

The Return of the Disaster-Class Hero

CHAPTER 31: MAN WHOSE NAME STRIKES FEAR

When the rain beat down, it rained very hard.

Once, Sophie had been beaten like a drum.

It had been a sunny day. She had done a great job in applying her makeup, and she liked the clothes that she had picked out. It was a great day where she was about to head toward a hair saloon.

Everything had been great until that b*****d had suddenly barged into her room.

“Kyahhk! You can’t enter this place! This is a holy place where males are forbidden—”

“Step aside if you don’t want to die.”

“Kyahhk!”

Kwahng!

Sophie was surprised when the door suddenly burst open. Then, frightening her, a bald man entered through the broken door.

“My god! Where do you think this is? You can’t just enter—”

Lee Gun kicked the next door.

Kwahng!

Sophie tried to close the door, but it was futile.

“I told you to go to the hospital as soon as possible.” It seemed Lee Gun was pissed off about something. He took rapid steps toward Sophie.

Sophie immediately picked up a teacup with hot liquid in it. “How dare you! Get o—”

She didn’t even get the chance to yell get out as Lee Gun grabbed her hair in one motion.

“Kyaahhk!”

Crash!

After grabbing Sophie, Lee Gun spoke, “Are you mad? You ordered your men to kill people who saved you? Moreover, you did so knowing they are recuperating in the hospital?”

Sophie was baffled. She had wondered why he had come here, but it had to do with the injured soldiers in the hospital. “They brought it all on themselves! I’m really busy right now... Let me go! You’ll ruin my expensive hair!”

“Their legs will have to be amputated. They got injured saving you. You told them you will heal them, yet you bounced?” Lee Gun pulled at Sophie’s hair as he exploded in anger.

“Kyahkkk!”

She felt as if her hair was about to be ripped away, so she yelled out loud, “Let me go! I have an appointment at a hair shop! Do you know how hard it was to get an appointment, f*****g orc b*****d!”

When she became hysterical, Lee Gun took off his mask. Sophie scrambled. Lee Gun’s face was hard to look at. His skin was marred, and his face was smushed. He really looked like an orc. Sophie’s histrionics lasted only a moment as her face was brought up in front of Lee Gun’s face.

“You should come with me while I’m being nice.” It was a threat. Lee Gun was implying he would make her face look like his if she didn’t follow him.

In the end, the defiant Sophie had been beaten like a drum that day. She had been dragged to the hospital by her hair. She had tried crying, but he had been merciless.

The Saintess trembled as she remembered that incident. ‘Why did that memory pop up!’

However, that wasn’t important right now.

‘My magical energy is being taken away...!’

To be precise, it was her Divine Status. She was the Chalice Bearer because she possessed the Divine power. She had no idea how, but the power that she had received from her god was flowing toward someone else. It was as if a snake was greedily drinking from the water jar after eating mutton.

[The Chalice Bearer's power is being stolen]

[Divine Status 40%] (Recharging)

[Piggy Bank took an active role in stealing Divine power.]

[When your Divine Status reaches 70%, a particular skill will be available for use.]

Sophie couldn't hear it, but Lee Gun was rapidly siphoning off her power. It seemed as if he wanted to fill his body with power before meeting her. Her power was siphoned without reserve. And that wasn't all.

[Badge Approval! Sophie Mardi-nim: Gelato \$38 at 4:24 PM]

'When did I lose my badge?' Someone was using her badge without consent. The badge not only contained her rented skills, but it was also connected to her credit card. That was a common way to pay for goods at the Integrated Exchange. It seemed like the person who had taken her card had realized this. The badge was being used with reckless abandon.

[Badge Approval. Sophie Mardi-nim: Gelato \$88 at 4:25 PM]

[Badge Approval. Sophie Mardi-nim: Gelato \$478 at 4:26 PM]

[Badge Approval. Sophie Mardi-nim: Gelato \$1089 at 4:28 PM]

[Badge Approval. Sophie Mardi-nim: Gelato \$13880 at 4:30 PM]

'How much is this person going to spend on ice cream?' Sophie's hands shook as she watched the texts appear on her phone. However, she was afraid to go look for her badge.

Why?

'I'm sure I dropped it at the appraisal house.' What if the man, whom she had seen in the appraisal house, was the one with her badge? He had been way too familiar, including the way he was stealing from her.

[You dropped your card, so I used it. I reached the credit card limit, so I'm returning it. You don't have to thank me. This is payment for the last time when I saved your life.]

Lee Gun.

‘No, it can’t be.’ She had seen the specter of Lee Gun when she saw the man in the appraisal house. However, that man in the shop was very young and handsome. ‘Moreover, I’ve never seen that magical energy before.’

Suddenly...

“What’s wrong?”

The deep voice of a man startled Sophie. It was Steven Marker, who sat next to her. He was the Leo Saint.

Steven Marker looked at Sophie with a surprised expression. “I don’t know why you’re sticking to my side while shaking. Either calm yourself, or f**k off to the restroom!”

As always, he was a very rude man. Of course, Sophie had no plans of staying near this man for an extended amount of time. She had met him by chance in front of the teleport zone. However...

‘I have to endure it.’ Currently, it was her best move to stick with this man. It was understandable since he was the strongest man in the world. ‘At the very least, he has a similar level of power as Lee Gun had. No, he might be more powerful.’

She had no idea who the man inside the appraisal house was. However, she knew this place was the safest place for her once she had sensed the specter of Lee Gun.

The Leo Saint laughed when he saw Sophie’s trembling hands. ‘She’s a Saint, yet is scared.’ He had no idea who she had encountered, but that wasn’t important at all. “Don’t you dare covet Lee Gun’s holy item today!”

“!”

The Leo Saint made the declaration as he got up. He headed toward the door.

“...!” Sophie yelled out in surprise. “Where are you going?”

“I’ll be back before the auction starts.”

The aghast Sophie looked at her surroundings.

The Leo Saint snorted when he realized Sophie was afraid of being left alone. “This is a lounge where only the VIPs can enter.” The Leo Saint said what he wanted to say. He didn’t wait for a reply as he left.

This was how Sophie was left alone. She was afraid, but she told herself that she would be ok.

It was as Steven had said. Not everyone could enter the VIP lounge. Moreover, the auction was about to start in ten minutes. What could go wrong in such a short amount of time? Despite that...

Sophie, who had reassured herself, quickly turned her head.

* * *

“What? He entered the VIP lounge? How?” Hugo’s mouth fell open.

As soon as Lee Gun boldly stated that he was going to steal a badge, Hugo had quickly rushed toward the exchange center. When he had arrived there, he had found out that Lee Gun had entered the VIP zone of the teleport zone. One needed a lot of money to enter the VIP zone, so he had no idea how Lee Gun had entered that place. However, Hugo decided not to think about it.

‘I have to find him..’ Hugo searched for the employees who were his fans. He bought them off to quickly enter the lounge.

Somehow, Hugo was able to enter the lounge, but Lee Gun wasn’t there. It seemed Lee Gun had gone to a different location. On the other hand, Hugo encountered a different problem...

“What are you doing here?”

He heard a voice he hated. Hugo looked up to see the owner of that voice. “It has been a while.”

A woman dressed in a white robe was in front of him. The robe was shaped differently, but it was similar to the robes worn by the pope of the Catholic church.

Aquarius Saint! The Chalice Bearer was present here. She was a beauty with the face of a young woman.

Sophie burst out laughing when she saw Hugo. “You were once the most handsome of the twelve Saints, but it seems your looks can’t win against the test of time. I guess having disciples makes a big difference.”

In truth, Hugo didn’t look old. She was just mocking him.

“I thought I felt a familiar wave of energy, so I came here. I never expected you to have become an ahjussi.” Sophie clicked her tongue in pity and sat down next to him.

“You should’ve listened to me. Why did you stay loyal to a dead man? Your wife died while you protected your cheap loyalty.”

Hugo felt a surge of anger at her words. He glared at her. His power as the Archer ignited in an instant.

The Saintess laughed when she saw this. “I see. It seems you aren’t dead yet. I’m sorry! I have a hard time recalling past events.”

“...”

“However, I guess you aren’t really living either.”

Veins popped out on Hugo’s hand. His hand had risen above Sophie’s shoulder, and he wanted to wring her neck. However, he stopped himself. Ten years ago, he had lost in a fight against the twelve Saints; the terms of his defeat was that he would no longer bother them.

Hugo was barely able to restrain his anger as he lowered his hand.

The Saintess smiled as if she had expected this outcome. “Anyway, I didn’t come here to talk to you about that.”

Sophie wasn’t here to talk about the past. “I have a question. If I’m being honest, this is a question that only you can answer. The other Zodiac Saints can’t answer it.”

“Hmmpf.” Hugo was cold as he stood up. She wasn’t worth his time.

This reaction made Sophie yell in a sharp voice, “Wait!” Her next words stopped the mighty Hugo in his tracks. “Did Lee Gun have a son?”

Hugo instantly turned around; he had quite the expression on his face. He thought he had misheard. ‘What did she just say?’

However, it seemed Sophie was being serious. There was no way Lee Gun was alive, but she couldn’t deny the sensation that she had felt inside the appraisal house. It had triggered her trauma regarding Lee Gun.

Sophie became anxious as Hugo stared at her. She tapped her fingernails on the armrest of her chair.

“D... Did he have a child! Answer me!”

“...”

There was no way Lee Gun had a child. It seemed Sophie had read something from his expression. Her eyes widened, and she suddenly started laughing. She found her question to be ridiculous. “Look at me. I’m sorry! It was a slip of the tongue. Please forget I asked that question.”

“What?”

“There is no way a woman would have been attracted to that b*****d’s face. Even if he did have a child, the child would’ve taken after his father. He would’ve looked ugly and monstrous.”

“...”

“Am I wrong? If I were his child, I would’ve killed myself while resenting him. He helped society and the environment by not having a child.”

Hugo’s face scrunched up. He was at his limit, so he clenched his fists. He could endure insults to himself, but he couldn’t stand by when his friend was being disparaged.

Sophie was oblivious. She couldn’t stop laughing. “Anyway, I’m glad that bald orc has nothing to do with him.”

Sophie had been afraid of something until a moment ago. But now, she was finally able to relax and lean back into the chair. “Haha. I can finally relax...”

Suddenly...

Hugo, who had lost his cool, was about to grab Sophie by the back of her neck.

“Hey.”

“!” Sophie froze when she heard a familiar voice. Then...

Boom!

Someone kicked the back of Sophie’s chair.

“...!”

Hugo was surprised when he saw who had done it. Sophie had no idea who had done it.

The man sitting behind her spoke in a provoking manner. “I was wondering what you were going to say. You are really good at babbling nonsense.”

CHAPTER 32: MAN WHOSE NAME STRIKES FEAR

“You’re really good at babbling nonsense.”

Sophie instantly trembled. Hugo was surprised as well. Sophie couldn’t believe her ears. She couldn’t turn her head, but she was sure of it.

‘Lee Gun.’

The voice was different, and it sounded a bit younger. However, feeling someone’s spirit was possible. And that spirit was what used to make her shake in fear in the past.

The flustered Sophie was about to turn her head.

“Huh-uhk!” Someone pulled at her hair, shocking her.

Hugo’s mouth fell open.

Lee Gun didn’t pay attention to their reactions. He just pulled harder on her hair as if he wanted to pull it all out. Letting out a scornful laugh, he said, “I waited to see how far you’ll take it, but looks like you really have no filter.”

“Wait a moment. Let go...” Sophie grabbed at her hair. She was barely able to turn her head. She wanted to confirm what this crazy b*****d looked like.

“Oohp?!”

However, Lee Gun pushed something into her mouth. The next moment, Sophie unconsciously swallowed it.

‘What did you just—’

It happened at that moment.

“Wait a moment... Kyahhk!”

Lee Gun nonchalantly headed toward somewhere with Sophie in tow. Sophie quickly tried to ask for help, but the Archer Saint shut her mouth. Hugo even went as far as to take off his suit jacket to cover her face.

“Oohp, ooh-oohp!”

At this point, they weren’t heroes; they were human traffickers.

The group soon entered a reception room near the suite.

“It’s fine. You can get that off her face.”

Finally, the jacket over Sophie’s face was lifted.

Sophie finally encountered the man and started swearing at him. “What kind of a crazy b*****d does this to the Saintess!”

Suddenly, she blinked in surprise. She had seen the man who was in front of her at the appraisal house. He was much more handsome up close. This was why Sophie got confused. ‘W-Who is this guy? Why did a stranger act this way toward me?’

Ooh-doo-doohk!

“Whatever. Let’s start this off by hitting you a couple of times.”

“...!” The man had such a vicious smile that a chill ran up her spine. Sophie could only grit her teeth even as she shook from fear. She was one of the twelve Zodiac Saints. This man should be bowing to her, yet he was treating her like this.

The power of the Aquarius rose.

[Churning Blood Chalice(S)]

This skill made her opponent’s blood flow backward. It was a killing skill of the Aquarius Saint. However, fireworks erupted behind Sophie’s eyes.

Bbuh-uhk!

“Kuh-huhk!”

It was a fist. She had taken a hit to her stomach. She was in so much pain that she wanted to throw up. Sophie almost lost consciousness. To make matters worse, her defensive skill had been shattered.

“Huhk!” Sophie was sent flying to the ground. She couldn’t even scream.

Displaying a bright smile, Lee Gun said, “It has been dozens of years. I hit you because I was so happy to see you.”

Sophie glared at the man. ‘You...’

She was sure of it now. At first, she had thought he was a simple kidnapper who served the Archer Saint. However, it seemed that wasn’t the case. Sophie had worn a robe that looked normal but was a holy item of the Aquarius.

Moreover, it had a unique attribute bestowed by the god of Aquarius to his Saint. Any weapon that would touch the robe would melt away. This was especially true if it was one's bare hand instead of weapons.

However, the hand of the man in front of her surprised Sophie.

'Regeneration?' His hand was regenerating at incredible speed. Even a Saint didn't have such an ability! That wasn't all. 'Poison doesn't work on him.'

Sophie had also rented a defensive skill from the Scorpio Saint, but it hadn't worked at all. This skill spread a fatal poison into her surroundings when she screamed. 'The poison is powerful enough for an instant kill. It just has to touch the skin.' It was a skill that was always activated.

Lee Gun laughed.

[Hundred Poison Resistance (F) has been activated]

[The wicked poison trying to pierce your skin has been neutralized.]

<Hundred Poison Resistance (F)>

– Your body has suffered from many poisons, and the poisons are part of your body. Poisons will no longer work against you.

– Specific abnormal poisons will always be neutralized. (Limited to your body)

– Certain poisons can be consumed to acquire Data.

It didn't take long for Sophie to become flustered.

Had he been hiding it until now?

A nightmarish magical energy wave appeared around the man. It was the green magical energy that Sophie had witnessed at the appraisal house. However, something scared her even more.

"You surprised me." It was Hugo's reaction. "How long were you there?"

"What do you mean how long? I was there until I couldn't stand the stench of a divorcee."

"What the... Divorcee... I never said anything about that!" The Archer Saint was known for being prickly, yet he was friendly with the young man. "Whatever, Gun. Hurry up and finish what you have to do. It'd be a pain if other people come in here."

Sophie screamed. She forgot about the pain from the uppercut to her stomach.
“What... w-what did you just say? G...Gun?”

Lee Gun laughed as he approached Sophie. “Are you dead? Or are you stupid? I said it has been a while, didn’t I?” After he squatted to Sophie’s level, the corner of his mouth lifted sharply. “Bed-wetter.”

Sophie unconsciously stuck to the wall when she heard that word. Only one person called her that. ‘N-No way!’

Lee Gun had the eyes of a snake as he laughed. “It has been a while, right?”

‘Lee Gun!’ Sophie shook as if she had seen a ghost. “Y-You... What happened to your face?”

She almost lost consciousness again. After a body blow, she had received a hit in the solar plexus. “Huhk...!”

“The second one was for treating me like a monstrous b*****d.”

“Why...”

“This third hit is for swindling everyone by saying you were my healer.”

“Ahk!”

“This fourth one is for me having shown you my handsome face!”

Boom!

Lee Gun was unforgiving. Even the great Hugo had to click his tongue. However, he could understand why Lee Gun was acting that way. ‘Her constructs will appear if he doesn’t do that.’

Sophie had committed many wrongs against Lee Gun. There was no way Lee Gun could stay still, doing nothing. He was unforgiving to both men and women. It was a miracle that he had kept his temper in check for so long.

Sophie’s scream rang out. “What are you doing? Don’t just stand there and watch! Help me!”

The desperate Saintess called out for help toward Hugo.

“Hugo!”

Hugo, who had been watching everything from the sideline, criticized Lee Gun.

“Hey, Gun. You have to hit lower. The defense is higher below.”

“Bet.”

Sophie screamed. Then, she started to cuss out Hugo. “I’ll tell the Leo Saint what happened! Even your kids won’t be safe— Kuhk!”

Lee Gun grabbed Sophie’s face. Was it because she had threatened Hugo’s children?

He let out an angry laugh. “Ten additional blows for you for opening your useless mouth.”

“?!”

Bbah-gahk!

Lee Gun’s fist flew toward Sophie’s face. Even in the past, Lee Gun had treated Saints as if they weren’t humans.

Sophie shook as she looked at Lee Gun. She was close to falling unconscious. ‘Why is he here? Why is his face like that?’

She couldn’t analyze her current situation, but she was sure of one thing. ‘He’s weaker than before.’

There was a reason she thought so. In the past, a single blow from Lee Gun would make her faint. Sophie could come up with only one reason behind this change. “You can’t use the full extent of your power because my defensive holy items are too powerful. It seems even you can’t overcome the twenty-year gap...”

Lee Gun looked at her as if she were speaking nonsense. “What? If you’re unconscious, you can’t feel the pain.”

“...!”

Bbah-gahk!

Sophie was beaten up once again. Hugo’s face turned pale when he heard the sounds of bones breaking. The Archer Saint had also taken a beating when he had first met up with Lee Gun. However, the sight in front of him confirmed something. ‘He was going easy on me because I’m his friend.’

It happened at that moment. Hugo was surprised by what he saw from Lee Gun.

‘His power... Is it a snake?’

The power emanating from Lee Gun increased a little bit as he laughed.

[Divinte Status 50%] (Recharging)

[When your Divine Status reaches 70%, a particular skill will be available for use.]

Lee Gun was using Pixiu to steal the Aquarius's power. He had unleashed Pixiu, and the construct was joyfully sucking in the power and items owned by the disciple of the Aquarius temple. Pixiu had been very hungry, so it was aggressive.

All disciples were connected to their gods and received power from them. The higher one's rank was, the closer one was to one's god.

'Basically, I can steal the power of a god.' Lee Gun laughed. 'I can recharge my power using this method for now.'

Hugo looked at Lee Gun in surprise. While beating up Sophie, Lee Gun was texting with his other hand. Of course, he was being mindful so that Sophie couldn't call forth her constructs. Still, it was a very dangerous thing to do.

This was why Hugo asked, "Who are you texting?"

"Ah! I'm trying to participate in the auction."

"Participate in the auction?" Hugo was confused for a brief moment, but then he realized what Lee Gun was talking about. 'Now that I think about it, they said one of his eight great holy items will be put up for auction...'

Lee Gun said, "I want to head toward the auction house. I think I know which item will be put up for auction. I want it."

Hugo was taken aback. It was to be expected. This was the auction house Lee Gun was talking about. "Do you have an admission ticket? Drachma is the most prestigious auction house. Do you know how much an admission ticket costs..."

Lee Gun shook something in the air. It was none other than a ticket. He had taken it out of Sophie's pocket. Of course, the Saintess had it since she planned on participating in the auction today.

Hugo sighed. "Let's say that you can get in there. Do you have the money to win the bid?"

Lee Gun grinned. It seemed he had something in mind as he made a call. "Hey, Sungjae. I'll be right there. Be sure to auction it off."

For a brief moment, Hugo wondered if he had heard wrong. ‘What a moment. What? Sungjae?’ Hugo became anxious when he heard his son’s name. ‘It must be a coincidence, right?’

His reaction was understandable. Hugo was hell-bent on not allowing his children to meet Lee Gun. His daughter must never meet Lee Gun. His son to a lesser degree. ‘I’m not crazy enough to introduce that total fanboy to Lee Gun.’

That was why he became afraid for a brief moment that Lee Gun was about to meet up with his son. However, he soon dismissed his worries. “Sungjae” was a common name. In fact, Hugo had someone working under him with the same name.

“Hey, Taeksoo. Why don’t you keep an eye on her? I still have to dish out 150 more blows, so keep her here for now.”

For some reason, the number had ballooned to 150, but that didn’t matter.

“I’ll look after her, but there is no way she—” Hugo was about to say there was no way she would stay there quietly.

Bbuh-uhk!

“Kyahhhhk!”

Lee Gun brought his foot down on Sophie, who was trying to call for help. Her phone rolled across the floor. Lee Gun had a good idea who she was going to ask for help. “You can run toward the other Saints. I don’t care.” Lee Gun’s eyes flashed in a terrifying manner. “However, you’re dead if you make it boring.”

Sophie’s body shook harder when she saw the madness in his eyes. She knew what he meant when he said those words.

“Also, it’s best if you don’t go. I just remembered what I fed you.”

“...!” Sophie’s face froze. She remembered Lee Gun had fed her something before dragging her here. From what she knew of his personality, there was no way he fed her something normal.

As to prove that fact, Lee Gun showed his snake eyes and grinned. “From what I’ve heard, you have the most disciples and also the trust of the public. That’s good.”

It meant she was worth using. Her value was high. Sophie’s future was plain to see, so she yelled, “Why are you doing this! You can skip this step and just kill me—Kuhk!”

Lee Gun laughed as he roughly grabbed Sophie's face. It was a very hateful laugh. "Who will believe me if I kill all the witnesses? Hmm?"

Lee Gun had never planned on simply killing the person who had stabbed him. He had to find the person and let them suffer for the same number of years. Also...

"I heard all of you benefited greatly from my work for the past twenty years. At the very least, you guys have to suffer the same pain that I suffered."

"...!" Sophie shook from fear. Her fear was caused by the shape of the magical energy Lee Gun emitted.

'Snake.' There was only one conjecture that she could come up with. 'There is another hidden god that used to be part of the Zodiacs.'

'Could it be? *The snake that will provoke the twelve Zodiacs and swallow the world.*'

Sophie was in a state of turmoil when it happened.

Bbah-gahk!

In the next breath, Lee Gun sent her flying. The blow had enough power to make a Saint senseless. At the same time, Lee Gun felt a strong power.

[You have inflicted massive damage to the Chalice Bearer's disciple]

[The Serpent Bearer's power connected to the disciple has weakened]

[You have acquired the Saint's EXP]

[You have acquired special Data(Saint Rank)]

Lee Gun laughed as he dragged Sophie across the ground. His eyes, which were filled with madness, were quite the sight to see.

Also, someone sent a message to Sophie's phone. It was a reporter. This made Lee Gun write something on Sophie's back. Then, he threw her toward the emergency staircase like a sack.

Boom!

"When it's time, just throw that in the septic tank."

"Throw her in that s**t-can yourself, b*****d."

"I took everything that looked useful. Don't worry about anything."

He really was awful. Suddenly...

– The 387th Drachma Great Auction has started. The first item...

A system message rang out in the VIP room. Lee Gun's movements became a bit more frantic when the message was announced. 'Did it start?'

He had asked Sungjae to bid for the item he wanted, so he could be a little bit late...
“Let's meet up at the auction house.”

Lee Gun threw a teleportation token, which he had received from the guard, toward Hugo. It seemed the item inside the auction was important to Lee Gun. He disappeared toward the auction house.

Hugo went to pick up the unconscious Sophie. He had to clean things up.

Bul-kuhk!

“!”

Suddenly, the door to the emergency staircase opened, and someone exited out of it. Hugo's face flinched when he saw that face.

An odd silence descended. The person who had come through the door looked shell-shocked. His mouth had fallen open. The Saintess had a b****y nose, and Hugo was dragging her body. It wasn't a normal sight, so the reaction was understandable.

However, the problem was the identity of the person who had walked through the door.

“What are you doing?” It was none other than the Leo Saint.

Hugo's face became distorted when he recognized who it was. 'The Golden Lion.'

On the other hand, the Leo Saint found the situation to be absurd. He had been about to head to the auction house when he had noticed that Sophie was gone. He had come to look for her and sensed some energy from this direction.

“Let's put aside that we haven't seen each other for the past ten years. What happened to her?” The Leo Saint looked angry as he gazed at Sophie. “Did you do this?”

He was asking if Hugo had broken their agreement to attack one of the Zodiac Saints.

Hugo was conflicted. Should he tell the truth? Should he say Lee Gun had beat her up? Or should he say a monster had put her in this state?

After thinking about it for a moment, Hugo gave his answer.

CHAPTER 33: LOOK AT THIS B***D**

“She fell down the stairs. It looked like she was having a fit.”

“Huh.” The Leo Saint burst out laughing. ‘What? She fell by herself?’

It was an absurd statement. The Leo Saint looked at Sophie. ‘What kind of tumble did she take that made her look like a bloodied corpse?’ In the end, his eyebrows rose in a sharp manner.

Hugo became tense. ‘It seems he won’t fall for the absurd lie. I should’ve just tossed her over the roof when I had the chance.’

When the Leo Saint looked at him with suspicion, Hugo was about to get ready to fight.

“Whatever!” Unexpectedly, the Lion Saint snorted. “That woman is not my problem.”

She was the Aquarius Saint. Before they became allies as the Zodiac Saints, the two of them had a bad relationship. They used to steal each other’s Divine Status and EXP. Moreover, the Aquarius Saint had a lot of disciples, so she was a thorn to his eyes. Her god also had a far-reaching power. If the Aquarius suffered, it would be a boon to the other gods.

This was why the Leo Saint didn’t care. In fact, someone here was more important than Sophie. The Archer Saint, Hugo, had never made an appearance in the past even when the Leo Saint had asked for his presence. So why was he here of all places? ‘I threw all kinds of carrots at him to tempt him to betray Lee Gun, yet he completely ignored all my advances.’

On the other hand, Hugo’s presence was understandable. The Leo Saint spoke, “It seems you came here alone to acquire Lee Gun’s holy item. That’s mine! A beggar Saint like you has no shot at acquiring it.”

Hugo was surprised, but he said, “I see nothing has changed. You’re still obsessed with Gun’s items. But remember: you will never be Lee Gun!”

“What?”

“Anyway, you won’t be able to take possession of that item today,” Hugo continued.

“What did you just say?” It seemed the Leo Saint was oblivious to the fact that the owner of the item was present in the auction.

That was why Hugo had said that it would be impossible. He had mocked the Leo Saint, touching a very sore point.

“You’re an archer with a broken bow.”

‘Why is Hugo being so confident today?’ The Leo Saint’s eyes flashed as golden magical energy flowed out of him.

[Food Chain] A chain made out of golden light appeared and floated into the air as if it were looking for prey.

In response, red energy erupted from Hugo’s body.

Boom!

[B****y Makeup] A flame tattoo appeared on Hugo’s face.

Both of these men were battle-type Saints. Their power was rough. Their incredible magical energies were about to clash when it happened.

[Yes! One hundred million dollars! A hundred million dollar bid for Lee Gun’s holy item!]

“!”

[Moreover, this is the fourth straight item they have bid on! The Gemini temple is flexing its incredible power. They are buying every item that has appeared so far in the middle of the auction!]

The coverage of the auction was being announced.

The surprised Leo Saint turned his head. His magical energy fizzled out. It was to be expected. He had instructed his underlings to purchase any item related to Lee Gun. Moreover, the Gemini temple was doing this! ‘There is no way the Gemini temple would covet those items. No, I don’t have time to think about such things.’

“What the hell are they doing?” Killing intent swirled around the Leo Saint as he quickly turned around.

On the other hand, Hugo’s face scrunched up when the Gemini temple was mentioned. The Gemini Saint was a very calculating person. The Leo Saint was also

his client, so there was no way the Gemini Saint would cross the Leo Saint. It also couldn't be Lee Gun since he didn't have 100 million dollars.

'It can't be...' Hugo's prediction turned out to be correct.

* * *

"A-are you sure he can do this?"

At that moment, Chun Sungjae and his guard couldn't close their mouths. Their reactions were understandable. Numerous bottles of alcohol lay in front of them. Dom Perignon, Armand Brignac, Krug...

"How much is that... Isn't the general going way overboard?"

Lee Gun didn't care if they were shocked or not. He nonchalantly opened another expensive bottle of alcohol. The person sitting on the other side of Lee Gun was the general of the Gemini temple, the number one ranked temple in Korea.

Currently, the group was above 16,000 ft in the air. They were in a floating castle called <Drachma>. Drachma was an enormous castle that roamed around the world to escape the power of the mysterious civilization.

Lee Gun was in an enormous room inside the castle. He sat in the royal seat. The reason for this was simple.

'I was invited by the Korean general of the Gemini temple.' Lee Gun shamelessly laughed. That was right. He was taking advantage of the goodwill shown by the Gemini temple. In truth, he had been able to enter the VIP lounge thanks to the man in front of him.

And that had allowed him to catch Sophie. 'I wonder how he'll react if he finds out that I'm responsible for Sophie's current state.'

Lee Gun had earlier received an invitation to the auction sent by the general of the Gemini temple. 'It's a welcome development since I don't have money.'

This was how he was getting the most out of this situation. Lee Gun grinned. On the other hand, Chun Sungjae and his guard were taken aback.

'The general has never acted this generously before.' It wasn't just alcohol. 'The general had offered to purchase any item that he wanted.'

The general hadn't acted this way even when he had recruited the S-rank Min Sunghoon.

The guard felt troubled as he approached Lee Gun. Even though the general had said it was ok, the guard wondered if it was really ok to purchase all the items Lee Gun wanted. He said, “You chose to bid for all the items...”

“Why shouldn’t I? He never said to choose one.”

It was true. The general had not specified this. However, from a common-sense point of view, the guard had never expected this man to bid on all the items.

‘A junk item in this auction is worth millions!’

Moreover, the guard wouldn’t have said anything if the items being bid were holy items. Holy items would be useful in raids and other tasks. However... “Why did you buy Rockstar Huin’s ballpoint pen?”

“What do you mean why? I’m a fan.”

“What about that weird-looking sculpture of a woman?”

“It looked unique!” Lee Gun explained.

“What about that unnecessarily gaudy cup!”

“I want to use it when I brush my teeth.”

“What about this back scratcher!” The guard was getting frustrated.

“Are you an idiot? Of course, I bought it to scratch my back”

“#&*#\$*!” The guard grabbed the back of his neck. ‘He spent millions of dollars just for those reasons...’ The guard wondered if this man was sane or not.

It happened at that moment.

“Haha. It’s fine. It’s fine.” The man in front of them laughed. This man looked to be in his mid-thirties and had the features of an elite. He was none other than the general of the Gemini temple, Choi Sunghyuk. “It’s fine. We receive support from the Gemini Saint when we incur a large expenditure. If you want to drink more alcohol, you can order more to your heart’s content.”

Of course, the cost of alcohol wasn’t a big deal. An expenditure of that magnitude was nothing for a general. Above all else...

– Hey, Sungjae.

The general of the Gemini temple laughed as he called out to Chun Sungjae.

Silence!

No sound came out as he had used a telepathy spell. Chun Sungjae had a bad feeling as he looked at his general. The general just smiled at him and telepathically said,

– I’m sorry, but I forgot to bring my company card. I want you to make the payment for me as a short-term loan.

“...” Chun Sungjae was baffled.

A calculating look appeared on the general’s face as he smiled. He had planned on doing this from the start. The general never planned to borrow the power of the Gemini Saint. He wanted to tie himself to Chun Sungjae with a debt. Chun Sungjae was a talent, and keeping him tied to the temple no matter what method he used was paramount.

– I’ll settle the loan at a later time. Do me this favor?

Chun Sungjae furrowed his brows as he glanced at his superior. ‘He has already borrowed a lot of money from me in this way.’ Despite that, he couldn’t refuse an order from a superior. Chun Sungjae had no choice. He took the receipt and headed toward the employee.

However...

“Uh? The payment has already been settled.” The employee smiled as he returned a black card, shocking Chun Sungjae.

This card belonged to none other than the general. The most surprised one was the general. His eyes turned round as he searched his pockets. ‘Why is that there?’

At that moment, the sound of a glass cup being placed on the table rang out.

“Why are you so surprised? I took the card out beforehand.”

The shocked general looked at Lee Gun.

Lee Gun had a nasty smile on his face. “I can’t have the host be too drunk to settle the bill, right?”

“...!”

“Also, I know your subordinate will be put in a tough spot if he has to settle the bill.”

‘This b*****d...’

Lee Gun didn't pay attention to the other man as he patted Chun Sungjae's back. It seemed Chun Sungjae realized the meaning behind the gesture. His eyes turned round. At that moment, Lee Gun looked cool to him.

However, something happened at that moment.

[The Serpent Bearer's ability has become stronger.]

[The requirement for the special skill has been satisfied.]

Lee Gun was surprised.

On the other side, the general uproariously laughed. "I'm not the type of person to place my subordinate in such a position."

'This young b*****d is oddly getting on my nerves.' However, that wasn't important right now. 'He's a talent who can erase that detestable Lee Gun for good.'

Power and authority of a god! Basically, fame and honor could increase the power of a god. If this man joined their temple, the Gemini's power would rise. The man's impudent attitude could be fixed once he entered the temple.

The general of the Gemini temple pushed up his glasses. "Would you like to worship the Gemini? You'll be one of the direct disciples."

Chun Sungjae and his guard were surprised. It had nothing to do with the general's words. It had to do with Lee Gun's reaction. As soon as the general stopped speaking, Lee Gun started laughing his head off.

"H-hyung?"

"...!"

Lee Gun suddenly cut off his laughter. "Are you suggesting that I become a minion of your Saint?"

"Why not serve under him? He's a wise and beautiful person."

Lee Gun started laughing again. 'He has b***s.'

It had looked to him as if the Gemini temple was flush with cash, so he had kept his mouth shut. He had done it to skim some money off the top. However, he could no longer do so. 'He wants me to play second fiddle to whom?'

Of course, it wasn't a bad idea. He could pretend to get scouted and meet various Saints, who remained hidden in their holy grounds. It was a chance to beat them in person.

The general laughed as he tried to flatter Lee Gun. "You're very talented. You don't need to mimic Lee Gun like that. I'll guarantee it. You will be able to receive the blessing of our God."

The general thought he had just given the highest compliment.

However, Lee Gun reacted oddly. "Is that all you have to say to me?" He raised the alcohol bottle. His movement was oddly combative, and he even broke the bottle.

The general was a bit taken aback. 'Why is he reacting like this? Did I make some mistake?' There was no way he had made a mistake.

The standard attributes given to the disciples of Gemini were Sensing and Observing. At his rank, the general could tell his opponent's disposition with just a glance. This man was truly different from Sungjae. He wasn't a Lee Gun fan. In fact, it seemed like he didn't like Lee Gun.

'I have no choice.' The general thought.

[Caution! The two-faced Gemini has activated his skill.]

[It is a magic skill!]

Choi Sunghyuk used his skill. Of course, it wasn't a skill used to harm his opponent. 'It's a Persuasion spell.' This spell didn't control his opponents, but increased their trustworthiness toward him instead.

Lee Gun seemed very amused as he laughed. 'It's as Takesoo said. The general class is strong.'

In front of a general directly under a god, even Hugo had to be on his toes. The general class was very dangerous. Even Lee Gun couldn't be careless. However...

Crash!

The alcohol bottle next to Lee Gun broke.

The general was taken aback when he felt an overwhelming presence.

Boom!

He instantly felt a wave of ominous energy and a deep chill in his bones. It felt as if a snake was going to swallow him whole.

Choi Sunghyuk was under the magician Saint, who was most sensitive to magic. That was why he sensed that feeling much more clearer. However, it lasted only for a moment as the frightening energy disappeared soon. He tilted his head in confusion. ‘Was I mistaken?’

Shooohk!

Choi Sunghyuhk’s magical energy vanished, and the magic spell he had been activating unraveled. Surprised, he looked at his surroundings. ‘Why did my magic energy suddenly disappear?’

Lee Gun cackled and drank the vodka as if it were water.

[You have absorbed magic energy.]

Lee Gun’s gaze headed toward the general’s wallet. When stealing that card, he had left something behind in the wallet.

<A Fake Horse That Somehow Looks Like It’ll Make Money> B rank replica

– Periodically absorbs 10% of the magical energy of anyone who makes contact with the item (B rank)

– The magical energy of the person who touches the item will flow into another. The name of the subject (Lee Gun) has to be written on the item.

It was a replica he had created using the Sheep Saint’s Imperial holy item called <Multiplication Storage>. He had given its original to Hugo and tried to mass-produce it. The one that he was using right now was a prototype.

‘This is a good opportunity.’

The magical energy of a general rank User would make a great magic charging station. The general expended magical energy just from moving, so he was the greatest repository for magical energy. In the end, General Choi couldn’t figure out what had happened.

“Congratulations!” Suddenly, an employee of the auction team approached Lee Gun. He was here to deliver the item that Lee Gun had won in the auction.

“This is the last item you won with a successful bid.”

When the employee handed Lee Gun a black wooden box, the general's face instantly hardened.

“This certificate guarantees this is Lee Gun's item.”

The general was shocked by the employee's words. He looked at Lee Gun. “Wait a moment! You made a bid for Lee Gun's holy item?”

“What? Didn't you hear us make the winning bid?” Lee Gun laughed as he opened the expensive box. The item mentioned by the appraiser hadn't come up yet, but this was also an important item.

[Pendant]

The sight of the item surprised the general of the Gemini temple. This was beyond being a money problem. He didn't care about the alcohol and the other items. However, Lee Gun's items were a different story. This was an item that the Leo Saint from the US had planned on purchasing. It would be a huge headache if they messed around with the Leo Saint.

“You cannot take that. It's an item we have to hand over to the Leo Saint.”

‘Leo Saint?’ “Why— ” Lee Gun was about to ask why they had to hand over the item.

“Hey, Gemini bums.”

Lee Gun blinked when he heard a familiar voice. The general became surprised as well. Chun Sungjae and his guard turned their heads around at the same time, and their mouths fell open.

“Leo Saint...”

“Do you know whose item you are messing around with?” The Golden Lion was already in the room, and he looked angry.

CHAPTER 34: NO THAT'S NOT IT

They instantly felt like they had been doused by ice-cold water.

‘The Golden Lion.’

Over 190 cm tall and wide-shouldered, the Leo Saint had a built body. He looked like a hero who had stepped out from a novel. Even though he looked like a playboy, he had the classic face of a Caucasian who was very popular with the opposite s*x.

The members of the Gemini temple froze when they saw the Leo Saint. They didn't even have to ask; they could tell he was in a foul mood. A single mistake meant certain death for them. Even the general-rank Choi Sunghyuhk couldn't open his mouth. It wasn't just him. The employees around them had frozen in place too. He was that intimidating; a Saint carried that much presence.

However, one person of them all acted differently.

"...?" While everyone was frozen, Lee Gun was laughing as if he were in disbelief.

'Why is this b*****d here? He looks like he has just smelled raw sewage.'

The general of the Gemini temple did a double-take. He had seen the Leo Saint's expression. "I apologize."

A disciple never bowed down to a Saint they didn't serve. However, the general lowered his eyes without realizing it. It was a combination of fear and the position held by the man in front of him. A single misstep could immediately put him on the Leo Saint's list. The general felt humiliated but laughed anyway. "It seems there was a mistake during the bidding process."

For a moment, the general felt his voice shake. Chun Sungjae and the guard found it admirable that the general was able to speak under such circumstances. They couldn't even look the Leo Saint in the eyes.

The Leo Saint's face was unreadable. He tapped General Choi's shoulder. "You know you will have to pay dearly for touching my item, right?"

The tapping on his shoulder was rough, but it was an encouraging sign.

"You should hand over my item right now. I really appreciate the Gemini temple for paying for it."

'What did he just say?' The general furrowed his brows. 'This beggar of a feral cat is overstepping his bounds.'

However, his opponent was a Saint. If he stepped out of line, he was dead. Although he wasn't in the position to take this loss, the general swallowed his pride.

"Understood..."

But...

“What the hell is this b*****d talking about?” At that moment, a cold laugh could be heard.

“...!”

It was Lee Gun. Chun Sungjae’s party looked at him in fright, but Lee Gun continued to laugh. “Hey. Have you lost your mind? Why is this yours? I’m the one who won the bid.”

“!” The general stared at him as if he had lost his mind.

Lee Gun acted oblivious to their gazes as he put a crooked smile on his lips. “Stop acting like a bully who’s trying to take someone’s lunch money. You wanna die?”

Everyone felt like their heart had just stopped. No one wanted to look at the Leo Saint’s expression.

The trembling guard was the first to open his mouth. “M-maybe... he doesn’t know what he looks like....”

‘Yes. He’s right.’ Chun Sungjae was frozen, and he agreed with the guard inwardly. There was no way someone would say something so crazy if they knew who the other person was.

In the end, the guard whispered to Lee Gun. “He’s a battle Saint... If you go against a Saint, it’s certain death!”

Lee Gun ignored those words as he slapped away the guard’s hand. “You can buy it from me if you give me an additional 200 billion won. If not, f**k off.”

“...!” The guard had told him to stop, yet why was he acting more aggressive? Moreover, Lee Gun had increased the price by several folds!

The guard was alarmed. He was about to say something but...

“Ha ha ha.”

Everyone was surprised to hear the Leo Saint’s laughter. It was to be expected. The Leo Saint was obsessed with Lee Gun’s holy items. He would never laugh in such a jovial manner about that item. The Leo Saint soon asked, “Is he affiliated with you guys?”

General Choi flinched at the Leo Saint’s question. He had no idea what to say.

The Leo Saint uproariously laughed. “I thought your temple collects only magicians who use petty tricks. He’s not bad.”

“!”

“It’s fine. A disciple should have some b***s. The recent ones are all cowards.”

The general felt relieved when the Leo Saint showed favor toward Lee Gun. It was a very fortunate development. However...

“F**k you! You know you’re the biggest coward.”

The whole group from the Gemini temple froze at Lee Gun’s laughter.

As expected, the aura around Leo Saint immediately changed. “It seems I’ll have to educate a newbie on manners.”

Everyone screamed in terror when the Leo Saint’s eyes flashed.

Kwah-jee-jeek!

The Leo Saint swiped his hand to the side of Lee Gun. He was clearing the chairs that were getting in the way.

This commotion caused the auctioneer to drop his mic.

Bbeee-eeeeek!

The ear-splitting noise made people cover their ears.

The Leo Saint laughed as he approached Lee Gun. He roughly spread his hand, and a golden light appeared from it.

[Danger! Magical energy powerful enough to destroy your muscles is being used.]

[Warning! You’re still affected by the penalty. Your defense, constitution, and immunity are still at less than half. In your current state, your body may get crippled.]

[Recommendation! Either open your holy ground or protect your body using Divine Power.]

[Holy Ground does not exist!]

[Divine Status 60%! You cannot use your <Death Instinct>!]

Accompanying the voice, a savage killing intent wafted outward.

While all this took place, Lee Gun tapped his finger against a chair and closely observed the Leo Saint. It was a ludicrous idea, but he had baited the Leo Saint. He wanted to check the Leo Saint's power level.

'He is stronger than the asshat and the bedwetter.'

With the penalty currently imposed on him, the Leo Saint was a dangerous opponent for Lee Gun.

The flustered Gemini general desperately moved out of the way. He was reacting to the skill that flashed in the Leo Saint's hands. 'That's the Muscle Destruction skill!'

It was the Leo Saint's most well-known skill. He used this skill when he wanted to mess with disciples from other temples. Anyone who suffered under that skill couldn't be healed. One would have to live one's life as a cripple.

A couple of years ago, the Leo Saint had wiped out a temple using this skill. He had done it matter-of-factly, and his actions had caused a wave of fear. Fellow disciples, who had bright futures ahead of them, had turned into invalids.

'That idiot is showing no signs of dodging it!' It was game over if the Leo Saint merely touched him. General Choi quickly drew a holy spell in the air.

He couldn't let a promising talent get ruined. However...

Tuhk!

In the end, the Leo Saint's hand landed on Lee Gun's shoulder.

'Chun Sungjae and the general despaired. The aide who had accompanied the Leo Saint clenched his eyes shut.

"...?"

They heard no sound. Lee Gun's arm wasn't ripped away. In fact, there was no reaction to the skill.

'What's going on?'

"Saint?"

The aide with the Leo Saint became puzzled. 'Did the Leo Saint change his mind again?'

The Leo Saint himself, however, was a bit taken aback. He was sure he had used his skill, yet it gave no reaction. So, he used it one more time.

“...?” There was no reaction again. Lee Gun just stared at the Leo Saint.

‘What the hell? This has never happened before.’

Lee Gun let out a sharp laugh. The reason for his mirth was simple. ‘Idiot. It’s a skill I made. Why would it work on me?’

He had found the skill familiar with just a glance.

[Stonemason Rock Breaker] It was one of the skills he liked to use when he sculpted.

‘It’s more of a technique than a skill.’ The technique was like his finger flick. It utilized only one’s magical energy. Magical energy could also be stored using this technique. For example, this move could accelerate a piece of meat like a cannonball. It had a variety of uses.

Saints used skills given to them by the Gods, so they weren’t great at utilizing their magical energy. Since Lee Gun hadn’t received any support from the gods, he had to relentlessly work to learn how to utilize his magical energy. This was how he had been able to survive. As a result, he had become a master at utilizing his magical energy.

Just now, someone had shouted at him to defend, but he had no need to do it. ‘It’s my technique. Of course, I know how to stop it.’

He had no idea why the Leo Saint was copying his skill. Nevertheless, Lee Gun smirked as he gathered magical energy into his hand. His Super Regeneration was still in cool time. If he fought for real with the Leo Saint, it was unknown as to what the result would be.

“Huh.” The Leo Saint scoffed.

The aide was taken aback. “Saint-nim?”

It seemed as if the Leo Saint had accepted something. He started laughing. “This is why disciples of the Gemini are annoying.” The Leo Saint had been flustered for only a moment. He then assumed Lee Gun had used a Divine attribute only the believers of the Gemini could use.

Teleportation! It was an annoying skill that could teleport an activated skill into a different dimension. Of course, the Leo Saint could be more serious to break through that skill.

“He’s only a magician.”

When the Leo Saint's voice turned violent, Chun Sungjae and his guard had to stop themselves from throwing up. Then, a change to Lee Gun's magical energy took place.

[Caution! The Leo Saint is using an attribute given to him by his god. Your magical energy is being dispersed.]

When Lee Gun couldn't gather his magical energy, he furrowed his brows. 'This b*****d's skill is always annoying to witness no matter when I see it.'

The Leo Saint had used a Divine attribute of the Leo, called <Overpower>. This attribute was similar to the fright a human felt when they heard the roar of a carnivore. This was caused by a very low-pitched sound.

It was the same for the Leo Saint. He could let out a special low-frequency sound to mess with his opponent's energy and morale. It also had the special effect of decreasing the efficacy of his opponent's abilities.

Therefore, disciples of the Gemini temple had their tails between their legs. Chun Sungjae and his guard were hit directly by the skill, and their legs became wobbly. General Choi couldn't bear the feeling, so he was close to using his power.

Tuhk!

Suddenly, Lee Gun grabbed the shoulder of Chun Sungjae and the guard, then threw them backward.

Boom!

The two of them were baffled by Lee Gun's action, but surprisingly, color returned to their faces.

'I can breathe easier!'

Lee Gun was using his magical energy to deflect the ongoing spirit attack.

It surprised General Choi. 'This guy...'

He was confused. On the other hand, the Leo Saint scoffed. "Look at this guy!"

This insect had dared to stand up against his spirit attack. However, there was something more surprising.

Hoo-doo-doohk.

"...!"

Something fell from Lee Gun's hand. It was the holy items that had just been on Leo Saint's body. They looked like buttons.

"If you want a fight, shouldn't we fight on equal footing?" Lee Gun said as he discretely sent the holy items to Pixiu.

[Divine Status 60%]

Lee Gun laughed when he heard the voice. As expected, it wasn't enough. 'Should I let it lose a little bit?'

Pixiu started moving stealthily.

At the same time, the Leo Saint was flustered. He had no idea when this man had stolen his items. 'Is he using the skill of the Thief god? No. I didn't feel the energy of the Thief god.'

This gave him an ominous feeling. He was sure he had felt this energy before.

[Yes! We'll move on to the next item. This is the time you all have been waiting for today!]

When the host of the auction shouted those words, the Leo Saint quickly turned his head. For some reason, the expression on his face changed.

"Saint-nim?"

An incredible loud cheer erupted within the auction house. Everyone's eyes were attracted to one place. Lee Gun's eyes turned round as well.

[Yes! We are bringing up the next item, and it's the one everybody wants. It's the highlight of this day! Lee Gun's weapon!]

* * *

Wahhhhhh!

Lee Gun plugged his ears when he heard the roar of people cheering. It seemed most of the people attending the auction had come to see this item; the cheer was almost deafening.

The Leo Saint immediately dispersed his magical energy.

Lee Gun laughed when he saw this.

“This is your lucky day,” the aide yelled out in surprise when the Leo Saint immediately walked away. “Wait a moment, Saint-nim! What about the holy items of Lee Gun that these guys stole...”

“That’s not important right now!”

He had to win this bid. The Leo Saint’s eyes flashed. “I don’t care how much I have to spend. You must win the bid.”

“Yes...”

The look in everyone’s eyes changed when the item came out. This included the general of the Gemini temple, who had stated he would let the Leo Saint have Lee Gun’s holy items.

[I’m sure you’re curious as to which item will come out.]

[Do you remember the incident that occurred at the islands of Germany? It’s taught in school textbooks now. Twenty-four years ago, Lee Gun went into a mysterious calamity zone! It was the day when Germany almost fell!]

The cheers suddenly turned louder. It seemed everyone realized which item was coming out.

[This weapon is referred to as an asura that can melt everything! At the time, the surrounding countries had tried to create cliffs around Germany to create an island nation.]

“You’re talking too much! Hurry up and bring out the item!”

“We already know what it is without hearing the story!”

“Who doesn’t know what it is!”

It was such a famous item that the people wanted the host to skip the explanation. However, the host was stubborn.

[At the time, even the twelve Saints couldn’t beat the beast of the German Isles! Yet, this item was able to kill it! The tactic used to kill the monster hasn’t been revealed till now! Even the Saints have no idea how the beast was killed! The tactic is hidden within the weapon!]

“Ohhhhhh!”

[Many Saints and countries wanted this item, but it went missing for ten years!]

“Ohhhhhhh!”

[According to rumors, it was stolen and then destroyed! Some said a mysterious whale had purchased it! There were all kinds of speculation on what had happened!]

“Ohhhhhhh!”

[However, all of you can rejoice! The weapon used in the raid called <Battle Wolf> is here today!]

“Wahhhhhhhh!”

The auction house sounded like Wembley Stadium for a brief moment. The reactions were understandable since a legendary weapon had appeared in front of the audience.

[I have been moved to tears! I never expected to see the legend in real life! I’m already excited to see opening bids!]

“...??” In contrast with everyone else’s reaction, when Lee Gun saw the weapon, his expression became a bit odd.

CHAPTER 35: NO THAT’S NOT IT

Commonly called <Berlin Wolf>, the Calamity that appeared twenty-four years ago in Germany had been one of the Seven Great Calamities. None of the Divine skills and weapons had worked against it.

Lee Gun, who had conquered one of the Seven Great Calamities, didn’t care that the world had made a big deal out of that legendary event. He had a hard time remembering what had happened there.

“I can still remember it. I was about ten. The full moon had passed, yet Lee Gun hadn’t exited the enemy territory. All the live coverage assumed that he had died.”

“Ah.”

Those words sparked a memory within Lee Gun. ‘I guess they are talking about when I killed that b*****d.’

He had exited that place after barely being able to take care of the Calamity. However, he had found the reporters basically playing the funeral march for him. So, he had beaten them up. Then, he had thrown the corpse of the monster as a response to the reporters who had considered him dead. His actions had been broadcast on live TV, and this had caused a ruckus.

Lee Gun hadn't paid much attention to it. The only thing he was sure of was that the monster had been a very troublesome beast. Even he had been close to giving up on killing it.

As the host said a few moments ago, Lee Gun had used the item in question to kill the monster, but...

"My god! I've seen it only in textbooks! Wow! This is nuts... Saint-nim?"

"That is mine no matter what happens! I'm willing to use all my assets to buy it!"

"..."

Chun Sungjae's eyes turned manic.

All these reactions made Lee Gun ask himself. 'Why are people clamoring for that item?'

The general of the Gemini temple gritted his teeth. It seemed he had no idea this item would be put up for sale in this auction. "There is no way we can let the Leo Saint have that."

Lee Gun scoffed in disbelief. "What? You were wagging your tail in front of the Leo Saint until a moment ago. I thought you planned on handing over all of Lee Gun's holy items to the Leo Saint?"

General Choi felt a surge of anger, but he pushed it down. "Amongst Lee Gun's items, there are those that must be acquired."

"Is that so?"

"They are called the Big Eight...." the general continued.

"There are eight items?"

General Choi's eyebrows twitched when Lee Gun acted cheekily. "Since you weren't born yet at that time, you might not be aware of this. All the Saints who tried to fight <Berlin Wolf> were trapped. They were close to being wiped out in Germany. Lee Gun had beaten all the odds to kill that monster, and he had used that item to do it."

As the owner of that item, Lee Gun couldn't stand it anymore. He spoke up. "That's not a weapon."

By its appearance, the item looked far from being a weapon.

“Well, it looks like a stick, but it’s a weapon. The appraisers around the world determined it to be a blunt weapon,” the general explained.

‘Blunt weapon, my a*s! It’s just a bone.’

“It’s theorized that this item was used to kill the horrible beast.”

‘I didn’t kill that beast. I used this item to train it.’ That monster had been a canine-type monster.

“The blood of the legendary monster caused that stain on the item.”

The stain was from the monster’s feces, but Lee Gun couldn’t say that out loud. In the end, it didn’t matter. ‘Is that what the appraiser was talking about?’

The SS rank appraiser had mentioned two items. Lee Gun wanted one of them. The other was the highlight of the auction. It was the item that some other appraiser had identified as a blunt weapon.

According to what Lee Gun remembered, he had never created a blunt weapon over rank-A before. This was why he didn’t plan on being too greedy. Moreover, he had received another piece of information from the SS-rank appraiser.

‘The blunt weapon is considered Lee Gun-nim’s item. Therefore, the exhibitor has decided to donate the profits to Lee Gun-nim’s estate.’

The profits would be donated to his estate, which was being managed by the government.

‘It will be sent to my bank account.’

That was why it didn’t matter who won the bid. He would get the benefit in the end.

However...

[Let’s keep up this enthusiasm! Let’s start the auction right now! The opening bid is a hundred thousand dollars!]

“Five hundred thousand!”

“One million!”

“Five million!”

“Ten million!”

The starting price was made obsolete as the prices went up in a flash. Moreover, something amazing happened.

[The item created using your magical energy is being worshipped]

[Aside from Divine skills, reputation influences the formation of <Reputation skills>.]

[The Serpent Bearer's status has increased.]

[Saint EXP has increased]

[Since they aren't your disciples, you will receive 1% of their EXP]

Lee Gun's eyes flashed when he heard the voice. He had come here wanting to make a successful bid on his item and fleece the Leo Saint. This windfall was unexpected.

On the other hand, the bidding war had only started. The bid kept climbing as the crowd roared.

“Thirteen million!”

“Fifteen million!”

“Twenty million!”

“Thirty million!”

There was no let-up to the rising price. It was a cutthroat competition as over ten thousand people clamored inside the auction house.

Wahhhhhhhhh!

An incredible roar rang out.

[Saint EXP has increased]

[Saint EXP has increased]

[Saint EXP has increased]

It didn't end there.

“W...wait a moment. I see several generals over there!”

The guard, who had taken a glance around his surroundings, spoke in a surprised manner.

“Virgo from Korea... Taurus from Europe... Capricorn and Cancer... Wow! Even the lazy generals from the Pisces temple are here! This is like an all-star lineup...!”

Chun Sungjae’s mouth fell open, and he slowly put down his button. He felt intimidated.

All of the generals gathered were at least S rank or above. Moreover, it was rare for them to gather in one place like this. They could be seen only in businesses involving the Zodiac Saints, Red zone, and official events. All of them were very important people.

‘This is only an auction.’

It was common to send one’s underlings to the auction. This was true even if a precious S rank holy item were to appear. In fact, a very rare S rank holy item had appeared in an auction before. However, some had ignored it as if it were a worthless pebble on the road.

Those people had deigned to come here?

There was no way they would normally interject themselves into an auction of a mere Rank A item.

“Thirty million!”

“Thirty-five million!”

“Forty million!”

Moreover, these people weren’t from minor temples. They were from branch temples with famous stars as members.

General Choi clicked his tongue when those people were furiously bidding up the price. “They are acting silly!”

Chun Sungjae and his guard understood why their superior was reacting that way. Normally, everyone, including General Choi, showed contempt for Lee Gun. They downplayed Lee Gun’s accomplishments. However, when the chips were on the table, their eyes lit up. All of them rushed forward to try to obtain Lee Gun’s item.

“You’re right. Even if that’s one of Lee Gun’s Eight...”

“A hundred million!”

“?!” The mouths of Chun Sungjae and his guard fell open when they heard General Choi’s shout.

The Gemini temple finally took part in the bid.

[Hundred million! The bid rose to one hundred million dollars in a flash!]

All the other generals gritted their teeth when the price skyrocketed. General Choi endured their glares, but it didn’t take long for this to become a competition.

“One hundred one million!”

“One hundred two million!”

“One hundred five million!”

It wouldn’t have been strange if the price was rising at a slower rate. However, everyone seemed unconcerned about the price. Shouted bids were heard all around the auction house. The current bid was being constantly updated on the electronic display.

[Three hundred twenty million!]

The guard was shocked by the inflated price. The more surprising part was the fact that the bidding had taken less than two minutes to reach that figure. ‘It isn’t as if this is some ticket exchange.’

[Yes! This is surprising! The great Drachma auction house boasts a rich and long history, yet its record has been broken right now!]

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Incredible excitement surged within the auction house. It felt like a festival.

As the owner of the item in the highlight, Lee Gun felt good when the bid surged to crazy heights. He could only scratch his cheek. Everyone thought highly of his item, and he received EXP due to that. He would basically receive free money to the tune of 300 million dollars.

‘Guys... That’s just a dog bone.’ He still had no idea why they thought it was a weapon. It really was a trash item with no abilities.

Back then, the beast from Germany had been close to invincible. It was as big as a house and also shaggy; one couldn’t see its eyes. It was also very strong. Lee Gun

had been trapped with that monster in Germany, and it had almost eaten him. Luckily, he had found a way to defeat the monster.

The monster was particularly weak against water, so Lee Gun just had to push it into a body of water. However, there was no way the monster would willingly go in the water.

That was why Lee Gun had created a bone while he was trapped with the beast; he had gathered the base ingredient from a pile of monster bones.

Lee Gun had trained the monster with the bone. In the end, he lured the monster into a trap using the bone, and the beast had run headlong into its death...

‘Why was that bone mistaken for a weapon that killed the monster?’ Lee was seriously contemplating the question when Chun Sungjae and his guard gave the answer.

“Wow! Even the high and mighty generals are foaming at the mouth.”

“It can’t be helped. That item can be used to defeat the monsters between the Red zone and the Black zone.”

“Are you sure Lee Gun used that to kill the monster?”

“Lee Gun-nim said so.”

Ah! It seemed he was at fault. ‘I’m sorry.’ Lee Gun didn’t know who was going to win the bid, but he apologized in advance.

However, it was soon revealed that he wasn’t the only one at fault.

“You guys were probably too young to know this, but the claim was officially verified.”

“!”

General Choi spoke up. He was currently checking his phone to see how much money he could gather. “The Saintess spoke about it on the morning show.”

‘Saintess?’ Was he talking about Sophie Mardi, whom he had beaten to oblivion? Lee Gun tilted his head in puzzlement.

He recalled that time. After the incident in Germany, he had recuperated in the hospital. The Saintess had pretended to be nice by visiting him in the hospital. However, she had only come to interrogate him. She wanted to know how he had

killed the monster when weapons and skills didn't work against it. She had even taken his tray of food, which he had been eating, to get him to answer.

In response, Lee Gun had told her that he had chased after the monster by throwing the item in question. *'F**k off before I kill you with it too!'* This statement led to Sophie mistaking the bone for a weapon.

At that moment, the host shouted into the mic. His excitement had reached a fever pitch.

[That's right! Lee Gun brought this weapon back from beyond the enemy lines! According to the Saintess's testimony, she believes that weapon contains a hidden skill!]

'There is none.'

[The monster was higher in level than the monsters in the current Red zone! This is why we are sure that the hidden skill is above SS rank!]

"Three hundred thirty!"

"Three hundred forty!"

"Three hundred sixty!"

[Who will be the lucky hero who'll obtain this item with the hidden SS rank skill!]

It really was just a bone, but Lee Gun now understood why the generals were excited about this item.

"We must win the bid at all cost!"

For some reason, Lee Gun felt proud. It was just a bone, but it was an item that he had created. And it was being treated like a treasure.

[Three hundred ninety! We've received a bid of three hundred ninety million dollars! Is there another bid?]

"Four hundred million!"

[Yes! We got four hundred million....]

"One billion!"

A booming voice suddenly rang out. The voice was loud enough to cut through the roar within the auction house.

Silence descended in the venue. The generals who had been bidding with fervor became mute. The host was so surprised that he almost dropped the microphone.

The one who shouted that bid was the Leo Saint. He continued, “One billion! Didn’t you hear me?”

“...!”

When he heard the intimidating growl, the surprised host quickly fixed his grip on his microphone.

[Ah... Yes! That is... Everyone is just taken aback by the price. It’s mind-boggling!]

It was to be expected. One billion dollars!

‘He’s overdoing it.’ The general of the Gemini temple, who uncharacteristically coveted the item, laughed in annoyance. He never expected the Leo Saint to make such a strong move.

[We have received a bid for one billion dollars! Would anyone like to make another bid?]

The host asked the question again, but silence reigned within the auction house.

[No one?]

Such an exorbitant amount of money couldn’t be gathered easily. Even if one was able to, one had to consider who was making the bid.

In the end, the generals from the other temples tossed their number plates. The sound of people grumbling from all directions could be heard. It sounded as if they were close to losing their mind due to not getting the item.

Most of Lee Gun’s Eight Big items were missing. This was the opportunity of a lifetime to touch one of the legendary items.

Chun Sungjae and his guard lamented as they pulled at their hair.

“S**t! Lee Gun-nim’s item will go to the Leo Saint... The Leo Saint...”

“Wow! If the Gemini temple had won the bid, we would’ve been able to elevate our power to be in a league of our own!”

‘It’s just a big bone.’ Lee Gun looked at the Leo Saint.

The Leo Saint had a carefree attitude. He knew he was the victor, and he was confident and bold. It was as if he were telling off others for daring to covet his item.

The host counted down the time and finally ended the bidding.

[Congratulations! Lee Gun's legendary weapon has been sold at an unimaginable price! It has been sold for one billion dollars! Leo Saint, please come up! You're the owner of the legendary weapon!]

An incredible cheer rang out, and a chant broke out from all directions to praise the Leo Saint.

The Leo Saint responded to the chant by raising his fist. This would be an enormous hit to his bank account, but he didn't care.

“The Leo Saint will grasp glory and victory with this!”

“Ohhhhhhhhhhh!”

In reality, the Leo Saint had bought a trash item for one billion dollars.

‘It inadvertently helps me too.’ Lee Gun thought.

[Reputation has been established!]

[Your Saint EXP has increased sharply!]

[You have reached a new level (Lv. 4)!]

[Points have been generated!]

Lee Gun grinned.

Meanwhile, the Leo Saint received his item.

“Congratulations.”

The Leo Saint had concluded his business at the auction house. He was about to leave with his underlings when...

Boom!

An incredibly loud sound rang out outside the auction house. The crowd became agitated.

“What is it?”

“Did something blow up by accident?”

Lee Gun turned to look as well.

The commotion amongst the crowd didn't last long. The guard chuckled as if it wasn't a big deal. “Ah! Don't worry about it! There is a Skill Simulation site nearby. I'm sure it's....”

“No! You should have your weapons ready!” Lee Gun stood up from his seat. He looked at the Leo Saint as he laughed.

Boom!

The auction house shook, and people started to scream. The Leo Saint narrowed his eyes.

As Lee Gun had expected, the employees of the auction house yelled out loud, “This is really bad!”

“A Calamity has appeared within the auction house! The Calamity must have hidden itself amongst the auction items! The monsters took several items that are supposed to be auctioned later!”

The light within the eyes of the generals changed.

“What rank is the calamity!”

“Fortunately, the Calamity is only Yellow rank, but...” The employee, who had been speaking, had a serious expression on his face.

“What? What else is wrong?”

“A mysterious monster has invaded the Drachma auction house! The observatory has never seen this type of monster before! None of our attacks work against it...”

The expressions on the faces of the generals crumpled.

“All our guests should...”

The Leo Saint burst out laughing as soon as the employee spoke. He broke open the box that held Lee Gun's holy item. It was the item that he had won the bid for just now.

Crunch!

A white stick was revealed to the auction house.

“Leo Saint-nim...”

The Leo Saint roared as he lifted Lee Gun’s holy item. “This is the time to test this! It’s the time to make a new legend!”

“Ohhhhhhhh!”

Everyone except one person was excited. Lee Gun just shook his head.

‘It really is just a bone.’

