

Destiny 901

Chapter 901 Negotiation

.....

Just like what Shin had expected, the Pandemonium Descendants approached them to discuss a proposition.

But due to the previous events that occurred just recently, both sides were not fully trusting each other. Especially when there was also a grudge that needed to be considered.

Because of this, the two sides decided to send their representatives to a certain location to discuss the matter a little more privately.

Neither side could send members of their respective group more than the agreed number of people for the meeting. No one would also be present within the perimeter of the area aside from the representatives.

To make sure that neither side could go back to their words, Shin and Mowglee signed a contract containing the mentioned conditions.

...

Somewhere within the dense woods of the Frozen Kingdom, six players have gathered away from the rest of their respective groups.

Each of these players was emitting a very strong aura, creating a heavy atmosphere surrounding them. If there was an ordinary player who mistakenly joined them, then they would surely suffocate to death due to how heavy the air around them was.

Naturally, these players were Shin and Mowglee who brought two more people from their side as mentioned in the agreement.

Of course, neither of them trusted the other which was why they brought the two additional people in case something didn't go according to their plans.

Shin and Mowglee were sitting on a fallen tree trunk facing each other as a bonfire was lit in between them to illuminate the surrounding.

Not too far behind them stood the other players that they brought alongside them.

Shin brought Zero and Faker because they were more rational compared to the other members of their group. Their speed was also the fastest among their party, so they would be able to move freely if something went wrong. They also retreat immediately if the other side was plotting against them.

They trusted the system, so they were confident that the opposing side would not break the contract. But it was still better to be ready than to regret everything when the negotiation went wrong.

Aside from that, the three of them represented the three groups of their party. Zero obviously represented himself and Seven. Then Faker was the representative of the Lawless group while Shin was for the Empyrean Talons.

S.Tigris and Black already conceded their spots since they knew that this quest was mainly related to the Empyrean Talons, they were already thankful that they were brought this far, so they would not overstep any further. Asking for more was just pushing their luck way too much and being too greedy.

On the other side, Mowglee brought the other top captains of the Sweepers, Azumi, and Muriem.

They had the same rank, but they still respected the current ranks that the organization assigned to them. Since Mowglee was given the role of being the temporary commander of this operation, the two would do everything they could to support him.

Both sides remained silent for a few moments as they observed each other carefully. They were gauging the strength of the opposing.

Obviously, Mowglee could see that their side was at disadvantage. The three players on the other side were much stronger than any of his group but he managed to remain calm as he knew that these top gods of the game would not make a move against them due to the system contract.

He took a breath to reorganize his thoughts before staring back at Shin. "We both know that neither of us wants to drag this out any longer, so let's skip everything else and go straight to the point."

Shin calmly nodded his head and responded. "My thoughts exactly."

Mowglee nodded his head to respond and continued. "You should already be aware of our main purpose for coming to this place, so there is no need to discuss it. Let's directly proceed at how we are going to help each other."

Hearing the latter part of those words, Shin couldn't help but scoff softly. "Help, you say? More like how we are going to benefit each other."

"We both know that it is impossible to trust each other given the relationship that our groups have, so I doubt we can use the word 'help' here."

He then paused for a moment to make sure that Mowglee understood where they stood before continuing. "Our Quest just happens to coincide with each other, so let's stop with the pep talk and discuss the real business."

"What can you offer that can benefit us," he added with a clear tone of authority.

Hearing those words, the three from the opposing side started frowning deeply, showing their displeasure.

"Looks like you become too confident because of your recent success, Battle God Sickarius," said Mowglee with a cold tone and continued. "Let me remind you that we are supposedly here on an equal footing. We didn't come here to get ordered by you."

"Heh! That might be true if a Troupe member is present, unfortunately, none of them appeared yet. I wonder why," replied Shin with a mocking tone.

He then leaned slightly forward as he rested his elbows on his knees and put his hands together. "Let me remind you why we supposedly have a higher position on this matter."

He trailed his words for a brief moment before continuing. "It is because you guys need us to clear our quest first before you can proceed with yours."

"Or should I say, you need us to pave a path ahead, so that your side can walk through everything smoothly?"

Hearing those words, Mowglee couldn't help but squint his eyes as he felt that Shin had a clear understanding of their operation. 'Have they made contact with Diablo?'

For the Pandemonium Descendants, Diablo was their greatest obstacle since that guy was aware of their plans. He was also one of the initiators of the Main Quests that the organization had.

Unfortunately, Mowglee didn't have any evidence to prove his suspicions, so he couldn't make any hasty judgment. The higher-ups told him to make a contact with the Empyrean Talons since working together with them would make their Quest much easier to clear.

Mowglee quickly calmed himself down before putting his hands together and mimicked Shin's posture before responding. "I must admit that it is true. But your help is not necessarily needed for us to clear our quest. It is just more convenient for us if we work with your group."

"On the other hand, your group will benefit more if you work with us. After all, the Corrupted Cult is in your tail, which makes your situation more dangerous."

'Hoh~! He knows how to play with words quite well,' thought Shin before replying. "But we are confident that we can handle ourselves. We also didn't necessarily need your help either."

Mowglee shook his head before refuting. "I am not sure about that. Unlike us who can spend more time in this place, your side can't afford to stay in here much longer."

"The more time you spend here, the stronger the Corrupted Cult can grow its forces in the outskirts of the Saint Heaven Kingdom. And I am sure that it is something that you guys don't want to happen."

Shin nodded his head and admitted it. "It is true that it would become more troublesome for us if it happened."

Those words caught Mowglee off-guard. After all, there was an unspoken rule in making a deal to not show the other side your weakness since it could put you at disadvantage in negotiating.

Unfortunately for him, Shin was thinking differently. If you revealed your weakness to your opponent but also showed that you didn't care much about it, the opposing side could no longer use it against you.

For him, it was more effective if you showed that you were wielding a much sharper weapon than your opponent.

Following this rule, Shin revealed one of his cards. "But it is really true that you guys want to see us fail this quest?"

Mowglee creased his brow a little deeper when he heard those words before shaking his head. "I'm not sure what you mean about those words?"

"I am saying that you guys will not be able to clear your quest if we fail ours," said Shin instantly.

He then observed Mowglee to see if he would get any reaction. But since the latter managed to maintain the current expression on his face, Shin shook his head and continued. "Can you guys harm the First Vampire?"

This time, Mowglee couldn't help but shout inside his head. 'He really knows the nature of our quest!'

His eyes trembled for a moment, but Mowglee managed to quickly hide it. But unfortunately for him, Shin was able to spot it as he was closely observing everything.

That brief reaction confirmed all the deductions that Shin made earlier. If he was only guessing earlier using the little clues that they had, then he now became sure of everything.

'I guess this is going to be much smoother than what we are expecting,' thought Shin as an 'evil' plan started to form inside his head.

Chapter 902 Troubled Arthur

...

Mowglee immediately understood that they would be at disadvantage in this negotiation if he continued to let Shin dictate the pace of this meeting.

He took a brief moment to reorganize these thoughts before trying to dig for more information from Shin. "I wonder where you got that information? It sounds like you are too familiar with it given that you are confident with your words."

Shin smirked inside as he could see that Mowglee was trying to probe him out. Unfortunately, he didn't have any intention of revealing his real intentions.

Mowglee was bound not to get anything from him as Shin would continue to play with his words. "The truth is... It is just a suspicion. But given your reaction, I guess I just get the confirmation about it, so I must thank you for that."

The expression on Mowglee's face immediately became grim as he realized that Shin was only toying with him.

Fortunately, it was still not the end of the rope for him since he still had some cards to play. "Maybe you are right about it, but it doesn't mean that you are the only ones who can achieve what we want."

"You should know by now that the Corrupted Cult invited powerful groups to help them deal with your group. We can still ask them to help us instead since they are already here."

Shin scoffed at those words and refuted them. "Yeah, that is true. But I wonder why you guys approached us first given that you have a better choice?"

"And aren't the Corrupted Cult and the Demonic Churches practically on the same faction? This makes me wonder why you choose us, the ones who you guys have a grudge with, over your 'allied' faction?"

This was the real question that Shin wanted to answer. It still confused him why these guys from the Pandemonium Descendants and the Corrupted Cult were not working together this time.

There must still be a hidden piece of the puzzle that he was missing. There must be a reason why it was the case.

Meanwhile, on the temporary camp where the rest of the expedition group was staying, Arthur was currently wearing a deep frown as he read through the information about the group that Immortal hired.

There was not much to look at the Silent Night since he was already familiar with them. But it was a little different for the Earners since that group seemed to have some major adjustments in ranks based on what he heard.

He knew quite a few from their ranks, but he was not sure if it remained the same after the recent reformation.

After reading through the information that he got from the Hand of Midas, he immediately knew that they were in trouble.

"I am not expecting that most of those guys are going to join this group," he muttered as he fell into deep thought.

It was at that moment when Lawless approached him and overheard his words. "What are you talking about?"

"It is quite unusual for you to wear such a heavy expression. It looks like being dumped by some girl or something," he added teasingly.

Even though Arthur loved to fool around, he still knew that this was not the right time for it. He released a heavy and helpless sigh before sharing the screen that he was reading.

Lawless was confused at first but still, read the content that was displayed on the screen. It was at that moment that he understood why Arthur was wearing such a heavy expression.

He might not be around any virtual games in the last two years, but he was still familiar with the experts that he faced during his time of being active. Especially when he was playing the most successful and difficult game before the appearance of «Destiny's Fate» Online, the «True Era» Online.

Every player from that game could be considered a Ranker if they were compared with the current players.

Meanwhile, the top players of that game, who were known as the Monster Class Players, were undoubtedly top-notched players even in the current era.

All of them were either a Godlike Player who had an official title, or a Maverick God, who possessed a similar level of skill and power but choose to not participate in any kind of official event.

And right now, their current opponents seemed to be composed of those kinds of players. Every member of their group was a Monster Class Player from «True Era» Online.

"This is insane. Thirty of them? For real? I wonder who the current leader of that group is and how he managed to gather all these people," commented Lawless as he continued to read the information displayed on the virtual screen.

"Fortunately, they only send fifteen of them for this current commission. Though, it is still not necessarily a good thing for us," he added with a deep frown.

He might be confident with his current skills and the rest of their group could not be underestimated either, but given their current numbers, they were at a great disadvantage.

Including himself, Lawless counted the number of people who could fight against the current members of the Earners Mercenary Group.

"We have eight Godlike Players on our side, and if we include the combined strength that Ravier and Ember have, they can at least deal with one more member of the opposing side. Then the rest can deal with at least two to three more people."

"Tsk! Tsk! It is still not enough. Those guys have two more people to spare at the very least. Whoever gets that spot will still be a great threat to us."

It was not he was underestimating the other members of their group, but he was just saying the truth.

He knew how powerful the Monster Class Player of «True Era» Online was. He knew that even if the other members of their team were skilled and powerful compared to most of the players, they still didn't stand a chance against those monsters who played that extremely hard game.

Forget making Faker and himself as an example since they were out of form after their short retirement. Just putting Arthur, Leonard, Zero, and Cloe into consideration was more than enough to prove how strong those Monster Class Players were.

Arthur nodded his head and quickly added. "And there is still Immortal and the members of the Silent Night to consider, we are in deep trouble right now."

Lawless also started to feel the gravity of their current situation. This had gotten more serious. They only had a limited number of experts. They also couldn't call more people from the outside since the portal needed to be guarded all the time.

The Hand of Midas and Assassin Union, who were helping them, were also too busy to send them any kind of reinforcements since they needed to oversee the situation in the Saint Heaven Kingdom.

Asking for some help from Dragon Pavilion and Titan Guild was also impossible since the Hydra Guild and Blood Carnival were keeping them in check.

On the other hand, the Wing's Alliance was dealing with the internal conflict within their guild, which was also pretty serious.

No matter how much compensation they offered to help them, no one from those three Powerhouses could lend them a hand.

"Have you informed Shin about this yet? He should be aware of this as soon as possible," asked Lawless.

Arthur shook his head and answered with a bitter tone. "I've got this information from the Hand of Midas just now, so Shin was still unaware of it yet."

"Should we ask for some help from our friends?" asked Lawless.

Arthur rolled his eyes and replied. "I don't know about you, but I don't have a friend that can respond to our current situation right now. If I am being honest, most of them are even hoping for me to fail this quest when they learned our current predicament."

Lawless gave Arthur an odd look before shaking his head. "Such a circle of friends that you have. Or should I say that is what you can get from always messing with everyone?"

He then put stroked his chin before shaking his head. "Though, I also can't say I am in a better position."

Thinking about that, Lawless couldn't help but admit that they need the help that the Pandemonium Descendants could offer.

At the same time, he also remembered something. "How about that guy Diablo? Can we lure him to our side, or at least ask for some assistance when the opportunity presented itself?"

Arthur shrugged his shoulders. "I don't know about that. Shin is the one who makes a contact with him, so he is the only one who can answer that question."

"Though, we might have a chance fighting the Earners if he can lend us a hand. After all, he managed to fight Shin on an equal footing," he added.

He was confident that they had an overwhelming advantage if they were only going to face the Earners Mercenary Group alone. After all, they had a powerful trump card on their arsenal, the Reality Manifestation.

But it was going to be a little troublesome if they put Immortal and the Silent Night into consideration.

Even if the two groups happened to operate in separate ways and they defeated one of them, there was still no guarantee that the other side would take advantage of them after being exhausted in battle.

"Ahh!! This is the reason why don't like to think about the intelligent stuff! It is only making my head hurts!" said Arthur as he ruffled his hair.

Learning that Earners Mercenary Group had grown this powerful was really a shock even for him.

If they were only facing Immortal and the Silent Night, then it would not be a problem at all. But with such a powerful backup, even someone like Arthur found out hard to believe that they were going to win.

"What's more, that woman is also in their ranks," muttered Arthur to himself as he found something more problematic with the current predicament that they were in.

Chapter 903 The Undying Army And The Legion Of Chaotic Sun (Part 1)

...

Shin just came back from the meeting with Mowglee when he noticed that the atmosphere surrounding everyone was a little too gloomy.

He then walked towards Arthur and Lawless who were currently discussing with each other. From the expression that their faces were making, he could tell that the topic of their discussion was very serious.

"What's the matter? Your face is telling me that something is up," greeted Shin at the two as he walked over to them.

Arthur and Lawless turned at him the moment they heard his voice. The former couldn't help but have a sigh of relief as he could tell from the expression that Shin had that the negotiation went well.

Lawless, on the other hand, slightly frowned when he saw that Shin was alone. "You come back alone? Where are Faker and Zero?"

Shin shrugged his shoulders in response. "Faker said that he will be scouting the area after hearing the information that you guys sent us. As for Zero, he said that he wants to check on something and will join us later."

He paused for a moment and turned to Arthur. "Did Big Sis say something?"

Arthur shook his head as he replied. "She still has a lot on her plate, so I doubt that she can lend us a hand right now."

Shin slightly nodded his head and spoke. "Well, that's understandable. Anyway, based on the information that you send me, our biggest problem right now is the Earners Mercenary Group, right?"

He paused for a moment and waited for Arthur to confirm it with a slight nod before continuing. "Then we don't have to care about them for the time being since the Pandemonium Descendants will be dealing with them."

"Actually, we should be thankful to them since they make the negotiation much more favorable for us," he added with a chuckle.

Those words made the two knit their brows in confusion, so Shin had to clarify it for them. "We are currently in the head of discussing with the representatives of the Pandemonium Descendants when something happened."

"Those guys from that mercenary group hit the Pandemonium Descendants too hard to it almost crippled their forces stationed in this area," he couldn't help but laugh out loud when he recalled what happened.

In the meantime, Arthur and Lawless got a rough idea of what happened after hearing those words.

"You mean to say, those guys from Earners launched an attack on Pandemonium Descendants?" repeated Arthur with a weird look on his face.

Meanwhile, Lawless was also wearing a similar expression before feeling a little pity for Pandemonium. "Poor guys, they become the appetizer for those monsters."

As someone who was familiar with some of the members of the Earners Mercenary Group, he could clearly picture what happened to the forces of Pandemonium Descendants.

"We are actually having some issues at how we are going to use those guys from the Pandemonium since they can't directly fight against the Corrupted Cult, but since the Earners volunteered to be their opponents, the negotiations went too well," said Shin as he recounted what happened.

"We can leave them deal with each other and weaken their forces as we conserve our strengths until the final battle," he added.

He then turned to Arthur and continued. "You said that those guys from Earners are at least a Monster Class Player of your previous game, am I right?"

"Then it is obvious that we don't stand a chance against them if they face them head-on given their current numbers."

"But since the forces that the Pandemonium Descendants have is not that weak either, we can assume that they will at least suffer a significant loss before we meet them," he added as he looked at the list of members of the Earners Mercenary Group that Arthur had sent him.

Arthur seemed to have a sigh of relief when he learned that they were not going to meet the Earners for the time being.

Shin didn't notice those actions as he turned to the others and observed their current state before continuing. "For now, our only problem is how we are going to deal with Immortal and those guys from Silent Night."

"Any information from Big Sis about them?" he asked as he turned back to Arthur.

Remember the information about those people, Arthur couldn't help but chuckle. "Ah! About those guys from Silent Night? There is indeed some news about them."

He gave Shin and teasing look and continued. "And most of it is because of you."

Shin knitted his brows when he saw that expression. "What's with that look? Just tell me what is it."

Arthur was still chuckling when he continued. "Remember that guy that you beat during your last Godly Challenge, Justin?"

"He converted to become a Demonic Church believer after losing everything. He is also offered a special class and brand-new race during the process. But everything has a price, so their entire team needed to join that faction before he can get that benefit."

"Obviously, it resulted in some conflict in their team when Justin insisted that he want to get the Class and Race. It then resulted in some of their members leaving their team since they want to stay in the Righteous Faction."

"They lose five of their members but the ones who had the core roles within their team stayed. They managed to find some replacements for the missing slots of their team, but they are not as good as the previous ones."

"Of course, the quality of their members is still high, but they are not as threatening as they used to be. Though, I must say that their new members are as strong as average Titled Rankers."

Shin fell into deep thought when he heard those words before giving his evaluation. "That means that we have an advantage if we fight them with their current strength."

Arthur nodded but also added. "Well, if it is only them, then we will not have a problem. But from the reports that we receive, Immortal also brought a couple of his apostles, so it is still not going to be an easy battle."

Lawless, who remained silent the entire time, finally gave his remark. "At least, it is much better than facing the Earners. Our chance of winning is much higher if we fight Immortal and Silent Night first, instead of going up against that group of monsters straight away."

Shin nodded his head and agreed. "That is right, so we should go look for them as soon as possible while the Pandemonium Descendants are still busy dealing with the Earners."

"If that is the case, then should start moving now?" asked Lawless, clearly showing his desire to fight as soon as possible.

He was already getting used to his new powers and only needed a couple of intense battles before he reached his ideal form.

Moreover, he also wanted to test out his strength when using the 'Reality Manifestation'. He didn't have the right opportunity to properly experience that state since his recent opponents were not up to standards.

If he could get used to this special state before they encountered the Earners, then he was confident that he could hold himself against any of them without a problem.

After all, his strength should be on par with what he could do in the real world based on what Faker had described. If that was really the case, then there was a very small number of players who could face it if he managed to perfectly control that state.

They just discovered this state recently through Shin, so they were not that familiar with it. According to the information that Shin had told them, this state still had two stages.

The first stage was granting them the ability to use their real discipline from the real world while the second stage was said to be the unification of their mind and in-game avatar, which would grant them an unlimited possibilities.

Faker and himself were already top-notched prodigies of their continent, so adding Shin, Arthur, Leonard, and Zero to their ranks would make them an unstoppable force.

If they perfected that state and made its power into their own, then even the most powerful forces within the game would fear their combined powers.

Lawless could feel his blood boil when he thought about the possible future that was waiting for them.

Shin shook his head and smile bitterly when he saw the expression that Lawless was making. He could relate to those emotions since he was also thinking the same when he experienced what he could do after entering the Reality Manifestation State.

"Let's start moving now," he said before turning to Chaotic Luck who currently sitting in a lotus position with closed eyes.

It was clear that this hard-working kid was currently in a state of shared vision with summoned undead monsters.

Shin thought for a moment as a plan was starting to form inside his head. He then started smiling due to his thoughts before muttering in a soft voice. "I wonder how the public will react when they learn that there is a summoner who is on par with the 'Lich God'."

Arthur and Lawless were currently having their own thoughts when they suddenly heard those words from Shin. They simultaneously turned at him with odd looks on their faces.

– "What crazy plot is this guy planning to do now?" – this was the thought that was running inside the heads of the two when they saw the evil grin that Shin was wearing.

Chapter 904 The Undying Army And The Legion Of Chaotic Sun (Part 2)

.....

Somewhere within the dense forest of the Frozen Kingdom.

Immortal just finished setting up the formation within the forest and was waiting for the right time to use it.

He got his goal straight. This time, he was not going to fight Shin and the rest of their group without making any preparations. He already learned his lesson from the previous encounters, so would not overestimate his abilities this time.

Moreover, his job in coming here was not only to interrupt Shin and the others from clearing their quest but also to create a hidden teleportation portal that could let the members of the Cult freely enter and exit this region.

This was not a part of the orders that were given to him by the current leader of the cult players, but it would not hurt to have a contingency plan if things didn't go as planned.

If possible, he wanted to go into the deeper parts of the Frozen Kingdom. But unfortunately, he couldn't set up a teleportation formation in there since the mana in that area was a little too chaotic despite its high density.

Aside from that, he would also be targeted by the lord of this region if something went wrong, so it was better to settle in the forest situated at the border of the Kingdom, near the towering wall of ice.

Now that he was done drawing the magic formation, what was left was to set up an altar that could transform this place into a perfect teleportation portal. But that needed to wait until everything was over. After all, their enemies could easily break the altar if they discovered it.

For now, what he needed to do was to hide the magic formation drawn on the ground to make sure that it would be discovered by the opposing side. He even set up a concealment array in the surrounding area to ensure that the place was totally hidden.

He spent quite some time setting up everything. He also exhausted his Mana Pool and concentration during the process, so he needed more time to regain his peak form.

Not long after, Immortal frowned deeply as he felt that there was something wrong. It was not about him, but the current situation that they were in.

The members of Silent Night still hadn't come back after such a long time. They were tasked to clear the area but they were taking too much time than he expected.

He knew that the monsters in this region were powerful, but that was not enough to give the current Silent Night some trouble.

"Something must have happened," he muttered as he stood up and went to look for them.

...

Not long after, Immortal finally found Justin and the rest of his crew. They were in the middle of harvesting the materials from the body of a giant mammoth.

He walked towards them and immediately asked. "What's taking you too long? It is not like the monsters here are troublesome."

Justin gave him a quick glance before sweeping his gaze back at their surroundings. "It is not like that. But we keep getting the feeling that we are being watched by someone or something."

"We can't pinpoint its source since its aura was very faint but its gaze was strong enough to alert our senses," he added with a deep frown.

Everything was going according to plan. But as they were clearly in the area, they suddenly noticed the eyes that were observing them.

And to make it more uncomfortable, the source of this particular 'gaze' was not coming from a single place, but from the whole area around them. It seemed like they were currently being surrounded by a group of invisible enemies.

Now that Justin had mentioned it, Immortal finally noticed why he was feeling odd. These gazes were definitely the source of his uneasiness.

But while looking for its sources, he suddenly felt a sense of familiarity coming from it. He didn't know where it was coming from but he was aware of what they were.

"This must be the gaze of the dead," muttered Immortal with a quiet voice.

But despite how quiet it was, Justin and the rest of the group could clearly hear his voice. They simultaneously turned at him and wanted to ask what he meant by that.

Unfortunately, Immortal ignored the confused look that they were giving him as he was already sweeping his gaze at the surroundings.

It didn't take long for his attention to be caught by the skeletal remains of an animal silently sitting under the tree a few meters away from them.

On the surface, there was nothing strange about it. No one would get suspicious about it since it was common for this kind of setting to have skeletal remains scattered throughout the whole area.

But for someone like Immortal, a Lich and a master of death energy, could see more than what was on the surface. And from his perspective, someone was spying on them using those particular skeletal remains.

"You dare to use such tricks in my presence?" said Immortal as he fired a dark arrow towards that skeletal remain.

Swoosh!

Bang!

The skeletal parts were crushed into small pieces by that dark arrow, scattering them in the air. But aside from that, nothing else happened.

Justin and the rest of the Silent Night were confused by his actions, but none of them questioned him since they knew that Immortal had had a reason for his actions.

On top of that, the feeling of being watched drastically decreased the moment when the skeletal remains were destroyed.

Justin was about to ask what Immortal had discovered when the expression on his face suddenly became alert.

"Scatter!" He then shouted at everyone and jumped away from his current position. Or to be more precise, away from the corpse of the giant mammoth near them.

The members of his team didn't hesitate when they heard him and quickly scattered in every direction.

Boom!

And a second after that, the corpse of the giant mammoth suddenly exploded alongside a huge scorching flame that covered their previous location.

Immortal, who was standing the farthest from it, saw what happened and immediately realized what was going on. He quickly summoned his bone scepter and slammed its bottom on the ground, calling out his minions.

Crack! Crack!

A large number of armored skeleton warriors crawled out from the ground one after another, surrounding Immortal from every direction.

It didn't take long for a skeleton army to be formed.

Each skeleton warrior had a wicked aura surrounding them as a black mist was being released by their armor and weapons.

Immortal immediately gave out a series of commands to his skeleton warriors through a mental link. And it only took him a short time before a fully stabilized battle formation was formed around him despite being inside a dense forest.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

At this moment, two figures rushed towards Immortal before standing in front of him and scanning their surroundings with their sharp gazes.

"Larc, Demien, assist the members of the Silent Night, I can handle this place," said Immortal to his two apostles.

The two hesitated for a moment but still nodded their heads in the end. "Yes, Boss!"

If these enemies who dared to ambush them were the members of the Empyrean Talons, then they had been found much faster than they had expected.

Based on the previous reports that they had got, those guys were supposed to meet the members of Earners first before reaching this place. If the two groups didn't encounter each other, then something went wrong with their plan.

Larc and Demien were reluctant to leave their boss exposed to their enemies since they personally witnessed the strengths of Shin and the others, but since it was an order, they didn't have a choice but to follow it.

When the two left, Immortal quickly cast a mana barrier to protect himself from any ambush.

He fully understood the plan of his opponents. They were obviously planning to separate him from each member of the Silent Night and fight them in isolated battles.

This was the best choice that Immortal could think of since the combined powers of the current Silent Night were much stronger than their individual prowess.

Moreover, Immortal was also aware that the opposing group had a greater number of Godlike Players which was advantageous to them.

Before the opposing side could even execute their plan, he needed the others to immediately regroup and fight a team battle where they had a better chance of winning. And to do that, he needed to make himself bait to lure Shin and the others at targeting him instead of the scattered members of the Silent Night.

With his undead monsters, he could at least hold himself out until the rest of his group regrouped with each other.

On top of that, he also prepared a special item for this situation. He was expecting an ambush like this to happen, so he didn't let his guard down.

With that item in his possession, he was confident that he was not going to die even if he was being besieged by the opposing side from every direction.

Unfortunately, he failed to consider a particular member of Shin's group. Someone who could match his infamous Undying Army on equal footing.

This was going to be a great miscalculation for his plans.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

All of sudden, the area above Immortal was illuminated by a large number of glowing orbs. And when he cast his cast on them and got a clear look at what they were, he noticed that they were actually the burning skull heads of some strange skeleton soldiers.

They looked down at Immortal and his skeleton warriors with their ember-like eyes while tightly holding their weapons.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Woosh!

Then those skeleton soldiers with burning skulls jumped down from the branch they were standing on.

They were falling like a bunch of mountain monkeys launching an attack on the invaders of their territory.

Immortal glared at them and shouted at the top of his lungs. "Attack!"

Chapter 905 The Undying Army And The Legion Of Chaotic Sun (Part 3)

.....

At the edge of the forest.

Swoosh!

Immortal dashed out of the woods backward, keeping his eye in front of him full of cautiousness. Based on the solemn expression that he was making, someone or something was chasing after him.

Crack! Crack!

Crash!

Then the sound of the falling trees could be heard coming from the woods. Hearing that Immortal was forced to cast Blink and teleport away from the edge of the forest.

Boom!

Then an explosion occurred as the broken trunks and branches of the trees were sent flying in the air.

Alongside it, a massive body made of the bones of different creatures fell on the ground a few meters away from Immortal.

Bang!

The strong impact caused an intense tremor on the ground, making Immortal have an unsteady footing. But even if that was the case, Immortal refused to take his eyes away from the forest.

The broken bones from the body of the strange undead creature were falling from the air. But right after they landed on the ground, they were immediately absorbed in the body of the undead creature, fixing its body back to its normal state.

The undead creature slowly stood up before charging back in the direction where it came from.

Boom!

But right before it entered the forest, another strange creature greeted it and pushed it back once again.

Roar!

The other creature seemed to be another undead since it had a skeletal body. And based on the structure of its body, it seemed like this creature was created from the corpse of a huge gorilla.

Aside from that, these pair of undead creatures also represented different types of powers. One of them was emitting dark smoke from its body as a clear indication of corrupted mana. On the other hand, the other creature was covered by a blazing flame composed of sacred properties.

The two undead monsters refused to move as if they were waiting for orders from their masters. They stayed still and growled threateningly at each other.

In the meantime, Immortal continued to wear a solemn expression. He might have survived the ambush earlier, but it still led him to be isolated away from his group.

He already had an idea who were the ones who ambushed them. And since the special features of the skeleton soldiers that he fought earlier, he knew that it was from the Legion of the Chaotic Sun that was gaining a solid reputation recently.

He tried to locate the summoner earlier but failed to do so. It seemed like the opposing side had an item or a special skill that could prevent others from discovering them.

Now that his situation was already like this, he didn't have a choice but to face the problem head-on. He could read the intention of the opposing side, since they didn't try to eliminate him earlier, then it was obvious that they planning to fight the rest of the Silent Night while he was separated from them.

"It looks like they are confident with the skills of their necromancer. I wonder how skilled is this so-called Herald of Chaos," said Immortal as he lightly tapped the bottom of his bone scepters on the ground.

His actions sent a ripple on the ground that lasted for a second. And immediately after that, countless skeleton warriors started crawling out from the ground.

'Demonic Occultist Spell (Tier 2): Rise of the Undead Army'

The skeleton soldiers stood up one after another while picking up their weapons. They were wielding a variety of weapons, representing a variety of classes within the game.

Each of them was emitting black smoke just like the massive undead creature made from a variety of bones and skulls.

Due to their appearance and the corrupted mana that their body was emitting, the surrounding area started to get contaminated. The white snow covering the grass on the ground was slowly melting while the land was showing some signs of withering.

This was the infamous Undying Army of Immortal. And having it summoned on an open land created a heavy and eerie atmosphere that could suffocate the living.

In the meantime, the giant skeleton gorilla with a blazing head continued to growl at the army of undead in front of him while looking ferociously at the giant undead monsters standing in the middle.

From the aggressive growls that it was released, it seemed like it was unafraid of the Undying Army in front of it.

And it was because it was not alone.

Not long after, skeleton soldiers donned in crimson armor and a blazing heads started to walk out of the forest one after another. They formed a formation in a systematic manner as if they were trained soldiers of an army.

After standing at their respective position, they created a fierce and fearless atmosphere as they stood across the undead army a few distances away from them.

This was the famous Legion of the Chaotic Sun!

Based on their aura alone, neither side had a clear advantage. This clearly indicated that their combat prowess was clearly on par with each other.

One bore the dark mana of the Corrupted Beings while the other side wielded the sacred properties that could counter the former.

Immortal swept his gaze at the opposing side sharply, trying to find the summoner. But his efforts were in vain as he couldn't find their traces, not even a hint of their aura was present.

"They must be hiding in the forest. But they couldn't be too deep since they needed to be nearby to properly control his summons," muttered Immortal after failing to find his opponent.

"Let's see how long you can hide," he added before swinging his hand in the air and ordering his undead army to launch an attack. "Move! Destroy everyone on your path!"

Roar!

The massive undead creature made of different bones and skulls responded with an enraged roar before charging ahead.

Behind it, the skeleton warriors followed closely, running at full speed.

Roar!

The skeleton gorilla on the opposing side responded with a fearless roar before leaping in the air and slamming into the ground powerfully. It then charges ahead while fixating its gaze on its sole target.

The Legion of Chaotic Sun behind it also followed its lead and sprinted forward, charging at the opposing side aggressively.

Boom!

The first collision was so massive that it knocked the two leading creatures backward, making them step on the skeleton soldiers behind them. But they ignored what just happened before launching themselves back at each other.

Bang! Bang!

With those two massive creatures at the center, the two armies finally collided and engaged in an intense battle.

The spells and arrows from the skeleton mages and archers from both sides flew in the air and landed on random spots of the opposing army.

Looking from a bird's eye view, the whole area instantly became a chaotic battlefield that mimicked the war between opposing kingdoms.

Immortal watched from a distance, observing the state of the battle. There were still a few units standing around him, waiting for his orders.

He frowned his brows deeply as he found that the strategy of the opposing side was a little strange. No, to be more precise, his opponent seemed to be not using any kind of strategy. They just straight up collide against his forces and fought straightforwardly.

"What is happening?" he muttered in a confused tone as this was entirely different from what happened earlier within the forest.

Earlier, when they got ambushed by the Legion of Chaotic Sun, there was a clear strategy behind each of their moves. Starting from the initial attack up to the usage of the terrain within the forest, everything was perfectly calculated.

That was also the reason why Immortal chose to retreat and got out of the forest since all of the factors that could affect the battle were in his favor.

But compared to the calculated moves from the earlier exchanges, the current actions of the opposing side were completely outside of what Immortal had seen.

"Is it another scheme that they are plotting?" muttered Immortal as he tried to heighten his sense, trying to see if there were any enemies hiding in the surroundings.

But given that they were currently in an open field, it was pretty hard to find a suitable angle to launch an ambush.

Immortal was completely confused because of this. But since he couldn't let his guard down, he chose to play things a little safer.

He looked ahead and saw that the state of the battle was still currently in a deadlock. Due to this, he chose to add more pressure on his opponent to force them to reveal their cards.

'Demonic Occultist Spell: Summon Perfect Ghoul'

'Demonic Occultist Spell: Summon Death Knight'

A pair of purple portals appeared behind Immortal, summing two undead with immense power.

One of them was a knight wearing full-body black armor with a crimson cape attached behind it. The Death Knight kneeled on a knee behind Immortal and held his pitch-black sword in front of him, holding it in an inverted manner.

On the other hand, the other undead looked like normal humans. He was not wearing anything aside from his ripped and tattered pants. He proudly stood with his bare upper body, boasting his muscular body which was also filled with blade scars caused by different types of weapons.

If the Death Knight was extremely loyal and respectful to Immortal, then this Perfect Ghoul seemed to be the arrogant type as it was wearing an evil smirk the moment when he walked out of the portal and refused to get on his knee.

Immortal totally ignored the attitude of the Perfect Ghoul as he didn't care how it will act in front of him as long as it was following his command.

"Death Knight, summon your cavalry and assist our forces in taking down the opposing army. Perfect Ghoul, I don't care what you are going to do next, just slaughter our enemies as usual," commanded Immortal without turning his head at them.

"As you wish, my lord!" responded the Death Knight before standing up and summoning an undead horse. He then circled around the unit protecting his master and sprinted towards the battlefield.

During his charge, he raised his sword in the air and released a powerful dark mana that filled the surrounding area.

Immediately after that, rows of purple portals appeared on the path behind him before a cavalry of undead come out of them.

When the Dark Cavalry of the Undying Army was summoned, the Death Knight them to circle around the battlefield as he was planning to flank the opposing army from the side.

In the meantime, the Perfect Ghoul quickly leaped high up in the air right after he received the command from Immortal, flying straight to the battlefield.

He was still wearing his evil smile as he raised both of his arms above him which grew in size and turned into a pair of massive arms.

Swoosh!

He then fell straight at the center of the opposing army and slammed his massive arms on the ground, killing a large number of enemy skeleton soldiers.

Immortal watched everything with a calm look on his face and waited for his opponent to respond.

Summoning his undead army alongside three high-ranking undead monsters consumed a lot of mana, but he didn't have a choice if he wanted the opposing side to reveal their cards as soon as possible.

He couldn't afford to stay in here for long since it would only be favorable for their opponents. If he wanted to finish this battle in the shortest time possible, then he needed to figure out the strength of his opponent as fast as he could.

Having that thought in mind, Immortal squinted his eyes and observed the battle with a sharp gaze.
"Now, let's see how are you going to deal with this."

Chapter 906 The Undying Army And The Legion Of Chaotic Sun (Part 4): Chaotic Luck's Determination

...

"What should I do? What Should I do next?"

Contrary to what Immortal was expecting. His current opponent was far from the one that was inside his head.

"I know Big Brother said to just do what I have always been doing up until now, but how can I beat Immortal, the god of all necromancers?" Chaotic Luck was currently in a state of panic.

He didn't know how he was going to face his former idol. Before he got his current Class, he was just an ordinary necromancer. One who also looked up to Immortal just like any other else.

But his view now changed after learning the real nature of the Undying Guild as was the true colors of Immortal.

Right now, the ones that he looked up were Shin and the rest of Empyrean Talons. The training sessions might be torturous but he could see that it was very effective as he could instantly see his improvements after every session.

But despite everything that he went through, and the growth that he gained, he was still not confident that he could stand against the Lich God by himself.

It was a little different earlier since Shin was giving him all of the instructions when they ambushed Immortal and the others. Even the trap that caught their opponents was meticulously set up by Shin.

It was another situation where Chaotic Luck witness how good Shin was at strategic battle. He did not only catch their opponents off-guard, but he also separated the group successfully just like what have planned.

Everything went according to the 'script' that he had written.

On top of that, Immortal was also fully suppressed and unable to help the other members of his group.

All Chaotic Luck did was follow the instructions that Shin had given him during the battle. He followed every order given to him and he surprisingly cornered Immortal to the point the so-called god of necromancers ran away from the current battlefield.

As the master of his summons, Chaotic Luck felt a little ashamed that Shin was much better than him at controlling his forces.

But at the very least, he learned quite a lot of things from that battle. He learned how to properly use the battle formations that Shin had taught him as well as how to utilize the terrain of the surroundings.

But at the same time, learning and application were two different things. Chaotic Luck might have learned the basics from Shin, but that didn't mean he could apply them in battle.

And right now, he was left alone to fight his former idol, the peak of necromancers, the Lich God Immortal, without anyone's help.

Shin and the others might have built his confidence, but his inferiority complex was still in there, especially with his current situation.

He was confident when they were facing the Sweepers when they first arrive in this place. But that was because Owen was properly protecting him from any attacks that could harm him.

"Can I really do it?" muttered Chaotic Luck to himself while looking at the battle up ahead.

And when he was doubting himself, he saw Immortal summon a pair of high-ranking undead monsters and sent them to the battlefield.

As a former fan of the Lich God, Chaotic Luck was naturally familiar with the signature skills that Immortal had. And due to that, he instantly recognized the identity of the two undead that were just summoned.

"The Death Knight and Perfect Ghoul!" shouted Chaotic Luck to himself and started to panic even more.

He didn't know what to do next as he was not skilled nor as quick as Shin when it came to controlling the battle formations of his legion.

Then he saw the Death Knight flanked his summoned undead from the side and started slaughtering everyone on their path. In the meantime, the Perfect Ghoul landed at the center of his army, breaking the formation their formation.

If he let this continue, then his Legion of Chaotic Sun would be wiped out in no time.

Chaotic Luck clenched his fists as he started thinking that he was going to lose. "Is it really going to be always like this?"

The more he doubted himself, the more he was reminded of his past experiences. It started at the time when he was still an average player, then he proceeded to be outcasted by his friends. He remembered the time when he struggled to be a good player.

There was also the time during his stay at the Blind Abyss Empire. That was also when he discovered a special inheritance of a powerful Lich. His former teammates tried to rob it from him and he was cased by them after that.

Then he discovered the fallen god deep within the Ancient Ruins who also granted him a special power. That was also the time when gained his current class.

What followed after that was his encounter with Shin. This was also where everything changed. He followed Shin and partook in their adventures before joining their Adventure Team.

He also became a celebrity in a sense after that. Though, he was aware that he only rode the prestige of the real celebrities within their group.

Compared to them, he was still just an average player who just happened to have a lucky encounter. Everyone in the Empyrean Talons was an expert in their own field. His class might be special but the others didn't lose in that area either.

Now that he thought about it, he was still the weakest member of their group despite having an overpowered class.

Chaotic Luck was about to become dejected when he suddenly remembered his conversation with Shin before.

...

"Big Brother, why did you let me join your Adventurer Team?"

"It is because you are qualified, obviously."

"I am not that strong. I will be fine just by following you, actually."

"Hahaha! You may be unaware of it but you have a very powerful weapon in you. And you also have a lot of potential too. I'm confident that you will be fine. What you need is to become confident in yourself."

"B-But..."

"Chaos, do you trust me?"

"Eh? Y-yes! Yes, of course, Big Brother!"

"Then just trust me! You can doubt yourself and your abilities, but trust my words, you are much stronger than what you believe."

...

Chaotic Luck also remembered the words that Shin told him earlier before he was assigned to deal with Immortal.

.....

"I've already thought you how to use your summons, all you have to do now is follow what you've learned up until now."

"Remember, you are no longer your former self. You now possess a pair of wings – what you need to do now is spread them wide and fly in the sky just like those people that you always look up to."

.....

Recalling those words of encouragement, the look in Chaotic Luck's eyes suddenly became clear.

His mind was no longer clouded by useless thoughts and his objective became clear. "My job is not to defeat Immortal but to keep him busy until Big Brother Shin and the rest are done on their side.

A determined look could be seen on his face as he looked ahead and observe the battle. "It is already too late to re-establish the formation, so it is better to reset the battle where it begins."

He took a Master Rank Mana Potion from his inventory and drank it with a couple of gulps, restoring his Mana Pool back to full.

After that, he put his hands together, doing a series of signs, and also muttering a magic chant.

'Solaris Lich Spell (Tier 1): Sacrificial Ceremony'

'Basic Combat Technique: Magic Link'

'Solaris Lich Spell (Tier 1): Solar Combustion'

...

At the center of the battlefield, the Death Knight and the Perfect Ghoul, who were busy slaughtering the opposing forces suddenly sense an immense danger.

They couldn't pinpoint the source of that feeling since it was coming from every direction. And due to their instincts telling them to run away as soon as possible, the two immediately get into action.

But they could also sense that it was already too late, so they quickly used their defensive skills instead of running away.

'Death Knight Skill: Shadow Cloak'

'Perfect Ghoul Skill: Flesh Barrier'

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Then a series of explosions could be heard as all of the skeleton soldiers from the Legion of Chaotic Sun exploded one after another.

The explosions were not that strong but since there was a series of them, the opposing skeleton warriors were taken down alongside them, especially when their sun fire energy was effective against the corrupted undead.

In the meantime, the fire that was produced by those explosions was sucked towards a single direction, the direction where the giant skeleton gorilla was standing.

Due to the powers that were continuously being poured on its body, its strength was also constantly growing stronger.

Roar!

Boom!

Then it released a powerful roar that sent a strong shockwave in every direction, killing the remaining skeleton warriors that managed to survive the previous explosions. Even the strange bone monsters that it was fighting earlier were also killed in the process.

When everything was over, no one was left in the area aside from the giant skeleton gorilla, the two high-ranking undead monsters who used their defensive skills to survive, the Death Knight and Perfect Ghoul.

When the two released their Shadow Cloak and Flesh Barrier respectively, they were immediately greeted by the aftermath of the explosion, a fully scorched land in the middle of a snowy field.

Then they turn their attention to the giant skeleton gorilla that now had a much stronger presence than the two of them.

They stood at each side of the blazing skeleton beast and got ready for the battle.

In meantime, Immortal was currently wearing a dark expression on his face as he did not expect that the opposing side would decisively sacrifice their own army just to get rid of his.

But at the same time, he also had to admit that it was the perfect decision at that time. After all, it was already guaranteed that he won that battle.

"But it still works for me since I now have sacrificed enough mana to use that skill. All I have to do is look for my real opponent," he muttered before casting his gaze at the forest in the distance.

He was about to give an order to the Death Knight and Perfect Ghoul when he saw another army of Solaris Undead waking out from the forest.

He was planning to let the Death Knight deal with the skeleton gorilla while the Perfect Ghoul would look for the opposing summoner. But now that it came to this, he had no choice but to change that plan.

Immortal waved his hand, commanding the remaining units of undead soldiers around him to march forward and get ready for the next round.

Chapter 907 Talent Could Ignite Other Talent (Part 1)

.....

While Chaotic Luck was doing his best to hold Immortal in place, Shin and the rest of the group were already engaging in a battle with the members of the Silent Night and the two apostles of Immortal.

Bang! Bang!

Spells, arrows, and magic bullets were flashing in different places within the forest as the two sides exchanged blows against each other.

They were only measuring the strengths of their opponents while trying to regroup with their respective teammates.

But at the same time, Shin and the rest were not going to let the opposing side easily reorganize themselves after having the initiative in this battle.

They were not going to waste the advantages that they had gained after successfully separating their opponents from their previous ambush.

They already isolated Immortal, so they didn't need to concern themselves about that cunning lich for the time being. And without Immortal's strategic assistance, Shin and the others would have had an easier time with their respective battles.

First, the mages of the group, Charlotte, Ember, and Ravier, would try to suppress the other members of the group by bombarding the other side with their powerful spells. Their main job was to prevent the members of Silent Night from joining together.

At the same time, Ara and Alucard would put more pressure on those isolated members of their opponents. Their snipping ability was really displayed at this time.

In the meantime, the top assaulters of their group would force a one-on-one battle against the key figures of the opposing side.

Arthur said that the Silent Night became a little weaker because some of their members left them after they joined the Demonic Churches, but it didn't mean that they could no longer hold their ground against the top Adventurer Teams of the game.

Most of their main force was still in their group.

The Demon God Justin was still around. And even if he lost to Shin and also had his weapons, equipment, skills, and special class robbed from him, he still managed to find a new power to replace them.

He lost his previous demonic arm, but it was replaced by a more powerful one that he got from a powerful Demon King.

As if Shin and the others were mocking him, the person who received all of his previous possession was currently present in his place and fighting against them.

"Bastard!" Justin couldn't help but cursed out loud when he spotted Owen fighting one of his members using his equipment, especially his skills.

The application might be different, but those sets of skills were definitely the ones that he was using before.

Swoosh!

He kicked the ground and charged at Owen at an extreme speed that couldn't be easily seen by the naked eye.

With such an explosive burst of speed, Owen was slightly taken aback by Justin's sudden appearance. Especially when he was already fighting against one of the Silent Night members.

"Die!" he was just slapped in the face, so Justin had no plan on holding back with this current attack. He immediately used one of his most powerful skills.

The pressure that his body was emitting locked on Owen, making the latter tense up and unable to respond properly. It was due to that pressure that Owen failed to react in time as it was seemingly suppressing his senses.

At the same time, Justin held his halberd with both of his hands and infused it with demonic powers before swinging it with all his might.

Roar!

An illusionary figure of a demon suddenly manifested behind Justin as he swung his halberd at Owen, mimicking his actions.

'Apostle of the Underworld Skill (Tier 2): Cleaving the World in Halves'

Owen could feel the pressure coming from that attack become much heavier, making him unable to withstand it. He couldn't even use a defensive skill to protect himself.

At the same time, the Demonic Berserker that he was fighting earlier jumped away from him to avoid getting caught by such a terrifying skill.

But when Owen felt that he was already at the end of his ropes, he suddenly heard a majestic roar of a dragon, freeing him from his immobilized state.

Roar!

At the same time, he also saw a flash of golden light that suddenly appeared beside him and faced the descending halberd head-on.

'Dragon Knight Skill (Tier 2): Guardian of the Sanctuary'

Boom!

Then Owen heard the sneering voice of the person standing beside him. "Hey! How can you call yourself our shield if you can't even protect yourself with this? And what happens with your Super Sensitivity Talent? Did you throw it away or something?"

"I think you need more training when we are done here," added the person.

Owen couldn't help but shake his head and smile bitterly as he looked at Arthur's back. "I'm sorry about that, I will make sure that it will not happen again in the future."

"Isn't it obvious?" scoffed Arthur before tilting his head towards the direction where the Demonic Berserker was heading. "Leave this loser to me and go chase after that guy."

"Roger that!" responded Owen and quickly activating his specialized Charge Skill to increase his speed.

Justin wanted to chase after Owen and rip the knight in shreds but he knew that it was pretty much impossible given that Arthur was currently standing right in front of him.

He jumped away from his current position as Arthur pushed his halberd to the side while also throwing a forward thrust at the same time.

Ta-ta!

"Siegfried!" said Justin with a hoarse voice as he stared at Arthur with a sharp glare.

Arthur smirked when he saw the expression that Justin was making. He would be lying if he said that he was not satisfied seeing this bastard making such an expression.

"Yeah, it's me, Loser. Oh! And how does it feel? That humiliation, I mean," said Arthur mockingly, trying to provoke Justin even further.

Justin didn't immediately reply and just continued to glare at Arthur sharply. If looks could deal damage, then he might be dealing more than a hundred thousand critical strikes right now.

Wearing his mocking smile, Arthur lightly tapped his spear on his shoulder and continued. "Actually, there is another thing that I want to know more about. Have you finally woken up from your delusions?"

Snapped!

Arthur knew that he was rubbing salt in Justin's wounds when he said those words. He could even hear the imaginary snapping sound inside the latter's head.

Bang!

Justin didn't say anything and directly charged Arthur ferociously. He looked like a crazy demon with the current expression that he was making.

Bang!

Arthur blocked the heavy strike with his shield and laughed mockingly. "Hahaha! You really lose it this time, Justin! Your title perfectly fits you now – Humiliated Demon!"

"Where is that bastard right now? I'll rip him into shreds!" said Justin angrily.

Arthur chuckled at those words and casually replied. "Do you honestly want to look for someone when you should be worrying about yourself?

"Let me tell you. You are not even worthy to face me with that current state of yours, much less fighting that guy. We are standing at a much higher summit right now," he added as the carefree look on his face was suddenly replaced by full of seriousness.

'Tsk! This is rather disappointing, he really lost it. I can't benefit from this fight if this continues.' He then pushed Justin away from him with a powerful swing of his shield before standing up straight. "Alright, I'm done fooling around now, so gather yourself together and show me what you really are capable of."

'Shin grew incredibly stronger after his battle with Diablo. He didn't say it but we can feel it from the air surrounding him, I can't afford to slack off and be left behind,' he thought to himself.

He then raised his spear and pointed it to Justin and continued. "Don't disappoint me this time."

Justin suddenly felt something different from Arthur as he saw those actions. He didn't know what it was but he could feel that the latter genuinely took this battle seriously.

He closed his eyes and gathered his thoughts, trying to calm himself down. He really hated Shin to the core and wanted to crush that guy which was why he continued to lose his cool whenever he was reminded of their previous match.

From the words that Arthur had said, Justin could feel that this guy wanted him to take this battle seriously. He still didn't know the reason behind it, but he felt that he needed to do it.

Then Justin exhaled deeply, seemingly releasing all of the frustrations that he had earlier alongside the air coming out from his mouth.

And when he reopened his eyes once again, clarity could be seen on his face, clearly signifying that he was completely different compared to earlier.

Seeing that change, Arthur nodded his head in satisfaction and said smilingly. "That's right! That's more like it!"

"Now, let's try and see if you are still worthy to hold your position in the Godlike Ranking List," he added as he took his battle stance.

This time, the mischievous and easygoing air that he usually had was completely replaced by full seriousness.

The air surrounding Arthur also changed as Justin could see an illusionary figure of a majestic dragon manifested behind him.

Justin could also feel the suffocating pressure and air of authority that the dragon had as it cast its gaze at him.

It was at this moment that he realized the Dragon God Siegfried in front of him was completely different from the one that everyone knew.

Chapter 908 Talent Could Ignite Other Talent (Part 2)

.....

Arthur and Justin stood in their respective spots while staring at each other. The air surrounding them immediately turned heavy due to the pressure that they had.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Then they suddenly disappeared from their respective spots before reappearing again when they were only a little over two meters away from each other.

Justin stomped his foot powerfully on the ground at that time, halting himself from moving further. He also swung his tightly gripped halberd, channeling his demonic powers into it as he swung it down with all his might.

'Apostle of the Underworld Skill (Tier 2): Cleaving the River of Dead'

A heavy pressure was locked at Arthur as a massive halberd similar to the one that Justin was holding appeared above him all of a sudden.

It was reflecting the movements that Justin was doing and continued to press downward, seemingly trying to crush Arthur in an overwhelming manner.

But Arthur would obviously not let it happen. He raised his shield and gathered the golden mana surrounding him and covered his body with it. It first transformed into a dome-shaped barrier before turning into a head of an ancient dragon that block the incoming strike.

'Dragon Knight Skill (Tier 2): Protection of the Ancient Dragon'

Roar!

Then a deafening roar was released when Arthur swung his shield powerfully, sending a shockwave that prevented the descending halberd from falling further.

The two forces clashed for quite some time before exhausting their powers in the end.

Bang!

A small crater was formed underneath Arthur as he withstood the powerful pressure earlier. His feet sank half an inch on the ground, indicating how strong the earlier explosion was.

Swoosh!

At the same time, Justin was pushed back by the strong gust of wind that was created by the explosion.

He stabbed his halberd on the ground to prevent himself from moving further away while raising his demonic arm.

A purple flame enfolded that arm as he gathered his demonic powers on it. And when the accumulation of powers reached its peak, Justin swung his fist forward and released all of the accumulated powers simultaneously.

'Demonic Arm Special Skill: Blazing Fist of the Underworld'

Whoosh!

Then a huge fist with a purple flame flew forward and headed toward Arthur who was still in the middle of reorganizing himself.

When Arthur saw the incoming fist of fire, he quickly gathered the scattered mana surrounding him and enfolded his body with it alongside the ones that he was releasing.

Bang!

He then kicked the ground and charged ahead, leaving a streak of light behind. And not long after, a golden dragon was formed, signifying that he used his signature move.

'Class Fighting Skill: Breaking Through the Golden Dragon'

Roar!

The opposing powers collided with each other once again, causing yet another explosion that affected the surroundings.

The bushes and plans were scorched and turned into ash as some of the trees were fallen and turned into coal.

Arthur and Justin ignored what was happening in their surroundings as they immediately engaged in an intense melee, that created a series of shockwaves for each collision.

.....

In the meantime, the others were not paying much attention to the two as they were currently busy taking care of themselves. Especially the ones from the side of Silent Night.

Since they were the ones who got ambushed earlier, it was natural for them to be in a disadvantageous position.

Jugo, the Annihilator God, was getting frustrated at their current predicament. The current scene was definitely a humiliating one. The Silent Night, one of the top Adventurer Teams in the gaming world was currently in a miserable state – it was definitely a slap on their faces.

"Elise, I will attract their attention. You better get their mages and those marksmen hiding in the dark," said Jugo as he ran out of his hiding spot and started charging straight to Charlotte, Ember, and Ravier in the distance.

"You don't have to tell me that!" responded Elise, the Goddess of Poison.

Dark Mana surrounded Jugo's body as his eyes shone with a purple light. He was activating the enhance berserk state that would ignore all types of damage for a short period of time. And at the same time, he also activated another buff that boosted his speed by a large degree.

He was running straight to the three mages like an unstoppable bulldozer. He ran straight through everything, ignoring the attacks that were directed at him.

At least that was the case until he was greeted by a powerful strike that forcefully halted his advance.

Bang!

Jugo was sent flying back to the direction where he came from.

With a quick flip in the air and adjust his center of gravity, forcing himself to fall on the ground.

Bang!

He looked like a heavy boulder that landed from the sky as his feet landed on the ground. A cloud of dust was formed and shrouded his figure when it happened.

After that, Jugo's heavy footsteps could be heard as he walked out of the could of dust. Then he turned his gaze ahead, glaring at the person who blocked him earlier.

"Simba!" he said with a seemingly growling manner.

Leonard was tossing one of his battle axes in the air as he looked at Jugo provokingly. He then caught the axe with a firm grip before speaking. "Let me play with you a bit."

Bang!

Jugo slammed the tip of his spiked club on the ground and held the ring at its bottom, seemingly inviting Leonard to come at him.

Leonard, on the other hand, shook his head with a bitter smile. He then turned to Jugo while pointing one of his battle axes to where Arthur and Justin were fighting before saying. "Listen, I am not like that showoff over there."

"I am not planning to drag this long, so let me show you something interesting," he added as he entered the Reality Manifestation right off the bat.

The moment he did that, the atmosphere surrounding him immediately changed and became suffocating.

Jugo could even sense it from the distance. He started having a hard time breathing as he saw the illusionary figure of a wild beast behind Leonard.

This Aura Manifestation was entirely different from the ones that he encountered before. It was very close to being the real thing.

"What is this?" muttered Jugo as he started sweating bullets without him knowing.

He then quickly held his metal spiked club and immediately activated a series of buffs as he knew that this was not going to be something he expected.

He could sense that something different from Leonard but he couldn't tell what exactly it was. He might not know what cause that change, but he knew something, he would die without knowing if he didn't take this battle seriously.

Bang!

It was at that moment that he saw Leonard zoom in, crossing the distance between them within an instant.

'Blood Sutra: Devil's Footprints'

At the same time, the head of the battle axe on Leonard's hand was rapidly magnifying in front of his vision, threatening to cleave him in halves.

Without any hesitation, Jugo took a step back and swung his spiked club upwards.

Bang!

Urgh!

Jugo groaned painfully as he felt like he hit a metal door that refused to budge despite the powerful strike that he threw.

He was also forced to kneel on the ground due to how strong the force that was accompanying Leonard's attack was.

"What the hell is that?" Jugo was very confused as he didn't expect this to happen.

After converting to become a believer of the Demonic Church, his current strength surpassed the previous one that he had. He was confident that he stood at the peak of this world when it came to strength alone.

No one should be able to contend with him when it came to that area if he activated the series of buffs that he just used.

But what was happening right now, completely denied that idea. And what was even more confusing about it was the fact that Jugo knew Leonard didn't use any kind of buffs during this exchange.

"I don't believe it!" shouted Jugo as he quickly activated the Demonic Transformation.

He didn't care anymore! He would use everything he had now as he was afraid that he would not have the chance to use it later if he did not show it as soon as possible.

"Heh! Nice reaction, but I'm afraid that it is still not enough to face my current strength," said Leonard as he swung one of his battle axes once again, slamming Jugo on the ground.

Bang!

Fortunately for Jugo, he already used his Enhanced Berserk earlier, which was why he didn't receive any kind of damage. Though, he couldn't help but become dizzy due to the powerful impact.

He might have survived but his current appearance was clearly miserable, having his face planted on the ground while Leonard's foot stepped at the back of his head.

This was clearly a one-sided beatdown.

Chapter 909 Talent Could Ignite Other Talent (Part 3)

...

"It is all you have, oh so mighty Annihilator God?" mocked Leonard, provoking Jugo who currently had his face planted on the ground.

Bang!

As a response, a powerful shockwave pushed Leonard away as Jugo used an explosive skill to free himself. He then slowly picked himself from the ground while keeping an eye on Leonard.

Jugo wanted to know how Leonard became that strong but he knew that it was not the time to be curious about that manner. He would die in this battle and get ejected out of this region when that happened.

Dying was not much of a problem but being sent out of this place was going to be a big problem since he would no longer have the means to get back. It was the same as being out of the picture until this entire operation was over.

He then took a quick glance at the place where Arthur and Justin were fighting and saw that the two were on an equal footing. But for some unknown reason, he could feel that the Dragon God was slightly holding himself back. Or to put it in simpler terms, Arthur was not taking the fight seriously.

Aside from that, the words that Leonard had said earlier also bothered Jugo.

– "Unlike that showoff other there, I am not planning to drag this battle." – he was sure that Leonard said something along those lines. It could only mean that Arthur also had a similar technique to also wield such explosive strength.

"This doesn't look good. Their reports didn't mention anything about this," muttered Jugo as he continued to look cautiously at Leonard.

He might be a hot-headed individual but he still knew when he was facing an enemy that could not be defeated with normal means alone.

He was already using his Demonic Transformation yet he still got overwhelmed in that single exchange. This could only mean a single thing, whatever power or method Leonard was using, it already surpassed the current limit of the game. Or at least, it already reached the stage beyond the current knowledge that everyone had.

"We are planning to hide this until the Adventurer Team Wars, but I guess we don't have a choice but to reveal it earlier than expected," said Jugo with a serious tone.

Leonard's hearing caught those words and piqued his interest. He didn't know what Jugo was planning but it would not hurt to see what it was. After all, he also wanted to test his current limit when he was in Reality Manifestation State. This situation just happened to be the perfect time for it.

He wanted to end this battle as soon as possible so that they could face the Earners Mercenary Group much ahead of schedule. Those guys were the only opponents that he considered that could stand a chance against them given that they had this newly found method.

Leonard could still feel that they still had the advantage when it came to individual strength since the Reality Manifestation was way too overpowered. But fighting multiple Monster Class Players was not an easy feat. They might even lose if they were not careful enough.

This was also the reason why Shin chose to deal with Immortal and the Silent Night first since they were much easier to take down than that mercenary group with such a powerful lineup.

But if Jugo and the others had more things that they could put on the table, then Leonard would not mind testing his limits against them first before proceeding to the real deal. It was like having an appetizer before moving to the main course.

Jugo could sense the thoughts that Leonard was having given that he was given the time to prepare himself. It was definitely insulting but he didn't have a choice but to swallow it since it was true that his current self didn't stand a chance.

"You will regret having that kind of arrogance," said Jugo as he swung his left arm in the air, summoning a floating scroll similar to the system contract.

But there were some differences between the two. A system contract was nothing but an ordinary virtual scroll and didn't have anything special about its appearance. On the other hand, the scroll that Jugo just summoned carried the dark and eerie aura unique to Demons.

Leonard slightly raised his eyebrows when he sensed the overwhelming pressure that the floating scroll had. But aside from that, he didn't make any move and let Jugo continue what he was doing.

"Hah! Truly arrogant!" said Jugo when he saw that Leonard was nothing bothering to stop him. "Let me tell you! This is a special contract that we followers of Demonic Church use to contact our Contracted Demons from the Underworld!"

"With this, we can borrow the powers of the Great Demons and help us reach the heights that any player can only dream of! And only the chosen individuals can use this kind of power!"

Sigh~!

Leonard could only shake his head helplessly when he saw Jugo blabbering what he called the 'power' of the demons. It sounded amazing and all, but it was still an external means that made them stronger.

Compared to Reality Manifestation, which could make them more familiar with their Martial Arts and help them grow not only inside the game but in the real world as well, such external power was nothing.

Jugo immediately became enraged when he saw Leonard's disappointed look. He didn't say anything after that and just summoned the Great Demon instead.

The illusionary figure of a demon appeared behind Jugo for a brief moment before fusing with his body, which triggered another transformation.

This already bulked body became much bulkier as the size of his entire body grew drastically. Only an instant had passed yet already became a three-meter giant.

Black scales with a hint of purple hue also appeared spread across his legs and arms, also reaching his neck. They also replaced his armor as his metal spiked club grew larger alongside him.

His teeth became sharper, especially his canine teeth which grew longer. The pair of horns also became much more threatening as they now blazing with purple flames. It was also the same for the scaled reptilian tail that grew from his lower back.

Then his eyes became even more demonic as black smoke was continuously being released from their corners.

Seeing that transformation and sensing the overwhelming pressure that came alongside it, Leonard couldn't help but grin widely. "Hoh~! Not bad. You can at least serve as the perfect punching bag."

Then stretched his waists, arms, and legs a little, creating a series of cracking sounds. He also loosened his joints by slightly twisting them.

From what he could sense, it looked like Jugo now possessed the stats comparable to Overlord Monster Boss.

Going against a player with such an insane stat would definitely be an impossible task for most of the players, especially when that person was a Godlike Player, the Annihilator God Jugo.

But it was a completely different case when it came to the current War God Simba, who was in the special state of Reality Manifestation.

Instead of negative thoughts that the other players would feel, Leonard was feeling nothing but excitement. This time, he would be able to showcase his current strength without holding back.

"That's more like it!" Leonard could wipe the grin that he was wearing as he watched Jugo undergo a transformation.

Ever since he saw the explosion caused by the battle between Shin and Diablo earlier and sensed how powerful it was, Leonard couldn't wait to also test his own limits. He looked like a hungry beast looking for prey that was worthy to hunt.

Jugo's current state couldn't be more perfect for what Leonard could ask for. "Let's start this hunt already!"

Bang!

Leonard quickly stomped on the ground and launched himself forward, unable to suppress his thirst for battle.

He disappeared from the sight of his opponent right after doing that. But Jugo decisively swung his spiked club in front of him, fully aware that Leonard was going to face him head-on.

Swoosh!

Boom!

The giant iron club was swung powerfully but it was forcefully halted halfway to the ground as if it hit an immovable object.

Underneath that spiked club, Leonard held one of his battle axes over his head, preventing the massive club from going further.

It might have halted his charge but it didn't mean it stopped him from attacking.

He raised his other battle axe and held it tightly, making his muscle balloon up a little. After that, he powerfully swung the battle axe horizontally which caused a powerful gust of wind that swept everything in its path.

'Way of the Thousand Beasts: Bestial Flurry'

Whoosh!

The surrounding plants and bushes were pulled out from the ground as they were swept away by the strong gust of wind. Even the trunks of the nearby trees were ripped into shreds, causing them to fall one after another.

But despite how strong that storm-like wind was, Jugo was only slightly pushed to the side, rushing to be swept away by it. His massive and sturdy body even ignored the sharp wood fragments mixed in the gust of wind.

Instead, he swung his huge fist at Leonard who was causing such a commotion. His fist was covered by a purple flame that carried the corroding properties of corrupted mana.

Leonard didn't back down on the challenge and welcomed it with open arms. His battle axes transformed into a speck of light that fused with his fist and arms before transforming into a pair of metal gauntlets.

Crimson runes were dancing on the surface of those gauntlets, signifying that they were not ordinary weapons but a pair of magic treasures.

He then squatted his hips and inhaled deeply while putting his fist on each side of his waist. His crimson mana was gathered around them, creating a transparent sphere of mana.

'Blood Sutra: Doble Muerte'

Then his arms transformed into a pair of blurs, seemingly disappearing for a moment before returning to their previous locations.

Boom!

Then Jugo's fists paused in the air for a moment before being sent back to where they came from. There was also a brief explosion that forced him to take a couple of steps backward to stabilize his footing.

Hu~!

Leonard exhaled softly as he maintained his previous position. He then stared with his focused eyes and said with a calm yet provoking tone. "Come! Let me see if that external power of yours is as amazing as what you claimed to be."

In the meantime, from Jugo's perspective, Leonard looked like a monstrous beast. He looked like the manifestation of carnage and slaughter who descended upon this world to decimate everyone who dared to block his path.

This battle would determine who would be the real demon between the two. The one who had its appearance or the one who seemed to be its personification.

Chapter 910 Hidden Motives

.....

As the pairs of key figures of the opposing sides were already engaging in an intense battle, the rest of their groups were already in a battle of their own.

The Goddess of Poison Elise, who was supposedly working together with Jugo to disrupt the mages of the trio of Charlotte, Ember, and Ravier, was left alone to deal with the three.

But it was still fine since her main job was to only halt their actions for a moment so that the rest of their group would be able to regroup with the others.

Her main expertise might be poisoning, but it didn't mean that her speed was something that could be underestimated.

She only needed a few seconds to reach the three mages and threw a poison bomb in their direction and forced them to be separated from each other. If she was lucky then, she might even be able to take down them in the process.

Unfortunately, not everything could go according to plan. Right before she reached the ideal distance where he could throw her poison bomb, she was suddenly blocked by the most troublesome person on the opposing side.

Faker suddenly appeared in her path, preventing her from moving further ahead. Elise knew that it would be impossible to execute her plan if she didn't get rid of this person in front of her.

Unfortunately, doing it was much harder than she could think. Not only Faker had godly control like the others, but he also had a variety of techniques on top of his unrivaled speed.

"What is Jugo doing?" she thought as she took a quick glance at where Jugo was located. Then he saw the latter use the powers of his Contracted Demon while facing Simba.

She was confused at first since that power could grant them a massive boost in their stats that make them comparable to an Overlord Monster Boss.

But to her surprise, not only was the War God able to hold himself against the Demonized Jugo, but that state of the battle seemed to be in a complete deadlock. This indicates that their battle prowess was currently on par with each other.

"How is that possible?" Elise couldn't believe what she saw as it was completely out of her in-game knowledge.

She knew that War God Simba was strong but he should be only as strong as them if they were in their first Demonic Transformation. Even if Simba used his buffs and berserk skills, his battle prowess should only reach that level.

The Demon's Contract, on the other hand, was on completely on a whole new level. It was supposedly a cheat skill in a sense since the powers of a real Demon that they were borrowing should exceed the

current stage of the game, especially when its power was proportional to the strength of the contracted player and the demon that they made contact with.

Jugo was a Godlike Player and his contracted demon was a Demon Lord, so his battle prowess should surpass even the current players within the Godlike Ranking List. At least, that was how it was supposed to be.

But from what she was seeing, Simba was not only on equal footing as Jugo, but the War God seemed to also possessed a battle power comparable to his demonized opponent.

Faker, who was standing a few meters away from her, seemed to read what she was thinking and answered the question inside her head. "You don't have to be surprised. It's just some people in this world are too gifted to surpass our current understanding."

"And even if you manage to stumble upon a lucky encounter, it doesn't mean that the others are unable to have one as well."

"You just have to accept that everyone is not equal," he added with a calm tone.

He was not in a hurry to fight Elise as he also wanted to see if she could also display the same powers as Jugo. Their job was still to eliminate their opponents as soon as possible but it would not hurt to learn a thing or two from them.

A situation like this was hard to come by, so he completely understood what Arthur and Leonard were feeling. After all, he was also the same.

He was interested in the proposition that Arthur had offered them earlier, but it needed to wait until they were finished with their current Empire Quest.

And now that they had the perfect test subject to test their limits, why not take advantage of it and make them more familiar with the new strength they found just recently?

For them, their real challenge in this quest was the members of the Earners Mercenary Group while these people from the Silent Night could only be served as an appetizer.

Elise could feel that Faker was underestimating her a little too much. It was true that their current situation was outside their expectation, but it didn't mean that they could be treated as small fries.

"You will regret giving me that chance!" she said solemnly as she summoned her Demon's Contract.

She spread her arms as the spiritual avatar of her contracted demon appeared behind her before fusing with her body.

The demonification this time was not as drastic as the one that happened to Jugo. The size of Elise's body didn't change and remained as slender as it was.

But at the same time, her leather armor merged with her body and later turned into a set of scales similar to what Jugo had. A pair of slender horns also grew from her forehead. Her reptilian tail was also quite slender as it complimented her current appearance.

She didn't even wait for any as she swiftly made her move right after her demonification. She directly attacked Faker who was currently standing leisurely a distance in front of her.

Her movements might come a little too sudden, but unfortunately, her opponent was slightly ahead of her.

Faker instantly entered the Reality Manifestation and made his move.

He left an afterimage behind him before appearing in front of Elise, greeting her with his daggers that were making their way toward her face.

Clang!

Fortunately, she was fast enough to react in time and save herself from that predicament.

It was also at that moment when Elise discovered that there was something strange with her opponent. She could feel that Faker was moving in an unrestrained manner compared to most of the skilled players of the game.

She couldn't pinpoint what it was but he was sure that he found a way to free himself from the restraints of the system.

Unlike them who relied on the powers of the Demons, Faker seemed to have summoned his real body inside the game.

In the meantime, the rest of the Silent Night finally recovered themselves and started making their moves against their opponents.

They knew that it was quite impossible to regroup with the others given their current predicament. Moreover, their opponents were doing a great job of isolating them.

Given that, they decided to make their moves and choose to fight in isolated battles instead of being overwhelmed by the other side.

One of them was the Demonic Berserker that Owen was fighting earlier. He was one of the Titled Rankers of the Silent Night, and even if he was not as famous as the key figures of their group, he was still one of the most skilled members of this adventurer team.

He was planning to quickly free himself away from Owen but he later discovered that he totally underestimated this Knight in front of him.

But what was more frustrating about it was the fact that this person was currently wearing the equipment and using the shield that their Commander previously had.

In terms of skills and techniques, Owen and this Demonic Berserker were pretty much on par with each other. The problem was that the former had higher stats due to his superior equipment and weapons.

Given that, the Demonic Berserker was forced to his Demonification much earlier than he had expected. He didn't have a contracted demon unlike the Godlike Players of their group since he didn't have enough strength to a host of such strong demonic powers.

But at the very least, his Demonification was much higher compared to most of the Demonic Church Believers, giving him the ability to neutralize the advantages that Owen initially had.

...

Aside from the rest of the Silent Nights who were fighting their respective battles, there were also the two Apostles that Immortal had brought alongside him, Larc and Demien.

The two received an order from Immortal to assist the rest of the Silent Nights, so they quickly made their moves right after they joined the battle.

Larc locked his gaze on Alucard who was skillfully sniping from the distance.

As a vampire, Alucard also had a pretty strong physique that surpassed the majority of the players. But on the other hand, Larc was a corrupted player who had a series of enhanced abilities to match those advantages.

Larc was originally planning to overwhelm Alucard with his insane speed but he later discovered that his opponent was much more skilled than he originally thought.

Alucard's sniping ability was already giving him a lot of trouble but the real problem only came after that. The kitting ability of this particular vampire player was also top-notched.

And what gave Larc a lot of headaches was when he reached the thirty to twenty-meter mark away from Alucard. That distance was like hell as Alucard would put away his sniper rifle and take out a pair of magic pistols that could suppress Larc with a barrage of magic bullets.

On top of that, Alucard also showed his proficiency in close-distance battles. In that situation, he would put away one of his pistols and use his rapier to fight.

This kind of fighting style was the real problem that Larc was facing when fighting Alucard.

...

On another place was where Demien was fighting. He was fighting S.Tigris and Ara all by himself.

Like Larc, Demien was also planning to take down the marksmen of the opposing side to relieve some of the burdens from the members of Silent Night.

And since Ara was a little weaker compared to Alucard, Demien was able to immediately suppress her.

Unfortunately, before he could even finish his job, S.Tigris suddenly appeared out of nowhere and started assisting the elven archer.

But despite being in a one-against-two situation, Demien was able to prove why he was one of the Apostles of Immortal. He was able to hold his ground properly and even managed to sneak a couple of attacks that almost took out S.Tigris in the process.

This didn't mean that Larc was weaker than Demien. He was just a little unlucky for picking an oddity such as Alucard as his opponent.

...

The battle continued and started to take shape as the respective members of the opposing sides started to find their matchups.

But amidst this chaotic battle, Justin could feel something odd was going on. Some of the members of their opponents were currently missing, especially Shin who he wanted to kill the most.

And as the battle progressed, the uneasiness that he was feeling was slowly growing stronger, making him more uncomfortable.

Unfortunately, he couldn't find the source of that feeling and could only wait for it to reveal itself.