

Darkness 401

Chapter 401 - Backup Force

In the midst of the wildfire spread across the forested border where two ginormous entities clashed against each other. The shockwaves released from their physical confrontation sent tremors to the ground as the rising fire lightened up the enter border region in the night.

RUSTLE!!

RUSTLE!!

BANG!!

Valkyrie Brunhilde was pushed backward for hundreds of meters after the legendary flying monster created a ginormous orb in front of its beak, made of highly compressed wind blades and hit her with this elemental attack.

Crack!

Crack!

Hundreds of cracks formed on the silver-golden ancient rank metallic shield of the valkyrie as she was forced to bear the brunt of this legendary monster's attack.

And as the shield blocked this attack, hundreds of magic cannons and flying ships shot at the ginormous flying enemy who had already killed thousands of their comrades.

Huff!

Huff!

Kassandra who stood inside the protective barrier in the middle of Brunhilde's tiara had an exhausted expression while more drops of blood dripped from her head and mouth.

As soon as they were alerted of this approaching enemy five hours ago, she had been holding the fort on her own while trying to fend off against this regional boss who was supposed to reside in the inner forests of this side of the border and a few hundred miles away.

Yet suddenly this legendary rank monster who wouldn't even show up during the annual monster tide had decided to intrude and take the initiative for the first time in the past hundred years.

And despite being so big, it was successfully evading most of their cannon shots and magical spell attacks shot by the magicians boarding on the ships and those attacks that hit it only gave superficial wounds.

To extend her summoning time and preserve her mana... Kassandra had been only defending and jabbing once in a while to keep this opponent focused on her instead of flying away and attacking from a different direction.

Nevertheless... her efforts barely delayed the inevitable as hundreds of flying ships that had thousands of people on them as well as the ground troops shooting the magic cannons... were falling off on the ground.

In just five hours... more than a hundred thousand soldiers who were stationed to protect this region had fallen in the war. And if not for her being able to withstand against this enemy that was comparable to a first stage saint... the number of casualties would've multiplied by many times.

However... Everything changed in the past hour that made Cassandra get into a full-on battle frenzy and lose her composure.

Because a kilometer behind the ginormous Brunhilde... was debris of a fallen flying ship that was being rummaged by the troops of soldiers.

And in among the debris... was a red-haired swordswoman who had two rapiers on her waist. While the ground trembled from the clash of titanic figures of the shieldmaiden and the legendary rank monster... this young woman also had tears in her eyes just like Cassandra.

It was none other than Veronica Mikealson, a peak grandmaster fighter and also the cousin of the Raven Sorceress.

"Wake up!! You can't die!! Wake up, dammit!!" screamed Veronica as she shook the body of a silver armored knight who blonde hair.

The reason for both Cassandra & Veronica's tears was this young man who was only 3 years younger than both. It was someone who died from the attacks of this legendary monster while leading the squadron of the flying ships.

"Wake up!! Or I'll kill you myself!" shouted Veronica but the lifeless blue eyes of this young knight covered in blood gave no response.

The one who had fallen on the battlefield just 30 minutes ago was like a little brother to Cassandra... Isaac Mikealson.

The beginner rank grandmaster knight and the cousin of both Cassandra & Veronica.

While Veronica had lost her sanity amidst the battle due to immense grief as she herself saw the death of her cousin who both of them grew up with... Cassandra had both a saddened yet wrathful look on her countenance.

Although she was past her limits... Cassandra still fought with the best of her abilities while attacking and defending against this legendary monster.

Because she knew that if she fell before the reinforcements arrived... not just her but more than 3 million soldiers attacking and surrounding this monstrosity from different sides would soon die.

Thus, despite her heart being in great pain; she held the front like a responsible commander of the army.

Cough!

Cough!

Kassandra coughed blood as sweat ran from her chin. All the mana storage artifacts she was using as a source to keep her summoned deity intact were on their last straw as the gigantic 1 kilometer tall figure needed a lot of mana for this extended battle.

Although the current situation looked like that of an impasse... only she knew that it would be a matter of minutes before her summoned deity disappeared and their lives were doomed.

"Just... a.... little... longer." spoke Kassandra with an anguished expression.

Swoosh!!

Buzz!!

Suddenly, a rumbling noise filled the battlefield as the white-feathered bird-like monster had all of its world energy exuding out of its body and it started coalescing into a bright silver colored unstable tornado and the tall trees from the surrounding five hundred meters were sucked into this tornado because of the suction force.

Flickr!

Flickr!

"No! Not now!" exclaimed Kassandra as the ginormous body of Brunhilde that was in the 1 kilometer radius of this tornado also started getting pulled towards this massive tornado that was getting bigger with each passing second.

And finally when her supply of mana was close to depletion and the deity's figure started flickering out of existence...

The massive tornado suddenly launched itself towards Kassandra.

Under its immense suction force, Kassandra herself lost control over the summoned deity and both of them now seemed like they'd be shredded inside this tornado.

However...

BOOOOOM!!

Suddenly, a massive giantsword made of five different elements appeared in between the tornado and the valkyrie and quickly hit the center of the tornado.

As the aftershocks from this sword strike finally settled... a massive black warship suddenly hovered behind the ginormous deity.

"You're late." spoke Kassandra as she looked at a man in a gray military general-like longcoat who appeared at the exit door of this black warship.

"You've done well. Now leave everything to me." spoke the swordsman as his eyes met the worn-down sorceress.

Huff!

"You didn't bring any reinforcements?" asked Cassandra as she took a heavy breath from exhaustion.

Swoosh!

Suddenly, a black greatsword appeared in his right hand.

To her battle-worn figure... the man replied in a somber tone as he looked at the legendary monster ahead with a vengeful expression...

"I'm the Reinforcement."

Chapter 402 - The Distraction

As soon as Kahn appeared at the main door of the 200 meters tall massive black warship and his figure now appeared in front of the troops of soldiers attacking from three different sides... all of them were left shocked on the spot.

Thanks to their commander in charge, only a hundred thousand had lost their lives but it was still a loss that had shaken them to the core. But to protect the normal citizens and their families living in the cities, all of them had let go of their fears and still contributed in every way they could.

After Kahn and Cassandra finished their talk, he used a voice amplification artifact and announced the 2 million soldiers who had been putting their lives at risk to fight against this legendary beast in this 20 kilometers battlefield in every way they could.

"Soldiers of the Arcklos region! I, Kahn Salvatore, your sovereign... have arrived!" spoke Kahn as his loud voice resounded in through the warship and fell on the ears of all the soldiers in 5 kilometer vicinity.

Those who have fought till this point without caring for the consequences... and those who have lost their comrades... all of you have my respect.

But for now... all of you should enter a defensive formation and stop your attacks. Let me do the work." he announced.

Soon, thousands of massive flying ships that could easily wipe out a few hundred thousand enemies from the sky stopped their attacks and entered a defensive mode as a thick layer of magical protection shield appeared right in front of them.

And now... aside from Kahn and Cassandra as well as the backside of the legendary bird monster, there was a thick wall of protective barrier that was a kilometer tall in itself.

Just then, Kahn looked at the Raven Sorceress and spoke with a serious expression.

"Get out of here. You need rest." he spoke to the heavily injured and panting Cassandra.

"No!! It killed our Isaac. I'm not going to stop until I kill it myself!!" replied Cassandra as she looked at the monster who was STILL attacking the shield barriers of the warships and the ground troops.

BANG!!

Just then, a loud noise occurred and everyone's attention shifted towards a man with two black wings flying even higher than the legendary monster.

Currently, all the flying ships had created a wall of magical barriers in 2 kilometers height only. But they knew that the bird could even fly higher than that.

So to divert its attention, Oliver attacked the monster with his best explosive archery skill.

He looked at Kahn and both of them exchanged a nod. Oliver then quickly flew to the left and started attacking with his skills again.

Because even their flying ships couldn't go higher than 8 Kilometers and not all of them were suitable to fight at higher altitudes given their massive figures that were at least 200 to 300 meters in height.

So Kahn ordered Oliver, their fighter jet who was not only small in size and had the largest attack range but also the speed that surpassed even the fastest of the warships.

"What are you doing? Are you going to let it go after so many people died?" asked Cassandra with a furious face after Kahn ordered the troops to stand on guard instead of attacking.

"There's no point in fighting it here. More people will die if we continue." replied Kahn as he looked at the multiple winged bird-like monster.

Suddenly, a four meter tall hybrid human who had two long brown horns and a muscular build spoke in a deep voice.

"And most importantly... it has been only toying with all of you till this point." spoke Blackwall.

At this moment, he had hidden his rank and aura to match that of a peak grandmaster knight but still, the pressure in his voice was enough to show that he was a very strong warrior.

The reason why Kahn hadn't used Blackwall from the get-go as soon as he arrived was because he wasn't an idiot to reveal a legendary rank monster in front of millions of soldiers.

"We have to provoke it and take it somewhere else." said Kahn and then looked to his left where another 4 meters tall human donned in pitch black full body armor stood quietly.

"Jugram. Take charge here and wait till reinforcements from the capital arrive." commanded Kahn.

"We're changing the battlefield." he said and walked inside the warship again.

"Wait! You have to take me with you!" exclaimed Cassandra while the figure of Brunhilde started dispersing into thin air.

"You're not in a position to fight any longer. And this monster won't be restricted when we take it to an open battlefield. There's barely anything you can do.

And if I'm not wrong... you won't be able to summon your deity anytime soon either." he spoke in a threatening tone as he had no time to waste here.

"I can still fight. I only need a couple of hours." said Cassandra and suddenly, two high-grade mana and health replenishing potions appeared in her hand. And without caring about the etiquette, she quickly gulped down both of them one by one.

Kahn on the other end, gave a thoughtful look as he looked at the semi-saint sorceress. He had fought Cassandra at her peak so he knew how talented she was even without her ancient rank profession.

"Fine then. Hop on a flying ship. We will lead it by the nose. You follow it from behind and keep a distance. I'll tell you what to do when the time is right." spoke Kahn out of the blue as he changed his initial plans.

"Do you have a plan of attack?" asked Cassandra after a small hovering car-like vehicle appeared close to her and she jumped in it before Brunhilde completely disappeared.

"I do." he replied.

"What is it?" asked the Raven Sorceress.

Kahn then looked at the monster from the main door of his warship that was launching waves of skills at Oliver who attacked from the sky. He finally revealed his honest plan...

"Attack!"

Chapter 403 - Plan Of Attack

As soon as Kahn revealed his intentions, Cassandra was taken aback. Even after stating the most obvious thing that everyone already knew, the swordsman acted like his plans had some deep meaning to them.

"What are you planning? Don't tell me it's simply attacking it." spoke Cassandra as she stood on a seat of the flying vehicle.

"The sky is its domain and we're at a disadvantage in attack range. And unlike us, it can fly even higher than our warships. So keeping it engaged in a fight is the only way for us to control the damage." replied Kahn.

"We need to make it follow us somewhere else first. Or it will flee and come later to attack the cities when we are unprepared anyway." he said with a thoughtful expression.

[System, what is this creature called?] asked Kahn.

[The specimen in front of the host is called a Caladrius. A descendant species of the Godbeast Roc.] replied the system.

[Dammit! Another descendant species! Only if I could fly... I could have killed it easily.] cursed Kahn as he regretted not having any flight skill or abilities like Oliver.

Because so far, the black-winged general was the only one among their ranks who proved a bit useful compared to all of them who couldn't even confront the enemy directly because they had no flight skills or abilities.

Even someone like Blackwall, who was comparable to a legitimate first stage saint couldn't fly because his bloodline was that of a titan and he hadn't actually mastered World Energy to use as a medium and fly like a normal fighter class saint.

Just then, Oliver who had been attacking and engaging from a distance afar spoke in Kahn's mind.

[Master... There's something odd with this monster. It doesn't feel like it's fighting with its full capacity. Rather, it seems like it wants to retaliate against something as if...

It's being controlled by something or someone.] said Oliver as he dodged another threatening wind blade skill that could cut an entire building in half.

[Master... I too feel it. There's some different aura that's surrounding its body. And it's definitely not the world energy.] responded Blackwall in Kahn's head as well.

Kahn on the other hand was trying to think of viable plans to take out this legendary white bird monster who was strong enough to face an army of two million soldiers and still not get killed despite being surrounded from many sides.

Even a single flap of its wings was enough to cause a typhoon and many of their massive flying ships had fallen from the strong winds created by this monster.

Using his newly acquired Lucid Reality skill wasn't an option because the monster was higher ranked than him. Dimensional Domain, Void Crack and Dimensional Cut skill was out of options because he stood too far from this beast than his current maximum range.

And even so, the enemy monster was flying in the air and Kahn could only travel from the ground based on his current abilities even if he were to enter the True Dimension.

Plus the enemy itself was at least 400 meters tall. Completely out of Kahn's attack range for Dimensional Cut skill.

Just then... an idea came into his mind and he looked at the Raven Sorceress who had finally calmed down.

"How much time do you need to recover?" asked Kahn to Cassandra.

"A.. A few hours." replied Cassandra with an exhausted expression.

"Good. Recover your health and mana.

I will need your help later." spoke Kahn as he made plans of his own.

"We will divert its attention. You follow us from a different warship. Just don't get detected and keep a distance." he said and then commanded the pilots of the warship to fly towards the gigantic legendary monster.

And as soon as they came 500 meters close, both Kahn and Blackwall decided to partake in the battle.

Blackwall quickly activated his War Battlecry skill that was now upgraded to SS Rank after his rank up. And his targeted aura instantly alerted the flying monster who was going awry because of the constant attack from Oliver.

But since the flying general was too far and also quick to dodge, their confrontation was only in a stalemate from the past 10 minutes.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Suddenly, over a hundred 10 meter long aura greatswords comprised of five different elements appeared in front hovering warship boarded by Kahn and a few hundred covenant soldiers.

Kahn had finally used Sword King skill in a battle.

Clang!

His elemental greatswords flew across the strong winds and changed their directions from time to time to avoid getting repelled by the invisible layer of wind that actually protected this monster's body.

Stab! Stab!

KROOOOOOOO!!!

The ginormous monster finally screamed for the first time since its arrival. And Kahn had quickly plunged hundreds of his greatsword across its massive body here and there.

"How... is that even possible?" asked Cassandra to herself as she was startled.

Not just Cassandra but hundreds of thousands of soldiers belonging to different races, species and professions were also bewildered by this advancement.

Even the overpowered magic cannon attacks only made superficial injuries so far but Kahn's greatsword made of his pure chaotic aura suddenly bypassed the defensive layer of the invisible barrier made of highly compressed wind.

Little did anyone know, that there was a thin layer of space force coated over all of his aura greatswords. Although they were not as lethal as the Dimensional Cut skill, they had no trouble bypassing the protective layer.

And thanks to the Marauder King skill being in effect all the time, the greatswords also neglected 80% of physical defense and directly stabbed the legendary monster.

BOOM!!

A shockwave was released from its body as it released a violet colored aura in the surroundings, indicating that it was finally enraged by the attacker.

BANG!!

But before it could react, Oliver launched a volley of 300 different elemental arrows from the sky and hit Caladrius over the widely spread left wing.

Since they couldn't directly come close... both Oliver and Kahn used long-range skills to infuriate the monster.

SKRRAAAAA!!

The legendary Caladrius released an ear-deafening cry and shook the entire battlefield under its heavy pressure.

[Master! It has broken through the aura that was controlling it.] said Blackwall in Kahn's mind.

[Good. Now it makes the job easier for us.] said Kahn as he relayed his instructions to both Oliver and Blackwall.

For the next 10 minutes... Kahn and Oliver's attacks enraged Caladrius but it couldn't even come close to them because of the distance and all the cannons and magic spell attacks from three directions launched by the flying ships and the mages on them.

"Master.. Why do you want her help? I can take down this thing myself." asked Blackwall as he continued to use the taunt skill from time to time.

"Because there's something she can do that we can't." spoke Kahn.

"And the best way to kill a flying bird..." he said and gave a sinister smile as he revealed his true intentions...

"Is to cut off its wings."

Chapter 404 - The Cage

As the battle between the legendary rank bird monster Caladrius and Kahn's group continued, the aftermath of their clash shook the ground and thousands of flying ships alike. The burning trees and shattered ground in this 10 kilometer radius lit up the sky while the legendary beast kept sending typhoons after typhoons against their armies.

Kahn & Oliver were the closest people who were able to attack and break past the defenses of this ginormous creature while Blackwall actively taunted it so it didn't run away.

And after 30 minutes had passed, all the flying ships that previously hovered on the left side while forming a wall of the protective shield had finally cleared up a way under Kahn's orders.

Kahn then ordered the pilots to fly on the left and their warship departed towards the inner region of the border where this legendary rank beast actually came from.

Kahn kept attacking the Caladrius using the Sword King skill with hundreds of his aura greatswords from time to time. And with Oliver's perfect assist, they enraged the ginormous monster while the warship and the flying general flew across the sky at high speed.

Soon, just as Kahn initially planned, they reached 200 kilometers far in the forested and mountainous terrain while dodging and successfully keeping this enemy only 3 kilometers high in the air.

And whenever it got out of Blackwall's 3 kilometer radius taunt skill range, the magic cannons from the warship and Oliver who flew even higher kept shooting at it whenever it tried to run away.

And following this pattern, 3 hours passed and now they arrived nearly 400 kilometers in the inner region of this border. The farthest distance that was ever crossed by anyone here.

Beep!

Beep!

Just then, Kahn received a transmission.

"I've fully recovered. My ship is a few kilometers behind you.

Tell me what to do so I can be ready." said Cassandra through the communication artifact.

"Alright then. Here's what I need you to do..." spoke Kahn and elaborated his plan to Cassandra.

10 minutes later.

"All right everyone! I want you all to leave with the warship 20 kilometers in the west and wait for us there." ordered Kahn to his crew that managed and flew this massive warship that could carry 10 thousand soldiers at once.

As the warship descended and hovered a hundred meters close to the ground, Kahn and Blackwall jumped out of it.

After his signal, the warship left the forested region in a jiffy while the duo of Kahn and Blackwall holding their weapons now stood in open grassland.

BOOM!!

Both the fighters quickly released their full aura that was comparable to a semi-saint and made their presence known.

"Do you think it will work? I can transform and face it myself, master." spoke Blackwall with a questioning gaze.

"Don't get ahead of yourself. Your entire advantage is on the ground only. Even with all your defensive skills, you'll just be a target who can't even hit his enemy.

I and Oliver aren't strong enough to withstand its attacks ourselves either. So follow my plan and see how it unfolds." replied Kahn as he awaited the Caladrius to notice them.

Krrraaaa!!

The flying Caladrius finally noticed their auras filled with killing intent and spread its wide feathery wings that spanned around a kilometer in width alone.

Soon, strong gusts of wind amassed under the widespread wings and right before their eyes... 2 typhoons made of highly compressed windblades that could shred an army of thousands of soldiers easily, formed in a matter of seconds. Displaying that the opponent was indeed a tough enemy to fight on even grounds.

Kahn quickly activated Sword King while Blackwall used Terrain Manipulation to create a giant 20 meters wall in front of them.

BANG!

Crack!

Shatter!!

One by one, the typhoons that sucked in the tall grass and the large trees of this area approached towards their direction while Blackwall, who hid behind the stone wall cast the taunt skill again.

And after this open provocation, the ginormous bird descended 2 kilometers towards the ground and released its highly oppressive aura.

"The Caladrius has no physical attack skills. Only these wind elemental attacks. That's why it hasn't directly attacked us yet." spoke Kahn as he analyzed the situation.

The next second, he quickly activated War Dominance and threw off the pressure. He then spoke to the communication artifact.

"Now!!"

Shing!

SHRILL!!

Schwoo!!

Before the Caladrius even launched another attack at Blackwall... a two hundred meters wide red magical formation suddenly appeared above the ginormous figure of the legendary rank monster.

Suppression Formation!

This was exactly the suppression magic formation that Cassandra used against Kahn during their fight. And under this barrier, the target's physical strength and agility were reduced by 60% instantly. One of the reasons why Cassandra had thrashed Kahn during their battle in the Emperor's Chosen competition.

Caladrius who was enraged and focused solely on Blackwall till this point due to the taunt skill suddenly came out of the trance and finally noticed its surrounding.

But instead of giving it a chance to react; another blue magic formation formed above the previous one and suddenly, a chilling breeze leaked from this formation.

Crack! Crack!

Crackling noises filled the surroundings and before the weakened monster could even react or try to flee...

A gigantic iceberg suddenly dropped out of the formation!!

BOOM!!

The legendary rank monster was struck and wailed under the heavy iceberg that spanned for 100 meters in width and finally...

The flying monster fell on the ground for the first time since their battle started at military headquarters.

SHRILL!!

A loud shrill filled the devastated grassland and suddenly on the side of the right wing... a 250 meters long greatsword made of different elements came to be.

Dragon Strike!!

BOOM!!

A loud explosion resounded in the 5 kilometers radius as Kahn, who used Quicksilver skill and hid amongst the treelines after Blackwall created the stone wall suddenly decided to attack after Cassandra created the perfect opportunity for them..

After finally trapping the bird inside the cage... Kahn exited the dense treelines from the right side and spoke with an insidious grin.

"Time to eat some legendary chicken wings."

Chapter 405 - Thwarted Strategy

After the dust from the explosion settled and only an open ground filled with fire, shredded trees and uprooted grass remained in this mountain range. And finally... the ginormous figure of the Caladrius was revealed to all the four assailants.

A fountain-like burst brown blood that created a stream like a small river ran on the ground as the legendary rank Caladrius now had a massive 50 meter radius hole in its frontal section of the right wing.

Under the sudden assault from the suppression formation, the massive iceberg and Kahn's Dragon Strike, the trapped monster finally received a fatal injury.

Thanks to Cassandra's suppression magic formation that reduced its physical strength and agility by 60% and Kahn's marauder skill which bypassed 80% of physical defense... the bird-like monster who killed so many of their soldiers at the military headquarters was finally wounded to the point it could barely even retaliate or try to escape.

KRRRRRRRAAAAAAAA!!!

Caladrius wailed in agony and tried to push off the gigantic iceberg on its back as it flapped its left wing.

Each side contained three different lengthed sets that were interconnected so the entirety of it was already very wide. And soon, wrong winds gathered around the injured monster.

Crackle! Crackle!

But before it could even take flight, a bright and blinding yellow light suddenly brightened the whole forested region as a 100 meter long yellow colored archaic spear that was surrounded by moving lightning suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

For Kahn, who had faced this spear in a battle, albeit for a brief moment... knew the origin of this terrifying attack skill.

And 50 meters below this archaic spear full of runes and ancient patterns that hovered in the air... stood a young woman whose eyes were filled with nothing but vengeance.

Kassandra Mikealson revealed herself at this decisive moment and used her biggest one shot spell called Spear of Dominion. And without even giving Caladrius to chance to react...

Swoosh!!

STAB!!

The widespread left wing of the legendary monster was pierced through by the spear of dominion.

Stab!

But Cassandra's revenge against the legendary bird monster who killed her cousin Issac wasn't going to be short-lived.

Stab!

Stab!

Stab!

Her summoned spear didn't just stop at one point but it moved in the air while stabbing and piercing through many places on the 400 meters long left wing.

The monster whose body was already weak and burdened by the iceberg released an agonizing wail and its ear deafening screech filled the whole surrounding forest range.

After taking away its only advantage and suppressing it using the magic formation, even the legendary rank monster wasn't the match of their team.

Kahn knew that if not for Cassandra, his plan would've never succeeded and even with the best of his skills, the monster would've either destroyed cities and borders of this region and millions of people would've died.

Just from the span and the effect from her magic formations alone, he was certain that even other semi-saint mages of the Rakos Empire weren't as talented as the Raven Sorceress who helped them bring down this legendary rank monster without suffering unnecessary problems.

Because as things stood, even Blackwall wouldn't be of any help as all he could do was taunt the enemy and defend against it while his attacks didn't even land on the body of the enemy.

At this moment... Caladrius was completely on Cassandra's mercy.

Kahn on the other end, spoke nothing or tried to interfere. This was Cassandra's revenge and he simply needed the dead body to display to the soldiers and normal people of Verlassen fiefdom. So he chose to keep his mouth shut.

Oliver who suddenly dropped on the ground close to Kahn and Blackwall was having goosebumps all over his body as if it was him whose wings were tortured at this point.

Kahn now stood few hundred meters behind Cassandra who had a teary yet vengeful face as she was taking out all of her anger on this legendary rank enemy.

The whole torture sequence carried for 5 more minutes. But suddenly..

[Warning!! The host is under immense danger!!

The host must flee quickly!!] alarmed the system out of nowhere.

But before Kahn could even react... an immeasurably oppressive force was released from the Caladrius's body.

And right before its massive beak, a golden and ethereal orb that was comprised of an energy Kahn had never sensed and felt before came to be.

Kassandra, the closest person, had her eyes wide awake and she finally got out of her angered state.

Just then, the golden orb filled with some sort of incorporeal energy burst out.

Before Kahn, who couldn't even move at this moment was hit with this energy wave... a red protection barrier suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

His eyes were wide open as he saw the one to cast the spell instead of caring about themselves.

BOOM!!

A massive shockwave that spread across 1 kilometer radius shook the ground and everyone present in this battlefield was thrown off for quite some distance.

Under the now crumbling protection barrier... Kahn got up and regained his senses but he was quickly surprised after noticing his surroundings.

Thud!!

Right before his... Kassandra dropped on the ground.

Thud!!

Thud!!

And from behind him, both Blackwall and Oliver who previously stood 300 meters away also fainted.

Kahn got up from the ground and tried to adjust his footing as he saw the aftermath of that ethereal attack.

At this moment, only Kahn is somehow able to maintain his consciousness after surviving against that wave of energy.

Yet his eyes were focused on the Raven Sorceress who lay on the ground with lifeless eyes. She chose to use that spell on Kahn instead of herself in that very last moment when Caladrius suddenly released that skill.

And as his memory recalled that moment again... he concluded one thing.

That Kassandra was already closest to the attack but in the final moment, she realized that there wasn't enough time and instinctively cast protection barrier on Kahn.

In the moment of peril... For reasons he couldn't understand... instead of trying to save her own life...

Kassandra chose to sacrifice herself.

Chapter 406 - The Sacrifice

A silence ensued despite the sudden development that shook the entire forested region after the Caladrius suddenly attacked them with that golden wave of energy that neither caused damage to the surroundings nor their bodies but for some reason... only Kahn remained conscious.

[Warning! The host must flee!] alarmed the system again.

After this sudden noise in his head, Kahn came out of his bewildered state and grasped the situation in a second.

"Come out!" commanded Kahn and a large black shadow spread within the 2 kilometers radius of his location.

Thud!!

BANG!

Shatter!!

Soon.... Hundreds and then thousands of black monsters full of different species and sizes jumped out from this black shadow in a matter of seconds.

And now, the Caladrius was completely surrounded by Kahn's Legion subordinates.

HISSSS!!

ROAR!!

GROWL!!

SCREECH!!

One by one... his army of monsters, fighter class species with different professions, frost giants and the slithering snakes appeared and now the legendary rank monster was surrounded by 5 thousand elite and rare rank monsters.

The next moment, Kahn took two neurotoxin venom bombs and threw them towards the head of Caladrius. A dense green fog burst out from the point of impact and soon, the entire peripheral vision of the enemy monster was covered.

But he didn't have any plans to stay behind and wait for the fight to start. He was only creating a temporary distraction.

[Attack!] commanded Kahn to the legion.

Quicksilver!

Kahn used the quicksilver skill and appeared close to Cassandra's now barely breathing body and picked her up in his arms. The next second, he appeared next to Blackwall and Armin who had fainted and pulled them inside his shadow.

[Keep it busy.] ordered Kahn to the legion of monsters and fighters he just summoned.

Compared to a legendary rank monster... all of them were nothing but small rodents but Kahn needed to quickly leave and find a safe place lest the Caladrius attacked with that mystical skill again and this time if Kahn was also struck with that AoE skill... their death would be inevitable.

Other subordinates were just fodders but Kahn first wanted to ensure Cassandra, who knowingly chose to protect him instead of herself... get a safe location first.

And because of that sudden attack which none of them foresaw coming... for the time, Kahn was forced to flee.

[System, wake Blackwall and Oliver.] he commanded while using quicksilver skills to run away.

Each time his figure appeared, he would appear 150 meters the next moment.

[5 thousand SS Rank cores required.] replied the system.

[Take it!] said Kahn and used the Earth Sense skill that he gained from the Mountain Titan. This passive ability allowed him to sense the ground within a 5 kilometers radius.

After creating a 5 kilometers distance between him and the Caladrius who was currently massacring Kahn's legion force, he finally found a small cave in one of the nearby mountains.

Using his senses and Hunter's Intent skill which acted like his thermal and sonar radar aka the Detective Mode, he finally found a suitable place to lay down Cassandra inside this pitch-black cave that was currently the only safest location he could find.

Using the Terrain Manipulation skill, he created a stone bed and layed down Cassandra on it.

The following second, Kahn took out an artifact and activated an Isolation Barrier that hid his and Cassandra's aura and separated them from the outside world.

"Armin!" exclaimed Kahn and the very next moment, Armin who hadn't been seen ever since he left Aesir with Kahn after the latter received the transmission regarding the attack, had finally appeared again.

Kahn had kept in his shadow just in case of an emergency because he knew that it'd be him who had to fight this monster as part of his responsibility as the Sovereign of this fiefdom.

Armin didn't wait for any orders as he had already seen everything from Kahn's shadow so he quickly cast a green barrier around unconscious Cassandra who barely seemed to be breathing at this point.

He closed his eyes and green-colored energy flew out of his body that encompassed the raven sorceress.

However, just after 5 minutes of inspection and using various healing skills... He spoke with an aghast expression.

"This... why did it have to be that type of attack?" said Armin as his face turned somber.

"What happened?" asked Kahn hurriedly.

"Master... she..." he said and took a deep breath.

"Her soul has been damaged. And this rate..." spoke Armin with a dejected expression.

"She will die within a day."

Shocked! Dumbfounded!

Kahn was rooted on the spot after this unexpected revelation.

"Fuck! Does it mean that if I was also hit by the energy wave... I would be in the same situation as her?" asked Kahn with an ashen expression.

"Yes. Although your soul is many times stronger than even her despite the same rank... I'm certain that you would've also suffered drastically from it." spoke Armin who had the legendary rank class named the Pathfinder which specialized in soul-related abilities.

Kahn looked at the unconscious figure of Cassandra who appeared like Sleeping Beauty under a curse.

"Why? Why would you do that?"

You should've protected yourself first." he spoke in an angered tone.

Because bringing Cassandra here to fight as he needed her was in the end, his own choice.

So in other words... Kahn also held a sense of responsibility for Cassandra's current state even if she herself did not hold him accountable.

"She doesn't deserve this. She chose to fight on the border instead of running away.

She very well knew that she was no match for a legendary rank creature... yet she decided to step up and acted as a responsible commander of the army.

And now I'm only alive because of her." spoke Kahn with a dejected expression.

Because if not for Cassandra... Kahn would be lying on the ground and become a helpless prey for Caladrius to kill.

He didn't know whether she knew how that attack was going to affect them or not.

But because of her choice... Kahn was going to live and Cassandra...

Was counting her last breaths.

Chapter 407 - The Only Choice

At this moment, Kahn stood speechless and didn't know what to do. The current situation was as worse it could be for him. Because on one side, the Caladrius had killed off all of his monsters he left to stall it while Kahn ran off from the battlefield. On the other, Cassandra's aura dimmed little by little with every passing minute.

"I'm sorry. It was my responsibility to protect the people and yet you did your best despite having no need to.

If not for me asking you to come along here...

Maybe you would've managed to live or had a long life." spoke Kahn in a tone full of regret.

A vivid image of Cassandra heroically facing the legendary rank monster on her own while summoning the valkyrie Brunhilde appeared in Kahn's mind.

Unlike all the other heirs of noble clans and factions he had met till now... only Cassandra seemed to have a sense of duty and responsibility for the normal people who she was given the charge of protecting.

While she was driven by rage and vengeance... in the end, it was Kahn who made the final call and allowed her to come here under his authority.

And yet, because of his error in judgment and negligence... she ended up in this sorry state and now only had a day left to live.

However... there was much more to it than one could understand.

The Mikeelson Clan already lost one of their heirs. If Cassandra were to die too, they would definitely make his life a living hell regardless of their stand in front of the public.

And on top of it... she was also one of the representatives of the Neutral Faction and a candidate who was supposed to venture into that area where Kahn himself had agreed to go.

If she died right when he was with her... many questions would be raised and the situation would become unfavorable for him throughout the empire because in the end, he was only a ruler of a portion and didn't have any real influence over the rest of the empire.

Plus too many soldiers had already died after Caladrius suddenly attacked the border. Many witnesses had also seen Cassandra putting her life on the line while Kahn leading the monster and ordering her to follow him.

So the blame would definitely fall on him regardless of the truth or Cassandra's heroic sacrifice. Everyone would need someone to blame and Kahn would be the obvious choice.

On top of it... he still hadn't managed to get rid of the legendary rank monster that caused this chaos in the first place. With Cassandra gone and seeing the aftereffects of that Soul Attack skill it had... it was nearly impossible for him to get the job done.

No matter what he did... It won't be an easy job convincing the population and this incident itself would undo his image, reputation, question his capability to rule as a Sovereign and god knows how many forms of criticisms he would have to go.

The final aftermath would be uncontrollable as many would question his reign even if he controlled the system. Because the rest of the empire was ruled over by the noble factions who still harbored hatred for him. And Cassandra's death on his watch was just the opportunity they yearned for.

However... Kahn forgot about all his worries as he saw the peaceful and quiet figure of Cassandra who seemed to have no worries about the world in her unconscious state.

Kahn sat beside Cassandra and his warm palm gently touched her cheek while he spoke in a remorseful tone.

"Thank you... whether it was my past life or this one.

No one has ever tried to save or protect me."

Kahn's expression turned crestfallen as he gazed at the most beautiful person he had met in this life and somehow... he ended up playing a part in her downfall.

One of the main reasons why he always chose to not get close to others or form any type of friendship or connections with his peers was that he just did not wish to be responsible for their lives or hold any accountability.

He came into this new world by himself and even if he were to die... it was better to die alone than dragging someone innocent along with him.

While Kahn was lost in his thoughts full of remorse... the Healer general who stood behind him suddenly spoke.

"Master.. I think there's still a way. We may be able to save her."

Armin suddenly revealed a choice to save Cassandra. Kahn quickly looked back at the subordinate with a surprised expression.

"Well... I have some soul healing abilities if you remember properly.

I may be able to heal her soul. Although she might not stay as strong as before or might even lose her powers as a summoner and the ability to use magic altogether... she will still live." he explained.

"How? How can we save her?" asked Kahn hurriedly.

"Master... If I'm not wrong... the soul attack by that monster was more than enough to kill a first stage saint.

And even with me having this legendary Pathfinder class... she would've died regardless." iterated Armin.

"Just tell me what to do?!" exclaimed Kahn as he was out of his wits after a long time.

"It depends on you. And if my hypothesis is right... you still should've suffered some damage despite that barrier protecting you from the attack." he explained.

"What are you trying to say? How is that connected to her situation?" asked Kahn as he felt like Armin was beating around the bush for no reason.

Sigh!

Armin let out a deep sigh as he explained the only way he could think of.

"Because if you want to save her... you must make a sacrifice." he spoke and looked Kahn right in the eyes.

"What is it?" asked Kahn with a somber expression.

"You must sacrifice..." replied Armin and stated the main condition to save Cassandra...

"A part of your soul."

Chapter 408 - Overdue Business

Kahn was again rooted on the spot after Armin suddenly revealed this unexpected method that came out of nowhere. Not in a million years had he predicted this bizarre remedy of healing someone. Yet the Alchemist general spoke as if it was just a walk in the park.

"Your soul is many times stronger and denser compared to anyone I've seen so far. Even those saints don't have a soul as bright and radiating as yours, master." said Armin.

"I need a substitute soul energy to add in her damaged soul that will eventually transform it and take over her soul with time.

And because of it... she will lose all of her strength, her powers and her ability to use magic.

I don't know if she'll ever be able to regain her former strength and abilities. But that is the only way for her to survive." explained the healer general.

"First... tell me the consequences." spoke Kahn as he regained his composure.

"Only 10% of your soul. It's more than enough. Which is why I'm confident that it might work. Otherwise, I would not have suggested it at all.

My loyalty is only to you and not this woman. But seeing how you looked sad... I felt like I should tell you lest you end up blaming yourself for a long time.

That'd be a waste of time in my opinion." elaborated Armin.

"Sad.. Who's sad? I was only worried about the consequences of her death.

I'm not affected at all." spoke Kahn as he quickly shifted the topic in a different direction.

"Ah, I see. As for the aftereffects...

Since it's only 10%... Your levels will drop by at least 18 levels. And so will all of your physical stats. Even leveling will become hard for quite some time unless you have a very high-quality source of mana and world energy." revealed the expert in the room... the cave.

"With my Soul Reformation skill, I can heal it with time and even strengthen your soul. But the current drawbacks aren't something to neglect. Because we still have 2 more places to go if we survive this situation." he said.

Kahn, who was still digesting this method, had a serious expression on his face. As he was calculating his best odds and choices on how to deal with this situation at hand.

Although Kahn knew that he was a greedy, cunning, deceiving, ruthless and selfish bastard who wouldn't mind causing a bloodbath for his personal gains as long as the means met the end.

The leftover humanity in his consciousness had always stopped him from dragging innocent people and causing their deaths because of his mistakes like he did in the past.

And looking at Cassandra's sleeping face... he was reminded of the familiar situation where he once stood in front of the cold corpse of Jessica Artwinger.

The female archer back from his days in the Flavot city. The one who he had saved twice but in the end... the young redhead woman died as collateral damage because of his foolish choices and carelessness when he stole a space ring full of resources from a corpse of the members of a powerful guild back then.

Although the choices and circumstances were different this time... the results were similar and this time too... there was a body of a young woman in front of him; just barely alive.

"I will make my decision with a cool head. Till then, keep looking after her and heal her in the best way you can." spoke Kahn as he felt that there was no need to rush things.

Something like sacrificing a portion of his soul would definitely have adverse effects on him in the long run.

And if not for Cassandra willingly sacrificing herself and saving Kahn's life at the last moment... he wouldn't have even bothered thinking about making that decision.

The next moment... two tall figures jumped out of his shadow as Blackwall and Oliver, who were also knocked out from the soul attack, were woken up by the system.

"How are you two?" asked Kahn.

"It's just a blank memory... I felt like I died there." spoke Blackwall in a groggy voice.

"Same for me. I only remember that bright light, master." replied Oliver.

"System." spoke Kahn.

[The subordinates have not formed a soul of their own. That is why only their consciousness was attacked.] explain the system.

"I see. Well... are you guys ready?" asked Kahn to the Abyss Knight and Emerald Archer generals.

"Wait.. Where are you going, master?" asked Armin.

Instead of replying, Kahn closed his eyes and using the shared vision through the Hive Mind skill, saw the situation outside from some assassin subordinates who still survived against their enemy and now hid in the trees and kept a watch.

"Even if I make a choice and save her... it won't help us salvage the situation.

There are simply too many dead people and the whole environment at the border must be in shambles.

Even Omega, Jugram and Ronin won't be able to salvage the situation on their own.

And if we want to give the soldiers some hope and quell their anger after losing their comrades...

We need a perfect offering." he said.

"Besides... Two semi-saints working together and still being unable to protect the border, having more than a hundred thousand soldiers die on their watch and still not being able to kill the root cause of the attack...

I would be a laughingstock for the entire empire." said Kahn in a somber tone.

"Now that I think about it... I have plans for tonight's dinner."

"Let's go!" he ordered and their trip soon exited out of the cave in a couple of minutes.

Kahn used the terrain manipulation skill and covered up the exit as a precaution.

Soon, he received a message from one of the hidden assassins and figured out the location of the enemy that put them in this sorry state.

Kahn finally spoke in a grim and infuriated tone as his eyes were filled with nothing but wrath...

"Let's have some thanksgiving turkey."

Chapter 409 - The Pitfall

Kahn and the company stood 5 kilometers away from the Caladrius. At this point, the 5 thousand strong legion subordinates he left to create a distraction and stall the legendary rank bird monster were wiped out. Only a few with assassin skills remained and acted as Kahn's eyes while he took Cassandra to a safe place.

As for himself... currently, it was the only choice to salvage the situation. Because even if he were to were to safely return to the Kaldris border... nothing but shame awaited him.

Because he was the man of the house and yet, someone broke into his home and killed his family.

If this was earth... people would preach about hate, loss, justice and forgiveness. Many would tell him to accept the reality and leave everything to the law authorities.

But in the world of Vantrea... it was counted as a Weakness.

And as the sovereign of the Verlassen fiefdom... he was expected to bring back the head of the murderer. Otherwise, everyone would question his reliability and use it to overthrow his reign.

Every year, millions of soldiers died in this fiefdom during the monster waves but Kahn had promised the citizens that things will be different and safer under his watch.

And to maintain his sovereignty... he had to deliver upon his promise.

Swoosh!!

Swoosh!!

The trio of Blackwall, Kahn and Oliver dashed towards the location of Caladrius that was now roaming in the dense forests while searching for the attackers who severely injured his wings and forced in to walk on its feet while still bleeding from place to place.

However, Blackwall sensed that it was using the world energy in the surroundings and absorbing it at a fast pace to heal itself. He informed Kahn that it'd take an hour for it to substantially heal and become able to fly again.

"Master... We couldn't kill it before. And with that soul attack skill, it would be no different scenario than before. We need a better strategy. And we can't afford to make another mistake." said Blackwall as their trio ran across the dense treelines while completely hiding their aura.

Kahn on the other end has plans of his own.

"I think I have figured it out. But it will require both of you to put yourself in danger again." iterated Kahn.

"Whatever you command, my lord." spoke Oliver in a carefree tone.

Even if they were to die, Kahn could also resurrect them again albeit at high mana cores and ores cost. But if he were to die instead, it'd be an end to all of them.

"Remember, previously... despite me and Cassandra fatally wounding it.. It only attacked with that soul damage skill when it was close to death.

So there must be a condition before using it.

Either it is its life-saving skill which can be used only once in a while or it simply takes too much time to activate.

Otherwise, we all would've died a long time ago when we fought against it at the military outpost." Kahn explained his analysis.

"And since the bird isn't completely healed yet. It won't be properly able to fly either.

So if we delay any longer.. We won't have the opportunity to kill it in the future at all.

Thanks to the previous fight... it has lost its only advantage. The only thing we need to be careful about now is to not fall to that soul attack skill again." he said.

Kahn then explained his plan based on their individual skills and abilities that would turn out useful to them in this hunt.

TEN MINUTES LATER.

Thud!!

Thud!!

The ground cracked at the massive feet and heavy body of the legendary rank Caladrius rummaged through the treelines.

Crack!

Crack!

The tall trees crack and broke up while dozens of them crashed on the ground.

At this moment, the Caladrius had been eagerly hunting for its enemies who put it in that sorry state for the first time in its life.

BOOM!!

Shatter!!

Then a loud noise suddenly came from its back and suddenly, a titanic humanoid figure that was 1 kilometer tall in height alone suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

The ground shattered and hundreds of crevices formed under its massive feet.

At the present moment... Blackwall had turned into his true Primordial Titan form.

Compared to the Caladrius bird, he was two and half times bigger in height alone. But instead of approaching it.. He had

However, there was no weapon or a shield in his hand this time. Instead... it looked at the legendary monster that was of the same rank as him with a fierce gaze.

ROAAAARRRRR!!!

Blackwall used the War Cry skill and taunted Caladrius to focus on himself. He released all of the killing intent on the target so it won't wander off.

KRAAAAAA!!!

Caladrius also released a battlecry of its own and challenged the titan to a fight. So in simple words... it was a fight between two colossal figures.

A descendant of the Godbeast Roc vs a variant Primordial Titan.

The ground trembled while the trees shivered under both of their immense and heavy aura. The entire 5 kilometers of space seemed to be frozen given the insurmountable pressure released by these two ginormous beings.

However....

Crack!!

Crack!!

Blackwall pointed his hand towards the Caladrius and the very next second, a wide crevice formed under the feet of the ginormous bird monster.

In just 4 seconds, the ground completely cracked open and a 1 kilometer wide pitfall was suddenly created.

Terrain Manipulation!

Unlike Kahn, Blackwall was on a different level while using the innate skills of the Mountain Titan whom he was merged with.

Soon, more than ten massive earth elemental spikes quickly came out of the surrounding ground and plunged themselves into the two feet of the enemy.

Caladrius who was taken aback couldn't even use its wind elemental spells and suddenly fell into this extremely broad pitfall as its wings were already damaged and it was unable to fly.

Blackwall on the other end touched the ground below and soon... a 200 meter height massive boulder was created by him.

Without waiting for another moment, his massive arms picked up this boulder and Blackwall carried it on his shoulder.

Thud!!

Thud!!

Blackwall steadily walked towards the fallen Caladrius that was letting out ear-deafening noises. But because there was not enough space... it could even use its wings or cast any of the wind elemental skills like before.

The titanic figure of Blackwall carrying a massive round boulder on his shoulder as if he had to close a hole in the wall stood in front of the struggling Caladrius.

Just then, he heard Kahn speak in his mind.

"Drop the wrecking ball."

Chapter 410 - The Trophy

In front of the widened eyes of the legendary rank creature Caladrius, the titan carrying a massive boulder that was more than enough to decimate a tall building from earth stopped right at the edge of the pitfall.

Blackwall, who already made the Colossal Titan look like a newborn baby in size held the massive 200 meters tall and round boulder on his shoulder while the Caladrius that was now stuck inside the one kilometer wide and nearly half a kilometer deep pitfall created by the former using Terrain Manipulation skill had an alarmed expression.

For someone from earth, these unbelievably massive creatures that were fully capable of easily destroying cities inhabited by millions of people would appear like godly and mythical creatures. But in Vantrea... they were only the 3rd ranked creatures in the food chain.

Blackwall then quickly threw the massive boulder on its body.

SHING!!

Just when the massive boulder was halfway in the air and above the enemy, the Caladrius suddenly released thousands of windblades from its back towards the falling boulder.

Crack!!

Hundreds of windblades and shockwaves after shockwaves hit this massive boulder that was as big as Kahn's flying ships but before it even touched its body...

Shatter!!

Shatter!!

The enormous boulder that could wreck even a warship with a single fall was repelled midway through the air and shattered into small pieces.

Even Blackwall, whose most of the body was covered under the protection of the metallic alloy-like armor created from various minerals had multiple cracks forming on his ginormous body as he too was pushed back for a few hundred meters.

[Knew it! This fucker has too many lifesaving skills.

Let's go with Plan B!] ordered Kahn and the following second...

Blackwall plunged his hand inside the ground which shook the nearby one kilometer forest range and soon... a 600 meters tall giantsword just like his previous appearance in the true titan form was created again.

Thud!!

Thud!!

While the Caladrius, who was still struggling to get out of the deep pitfall because of its previously injured wings and now the bleeding legs... Blackwall charged at it furiously and held the hilt of the enormous giantsword while the tip of the blade pointed downwards as he aimed it at the head of the opponent.

Swoosh!!

At this very moment, two humanoid figures suddenly appeared over two thousand feet high in the sky.

A six black-winged creature that was more than 10 meters in height and had bright white skin while the head looked like it belonged to some hideous dungeon monster with two red horns over its white skull, flew at supersonic speed in the sky.

And above the back of this tall creature, was a man donned in a gray longcoat with a black greatsword in his right hand.

Kahn held onto Oliver who had reverted into his true form for the first time and now flew right above the legendary rank enemy.

[Do it!] commanded Kahn.

Blackwall then gathered all his strength and made a piercing attack towards the Caladrius.

And just like their previous encounter... a massive golden orb made of unknown ethereal energy appeared in front of its beak as the titan general tried to kill it.

BOOM!!!

Just like before, the incorporeal golden orb exploded and soon, a massive wave was released and spread across the entire region.

The wave of energy even rose upwards towards the sky where Oliver and Kahn hovered above the ginormous Caladrius.

"Master, now!" shouted Oliver.

Without wasting another second, Kahn quickly jumped down, his head facing the enemy while the energy wave came towards them as well.

However, instead of getting worried, the freefalling Kahn made a swing towards the ground and 100 meters below him, a void crack suddenly opened within the sky.

Swoosh!

And before the soul attack energy wave even reached him, the falling Kahn entered and disappeared into the void crack instantly.

Schwooo!!

The energy wave passed right through where Kahn once existed and soon hit Oliver who was hovering in the sky.

But instead of flying away... he had already prepared himself to get hit by this wave as there wasn't enough time left anyway.

Thud!!

Shatter!!

On the ground... Blackwall's titanic figure dropped and shook the entire 3 kilometer of radius as if an earthquake occurred while his ginormous body crushed hundreds of trees under it.

Similar to before.. Both Blackwall and Oliver had fainted after bearing through the soul attack again. Their bodies dropping on the ground regardless of the position as they made a necessary sacrifice.

KUUURAAA!

The Caladrius let out a victorious noise as it took down two of his assailants.

Crack!

But before it could even revel in its victory...

A 10 meter long void crack appeared right above its neck.

Slash!!

A gray figure suddenly appeared out of it and made a slashing attack.

Thud!

Kahn dropped on the ground of this massive pitfall and behind him... the legendary rank monster that almost killed him for good still had a surprised expression. As if it still didn't understand what actually happened.

Kr....

As soon as it moved its body...

Thud!!

Splurt!!

The 50 meters wide head of the Caladrius suddenly dropped on the ground and a fountain-like spray of brown blood erupted like a volcano from its detached neck while Kahn didn't even bother looking back.

The wide and shocked eyes of the legendary rank Caladrius landed on Kahn as its consciousness ceased to exist.

Right when it was forced to use the soul attack as Blackwall forced it into a near-death situation, Kahn had already predicted that last move.

As the soul attack energy wave hit both Blackwall and Oliver in the real world...

At that exact moment inside the True Dimension... Kahn was completely unaffected as the soul attack energy wave had no effect in that plane of existence.

"Wake them up." commanded Kahn to the system.

Thanks to the loophole of the soul attack only being able to affect one's soul and not their bodies... Kahn used both the generals as sacrificial lambs and forced them to go into a temporary sleep without getting them killed for real.

And the second he exited the void crack, he used the Dimensional Cut skill to behead this opponent which had the most dangerous skill amongst all the enemies he fought till this point.

The system took the required mana cores from his space ring and began the procedure to awaken the generals.

"I have the trophy. Now.."

Said Kahn as he finally looked back at the enemy monster.

The next moment, his expression turned full of worry as he spoke...

"I gotta go see about a girl."