## Gacha 124

## 124 Alex vs Edmund

With the Pure Fire blazing around his body, with a sword in his right hand and with a spear in his left hand. He smiled, "It's time for round two"

"Wha- what is that flame?" Edmund was startled when he saw Alex flame suddenly become fiercer. "Begone. Dark Flame, swallow everything!"

A snake shape dark flame charged toward Alex. Alex only smirked. "Dark Flame huh... A flame that corroded the body and swallow their energy. Thus enhancing the user power. That is the reason why you need to kill so many innocent people."

"Shut up. They should be proud to become a sacrifice for me, the only rank 9 in the world"

Alex shook his head. He raised two of his fingers up to his chest. He swung it horizontally. "Fire Phoenix Art. First Stage. Summon Phoenix"

A phoenix comes from his finger, it's flying toward the black snake. A clashed between Red Phoenix and Black Snake.

Sadly, the battle ended in an instant.

"What? No way. Is there really no hope to deal with that flame?" Dean Marco looked desperately at the clash. He knows perfectly how powerful a Pure Fire element. But, that flame...

The clash between Red Phoenix and Black Snake in the sky, the winner is Black Snake. The Black Snake swallows the Red Phoenix. Although after swallowing the red phoenix, inside the belly of the black snake glowing a bright red light. It becomes dimmer as the time pass before it completely disappears. All people lost hope in Alex's side lost hope. There is really no way to counter that flame.

"Haha, you might startle me a bit with your flame. But your flame can't defeat my Dark Flame"

Alex smirked. "Is that so?"

As he said those words, the bright red color suddenly starts glowing again, it becomes brighter and brighter. The snake suddenly is in fire. The fire consumes the black snake bit by bit before it completely disappeared.

Back then, he was confused when his teacher told him that he created this technique to be his shield and sword. Finally, right now, he knows the exact reason why his teacher taught him 'Fire Phoenix Art' and the reason behind his words. It was because this technique was tailor-made for Pure Fire Element. Because his teacher also has a pure fire element. He created this technique. It wasn't only to conceal his 'Pure Fire Element' with 'Fire Phoenix Seed'. If the one who uses this technique uses his Pure Fire. Just like its name, Phoenix.

"Cry!" A loud phoenix cry was heard on the battlefield. The phoenix that all people thought extinguished, suddenly reborn, like the legend. It extinguished the Black Snake from within and flying toward Edmund.

"Pure Fire Element. But others might also call it, Absolute Flame. In front of Absolute Flame, All fire bow down. you want to extinguish an Absolute Flame with your puny flame? You can't. just like a phoenix that keep reborn continuously. You can't extinguish the Absolute Flame" Alex said, "Go"

"What?" Edmund was shocked. He immediately makes a big ball shield that covers him inside it. "Dark Flame Shield"

The Phoenix engulfed the big ball instantly.

"Boom!"

The crowds were anxious. Especially the Zircodina side, they were really worried at this moment. When the smoke was cleared. They saw Edmund holding his left hand in the air. Although his left hand still usable, it was burned by Alex pretty badly.

Edmund was angered, now that he experienced it himself. He knew Alex's element. It was in the record, the one who defeated the one who holds this power is..."You have the same element as him. The one who defeated the previous holder of this Dark Flame and ascend from this world. But! It was because he was weak, even if your flame can fight my Dark Flame, but you are only a rank 8 while I'm a rank 9. If I give you a time to grow, you might become a treat for me. I will kill you here"

After he said that, he disappeared. Alex raised his sword. Edmund suddenly appeared in front of him and swung his sword down.

"That is...Sword intent" Alex forgot about this. There is no way a powerful warrior like him not to have a Sword Intent. He clad his sword with Sword Intent too, "Immovable Step"

To counter Edmund's attack, he needs to use 'Immovable Step'. After all, Edmund is originally a rank 9 warrior. Alex was pinned down to the ground. Edmund take a few steps back and pointed his finger toward Alex. "Pierce"

He used the same move as when he pierced Leyfon's hand. Alex used his spear and make a thrusting movement. "Luminous Spear Technique. Pierce. Plus Pure Fire"

The usual laser beam like spear technique now charging toward Edmund to meet his attack. But, this time Alex covers it with his Pure Fire. Two techniques clashed each other, Alex's Spear Technique easily destroy Edmund's attack. It pierced Edmund's attack and grazed him in his cheek.

"I see, I now can see how to deal with you"

As he said that, he disappeared again. Alex frowned.

"Sky Movement. Flash Step"

They appeared at the same time in the sky, They clashed their sword at each other. A powerful shockwave birth from the clash shock the battlefield. The leaders from all factions immediately shield their own soldiers from the shockwave.

They clashed each other. The clashed between two sword intent. Alex used his 'Sky Step' and combined it with the other steps such as 'Immovable Step' to counter his power, 'Fleeting Step' to confuse him, 'Flash Step' to counter his speed, or 'Heavy Step' to give a power boost if he attacks from above. After

clashing for more than fifty rounds, Alex finally understood. The opponent in front of him. Even though his attack looks like a frontal and reckless attacks, the truth is different. Edmund used a soft approach in his sword. He was wary of Alex's sword. If he didn't use the soft approach, his sword would be cut to two by Alex's sword. But...as expected of a rank 9 warrior, he still can give a powerful attack using a soft approach.

On the ground, Dean Marco and the rest along with the five leaders watch the intense battle. The dean can't help but smile. "He becomes much stronger again in this short time"

"Centaur Leader, are you sure you want to fight him in his full strength?" Dwarf leader asked. He recalled that the Centaur Leader seems to say something like that back in the throne room.

"Our Centaur loves to fight a powerful person like that. But, if I really fight him now, I don't think I will hold for more than fifty moves, he still has his fire to boot"

In the Holy Kingdom camp, The pope, Sandra, and Maria along with the soldiers were utterly shocked.

"What a shock, a youth less than twenty years old, currently fighting the strongest person, the only rank 9 in the world. And that youth was banished by his own kingdom. What a shame, if that youth come to our Holy Kingdom, it will be a blessing upon us" The pope said as he shook his head.

Maria was dumbfounded. Is that really the youth she met back in the castle? Is that really a useless person on Earth? After almost two years not seeing him, The powerless youth who had lifeless eyes back then currently fighting the strongest person in the world. On the other hand, Sandra can't say anything, she can only look down, her lips trembled, and her eyes burned as she tried to keep her tears at bay. Maria who noticed her current state, hold her tightly.

On the other hand, in the Zircodina camp, the Previous Marshall, who knows Alex the most among Zircodina camp, bitterly shakes his head. If their king won, no matter what the others said, whether he was a mass murderer or tyrannical. They would dare to say that. But, if they lose, not only they would be mocked, their entire kingdom will also be in peril. Even though he didn't agree with the method of the Previous King, he can't help but hope that they won. If not, their kingdom will...

There is another person that angered to the point he was insane. He looked at the youth fighting in the sky. His eyes become bloodshot. 'That ant...that ant, on Earth, he is nothing but an ant to me. But...but..." He was very unwilling to recognize the powerful youth in front of him and he didn't want to recognize that he is the same 'Ant' compared to him.

Alex continue clashing with Edmund. But, after more than a hundred clashes, Edmund starts pressing him, suddenly a gap present in Alex's defense. "Sh\*t"

Edmund took that chance and kick his head with a round kick.

"Boom!"

Alex crashed to the ground. All the people in Acacia side immediately flew to him, but when they just about to go to him, they suddenly heard a groan. But, it wasn't from the ground, instead, it came from the sky. They looked at the sky and found that Edmund clutches his foot in pain. They were confused. Wasn't Alex the one that got kick? Why was Edmund clutches his foot like he is in pain?"

Alex who was crushed on the ground didn't feel pain, he covered his body with mana before he crashed to the ground. But, he was confused. He didn't feel any pain in his head.

"Wuu" Suddenly, he heard Sherry's voice ringing in his head.

With Sherry's sudden appearance, he remembers, he got an SR item called Unbreakable Helmet. He equipped it, though it wasn't visible, the effect is still there. Just like when he tried to punch his foot when he equipped the Safety Shoes. Right now, it is the same. He came to a realization.

'That's right. I didn't fight alone. I still have the system, and I still have...' Alex regained his focus, he stood up and said. "Sherry, I will leave my Fire control to you. I will fight him in close range. Hit him or restrain him with my Fire"

"Wuu Wuu"

Alex smiled. before the smoke cleared because of his crash, he already disappeared. He appeared in front of Edmund and swung his sword down. Edmund immediately raised his sword to block it. But because his current position was at disadvantage, He was blown away and crashed to the ground.

"Elemental Sanguin Sword Art. Elemental Seventh Slash"

After he crashed to the ground, Edmund immediately stood up, "Zircodina Imperial Sword Style. Omni-Slash"

Two sword waves clashed, but surprisingly, the two sword waves were at the same power. They both destroy each other. Although Alex surprised, he immediately reacted, "Sherry"

A barrage of Fire Arrows raining down to Edmund's position. When everyone thought that Alex managed to hit him. Edmund counter the Fire Arrows with his fire. "Though, I can't extinguish your Pure Fire. They can be destroyed as long as they hit a target. I never expected that your head was that hard. But I wonder if all of them was that hard"

Edmund charged toward Alex. They both clashed again. This time, Sherry help him in controlling numerous Fire Arrows to restrict Edmund's movement. Because of that, they come to a standstill. Edmund can't press Alex again. But there is still a difference in power and stamina for Rank 8 and rank 9. Alex's movement starts to slow down and Edmund starts pressing him again.

"Haha, This is the Difference in rank"

"Is that so?" Alex didn't panic even though he begins to be at the disadvantage again. Instead, he felt great. He didn't know why but he felt that he get stronger each time they clashed.

Alex continue clashing with Edmund, "Stronger, Faster, Stronger, Faster"

Even though Alex got suppressed by Edmund and his movement starts to slow down. Alex's movement becomes more precise. His attack holds weightier each time he attacks. He starts to get familiar with this movement. After that, his movement starts becoming faster and faster.

"What?" Edmund was shocked, In this battle, Alex becoming stronger and stronger every time they clashed. In this world where Level is equal to strength. Alex's improvement was out of his expectation. Theirs becomes a standstill once more.

"Stronger, Faster, Stronger, Faster!" That's all in Alex's thought. He raised his sword, suddenly, He felt a warm feeling all over his body. "What is that feeling?"

But because of that feeling, his focus wandered for an instant. But in that instant, Edmund didn't let him go.

"Argh" Alex was cut all over his body by Edmund. Fortunately, it was only superficial wounds.

"Alex!" Dean Marco and the rest wanted to charge toward him, but Alex immediately charged toward Edmund again, he seems to say that he is alright with his action.

Alex follows the warm feeling while fighting Edmund. Edmund raised his sword. "This is why Zircodina is known as a superpower. Zircodina Imperial Sword Style. Last Strike. Ultima"

A tyrannical sword wave made its way toward Alex. This sword wave was far stronger than the previous. Even Alex's Elemental Seventh Slash won't be able to win this sword strike.

Alex didn't panic, on the other hand, he wasn't bothered by this. In his mind, there is only a thought "Stronger, Faster, STRONGER!"

His mana was released from his body. And his Pure Fire gushing out from his body. And in the middle of it, Alex was surprised. It might be because of that wine that he got close to that but finally in this battle, he..."Broke through! Peak Qi Manipulation"

"FASTER!"

"Elemental Sanguin Sword Art. Elemental Eighth Slash"