

The Growth 110

Chapter 110 - 13: Burrowing Insect Civilization (3/5)

Marz World, a world with a highly developed civilization.

The civilization living within it already possesses the ability to transform the world through its own technology.

Bridges spanning the sky and earth connect every city in this world.

Towering steel skyscrapers are everywhere, and giant energy pipelines run through every corner of the world.

Blue skies, white clouds, green mountains, and lush grass...

These natural landscapes, almost neglected in the Mountain and Sea Realm, here become spectacles that only a few high-ranking officials can enjoy.

Upon gazing ahead, the polluted and radioactive elemental black clouds dominate the sky.

Still, these do not affect the civilization living in this world.

Because the race that constitutes the main body of this civilization originally lived underground, the Burrowing Insects.

Due to years of living in the Underworld, even after evolving intelligence and civilization, they have remarkable adaptability to various extreme and harsh environments.

Unfortunately, even the Burrowing Insects who can adapt to harsh environments cannot survive in today's Marz World.

After all, the harsh living conditions are no longer the most dangerous factor in today's Marz World.

The giant sun in the sky has long dimmed, replaced by a huge gap emitting endless dark rays.

It's like an "eye" forcibly inserted into the sky from another world.

The dark gap exudes a terrifying evil aura, enveloping the entire world in an apocalyptic atmosphere.

Those formerly prosperous cities have also become ruins.

The bridges and pipelines connecting the major cities have collapsed and destroyed, and all kinds of creatures' corpses are scattered among them.

Among them are both handless and footless Burrowing Insects, specially modified combat bugs, but more are those monsters from other worlds.

From surrounding traces, it is evident that these creatures must have experienced a brutal war before death.

Either limbs severed by weapons or torsos pierced by ammunition...

Everywhere in sight, there are more corpses burned by flames, exploded by high-energy weapons, or even frozen by ice.

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"Is this... the civilization of the Burrowing Insects?"

Accompanied by a gradually widening Space-Time Rift, Balian, together with twelve Immortals, suddenly appeared in this apocalyptic world.

To explore the current situation of Marz World, a preliminary scouting party is necessary.

Including Balian, these thirteen Immortals are among Immortals who are relatively skilled in combat.

Unless a Divine Incarnation "Saint" descends personally.

Otherwise, these thirteen Ascenders with Immortal Bodies can retreat safely under any circumstances.

"Look, isn't that what Bone Chant refers to as an 'Autonomous Combat Insect'?"

Although seeming careless normally, most Immortals participating in this operation are quite reliable.

For example, the Immortal covered entirely with eyes.

He transformed into his current creepy form full of eyes just to more vividly observe this world during Transformation.

Considering this appearance is truly sanity-draining.

In normal circumstances, this Immortal rarely opens all his eyes at once.

However, not needing to worry about other Immortals' teasing this time, this Immortal opened all his eyes upon arriving in this world.

Then, he saw the giant centipede writhing underground not far away.

Boom...

As if verifying his words, the city already in ruins emitted a roar once more.

The next moment, the ground beneath the Immortals' feet began to crack, and densely woven cracks quickly spread to their location.

"Fly up!"

The pupils contracted sharply, and the twelve Immortals, at Balian's words, took off beforehand.

Hoo!

The raging wind transformed into a force soaring to the sky.

The Exorcism and Demon Control Skill showed its unique side even in this unfamiliar world.

Once the Immortals flew to a certain height, they could clearly see the centipede breaking through the underground.

What centipede!? That is clearly a terrifying war machine wrapped entirely in steel.

"Huh!"

Hundreds of segmented legs exerted force simultaneously.

The centipede forcibly lifted its upper body, revealing its enormous gaping mouth that blends biological and steel traits.

Zoom—Boom!

Instantly, dark high-energy particles radiated tangibly from its mouth.

The nauseating stench emitted iridescent light after clashing with the air briefly.

An unprepared Immortal was melted instantly before realizing what happened, overwhelmed by the intense heat impact.

"Huh!"

Without any pause, the centipede forced its head around, directing this high-energy particle radiation that can melt all matter toward other Immortals.

—High-energy particle projection: Helium-Plutonium composite!

Faced with this scene, Balian instinctively opened the Celestial Eye on his forehead, seeing through the attack's essence.

"Don't breathe!"

"This attack also carries toxic attributes!"

Upon hearing, the Immortals activated their Divine Techniques, fleeing from the centipede's attack range.

"Hey, hey, hey! Don't leave me behind!"

At this moment, the first Immortal killed by the attack just revived but got caught again under the centipede's toxic attack.

"Damn!"

He only managed to curse while soon after rebirth, crashing straight to the ground.

Because this toxic attack is not just about holding one's breath to stop.

Merely encountering the polluted air, each cell in the Immortal's body displayed abnormal decay.

Even possessing an Immortal Body, the Immortal could only watch himself die once again.

Fortunately, Immortals are worthy of the name.

Two successive deaths did not leave too much psychological shadow on him.

Briefly dying, again reborn, the Immortal decisively transformed into a wisp of bluish smoke, slipping into the Underworld through surface cracks.

Since uncovering what happened in this world was one of the mission's objectives from the start.

This is merely advancing the scouting task, which essentially makes little difference.