

## **Destiny 931**

### Chapter 931 Appearance Of A New Power And The Re-Emergence Of Old Legends

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While Shin and the others were busy with their quest within the Frozen Kingdom, the gaming community was getting crazy due to the successive news that they were seeing from the online forums.

The events from the Saint Heaven Kingdom were one thing but the other Kingdoms were not that quiet either.

They might not be as big as the ones that were happening in the Saint Heaven Kingdom since it was a massive event between the two largest factions within the game, the Corrupted Cult, and the Righteous Churches.

Even though the guilds situated in the Saint Heaven Kingdom were the ones that were more active during the entire event, the missions that they were taking were issued by those churches.

In the meantime, the other kingdoms also had a similar big event happening in them. And the largest and most relevant them were from the Ash Cloud Kingdom and the Snake Pit Empire. And both events were caused by a single organization.

The Ash Cloud Kingdom was one of the neutral kingdoms that had the greatest number of resources. But unlike most of the neutral kingdoms that were filled with NPC Cities, this particular kingdom was a total wilderness.

Cities didn't exist in that place and players could only stay in basic settlements that were built by the Adventurer Guild and Mercenary Association.

And unlike the other kingdoms that had quests related to political structure with the game and other events related to NPCs, the quests that one could get from this place were either hunting monsters or exploring the area.

Aside from doing those types of quests, the players were pretty much free to do whatever they wanted. This was also the reason why this kingdom was famous among the Powerhouse Guilds and other powerful organizations within the game.

But since this place was a neutral kingdom in a literal sense, wars were a normal occurrence here. Guilds, Adventurer Teams, Mercenary Groups, and other organizations were constantly fighting against each other to take all of the resources that could be found within this kingdom.

While everyone in this kingdom was doing their normal routine, gathering resources and hunting a powerful monster, a certain organization invaded this place and shocked everyone.

This organization came too strong that none of the other organizations situated within the Ash Cloud Kingdom managed to respond. And since their appearance was way too sudden, the settlements built by those organizations were either destroyed or conquered by this mysterious organization.

The guilds and adventurer teams tried to fight back but the experts of the said organization instantly suppressed them. Not only that, the other members of that organization were so strong that most of the players couldn't do anything for them.

The sudden invasion caught everyone off-guard which was the Powerhouse Guilds were unable to respond. Before they could even do anything, all of their bases were already been taken down by that organization.

And after seeing the organized attacks launched against them, these guilds realized that this was a well-thought plan by the said organization.

They were already expecting something like this to happen given their familiarity with the other guilds based within the Ash Cloud Kingdom. This was the reason why they were keeping an eye on every movement of their rivals to prevent something like this to happen.

But since this particular organization came out of nowhere, they didn't have time to respond to the sudden ambush. What made it worse was the fact that they didn't have any information about such a powerful organization.

And when they learned the identity of the said organization, everything was already too late as the whole Ash Cloud Kingdom was now under their control by them.

It was not in a literal sense that they were the owner of the Kingdom. Instead, the organization was tightly controlling every entry into the NPC Settlements and Outposts scattered throughout the entire kingdom.

And since the NPCs were not going to interfere with the businesses and grudges between players, the guilds couldn't do anything about the situation.

It was at this moment when these guilds learned the might of the mysterious organization called Pandemonium Descendants.

They were already aware of their existence before but since the organization was mostly operating secretly, they didn't have much information about them. And this was the main reason why they lost.

At the same time, they were also curious why such a secretive organization chose to reveal itself now.

Were they finally announcing their existence to the world?

That was more like it since they were also the ones responsible for what happened in the Snake Pit Empire.

Just like the Ash Cloud Kingdom, the Snake Pit Empire was a neutral ground where everyone was free to do whatever they wanted. The structure of the empire was also similar to the Ash Cloud Kingdom since outposts and settlements were the only places where the players could stay in this place.

But unlike the Ash Cloud Kingdom which was rich in natural resources and minerals, the Snake Pit Empire was a perfect hunting ground where the places could constantly hunt powerful monsters and grind experience points.

If the Ash Cloud Kingdom was filled with mountains and forests where minerals and herbs could be mined and harvested, then the Snake Pit Empire was more like a desolate place full of rock mountains and valleys.

The monsters in this place were mostly related to snakes and reptilian species just like what the empire's name suggested. And most of these monsters were gathered together to form a nest, a place that was both heaven and hell for the players hunting here.

Just like what they did in the Ash Cloud Kingdom, the Pandemonium Descendants started attacking the most influential guilds and organizations situated in the Snake Pit Empire, making them take a huge hit on their forces before controlling the outposts and settlements scattered in the entire empire.

These two events exploded in the online forums the moment when the players based within the Ash Cloud Kingdom and Snake Pit Empire posted them.

Most of the players were not aware of the existence of such a powerful organization, so they couldn't help but become curious about them.

That was when multiple pieces of information regarding the organization started appearing one after another. No one knew who was responsible for it but the information about the Pandemonium Descendants started to spread to an unimaginable degree.

The players became shocked the moment they read through the information regarding the mysterious organization. From their perspective, they could tell that the Pandemonium Descendants were as strong as the top Powerhouse Guilds within the game.

Some of the players were even claiming that they were stronger than those guilds, especially when multiple videos of Godlike Players before being killed by the Sweepers appeared one after another.

The online forums exploded in a heated discussion as multiple players instantly became a fan of this organization. The players then started arguing with one another due to this topic.

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Aside from the appearance of the Pandemonium Descendants, there was another matter that caught the attention of the players.

It was a clip of a battle between two legendary figures within the game.

At first, the players thought that it was only a clickbait video. But after seeing that it was an edited video from Miss Bunny, the players immediately clicked on it without any hesitation and watched until the end.

It was at that moment when the players realized who was fighting.

It was the battle between the previous King of Games, Khing, and one of the founding members of the Blood Carnival, the Killer Clown Pogo.

This battle attracted the attention of everyone as they were aware of the prestige of these two players. One was a legendary figure who created a lot of legends within the virtual world while the other was a notorious killer who was feared in every game that he participated in.

For the veteran players, this was a mark of the re-emergence of the old legends of the game. And for the newer players, this was a sign of the great change in the current Godlike Ranking List.

The battle was earthshaking. Pogo's insane speed and unpredictable attacks sent shivers down the spine of the players who were watching the battle clip. But what amazed them, even more, was Khing who faced those attacks fully unfazed.

Moreover, Khing didn't even move from his position, seemingly telling everyone that such attacks were nothing to him.

"As expected of the King of Games!"

These were the only thoughts that entered the minds when they saw him leisurely fending off the attacks of his opponents.

Aside from that, the players were also curious about his class. From what they could see, his class was very similar to a Mentalist from the real world.

The battle continued until Pogo underwent a transformation. This time, he also gave Khing slight trouble but not to the point he panicked.

The entire battle gave the viewers goosebumps as they were thinking if they were playing the same game as those monsters.

Then they couldn't help but feel their blood boiling in excitement when they saw Khing emerge victorious. Especially at the scene in the end where he was pointing the tip of his seemingly harmless umbrella at his opponent kneeling in front of him.

The video instantly became the top-searched topic in the rankings, putting Khing at the center of the spotlight once again.

But that was not the end, since multiple videos where the previous rankers and gods of the game started one after another.

This event really became the mark of the return of these legendary players.

Anyone could now tell that the whole gaming world would take a sudden change where the forgotten myths and new legends would clash against each other.

The new era was coming!

Chapter 932 Joining The Hunt

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Boom!

The battle between the expedition group and the Fallen Dragon Knight Army was slowly reaching its peak as more time went by.

Shin and the others managed to decrease the number of fallen knights after fighting for such a long time. And since this army didn't have the respawn feature during the battle unlike the previous armies that they faced, the group didn't have to worry about the inexhaustible number of opponents.

But in exchange for it, the strength and skills of the fallen knights were much stronger and better compared to the previous armies. Even the strategies and battle formations that they were using were much more complicated compared to the ones that they faced before.

Fortunately, the group now had the support of the Legion of Chaotic Sun summoned by Chaotic Luck to support them in battle. And with Shin's amazing strategies and experience with battle formations, the group was able to fight the opposing army on an equal footing.

The rest of the group was also able to showcase their respective strengths during the battle since they no longer needed to concern themselves about being trapped with the formation of their enemies due to the help of the Legion of the Chaotic Sun.

But despite all of these, the group was still currently in a bind. They might have matched the forces of the opposing side but they also spent quite a lot of effort just to achieve the current deadlock.

Moreover, the group was also starting to feel fatigued due to the constant battle. They had been fighting the fallen knights for a long time already, so it wouldn't be strange for them to get exhausted.

It was especially true for Arthur and Leonard who were fighting at the front line and were using their respective Elemental Spirit Possession for an extended period of time.

The mental fatigue that they were feeling was much heavier compared to the rest of the group.

They might be gaining an advantage as the battle progressed due to the decreasing number of enemies, but they paid a heavy price in exchange.

Arthur and Leonard didn't use the Reality Manifestation from the start since they needed it when the generals of the opposing side revealed themselves. But now that they had used their Elemental Spirit Possession for an extended period of time, they discovered that they might not have enough willpower to use that state later.

No matter how prepared they were, they still underestimated the forces of the opposing side.

Now that they thought about it, they started to regret not going all out from the start. If they had used their Reality Manifestation from the very beginning, they might be able to clear the fallen knights much faster and force the generals to appear in the battle much earlier.

Aside from those two, Chaotic Luck also belonged to the ones who was carry the greatest burden among the group.

After continuously summoning his Legion of Chaotic Sun to replenish the numbers of their soldiers and controlling them for their battle formations, it wouldn't be surprising for him to be the one who was the most exhausted member of the group.

He was already reaching his limit and Shin knew about that.

Seeing that Chaotic Luck was barely holding himself, Shin decided to finally make his move. The number of fallen knights was already at the acceptable range where they could properly hold themselves, so it would be better for the Solaris Lich to rest and replenish his strength.

Moreover, Faker already informed him that they were already hurrying over, so the group only needed to buy enough time for those four to arrive. With the strength that the three gods had, the group would be able to properly wrap everything up if they were added to their current force.

"Alright, you don't have to summon more skeleton soldiers. You can rest for now and leave the remaining soldiers to fight on their own. You've already done enough," Shin patted Chaotic Luck's shoulder while praising his efforts.

"I will be joining them on the battlefield, so I will not be able to protect you for now. Hide for the time being and replenish your strength. Wait for my signal before making your move," he added as he walked ahead.

Hearing that, Chaotic Luck couldn't help but have a sigh of relief and almost collapse on the ground.

'D\*mn! That was exhausting!' he thought, seemingly trying to complain.

But contrary to those words, the smile on his face refused to hide the emotion that he was currently feeling. He was enjoying the fight just now, especially when he learned how to run his Legion of Chaotic Sun properly and discovered new applications of the battle formations while following the orders that Shin had given him.

'But it is also awesome!' he felt that he became strong yet again.

But before getting too excited at everything, he needed to hide first before the opposing side learned that he was currently unprotected.

He quickly shot up from the ground and ran towards the nearby bushes to hide. He also cast a spell on his body to make his presence unnoticeable, making sure that he would not go to get captured.

In the meantime, Shin informed the others that he was now going to partake in the battle personally. And his role would be the same as Arthur and Leonard.

He was also planning to fight ahead of those two to lessen the pressure that they were getting. He also wanted them to rest a little and recover as much strength as possible.

He was already feeling the powerful auras hiding in the distance, which could only mean a single time, the opposing generals were already planning to join the prey.

Shin sprinted forward and used all of the charges of 'Moonlight Step' consecutively, transforming himself into a streak of light that flew straight to the frontlines where Arthur and Leonard were fighting.

"Working very hard, huh? You guys can relax a little and let me take over your role for a moment," said Shin as he brushed past the two and continued moving forward.

"Tsk! And whose fault do you think we are this exhausted, huh? It is your orders – you piece of a sh\*t!" shouted Arthur as he struck down yet another fallen knight.

"Hahaha! That's Shin Bro for you!" Leonard laughed at Arthur who suddenly went on a rampage after seeing Shin take action.

He paused for a moment and released his Elemental Beast Fusion before continuing. "Anyways, we should slow down a little and conserve our strength for the next round. You can feel it too, right? Those powerful auras stalking us from somewhere."

Arthur also released his Elemental Dragon Possession before nodding his head. "Tsk! It's been a while already yet they still haven't made their moves. It is annoying that we have to constantly monitor our surroundings because of their presence."

While they were casually talking to each other, Shin already reached his destination and quickly started fighting properly.

He first swapped his sabers with the [Yamato] and quickly assumed a sword-drawing stance. He then gathered the power of the Abyssal Moon towards the sheathed sword, making it release a black glow.

"It has been a while since I've used this fighting style. Let's see if I haven't gotten rusty yet," he muttered before transforming himself into a streak of light once again while also unsheathing his sword in the process.

Swoosh!

'Class Fighting Style: Moonlight Splitter'

Shing!

The flash of light that was released right after he went through the fallen knights, blinded everyone for a brief moment and made the surroundings dead silent.

Click!

Then the soft sound of his sword being sheathed could be heard followed by the heads of the fallen knights behind him falling one after another.

Thud! Thud! Thud!

Then those fallen knights started to collapse on the ground one by one, creating a sight that made Arthur and Leonard shake their heads.

"Tsk! It is not that flashy but why do I feel that it is so satisfying to watch?" commented Arthur with an expression that was hard to explain.

Leonard, on the other hand, shrugged his shoulders and refused to say anything.

Shin hadn't used this swordsmanship for the time being for obvious reasons; it was not compatible with the style that he could use when he was in Reality Manifestation State.

The [Dusk Blade] and [Dawn Blade] were just too perfect with the Yin-Yang Swordsmanship which made him neglect this sword-drawing style for the time being.

It was not like he had a choice since he didn't have a swordsmanship that would fit this style from the real world. This was the reason why using this style was not optional when he was under the state of Reality Manifestation.

He at least needed to wait until he found the suitable swordsmanship that would perfectly complement it.

Grandmaster Benn had told him that there was a particular sword art that would be perfect for his Mentalism Swordsmanship which was derived from sword-drawing style. But unfortunately, the old mentalist couldn't teach it to Shin since it was not his specialty.

Though, Fatty Been told him that he would give Shin a recommendation for that person who could teach him that style.

"I wonder who is the person that teacher is talking about," muttered Shin to himself as he remembered what Grandmaster Benn had promised.

"Well, I can think about it later. For now, let me deal with these guys first," he added as he swept his gaze at the fallen knights that were starting to surround him.

"So, where should I start?"

Chapter 933 The Vanguard King And The Archer King (Part 1)

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Right after Shin joined the fight, the tide of the battle immediately turned in their favor. They still had the advantage earlier but each member of the group was slowly getting exhausted.

But the moment Shin, who freshly joined the battle, quickly changed the state of the battlefield. And since he was currently using his other style of swordsmanship, which focused on fast and AOE (Area of Effect) attacks, he was able to take down most of the fallen knights on his path.

He practically cleared the path ahead of the group while Arthur and Leonard picked up the scraps that he left behind.

Everything was smoothly going according to the plan but the surrounding atmosphere was quite heavy.

Shin and the others knew it which was why they were warily advancing forward, especially when they couldn't see any signs of the opposing commander no matter how far they advanced.

Moreover, they could also sense the presence of powerful individuals hiding in the dark and observing them silently.

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Shin was currently fighting at the forefront of the group when he suddenly sensed something. Sensing that there was something wrong, he quickly unsheathed his sword and swung it in a horizontal manner, releasing the accumulated mana from it.

Shing!

'Class Fighting Style: Sunshine Cleaver'

Swoosh!

His actions created a blazing ring around him that extended outwards, slicing and burning all of the fallen knights that were trying to approach him.

That attack created enough space for him to focus on finding where the hidden threat was coming from.

It was at that moment when the corner of his eye caught a glimpse of a flashing light coming from a distance.

Swoosh!

Then it was immediately followed by a beam of light with a pointed tip, traveling in the air at extreme speed.

That beam of light trailed above the battlefield and flew straight in a certain direction. And when Shin saw that, he quickly made his move and chased after the beam, planning to outrun it.

'Slayer Skill: Moonlight Steps' x3

'Phantom Swordsman Skill: Phantom Steps'

'Slayer Skill: Sunshine Movement'

'Elemental Skill: Void Steps'

He used multiple movement skills in quick succession just to get ahead of the beam of light. And when he reached the ideal range to surpass that beam, he instantly used the longest movement skill that he had from his arsenal.

'Equipment Skill (Leg Armor: Megumi's Shadow): Death Travel'

He instantly traveled a 30-meter distance after he used that skill and appeared beside Cloe who was currently busy supporting Owen and the rest of her group.

Cloe was surprised at his sudden appearance as well as confused why he suddenly appeared here when he supposedly fighting at the frontline.

But turning to his direction, she caught the sight of a beam of light behind Shin, heading over her direction at extreme speed.

Given the speed of the beam, the others were unable to respond in time, which almost lead to her being assassinated.

Then she saw Shin turning around and facing the incoming beam of light as a brilliant white aura surrounded his body as well as coating his sheathed sword.

Shing!

And when the beam of light was almost upon them, Shin swiftly unsheathed the sword which created a flash of blinding light.

Then, at the very next moment, after Shin unsheathed his sword, the power of the Brilliant Sun was released from the tip of his sword before moving forward. And following it, the silver aura covering his body chased after that light before fusing together.

Roar!

Then it transformed into a majestic white tiger pouncing forward, greeting the incoming beam of light.

'Class Fighting Style: Eclipse Dragon Draw'

Boom!

The explosion created by the collision of the opposing powers produced a powerful shockwave that pushed Shin and the others away from it.

Despite being caught off-guard, the rest of the group behind Shin were able to respond in time and activated their respective defensive skill to avoid being hit by the flame embers and sharp wind produced by the explosion.

Swoosh!

But while everyone was currently regaining their footing, a massive figure suddenly broke past the cloud of blazing smoke and appeared right in front of Shin and Cloe.

This person had a towering figure of a little more than two meters. He looked like a giant standing in front of the two, especially with his bulky body covered by a heavy-looking set of armor.

He was carrying an iron mace that had a similar length to a longsword. It was coated by a glowing mana, signifying that he was about to attack.

This person smirked at Shin and Cloe as he saw them trying their best to regain their footing. And before the two could even respond, he quickly swung the iron mace at them, carrying a strength that seemed to be able to crush a mountain.

But despite being caught in that predicament, Shin and Cloe remained calm. Even if they were not in a position to defend themselves, that didn't mean the others who were away from the epicenter of the explosion would not be able to protect them.

Swoosh!

Before the iron mace could even descend to the two, Arthur suddenly appeared in front of the two at the very last moment, raising his round shield and activating one of his strongest defensive skills.

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

Roar!

With a powerful roar, a golden dragon suddenly appeared out of thin air and suddenly coiled around Arthur and the rest of the group behind him, protecting them with its sturdy body.

Boom!

Urgh!

Arthur couldn't help but groan painfully as the strength of the giant in front of him was much stronger than he had expected.

His feet even sank to the ground when the iron mace descended as the ground itself shook violently as if an earthquake suddenly occurred.

"Hoh~!" the giant seemed to be impressed by Arthur after seeing his attack was defended properly.

Unfortunately, he didn't have the time to further appreciate it he could see someone charging at him from the corner of his eyes.

Leonard was running at him with large strides, leaving a series of deep footprints behind. His body was also covered by a crimson mana and his eyes suddenly turned bloodshot.

Roar!

With a deafening roar, he suddenly stomped on the ground and launched himself forward as if he was a cannonball heading toward the giant.

"Oh~! The forgotten arts of the Primordial Beasts King, the Destroyer Eversor," muttered the giant as he saw Leonard fly straight at him.

He then casually held his iron mace in front of him diagonally right before Leonard reached him.

Bang!

Being pushed a little, the giant couldn't help but become impressed once again. "It is strong as the rumors say."

After that, he put more strength on his arms and tightened his grip over his iron mace before pushing Leonard with it.

Swoosh!

His seemingly casual push carried a powerful force that sent Leonard back to where he came from.

"What?"

Boom!

Cough!

Leonard was very surprised at what happened as he didn't expect such a force behind a simple movement. He even started coughing blood as his health bar dropped by a large margin.

The giant guy was about to continue smashing the protective barrier protecting Shin and the others when he suddenly saw it disappearing on itself.

And since it caught him off-guard, he didn't expect what happened after it.

Right after the coiling dragon disappeared, Shin and Arthur were revealed behind it, who were currently in the middle of completing their attack.

Shin was currently covered by a black aura as he channeled the power of the Abyssal Moon on his sword.

Shing!

And when he unsheathed the sword and released all of the accumulated powers in front of it, a black dragon suddenly formed and headed straight to the face of the giant in front of them.

Roar!

'Class Fighting Style: Eclipse Dragon Draw'

Swoosh!

At the same time, Arthur pulled his round shield to the side, revealing the glowing spear behind it. The spear was producing a golden light, signifying that the accumulated mana on it reached its peak.

He then thrust the spear forward while simultaneously releasing all of the accumulated mana from its tip.

'Class Fighting Style: Golden Dragon Transcending the Heaven'

Roar!

Similar to what Shin did, the mana that was released from the tip of Arthur's weapon suddenly transformed into a dragon that opened its mouth widely at the giant standing in front of them.

Boom!

Due to the giant standing right in front of the two, the two dragons swallowed him whole and dragged his body alongside them as they continued moving forward.

Shin and the rest didn't care about what happened to the giant as they quickly reorganized themselves and swiftly went into a formation.

Even the others who were still away from their group quickly head over to them to regroup, quickly standing in their respective positions.

Leonard also picked himself up and joined them, standing at the forefront of the group alongside Shin and Arthur.

Everyone was wearing a solemn expression on their faces as they all knew that the giant should be one of the generals of the fallen knight army. This was going to start the end of this battle.

They fixated their gazes in the direction where the two dragons dragged the giant over, waiting for that guy to reveal himself.

The giant might have taken the attacks from Shin and Arthur at point-blank range but they knew that it was not enough to end his life. There was no way boss-level NPC would die with such attacks.

And just like what they had expected, they saw the giant's silhouette walking out of the cloud of dust and snow in the distance, revealing himself fully unharmed by the previous attacks.

Nel, that giant-looking person and the Vanguard King of the Dragon Knight Army, bent his neck left and right, producing a series of cracking sounds.

He then looked at the group head of him and grinned widely at them. "This group of young heroes sure is interesting. But I am still not sure if you are worthy to grant us our long-awaited wish!"

Chapter 934 The Vanguard King And The Archer King (Part 2)

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Shin was currently wearing a solemn expression on his face as he looked at Nel a few distances away from them.

The aura of the person that they were currently facing was much stronger than all of the other opponents that they had faced so far.

And to confirm his suspicion, he quickly used his 'True Sight' Ocular Skill to see the basic information of their current opponent.

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[Monster Name]: Vanguard King Nel

Monster Level: 175

Monster Rank: King Class Monster (Bordering Emperor Class)

Bloodline/ Race: (Undead) Fallen Human

HP: 31,284,234,222/34,000,000,000

Threat Level: Disaster Class (S+ Rank)

Historical Note: The strongest Warrior Knight and one of the commanding generals of the Great Dragon Knight Army.

He was known as the strongest person alive before he was cursed by the Goddess of Frost and was trapped within the Frozen Kingdom since that time.

He was extremely loyal to Grand Marshal Draco and became one of his closest aides.

And due to the contract that the grand marshal had with the First Vampire, the Vampire Lord Dracula, they managed to retain their sanity despite being one of the people who received the worst curse.

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"Huh? A monster and not an NPC?" muttered Shin as he read through the information in front of his eyes. The expression on his face then became even more solemn as he realized something. "So, unlike Lycan, there is no hope for him to turn back to what he used to be."

The others also used their respective observation skills to see a similar string of information about their opponent. And just like Shin, they also came up with the same conclusion.

At the same time, Shin suddenly remembered something and turned his head to the side, looking over his shoulders. "Alucard, Ara, there is an Archer from the other side, can you guys find them?"

The two quickly used their special skills to locate the said opponent.

The first to respond was Alucard as he got the major direction where to look due to the previous attack that targeted Cloe. "I can't find their exact location but based on the attack earlier, it seems like that person is at least a kilometer away from us."

Shin couldn't help but raised his brows when he heard that before turning to Leonard. "We can't let that guy continue snipping us from the distance, so we have to send a few people to hinder them."

"We need to buy enough time until Faker and the rest arrive here," he added before turning his head back to Nel.

"So, what do you suggest?" asked Leonard with a slight frown.

"I will be taking Arthur, Alucard, and Ara with me. We currently have the fastest speed here, so it was the best choice to leave that job to us," replied Shin instantly.

Leonard creased his brow for a moment before asking. "So, you want me to hold that guy while you guys are dealing with the other one? And wait until Faker, Lawless, Zero, and Seven to arrive? That's easy enough."

"You don't have to be the main tank since we have Owen on our side. He can at least take on that role," replied Shin before turning to Owen and asking. "Right?"

Hearing that, Owen chuckled a little before responding with full confidence. "Of course, you can leave it to me! Especially with the help of the best healer of the game and a top-class strategic priest. I feel like I can be the best tank now."

Shin chuckled the confident reply before turning to the others. "We will divide our forces again. Just like what I said earlier, Siegfried, Ara, and Alucard will be coming with me to deal with that archer."

"This guy is strong and required our full attention but don't neglect your surroundings and be mindful of the remaining fallen knights. Their numbers might be pretty negligible now, but there is nothing to lose by being careful."

"You can also leave the remaining skeleton soldiers to deal with them but I suggest that the mages assist them in wiping out the rest of the fallen knights. The rest then can focus on holding that guy down."

He then signaled Arthur and the other two to get ready before reminding the rest one last time.  
"Remember, our main goal is to stall time until the others arrive and assist us. Don't do anything risky, alright?"

"Yeah!"

Answered the rest as they nodded their heads.

"Let's go!" shouted Shin, giving the signal to everyone to make their moves.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

He first sprinted forward, charging at Nel with extreme speed. And flying ahead of them were the multiple spells cast by the rest, heading over to the Vanguard King. They had an everchanging trajectory and flew in the most tricky angles.

"Cheap trick!" smirked Nel before swinging his iron mace horizontally, creating a gust of wind that flew straight at the magic spells flying toward him obliterating all of them.

Shin was already expecting that to happen which was why he was following closely behind those spells.

He quickly used his 'Moonlight Steps' that just came off from its cooldown.

Swoosh!

"I've already seen that earlier!" commented Nel when he saw the incoming streak of light. He then coated his iron mace with his signature mana before slamming it down.

Shin had already seen such a technique before where he could be hit despite his incorporeal form. And since he was already aware of it, he quickly canceled the skill and forcefully halted his step, stopping a few meters away from the tip of the mace.

Bang!

The iron mace landed right in front of Shin, destroying the ground on it, and sending a powerful shockwave in every direction. The specks of dust and debris flew in the air, creating a cloud that hid Shin from Nel's line of sight.

Shin, on the other hand, planted his feet firmly on the ground to withstand the shockwave and prevent it from pushing him away.

And at the same time, he unsheathed his sword and swung it horizontally, sending a crescent wave of flame in front of him and cutting the cloud of dust with it.

Shing!

'Class Fighting Style: Solar Flare'

Swoosh!

Nel was slightly taken aback by such a decisive move from Shin but he still managed to remain calm and casually raised his iron mace in front of him, blocking the blazing sword wave with it.

Bang!

The flame embers that were scattered in the air after the collision blocked Nel's line of sight for a moment. And when it was cleared, he was immediately greeted by a golden dragon, opening its jaws, and was about to devour him.

Roar!

"Are these kids underestimating me? They are using the same tactics as earlier," muttered Nel with a slight frown. It looked like he was completely unfazed by the incoming dragon right in front of him.

Boom!

Then his aura suddenly exploded, sending heavy pressure into the surroundings. His body was also enfolded by a black flame that protected him from the incoming dragon.

Bang!

It was only at that moment that the gold dragon reached him. But it was already too late since his body was entirely covered by the black flame that reinforced his defense.

"Tsk! What a tough old man," commented Arthur as he brushed past Nel and continued moving forward.

Running shoulder to shoulder with him was Shin who was currently wearing a solemn expression on his face. "Let's increase our speed. If this guy is such a monster, we can't leave that archer loose."

"There is no doubt that they are as strong as this guy," he added before sprinting ahead. He avoided all of the fallen knights blocking their path, completely ignoring them.

Arthur understood what Shin meant but he couldn't run completely unhindered like Shin. He clicked his tongue with an annoyed look on his face before covering his body with golden mana and bulldozing his way forward.

Ara and Alucard were already ahead of Arthur as they already detached themselves from the group right after Shin give them the signal. They didn't help at distracting Nel since it was completely unnecessary. All they had to do was to went ahead and look for the exact location of their target.

They didn't know why such a strong Archer didn't attack them after the previous arrow that they fired. But based on the power of that arrow, they could tell that they were as dangerous as Nel who looked like a complete monster in their eyes.

In the meantime, Nel gave Shin and the others a meaningful look when he saw them ignoring him and heading toward the location of his colleague.

"Well, I can't be selfish, can I?" he muttered to himself before adding. "I have to leave those guys to him and let him have some fun."

He then turned his attention to the others who were already preparing for an intense battle. His gaze even focused on Leonard who was now standing a little behind Owen.

"Anyways, I am more curious about the successor of that 'beast'. I want to see if he is worthy enough to carry the legacy of his predecessors," he added as the grin that he was wearing grew higher.

Chapter 935 The Vanguard King And The Archer King (Part 3)

...

Right after Shin and the others left, Black Hand quickly took over the commanding role in this battle as he was the most proficient one who could take it after Shin.

The rest didn't say anything as they were already familiar with him. Moreover, they could also trust his skills in that area given the background he had, he was one of the strategists within the Wing's Alliance.

Given his skills and achievement, it was pretty normal for him to take on that role.

"Owen, be careful when facing him. Even though his information panel says that he is a monster, it is pretty much obvious that he is as intelligent as an NPC with the highest level of AI," the first thing that Black Hand did was to warn Owen about the upcoming fight.

Given that Owen was going to be their main tank in this battle, he would surely be the one to carry the greatest burden among the group. Even though Leonard had his back, he was still the first person to face all of Nel's attacks.

Moreover, based on what they had seen earlier, there was a high chance that Owen to get killed in an instant if he was not careful.

He then started adjusting the formation that they had. He also asked Ember and Ravier to take care of the remaining fallen knights. He told them that they were free to throw out some spells to their opponent if they saw an opportunity but also reminded them of their main task.

With Charlotte and Arielle on their side, the magic damage that they could deal was more than enough for the team.

Of course, as the main support and healer of the team, Cloe still needed to stick to her role. But since her holy powers were fatal to undead monsters, her holy spells were a huge help to the team.

And with him around, Black Hand was more than enough to support the entire team, especially since they had fewer numbers compared to earlier.

But at the same time, they also had a lesser number of strategies that they could employ given the limited number of members. They were now lacking in terms of flexibility, given that most of their members were currently absent.

Fortunately, their job right was only to buy time before Zero and the others arrived. Though, it was also going to be as challenging.

Taking a deep breath, Black Hand focused his mind before giving out his signal. "Let's go!"

Right after those words left his mouth, the others quickly make their moves, proceeding according to the plan.

The first to make her move was Cloe who slammed her staff on the ground and summoned a golden magic circle that appeared underneath their feet.

She started chanting out a series of prayer verses, giving a series of buffs to everyone that enhanced all of their stats significantly. She also didn't stop there as another series of buffs was cast on Owen and Leonard who were currently charging at their opponent.

S.Tigris, on the other hand, was left behind as his job was to protect the rest from the unexpected threats that might come out of nowhere.

After the series buffs cast onto him, Owen immediately felt the significant boost in his stats. He felt that he could do everything with such a series of amazing buffs.

"Sister Arielle sure is the best!" muttered Owen as he quickly increased his speed and fearlessly charge forward.

His mana which had a deep blue color suddenly covered his entire body like a violent flame dancing along the wind. He also left a beautiful trail of light behind as he continued moving ahead.

It then transformed into a raging bison that was charging forward. It was originally the form of his Aura Manifestation but after his endless research after getting beaten up by Shin, Arthur, and Leonard in their sparring sessions multiple times, he found a way to make his mana turn into a real manifestation of his powers.

It was similar to a Fighting Spirit in the real world, a higher form of Aura Manifestation. But instead of having a humanoid form that reflected the unification of his spirit and fighting style, this current form of his mana carried the form of a bison which had the essence of his Martial Arts.

Swoosh!

Seeing Owen charging at him in that current state, Nel couldn't help but become impressed at such a powerful spirit. "Hoh~! This is interesting! Yet another interesting kid that is worth my time! Let's see if you can keep me entertained!"

Owen naturally heard those words as Nel's voice was loud enough for everyone to hear. He then raised his shield in front of him and further increased his speed, charging with even stronger momentum.

Swoosh!

"Hahaha!" Nel started laughing out loud when he saw the fearless actions that Owen had committed. And to respond to it, the Vanguard King raised his iron mace in the air before swinging it down, perfectly timing it right after Owen reached his attacking range.

Whoosh!

Boom!

(-64,334)

"Ugh!" Owen couldn't help but groan painfully when his shield came in contact with the descending mace. His feet sank to the ground as he tried to withstand the attack.

At the same time, more than half of his current Health Bar instantly disappeared right after the contact.

'Holy Priestess Skill: Holy Cure'

(+15,000)

(+500), (+500), (500), ...

'Archbishop Skill (Tier 2): Greater Heal'

(+25,000)

Fortunately, Cloe and Black Hand quickly restored his HP back to a healthy state with their respective healing spells.

But it didn't stop the iron mace from pressing at him. It continued to increase its weight and further pressured him, seemingly trying to totally crush him.

Due to the strong force pressing at him, Owen felt slowly sank to the ground. "Ugh!"

Gritting his teeth, Owen slightly inclined his shield to the side and let the iron mace slide on it. He also twisted his body a little and carefully direct the mace toward his side.

Bang!

Due to his actions, the iron mace landed on the ground, creating a strong explosion upon impact.

Owen ignored the minimal damage caused by the shockwave and rock fragments that flew at him since Cloe and Black Hand had his back.

He then focused and gathered his mana on his sword, coating it with a brilliant glow. He then borrowed the momentum of his previous actions to throw a powerful thrust straight to Nel's fully exposed chest.

'Guardian Knight Skill (Tier 2): Divine Counter'

Swoosh!

Nel planned to ignore that attack at first since his body was currently being covered by his mana. Moreover, he was also confident about his armor as it used to be one of the toughest Battle Armor in the world during the time when he was alive.

But as those thoughts flashed across his mind, he suddenly noticed a golden glow at the blade of the incoming sword, creating another layer of aura on it. It was one of the buffs that Cloe had given to Owen and the rest.

Seeing that golden glow, Nel instantly knew that it carried the holy powers belonging to the Church of Light, the bane of all undead.

Remembering that he was no longer what he used to be, Nel slightly turned his body to the side, barely dodging the tip of the sword.

Clang!

Then he saw his aura being pierced by Owen's sword. Then the sword continued to move forward, grazing his armor with its edge, creating a sharp and high-pitched metallic sound in the process. There were also metal sparks that flew in the air, caused by the friction between the two metals.

"To think that you can break through by Aura Armor? You are not bad, kid!" laughed Nel before twisting his waist to the side as he swung his iron mace toward Owen.

Despite how fast it was, Owen was still able to respond with it given his innate trait, his 'Extreme Senses' Talent which now evolved and became 'Super Sensitivity' inside the game.

It was a peak-class talent that was almost in a similar league as Shin's 'Ultra Instincts' and Arthur's 'Pinnacle Omniscience'.

With its help, Owen was able to quickly activate two of his defensive skills before the iron mace came in contact with his shield.

'Warrior Skill: Steel Body'

'Guardian Knight Skill (Tier 2): Bulwark'

Boom!

(-45,042)

He managed to nullify most of the force behind that attack, making it to only be pushed to the side and drew a trail on the ground as his feet slid on it.

But despite that being the case, the damage that he suffered was still on a similar scale to the previous attack that he just withstood earlier.

Nel was about to follow up with another attack before Owen could restore his health back to full. But before he could even make it, he suddenly sensed an intense chill coming from his back.

From the perspective of his senses, a hungry lion seemed to appear behind him and was about to devour him alive.

Grr!

He could also hear a ferocious growl inside his head right after that particular lion revealed its presence.

Without further ado, Nel swiftly spun around and strongly swung his iron mace alongside his actions.

Leonard, who was right behind Nel, quickly abandoned the idea of attacking and instead decided to protect himself.

He swiftly raised his battle axes and crossed them in front of his shoulders. He then planted his feet firmly on the ground and gritted his teeth, bracing himself for the incoming impact.

Bang!

(-56,234)

Just like what happened to Owen, he was only pushed to the side as he was fully prepared for the attack. But at the same time, a massive chunk of his HP was also sacrificed during the process.

At the very least, Black Hand and Cloe were more than enough to restore their HP Bars back to their healthy state.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Bang! Bang!

It was at this moment when the spells from Charlotte came. They landed on Nel's body as he was fully occupied with Owen and Leonard.

The damage that they deal was quite minimal since Nel was currently under the protection of his Aura Armor.

But Charlotte was not bothered by it as her goal was to only hinder Nel's movements. On top of that, she was also planning to slowly stack the special effects of her spells, especially the freezing effects of her ice elemental spells.

Nel also sensed it and frowned his brow a little. He might be an undead now, but he was not entirely immune to these types of effects, especially when it came from an Elven Sage, a Transcendent Class of the Elven Race.

"This is going to be a little tricky," muttered Nel as he turned toward the direction where the spells were coming from.

He then turned his gaze back to Owen and Leonard who were now right in front of him and blocking his path, right after noticing his actions of turning to Charlotte and the rest.

He then started grinning widely. "It is troublesome but that is also where the exciting part comes from it!"

Chapter 936 The Vanguard King And The Archer King (Part 4)

...

As Leonard and the others were fighting Nel, Shin was rushing towards the place that Ara and Alucard had indicated. They were heading over to the place where the other boss monster was located.

Shin, who was far ahead of the others, was currently wearing a deep frown on his face. Aside from the first arrow that the archer had sent earlier, which practically revealed their major location, they didn't launch any other attack.

Shin was suspecting that the other side purposely sent that arrow to let the group become aware of their presence. It also seemed like they were telling the group to come at them and they would be waiting.

Swoosh!

Not long after, Shin got out of the forest and reached the top of the hill that they were climbing. And right after he arrived at that place, he immediately spotted the man sitting on top of a huge rock, seemingly waiting for them patiently.

Sensing his presence, that person turned to Shin and slightly nodded his head. "You're finally here."

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Not long after, Arthur, Ara, and Alucard started to arrive one after another and stood right beside Shin.

"That is the guy?" said Arthur while knitting his brow. Just like Shin, he also had his suspicions, but it looked like this person was indeed waiting for their arrival.

On the other hand, Shin quickly used his 'True Sight' Skill to take a look at the information of their current opponent.

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[Monster Name]: Archer King Caelum

Monster Level: 175

Monster Rank: King Class Monster (Bordering Emperor Class)

Bloodline/ Race: (Undead) Fallen Human

HP: 20,000,0000,0000/20,000,000,000

Threat Level: Disaster Class (S+ Rank)

Historical Note: The best of the Archer and one of the commanding generals of the Dragon Knight Army led by Grand Marshal Draco.

He was known to be the most skilled archer in his time before he got cursed by the Goddess of Frost. He was trapped within the Frozen Kingdom since that time.

He was extremely loyal to Grand Marshal Draco and became one of his closest aides.

And due to the contract that the grand marshal had with the First Vampire, the Vampire Lord Dracula, they managed to retain their sanity despite being one of the people who received the worst curse.

---

Just like Nel, the Vanguard King, who was currently fighting against Leonard and the others, the person standing a distance away from them was one of the most trusted aides of the said grand marshal.

Aside from their respective class and amount of Hit Points, there was not much difference between the two.

Shin and the others didn't rejoice despite seeing this guy having a much lesser amount of Health Bar. It was because they knew what kind of strength this guy was going to have.

If the Vanguard King Nel, who they had met earlier, possessed an unimaginable strength and insane defense, then, as the Archer King, this Caelum would definitely have unrivaled speed and powerful attacks.

Hu~!

Taking a deep breath, Shin started walking forward while saying to Arthur. "Hey, I will be the frontline this time, protect Ara and Alucard while I am trying to catch this guy."

"The heck!? Did you bring me here just to do the boring job again? If I know that this is going to happen, then I should have stayed behind and let Leo be here," complained Arthur as the expression on his face started to grimace.

Shin rolled his eyes when he saw Arthur's reaction. "What did you expect? If I want to catch that guy faster, then I will definitely choose Leo over you, alright?"

"But if we do that, then we are also going to expose these two to danger," added Shin as he pointed at Ara and Alucard. "They might be skilled, but given the strength of our current opponent, there was a high chance of them getting killed by that guy."

"We can't risk their lives like that. As you know, dying here is the same as them failing the quest. And if that happens, then their accounts are going to get deleted."

"Do you now understand why I bring you here?" asked Shin with a glare.

Naturally, Arthur was aware of that. He just didn't want to acknowledge it since it was still a boring job. He just wanted to complain.

"Can't we swap roles then? I will deal with that guy, you protect these two," asked Arthur, not willing to give up yet.

Shin looked at him with a deadpan expression before asking in return. "Do you really think it is possible?"

"Tsk! Alright, alright! I get it. I'll stay behind and protect these two," seeing that there was no hope of changing Shin's arrangement, Arthur could only give up and agree.

On the other hand, Shin turned to Ara and Alucard and instructed. "You guys should know the current strategy that we are going to use. Deal as much damage as you can while I am kept that guy occupied."

"Given his class, we will not try to get near you but instead will only send a couple of shots in your direction."

He then paused for a moment and pointed to Arthur before continuing. "But since this idiot is here to protect you, you guys can relax and focus on dealing more damage. As long as this idiot is on your side, nothing can happen to you."

From the side, Arthur rolled his eyes at Shin and commented. "Hey! Can you tone down your insults a little? I'm right here, you know? I can clearly hear you!"

Unfortunately for him, Shin ignored his words and started walking toward Caelum.

"Sorry, for the wait. We just need to organize ourselves a little," said Shin to the Archer King who remained seated on the huge rock and didn't make any moves up until now.

Shin knew that the AI of this 'monster/NPC' was pretty high, so converging with them should be possible.

And just like what he had expected, Caelum nodded his head and replied. "That is not a problem. We have been trapped in this place for a very long time, maybe decades or even a century, so we can no longer fight to our heart's content anymore."

"So there is no harm waiting for a few more moments if we can finally end this curse cast upon us," he added as he slowly stood up.

Shin then nodded his head before saying. "I would like to hear more about your story, but I have this feeling that it will be unnecessary. As they say, generals of the army talk to each other through the battlefield."

"It is the same for the people who wear the title of a 'Master' as they talk through fighting," he added as he held his sheathed sword a little higher.

Caelum laughed out loud when he heard those words. He then looked at Shin in a new light. "Our Lord is right! You are really familiar with our customs."

"To think that I would hear those words again. I sure bring back some of the forgotten memories," he added as he raised his bow and nocked an arrow on it.

"Shall we?" he said as he pointed the arrow at Shin.

"Gladly!" replied Shin as he assumed a sword-drawing stance.

The atmosphere surrounding them immediately changed right after they took their respective stances.

Despite standing just a few meters away from Shin within a dangerous range, Caelum remained calm.

It was not because he was a monster who had an astronomical amount of hit points. But it was because he was confident that Shin would not be able to touch him despite being in that range.

Hu~!

In the meantime, Shin took a deep breath and calmed his mind. He was planning to use the Reality Manifestation right off the bat.

He might not be able to showcase amazing battle prowess unlike when he was using his other style. But given that he also couldn't neglect this fighting style, he needed to also hone it properly, especially when it was also the style that seemed to compliment his Mentalism the most.

'I might not be able to summon my full power, but it should be enough since our goal is not to defeat this guy but to buy time,' thought Shin before closing his eye.

Boom!

Then an invisible pressure was released from his body right after he opened his eyes. But it only lasted for a brief moment before quickly disappearing.

Looking closely at Shin's eyes, anyone could tell that it was currently glowing with a golden hue. That glow was flowing towards the center of his eyes before dissipating in the air like a scattering smoke.

"Mind Cleansing!" muttered Shin to himself as his mind instantly calmed down and eased all of the useless thoughts. It was one of the calming techniques in his arsenal.

At the same time, his senses suddenly became much sharper than before. There was also the invisible energy surrounding him – it was a formless mana from the air fused with his own mana. He was controlling them as if they were Mental Energy from the real world.

'Spiritual Sense!' he then shouted inside his head as the formless mana around him spread in every direction and covered the area within the 50-meter range.

Hu~!

After that, Shin squatted his hips a little more and stared at his opponent with a pair of eyes full of calmness.

"Now, let's see what I can do with this power."

Chapter 937 Grasping The Ideal Swordsmanship For His Mentalism (Part 1)

...

Taking a deep breath, Shin stared at his opponent, devoid of emotion.

Unlike when he was using the Ying-Yang Swordsmanship under the state of Reality Manifestation, his current style was pretty much incomplete, so it was better to throw every useless thought at the back of his head and put all of his focus on this battle.

And since he didn't have proper swordsmanship for this particular style, he was planning to use the variety of skills from his arsenal, especially the ones from his Class Fighting Style, the sword-drawing arts.

He could also use the other Mentalism Techniques that he created in the real world, which were also inspired by his in-game skills.

As for the form of energy that would replace the Mental Energy, the surrounding Mana and the one that was present within Shin's body was more than enough for it.

He might not be as proficient with this energy control compared to when he was using his other style. After all, the powers of the Brilliant Sun and Abyssal Moon were similar to the energies of the Ying-Yang Arts.

Fortunately, his in-game avatar had a great familiarity when it came to the energies within the game.

And since the principle of controlling those energies was similar to the real world, he would not have much problem applying some of his Mentalism Techniques inside the game, especially with the help of Reality Manifestation.

At the same time, the formless Mana that he spread in the surroundings established an invisible dome-shaped barrier.

This technique was the product of his current state and the 'Sensing Circle' Territorial Skill.

It was different from the 'Zone' Skill that he previously created. The Skill was from the combination of the 'False Territory' of Martial Artist and 'Spiritual Sense' of a Mentalist.

It was a special technique that was purely derived from Mentalism.

As Shin was adjusting his senses for his current state, Caelum pointed the loaded arrow forward while infusing it with a lot of Mana.

And even if his eyes were fully locked on Shin, his other senses were observing Ara and Alucard who were currently aiming at him.

Those two were already focused on their aims and fully ready to fire their respective shots, but they were not confident about landing a hit on their target despite Caelum being stationary.

Then, all of a sudden, Caelum released the arrow from his bow, sending it to Shin.

That arrow spun in the air as it was traveling toward Shin, creating a spiral flow of mana on its path.

The speed of that arrow was so fast as it could reach Shin within an instant, especially with the short distance between them.

But despite that being the case, Shin remained calm. He focused his eyes on the incoming arrow as it approached him with its insane speed.

That spinning arrow seemed to slow down from his perspective. Its speed decreased even further the moment when it reached the invisible barrier surrounding Shin.

Taking a deep breath, Shin pulled out the sword from its sheath before swinging forward.

Shing!

The blade of the sword was blazing with a brilliant white flame as it moved toward the incoming arrow.

'Class Fighting Style: (Modified) Quick Draw: Flash Strike'

It was the same modified version of his Class Fighting Style Skill, but the speed, power, and accuracy that it had were much faster compared to what it was before.

It was because this particular execution was done under the state of Reality Manifestation.

Then his blazing sword cut through the incoming arrow and split it into halves.

And alongside it, the power that accompanied that shot diminished within an instant.

It was also at that moment when Ara and Alucard made their moves.

Swoosh!

Bang!

Ara released the loaded arrow from her bow. Then it flew toward Caelum at extreme speed, leaving a light trail in the air.

'Guardian of the Forest Skill: Power Shot'

On the other hand, a sphere of Mana was formed at the tip of Alucard's gun. And right after he pulled the trigger, when the magic bullet was released from the barrel, that Mana sphere was pieced and popped like a balloon.

It started shrinking like a crumpled paper as it wrapped into the magic bullet.

'Devil Hunter Skill: Slaying Bullet'

And just like the arrow that Ara had sent, this particular shot also left a trail of light in the air.

At the time when Shin split the arrow sent by Caelum, those attacks were already upon their target.

Those were a pair of perfectly timed attacks set to be released when Caelum was not able to dodge.

But Caelum would not be the Archer King if he fell on such an obvious ploy.

Right after he released the arrow earlier, he quickly hopped backward and slid. And due to those actions, he managed to dodge those attacks and did not even let either of them graze his body.

Bang!

That was also the moment when Shin made his move. He stomped on the ground and launched himself forward, reaching their opponent in almost an instant.

And right after he appeared in front of Caelum, he quickly swung the blazing sword downward.

'Slayer Skill: (Modified) Solar Cut'

It was another in-game skill, but just like the previous Class Fighting Style Skill that he used, this particular skill exceeded the maximum limit it was supposed to have.

Seeing that it was already too late to dodge, Caelum chose to face that attack head-on. He shook his bow with a quick flick of his arm, summoning a pair of blades on each end of his bow.

Then he used the limb of the bow to block the incoming strike.

Cling!

After that, he pulled his arm backward and skillfully angled the blade attached to one of the ends of his bow toward Shin. And with a quick press of his other hand, he tried to strike his opponent with that blade.

Those movements were executed by Caelum pretty smoothly, making it impossible for Shin to counterattack. And due to that, he was forced to take a step back and retreat.

Bang!

Swoosh!

Then another support fire came from the pair in the distance, covering Shin once again and making sure that he was not going to be vulnerable during his retreat.

But just like earlier, Caelum showcased his basic yet effective foot technique once again. He used the momentum to turn around, dodging the magic bullet with a very small margin. And quickly after that, when he was back to facing Shin sideways, he suddenly kicked the ground to propel himself backward and avoided the arrow following closely after the previous attack.

With those series of movements, not only he dodged the incoming attacks, but he also created enough space between Shin and himself once again. Moreover, he was already in the most ideal position to continue his attack.

His left hand and arm flickered a couple of times while his other arm one where he was holding his bow moved back and forth, matching those flickering movements.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

That was when Shin found himself in a predicament where all of the possible escape routes that he could have been entirely covered by a group of arrows sent by Caelum.

But despite being caught in such a predicament, Shin remained his composure and calmly responded to it.

The brilliant energy covering the [Yamato] suddenly transformed into another form of energy that carried the power of extreme coldness.

After that, he suddenly swung his sword in the air in front of him multiple times before five vertical sword waves were produced right after he completed those actions. They moved in a cone-shaped formation as they continue moving forward.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

'Slayer Skill: (Modified) Crescent Cleave'

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The magic arrows heading toward Shin were instantly obliterated right after they came in contact with the tall sword waves that he sent to face them.

But didn't let his guard down despite seeing those movements. Instead, he quickly sheathed his sword and infused it with the power of Abyssal Moon.

Click!

And with a soft clicking sound, he pulled the sword out from its scabbard and pointed it forward with a strong flick of his wrist before releasing all of the accumulated powers that it had.

'Class Fighting Style: Eclipse Dragon Draw'

Roar!

The energy that was released from the sword immediately transformed into a ferocious dragon and flew straight ahead, following closely behind the sword waves that were sent first earlier.

Boom!

It was when a powerful beam of light obliterated the sword waves and collided with the head of the black dragon.

Just like Shin was trying to hide his move under the cover of his vertical sword waves, Caelum did the same thing and prepared a powerful skill before Shin could even complete his scheme.

But even if his plan failed, Shin didn't get disheartened as he could feel something after he executed those series of attacks.

He might still be far from it, but he was sure that he was getting closer to the goal that he was trying to achieve – to find an ideal sword art that could complement his current Mentalism Techniques.

"Let's try it one more time!"

Chapter 938 Grasping The Ideal Swordsmanship For His Mentalism (Part 2)

...

Swoosh!

Two figures were dashing on top of a mountain within the Frozen Kingdom. One of them was moving backward while firing arrow after arrow toward the other person who was currently in hot pursuit.

At times, there were some explosions as the powerful attacks of each side were clashing with each other.

Swoosh!

Shin was keeping the pressure on Caelum not letting the Archer King do any big moves. He would also catch up on the latter and engaged in a melee exchange.

This was what surprised Shin, despite being an archer, Caelum was able to showcase a pretty good performance in a melee battle. The movements that the latter were showing were similar to an assassin when they were forced to engage in a frontal confrontation.

Moreover, Caelum would also find a couple of situations where he could fire a powerful shot at Shin at point-blank range.

If not for him being fully ready for such scenarios, then he would have already been killed a couple of times earlier.

Aside from that, there were also Ara and Alucard who were constantly firing their skills whenever an opportunity presented itself. Their timely support was giving Shin a lot of breathing space despite fighting such a strong opponent.

But those two were not safe either as Caelum would always find a window where he could fire a couple of skills in their direction. Some of those attacks were even more powerful than what he was using when facing Shin.

There was even an instance when those two almost thought that they were going to die as one of those powerful skills from Caelum was strong enough to obliterate their surroundings.

Fortunately, Arthur was there to protect them. Despite the complaints that he had and the continuous grumbling that he was showing from time to time, he was actually doing a pretty good job.

With him around, none of the attacks that Caelum sent in their direction were able to harm the two. It didn't matter how strong it was, Arthur would always have a way to block those attacks with ease.

Just like that, the battle continued. Shin and the others were even able to land a couple of hits to Caelum, chipping away his Health Bar slowly but steadily.

At the same time, Shin was also using this opportunity to hone his current style and make himself familiar with it under the state of Reality Manifestation.

He might not be able to summon his real Mentalism Techniques in this battle due to the lack of suitable energies to properly execute them, but he found a way to synergize this style with the energy control of his Mentalism.

Normally, Shin would not risk honing his skills in this kind of situation, especially when they were facing such a powerful opponent.

But since their current job was to just buy enough time for their reinforcement to arrive, Shin thought that it was worth the try.

Moreover, Caelum was mainly an archer, so Shin would mostly not have a problem. As long as he stayed close to the opponent and did not give the Archer King enough time to prepare the big moves, then he would be fine.

Just like this, Shin continued to familiarize himself with the current method that he found. And with the help of the energy control of his Mentalism, the energy attacks that he could use inside the game reached another height. They exceeded the limits they were supposed to have.

It was the same for the skills under his Class Fighting Style. Not only he found executing those skills much smoother, but they also felt more natural whenever he was using them.

Shin couldn't explain the feeling clearly, but he felt that something within him was slowly being freed and awakened. It seemed like he was starting to remember something but he couldn't bring himself to what exactly was it since the feeling was too vague at the moment.

Having those thoughts in mind, Shin continued to attack Caelum with a rapid succession of skills, not caring about their cooldown time.

He was afraid that if he paused even for a moment, he would lose that feeling altogether. So, all he could do for now was to continue what he was doing for him and not forget what it was.

This situation continued for a few more moments until Shin suddenly fell into a trace.

His mind seemed to have forgotten everything as the world around him suddenly became dark. What was left in that world was his opponent, his comrades, and himself.

He kept repeating the movements that were done up until now while also not forgetting about Ara and Alucard.

He might have lost himself inside his own world at the moment but he didn't forget to take the movements of those two into consideration as they might accidentally hit him if he dove too deeply into this dark world.

Then he discovered that his body seemed to be moving on its own. They were repeatedly doing the actions that he was doing up until now without his brain giving the order to do them.

It was also at this moment when he had the time to observe the movements of energies within his body. Or to be more precise, he could see how he was subconsciously moving those energies up until now.

He was not using the methods under the 'Four Symbol Scripture' since he didn't have the ideal energies to execute them properly. It was completely different when he was using the Yin-Yang Arts since the powers of the Brilliant Sun and Abyssal Moon perfectly complement it.

At this moment, Shin was currently using the Jade Kirin Scripture to control the energies within him and use it as the base when executing the skills that he was currently using.

Looking closely at them, he found out that those energies were not flowing properly. It seemed like they were being restrained by something. Due to that, the energies within his body were flowing unsteadily.

The power of the Brilliant Sun was flowing violently which made it very unstable and hard to control, especially because of the scorching energy that it was carrying. On the other hand, the power of the Abyssal Moon was flowing in a very slow manner due to the cold energy that it had.

It was very different when he was using his Yin-Yang Arts since it had an energy control that was perfect for each of them.

Seeing that, Shin instantly realized that it was the reason why he couldn't showcase the real potential power of his sword-drawing style.

It might be because of those skills being created based on those two major energies. And this became the obstacle that stopped his Class Fighting Style to reached its peak. It was also the reason why he was unable to reach the same level when he was using his other style of swordsmanship.

"The sword-drawing style is supposed to focus on quick attacks. It is meant to kill the opponent without them knowing what killed them."

"Its main attribute should be speed and precision. But since both the powers of the Brilliant Sun and Abyssal Moon were not perfect for it, I am unable to showcase its real potential."

"The power of the Brilliant Sun was strong and violent while the power of Abyssal Moon was sharp and silent which also carries the hint of passivity."

While Shin was thinking about this, a bold thought suddenly flashed through his mind. "What if I removed all of the energies that I carry and leave the original mana behind?"

When he thought about this, his body which was now currently in a trance state immediately executed that idea.

His body stopped converting the mana that he absorbed from the surroundings to the powers of the Brilliant Sun and Abyssal Moon. Despite absorbing still absorbing the surrounding mana, he left its original properties and let it flow within his body.

It was then he saw a sudden change. The energies within his body were flowing much faster and smoother compared to earlier. They were now flowing in a more natural way.

Then he tried using one of his skills with the use of this mana.

He controlled the mana within his body according to the Jade Kirin Scripture and gathered them at the sheathed sword, preparing himself to execute a skill.

That was when he noticed something strange.

The skill that he was trying to use was the 'Quick Draw' as the main base of the sword-drawing skills under his arsenal, this was the only one that didn't need a particular element when he was executing it.

That was unless he was purposely modifying the skill with his other elements which would change the property of the skill itself.

But at this moment, the energy within him seemed to take the initiative to change itself. Or to be more precise, the Jade Kirin Scripture seemed to convert the original mana that he absorbed into the most optimal element for the skill.

It transformed the supposedly Elementless Mana into the Wind Elemental Mana!

"Eh? What the hell just happened!?"

Shin was completely caught off-guard by the entire process and couldn't understand what was going on.

Unfortunately for him, he didn't have the time to dwell on that question as Caelum was already preparing a powerful skill.

Without putting much thought into it, Shin unsheathed the sword just like he had been doing all the time.

Shing!

But this time, he felt something different. The sword that he was pulling out from the scabbard seemed to fly out from it as his arms drew an arc in the air with a fluid motion.

And on top of all of that, this particular attack was much faster than any skill execution that he had since the time he created this particular skill.

"What!?"

Moreover, the attack landed on his opponent before he could even process everything. It was much faster than it was supposed to be.

And adding more to his confusion, the damage that it dealt was also much stronger than what it was supposed to have.

(-20,234,224)

"Holy! What did I just do!?"

Chapter 939 Adjustments

.....

"What the f-...!?"

Arthur couldn't help but cursed out loud when he saw the huge number pop out above the head of Caelum as well as a significant amount of the Health Bar being chunked alongside it.

It was not he couldn't deal that kind of damage, but he needed to use his Secret Fusion Skill, the combination of his Elemental Dragon Fusion and Class Fighting Style, on top of being in the state of Reality Manifestation, to achieve a similar result.

But from what he could see, Shin was not in that state. He might be in a special state under the Reality Manifestation but the skill that he just used was definitely only one of his Class Fighting Style without having influence from the Elemental Spirit Possession.

"Looks like there is more mystery in the Reality Manifestation than what he learned," muttered after seeing what just happened.

He was not angry or jealous of what Shin had done. Instead, he felt more excited from what he just witnessed. This could only mean that they could still grow much stronger than they were right now.

On second thought, it was pretty natural. After all, they only learned about the Reality Manifestation just recently, so it was not strange for them not to know everything about it.

Thinking about that, Arthur couldn't help but want to try a few more things in battle. Unfortunately, he was not in a position to do as he pleased.

"Eh!? Yeah, there is also that!" Arthur paused his thoughts for a moment as he suddenly remembered something. He then looked at the certain panel from the corner of his eyes, looking at a particular quest that he received earlier.

"Tsk! Well, I still have to wait until all of this was over," he muttered before focusing his gaze on Shin and Caelum once again.

In the meantime, Ara and Alucard were able to over his soft words when he was murmuring to himself.

"Reality what?" said Ara with a confused look on her face.

"It sounds interesting~!" muttered Alucard with a mysterious grin. He might not have heard it clearly but he was sure that it was somewhat related to what Shin just did.

He was also curious about what it was, but he was not in a hurry. He was now part of the Empyrean Talons, so he would learn more about it soon or later. All he needed to do was be patient and wait for Shin and the others to disclose it to them.

After that, they resumed supporting Shin from the distance with their respective skills.

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In the meantime, somewhere within the Frozen Kingdom, Immortal was currently wearing a heavy expression on his face.

It was because he discovered that he lost his link with the Teleportation Formation that was set up earlier. He was not sure what caused it to happen but he somewhat had an idea of who was responsible for it.

He wanted to personally head over there and see for himself what exactly happened. But given their current situation, he obviously couldn't leave Justin and the rest of the Silent Night.

This greatly frustrated him. If something happened to the teleportation formation, then he no longer had a contingency plan that would please the elders of the Corrupted Cult. He didn't have a choice but

to complete their real purpose of coming here and made sure that the Empyrean Talons would fail their Empire Quest.

But after he swept his gaze at the members of the Silent Night and saw their current state, he knew that their chances of succeeding were very slim.

Having that thought in mind, he quickly sent one of his elite undead monsters over to the place where he set up the Teleportation Formation. He first needed to confirm what happened before making some adjustments to his plans.

Not long after, he was immediately informed that the place was currently being protected by multiple formations.

Hearing that, Immortal could only raise his head, and close his eyes as it pretty much confirmed his suspicions.

"I've been read like an open book," he muttered to himself as he now understood what exactly happened.

"It is indeed the real reason why those guys forced me to be isolated away from the rest during the fight earlier. It is also why that person was not present in that battle."

"He was aiming for the Teleportation Formation from the very start!" Immortal took another look at the events that took place earlier and learned the reason why the Empyrean Talons didn't give everything they have in the earlier battles.

If the Empyrean Talons wanted it, they could directly kill Immortal when he was separated from the rest of the group but that didn't happen.

They could also weaken Silent Night even further by eliminating as many members as possible but they also didn't do it.

"They didn't kill me because they are using my aura to locate the exact location of the Teleportation Formation. Zero might have played a role in it since he is familiar with the Dark Faction Players of the game after pursuing us persistently."

"As for the rest, they make sure to keep the members of the Silent Night busy, so that they would be able to gain control over that Teleportation Formation."

Now that Immortal thought about it, it seemed like they acted exactly like what the other side had expected.

"Hah! We have been dancing in their palms from the very start," Immortal could only shake his head and smile bitterly when he realized what happened.

"If only those guys from the Earners Mercenary Group work with us, then this is not going to happen," he added with full annoyance.

But when he thought about it, he couldn't help but overthink once again. "Or did that guy already put in in consideration?"

After his first encounter with Shin, Immortal couldn't help but feel that just met his archnemesis. His recent setbacks were all caused by that person.

Then his thoughts suddenly paused for a moment as he recalled his first meeting with Shin. Compared to all of his encounters with that person, that first meeting was the one that gave him the most impression.

...- especially at their final exchange. Or to be more exact, the magic that 'Shin' had showcased during that time.

"How should I put it? It seems like I met two people at the same time," he muttered with a solemn voice.

The more he thought about it, the odder it was. But after their next encounters, he could no longer feel that strange feeling. "Is it just my imagination?"

\*Ding!\*

While Immortal was currently lost in his thoughts, he was suddenly interrupted by a repeated sound from the system, indicating that someone was currently contacting him.

Knitting his brows, he looked at the person who was calling him. He started at it for a couple of moments before answering.

"What is it? Have you finished your job?" he greeted with a hint of sarcasm.

- "I don't have time to argue, so I will get straight to the point. Let's work together," said the person from the other side of the time which was clearly Flouree.

"Hoh~! Why? Did you just realize that you bite more than what you can chew?" replied Immortal not removing his sarcastic tone.

There was a slight pause before Flouree replied. "We have been hit by both the Pandemonium Descendants and Zero."

This time, Immortal was the one who took a pause as he was trying to process what he just heard. And after confirming that he didn't hear wrong, he finally asked. "Are they working together?"

"We don't know about that since they were separate attacks. But we can't still rule out the possibility since we can't always be sure," replied Flouree with a heavy tone.

"So, how much did you suffer? Do you lose too many members?" asked Immortal as he couldn't help but turn his gaze at the members of the Silent Night.

If the Earners Mercenary Group lost too many members, then there was not a single chance for them to fight the Empyrean Talons who also had Zero, Faker, and Lawless on their side.

Fortunately, Flouree's reply was much better than the worst-case scenario. "Four, we've lost four of our members in total."

But at the same time, she also excluded the fact that she was currently in an extremely weakened state. They might be working together, but she still couldn't trust Immortal, who was infamous for creating powerful undead monsters by killing powerful players.

After all, Immortal was still a member of the Corrupted Cult, so she would never give him her full trust, especially when they were only working with each other due to a contract.

Having no idea what Flouree was thinking, Immortal slightly nodded his head and agree. "That shouldn't be bad. I'll give you the coordinates, meet us in there before we make an adjustment to our plans."

"But you also have to hurry since those guys seemed to have continued their quest while we are currently recuperating from our losses," he added with a heavy tone.

Then he ended the call right after sending the coordinates. And after a brief pause, he turned to Justin and the others before muttering to himself. "Looks like I also have to adjust my original plans."

"I will no longer have any power within the cult after all of this was over. I guess I have to look for a new place where I can develop my research."

Chapter 940 The Jade Kirin Scripture (Part 1)

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Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

A series of wind-splitting sounds could be heard as a group of players arrived at the battlefield where Leonard and the others were fighting.

"It looks like we are a bit late. It already started," said Lawless when he saw the battle up ahead of them.

He squinted his eyes for a moment and saw that the opponent that the others currently had possessed an astronomical amount of Health. "But it seems like we didn't miss everything."

"Let's go!" he then urged the three accompanying him to join the rest.

...

Swoosh!

Hearing the rushing sound coming from a distance, Black Hand and the rest couldn't help but put their guard further up, getting ready for an ambush. But they immediately relaxed a little when they saw that the group coming at them was Lawless, Faker, Zero, and Seven.

The four slaughtered all of the fallen knights on their path as they made their way to the group.

"You're finally here," the first one to greet them was Cloe followed by Black Hand and then the rest.

"What is the situation? And where is Brother Sh-... I mean Sickarius and the others?" asked Lawless as he got in position alongside the other three.

"That guy over there is one of the generals of the army. He is a very tough guy. He has an unbelievable defense and a powerful offensive power," answered Black Hand as he was the one who was currently in the commanding position.

The rest were currently busy executing his orders, so they didn't have the time to reply to Lawless at the moment.

Black Hand paused for a moment before continuing. "As for Sickarius and the rest, they are currently fighting another general in another location. Their opponent is supposedly a marksman, an archer to be exact."

"And it seems like we have to defeat this guy that archer to force the real boss to make their appearance," he added before shouting at the others. "It is coming again! Brace yourselves on impact!"

Lawless and the other three, who just joined them, were slightly taken aback at the sudden shout. But at the same time, they quickly complied.

It was then they saw Cloe raise her staff in the air, summoning a huge translucent barrier around the group.

At the same time, Lawless also saw Nel swing his iron mace in their direction.

Boom!

Then a powerful force was created right after those actions. The shockwave flew straight to the group, obliterating everything in their path.

Fortunately, the barrier that Cloe had summoned negated most of the impact, making them survive that ordeal. But at the same time, Lawless and the others felt an intense tremor in the ground and forcing them to have an unsteady footing.

When everything was over, Lawless couldn't help but look at Nel solemnly. "It is indeed a powerful attack."

"It is still fine. He can only use it once every 5% of his health bar is lost," said Black Hand after raising his staff and casting a few Heals to Owen and Leonard who were currently fighting Nel.

After that, he turned to Lawless and the others. "Anyways, we also have to send a few people to the other group. Given the strength that this guy had, it shouldn't be strange for the other guy to be on a similar level."

"Right!" responded Lawless solemnly.

"Given that we need to send the fastest people over there, Faker and Zero should be perfect for the role," said Black Hand before adding a little. "And since their opponent over there is a marksman, the two of them can only be our choice."

He took another pause to look at Lawless. "As for your job, care to help those two in the frontlines? They may be doing a good job on the surface, but they are actually enduring the most pressure at the moment."

"Seven can help us fend off the remaining fallen knights. That guy Chaotic Luck is also about to finish restoring his Mana Pool back to full, so he can summon a few more Solaris Soldiers later," he added as he replenished the buffs cast on the others.

"Sounds good to me," said Lawless as he quickly sprung into action.

He quickly activated the bloodline power of his special class and headed over to the frontline to give Leonard and Owen a helping hand.

"Then we are also going," said Faker after looking at the coordinates that Shin had sent on the party chat channel.

"Alright!" said Zero before also leaving the formation.

Naturally, those two didn't forget to clear a few more fallen knights along the way as well as dealing some significant damage to Nel.

\*\*\*\*\*

Boom!

Bang! Bang!

Swoosh!

In the meantime, Arthur couldn't help but look at Shin in the distance with a strange gaze. It was not because Shin had done something outrageous like the one earlier, but because of the current style that he was using.

Arthur already had an idea that Shin was trying to familiarize himself with his current style while he was in the state of Reality Manifestation, especially when he saw Shin trying a couple of moves that seemed to be inspired by his Mentalism Techniques.

He also knew that Shin was more proficient using his Martial Arts when he was inside the game. It was mostly because he had suitable swordsmanship to complement that style and perfect energies to properly support it.

But it was a little different when it came to his Class Fighting Style. Unlike Arthur who purposely created the series of skills under his Class Fighting Style based on his Martial Arts, Shin created his set of skills out of whim.

Or at least, that was what he heard.

Shin created that sword-drawing skill after a sudden thought in his mind together with the current circumstance that he had during that time.

These were the reasons why Arthur believed that Shin would be having a hard time using his Class Fighting Style Skills when in the state of Reality Manifestation. Shin didn't have the set of skills or techniques from the real world to complement his sword-drawing art inside the game.

Or at least, that was how it was supposed to be.

But at this current moment, Arthur was no longer sure if it was really the case. It was because what he was currently witnessing was very different from what he was expecting.

"Just what did this bastard do?"

...

Shin was still in a strange trance when he was fighting Caelum. And during their battle, discovered something strange. The more he fought, the more natural his movements became.

Of course, it was a natural occurrence since he was trying to get used to his current style as he continued to use it.

Even though he couldn't showcase its full potential when he was in the state of Reality Manifestation, he still used this style for quite some time inside the game, so it was natural for him to achieve such a result.

But as the battle progressed and as he became more accustomed to his current style, the stranger he felt.

Instead of 'finding' suitable swordsmanship, it felt more like he was 'remembering' something.

He was not entirely sure about it, but at least that was what he felt at the moment.

Aside from that, he also discovered something about the 'Jade Kirin Scripture'.

At first, it was supposedly a Mentalism Method that would help him suppress the 'demon' within the 'seed of hatred'. It also carried a calming technique that could keep his mentality in check and tell him whether he was in the right state of mind when whenever the 'seed' showed some signs of getting out of control.

Then it became a method that would help him wield both his Martial Arts and Mentalism at the same time. Even though it was somewhat vague, it also showed him the potential of being able to fuse the two disciplines together.

A little later, it also helped him and Grandmaster Benn linked the four styles of the 'Four Symbol Scripture' more smoothly. It was also the major reason why Shin was able to become very proficient in using the Mentalism Runes during the battle.

And earlier, he discovered that the Energy Circulation Method that it had was able to convert the energies that he had into the most suitable energy that he needed for a particular move.

And then, at this very moment, Shin learned that this Mentalism Method had a set of sword techniques hidden within it.

Moreover, those sword techniques complemented the sword-drawing style he had.

The more Shin looked into the 'Jade Kirin Scripture' and the deeper his understanding he had about this particular Mentalism Method, the more mysterious it seemed to him.

And right now, as Shin became a little more familiar with the 'Jade Kirin Scripture', he used the Energy Circulation Method alongside the set of sword techniques under it to finally achieve something that he was to do.

Hu~!

Taking a deep breath, Shin assumed a sword-drawing stance as he combined everything that he learned about the 'Jade Kirin Scripture' up until now.

Click!

Then a soft clicking sound could be heard as his thumb pushed the guard of the [Yamato]. At the same time, his right arm vibrated a little, following the sound that reverberate in the whole place.

Then something happened that made Shin flash a satisfied look on his face.

"Hah! I see now. So, that is how it is supposed to be used. Interesting~!"