

Darkness 111

Chapter 111: The Inside Job

The father and son duo kept on discussing and quarreling over their plan. For Bartholomew, it was a golden opportunity and for the Eren, it would spell their doom.

"The risk is too great father! And what if those people fail? There are also two Peak Grandmasters who could also join and those people won't be able to kill the Clan leader!" yelled Eren at this father.

"You fool! Do you really think that bastard will actually let you become the next head? Sooner or later, he will find some excuse such as your taste in men and use it to null your succession. Do you think the news of you not being interested in females was leaked to others easily?" asked the father.

"You mean.." spoke Eren.

"Yes.. I recently found out as well. This whole fiasco happened because the clan leader wants his own son to become the next heir, not you who won the competition and the title fair and square." replied Bartholomew and continued.

"Just the incident with the Blacksmith's daughter was also part of his plan all those years ago, we just couldn't see it. And he will use it when the succession ceremony comes next year. He has been biding his time for all those years. And now this whole thing with this irritating Azrael bastard.. He will use it to take away your right and make his own son get this position. Only if I was a Peak Grandmaster myself.. I could've made a firm stand. But only those with the bigger fists make the rules." explained the father.

"But.. Are those people reliable?" asked Eren.

"Don't worry.. They're all professionals. I've used my entire life's savings to hire 3 of their Peak Grandmaster Assassins from the Capital. They should reach Flavot city by tonight. Even someone like the clan head won't be able to fight the 3 of them together. All I want is to see you sit on that throne. Even though I was robbed of my chance to be the clan head.. I want to see my son sitting there and commanding our clan." said Bartholomew.

"But how do we even get them inside the clan mansion? The security will be too tight and all the entrances will be protected. Even a bird won't be able to get inside without getting detected." asked the clan heir Eren.

"What good is security if someone from the inside opens the door for the intruders?" asked the father in a cunning tone.

"Unlike those buffoons, I know many secret locations and pathways that were created by our first clan head. The 2nd and now the current clan head never studied those records and blueprints. They don't even know that there's a secret passage right beneath the Eastern end of the mansion." explained the father.

"I can get those people inside and they'll finish the job. With the clan head out of the picture, we can blame it on Azrael and have the entire clan start a manhunt for him. With this, no one will challenge our authority. Even if Jean & Connie did, they'd be branded as traitors who are going against the clan rules. Everything will go in our favor from now on." spoke the father a devilish grin on his face.

Kahn had been doing reconnaissance for the past 2 days. Although there was no time limit or a target of certain days given to him to kill the last heir.. He wanted to do it in under a week and be done with this war with nobles. After this, he'd hang up the hood and maybe leave this city for good.

Since the past 2 days, he had been coming to look for a possible entryway to enter inside the main clan mansion that was twice the size of the Elven clan's mansion, but the security was simply too tight. There were even master rank archers on the roof of the mansion. He couldn't even transform into some bird and fly in before getting shot down with a volley of arrows.

These people hadn't even left any shadows during nighttime using the magic lamps for him to enter through the premises using Shadow Walk.

All the possible entry points were gone and the most frustrating part was they had already expected him to come under a disguise. Many bloodline tracking magic formations were placed on all the gates. So if anyone who didn't carry their clan's bloodline entered through the gates, they'd raise an alarm and an army of fighters would drop upon them.

Even if he were to get mixed into the goods & rations that were brought inside, he would still get caught.

"This is just too hard. I won't be able to infiltrate inside in this lifetime at this rate." said Kahn as he was contemplating his options and choices.

And after learning about the clan head being a Semi-Saint rank Swordsman.. Kahn had already left the idea of frontal clash with any of their forces out of the equation. He had to do it in the most covert and well-planned way. Without getting caught or detected by anyone.

So since last two nights, he had been coming and examining the headquarter surrounding during the night and simply tried to find a proper entry point. His sense on full alert and both his Survival Instinct & Hunter's Intent working at two times their maximum capacity since it was during the night and he'd get this buff because of his Hero of Darkness title.

Just when he was observing the headquarters from a mile away while sitting amongst the tall trees, his ears picked a sound of multiple people 100 meters away, walking and whispering amongst themselves.

Kahn quickly used Shadow Walk and mixed inside the dark shadows.

"Is this the right place? The employer said he'd meet us here during the night." said a man completely dressed in black robes. In his hands, was a glowing map.

Creak! Crung!!

Suddenly, a 5 meter stone boulder that was at the foot of a small peak started moving on its own, close to 50 meters away from Kahn's position and his ears picked up the noise.

A secret passageway was opened and a blonde middle-aged man came out from the other side of this stone door. He looked at these people who stood just 10 meters away from this stone passage entrance.

"Follow me. We only have this night." he said and gestured to the 3 men to follow him.

Kahn who was watching everything from afar smiled and spoke to himself.

Chapter 112: The Reveal

The sudden emergence of these black robed men surprised Kahn. But when he saw the suddenly opened door that came out of a stone boulder which was hidden in plain sight, he thanked whoever was watching over him.

But he wasn't hasty to rush in the door because the aura that came from these people was that of Peak Grandmaster rank person. Even the blonde man was an Intermediate Grandmaster. If he were to fight with these people, he'd at best be able to kill the blonde man and maybe one of the peak grandmaster fighters with the element of surprise and that too with his Hero of Darkness title & Berserk God Mode being active.

Otherwise, he'd be a headless chicken if he were to fight any one of these people during the daytime.

Since he wanted to avoid suspicion, he had stopped visiting dungeons and also no longer had any high-grade monster cores or mana ores on him to eat or absorb them because he used them to resurrect his subordinates.

And with the whole time being spent after that on hunting these noble clan heirs, his strength was still the same before he fought the Magma Drake Dungeon Boss.

It was more than enough to take out an Intermediate Grandmaster easily during the night with all his buffs but he'd still struggle in front of a Peak Grandmaster. And there were 3 of them. So unless he was an idiot who overestimated himself because of some OP buff skill, it'd best to stay out of these people's sight.

The men soon followed Bartholomew in the passageway. Kahn had also followed behind them using shadow walk and maintaining a distance so that they don't sense him. His aura and his presence was already hard to detect and during the night, the shadow walk skill and all his magic skills were also twice more effective because of the title. So he was able to follow them from 20 meters away without getting detected.

"Tell us about the target. And what do we need to avoid to ambush him quickly." asked one of the masked and hooded men.

"As you already know, this vigilante named Azrael has declared a war on our noble clans. He already killed 3 noble clan heirs and wants to kill my son next. But it presented me with a perfect opportunity to use his name and kill the clan leader. You do the job and make it look like Azrael did it." spoke Bartholomew and took out 3 parchments and gave them to the assassins.

"Here are his attack patterns and the type of wounds he makes while killing his targets. All you have to do is make similar wounds on the clan leader after you kill him and all the blame will be shifted onto him. Given the reputation of your Deathly Hollows assassin organization.. I hope you'll be able to kill a Semi-Saint rank Swordsman since there are 3 of you." informed the blonde middle-aged man.

Kahn, whose hearing was already sharp and could hear everything clearly under 100 meter radius was left speechless after hearing this conversation.

[What the fuck!! Are these people trying to shoot a gun using my shoulder?]

This was completely opposite to what he expected. First, he thought these experts were additional forces brought in to ambush and kill him. But there were actually here to kill the Volstov clan head. And were planning to pin the blame on him instead.

[Fine then.. Two can play the game.] he spoke and silently followed these people through the pathway.

"Make sure that you take away the amulet he is wearing. That way, it will look more believable that it was Azrael who killed the clan leader." spoke the employer.

"Why is that?" asked one of the men.

"It's something that one needs to come inside the bloodline tracking formation without alerting anyone. Even I'm wearing one. If you take it away, it'll be seen as he somehow knew about it and fought the clan leader to get it. But then had to run away without doing anything for some reason. Others will keep guessing but no one will know that it was the work of someone else." explained Bartholomew.

And finally when they had exited out of a hidden door behind a wooden shelf, a small dark room was revealed that appeared like a storage room. Bartholomew finally spoke again.

"The clan head is on the 5th floor. He's usually alone at this time. His room and office are marked on the parchment. I'm off to my residence where I'll be under a watch along with my son. So don't expect me to contact you again. And in case you're caught or killed.." just then, one of the masked men spoke.

"Don't look down on us. We would rather die than reveal the name of the employer. That's our main policy." said the man on the right side.

"I'll leave it to you then. The pathway will stay open till the morning, so finish the job before that." said Bartholomew and left the room.

The three men finally removed their hoods and robes. Their real attire was comprised of lightweight armor that didn't hinder their speed or movements in the slightest and the weapons were of the epic rank. Something that even most of the noble clans treated like family treasure but these people acted as if these were just normal tools.

After making small discussions on their final strategy, the three peak grandmaster rank assassins disappeared and left the room.

A minute later, a dark shadow emerged out of the passage door where whence they came from and another person donned in gray robes and a hood appeared.

It was Kahn in his Azrael persona.

Now he had two choices. He could follow behind the blonde man, kill him and then enter the secured residence where the clan heir was under protection. While his other choice was completely erratic and would benefit him a lot if things went according to his plan.

Kahn weighed down the pros and cons in his mind and finally came to a decision. He spoke to himself as he let out a greedy smile.

"While two dogs are fighting for a bone, the third one runs away with it."

Chapter 113: The End Result

Kahn followed behind the assassins from a far distance. He would always hide a level below the floor they were passing through to not get detected.

When he noticed how the assassins were doing the stealth work without getting caught, he felt enlightened because their techniques were simply flawless.

Unlike him who was using the shadow walk, a skill made from an assassin & a ranger skills, the professionals did it in a very neat and practical way.

They used their concealment skills and used magical artifacts that not only sealed any sound coming out of the 3 meter radius invisibility barrier that was cast around them, they also used mind distortion artifacts that put the guards under a mild daze as if they were looking at something far away while they were lost in their own thoughts. Their senses were also affected and weakened to the extent that none of them even noticed a silhouette of something walking right in front of them.

This was a perfect combination because not only it ensured that they'd not get caught, but also controlled the ability of the guards to sense their presence as well. Unlike Kahn who had to rely on the shadows of these guards and the architecture such as dark corners or shadow of pillars to pass or hide through them.

These were the true professionals who had absolute control over the battlefield. Forget detecting them, your own senses were weakened to the point these people could walk right in front of you and put a dagger in your throat.

[I gotta get me one of those.] thought Kahn as he felt the need to get those artifacts in the future. Naturally, they'd be far too costly and not available in many places to begin with.

[[Author : I know I'm throwing in a lot of names of unexplained artifacts and formations recently but roll with them for now because the MC never had a chance to study or practice them. His priorities were different. Definitely explaining all of them in detail in the next arc.]]

When the group of assassins finally reached the 5th floor, they took out another set of Artifacts made for isolating & noise cancellation. One wouldn't even feel the vibrations while walking on this floor.

Two of them spread across the floor which consisted 9 big rooms and currently, 12 guards were patrolling in between the passages while some were keeping an eye on entry and exit points.

Unlike all the previous floors where nearly 50 to 80 guards were stationed, this floor had the least amount of guards.

Mainly because who would dare to attack or ambush a Semi-Saint rank fighter? And that too right in his home where nearly one thousand soldiers were guarding just the main mansion.

When Kahn finally managed to reach on this floor as his body was still part of the shadows.. What he saw gave him a newfound sense of respect for these assassins.

All the 12 guards were already dead. Their bodies were placed close to the walls. Some had their throats swiftly cut while some had a knife passing through their eyes. Not a single sound was revealed to the lower floors and there seemed to be no sign of struggle at all.

Because everything in the perimeter of this floor was so silent that Kahn couldn't even hear or feel his heartbeat. He felt like being in some sort of limbo between life and death.

[Press F for Respect.] he praised these professionals like some noob getting gobsmacked after watching the skills of the pro gamers.

Compared to these people, his assassinations were a bit messy and took a lot of time. It had been nearly 3 minutes since these assassins entered the premises of this floor and all the guards were already finished off.

Although they had the advantage in rank and stats, the techniques were indeed worthy of applause.

[So I guess they'll be going in for the kill now.] spoke Kahn and kept on hiding at a far distance. He did not wish to be detected & killed by these people at all. Rather, he was rooting for them instead.

Because they were going to deliver him a big piece of juicy steak on a platter. And he didn't even have to pay for the meal.

Unbeknownst to the watching eyes of Kahn, the grandmaster rank assassins used the noise cancellation barrier and had finally cleared out the entire floor. Now there was only one thing remaining.

To take out the clan head.

Two of them now stood in front of the clan head's bedroom and looked towards each other before they finally opened the door.

But unlike they had expected.. The clan head wasn't asleep but instead, he was sitting on a chair at the opposite end with a black epic rank giantsword in his hand. The clan head of the Volstov clan was actually waiting for these assassins.

The assassins were stunned on the spot. Their strategy was sound but somehow, the Semi-Saint Swordsman had sensed them.

The man on the right of the assassin duo took out a green pendent and pressed the small bead in the center.

In the next second, the entire bedroom of the clan head was encapsulated by a dense black barrier. The noise cancellation formation was removed on the other hand and Kahn could finally hear his heartbeats again.

Inside the barrier, the clan head finally spoke.

"And here I thought Azrael was but one man." he said in his tyrannical tone and released his immensely dense and chaotic orange aura that filled the entire room.

"Don't compare us to that amateur. We've read how he planned his infiltrations. It's nothing but a jumble of many ifs that went into his favor. He's not even worthy of becoming a part of our organization." said the man on the left. Both these assassins however seemed completely unaffected.

"Interesting.. Then who are you lot?" asked the clan leader, still looking carefree as if this revelation did not faze him in the slightest.

"We're from Deathly Hollows. And we've accepted a contract to take your life. From one of your own." said the assassin without a worry.

"Not very bright, are you? Why are you even telling me that it was a traitor in my clan who hired you." chuckled the clan head as he got up and brandished his greatsword.

In response, both the men took out their daggers and replied in unison.

"Because dead men tell no tales."

Outside the barrier, Kahn slowly walked closer towards the door but he didn't hear any form of noise or even a struggle.

[What the hell is happening?] he asked himself.

Nothing was coming out of the room. No sound, no vibrations or even a sign of a fight.

His Hunter's Intent barely picked up three heat signatures moving inside the room as if they were fighting each other but as far as his other senses and abilities.. They picked nothing as if the room was present in some another dimension itself.

[Whatever they're using to seclude the battlefield.. Is definitely an Epic rank artifact.] he thought.

Inside the room.. A ground-shattering battle was happening. Dozens of attacks from both sides were clashing against each other. But the floor that had turned pitch after the assassins activated the pendant, appeared as if it was now indestructible and the walls of the bedroom had completely disappeared.

"What's this?" asked the clan head after his attack barely missed one of the assailants.

"It's a Domain Artifact you illiterate swine! This is why we easily kill ignorants like you who only think that physical strength is all that matters." replied the other man and threw a bomb at the clan head.

The clash between these men was enough to destroy a football field but nothing happened to the mansion or the clan head's room.

Kahn who was nothing but a spectator at this point didn't even understand what was happening. He had no idea how the ongoing battle he could sense inside the room hadn't caused any damage or alerted anyone.

[I better stay hidden or I won't even know how I died.] he thought and hid inside the shadow and went back to his original position.

Inside the domain, an intense battle was happening for more than 20 minutes straight where the Semi-Saint rank clan head was oppressing both the attackers easily and barely giving them a chance to retaliate. There were dozens of Greatswords made of a force similar to the demonkin's orange aura floating in the air. All they could do was dodge and parry to keep their bodies intact.

"With just this much.. You came to kill me? Are you looking down on me you little shits!!" he roared and launched a heavily destructive aura attack on the assassins. The strength behind this attack alone was enough to split the whole clan mansion in two.

Both the Assassins disappeared from his sight in the next second as if they never existed there at all.

The clan leader didn't leave his guard open and quickly swung his giantsword on his left.

Clang!

A spark of weapons clashing appeared and a figure defending against this giantsword was revealed.

The clan leader didn't even flinch and used his right hand to grab something in the air.

Grip!

In his hand, was the hand of the 2nd assassin who just tried to stab him in the stomach.

"Prepare for your death." spoke the clan leader with enraged eyes.

"Someone's definitely going to die.. Just not us." said the 2nd assassin and smirked at the clan head.

Before the greatswords floating in the air could even stab or cut these two assassins..

Stab!

The next moment, a black dagger suddenly pierced the neck of the clan leader and a figure of another assassin was revealed.

Boom!

An intense and ground-shaking burst of aura from the semi-saint rank swordsman threw all the assassins 10 meters away from him.

He clutched his neck in disbelief and noticed that this blood was turning black.

"How.. Did I not sense you.." spoke the clan head as he took out a high-grade poison antidote potion from his space ring and drank it.

"Who do you think was managing this domain from the beginning then? I became one with the Domain itself." chuckled the 3rd assassin who just stabbed the neck of the clan head. The blood on his dagger had turned black as well.

"There's no point in struggling. The poison our daggers have can't be detoxified by any normal antidote." spoke one of the three men.

Just in twelve seconds.. The body of the clan head dropped on the floor. His entire body had black veined patterns underneath the skin and a froth came out of his mouth.

Just like this.. One of the top 3 powerhouses of the Flavot city, a Demonkin semi-saint rank Swordsman & also the clan head of the strongest noble clan of Flavot city was killed by the three peak grandmaster rank assassins.

"I guess the time is about to be over, we barely managed to kill him before the artifact activation time ended." spoke the man on the left.

When the dark barrier finally disappeared and the bedroom of the clan head came to be. All the three assassins heaved a sigh.

SHRILL!!

The next second however, the entire space around them froze and everything stopped moving including their own bodies.

A dreary and murderous aura came from behind them and a ghastly voice spoke.

"Thank you for your help. Now please leave your lives here for me."

Chapter 114: The Biggest Beneficiary

The three peak grandmaster assassins who were rooted on the spot just as soon as they had barely managed to kill the Volstov clan head, couldn't move as they heard Azrael's grim voice coming from the back.

Normally, the Void Realm dark magic spell which temporarily locked the space and stopped anyone from moving as if the time itself stopped, wouldn't be able to stop or restrict these strong fighters even for 3 seconds. But since Kahn's magic skills were twice as effective during the night thanks to the Hero of Darkness title in effect, they were unable to move for the next 5 seconds.

Stab! Stab! Stab!

Without wasting time on any further introductions or some monologue, Kahn quickly used three of his extensions with spear-like ends to stab through the necks of these three assassins. And since his physical strength also rose by 3 times, he didn't feel any resistance while piercing through their bodies.

The three bodies of the professional assassins were slowly put down on the floor without making any sound. A single moment of negligence had cost them their lives as they left their guard down after coming out of the domain and their senses failed to pick up Azrael's presence.

The void realm skills activation time ended. Just like how Ajak, the Dark Summoner managed to kill Kahn back then; so did Kahn when he reaped the lives of these trained and experienced assassins.

Kahn had basically applied the method he once read in Art of War.

'Attack where your enemy is unprepared, appear where you are not expected.'

Kahn's gaze then landed on the body of the dead clan head. Not only did his plan succeed to let these people kill the clan leader but also he managed to kill the three assassins as well. So basically, now he had cores and bodies of 4 peak grandmasters and he could eat them to raise his levels and stats to strengthen himself even more.

Because currently, the B rank cores & mana ores didn't help him raise his levels that efficiently since the resources required to raise each level also increased. And the A Rank cores & ores were hard to come by till now.

But now.. A greedy, creepy and wide smile appeared on Kahn's face.

"Hueheuhuehue!" laughed Kahn.

Because not only their bodies but also their equipments and everything that was in their space rings also belonged to him now. He took out their space rings and put them in his pockets. This was indeed the juicy piece of steak he wanted when he planned to follow the three assassins.

The black giantsword of the clan head instantly reminded Kahn of the Dragon Slayer from Berserk manga.

The only difference was the crossguard that protected the fingers and wrist. Kahn did not even hesitate for a second and put the giantsword in his space ring. Although, using this weapon wasn't his style.. A certain subordinate of his was extremely proficient in using at them. When that subordinate was resurrected, he'd give this weapon to him.

Time was of the essence so he would eat their cores, absorb their abilities and decide what to do with the bodies later after clearing out his main objective first. He looked at the clan head again and another plan hatched in his mind.

Kahn took the amulet the clan head was wearing and took some clothes out of the closet. He then placed the body of all these dead men & the demonkin along with their weapons in his space ring.

10 minutes later, at the southern end of the mansion where the clan heir Eren was guarded under watchful eyes, a 4 meter tall figure of a blonde demonkin, dressed in regal clothes slowly walked in. Each of his steps were loud and could be heard from a distance.

The vigilant guards protecting this area were surprised to see this figure at this late night. Every single one of them was a peak master rank fighter but in front of this figure, all of them showed an expression of worship.

"We greet the clan head!" spoke one of the guards loudly and put his right fist on his heart and put the left hand behind his back.

The others who were standing afar at different entry points followed the same greeting.

Currently, they were inside the bloodline tracking formation. And anyone without the amulet would be seen as an intruder.

"Leave us. I wish to discuss few things with the clan heir and his father." spoke the clan head in his domineering voice.

"But.. But clan leader.. We are here to protect master Eren." spoke a female warrior.

"And you think you can protect him better than me?" asked the clan head and released his bloodlust in the surrounding.

The people froze under his immense murderous bloodlust and felt like a dangerous predator was looking at them.

"We understand, clan leader. We will leave you alone until your orders." said an elven swordsman and all the guards followed behind him.

The Semi-Saint clan head could easily provide security ten times better than them.

The clan head walked inside after opening the door, his entry not triggering any alarms.

The sound of his footsteps alerted the father and son duo who were whispering in between them.

But as soon as both of them saw the tall figure of the clan head.. The color from their faces disappeared and both of them turned pale the next second.

"What is it, Bartholomew? You look like you've seen a ghost." spoke the clan head and gave a light smirk at the father and son duo.

"C.. Cl... Clan head." stuttered the father as if he had seen an actual ghost.

"You don't look very pleased to see me." spoke the clan head again.

"No.. Nothing as such, clan leader. We just didn't expect to see you at this late hour." spoke Eren and bowed in front of the clan head.

"What can we do for you, clan head?" asked Bartholomew who quickly recovered from his surprise and put in an act of obedience again.

"Nothing much.." spoke the clan head.

SHRILL!

A dark barrier covered the entire room and everything inside was isolated from the outside. It was exactly the same Domain Artifact the assassins had used to isolate the battlefield. All it needed was a huge amount of mana to activate, something that Kahn didn't lack. Although his mana decreased by 600 points with the single use, he wasn't the kind to depend on it in the first place.

Suddenly, his war dominance aura filled the entire place and put both the blonde men on the ground.

Before they could retaliate, Kahn used Void Realm again and an extension was plunged inside the father's head before he could even move.

Eren who was horrified as soon as he saw the clan head kill his father and was stunned on the spot.

A ghastly voice landed on his ears as he saw the clan head looking at him with eyes full of murderous bloodlust.

"Now then.. Prepare for the last day of your life."

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Author : THIS IS A FORMAL APOLOGY TO THE OLD-TIME READERS OF THE NOVEL. PLEASE READ IT.

Recently it has been brought to my attention by some readers that the power scaling & level system in the Novel is kind of illogical when it comes to Stats & Attributes for some of the strongest characters. I did some rechecking and that was indeed a problem.

Your friendly neighborhood dumbass Author of this novel messed up.

inserts monkey looking away meme

In my defense.. All I could say that I was a complete noob in writing sector back in the day and based levels and stats that appeared reasonable all those months ago when MC had just entered this world. So I would like to formally extend an apology to all of those who have been supporting and following the novel for some time.

Let me explain how Stat categories work here.

Strength = Pure physical strength.

Agility = Physical speed and maneuverability.

Dexterity = It's the gaming term for action speed or hit rate. Like how fast can someone fight while using a weapon or magical skills.

Defense = Physical Defense (Defensive skills & abilities not included.)

Mana = Character's mana storage & usage capacity.

Also, the higher your rank, the more stats gained when you increase your levels.

Characters such as Rudra & Omega with Godbeast bloodlines will gain more stat points with each Level & Rank up compared to other subordinates.

As for the significant effects of Kahn's War Deity Body, they'll only be important after he breaks through Saint Rank.

Name : Kahn

Species : Human

Job : ALL FOR ONE (Because of Divine Abilities & Blessings)

Rank : Beginner Grandmaster Rank

Level : 70

Strength : 876

Agility : 753

Dexterity : 801

Defense : 689

Mana : 982

Name : Omega

Species : Lycan (Variant Fenrir)

Rank : Lord Rank (Beginner Grandmaster Rank for monsters)

Level : 61

Strength : 623

Agility : 591

Dexterity : 532

Defense : 497

Mana : 281

Name : Ronin

Species : Human

Job : Rogue (Assassin+Thief)

Rank : Lord Rank

Level : 61

Strength : 594

Agility : 731

Dexterity : 704

Defense : 409

Mana : 473

Name : Arkham Holland

Species : Human

Job : Magic Swordsman

Rank : Peak Grandmaster Rank

Level : 82

Strength : 1370

Agility : 930

Dexterity : 1130

Defense : 860

Mana : 440

Name : Solomon Elfenheim

Species : Elf

Job : Magician

Rank : Semi-Saint Rank

Level : 85

Strength : 320

Agility : 670

Dexterity : 1080

Defense : 540

Mana : 1850

Name : Rudra

Species : Voronir [Variant Basilisk]

Rank : Mythical

Level : 62

Strength : 1390

Agility : 1350

Dexterity : 781

Defense : 1293

Mana : 600

Chapter 115: The Final Deliverance

After killing the father, Kahn bitchslapped the son and knocked him out.

Eren was the main cause and also the main perpetrator of the whole public ra*e of Albestros's daughter Cynthia and the tragic death of his son Gerald who died while being unable to save his elder sister who was tormented and toyed with in front of thousands of people and at the end, she committed suicide by biting her tongue and chocking on her own blood.

This time however, since he was carrying somebody with him under watchful gazes, Kahn used the same stealth artifact the three assassins did to cast an invisibility barrier around them in 3 meter radius. His extensions picked up the unconscious Eren and put the dead father's body in his space ring.

He treaded carefully without making any sound using the Silence skill, one of the Archer exclusive skills which completely removed the sound of footsteps when they were doing reconnaissance.

Not long time after, he finally entered the same storage room whence he came out from by following Bartholomew. After he exited the passageway, he closed off the exit with the giant boulder.

Now it was time for the Final Deliverance.

Kahn took Eren to the same warehouse and tied him up on the chair. But this time, he wasn't going to kill him inside this desolate place. Rather.. He had plans.

Kahn met Albestros and informed him about the final clan heir.

"Do you have them ready?" he asked the blacksmith.

"Yes.. But are you sure about this? There will be people watching it. They will definitely try to interfere." reminded the old blacksmith.

"Don't worry about me. Just be there on time." spoke Kahn and took torture devices that he had asked Albestros to make, inside his space ring and left the warehouse.

At this moment, it was nearly 4 AM in the morning. Still 2 hours left till the dawn and as he expected.. More than 500 spectators were situated around the central square of Flavot city. The square where the heinous crime happened four years ago and where he was hanging the clan heirs to make a statement.

There were some spies from the other three noble clans to inform their forces in case Azrael showed up and hundreds of soldiers were hiding in various buildings.

And nearly a thousand people looking from the roofs of dozens of buildings, balconies and windows. As if they had heard a calling.. All of them were waiting for but one man to show up.

The one man who ignited the once smothered flames of rage and courage in thousands of peoples inhabiting this city who had been subjected to injustice by the dozens of nobles clans in one way or another throughout all these years.

Azrael was no longer just a vigilante or a cold-blooded murderer who killed criminals. He also became their voice..

He had become the voice of the voiceless.

In this silent square, where only the sound of cold breeze passing could be heard, a figure suddenly started walking with loud footsteps.

This figure was clad in dark grey robes and had a hood around his head.

Tap! Tap! Tap!

Every single footstep of this man could be heard by the thousands of people who were eagerly waiting for him. Even the city security forces and the noble clan spies hadn't expected this and all they could do was hide amongst the crowd.

From behind this man, four black tendrils were carrying up Eren Volstov, the heir of the strongest clan in the city. And the main offender of that crime all those years ago.

Azrael walked on top of the platform that held a big and wide wooden pole. To those who were present in the square four years ago.. This wooden pole held significance in their memory.

This was the same platform where Gerald was tied to and later tortured to death back then.

Kahn's metal-like extensions placed Eren who was awake but gagged now, his space ring delivered 3 pieces of equipment.

A metal rod with iron nails coming out of it. A big board with hundreds of metal spikes coming out of one end. And lastly, a bowl full of saltwater.

After he stopped at this platform, hundreds of people started coming out of these buildings and slowly, started encircling the platform as they watched the one man who had declared a war against the powerful clans was finally going to complete his promise.

At this moment, the Volstov clan didn't even know that their clan head and one of their elders were killed and the clan heir was brought to the square. To them, these 3 people were still talking and discussing in a secure location and probably waiting for Azrael to show up.

Soon, the crowd amassed to thousands and even the security guards and the noble clan spies were afraid to go against this crowd as they had already brought their makeshift weapons such as knives, pitchforks, hammers and anything sharp they could find with them. And now were encircling and working as Azrael's own shield.

The reason why these many people came here in the first place was because Kahn had paid the Snakekin, who usually did things for Kahn as his intel provider and news spreader and told him to spread rumors that Azrael was going to show up early in the morning in next 2 days. And he asked everyone who suffered at the ends of the nobles and the rich of the city, should come to make a final stand and bring anything that could help them fight for their beliefs.

Kahn had already resolved to finish off the clan heir soon but luckily managed to finish the job on the 3rd night. These people were waiting for him yesterday morning as well, only now did he show up.

A platoon of hundreds of soldiers suddenly came out of buildings and encircled this group of citizens that were protecting Azrael.

The man and woman in front of them were none other than Captain Nordak & Lieutenant Beatrice.

"Surrender yourself Azrael!! Any resistance and we will kill you!" shouted captain Nordak.

A majestic and domineering aura suddenly filled the entire square.. The crowd was barely affected by it but the soldiers and anyone who emitted any murderous intent towards him were frozen on the spot.

This was War Dominance at Kahn's full capacity and during the dark when it was 3 times denser and heavy due to his title.

An ancient and ghastly voice filled the entire square and reached every corner of it.

"Four years ago.. The only thing all you security guards did was just watch when an innocent girl was rap*d right in this square in front of thousands. So just shut up and do it again. Any bold moves and I'll forget that you're just following orders!" commanded Azrael as his tyrannical and wrathful tone sent chills in the spines of all the soldiers. His aura was of a Peak Grandmaster Rank fighter as well. Giving them a foreboding of death if they chose to stop or attack him.

Azrael then tied up the saltwater bowl on top of the wooden pole and made a small hole in the bottom. He then put the wooden board that was made in the way to fit on the wooden pole.

He picked up Eren and stripped off all his clothes in front of over a thousand onlookers. His hands were and legs were tied with a rope and the top rope was now hung on a hanger that was coming out of the wooden pole.

"Uhhmm!" muffled Eren as his back hit the pointy metal spikes and pierced his back. Blood started leaking out and the 32 year old blonde man started jerking his body off haphazardly in pain, only to fall back on the board full of spikes again.

Azrael finally pulled the gag out of Eren's mouth.

"Arrrrgghhhhhh!!" wailed Eren in pain and his wail full of agony filled the entire solemn square.

"You fucking commoner bastard! Do you know who you are messing wit.. Argggghjjj!!" shouted Eren in an enraged tone as he was getting pierced through again and again. His back bleeding like a river from many holes.

"My clan will fucking wipe out your families you motherfucker! Let me go!" shouted Eren again. Unlike the other clan heirs, he wasn't begging for mercy, rather he was adamantly using his clan and their strength to curse Azrael and scare the onlookers.

"What the fuck are you doing you shiteheads! Free me!!!"

This clan heir still hadn't accepted the fact that his fate was actually in the hands of the man in front of him and still thought he would be spared if he threatened people around him using the clan's name.

Swoosh!

Before Eren could even notice.. A swift slash was made with a sharp dagger and something that was wriggling dropped on the ground.

"AAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!" screamed Eren in agony and his body jerked in pain, just to get stabbed in the back again.

His very proof of being a man was cut down by Azrael in front of thousands of people who were either encircling them or watching from afar.

This was the biggest torment and humiliation he ever received in his entire life.

Dozens of curses and screams filled the entire square as even the normal citizens who just came to watch the show were gasping in shock after Azrael cut the man's tower off.

"Do you think that's enough for your punishment?" asked Azrael and picked up the metal rod with nails coming out of it and in front of thousands of onlookers comprised of humans, demi-humans and beastkins..

He put it inside the man's backdoor!

A shrill cry and ear-deafening scream was heard by all the onlookers and even those who came to support Azrael felt their bodies shivering.

Azrael then grabbed the open end of the rod and started twisting it inside Eren's rect*m.

His entire orifice started bleeding a fountain of blood. Azrael left the rod as it is as Eren's body was being stabbed in the back and his backdoor was bleeding at the same time.

But since Eren couldn't move his body at will, all he could do is jerk his body but fell back on the spikes again. He tried changing his side but then his gut was stabbed with the spikes.

This was no different than Eren lynching his own body with his movements.

The horrifying screams and cries of pain and agony filled the entire square.. Just the same way Cynthia once did. And now it was the turn for the man who inflicted that pain and agony upon her.

The torture carried on until Eren could no longer scream and had lost half the blood in his body.. Barely hanging onto the last thread of life.

Just like 4 years ago.. The entire square was dead silent and only filled with the pleads of someone begging for mercy and help.

The history was repeated.

The same square where Erwin, Levi, Reiner & Eren had rap*ed Cynthia back then.. Had now become the place of their death.

Eren.. Who now understood how it felt being toyed and tortured in front of thousands of people suddenly lost the light of his eyes..

Just then, his eyes landed on an elderly man under a brown cloak who was standing in the very center of the first line of citizens encircling this platform.

The man took his hood off and he finally revealed his face to Eren who had felt so much shame and agony for the first time in his life.

The old man smiled at Eren with eyes full of tears. But unlike his own, this old man's tears were the tears of joy and fulfillment.

It was none other than Albestros who finally saw the main culprit of his children's death suffering a fate far worse than death in the same place where the noble clan heirs once hung their dead bodies.

Finally.. His children had received the justice they deserved. And he could finally live his remaining days with peace.

To Eren however, this smile appeared as if the God of karma had finally judged his fate and meted out his punishment.

The noble clan heir could no longer suffer through this torment and bit down his own tongue with all his might. Even this pain felt far lesser than the one he was suffering through now.

Cough! Cough!

In front of thousands of onlookers.. The noble clan heir started choking on his own blood and after struggling for a minute.. He finally stopped moving. Dying in the same way Cynthia was forced to die.

"YAAARHHHH!! YESSSS!!!"

The next second as soon as his body stopped moving, the crowd released a battle cry and cheered in unison.

Those who once trampled upon the very commoners were now killed by one of them.

The majestic voice of Azrael resounded again.

"No matter which part of society you come from. No matter what standing you have in this society.. Our pride and self-respect are all we have. Never let anyone trampled upon it. Never fear to fight to protect it!" he spoke.

"From this day forth.. Azrael shall be no more. But I want you to remember.. That you don't need someone like me to fight for you. The only person who should fight for your rights... is you!"

The grand figure of Azrael disappeared from the sight of thousands of people as his name was etched in the history of Flavot city and would be remembered for years to come. And the people of this city would forever remember..

Azrael.. the Judge, Jury & the Executioner.

Chapter 116: The Consequences

On the evening of the same day, Kahn woke up after a long nap. For some reason.. He had the best sleep ever since he came into this world.

The content feeling of fulfilling his promise that he had made to both Albestros and himself made him feel like he was born anew.

The feeling of able to finally being able to do what he felt was right gave him a newfound sense of fulfilment.

He had alright decided that it was about time he finally moved on from being a warrior of justice and prioritized again on what was best for him.

Because he realized how one would fare if they relied on someone or something such as number of people you had at your disposal or the connections you had with powerful people.. It wouldn't make a difference if someone who is far more powerful than you decides to trample on your life.

Albestros was the living example of it. All his reputation, all his connection didn't do anything when it came to fight against a powerful clan.

Even Kahn barely managed to kill all their clan heirs one by one and that too by doing things covertly and avoiding a full scale war against them.

No law is ever made for just one individual. But when the system that is supposed to protect you and the people running it abandon you, what can a powerless man with no strength and authority do in that case? If not for Kahn, he would've died a sad and lonely death without ever getting justice for his children.

This day would forever be etched in Kahn's memory. Now, he only wanted to take a break till he is prepared to leave this city for good.

"Sir, have you're finally awake!" spoke Jerome when Kahn finally entered the living room.

"Why are you so jumpy? Something happened?" asked Kahn.

As if he couldn't wait to tell Kahn.. Jerome started recounting the morning events and how Azrael delivered judgement on the last clan heir.

His eyes were full of worship for the man. Little did the young man know that his idol was sitting right in front of him.

Kahn let the housekeeper ramble on about the heroic deeds of Azrael for 10 minutes and asked him to bring food. Although he could survive without food and water for weeks now.. He still felt the urge to eat as his brain reminded him about the routine.

For the rest of the day.. Kahn didn't leave the house. And on the night, he visited Albestros again.

"What will you do from now?" asked Kahn to the old blacksmith.

"I.. I don't know. There's nothing left for me to here. As soon as I'm finished with your armor and sword.. I will leave this city." replied the old man.

"I intend to do the same. So why don't we leave together? Besides, you'll need my help to get out of the city undetected. Those noble clans are still hunting you." spoke Kahn.

"I have some friends in the capital. Maybe I can go there and find some work. And these noble clans from here don't have any authority in the capital. Even the Volstov clan doesn't qualify to be counted as one of the weakest organizations in there." explained Albestros.

"Fine then. Just stay hidden here until you're done and then we will leave together. I too want to see how great this capital is and how many strong people are in there." replied Kahn. He already had the same idea because at the end of the day.. He was still a frog in a well.

There was a vast ocean out there with people and beings so strong that he could not even fathom their strength and abilities.

Two days later, Kahn visited the golden crow restaurant again and was sipping his cheap yet very aromatic tea. But then, the news of new skirmishes and small scale battles happening all around the city reached his ears.

Ever since Azrael declared the war against the noble clans, and finally delivered upon his promise.. It gave all the people who were oppressed and tormented over the years a sense of courage.

It wasn't just his victory.. It was the victory for everyone who had suffered at the hands of these powerful noble clans. And his last speech had ignited the flame of war for these common folks.

But as a result.. Hundreds of people had died while fighting against these noble clans and their forces. They weren't organized, nor had proper training or enough weapons.

Kahn on the other hand didn't feel any guilt about this matter. This was something he already expected to happen when he gave that speech.

What he intended wasn't to cause unnecessary bloodshed. But give the people of this city a final push.. An outlet to the anger that was pent up inside them from decades.

Although it would cause chaos in the city and many lives will be lost; in his opinion, this was a necessary sacrifice or the things would never truly change. The foundation of a revolution was always built upon the blood and bones of the oppressed. In time, they'll get organized and make their existence known.

But in the grand scheme of things.. It would make a statement.

A statement that the if you trample upon the lives and honor of the commoners.. They will fight back!

And no noble clan or any of the powerful force will ever dare to replicate what happened with the Albestros's children ever again.

And the news of Azrael killing the Semi-Saint rank clan head of Volstov clan already spread like a wildfire. Even when one of the three strongest fighters in the entire city of millions was killed by Azrael.. Who would dare to incur his wrath? It would be no different than having a death wish.

This had put Law & Order in shambles.. The city security could barely provide thousands of guards for preventing these fights and maintain peace.

The Military and the entire Adventurer Association on the other hand had their hands full ever since Kahn had cleared the Bromnir dungeon.

Everyday, thousands of monsters were killed, hundreds of soldiers and adventurers died as the dungeon would release its residents from each floor one by one periodically. The only relief was there weren't any of the floor bosses from the lower floors Kahn had already killed.

Otherwise, the amount of dead bodies piling up would be in thousands every single day.

The main culprit of putting the entire city in chaos returned back to his home at evening.

After taking notes about all the happenings in the city, Kahn had finally stopped caring about the consequences.

It wasn't that he had turned heartless.. It was just something that he couldn't stop.

After having dinner and getting back in his bedroom.. Kahn took four dead bodies out of his space ring and placed them in the center of the room. He didn't take out Bartholomew's body who was an Intermediate Grandmaster. It'd be a better choice to use him to merge with a subordinate in the future.

These corpses of the three peak grandmaster rank assassins and the semi-saint rank clan head were now lying on the wooden floor.

Kahn was exhilarated just with the thought power boost he'd get after absorbing their abilities, skills and eating their cores.

These four dead bodies were his food.

And he was Hannibal Lecter.

Chapter 117: Suffering from Success

Kahn stared at the bodies and thought about who to absorb first. Both these classes were extremely useful for him. Because he often worked as a Swordsman and as an Assassin. So these bodies were like a godsend gift for him.

"Let keep the Semi-Saint Rank guy for later." said Kahn and put his hands on one of the peak Grandmaster assassins.

"Absorb."

Even with his 50% decrease in absorption speed for Synthesis Divine Ability, it still took him 25 minutes to completely absorb all the abilities.

[The host has acquired the following abilities :

Penetration (A Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Provides the host a 50% increase in attack damage while using Daggers.

Incapacitation (A Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Allows the host to temporary paralyze and blind a target for 10 seconds

Knockout (B Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Allows the host to stun and disorient a target for 15 seconds.

Hidden Step (B Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Allows the host to directly appear behind a target.

Mirage (A Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Allows the host to create a shadow copy of himself for 20 seconds with all the abilities.

Note : The Mirage will only possess 30% of the host's stats.]

"Not bad." said Kahn. Although these abilities were very good for a single target assassination, they were on par with some of his best abilities.

"System, show me the merged abilities."

[Following are the merged abilities & skills :

Subterfuge (A Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Allows the host to confuse a target's vision & sense of direction for 5 seconds.

Quick Blade (A Rank) (ACTIVE) (Upgradable) :

Allows the host to critically damage a target while ignoring 30% defense.

Shadow Swap (S Rank) (PASSIVE)?(Upgradable) :

Allows the host to swap places with any target or subordinates under 5 Kilometers meter radius.

Note : The effective area will increase with the increase in the host's level and rank.

Shadow Strike (S Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Allows the host to directly appear behind any target using their shadow as a medium.

Doppelganger (S Rank) (ACTIVE) (Upgradable) :

Allows the host to create an identical copy of himself with all of the host's skills and abilities for 30 seconds. The range of this ability is 1 Kilometer.

The Doppelganger will share the mind connection and vision with the host.

Note : The Doppelganger will have 50% of the host's stats. The activation time will increase with the increase in host's Level and Rank.

In case the Doppelganger dies, it can be revived again after 1 Hour.] replied the system and listed out all of his newly gained abilities.

"You know what.. I'm just gonna sit this one out." spoke Kahn and sat on the bed in disbelief.

TOO FUCKING OP!!!

This was the first time Kahn had received so many S Rank skills & abilities. The new merged abilities basically made him a powerhouse and a top-grade assassin.

No different than the peak grandmaster assassins. It was as if he went from being a student to becoming the school's principal.

These new skills and abilities would let him even take out even peak grandmaster targets easily.

Subterfuge ability would completely play tricks?on your sense of vision & direction. If Kahn attacked someone from the left, the person would think that he was attacking from the right. In crucial situations

and life and death battles... This ability could help him kill the opponent by messing with their senses at the last moment.

Quick Blade was like dealing a fatal blow with 30% extra damage.

Shadow Swap.. Let's not talk about it so we can avoid copyright claims from a Shadow Sovereign.

Shadow Strike would be no different than simply killing your enemies from behind their back without even giving them time to react.

And the most OP of them all was the Doppelganger skill.

Anyone who ever played Devil May Cry games or read Reincarnation of the Strongest Sword God would know how busted and broken this skill was.

It was like having an extra Kahn fighting beside him. And he could even use this doppelganger to lure enemies to ambush, while fighting or even confusing the enemy when he dealt a deathblow. The possible combinations with this skill were simply too many.

This had given him rewards far more than he imagined. Kahn then tried to absorb the abilities from the other assassins but the system told him that all they had same skills.

It was like a school of assassins that trained and helped them acquire the same set of skills.

Kahn pulled the golden core out of the Assassin's heart, cleaned it with a water spell and ate it.

He sat in his usual meditation position and started absorbing the core. A green aura was emitted from his body as he tried to absorb the core. Just like Stragabor.. This was the residual consciousness of the Assassin. But unlike before, Kahn now had Hero of Darkness title. It didn't even take him 10 seconds to subdue and make this aura part of his own.

Ding! Ding! Ding! Ding! Ding!

The sound of Leveling up was heard inside this head five times and it finally stopped.

Kahn already knew that it was already hard to level up. A Grandmaster's core raising him by 5 levels was already a great boost.

[Congratulations to the host for breaking through the Grandmaster Rank for Daggers and Assassin skills. The Mastery & Effectiveness for all Assassination skills and abilities increased by 50%.

Congratulations to the host for breaking through the Intermediate Grandmaster Rank.]

"Thank you." replied Kahn and then he gave it a thought.

What would happen if he used these bodies and cores to create a strong subordinate? And since it will have Evolution skill unlocked.. It'd be ideal to merge with his assassination buddy who would be resurrected in a couple of days.

Kahn took the bodies back in his space ring and moved next to Semi-Saint rank demonkin. His mouth was already drooling with the thought of abilities and skills he'd get from this powerhouse.

Kahn rubbed his hands like the dude in yellow suit meme & put them on the corpse of the clan head of the Volstov clan. But this time.. It took him whole 45 minutes just to absorb all the skills and abilities of this man who lorded over the noble factions of the entire Flavot city.

But after the system told him about the newly gained skills and abilities along with the merged skills.. Kahn stood stunned on the spot as if a ghost had possessed him.

He always thought that a Semi-Saint rank fighter would be stronger than a peak grandmaster rank fighter only in terms of stats and attributes but this... This was something he never expected even in his dreams. He looked at the half-dried corpse of the demonkin, then looked at the moon shining brightly outside the window and spoke.

"Is this what they call... Suffering from Success?"

Chapter 118: Gifts after Gifts

Kahn was still finding it hard to digest all the information he received from the system. This was something that even exceeded the previously gained S Rank abilities and skills.

"System.. Tell me the list again." spoke Kahn.

[The host has acquired the following abilities & skills :

Damage Reserve (S Rank) (PASSIVE) :

Allows the host to store the damage received from the physical and magical attacks and expel it in the form of aura burst.

Lightning Flash (S Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Allows the host to launch a destructive lightning attack from the sword category weapons for 10 meter distance.

Rising Wind (S Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Allows the host to launch a tornado attack made up of destructive mana and shred everything in 20 meter range.

Guard Smasher (S Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Allows the host to make critical hits and break the defense of any shield weapon or defense skill by 30%.

Aura Blade (S Rank) (PASSIVE) (Upgradable) :

Allows the host to coalesce mana and his aura on the sword and attack with a lethal energy blade for 30 meters.

Demon's Rage (S Rank) (ACTIVE) :

Gives the host a temporary boost in strength and doubles all the physical attributes for 2 minutes.

Note : The host will be put under a weakened state for 10 minutes after the activation time ends.] listed the system again.

Every single one of these skills was a S Rank skill. And the majority were made to completely dominate the opponent.

Only now did Kahn understand how strong the demonkin clan head was. If not for 3 peak grandmaster assassins fighting against him together and using that Domain Artifact which also restricted the target's movement speed.. None of them would've managed to kill him.

Although Kahn did not see the fight with his own eyes, he could already imagine how intense and ground-shattering the battle must have been. He was lucky to not get caught in the crosshairs.

But this was just a book of the cover. The real treats were the new merged abilities.

"System, show me the merged abilities again."

[Following are the merged skills and abilities :

Sword Lord (S Rank) (PASSIVE) (Upgradable) :

Allows the host to create 12 swords made up of chaotic aura. Each sword can be moved and manipulated as per the user's will. The host can also use the Darkness element to create these swords.

Note : The current effective range is 100 meter radius.

Defense Shatter (S Rank) (ACTIVE) (Upgradable) :

Allow the host to bypass 50% of Defense of any defensive Equipment, Armor or skill.

Bladestorm (S Rank) (ACTIVE) (Upgradable) :

This skill is a combination of Rising Wind and Aura Blade.

Allows the host to create mana blades and launch them in a spiral and forward-moving attack for 30 meter radius. The host can also use the Shadow Blades as part of this attack.

Dark Lightning Strike (S Rank) (ACTIVE) (Upgradable) :

Combination of Darkblade & Lighting Flash.

Allows the host to merge lightning and Darkness element, two of the most destructive elements in the world in a single attack. The current range is 100 meters.

Note : This skill requires the host to slowly mix and balance these elements together and launch them as one merged attack. The efficiency and range will increase in the host's Mastery of this skill and increase in level and rank.]

Kahn's brain had been fried at this point.

The amount of OP skills he just gained were too damn high.

These skills were far more powerful than any of his offensive skills related to weapons he had so far. Even the Darkblade skill, his most effective long-range offensive skill paled in comparison.

He went from an Expert to a goddamn Sage.

Given the skills and abilities he just gained.. Kahn had already surpassed thousands of other Intermediate Grandmasters.

Sword Lord had just given him 12 Extra swords to use in a fight. And they could be made using the Darkness element as well. Which already had so much destructive and penetrative force to it.

In the future, if he managed to upgrade it.. Maybe he would be able to wield and control hundreds or even thousands of swords just like Byakuya Kuchiki from Bleach manga & anime.

Defense Shatter was without a doubt, the most critical strike attack he ever had.

Bladestorm was more like an upgraded and multiplied version of Darkblade. Because he could use multiple shadow blades in a tornado wave-type attack. Far deadlier and covered more area.

Dark Lighting Strike was the strongest one-shot skill he had. It was like his own version of Getsugatenshou just like Ichigo Kurosaki, the protagonist of Bleach.

And if he upgraded it even furthermore.. It could compete even against Sesshomaru's Demonic Strike from InuYasha anime, who could destroy hundreds and even a thousand demons with a single strike of his sword.

This was too much to process for a single night. Kahn then took out the core of this clan head and ate it. It was bigger compared to the Assassin's core.

Ding! Ding! Ding!

Multiple level up notifications rang in his head and the orange aura of the Demonkin erupted out of Kahn's body. It took Kahn a whole minute to subdue and assimilate this remaining consciousness as part of his own.

[Congratulations to the host for breaking through to Peak Grandmaster Rank!

Congratulations to the host for breaking through Grandmaster rank for Swordsmanship and Sword skills.

All sword skills and abilities will have a 50% increase in their damage output and effectiveness.

War Dominance has reached to Stage 3.]

Kahn felt a sudden sense of tranquility in his body. His sense sharpening and becoming even more accurate than before.

For the first time.. He could sense a faint energy in his surrounding. This energy felt like it was part of the nature itself and Kahn finally tapped into knowing its existence. This force was completely different than mana.

World Energy!

This was exactly the world energy that God of Darkness once mentioned to Kahn when he was in his soul form as Elric. Till this point, he only knew about the Mana and use it to raise his level by eating the cores and ores that were made from mana itself. But he still hadn't felt or came to know anything about the World Energy.

"Maybe after breaking through the Saint Rank, I'll be able to feel it more clearly." spoke Kahn.

Now all that remained for him was to check his new levels and stats. And also the contents of their space rings of course.

In a single night, Kahn went from Master League to the Champions League.

The Koi fish had become... a Dragon.

Chapter 119: The Final Products

Kahn kept gloating in happiness. It wasn't just his body.. But his mind also felt like he could perceive things even more clearly and almost could feel everything in the surrounding. Like a force that filled the world was resonating with him.

"System, show my new stats & skills. But only A & S Rank. Also, leave the abilities and skills that were used to merge new skills & abilities." ordered Kahn.

[Following are the Statistics of the host :

Name : Kahn (Host)

Species : Human

Job : All for One

Rank : Peak Grandmaster Rank

Level : 85

Strength : 1465

Agility : 984

Dexterity : 1189

Defense : 901

Mana : 1567

Divine Abilities : Ability Absorption, Dimensional Law, Synthesis.

Blessings :

War Dominance (Stage 3)

Weapon Mastery (Grandmaster Rank) (Grandmaster rank in Battleaxe, Daggers & Swords)

Combat Techniques Mastery (Peak Grandmaster Rank)

Survival Instinct (Stage 2)

Berserk God Mode (5 times the physical strength)

War Deity Body (Stage 3)

Gifts : All Languages Knowledge known to the War Deity.

Bloodlines :

Basilisk Bloodline : 50% purity

Fenrir Bloodline : 5% purity

Draconian Bloodline : 5% purity

Uthraqiris Bloodline : 100%

[[13th floor boss who gave Metamorphosis bloodline]]

Title : Hero of Darkness

Exclusive Abilities of the Title :

Monarch of Darkness

Dark Engulfment

Ruler of the Night

Following are the Abilities & Skills the host currently has :

Physical & Magical Skills :

Darkness Barrier

Void Realm

Darkblade

Bladestorm

Defense Shatter

Dark Lightning Strike

Subterfuge

Quick Blade

Windcutter

Physical & Magical Abilities :

Sword Lord
Drake Claws
Thermal Body
Drake Scales
King of the Dead
Shadow Swap
Metamorphosis
Bloodline Merge
Fear Toxin
Grappling Extension
Side Hopper
Hunter's Intent
Venom Acid
Poison Immunity (Grandmaster Rank)
Somir Scale body
Executioner's Gaze
Hive Mind
Shadow Strike
Doppelganger]

The system listed all the top-grade skills and abilities as per Kahn's instructions.

Kahn on the other hand had sweat dripping from his forehead. Because these were just the A Rank & S Rank skills and abilities. What about the B rank and the original ones that he used to merge and create new abilities & skills?

"Forgive me, Lord, for I have sinned. I have committed the crime of becoming too handsome, badass & powerful."

Said Kahn as he felt like he owed an apology for becoming too strong this early. Because normally, the reincarnated people in Isekai stories take a lot of time before they become too OP. It usually takes them two to three arcs or volumes to reach the level Kahn was at.

And this wasn't even his final form!

"What's next? I became strong like Beerus, Aizen & Madara?" asked Kahn to himself as his succession to strength was completely out of the norm.

"At this rate, I might end up becoming Goku or Saitama one day." he spoke.

This information was just too much to digest for one night. So Kahn had no intentions to check the contents of the space rings. Because there are only so many surprises one could take in a single day.

The next morning, after having a savory breakfast, Kahn covertly went to meet the Grandmaster Blacksmith. The old man had told him to come today to receive his new Armor and the upgraded Sword.

He met Albestros who was already waiting for him.

"You're here!" said the old blacksmith. Behind him, two silhouettes were covered under sheets.

"Are they ready?" asked Kahn.

"Yes. These are by far.. My greatest creations. Behold.." spoke Albestros and pulled out the sheets.

Gasp!

Kahn gasped in surprise after looking at the finished products.

Before him.. Was a black and red Demonic looking armor that had multiple blistering red veins on the pouldrons, placard, vambrace, gauntlets, cuisses and sabatons.

Given how big the Magma Drake was, the parts Kahn gave to the grandmaster blacksmith were enough for him to make Kahn a full body armor that covered every single part of the body and vital points.

Kahn who had faced the Magma Drake, a monster that was comparable to a first stage Saint Rank fighter felt like the dungeon boss itself had taken a miniature human form. And the helmet that had a tyrannical and terrifying face along with the two horns protruding out of it reminded him of that vicious beast who carried the bloodline of the Dragons.

And then his gaze landed on the sword. The appearance of his sword had completely changed as if it was made anew. The once black guard and hilt retained somewhat resemblances to its old appearance but the white and shining blade was now turned pitch black. Both the edges looked far sharper for something so sturdy. And just like the armor.. This sword also had red-veined patterns passing in the middle of the blade. It was half a meter longer than before and now the total height was 5 meter long.

Both the Armor and the Sword appeared as if they were part of a legendary gear set and complemented each other.

Kahn who had played plenty of fantasy & RPG genre games during his youth felt like he relived those moments again.

"Do you like them?" asked Albestros coyly. The man's face was full of a smug grin.

"Like them? They're insane!" shouted Kahn in excitement.

"I used Drake's claws and teeth to reforge the sword's blade. It's now even 3 times stronger and sturdier than a Mythril sword. Unless it's a Legendary Rank weapon, nothing can match against it."

"That's not all." spoke Albestros and took out an intrinsically patterned damascus knife from his tool belt.

"Give me your hands. Both of them." He said.

"Why?" asked Kahn.

"Just do it! I'm the expert here." yelled the old man.

Kahn gave his right hand and the old man cut the middle of both his palms with an intrinsically crafted damascus knife.

"Pour your blood on them." he said.

Kahn followed the orders and poured his blood on both the Armor and the Sword. Albestros started making chants and used an Artifact and various runes appeared on them.

Unlike others of his profession, Albestros Winston was also an Artificer who could do both jobs. A rare and one amongst millions of blacksmiths.

Albestros spoke again in a serious tone.

"Now let's begin the binding ritual."

Chapter 120: The Armor & The Sword

The next second, two magical formations appeared in the air and mana threads started coming out of the armor and sword that attached themselves to Kahn.

It was just like the Peak Saint Rank core of the first Emperor when he was connected to it in the Dungeon when the First Sage granted its ownership to Kahn.

After the binding ritual completed.. Kahn felt an innate connection to both of these newly made products. As if they had become a part of it.

"Stand right there." said Albestros and pointed to the other end of the warehouse, 20 meters away.

Kahn stood at the corner as commanded.

"Now think about summoning the sword to you." spoke the old man.

Kahn took a deep breath and thought about summoning the sword to him and just when he thought about it.. The sword lifted itself in the air and quickly flew right into his hand.

"Awesome!" shouted Kahn in surprise.

"Now think about equipping entire armor." said the Grandmaster Blacksmith.

"No way! You're now just showing off!" replied Kahn.

The old man only grinned in response.

Kahn then let go of the sword and suspended it in the air with his Sword Lord skill. He stretched his arms and thought about equipping the armor.

Swish!

A red flash passed and the armor disappeared from its spot. The next second however, a red and black aura encapsulated Kahn entirely and he was completely covered in this armor that perfectly fit his body.

But suddenly.. A notification rang in his head.

[The system detects a draconian body covering the host. Bloodline effect activated!]

Boom!

A burst of red and hot aura was released from Kahn's new armor and the entirety of it glowed crimson and flames appeared all over the armor.

As if hearing a calling, the sword also returned in his hands and all the red-veined patterns on it started heating up and a blistering heatwave was released from Kahn's armor and sword.

"What is this?! This wasn't supposed to happen!" shouted the old in bewilderment.

"I'm fine! Don't worry." spoke Kahn.

Because of his Thermal Body skill he got from absorbing the Magma Drake's abilities & skills, Kahn didn't feel any heat or got affected in the slightest.

Albestros on the other hand felt like Kahn was a walking volcano instead.

At this moment, Kahn felt like the armor and the sword weren't some external entity.. They felt like a part of himself. As if the Draconian bloodline made both the armor and the sword recognized Kahn as their own.

And to him, the armor and the sword felt... Alive.

[System, are there any special abilities or effects to the armor & the sword?] he asked the system.

[Scanning Complete.

The Blood-Bind formation has provided a magical effect. The armor & the sword contain Draconian bloodline and since the host is also in possession of this bloodline, they're recognising the host as their master.

Draconian Armor set skill created.

Drake Armor (A Rank) (Upgradable) :

Physical Defense while wearing this armor has risen by 40% and the Agility has increased by 25%.

Reformation (A Rank) (Upgradable) :

Using the host's mana and bloodline as a source, the armor will be able to repair itself over time once it has been broken. This bloodline effect will be active as long as host is till alive.

Draconian Sword skill created.

Drake Momentum (A Rank) (Upgradable) :

Strength while using this sword has increased by 30% and Dexterity has increased by 27%.

Note : The armor and the sword can be upgraded using materials belonging to the Draconian species body parts and to increase their buffs and rank of the skills, the host must absorb more Draconian bloodline.]

"Holy fucking shit!!" shouted Kahn in disbelief.

This was a whole different level of upgrade. It's like getting a Legendary armor and the sword with extremely high stats and set effects.. But then both of them could even be upgraded even a level further.

[I guess I gotta learn some Blacksmith skills in the future to be able to upgrade them myself.] he spoke to himself as a devilish smile appeared on his face under the helmet.

His current appearance looked a lot like Dante's Sin Devil Trigger form. While the sword had undergone a transformation and looked similar to Devil Sword Dante without the scales and claws.

The rewards were just too big and satisfying to him. In just 2 days alone, he had become one of the top 5 fighters in Flavot city.

He entered this city while wearing nothing but a wolf's hide and now he was wearing a frigging Drake Armor.

"Are you good? I don't think they were supposed to show such effects." said Albestros as he maintained a distance from Kahn.

Kahn commanded the armor and the sword to lower down the temperature in his mind and the heat all around his body gradually reduced to the bare minimum. Only leaving small embers of fire surrounding him.

"So what do you think? Worth waiting?" asked the blacksmith.

"Hell yeah!" responded Kahn joyfully.

"How about giving them a proper name? No good armor or sword should be left unnamed."

"Umm.. How about Drake Armor & Drake Sword?" asked Kahn.

"Impudence! Can't you be more creative? This is an insult to my hard work." said Albestros in an annoyed and irritated tone.

"My naming skills depend upon the naming skills of the guy pulling the strings from above." replied Kahn as he shrugged.

The next second, he felt a terrifying chill under his spine. This murderous aura was even scarier than the aura of God of Darkness.

"Arhmm.. How about Drakos Armor? Sounds good and reasonable, right?" asked Kahn.

"Acceptable, since drakes are descendants of the Dragons. What about the sword?" approved and asked the old man.

"How about.. Let's say.. Crimson Wolf?"

[[Author : You. Little. Bitch!]]

"Neh.. Sounds like an amateur & thoughtless name." said Albestros.

[[Author : Why are you guys flaming me?]]

"Then how about.. Lucifer." spoke Kahn with a resolve to settle on this name.

"I don't know what that name means. But sounds good enough." spoke Alberstros.

"Good. Let's meet 2 days later then. We'll leave the city together." said Kahn and informed the old man.

He unequipped the armor and put it in his space ring.

The sword without the bloodline effects activated just appeared a normally cool and expensive-looking sword. So he won't have any problem having it on his back. It'll also make him look like someone you shouldn't mess with.

Kahn returned to his house in the noon and Jerome greeted him as if he was in a hurry.

"Sir, there's a letter for you. From someone important." said Jerome and handed the letter to Kahn.

He read the contents of the letter and asked himself..

"What do they want?"