel of the laboratory was letting Tir and their group purposely destroy the entire laboratory.

When that thought crossed her mind, Julieta could not help but pause in her tracks as a sudden realization struck her. "Wait! What if they are really letting us destroy the laboratory to get rid of the evidence?"

She then quickly turned to Shin and the rest of the group and seriously urged them. "We must make haste! It seems like the organization is already prepared for this. They don't care about the laboratory and planning to get rid of it since the very start!"

Hearing that, Shin also came to a realization. He found her words reasonable and agreed with her. But for some unexplainable reason, he still felt bothered about something. He could not put his fingers into it exactly, but he was sure that they might still have overlooked something.

Regardless, their group quickly increased their speed and arrived at their destination. They almost did not face any kind of resistance as there were only a few guards blocking their path, which made Shin and Julieta find it odd.

And when they finally entered the command room, they could not help but halt in their tracks and stared blankly at the sight.

All of the computers and other devices had already been wasted just like what they were expecting. Even the screens meant for monitoring had already been broken, making it impossible for Shin and the others to know the overall situation of the whole place.

But what stunned them the most was the corpses of the laboratory personnel scattered in the room. Everyone was dead!

"What is this? An internal strike?" muttered one of their members.

Hearing that, Shin finally snapped out of his daze and rushed toward the room next to the command room.

It was the main control room!

And when he entered there, a completely similar sight greeted him. All devices were purposely broken while all the personnel inside were dead, and their bodies were scattered everywhere.

Julieta was also quite confused about the current situation, but she quickly regained her composure. This was not the time to think about it, so she quickly gave out her commands. "Quickly look for anything that we can use to send a signal outside. We must restore at least one of the computer devices to inform our reinforcements about our location, then everything will be fine!"

Hearing her words, the rest of the group quickly went to work and surveyed the two rooms. The state of those rooms might be a little troublesome for them to use, but all of them were talented students, especially when they belonged to Student Assistant Association.

Given their educational background, quite a few of them were experts when it came to dealing with technology and such devices.

While the group was busy themselves, Shin was currently thinking to himself. He was quite familiar with the methods of the Black Serpent Mafia since he once learned from their ways. And since he was aware of their connection with this place, he could at least understand the current situation.

It was because he knew that this was simply their way of doing things. Cutting off their tail by getting rid of everyone else aside from their main personnel.

But at the same time, he also knew that they would not easily get rid of the place unless they finally got what they were looking for.

'Could it be that they have already created the vessel that they are looking for after using the body of Old Man Roger?' he thought as he finally remembered the place where he escaped from.

But it did not take long for him to shake his head and deny the idea. 'No, it is a little too fast and it feels like it is not their real purpose. I may still have overlooked something. What is it?'

He knew that once he figured out what it was, he could still sabotage the plans that the organization had.