

With The Gods 131

Chapter 131

Only Lancelot remained in this ruined training grounds. Watching YuWon's back disappear further and further away into the distance, he scratched his chin.

"He didn't even accept my greeting. What a cold guy."

The smile on his face quickly disappeared like dropping a mask.

He turned his gaze to the corpses of Lollit and Thal.

The two knights of the Round Table had failed. And they weren't even low-ranking knights but Rankers that had followed the King of Knights for a considerable amount of time. Even though both of them attacked the same person, they weren't able to win.

'It's my mistake.'

Not two but three. No, he should've sent at least four. That would've made certain to eliminate Kim YuWon. It was his miscalculation thinking that only two would be enough to defeat him.

"How about showing yourself now," he said.

Lancelot turned his head. He could feel a gaze from a fair distance away.

The instant he turned around, an afterimage appeared in front of his eyes.

"You made quite a commotion," an old man with a white beard said.

Merlin looked around his surroundings. The training grounds had become a total mess.

"I was handling the commotion."

Lancelot was respectful to Merlin since not even the "King of Knights" Arthur treated him carelessly.

Even though Lancelot was the king of Britain, there were a decent number of knights who secretly treated Merlin like Arthur. On top of that, he was the strongest High-Ranker in Britain.

Someone like that was watching Lancelot from some distance away.

"So, could I ask why you're here? It's quite late at night."

"The night was too noisy."

"It was because the knights caused a bit of trouble. I hope you understand."

"Understand..."

Merlin stared at Lancelot for a second then waved his hand.

Then...

Rumble—

Crack, crraaack—

The ground was turned over, and the pit in the training grounds began to mend itself. It was intense enough that one would expect an earthquake, but no vibrations could be felt. As if it was all just an illusion, the ground moved silently like it was a painting.

The ground which had suffered some damage due to the battle was settled flat again.

“Sure. Alright.”

Shwooo—

Merlin, who had appeared like a mirage, disappeared from his spot again.

Lancelot looked at his surroundings that had been changed in an instant. The training grounds were returned to their original form in the blink of an eye.

It was truly incredible.

“He’s strong for an old man.”

A deep furrow formed on Lancelot’s forehead.

The Great Magician Merlin. He was the greatest obstacle for Lancelot, the king of Britain. However, as Merlin was a monster who had deep, sturdy roots, there were no methods that Lancelot could think of to displace him.

He looked at the spot where Merlin disappeared.

Now that he thought about it, this was probably the first time in a few years he had met Merlin inside Camelot.

‘Was he watching Kim YuWon?’

There were two reasons Lancelot just let YuWon go. The first was because of the threat of interference by the Administrator, and the second was the existence of Merlin.

Merlin didn’t usually interfere with outside matters. There were only rumors of him maintaining the garden within the castle, passing his time in leisure, so on and so forth.

However, Merlin had started to move as if he had woken up from a slumber.

‘If he really is starting to move...’ Lancelot’s gaze turned towards where YuWon disappeared off, ‘Why is he?’

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YuWon took the path straight to his room.

His injuries weren’t great. It was enough to heal up enough with the medicine and bandages he had in his inventory.

“—Why!”

Vwoong—

Arthur’s voice echoed inside his head.

Just how many times was it now? At this point, a thought of putting Arthur back in 「Kyneē」 came to his mind, even though he had thought to keep him conscious, at least while he was in Britain.

“Then are you telling me to fight him now?”

“—Don’t state the obvi—”

“There would be one of only two outcomes. Either I die a dog’s death, or Lancelot is killed honorably.”

Hearing YuWon’s words, Arthur shut his mouth.

“Which one do you want? Please choose.”

“—That’s...”

He couldn’t pick either option, since he didn’t want either of them. The outcome Arthur wanted for Lancelot wasn’t an ordinary death like that.

An honorable death? That was too luxurious for Lancelot. If he died like that, Britain would erect a statue in his honor, and he would be worshipped by them.

“—Naturally, I can’t let that happen.”

“Then please wait a little longer.”

“—Damn it. Even still...”

“A little.” The look in YuWon’s eyes changed. “You only need to wait just a little.”

Lancelot.

Although he had heard many stories about him, the feeling he felt when in direct confrontation was more than he expected.

‘Disgusting.’

Lancelot was the type of person YuWon hated the most. His words were contradictory, and he never revealed his true feelings. Also, he used the people under him like tools, and when they became useless or did all they needed to do, he got rid of them without remorse.

Thal and Lollit. In the end, they were just throwaways in Lancelot’s hand.

Rip—

YuWon ripped the bandage with his teeth. His hand had swollen quite a bit after having taken Thal’s sword. As he wrapped it with bandages with his other hand, he collected his thoughts.

‘Lancelot moved first.’

YuWon already knew the person behind their actions from the moment the two came to find him, because only the King of Britain, Lancelot, had the power to order the knights of the Round Table.

The problem wasn’t Lancelot. It was the person in Olympus above Lancelot.

‘What is the big picture for Olympus to be aiming for me right now?’

He had obtained the 「Divine Sea Crystal.」 Because of this, Zeus would keep Poseidon in check, and due to Zeus’s interference, Poseidon wouldn’t be able to touch YuWon. Naturally, Zeus wouldn’t be able to make a move in that situation either.

However, Olympus had made a move, so this could only mean one thing.

‘So they chose to face him head-on in the end.’

It was a different situation than what he expected. No matter if Poseidon was one of the “Big Three” gods, in this situation where he hadn’t been able to obtain the 「Divine Sea Crystal,」 he wouldn’t be able to match Zeus.

But no one had expected Poseidon to ignore Zeus’s warnings and attack him. Not YuWon, not Hercules, not anyone.

“An external influence is interfering.”

Well, he had expected something like this to happen at least once. Not everything would go to plan just because he wanted to. Even if he knew the future and had the knowledge squeezed out by the High-Rankers who had dominated the Tower, it was impossible for everything to fall into place and solve itself like a math equation.

‘Nothing will change just because Poseidon made a move. Even though I knew Poseidon and I would become enemies, the Divine Sea Crystal was something I needed to obtain anyway.’

If a variable appeared, he just needed to overcome it as well. That was what YuWon had to do.

He pieced together an image in his head.

Right now, he didn’t have any allies like Son OhGong, Asura, Hercules, or Odin. Since they couldn’t sit together and think with him, he needed to think by himself.

And the conclusion he came to...

‘This might be better in the end.’

...Was that the scenario wasn’t too bad.

This would become a catalyst that would increase the intensity between Poseidon and Zeus, and only getting this injured for something like that was quite a boon.

Tighten—

Yuwon tightly wound the bandage and shook his head.

Olympus was a mess to deal with later. Right now, he needed to deal with the thing in front of him.

“Since I got hit...”

Yuwon stretched out his wounded hand.

“It’s time for payback.”

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Translator - Jreaming

Proofreader - BringTheRayn

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No one noticed the commotion that had happened in the night.

Even though the training grounds were far away, it was still quite odd for it to be this quiet after having that much mana move about.

Lancelot probably did something.

Of course, it’s not like no one noticed anything.

“Is the ground a bit different?”

“Huh? You’re right.”

“Was yesterday the day for grounds cleanup?”

“From what I know, we still had a few days left.”

The first ones to notice something different were the knights that used the training grounds. Since they used the grounds every day, any small change to the ground felt bigger to them.

However, there was not one person who considered this a sign of battle. Not even the ones looking for Thal and Lollit.

Knock, knock—

The Royal Knight of Britain, Milton, knocked on the door by order of King Lancelot.

“...?”

There was no reaction for quite a while.

Milton knocked on the door again.

Knock, knock, knock—

“Sir Kim YuWon. His Highness seeks an audience with you.”

But still, it was just a quiet room with no reaction.

Milton frowned a little. There was no time to hesitate like this on an order from the king.

“The sun is already high in the sky. Is he still sleeping...?”

Bang, bang, bang—

“Sir Kim YuWon! If you don’t open up now, I will excuse myself and open the door and come in...”

Then...

Creak—

The door suddenly opened.

The guest he was waiting for walked outside.

“Sir Kim Yu—”

“Let’s go.”

“...?”

Just what was he so confident about? In a situation like this, most people would ask about who called them or for what. On top of that, he should be surprised by the fact that the king of Britain called for him.

‘Was it a prior arrangement? Or has he experienced something like this multiple times before?’

Kim YuWon was a super rookie that had received invitations from many of the big guilds.

Even Milton, who reached an impressive floor in his own right, wouldn’t compare against Kim YuWon as a player.

‘So he’s used to it.’

Well, it was odd from the start that a mere player like him was invited to the castle and treated like a noble.

Because of this, a rumor was going around in the castle that Lancelot was taking time and effort to entice Kim YuWon to become a knight of the Round Table.

Even if that wasn’t the case, there was no reason to not have a good relationship with him since he was practically guaranteed to become a High-Ranker in the future.

Milton didn’t mind YuWon’s reaction that much. All he had to do was just guide him.

“Follow me.”

Step—

YuWon walked behind Milton into the corridor to the throne room.

As he approached his destination, he could see the knights stationed here and there around the castle.

The wealthy knights of the kingdom were wearing armor plated with gold. They were the Royal Knights of the British royal family.

‘They’re all players who’ve reached high floors. Some might be close to becoming Rankers.’

Britain was a huge nation and guild. Many players who longed for chivalry wished to make their names known as one of the knights of the Round Table.

All the people here were part of The Round Table and also knights of Britain. And all of them were the hands and feet of Lancelot.

After walking through the long corridor, they finally reached the room at the highest point of the palace.

“This way.”

Chnk—

The knights that were guarding the gate parted to both sides. They were probably given the order from inside already.

Creak—

Before YuWon even walked up, the gates opened wide. The other side of the door was unexpectedly narrow and deep.

Inside was a huge circular table. It was a way to talk with many people sitting opposite each other.

Step—

But the thing that greeted YuWon were only two chairs that sat opposite each other.

Boom—

The doors closed behind him. He didn't pay it any mind.

Since there was a feast atop the table, this wouldn't end with just a short talk.

“You're here?”

Creak—

Yuwon sat in front of the man who greeted him with a wide smile and looked at the man who had invited him here.

“I don't think we're so close as to greet each other with a smile.”

Lancelot. The King of Britain and the Guildmaster of The Round Table.

However, he was only the king of Britain, not the king of YuWon.

Since they were trying to kill each other, there was no need for politeness between them, and as he wasn't a member of The Round Table, just because he wasn't respectful enough, there wouldn't be repercussions from British law.

Lancelot maintained his smile as he continued to look at YuWon.

Tomorrow would be the day of the Round Table Conference.

Chapter 132

Clack—

The dishes clinked, and the food moved on the table.

Yuwon didn't bother to lift a spoon or a fork. He just sat there and watched as Lancelot ate the feast.

“You aren’t eating?”

He brought the delicious-looking meat chunk to his mouth and washed it down with expensive wine in the middle of the day.

YuWon observed him for a little more then lifted his fork.

“The food isn’t that good.”

Stab—

As he put his fork into the meat, a trickle of blood flowed out of the medium-rare roast.

“The smell of blood is too much.”

It was natural that a good piece of meat would ooze a bit when eating, but it wasn’t about the meat. It was about the smell of blood created to put this meal on the table for Lancelot.

“Seems like you haven’t eaten good food before.” Lancelot laughed heartily as he ate another piece of meat. “You should have meals like this once in a while going forward. You definitely have the right to do so.”

“Didn’t I tell you?”

Plop—

YuWon dropped the meat he lifted with his fork back onto the plate.

“The food isn’t that good.”

Clang—

The fork was dropped onto the table.

The knife Lancelot was using to cut the meat stopped.

He wiped his mouth with a napkin and looked at YuWon.

“How did you get to know the Elder?”

The useless talk came to an end, and the real questions were starting.

Lancelot’s ‘Elder’ was Merlin. There was no one else in Britain he would give his respects to. Merlin was the sole entity in Britain that Lancelot needed to mind.

YuWon getting close to that Merlin was definitely something that Lancelot would keep track of.

“Just by chance.”

“Is it because of you that he sometimes goes outside these days?”

“Probably.”

There was no reason to purposefully hide the fact that YuWon was close with Merlin. Actually, thinking about it, he was in a situation where he would’ve needed to make up a relationship just to keep this conversation interesting. Because only then would Lancelot become a little more wary.

“...Really?”

As the sound of utensils stopped, silence filled the room.

Even though Merlin’s name was uttered, Lancelot’s expression didn’t have a hint of caring. It was hard to discern, maybe because it was something he knew already, or maybe he really didn’t care that much.

‘So that isn’t the main topic.’

It was then...

Shwooo—

Mana started to spread and fill the room.

YuWon didn’t move as he looked at Lancelot.

It was Lancelot who had started to move the mana. However, it didn’t look like he was trying to use a special skill or get ready for battle. He just lightly spread his mana out around them.

There was only one reason to control mana like this.

“Our conversation will become a little more comfortable with this.”

The blocking of the player kit.

Players’ kits that were activated with mana had a lot of useful features. One of them was the ability to record audio and video, and Lancelot seemed to be cautious about features like this.

“I heard that you have the Stone of the Sea.” Lancelot’s tone changed.

This was the main topic.

“So?”

“Someone I know desires it. So I hope you will hand it over to me.”

To directly come out and demand something like this wasn’t an action that should be taken by a guildmaster and king of a nation.

In any case, thanks to this, YuWon was able to obtain useful information.

‘I was guessing whose side he was on...’

“So it is Poseidon.”

Snap—

A vein popped on Lancelot’s forehead.

“Do not say his name in vain.”

Seeing his reaction, it was probably right. Well, if that wasn’t the case, there really was no reason to send two knights of the Round Table after him.

If it was Zeus, since he already had the 「Divine Sky Crystal,」 there wouldn't have been a need to make a move while risking intervention by the Administrator.

“Initially, I was planning on taking it by force. There were lots of methods to use, with you either living or dying in the end.”

“So that's why you wanted to shift Mamos onto me? To make false charges against me?”

Using Percival to make YuWon stand up for Mamos and using Mamos to cause a problem. With that as the starting point, Lancelot was going to put the blame on YuWon. However...

“That was what I initially had planned.” Seeming stressed, Lancelot rubbed his temple with his hand. “If he wasn't a child of Belial.”

Belial.

That name had stopped Lancelot in his tracks. The blood of Belial made it a tricky situation, even for Britain.

Even if demons didn't usually treat their offspring like children, they were still an important asset in themselves. And touching the bloodline of a king of demons could be interpreted as a challenge to that Demon King.

“So you changed your plan. To one that moved the knights.”

“That's right.”

“The clean up would've been difficult.”

“No matter the outcome, I was planning on killing them. In the end, there's no need to keep those two who only followed the King of Knights around.”

“You were abandoning them from the start?”

“That's right.” Lancelot used his hand to draw a line across his neck. “Dead men tell no tales.”

“...Really?”

It was so disgusting that YuWon felt like he would vomit onto the table.

However, the main point still hadn't been revealed yet.

“So the reason you called me?”

“The Ruler of the Seas had shown great generosity towards you.”

“‘Generosity’?”

“If you hand over the Stone now and swear your loyalty, he promised to treat this as if it never happened and give you his full support.”

It was an unprecedented condition.

The Poseidon who was stubborn and egotistical had reached out his hand first, even after the 「Divine Sea Crystal」 that he had wanted for so long was taken from him.

If anyone else had told YuWon this, it would've been natural to doubt them at first.

On top of forgetting everything that had happened, after handing over the 「Divine Sea Crystal,」 Poseidon, one of the "Big Three" gods, promised to support him.

However, that didn't phase YuWon at all.

"Wow."

Creak—

Seemingly not interested anymore, YuWon stood up from his seat.

"You called me here just to tell me that?"

"Just that?"

Lancelot's expression deteriorated with anger.

The lord he was serving was insulted once again. And this response from YuWon was a clear rejection of his proposal.

"You can take my answer to be a 'no.' Thanks for the food."

"What is it? This is an offer that has no downside for you."

"I've heard offers like that so many times before. You can keep living your life with your head bowed down."

After getting up, YuWon turned away.

Hearing his final words, a vein popped in Lancelot's neck.

"You dare—Don't you know who I am..."

A glare could be felt on his back.

"I know very well." Before YuWon left the room, he half-turned his body to look at Lancelot. "But it seems you don't know what you've become yet."

He left the room.

He hadn't eaten from the feast that had been laid out before him, so he pulled out some hardened bread from his inventory. This much was enough to fill his stomach.

'Poseidon reached his hand out first.'

This wasn't a simple matter.

Poseidon was a High-Ranker. And one of the highest ranking High-Rankers at a similar level to Susanoo at that, the ones who controlled the ecosystem of the Tower with his hands. He was an

existence that was even put on the same level as Zeus as one of the “Big Three” gods in Olympus. His power and authority were incredible, and there was no reason he couldn’t just break a player, no matter how strong or incredible that player was.

But for him to reach out first, there was probably another reason.

‘Is he preparing to go to war against Zeus?’

Olympus had sent two Rankers to capture YuWon, meaning YuWon’s current combat powers at least rivaled that of a Ranker.

‘Obtaining the Divine Sea Crystal and a player who would become a High-Ranker in the future. However, that much shouldn’t be enough.’

Poseidon probably had other backup plans.

In anycase, if he and Zeus fought and killed each other, that was just better for YuWon.

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Translator - Jreaming

Proofreader - BringTheRayn

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The next day...

Camelot was moving busily.

The Round Table Conference. The biggest and most important event that took place in Britain once a month.

“Looks like the table will need one more seat.”

“Why?”

“I heard the Elder would come.”

“The Elder? That’s a surprise.”

“That’s right. I wonder since he hasn’t had any interest in the Round Table Conference for a hundred years now.”

Merlin’s attendance was quite an important factor in Britain. He was a living legend of The Round Table, similar to Lancelot. If the situation had been better, there were even rumors that Merlin would’ve been the king of Britain after Arthur.

“This probably means something’s up.”

The knights all met up in one place. The top of the palace, the highest point in Camelot.

It wasn’t even a room. All the walls had crumbled, and only a single round table and the multitude of seats filled the area.

Step, step—

The knights walked up the stairs.

After arriving at the meeting area, they went to their respective seats.

“It’s been a while, everyone.”

“I heard that Jahar went into seclusion training. There’s no way he would miss the meeting, right?”

“He’s coming in now.”

“Oh, Guile. I heard the news. Your ranking has increased quite a bit?”

“I was lucky.”

“Those guys at the Ranking Management Bureau are quite thorough. There’s no way your ranking would increase just because you’re lucky.”

As people started to filter in, the meeting area became boisterous. Everyone greeted everyone else, talked about the big and small matters of the Tower, and many more stories were shared back and forth.

There were two main points of the conversations.

“I heard Elder Merlin will attend this conference.”

“He’s getting along quite well with a player named Kim YuWon.”

“Everyone knows that.”

“I heard his name quite a bit. It’s certain that he’s an intriguing guy. Seeing that Elder Merlin is paying attention to him...”

The names of Merlin and YuWon were spoken a lot among the knights.

When they had first heard that Lancelot had invited YuWon to the castle, their reaction was split half and half then as well. There were the people that were curious about how incredible of a player he was and those who ignored it because at the end of the day, he was still just a player.

However, as the story of Merlin started to spread, their evaluation of YuWon started to change as well.

“But... where’s that guy, Thal?”

“Lollit’s not here either.”

“It’s nearly time, so what the hell are they doing?”

Thal and Lollit, who hadn’t missed a single conference before this, were both missing.

“But, Pendrac, why is your head like that?”

“You shouldn’t be balding yet.”

“Pfft!”

“...Please don’t ask.”

After getting all his hair pulled out by Merlin, Pendrac was flaunting a shining head.

As the talks continued...

Step—

A heavy footstep was heard throughout the meeting area.

At this point, everyone could tell who it was just by his footsteps.

The noisy meeting settled down.

Everyone stood from their seats as the final expected person showed himself.

“Looks like everyone’s here.”

Lancelot.

After arriving at the meeting area, he looked around at the knights.

“Thal and Lollit still aren’t here.”

“I’ll speak later about those two friends.”

As Lancelot took his seat and gestured with his hand, the knights sat down as well.

After looking at the two empty seats for a bit, Lancelot’s gaze slowly moved.

“Now, since it looks like everyone’s here...”

Step—

At the foot of the stairs, the sound of two footsteps could be heard.

“We’ll start the Round Table Conference.”

The knights’ eyes turned to the stairs that led up to the Round Table.

The two people who were later than Lancelot: the Great Magician Merlin, who had stopped his activities for a while and hadn’t shown himself at the Round Table in a long time, and with him arrived an uninvited guest—Kim YuWon.

Chapter 133

Early morning, at the entrance gate of Camelot...

Knights who were members of The Round Table were guarding the meeting place.

“Was it today? That Round Table Conference?” a knight who was yawning from boredom said while pointing to the top of the castle.

At that, multiple knights understood what day today was.

“Ah, now that I think about it...”

“When will I be able to go there?”

“Wake up. What can you do?”

“I could ask you the same thing.”

“Yeah, you’re right. Why are we even discussing this? We haven’t even gotten to the 50th Floor, so how could we sit at the Round Table?”

Just because one was a Ranker didn’t mean they could sit at the Round Table.

However, all those who sat on the Round Table were Rankers. Being a Ranker was just the minimum requirement for being able to sit at the Round Table, so for those who hadn’t even become Rankers yet, it was impossible for them to sit there.

On top of that, the knights who were guarding the gate weren’t even part of the Royal Knights, so the Round Table was even further away from them.

“I’ll attempt it again. Definitely.”

“When?”

“After getting a few more points working here. If I can get over the 50th Floor, my level within the guild will be decently high, right?”

“That’s true. You stopped at the 47th Floor? That is pretty close.”

“I’ll definitely sit there in the future.”

The Round Table Conference was like a dream to the players who were part of The Round Table. It was an important event for operating the guild and the nation, and it was simultaneously symbolic of the place of the 150 strongest people in The Round Table.

“Hey, wait here for a second.”

“Where are you going?”

“The toilet for a bit.”

“Didn’t you just go before?”

“I think I ate something wrong. My stomach isn’t feeling well today.”

“Go quickly.”

The knight ran inside the castle.

The other knights talked about how he must have been in a hurry and turned around while shaking their heads. They were only yawning with boredom for a little bit.

The fellow knight who just ran in to go to the toilet had returned.

“Uh, what the—You’re back already?”

“Yeah. Did your stomach suddenly get better?”

Hearing their answers, the knight who returned made a confused expression.

“What are you talking about? ‘Back already’? I suffered for so long, I think I ate something wrong.”

“...?”

“...?”

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Translator - Jreaming

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“You’re quite late,” Lancelot greeted Merlin. However, unlike his words, he wasn’t looking at Merlin. He asked while looking at YuWon, “Why have you come with this man?”

“Can’t I?”

“Although we cannot allow an unqualified person to sit at the Round Table...”

Lancelot looked at YuWon. He already knew for a while that Merlin would be attending this meeting. However, YuWon’s arrival was unexpected.

‘What is he thinking?’

The Round Table Conference was a meeting that he, as the guild master of The Round Table, oversaw. To walk into the meeting willingly like this was no different than walking straight into a lion’s jaws.

He thought YuWon was a smart guy. Although he couldn’t tell what he was thinking, it was clear that YuWon chose the wrong place to fight.

Lancelot nodded. “Understood. I will make an exception this time. We have things to talk about as well anyway.” He looked to the knights sitting around the table and asked them, “Does anyone have a problem with this?”

It was the first time something like this had happened. An outsider who wasn’t even part of The Round Table would sit at the Round Table.

However, they couldn’t just decline either. It was the will of Merlin, the strongest power in The Round Table and a teacher to the King of Knights, and Lancelot, the current king of Britain and guildmaster of The Round Table. So none of the knights could dare suggest another opinion.

“Then I’ll take it as everyone is in agreement.”

Lancelot nodded, and YuWon and Merlin took their seats.

And then...

“Do you know whose seat that is?” Lancelot questioned YuWon after he sat down.

After thinking for a second, YuWon replied, “Thal or Lollit’s. It would probably be one of the two.”

“How dare you...!”

“Impudent!”

Hearing YuWon’s answer, a few of the knights stood from their seats.

Even if YuWon was an outsider and not part of The Round Table, this place was under their authority, and on top of that, Lancelot was the lord. For him to answer with such a tone as that was more than enough to rile up the knights who were brimming with loyalty to Lancelot.

Lancelot raised his palm.

The meeting area that seemed like it would turn into chaos quieted down in an instant.

After silencing the knights with one move of his hand, Lancelot opened his mouth. “Then, you must know what happened to those two.”

“I know very well.” YuWon’s eyes looked directly at Lancelot. “Because I saw you kill them with your own two hands.”

“What...?”

“What did you say?!”

“Where do you think you...”

The reactions of the knights were split in two. Some looked towards Lancelot, waiting for confirmation if it was true, and the others shouted in anger at the nonsense they just heard.

Lancelot looked as if he had expected this outcome, and rather than be flustered, he lowered his head.

“Yes. That’s right. I killed them. I, with these two hands...” With a tone of misery, Lancelot didn’t finish his sentence. And then after a bit, he spoke while glaring at Yuwon. “However, this is all—”

“Lancelot.” YuWon glared back at him. “Don’t misunderstand.”

“What?”

“This isn’t my place but yours to pay for your sins.”

Lancelot furrowed his brows and glared back at YuWon without averting his eyes. He couldn’t guess what YuWon was thinking as he had just said something that would make him the enemy of all the knights that had gathered here.

‘Does he have the confidence?’

It was a little bit exciting. What did he believe in to be so confident?

With his outer and inner expression in control, Lancelot looked at YuWon. “What are you trying to say?”

“I have a guest...”

Step—

“A lot of you will be pretty glad to see him.” As he said that, YuWon stood up from his seat.

A new person walked up the stairs.

Limp—

The steps of a knight in heavy full plate armor.

All the knights who were in the conference looked in the direction of the footsteps. After confirming his face, all of their eyes grew wide in surprise.

“C-Could it be...”

“Real... Is he real?”

Creak—

Even though they were in a meeting, a few of the knights stood up in surprise. No, it wasn't a few of them. Over half the knights had stood up.

It was only natural.

“Your Majesty...!”

The sole person that could be called the King of Britain who wasn't Lancelot. The master of the “real” seat of the monarch that had been empty for a thousand years.

“Arthur...?”

With his golden hair and golden eyes, the King of Britain, Arthur, had appeared at the Round Table.

* * *

Step—

Arthur's appearance actually made the meeting room go even more silent than before.

Arthur sat in the seat YuWon stood up from.

Then someone opened their mouth for the first time. “Are you really... His Majesty?”

Knight Gawain. The 1st Knight of the Round Table and Arthur's right hand.

As he asked with quivering eyes, Arthur replied with a light smile, “Gawain. It's been a while.”

“My King!”

“How is your son? He might be using that sword I gifted him by now.”

“Your Majesty...” Gawain's expression was filled with emotions.

When his son was born, Arthur had gifted him a sword in secret, for his son to use when he grew up. The only ones who knew of that sword's existence were him and Arthur.

“Oh, Jidrak. You're already sitting there? The youngest boy has already grown this big.

“Caulkston. Did you get married yet? I know you had that girl you liked a lot back then.

“Gild, you...”

Arthur looked around at the knights who were seated at the Round Table.

These were stories that no one could know if they weren't Arthur.

As his talking continued, the knights held tears in their eyes, and their cries became louder.

“Your Majesty!”

“Just where have you been?”

“My King!”

Hearing the cries of the knights, Lancelot's expression was shaken.

Just looking at his appearance, since Rankers didn't visibly age, there was no difference from his form a thousand years ago, and the stories that came out of his mouth could only be known by Arthur himself.

However...

“Just how...”

This was something that could never have happened.

No, it shouldn't have ever happened.

‘If Arthur comes back and sits on the throne now, it will be the end.’

The one in front of him was definitely not Arthur. There was no way.

Then...

‘Maybe?’

Lancelot turned to look at YuWon, whose lip was subtly upturned. Only then did Lancelot remember the information that Percival had brought him.

“That man is a fake!”

Creak—

Lancelot stood up from his seat and shouted.

At that, all eyes were on him.

Lancelot's eyes glared, and he continued to speak, “There was a demon that came into Camelot with him. That person was of Belial's bloodline.”

“Belial's?”

“Why does that...”

“Wait, perhaps?”

The “Monarch of Lies” Belial. As one of the Demon Kings leading the guild Demon Kings, he was well-versed in the methods of Doppelgangers.

As a demon of that bloodline, they would be quite skilled in their ability as a Doppelganger. On top of that, if that Doppelganger was in a party with YuWon, it was natural for one to doubt the Arthur in front of them as a fake.

“I am a fake?” Arthur looked at Lancelot.

After meeting his gaze, Lancelot stopped himself from laughing. “Yeah. You are a fake.”

“A Doppelganger... After returning after a long time, I’m even hearing something like this.”

Shwing—

Arthur pulled out his sword.

In that moment, brilliant light filled the meeting area.

“Then how will you explain this?”

“That is...”

“Excalibur!”

“The symbol of the King of Knights!”

“My King!”

“I never doubted you even once!”

As the sword that symbolized the King of Knights made its appearance, the small atmosphere of doubt was instantly washed away.

Information that couldn’t be known if he wasn’t Arthur and even the symbol of the King of Knights, 「Excalibur.」 There were no grounds for suspicion.

‘There’s no way. Arthur is definitely dead. There must be...’

Just what had happened?

The one in front of him was definitely a fake. That was the truth. However, contrary to that, there was no way to prove that the Arthur in front of him was a fake.

‘If that guy is a Doppelganger,’ Lancelot’s hand slowly moved towards the sword on his waist, ‘his head will go flying, and his true form will be shown.’

Flash—!

Time slowed to a halt.

Lancelot stood from his seat and burst forward.

Shwack—

Lancelot's sword cut off Arthur's head.

But at that moment...

"What do you think you are doing here?"

Flinch—

While everyone else was stopped, Merlin moved together with Lancelot.

Clang—!

The sword and staff clashed, and the sound of steel filled the room.

Only then did the knights notice that Lancelot had moved.

A few of the knights wore expressions of betrayal at Lancelot's actions. Arthur had just returned, but he had pulled out his sword against him. For the knights who had waited a thousand years for him, this was no different than treachery.

"What are you doing!"

"You are targeting His Majes—"

"No!"

Vwooong—

With Lancelot's shout, mana flowed out of his body and filled the room. It was a dense flow of mana that crushed shoulders and turned over their insides.

The knights who had stood against him faltered, and a few buckled over.

"Kugh..."

"Uagh...!"

Lancelot suppressed the knights with his strength. Of course, to suppress all these Rankers was something that was difficult even for Lancelot to do.

However, he was confident.

"That man is definitely a fake."

He glared at YuWon, who was observing this entire situation with an entertained expression.

Just what was he thinking?

However, it didn't matter in the end.

'As long as I am certain here, there is no way I will lose. Your scheme is weak.'

As long as Arthur was a fake, the only outcome was his victory.

He needed to be a fake.

It was then...

“You’re right.” Arthur’s voice instantly changed as if he was a totally different person. “I am a fake. Just like you said, I am the son of Belial and a Doppelganger.”

Ziiiiip—

The leather of Arthur’s face flipped, and a pale man’s face appeared from beneath it.

The knights were surprised as they held their breath.

Lancelot was also naturally surprised at all this.

‘He revealed himself willingly? But why?’

The thing he wanted was revealed, but Lancelot felt that his current situation was the most dangerous. All the things that had happened just now were ridiculous but understandable, but revealing himself like this to everyone was incomprehensible.

Just what was happening?

“The real one...” Mamos smiled widely and looked away, “Is here.”

A husky and gloomy voice. Frighteningly dark mana.

As soon as he turned his head, he met the eyes of a small Undead made of bones, and Lancelot froze in his spot.

“It’s been a while. Lancelot.”

Because he understood that this was the real Arthur.

Chapter 134

“Ar...thur?”

A totally different feeling went down Lancelot’s spine than when he first saw Mamos’s disguised face. That time didn’t feel as threatening, even though he certainly looked like Arthur. It had just felt bad, but this was different.

That Undead made of bundles of Orc bone was the most fearsome thing in this room for Lancelot.

It was the same for the other knights as well.

“Are you...”

“Are you really His Majesty?”

Even without evidence, a few of the knights could vaguely recognize that this was Arthur.

The undead Arthur approached Mamos, reached out his hand, and took Excalibur from him.

In that moment...

Flash—!

The blade started to glow blue, and it emitted a cold aura which filled the room.

“That’s right.” The empty sockets for eyes started to glow blue. “I am Arthur.”

Arthur's gaze went towards Gawain.

"Gawain, I had gifted a sword to your son."

Then to Jidrak.

"Jidrak, I saved you from dying on the battlefield..."

Then to Caulkston.

"And Caulkston. I apologize for missing your wedding."

King Arthur. The first king of Britain and the great knight who founded The Round Table.

"I am an Undead. The dead man, Death Knight Arthur."

He had returned to Britain as an Undead.

Shwooo—

After looking around at the knights he hadn't seen for a while, he turned to Lancelot.

"But Lancelot."

As Lancelot met his eyes, his body flinched.

"How did you know that I was dead?"

"That's..."

Lancelot faltered at this sudden situation. Until just a moment ago, he considered his knowledge of Arthur's death to be a great weapon. However, now it was the opposite.

"Are you saying that I somehow knew of your death?"

It was a difficult situation to outright deny his existence because far too many things had been proven to be real for him to be a fake. Arthur's memories, tone of voice, 「Excalibur,」 and even the cold, icy mana that represented him. Everything was the same about Arthur as The Round Table remembered.

"I just recognized that that man was a fake. I hope there isn't a misunderstanding. And..." Lancelot looked around his surroundings.

150 people, no, the 148 knights. Among them there were now knights who served not Arthur but Lancelot.

'There's no other way.'

Acknowledging Arthur here wouldn't do any good for him.

Since it wasn't like Arthur had returned alive, and since the number of knights that followed him were significant, Lancelot spoke through gritted teeth, "I still have doubts about you as well."

"Lancelot!"

Lancelot looked to the one who dared to shout out his name.

Gawain. Long ago, he was called the “Right Hand of the King of Knights” and was the knight who possessed the 1st seat at the Round Table. Even as a High-Ranker, he had enough loyalty where if Arthur commanded him, he would willingly walk into death.

“No matter if he is dead right now, how could you speak like that to someone you served as your lord? Apologize right now!”

“Then, Gawain, just as you said, how dare you talk in that tone to me, the current king of Britain?”

“What? Just because you acted as king for a few years, you think that seat is yours?”

“Those few years add up to a thousand. And just what do you trust about that man...”

Clack—

Arthur twisted the hilt of 「Excalibur」 in his hands and separated it from the blade.

“To be king, you need the seal.”

Inside the dismantled sword was a golden ring.

Arthur pulled it out and asked, “Lancelot, do you have this seal?”

“Naturally, I...”

As he tried to reach inside his chest to pull out the seal, Lancelot’s expression froze. His breath got stuck in his throat, and he began to understand that he had stepped into a fine trap.

The royal seal. There were only two of them in the world.

“You say that you got it from me, that it was the proof that you were chosen as king,” Arthur asked him as if it were obvious. “But my seal is here. So whose seal is yours?”

“My seal...”

The seal that King Arthur’s son, Mordred Pendragon, had carried around.

Clench—

He gripped the seal he held close to his chest tighter.

What should he do now?

It would look like he was confirming he knew of Arthur’s death and yet denying his current existence.

Arthur had actually come back as a dead person, and this Arthur still had his seal.

As long as there were two seals, the seal that Lancelot had on him could only be evidence that he was the one who killed Arthur’s son.

“Damn it...”

Crack—

In the end, there was only one choice he could make.

Crash—!

The window shattered, and Lancelot fled outside.

“Uh...?”

“What just...”

The knights who were followers of Lancelot faltered in confusion as they couldn't understand the situation.

The current king of Britain had run away. This was no different than admitting his sins.

“So it really happened.”

“I told you it would play out this way.”

Unlike the knights full of panic and uncertainty, the tone of YuWon and Merlin, who had already thought through everything that would happen today, was quite calm.

Arthur looked outside the broken window.

“We can't let him get away.” As he emitted his icy mana, Arthur went forth and chased after him. “Let's go.”

* * *

Translator - Jreaming

Proofreader - BringTheRayn

* * *

“Damn it, damn it, DAMN IT!” Lancelot shouted in rage as he quickly moved his legs. “Uwaaaaaah!”

He ran over castle walls and jumped through the air. Only the thought of escaping from this place filled his mind.

“Uh?”

“Y-Your Majesty?”

The knights who saw Lancelot at the castle gates were shocked. The Round Table Conference should be going on right now, but why had Lancelot suddenly appeared here?

Lancelot ignored the knights who saluted him and ran outside the castle walls. And as he was quickly moving to get away from Camelot...

Boom—

His head hit something, and he was bounced back.

“Kgh... What?”

It was only for an instant that he was confused about the shock to his head.

[The selected area has been designated as a 'prison.']

[You cannot move outside the area from inside it.]

“What bullshit is this!”

Bang—!

Lancelot swung his sword at the wall that blocked his way.

The ground shook at the shock, and the scattering sword aura flicked past his own cheek.

However, the wall showed no movement.

“This stupid...”

This obstacle was driving Lancelot mad as he was trying to get away from this area as fast as possible.

It wasn't a wall he could easily break. Even though he was a High-Ranker, this wall was something created by an existence stronger than him.

Lancelot noticed the red line on the ground that represented where the wall was.

Camelot had already been surrounded by a huge magic circle. Even in the entire Tower, there were only a handful of people that could create a wall like this.

And Britain had one of those people in it right now.

“Merlin...”

It was certain that he was the one who created this wall. However, it was impossible even for Merlin to create a magic circle of this scale that could cover the entire area of Camelot in an instant. It must have been made over the course of a few days at least.

If that was the case, it definitely wouldn't be easy for Lancelot to pierce through this.

‘Whose idea was it?’

There was no way Merlin, who gardened for the last thousand years, would suddenly pull this off. Even if he was the “Great Magician” in the field of magic, he wasn't a strategist of this level.

There was only one person who came to mind.

“Kim YuWon, was it that guy?”

“That's right.”

Flick—

Lancelot turned his head.

A familiar voice.

If it was anyone else, he wouldn't have been as nervous, but the man who appeared in front of him wasn't just anyone.

“That guy did say it. That revealing the terrible things you did in front of everyone would shake your position.”

He was right. If it was anywhere other than the Round Table Conference, he could’ve bought time to create another way out. However, at the Round Table Conference, the knights who could be called the essence of the Round Table came to know Lancelot’s betrayal. On top of that, as he confirmed Arthur’s death, he had practically confessed that he had something to do with it.

“Was it you, Elder? The one who hid that Doppelganger.”

“Although it doesn’t matter if you noticed, it would’ve been a problem if anyone else did.”

He did consider it a bit strange. No matter if he was the bloodline of Belial, none of the approximately 150 knights there had noticed that he was a transformed Doppelganger.

However, if it was Merlin’s work, it wasn’t so impossible. It wasn’t even work for Merlin to hide the flow of mana that was used in a Doppelganger’s transformation.

“I’ll ask you one thing.”

Rumble—

Lancelot’s shoulders slumped downwards, and a dent was created in the ground. He frowned at the pressure being applied to his body.

Then he remembered.

The “Great Magician.”

That was Merlin’s title that he had forgotten for the past 1,000 years.

“Why did you do it?”

“Why do you think?”

Lancelot lifted his sword.

Even if his opponent was Merlin, he was also a High-Ranker. This fight was doable.

“I wanted to be king.”

This was Lancelot’s long-held desire.

To be king. To receive the respect and worship of everyone and be the one who ruled over them. That was everything that Lancelot wanted.

“...Really?”

Shwooo—

Under the monstrous pressure that flattened the ground, the edge of Lancelot’s blade started to move. And...

“I’m going to get bored at how stale that reason was.”

Merlin's finger moved as well.

Cra-ka-kak—

“...!”

Lancelot's sword stopped.

Even before he instinctively tried to swing his sword again, he felt as if a tight string had bound his sword and wasn't letting it go.

“Was it about 50 years ago that you became a High-Ranker?”

Flick, flap—

Many invisible strings tightly bound Lancelot's body.

Lancelot started to sweat as his four limbs were bound tightly.

“A punk who still needs to grow dares to challenge this elder already?”

“Kugh...”

A vein popped on Lancelot's face. His face steadily turned purple, and the whites of his eyes started to disappear.

Shwoooo—

An abnormal mana started to flow.

Merlin reached out a palm towards Lancelot.

“That guy said this.”

Clench—

As he closed his hand, pressure was applied to Lancelot's form.

“Grrrr...”

“That a monster lives inside your body.”

It was possible that maybe the reason Lancelot had betrayed Arthur was all because of this.

Crack, crunch—

The pressure continued to increase.

As more and more Arcane Power was supplied, the pressure on Lancelot's body also increased as he flailed.

“Kuaaaaaah!”

At the moment where he felt that his entire body would explode...

Ting, t-t-t-ting—

The strings surrounding Lancelot's body began to snap one by one, and his sword began to move.

Shwaaa—!

The sword slashed downwards.

Rumble—

The ground that Merlin was standing on was cleaved in two, and a deep cliff-like formation formed below.

Merlin didn't fall into it as he stood in the same spot and just floated there.

"Maybe..."

Lancelot, who had cut all the strings on him, had a purple aura all around his body, and his eyes were dyed black. And from him...

"You really are a monster."

Not Arcane Power nor Demonic Energy but a completely different energy was flowing from him.

Chapter 135

The 66th Floor of the Tower. A world without night with pure white clouds instead of ground. And below them stood a huge temple reminiscent of a castle.

Pure white walls and a pure white ceiling. In this place that echoed with beautiful and never-ending music...

Stomp, stomp—

The heavy thuds of footsteps could be heard.

"Huh?"

"Ruler of the Seas, this is..."

A few Rankers came forth to block the guest that had suddenly entered, a two-meter-tall man with blue hair.

Each of his steps shook the ceiling of the temple. As a few dozen Rankers blocked his path, the man stopped walking for a moment.

"Will you continue to block my way?"

Eyes that contained the oceans looked around at the Rankers. He sent a dense wave of pressure at them.

Feeling as if their lungs would collapse, the Rankers all clenched their hands around their weapons and unleashed their Arcane Powers.

It would've been fine if it were anywhere else... But they definitely couldn't let him enter this place.

The tall man with blue hair, the "Ruler of the Seas" and one of the "Big Three" gods of Olympus.

Poseidon's eyes narrowed into crescents.

"I'll take it that's your answer."

"Kugh..."

“Cough...!”

A few of the Rankers spat blood from their mouths. They felt their lungs collapse and their bodies being pressed down.

Simultaneously, the temple was filled with humidity, and the air started to quake.

At that moment...

“> He may enter.

A voice could be heard from the ceiling.

“Kughk!”

“Cough, cough...”

The Arcane Power that had filled the air disappeared, and the oppressive aura was released.

The Rankers, filled with relief at being alive and from escaping the pain, all collapsed and sat on the ground.

“If you block my path again, it won’t end with just a warning.” Poseidon looked at them for a moment before moving on.

Inside the innermost part of the temple was a room with a wide-open ceiling that directly showed the sky.

“You’re here.”

“Now you don’t even come out to greet me.”

A man dressed in white cloth with his golden hair tied up. That man emitted such bright light that just looking at him made one feel like they would go blind. Going above being good-looking, his beautifully sculpted face was famous throughout the Tower.

Zeus.

The self-appointed King of Olympus, and the one who thought of himself as the ruler of the Tower.

He smiled at Poseidon. “But didn’t I open the way for you?”

“Even if you didn’t, I would’ve gotten past them.”

“You would have.”

Zeus put his feet in a pond.

Poseidon stomped towards him.

“I don’t want to talk to you for long, so I’ll get straight to the point. Right now, in Britain—”

“Are you going to tell me that Lancelot is dangerous?”

So he knew already.

Poseidon frowned and nodded.

Lancelot was a Ranker that Olympus had invested in for a long time. A High-Ranker at Lancelot's level could have stayed in Olympus as much as he desired, but the position he attained from being in The Round Table was different from the average High-Ranker.

More than anything, as Poseidon thought of his plans for Lancelot in the future, he was someone who mustn't be exposed right now.

"What are you thinking of doing?" Zeus asked.

If Poseidon already knew, he definitely would have thought of it already. This was the reason that he had come to find Zeus.

Zeus was an existence like that. Terrifyingly strong, but he didn't blindly rely on his strength alone. He always made and executed plans after looking a few steps ahead and making insurances.

It was one of the reasons that Olympus could reach this point.

"To avoid an even bigger fight..." Zeus contemplated for only a moment. He nodded and continued, "There's no way but to take a small loss."

"A small loss?"

"Britain never had a relationship with us in the first place." Looking down at the pond, golden electricity flowed in Zeus's eyes. "And for that..."

Bzzzt—

"Erasing everything would be best."

A spear of lightning formed in his hand.

Bzzt, bzzzzt—

Looking down at the pond with him, Poseidon furrowed his brows. His skin prickled.

Even though it didn't fully make its appearance, the sky began to shake.

'The Lightning Bolt.'

The item that symbolized Zeus and the object that made him King of Olympus.

Seeing it again filled Poseidon with envy. If he had been able to obtain the 「Stone of the Sea,」 he would have had an item like that as well.

"Erasing Camelot off the map..."

It was a clean method.

However, there was a problem.

"The Administrator wouldn't just sit by."

"I have already finished my talks with him."

Zeus was one of the existences who could directly talk with an Administrator. From the moment the incident had happened, he had already been talking with the Administrator.

“What happened?”

At Poseidon’s question, Zeus turned his gaze back to the surface of the pond.

“One strike.”

Atop the leisurely flowing surface of the water, the image of a purple-skinned Lancelot swinging his sword in a fight against Merlin was shown.

“I was given only one strike to use.”

* * *

Translator - Jreaming

Proofreader - BringTheRayn

* * *

Lancelot’s mind felt like it was burning. He could only think of one thing.

‘I want to be king.’

Against the thousands of strings that filled his vision, he swung his sword.

Shwak—!

“Uwaaah!”

“Th-The gate!”

“Stop being shocked! Just move away!”

The castle gates were cut along with the strings. The gates and walls fell to the ground. The knights started to hurriedly move to protect the soldiers.

However, their king, Lancelot, didn’t even pay those dying soldiers any mind.

Seeing this, Merlin furrowed his brows.

“You damned bastard...”

Vwooong—

The debris of the fallen walls didn’t touch the ground. As Merlin moved his hand, the heavy rocks that were falling stopped in their tracks.

And in that moment...

Shwak—

Fwip—

A straight line was drawn on Merlin’s chest.

There was no blood.

Just this wasn't enough to get past the sturdy layer of spells that surrounded Merlin's body.

"Have you gone mad?"

"I am completely sane." Lancelot's eyes flashed open. His reasoning was still seemingly intact as he spoke with a confident voice, "So very sane."

He knew that he was different from his usual self. However, he still liked how he was now.

There was no need to think hard about ways or methods. All he needed to do right now was get away from this place as fast as possible.

[The 'King of The Round Table' declares his land.]

[If you attack the king within the declared area, a level of penalty will be applied to you.]

Bzzzt—

The penalty was applied to Merlin's body as he tried to use a skill.

Lancelot's skill put anyone who attacked him at a disadvantage inside Britain's territory.

"Petty tricks."

Bzzzt—

Merlin didn't seem bothered by the penalty as he prepared his next attack.

Crack, crumble—

The rocks he had lifted using gravity were condensed into a point a tenth, then a hundredth of their normal size.

"Then let's see..."

Shooosh—

Fwip—

The flung rock was cleaved in two.

Lancelot looked at Merlin questioningly as if asking what he was doing.

But...

Doong—

The rock that was split in two didn't lose its power and remained afloat in the air.

"...How long you can stay fine."

Shwaaak—!

Th-Thud, th-th-th-thud—

Bang—!

The condensed rocks pummeled Lancelot.

Bzzzt—

Sparks flew off Merlin's body. However, there were many methods of protecting oneself from this penalty. At the end of the day, this wasn't the omnipotent power flowing through the Tower but an effect of Lancelot's skill.

Merlin used another spell to protect his body and relentlessly threw the rocks at him.

"This time..."

Crack—

Rumble—

The ground was carved out, and a huge plot of land of about 100 meters was condensed into a point.

"It'll hurt a little more."

Fwap—

Crack—!

The rock that slammed into Lancelot's body flung him backwards. He only stopped after hitting the invisible wall blocking his way.

[The selected area has been designated as a 'prison.']

[You cannot move outside the area from inside it.]

A prison. A huge jail surrounding Camelot, the capital of Britain. This was in place to bind Lancelot to this area.

Shwoooooo—

Merlin's body lifted up into the air and moved towards the place Lancelot flew.

After hitting the wall, Lancelot fell to the ground with the rock. A deep crater was formed in the spot the rock fell, and Lancelot lifted his hand to move the rock away.

Crack, bang—!

The rock rolled over, making a heavy sound.

Merlin clicked his tongue at seeing his absurd strength.

"I guess that guy is still a High-Ranker."

Just where did he get that ridiculous strength?

Lancelot's body, which should've been beaten ragged after getting pummeled by so many rocks, showed no signs of major injury. He didn't have any holes, nor was there any blood flowing from his body.

He stood and looked up at Merlin as if nothing serious had happened.

"Oh-ho, alright..."

Rumble—

A rain cloud formed in the sky.

Bzzzt—

Merlin's Arcane Power pierced the sky and changed the flow of the air in the atmosphere.

"So you want to get struck even more?"

"Aren't you starting to get tired?"

Lancelot turned his eyes to the invisible wall that he had hit earlier.

"It can't be easy maintaining this."

Merlin's eyebrows faltered.

The prison wasn't that difficult of a skill. However, maintaining a skill that encompassed the entirety of Camelot wasn't easy, even for Merlin.

"Compared to you, I'm..."

Lancelot put strength into his sword.

Vwoong—

Arcane Power pooled at the edge of his blade.

After having turned his attention, the tip of his sword wasn't pointed at Merlin.

"...Still raring to go."

Shwak—!

"This mad bastard!"

Merlin hurriedly moved his hand.

The sword cut through the inner part of the city.

The shock spread out towards the residents of Britain.

Bzzzt—!

Because of the attack that was directed at the players living in the city, penalty was applied to Lancelot's body. However, seemingly unaffected by this, Lancelot swung his sword a few more times.

Shwaaak—

Vwooom—!

The Arcane Power stored in Lancelot's sword met the air and scattered. Cracks started to form on the protective barrier made by Merlin, and in that instant, a bolt of lightning fell from the sky.

Rumble—!

The lightning struck Lancelot's head.

The ground also took the shock, and a dust cloud instantly formed around him.

Merlin glared at the spot Lancelot was in. "For a bastard who wants to be king to take his own people hostage, you should be ash—"

It was then...

Bang—!

A shock was applied to the invisible wall surrounding Camelot.

“No way...”

Bang—!

Crack, cra-ka-kak—

The shocks continued. Cracks instantly started to form.

Merlin hurriedly reached out with his hand to put mana into the wall. Right now, more than anything else, restoring the wall was the highest priority.

Creak—

“Were you thinking of doing this from the start?”

The splitting of mana. The loss of strength in the wall because of that.

This was what Lancelot had wanted, because getting away from this place was his highest priority.

Bang—!

As a crack had already formed, the rate of its destruction was faster than its restoration.

Lancelot put more and more strength into his sword.

Merlin’s hand shook.

‘What an idiot.’

Just when was he able to get this strong? This wasn’t simply a matter of the passage of time.

Lancelot didn’t seem to have especially increased his levels or trained his skills in the last thousand years.

On top of that, an unnatural and ominous feeling could still be sensed from him.

‘Did you really become a monster?’

Boom—!

Crack—

The cracks instantly covered the walls that surrounded Camelot. The magic circle shook violently and Merlin felt as if the hand that was continuously supplying the Arcane Power would let go.

The situation to contain Lancelot seemed difficult since he was putting his all into escaping.

But then...

“You seem to be in some trouble.”

The form of YuWon walking towards Lancelot entered Merlin’s vision.

Feeling that he came just in time, Merlin’s honest feelings escaped from his mouth first. “What were you doing to only arrive now?”

“I apologize.”

[?’s egg is salivating.]

After coming close to Lancelot, an Outer God fragment, the egg started to buck.

“It took a little while to convince this guy.”

Chapter 136

When Lancelot had just escaped from the palace...

Merlin disappeared from his seat at nearly the exact same time.

There was no way to catch up to them due to how fast they were. Lancelot was a High-Ranker, so it was expected, and Merlin had also used his magic, so he had quickly disappeared from sight.

“It would’ve been nice if you took me with you,” YuWon said.

Merlin was probably in quite a hurry.

Well. As much as he was in sorrow over Arthur’s death, an equal amount of anger would’ve been piling up as well.

“Because anyway...”

[?’s Egg complains about its hunger.]

This kid was crying inside his inventory.

“I need to wake this guy as well.”

* * *

Step—

Lancelot watched YuWon walk closer to him.

Seeing that he was approaching without hesitation, he suspected that YuWon thought he was too focused on breaking the wall.

‘Although he’s decently good at fighting...’

The image of YuWon fighting the two knights popped into his head.

YuWon’s skills were definitely legit. Perhaps, even if it wasn’t just Thal and Lollit and another knight, he would’ve still won against them. However...

Even if he was that impressive of a player, there was no need to pay him any mind right now.

‘I’ll ignore him for now.’

Since he would definitely come back sometime to cut off YuWon’s head, breaking the wall was the highest priority right now.

“Looks like you’re quite busy at the moment...”

Shwaaack—

YuWon unsheathed his sword, and Arcane Power started to flow from him.

“How about looking this way for a second?”

Bzzt, bzzzzt—

An unusual level of Arcane Power that was too much to ignore right now.

So...

[‘Shield of the Round Table’ protects your target.]

Vwooong—

Lancelot’s body was covered by a sturdy skill, a similar type of skill to what Lollit had.

Although his proficiency with the skill wasn’t as high as Lollit’s, the level of the user was vastly different. It was natural for a higher Arcane Power stat to produce a stronger skill effect. On top of that, Lancelot’s physical prowess was much stronger than most Rankers and was at a height that not many could catch up to.

Even if this skill were to get breached, it didn’t matter that much.

‘Small scratches can be ignored.’

If it was this much, he could block something like YuWon’s sword.

At least, that was what Lancelot thought.

Cra-ka-kak—

The cracks on the invisible wall grew immensely, and it looked as if it would break at any moment.

‘Just one more time...’

But then...

[Your body has been imbued with the strength of a giant.]

[Summoning ‘Hell.’]

Bzzzzt—!

Detecting an unnatural flow of mana, Lancelot lifted his head.

In that moment...

Shwack—

“...!”

Blood started to flow out of the arm Lancelot was swinging his sword with. A cut had been made at his elbow. It was natural that his swing stopped as well.

“This stupid...!”

Drip—

Looking at the blood dripping onto the ground, Lancelot blurted profanities.

On the other hand, YuWon muttered as if regretful, “It didn’t get cut off.”

Bzzzt—

The Arcane Power exploding out of 「Kyneē,」 the monstrous strength imbued by the full-body [Gigantification,] and Demonic Energy on top of that. Using all his powers in one move, YuWon attempted to cut off Lancelot’s arm in one slash. But the result was unfortunately a failure.

“You bastard—!”

However...

“Shouldn’t you be paying attention?”

Flick—

Lancelot’s body turned.

The one person, no, the Undead he had forgotten about.

Shwaaaack—

Clang—!

As the two swords clashed, Lancelot’s arm quivered from the impact.

It was a sturdy sword too difficult to block with a half-cut-off arm. Although Arthur was a funny-looking Undead with the head of an Orc, he couldn’t be underestimated.

“Arthur...!”

“I’ve waited long for this day.”

Cr-Craaack—

Frosty mana flowed from his sword and froze Lancelot’s arm.

“The day I kill you.”

* * *

Translator - Jreaming

Proofreader - BringTheRayn

* * *

“Foolish.”

Crack—

He swung his sword at Arthur’s, and the impact wasn’t bad.

“You aren’t the Arthur I knew...”

Boom—!

The Arcane Power being emitted from Lancelot’s body pushed Arthur back.

“And I’m nothing like the man you used to know.”

Clang, clang—!

The swords continued to clash, and Arthur’s arm started to shake. Although Lancelot’s arm was in a half-broken state, his sword was still much stronger than Arthur’s.

Crack—

Half of Arthur’s head cracked, and the skull plate fell to the ground in fragments.

And at that moment...

“Stalling for this much time is enough.”

Fwooosh—

The temperature rose in all directions.

Lancelot thought for a moment that this was Merlin’s magic. However, he was wrong. The type of magic power, its attributes, everything was different.

Familiar but fearsome, two clashing emotions were felt by Lancelot at once.

‘I’ll be eaten.’

Fwooosh—

The enormous flames consumed Lancelot’s body.

“Kuaaaak!”

➤ I need to get away.

And something like a voice was heard from deep inside his mind.

Fwooosh—

The flames became fiercer. But why?

Looking at the flames, a deep fear rose from his heart.

➤ Run away.

“Run away...?”

His instincts and reason both made different decisions. It was as if two people with different personalities were in an argument.

“Run away... from a mere flame of this scale? That which isn’t even from Merlin?”

His opponent was a player who hadn’t even become a Ranker. To feel fear from someone like him, who wasn’t even Merlin...

He couldn’t accept it.

“Shut up!”

Crack—

His arm twisted, and his sword was screaming.

He will cut it.

His eyes had gone white with rage and Lancelot put all his strength into this single slash.

At that moment...

Crash—!

Craaaaack—!

With the flames surrounding his body, the wall of the magic circle made by Merlin was cut.

‘It’s done.’

The wall was finally gone.

Now, he didn’t even need to look behind him. If he could just get away from this place, it wasn’t impossible for him to return to Britain at a later time.

Lancelot moved towards the city gates.

Or rather, he tried to. But then...

Fwooosh—!

From outside the flames that Lancelot’s sword had cut through, YuWon appeared.

Clang—!

Crash—

The two swords clashed, and Lancelot’s body shook.

“Kugh...!”

He was pushed back from the unexpected attack for a moment.

But as that happened, Arthur rushed in from behind him.

FWIP—

Vwoop—

Lancelot grabbed the sword that was aimed at his back with his bare hand. Thanks to the major stat difference, Arthur’s sword only made a small cut in Lancelot’s palm.

“You are...”

Vwoong—

Along with his sword, Arthur’s body was lifted into the air.

“You dare!”

Bang—!

As he smashed Arthur into the ground, Lancelot also plunged his sword in as well.

At that moment...

[Forest of Swords]

Bang, ba-ba-ba-bang—

Thousands of sharp blades erupted from the ground. The city turned into a forest made of sharp swords. And inside that forest...

Fwip, fwip-wip-wip—

Thousands of scratches formed on YuWon's body.

"You dodged it...?"

YuWon twisted his body and stepped on thin air.

Just how did he dodge that many swords?

Lancelot's eyes went wide with surprise.

[Activating Sky Steps.]

[Your movement speed increases by 100% for 5 seconds.]

[You can step on the sky for 5 seconds.]

[Activating Sensory Field.]

[Cinder Eyes reads the path.]

Dodging had been a specialty for YuWon for a long time. On top of that, he was also using both [Cinder Eyes] and [Sky Steps] right now. No matter how large the affected area of the attack was, if even a small gap existed, he could dodge sufficiently.

"You brat...!"

Lancelot moved his sword in a diagonal line along his vision. Although he was quite far away, it was still close enough to slash YuWon.

He held the sword with both hands, but its cut felt different than usual.

Chweeek—

It felt much heavier than ever before.

The sword's power and speed was naturally reduced, and his vision started to cloud over.

Something was interfering with the sword's trajectory.

'...Water?'

Splash—!

Slap—!

Following the water, Lancelot's sword slash hit the buildings.

However, YuWon, who was the designated target, had already disappeared from his previous spot.

This was the outcome of his weak and slow attack.

Tap—

Lancelot glared at YuWon as he landed on the flat plains after the effects of the skill [Forest of Swords] ended, which Lancelot had planned to use to deal with him and run away.

Although he called him brat, YuWon seemed different.

‘Just what is it?’

YuWon was much weaker than him and didn’t even compare in terms of Arcane Power either. Although the power he wielded was special, there was of course a gap in stats and levels between them that couldn’t be closed with just skills alone.

But YuWon’s total combat strength told a different story.

Lancelot felt as if he was fighting the strongest being in the Tower.

“Just what are you?!”

This guy had ruined everything he had planned. If it wasn’t for this guy... If...

Grip—

Strength naturally flowed into the hand that was holding the sword.

YuWon’s form took up all of Lancelot’s vision.

Along with anger at facing him, a sense of fear crept up on Lancelot. Although the distance between them was quite wide, he felt as if he was within arm's reach.

No. It was the opposite. He felt that he was within YuWon’s reach.

It was a creepy sensation.

It was then that YuWon opened his mouth and said, “Now, it’s your turn.”

Who was he speaking to?

Only Arthur and Merlin were here. Arthur was practically out of commission, and Merlin was over there with his arms crossed, just observing the situation as if he had nothing to do with it.

➤ **Run away.**

That annoying voice echoed again. This was the source of his fear.

“Shut up!” Lancelot shouted.

Fear? How could he feel fear against an opponent who wasn’t even a Ranker yet!

Bang—!

He kicked off the ground and launched himself at YuWon in a straight line.

Run away? It had already been a long time since he’d given up doing something like that. He wouldn’t be able to stand not ripping this bastard of a player to pieces.

But then...

➤ **So in the end, you chose death.**

Crack—

Lancelot's fast-flying body stopped, and his body faltered in moving forward.

"What...?"

Did Merlin cast a spell?

Lancelot looked at his feet which were tightly bound.

And at that moment...

Crack, crshh—

"What is..."

A deep darkness covered the area under his feet.

Inside the darkness, he saw a few closed eyes and a few opened eyes. And...

Rip—

Clack, crick—

The rows of teeth that were eating his feet.

[?'s Egg shows its form.]

"There was a saying in the world I lived in."

Before he came here, YuWon had given a threat-like suggestion to the egg.

"If you don't help me, you won't have anything to eat either."

"He who does not work, shall not eat."

The egg only responded then, that one threat seemingly more effective than the many appeasements before.

"I don't know whether you were scared or if you're just late, but this timing is quite good."

Crack—

"AAAAAAAAAAAAACK!"

The teeth climbed past his ankles and they were already eating away at Lancelot's hips.

Being eaten alive wasn't just a problem that caused pain.

Fear.

The attachment to life and the fear of death was greater than the pain, and this made him throw away both his dignity and ego, which were everything to Lancelot.

"Save—me!"

There was a chance. If he pleaded, he would be saved. It was a possibility. No, if there was even a single better outcome, he needed to cling to that.

"Uwaaaack! Please! I'll do anything...!"

“Thal, Lollit.”

Behind Lancelot the prickly and chilling voice of an Undead was heard.

“And Mordred Pendragon.”

His son’s name.

When Lancelot heard that name, he had no choice but to let go of that tiny, foolish hope.

“This is why you must die.”

Crack—!

[?’s egg is consuming ‘Lancelot of Betrayal and Greed.’]

Chapter 137

Crack, crunch—

The sound of crunching bones was not nice to hear at any time. It was a sound that was produced when a monster ate another monster or a human.

However, the scene in front of YuWon was much weirder than that.

‘It feels different than before, when he ate Orochi.’

This wasn’t a feeling he simply got from watching it.

It took a lot longer to eat Lancelot than it did for Orochi, which was comparatively more massive.

It looked like it was taking more time to eat as if there was a lot more food, so it was chewing thoroughly and trying to digest it properly.

“Is it savoring the food?”

It wasn’t a good sight to see.

Of course, contrary to that, it did feel like Lancelot deserved it.

But soon after...

Crunch—

With the crunch of one last bone, Lancelot’s body was completely consumed by the Egg. At that moment...

[?’s Egg’s incubation rate increases.]

[Incubation Rate: 68.29%]

Maybe the increase in its incubation rate was because it took a long time to eat?

The Egg sounded satisfied and full as it sent messages to YuWon.

[?’s Egg pats its stomach.]

[?’s Egg sings.]

[?’s Egg...]

The thing looked to be in high spirits.

The incubation rate of the Egg was approaching 70% now. The rate of increase was definitely higher than when it ate the single head of Orochi.

‘Looks like I’ll be able to hatch it soon.’

This egg with an unknown name was definitely connected to the Outer Gods. It also increased its incubation rate and grew as it ate them.

At first, YuWon had wondered where he could increase the Egg’s incubation rate, but now he could think of a few methods.

Completing it wasn’t too far off.

Then, among the messages of the joyful egg, another message appeared.

[You have dealt with ‘Lancelot of Betrayal and Greed.’]

[The seat of Britain’s King is now vacant.]

[10 days remaining until the New King Election.]

[If you receive the majority vote, you may obtain the title ‘King of Britain.’]

[Your level has increased.]

[Your Dexterity has increased by 2.]

[Your Constitution has increased by 1.]

[You have obtained 200,000 points.]

“...?”

Having read the sudden message, YuWon was dumbfounded. It wasn’t like he completed a test or hunted a monster. But his level had increased and he had obtained points.

‘Was he registered as a boss like Orochi’s head? This is my first time seeing this.’

His name also wasn’t just ‘Lancelot’ but ‘Betrayal and Greed’ was also attached to it.

The Outer Gods all had names that signified their specialties. The ones who wished for the chaos and destruction of the Tower. 《Foolish Chaos,》 《Despair that Reaches the Skies,》 《Gloom Trapped in a Swamp,》 《One who Couldn’t be Born.》

The name “Betrayal and Greed” was definitely a title that fit Lancelot. He definitely had a seed spread by 《Foolish Chaos》 embedded in him. It was probably a seed that was related to greed.

‘The system had prepared for the Outers that had already entered the Tower.’

It wasn't bad news. He planned to clash against the Outer Gods a few times in the future. Including 《Foolish Chaos.》

If he could level up and receive rewards every time he defeated them, his growth rate would be accelerated tremendously.

[Name: Kim YuWon.]

[Level: 97]

[Strength: 99]

[Dexterity: 95]

[Constitution: 99]

[Perception: 99]

[Arcane Power: 102]

[Unspent Points: 1,547,600]

With the points he had received this time, his points had exceeded 1.5 million. It was quite high.

On top of that, it was only three more levels before he would reach Level 100, and excluding Dexterity, all other stats were at least 99.

‘This outcome isn’t bad at all.’

He would start spending points soon. More than anything else, he needed the ingredients to make the item that would be created using the 「Divine Sea Crystal.」

“What was that?”

YuWon turned his head and looked at Merlin.

Merlin had only remained a spectator after he arrived. He acted like he would help at first, but the moment YuWon had cut Lancelot’s arm, he stopped moving. It was from that point that Merlin’s eyes changed as they watched YuWon.

“I knew you weren’t some average bloke, but just like that guy...”

Merlin’s gaze turned to where Lancelot had been.

Blood stains painted the ground.

Merlin shook his head and corrected his words, “No, not at all. You had a much stronger monster than that guy.”

“Did it seem like that?”

“That’s right. Talk to me. Lancelot, what was he, and what was that after that as well?”

“An existence that came from outside the Tower.”

“...?”

“An Outer.”

Outside.

Without using this one short word, there wasn't a way to properly describe them.

"You just need to know it's something like that. I don't even know the exact details."

If Merlin asked what an Outer was specifically, not even YuWon would be able to give an answer.

The ones that entered the Tower after its walls had crumbled.

The ones who broke the boundary, putting the worlds into destruction.

Yuwon didn't know how to explain them.

"More than that..."

Rumble—

Yuwon lifted his chin and looked to the sky.

"It's too early to let our guard down."

* * *

Translator - Jreaming

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"What are you saying?"

Merlin followed YuWon's gaze and looked up.

A thick layer of rain clouds that had nothing to do with the skill that Merlin had used.

Was it going to rain soon? But it didn't seem like it, and the movement of the clouds looked peculiar.

"...One strike."

Rain clouds filled the sky. Pricks of electricity and mana filled the air.

It was a familiar phenomena.

"There will be one strike."

"One strike?"

Merlin seemed to still not have understood the situation. He only seemed to have noticed that something was off.

"The power of lightning."

Fwooosh—

Yuwon's eyes turned red and blazed.

"One of the 'Big Three' gods will be here."

"The 'Big Three'..."

Clouds and electricity. There was only one god among the three that those represented.

Merlin's eyes opened wide.

It was a surprised expression similar to how he reacted when he first saw Arthur return as an Undead.

"Are you talking about Zeus?"

Sure enough...

[The Fall of Camelot begins.]

[In 10 minutes, the 'Lightning Bolt' will fall on Camelot.]

[Block the Lightning Bolt.]

An unexpected test.

Although it was quite sudden, the problem was that the difficulty of the test was unbelievably high.

"...So it's like this in the end."

YuWon was wondering what their reaction would be after Lancelot's failure. However, not even he could have easily guessed that they would react this quickly and this extremely. To try and blow up the entirety of Camelot...

'Seeing that this is registered as a test, it probably means that he already finished talking with the Administrator a long time ago. Looks like he did everything he could to reduce his penalty.'

Not even Zeus would be able to enact this much power on the 25th Floor this easily. He was aiming to blow up not just one person but an entire city that had thousands of people living in it. The reason that he registered blocking [Lightning Bolt] as a test was probably because he was wary of the penalty.

"Is it really Zeus?"

"Probably. Only he is able to control lightning of that degree in the Tower."

Hearing this, Merlin no longer doubted the connection between Zeus and the test.

An incredible level of Arcane Power could be felt from below the clouds. It was enough to even give Merlin, who had achieved quite a high rank among the High-Rankers, the goosebumps.

A lightning-attribute High-Ranker that held this much power, and a level of power to blow away an entire city with only one lightning bolt at that. In this Tower, there was only one person.

"But... why?"

"Didn't I tell you? The ones backing Lancelot were Olympus."

"Just for that reason?"

"If Britain was the goal, he wouldn't need to do all this."

“That doesn’t make sense. If Camelot is destroyed, the level of penalty that Olympus would have to take would be enormous. And if this incident is made known, they may have to go against Asgard.”

“Yes, that’s exactly it.” YuWon nodded. “Asgard.”

One of the most powerful forces in the Tower, in rank with Olympus, and the guild that held the most Rankers. Also, the High-Ranker said to be the strongest in the Tower, Odin, was also in that guild.

“Even the mighty Olympus fears Asgard. Since they have Odin.”

“...What are you trying to say?”

Destroying Camelot because they feared Asgard. If the previous statements were true, that meant that Olympus should never even have touched Camelot.

Bzzzt—

Time was running out.

10 minutes. No, in this short moment, another minute had passed.

The moment [Lightning Bolt] fell to the ground, Camelot would disappear without a trace.

“We don’t have the time to leisurely talk about this.”

Vwooong—

Merlin raised his hand skyward.

Vwong, woong, woooong—

A circular magic array floated into the air. The array that was a few meters wide instantly duplicated into hundreds and thousands of copies. The magic circles started to fill the sky.

YuWon exclaimed in his heart as he saw this happening.

‘I haven’t seen this in a while.’

Merlin was someone who understood magic better than anyone else in the Tower, and the number of skills he possessed was greater than any other Ranker. He learned and memorized ten thousand skills, and he created ten thousand skills himself.

The “Great Magician.” Merlin hadn’t earned that title for nothing.

‘But...’ he thought.

“This much... isn’t enough.”

Zeus’s [Lightning Bolt] was one of the strongest of all the skills that existed in the Tower. It was a skill that one could barely block if they focused all the Arcane Power into one point, so it couldn’t be blocked by spreading mana out like this.

[In 5 minutes, Lightning Bolt will fall on Camelot.]

Time passed by quickly.

Merlin clenched his teeth.

“Do you have something you can do?”

“Something...”

Bzzt, bzzt—

YuWon looked up at the sky again.

[Lightning Bolt] flashed around inside the clouds and was getting bigger and bigger by the moment.

After thinking for a second, YuWon nodded. “It’s not like I don’t have one.”

“If you have anything, do it now! Quickly!”

“But it’s not on me.”

“What are you talking about?”

Rumble—

The clouds flashed.

YuWon was still looking in there.

“Are you saying you’ll get an answer if you keep looking at it? That damned lightning...”

“That’s not it.”

Fwoosh—

YuWon’s eyes searched through the clouds.

“I’m not looking at the Lightning Bolt.”

[Cinder Eyes resonates.]

It had already been a few days since he heard the message. At that time, he really felt like his heart was going to drop. That’s why he wondered if it would be fine right now.

“The thing I’m looking at...”

After contemplating for a while, he steeled himself to ignore it. He didn’t want to face it now.

The reason was simple.

[In 4 minutes, Lightning Bolt will fall on Camelot.]

He didn’t have the confidence to act and feign ignorance against that guy.

[In 3 minutes, Lightning Bolt will fall on Camelot.]

But at this point, he couldn’t just do that either.

After having stopped talking for a while, YuWon breathed a deep sigh.

[In 2 minutes, Lightning Bolt will fall on Camelot.]

After the test started, it had already taken him seven minutes to solidify his determination.

“You’re looking, right? Could you...” YuWon’s eyes looked through the clouds at the guy inside it. “Help us?”

[The Twelfth Eye of ‘The Great Sage, Heaven’s Equal’ gazes at you.]

Chapter 138

[The Twelfth Eye of ‘The Great Sage, Heaven’s Equal’ gazes at you.]

The Twelfth. So it at least wasn’t his main body.

Well, it would be a huge commotion if an existence on the level of “The Great Sage” were to come down to a low level like this since he was a target even the Administrators kept special note of.

‘And about this time, his main body should be...’

A blunt tone.

It was expected. YuWon had known of the guy’s tsundere-like personality for a long time now. Just because he was a clone didn’t mean his personality would disappear.

“Then, will you leave us to die like this?”

“Then wouldn’t you be wasting all that effort of searching for me?”

“Seeing as you’ve been following me around for a few days like a stalker, you probably have a reason for it.”

[Cinder Eyes] and [Golden Cinder Eyes] were skills that had similar characteristics to each other. No, not just similar. These two skills were in the same category, where one was an advanced version of the other.

Son OhGong would definitely be curious as to how YuWon was able to acquire this skill. Since he was someone who couldn’t hold back his curiosity, he definitely would’ve spent some time looking for YuWon, and he wouldn’t be able to leave the current situation as is.

“Who are you talking to?”

In Merlin’s perspective, since he couldn’t see Son OhGong, YuWon would’ve looked like he had lost his mind and was talking into empty space.

YuWon didn’t reply to Merlin. He was too pressed for time right now to pay it any mind.

Since he had been observing YuWon for a few days now, Son OhGong had a decent grasp of the extent of YuWon’s skills. And he also knew that it wasn’t impossible for YuWon to run away from the affected area of a single [Lightning Bolt.]

However...

“Even then...”

YuWon looked at the castle of Camelot, the place that until today had belonged to Lancelot. The thing that Olympus wanted to erase was that castle right there.

“I can’t bear to see this place be destroyed.”

[In 1 minute, Lightning Bolt will fall on Camelot.]

Rumble—!

The clouds fiercely roared and signaled the coming of [Lightning Bolt.] Destruction was nearly here.

“So help us just this once,” YuWon said while looking at the white-haired man in the clouds, “Then I’ll help you as well.”

“If it’s just this once.”

Rumble—!

Shattering thunder was heard from among the clouds. The sky was filled with yellow light, and the [Lightning Bolt] inside the clouds roared like an enraged beast.

However, more than that, Merlin noticed an even stronger presence.

“Th-The...”

The young man with different colored eyes and pale hair.

With a jesting smile, he introduced himself, seeing Merlin’s shocked expression, “‘The Great Sage, Heaven’s Equal,’ appears before you.”

“Huhu...” Merlin could only stand there laughing in shock.

The news of Camelot’s destruction by Zeus’s [Lightning Bolt] was sudden, but now “The Great Sage” had appeared as well.

It was enough that his jaw dropped.

“That’s enough of being surprised.” Son OhGong raised his head and looked at the sky.

Flash—!

Fiery light filled the scene.

“Let’s deal with that first.” He raised the long staff in his hand up to the sky. “Expand —”

At that moment...

[The destruction of Camelot is starting.]

[Lightning Bolt falls on Camelot.]

“—Ruyi.”

Ta-kang—!

Rumble—!

Two loud booms were heard in the sky as they collided.

Bzzzzt—!

Between the magic circle created by Merlin, the huge staff and the [Lightning Bolt] crashed.

As if buried by the thunder, the magic circle instantly shattered with the sound.

“Cough—!”

Merlin threw up blood from his mouth. His body had received feedback from the sudden shock applied to the skill he was pouring mana into.

Son OhGong’s 「Ruyi Jingu」 and [Lightning Bolt] shook as they collided.

It was an incredible power.

YuWon looked at the two forces coming into contact with each other in the sky.

‘Its power has decreased.’

[Lightning Bolt] seemed to have enough power to destroy everything on the ground just a moment ago. However, with the clash against 「Ruyi Jingu,」 its power had significantly decreased. It looked as if a fast-moving car had its breaks pressed after crashing.

However...

“Huh?”

Even though he had thrown 「Ruyi Jingu」 with confidence, a sense of confusion appeared on Son OhGong’s face.

“This... is a bit strong?”

Cr-Crack—

Cracks started to form on 「Ruyi Jingu.」

Although it was a replica created with the clone, it was still a 「Ruyi Jingu.」

[Lightning Bolt] shouldn’t have been strong enough to crack it.

‘Is it too much...?’

Even if Zeus was being suppressed by the penalty, Son OhGong was still facing his main body. Opposite that, the clone here was just the twelfth one.

Even if he was able to decrease the impact to a certain degree, it was difficult to completely nullify the strike.

Then...

Bzzzt—

YuWon's right hand.

The item made from the 「Divine Dark Crystal」 「Kyneē」 reacted. It was a similar reaction to what it did when he came close to the 「Divine Sea Crystal」 inside the Big Turtle. Yet...

‘It’s a little different.’

Bzzt, bzzzzt—

The eye of 「Kyneē」 opened.

After looking at the eye, YuWon began to move.

Step—

“Hold on for a little longer.”

“What did you say? ‘Hold on’... Hey, where are you going! Hey!”

Tap, tap, tap, tap—

YuWon ran up the side of 「Ruyi Jingu」 Son OhGong, who had many questions for YuWon, shouted in surprise at his unexpected action.

If he continued to climb 「Ruyi Jingu」 like this, he would reach the place of contact with the [Lightning Bolt.]

“Fuck, dammit.”

Son OhGong put power into 「Ruyi Jingu」 with annoyance.

If YuWon continued to climb like that, he would definitely die from electrocution.

At least, that was the case if YuWon's skills were only that of what Son OhGong had seen until now.

There was only one exception.

‘Is he trusting that guy?’

The monster that ate up the High-Ranker Lancelot, whatever it was.

Having lived for a long time, and as a High-Ranker at that, there was nothing that Son OhGong couldn't know.

But Kim YuWon... He was full of secrets.

And before OhGong could satiate his curiosity, YuWon needed to stay alive.

Step—

YuWon had nearly reached the summit of 「Ruyi Jingu.」

He could see YuWon's form being pulled into that yellow light where the [Lightning Bolt] made contact with the staff.

“That guy, he's gonna die.”

Fwooosh—

One of Son OhGong's eyes burned brightly. Through [Golden Cinder Eyes] he could see YuWon clearer. He could see Yuwon's form buried within that yellow electricity.

“Huh...?”

Son OhGong blinked with confusion.

YuWon didn't burn to death inside the electric field.

It was rather the opposite. The thing that was disappearing was the [Lightning Bolt] Zeus had thrown downwards.

Bzzzzt—

“What the hell is that?”

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Translator - Jreaming

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* * *

Bzzzzt—!

His entire body felt numb.

Arcane Power surrounded his body, and even though its strength had been pushed back, the [Lightning Bolt] was still this fierce. If its power hadn't been dispersed by crashing into Son OhGong's 「Ruyi Jingu,」 he would have needed to handle a much higher magnitude of danger.

[Elemental Worshipper's Garment resists the electricity.]

The clothes YuWon was wearing were helping quite a bit as well. If it were any old item, it wouldn't have even been able to withstand the power of the [Lightning Bolt,] and its effect would've been suppressed.

However, the 「Elemental Worshipper's Garment」 was different. It was an item that if you were to exchange it for points, it would easily cost more than a million.

As he put more mana into it, it even became possible to resist a bit of the power of the [Lightning Bolt.]

‘Fortunately, it's bearable.’

Bzzzt—

It wasn't impossible to withstand it. The problem came after.

The power of the [Lightning Bolt] wasn't something YuWon could resist indefinitely right now. Even though he had become much stronger than planned, there was no preparation for Zeus using his [Lightning Bolt] at this time either.

But it didn't matter.

Yuwon stretched out his hand toward the enormous amount of electricity flowing before him.

The one fighting wasn't him.

[Kyneē reacts to Lightning Bolt.]

[Pure Divine Dark Crystal reacts to Lightning Bolt.]

[Pure Divine Sea Crystal reacts to Lightning Bolt.]

The two sleeping fragments inside 「Kyneē」 started to move.

The 「Lightning Bolt」 was an item that Hephaestus forged using an item called the 「Divine Sky Crystal」.

That was the item in front of him right now.

And if YuWon's guess was right, the two stones were fragments of a singular item at the start.

Crack—

The eye of 「Kyneē」 fully opened wide. It stared at the [Lightning Bolt.]

Dark Arcane Power flowed out of it, and it instantly consumed the yellow electric light.

[Kyneē consumes the power of Lightning Bolt.]

[Lightning Bolt's power settles within Kyneē.]

A voice slowly spoke through the eye.

It was the same voice heard when 「Kyneē」 was first completed.

It greedily ate up the power of the [Lightning Bolt.]

The overwhelming electric energy flowed into YuWon through his hand, and his body quickly went stiff from it.

Bzzt, bzzzzzt—!

“Kgk...”

The current flowed through the wide-open eye. It felt as if he was accepting the power of the [Lightning Bolt] thrown by Zeus with one hand. Even if it was 「Kyneē」

that was absorbing its power, it was unavoidable that he would be affected by the electricity.

‘So the power that was decreased by Ruyi Jingu was still this much.’

It was an attack that was originally thrown to destroy Britain. Thanks to the unseen variable of Son OhGong, its strength had decreased by more than half, but that was still strong enough to easily flatten a castle.

[Under the effects of Status Condition: Electric Shock.]

[Elemental Worshipper’s Garment resists the electricity.]

[Failed to resist the Status Condition: Electric Shock.]

Afflicting of the status condition.

It signalled that his body was reaching the limit.

“I’m... going to die...”

Clench—

YuWon grinded his teeth.

It wasn’t simply because of the pain.

Zeus. The existence at the pinnacle of Olympus.

He didn’t like the fact that the difference between him, who had fallen all the way to the bottom, and Zeus was still this large.

‘I’ll catch up to you in no time.’

Blood vessels popped around his eyes, and his body started to burn black. He felt that he would lose consciousness if he lost focus for even a second.

[Status Condition: Electric Shock advances to level 2.]

[Elemental Worshipper’s Garment resists the electricity.]

[Failed to resist Status Condition: Electric Shock.]

[Status Condition: Electric Shock advances to level 3.]

[Status Condition: Electric Shock...]

Bzzzt—

The eye on the back of 「Kyneē」 became larger and larger.

As the level of electric shock and the strength of [Kyneē’s] consumption increased, the [Lightning Bolt’s] power decreased as well. The light filling the sky started to dim down.

How much time had passed?

YuWon suddenly realized that the strength he was feeling after having plunged into the raging storm of the [Lightning Bolt] was no longer there.

And at that moment...

[Status Condition: Electric Shock advances to level 5.]

[You have absorbed the power of the Lightning Bolt.]

[You have stopped the Destruction of Camelot.]

[Contribution: 38.7%.]

[Excluding the interference of the unapproved existence.]

[Contribution: 97.12%]

[You have shown great influence in stopping the destruction of Camelot.]

[You have obtained 10,000,000 points.]

[You Arcane Power increases by 1.]

[You have obtained 'Fragment of Lightning Bolt.']

[You have obtained a strong tolerance to electricity.]

Flop—

With the arrival of the expected message, YuWon's body collapsed on top of 「Ruyi Jingu.」

Chapter 139

Pssht—

The yellow current flowed through his hand and fell down.

Poseidon looked at the bottom of the pond. The water had completely dried up. The hole that had been dug beneath it was far too deep to fathom.

It was the place that Zeus's [Lightning Bolt] had fallen.

‘Incredible.’

Although it was only one shot, it was still an amazing sight to see.

The power to eliminate an entire city.

The ones who possessed such power didn't even exceed ten in the entire Tower. However...

“...This was outside of expectations.”

Pssht—

Zeus wore a confused expression for the first time in a long while.

“Outside of expectations?”

“It failed.”

“What?”

This was an even more surprising news.

Failed? And not just anyone else, but Zeus?

If he meant ‘failed’ regarding the total annihilation of Camelot, that was understandable. A city of that size was still difficult to destroy in its entirety even with [Lightning Bolt.] On top of that, Camelot had a High-Ranker, Merlin, in it as well.

However, Zeus wouldn’t have said it ‘failed’ with only that much.

From the start, the thing that he wanted wasn’t the entire city but just the castle.

“What happened?”

“An unexpected variable appeared.”

“Variable? What?”

““The Great Sage, Heaven’s Equal.””

Poseidon’s eyes went wide. But he nodded because, although it was surprising, it was also understandable to a certain degree. An acceptable response.

There were not many in existence that could block [Lightning Bolt.] The “Great Sage” was definitely one of them. Considering the power of his 「Ruyi Jingu」 and 「Flying Nimbus,」 it was definitely doable. However...

“But why is he there? There’s nothing good for him if he ends up our enemy.”

“He’s a free spirit. He’s probably not even considering if he’ll make enemies or not.”

“So he’s fearless.”

“He has the strength to back it up. We can’t ignore him, nor can we simply just label him as our enemy.”

Hearing Zeus’s words, Poseidon nodded.

While it was true that obstructing the will of Olympus was an unforgivable sin, the subject in question wasn’t just anyone. “The Great Sage” couldn’t be considered a lone entity. Being the wielder of the power of immortality and cloning techniques, he was someone not even the major guild ‘Heavenly Realm’ could kill. On top of that, his rankings were much higher than Poseidon’s as well.

“Did his main body move?”

“There’s no way.”

The Great Sage’s current main body was in a situation where it couldn’t move. Which meant that the [Lightning Bolt] had been blocked by one of his clones.

“He wasn’t the only unexpected variable.”

“Was it perhaps Kim YuWon, that bastard, as well?”

“That’s probably the case.”

Poseidon had asked just in case, but it turned out to be reality.

No matter if The Great Sage’s clone had helped out, it was hard to believe that a mere player who wasn’t even a Ranker had blocked [Lightning Bolt.] That was a feat hard for even most Rankers to accomplish.

Then, at what level did they need to view Kim YuWon’s current strength?

‘Was he already approaching the strength of High-Rankers?’

After thinking about Kim YuWon for a second, Poseidon shook his head. No matter how incredible his growth rate was, that wasn’t the most pressing thing that required his attention right now.

Because due to this event, an even bigger giant might start to move.

“Asgard will soon know as well, then.”

“That’ll probably be the case.”

“What are you thinking of doing? Knowing you, you’ve probably set up a plan for what happens next already.”

At Poseidon’s question, Zeus nodded. “It’s not like there isn’t a way.”

“...Then?”

Their eyes met.

In that moment...

Bzzt—

Bang, splash—!

The two Arcane Powers collided in the air. Lightning poured down as a curtain of water erupted midair to block it.

The electricity flowed through the water and into Poseidon’s arm.

Bzzt, bzzzzt—

He could feel a prickling sensation through his hand.

Clench—

After looking at his numb hand for a second, Poseidon clenched it into a fist and glared at Zeus.

“I knew this would happen.”

The situation had formed in Poseidon’s head the moment he heard of the failure. The passing thought that maybe the reason that Zeus, in all his selfishness, had allowed Poseidon to come here was just to prepare for this moment.

“Are you thinking of cutting me off to be the scapegoat?”

“Sorry, brother.”

Rumble—

The sky opened up as a stormcloud descended and thunder roared.

Rumble—!

Bzzt, bzzzzzt—

Lightning fell from the sky. It moved as if alive, and after circling Zeus’s body, it gathered on his palm.

“All things...”

Grabbing the bolt of lightning that had just fallen, Zeus held the ‘weapon’ charged with incredible Arcane Power in his hand.

“...For the glory of Olympus.”

* * *

Translator - Jreaming

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Consciousness waned back and forth.

YuWon’s body felt stiff. It felt as if he hadn’t moved in a few days already.

His eyes opened, and the view of a tall ceiling filled his blurry vision.

‘Did I pass out?’

It had been a while since he fought until his consciousness gave out.

No, in truth, it was hard to call that a fight. The only thing he did was block a singular attack from Zeus. No one would see that and call it a fight.

Clank—

As YuWon went to sit up, he noticed 「Edge of Nightfall」 on his chest.

As if someone had put it there, 「Edge of Nightfall」 was on his body. It had the effect of increasing his recovery rate in darkness, which included at night.

‘Was it Merlin?’

He seemed to have woken up a few days early thanks to this.

He sat up in a daze as wind blew into the room. His mind started to clear, and his memory slowly returned.

‘The reward.’

If you were a Ranker who had leveled up and had been climbing the Tower for a long time, it was the moment that you always looked forward to.

On top of that, if his memory was correct, the reward this time was much better than expected.

[Name: Kim YuWon]

[Level: 97]

[Strength: 99]

[Dexterity: 95]

[Constitution: 99]

[Perception: 99]

[Arcane Power: 105]

His stats were still nowhere near good.

Compared to most Rankers, his stats were undeniably impressive, but YuWon had even higher stats than this before. They were still lacking, and by a large margin too.

However, among them, there was still one decent stat.

[Arcane Power: 105]

“It... was real.”

Arcane Power stat +3.

Looking at the number, it wasn't that big of a jump. However, his Arcane Power had shown no sign of progressing for the longest time. Even after conquering Susanoo's dungeon and leveling up, it had only risen by two, but from this one incident, it had risen by three.

‘It's much better than leveling up multiple times.’

Just as it became harder to level up the closer he got to Level 100, it was very difficult to raise a stat that had gone into triple digits. Also, the stat would have a bigger effect than before, even from this minor increase.

A straightforward reward.

No. Technically, this wasn't even the reward from the test.

‘Two of the three increases were from the Arcane Power absorbed by Kyneē. The remaining one was the reward.’

Vwong, wooong—

Dozens of [Mana Blasts] were created, centered around YuWon.

The pale blue [Mana Blasts] were smooth and round like marbles. The number of perfect mana spheres exceeded 20, reaching 30.

“This is definitely more comfortable.”

The importance of stats refreshed itself in his mind every time they increased. The same person's mastery over mana changed so drastically just because of the difference in the number next to the stat.

Even though the number only increased by three, he felt that he could create ten more [Mana Blasts] now. Also...

[Fragment of Lightning Bolt]

▷ Rank: S-

▷ Proficiency: 0.00%

▷ A small fragment of the 'Lightning Bolt.' Allows one to control electrical energy.

▷ A strong resistance to electricity.

▷ Amplifies lightning-attribute mana by 10%.

'I didn't expect to get this as a skill.'

[Fragment of Lightning Bolt.] The skill obtained after completing the 'Destruction of Camelot' test this time. The great power of and resistance to lightning, and the amplification of mana.

Just looking at the description, it wasn't that impressive of a skill. However, the wording of 'control' in the skill's description put this skill on a different level.

YuWon looked at the swarm of [Mana Blasts] that filled the room like fireflies.

And then...

Bzzt, bzzzzt—!

Sparks flew fiercely off them. The room was instantly filled with electrical charge.

Even though he was in the center of all this, YuWon didn't feel any different. In the first place, the only ones affected by their own mana were ones inexperienced in mana control, which didn't apply to YuWon.

'Control... means...' YuWon clenched his outstretched hand in front of him.

'Something like this.'

Rumble, rumble—

On the ceiling, a dark stormcloud formed. The dozens of [Mana Blasts] coalesced into a small [Lightning Bolt.]

At that moment...

"That's enough."

Creak—

The closed door opened wide as Merlin entered the room.

"We did so much to block it, are you going to blow up the castle yourself?"

Cr-crack—

A mana cage surrounded the cloud.

YuWon dropped his outstretched hand and looked at Merlin.

“Old Man.”

“Again with that. Don’t call me ‘Old Man.’” Merlin quietly clicked his tongue and sat on the sofa at the far side of the room, shaking his head. “Is that a new skill you obtained? I didn’t expect to see that damned lightning again after only a few days.”

“How many days have passed?”

“It’s been five days. You slept for a while.”

Five days.

He had expected only three to have passed, so it was a lot more than he realized. The shock he received was probably that strong.

“Just what did you do? After you got hit by the lightning so suddenly and fell, the Lightning Bolt disappeared. And also...” Merlin looked at the dark marks created all around the room. “You’ve obtained a strength like this as well.”

“It’s hard for me to control it right now. I apologize.”

“I’m not trying to stop you, just tell me about it.”

“It’s the reward I got after passing the test this time. And the thing back then...”

YuWon shook his head and stopped his explanation. “I can’t explain it properly. I just got a feeling.”

“A feeling? You did?”

Seemingly baffled by this, Merlin let out a dry laugh.

Although he hadn’t known YuWon for long, Merlin knew that he wasn’t someone who would move based on feelings alone.

But it was the truth.

“I also do this sometimes.”

Although he replied in a joking manner and shrugged his shoulders, it wasn’t like there wasn’t evidence for his actions.

The 「Divine Dark Crystal」 the 「Divine Sea Crystal」 ... And the 「Divine Sky Crystal」 that Zeus currently had. If what YuWon guessed were true, these three stones weren’t separate in the beginning.

‘They might be trying to reform.’

He didn't know for exactly what reason 「Kyneē」 ate up the power of the [Lightning Bolt.] However, thanks to that, he acquired a power that would be useful for his inevitable fight against Zeus.

‘The skill “Fragment of Lightning Bolt” gives a strong resistance against electric attacks. I'll be able to use it quite effectively if I have to face Zeus sometime in the future.’

Although he suffered quite a bit, the things he had obtained in Britain this time were massive.

“If you can move around a bit, stand up. You have a guest waiting for you.”

Hearing Merlin's words, YuWon could guess what it was about and asked, “Are you talking about Son OhGong?”

Hearing OhGong's name, Merlin's forehead scrunched a little.

Maybe eventually in the far future, but currently, Merlin and Son OhGong's relationship wasn't that good. On top of that, from the view of The Round Table, Son OhGong's unpredictable personality made him a unstable bomb that could go off at any time.

“...It'll be good not to say his name so nonchalantly. He's famous for being ill-tempered. In any case, it's not him.”

“Then?”

“It's me, you punk.”

Creak—

Not able to wait any longer, the guest that had come for YuWon swung open the door and walked in.

Seeing a face he wasn't expecting, YuWon's eyes went wide.

“Ahjussi?”

Hephaestus had come to Camelot.

Chapter 140

Hephaestus's nagging went on for a long while. He seemed to have understood what the entire situation was as he barraged YuWon with lectures about how suicidal it was.

Only after a significant time had passed and the tea that Merlin had asked for arrived did Hephaestus calm down.

Clack—

After putting down his teacup, YuWon looked into Hephaestus's eyes. A vein bulged on Hephaestus's forehead. Even after having said so much, YuWon didn't seem to have listened to a single thing he had said.

“When did you come here?”

“It's been three days. I came to go sightseeing around Britain.”

Although Hephaestus said that, it was obvious that wasn't the truth. Because it was Hephaestus that had alerted YuWon that Son OhGong was looking for him.

"Now that I think about it, where is that guy?"

"That guy? The monkey?"

"Yes."

"It's still early morning for him. He's still sleeping and splayed out on his bed."

Hearing the two's conversation, Merlin let out a dry laugh. Even if he was just a clone, to call the one and only "Heaven's Equal" just a monkey... And YuWon, the one who heard it, didn't seem to be bothered by it either.

"But really, why are you here? If it's because of Son OhGong, you being here won't be much help either."

"Seeing that you're still impolite, you're probably fully recovered now. I said I'm here for sightseeing, you punk!"

"Really?"

"Yeah. That's right. What other reason would I be here?" Hephaestus subtly checked YuWon's reaction.

It wasn't just once or twice that he'd done this, and YuWon could tell just by looking.

"So, I'm only saying this since I'm here anyway..." His voice went quiet towards the end.

He was just saving face before, and this was the real reason.

"The Stone of the Sea. You still have it, right?"

"The Stone of the Sea?" Merlin turned his head to look at YuWon.

The 「Stone of the Sea」 A legend well known throughout all the worlds on the 20th Floor. To the one who holds the 「Stone of the Sea」 powers of a god theirs will be... and so on.

"So you were the one who had it?"

"Somehow." YuWon didn't deny it.

From the start, Merlin wasn't someone who desired others' treasure, and it also wasn't something one could steal just because they wanted to.

Right now, 「Kyneē」 was no different than any other part of YuWon's body.

"I've brought most of the materials. Since Camelot should have smithy, I can use that for a bit," Hephaestus said and turned to Merlin. "Is that fine?"

“The best blacksmith in the entire Tower is asking to use it, who would have problems with that? Use it to your heart’s content.”

Seeing Merlin’s fascinated expression, YuWon shook his head. Although he knew their personalities were very compatible, he hadn’t expected them to meet this early.

“What are the materials? Adamantium? Mythril?”

“There’s nothing like adamantium to pull out the power of the Stone. They synergize perfectly with each other.”

Since he had adamantium with him, he had probably earned a lot of money after starting to smith again.

“How much?” YuWon asked.

“2 kilograms.”

“1.25 million including the crafting cost, how about it?”

“1.5 million. You punk. I’m the one who got all of this together. Why are you trying to scam me again?”

Although they’d known each other longer now, from the beginning, Hephaestus had been greedy for money. As a favor for saving him from Olympus, he had given YuWon a lot of discounts, but it was unrealistic that he could do that forever.

After thinking for a second, YuWon nodded. He wasn’t wrong.

Also, unless you were a messenger working for an Administrator, the number of people who could haggle with Hephaestus was...

“Then, let’s settle on 1.4 million.”

Not zero.

100,000 points wasn't nothing. He needed to save when he could because there would be more opportunities in the future to use them.

Also, since Hephaestus wasn’t offering something out of his own goodwill but engaging in business, he wouldn’t be offended by haggling either.

“1.4 million...” After thinking over it for a bit, Hephaestus nodded. “Alright, sure. Let’s do that.”

Hephaestus’s main goal wasn’t to make money in the first place. The items he made were worth a million points at the baseline. If he wanted money, he could make a disgusting amount of it, but points alone couldn’t buy the process of creation that he found so much enjoyment in.

“How long will it take?”

“Since I’ve made two things that are similar to it already, I got used to it. About...”
After calculating for a second in his head, Hephaestus nodded. “Three days. I’ll finish it between then.”

Hephaestus’s eyes sparkled.

Even if he usually was a grumpy and mean ahjussi, as the one wielding the hammer, there was no other that could compare to him in the Tower. He also had enough passion and skills to back it up.

“Three days...”

Bzzzzt—

YuWon pulled the 「Divine Sea Crystal」 out of 「Kyneē」 and held it. Then he gave it to Hephaestus.

“I’ll leave it in your care.”

[You have used 1,400,000 points.]

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Translator - Jreaming

Proofreader - BringTheRayn

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After getting the 「Divine Sea Crystal,」 Hephaestus immediately went to work. Rather than sightseeing, he looked pretty prepared to craft equipment.

“How is The Round Table doing?”

“A nation without a king cannot stand for long. Even more so if that king disappeared because of betrayal.”

Britain’s current situation wasn’t too good. Lancelot was the king but also one of the two High-Rankers that held up The Round Table.

“Even after the incident happened, they fought about whether Lancelot was innocent or not, if Arthur was real or not, and other useless things. It just shows how great Lancelot’s influence was all this time.”

The vestiges of Lancelot’s influence covered The Round Table. Rather than pursuing the fleeing Lancelot, The Round Table had gone through internal strife because of the knights who insisted on his innocence. The situation had bloated so much that some of the knights who had sworn loyalty to Lancelot were trying to withdraw from The Round Table as well.

“The Round Table has split. It’ll be difficult to exhibit as much influence as before.”

“Do you regret it?”

“Regret it?” Merlin shook his head. “It should’ve been like this sooner. Pruning away the rotten parts to allow new growth is only natural.”

Fortunately, Merlin didn’t seem to be too shocked by this.

He was the remaining pillar of Britain and its mental support. If he was fine, then Britain would be able to stand back up again in the future. Actually, he would be able to grow the Lancelot-less Britain and the guild to be even more prosperous. And...

“What is this?!”

Arthur.

Britain could now throw away the shadow of the “King of Knights” for itself.

“It was the body you wanted so badly.”

“This thing?”

At the training grounds far away from the palace. In the place where he had fought Thal and Lollit, YuWon was testing out Arthur’s new body.

“Yes. Didn’t I tell you? I’d be able to get you a pretty decent body soon.”

“Lancelot’s body?”

“For now, this is the best.”

Arthur strongly declined Thal and Lollit’s bodies. Respecting his wishes, YuWon didn’t touch them. In the first place, being inside a body he didn’t want would hamper his ability to bring out his true strength. However, Lancelot’s body was different.

“No matter how much you hate the guy, he was someone who climbed up to be a High-Ranker. It’s probably better than your body when you were alive, and definitely not less.”

“But still!”

“If you don’t like it, you can go back to the body you were in before.”

“...”

Arthur seemed to go into deep contemplation as he stopped talking.

Well, it was understandably stressful to enter the body of one’s enemy.

But it wasn’t like he could stay in the Orc’s body forever.

After standing there like a stone for a second, Arthur asked a question.

“...I’ll ask you one thing.”

“Yes.”

“Will the things you will do from now on be helpful for the safety and growth of Britain?”

He was insinuating that if so, he would put up with his body right now.

The answer was simple.

“Yes.”

“You answered pretty quickly.”

“Please accept it as a reflection of my confidence.”

Britain and The Round Table were important places. They, who had mastered the chivalric mindset, were one of the few guilds that came forward to fight against the Outer Gods after overthrowing Lancelot. It was only natural to nurture that Britain right now.

On top of that, YuWon’s ultimate goal was to protect everyone from this destruction.

“Is that so.”

Only then did Arthur nod.

“I’m in a position where I’ll have to follow everything you tell me to do anyway. Without you, I would not have been able to stand in this world again, and I also promised you that at the start as well.”

YuWon had delivered Arthur’s words to Merlin as requested. Even after that, he helped in avenging Arthur by killing Lancelot.

“I swear to you.”

Clack—

Arthur knelt in front of YuWon.

Even though people had knelt before Arthur in the past, it was the first time he had knelt before anyone.

“I will never betray you and fight with my all for your cause.”

[You have received the complete loyalty of the ‘King of Knights’ Arthur.]

“You are my king.”

[You have received the oath of the ‘Death Knight Arthur.’]

[The proficiency of ‘King of the Dead’ increases.]

[The strength of ‘Death Knight Arthur’ is recovered.]

Shwooooo—

A chilling flow of mana oozed out of Arthur’s body. It was an even stronger arcane presence than before. This was the moment the “King of Knights” completely awakened as a Death Knight.

“I accept your oath.”

“You don’t have to be polite with me anymore. You are now my ki—”

“Yeah. That’s right.”

“...”

Arthur stopped speaking as if dumbfounded, and YuWon just shrugged while looking at him.

“Talking too much is tiring.”

“Ah, yes...”

“Go back for now. Since it’s decided that you’ll use that body, you’ll need some time getting used to it as well.”

YuWon stretched his hand forward.

Shwoooo—

Arthur’s body turned into black smoke and was sucked into 「Kyneē.」

Arthur’s soul had completely submitted to him. His body was also procured from a High-Ranker, Lancelot. In some sense, Death Knight Arthur might have been closer in strength to Arthur when he was alive.

“I’ve seen something incredible.”

A voice from far away.

Dwoong—

As YuWon lifted his gaze, he could see a head peeking out from the side of a cloud high up in the sky.

“For the exemplary ‘King of Knights’ to serve another king.”

Son OhGong, known as “The Great Sage, Heaven’s Equal” and “Victorious Fighting Buddha.”

He had been waiting for YuWon for quite some time now. It was probably at least since Arthur had knelt in front of YuWon.

“Since I’m done with my business, how about you come down here?”

Fwip—

As YuWon finished saying that, Son OhGong leapt from his cloud.

There was nearly no sound of him landing, just like a leaf gently falling to the ground, even after dropping down hundreds of meters.

Son OhGong scratched his head and asked, “When did you wake up?”

“Earlier than you.”

“Looks like I really was asleep for a while.” He let out a long yawn.

Son OhGong really did sleep a lot. When bored, he would sleep for a few months or even a few years at a time. This was also true for his main body. Surprisingly, even while sleeping like that, he would still get stronger.

“You know, right? If I didn’t help you, you would’ve been dead.”

Seeing Son OhGong trying to take some credit for himself, YuWon smirked. That personality really was the same, clone or not.

“I wouldn’t have been there if you weren’t going to help.”

“Why did you think I would help you?”

At Son OhGong’s question, YuWon became uncharacteristically stumped. Just how should he answer his question?

Fwooosh—

Son OhGong’s two eyes each changed color, one to a crimson red and the other to gold.

[Golden Cinder Eyes.] The eyes symbolic of Son OhGong that can see through all truths and all lies.

Those eyes were now looking at YuWon.

“You know me, right?”