

Domain 321

Chapter 321

“All right... what the hell is going on here?” Ryan asked with a big frown on his face.

“Should I spoil the surprise?”

“You know something?” Ryan asked.

“Yes, but since I am not going to gain anything by giving you this information, I am going to stay quiet about it. No... even if I say it, you won't believe me.”

While that annoyed Ryan a little bit, it was fine. He eventually would discover why Brazil had so many walled cities along the coast. Although it was weird since the cities he found were pretty big, and dragons liked to destroy big cities. Megalodons had also probably been a problem to them for a while...

Suddenly, when he was flying and thinking about what to do next, Ryan felt some presence approaching in the distance. His eyes were that good, so he immediately saw some individuals flying toward him. Given that they could fly at a pretty decent speed, their strength couldn't be ignored... Moreover, Ryan could see five of them.

Immediately, Ryan began to charge his Power Shot, but when those guys finally got close enough to see him, they didn't attack. They frowned as if they had been disappointed by something. Those five were humans, three men, and two women. A big, tall man who was also bald stepped forward. The very moment Ryan thought he was bald, the man's eyebrows twitched... he had read his mind. In an instant, Ryan used Appraisal in all of them.

Carlos (Arvus)

Class: Saint Knight Lv 55 / Spearman Lv 50 / Guardian Lv 45

Race: Lesser Dragon /-/-

Rank: 189th

Health: 1250 (+ 65.000)

Mana: 750 (+ 65.000)

Stamina: 1100 (+ 65.000)

Strength: 700 (+ 5.500)

Dexterity: 300 (+ 5.600)

Speed: 600 (+ 2.200)

Intelligence: 450 (+ 1.500)

Endurance: 900 (+ 4.600)

Control: 200 (+ 3.100)

Mentality: 550 (+ 5.500)

Luck: 250 (+ 3.700)

Recovery: 1000 (+ 20.000)

Willpower: 1200 (+ 5.500)

Coins: 11.474

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Brute Slash Lv 150

Passive Physical Skills: Steel Skin Lv 100, Stone Skin Lv 75

Spells: Dust Storm Lv 120, Earth Spear Lv 50

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 100, Wind Resistance Lv 100, Electric Resistance Lv 150

Ryan clicked his tongue... since he saw that they were humans, he lowered his guard a bit and forgot to use Appraisal when he should have. Regardless, it was too late to complain... they were all humans that had made a pact with dragons, and they were at the same level as Lucas. Fighting against all of them at the same time won't be easy.

"Are you American?" Carlos asked.

"What if I am?" Ryan asked while frowning.

"I am not bald," Carlos asked. "I just shaved my head."

"... What?" Ryan frowned.

"You are young, but that doesn't mean you can give nicknames to other people in your head," Carlos continued.

“That can wait, Carlos...” A black-haired man moved forward and then said that. “My name is Gustavo. May I ask what you are doing here, Ryan? You are a long way from home.”

“I am investigating the continent and looking for some special dungeons,” Ryan replied. “Are you guys from this country?”

Although Ryan wasn’t from these parts, he felt like he should ask some questions as well. It would be pretty stupid to let them control the conversation flow while giving information away and not getting any. Surprisingly, the man called Gustavo replied readily.

“Yes, we are,” Gustavo replied. “So, you are doing some investigative work for your country?”

“No, I am doing this for my own purposes,” Ryan replied.

“I see. I trust you,” Gustavo said. “Should we talk in a more appropriate place? I can understand why you are on high alert, but I can assure you that we have no intention of harming humans that don’t want to cause problems.”

“Do you trust me because you can read my mind or because you want to make me cancel my skill?” Ryan asked.

“For both reasons, I guess,” Gustavo forced a smile. “But I guess the main reason is that you flew over some of our camps and did nothing against them. We were worried because you have the presence of a dragon inside you... but it looks like your situation is different from ours.”

“They are not lying. They are goody-two-shoes idiots like that Lucas guy you met before.”

Ryan sighed. He couldn’t understand why Femradiel would give such information to him and refuse to give others. Regardless, those people had some interesting classes, so perhaps talking with them would be a good idea. Ryan didn’t find anything weird while he passed through those camps, people lived normally, and he even saw kids playing around... it looked like the situation in Brazil was considerably better thanks to those five.

“I guess I will accept your offer,” Ryan said and then stored his crossbow away.

Although Ryan seemed harmless without his main weapon, he could take out dozens of his special arrows in the blink of an eye. So, he was confident that he could escape any possible ambush. Besides, the chances of him getting caught off-guard while he uses Radar and Awareness were quite low.

“Awesome, but before we head to our headquarters, let me introduce you, my friends,” Gustavo said. “This is Paulo, and the guy who doesn’t like to be called bald is Carlos.”

Paulo was another black-haired guy, but he looked a bit short and young. Perhaps he was in his teens. The girls’ names were Fernanda and Bianca. Fernanda was a blond, blue-eyed girl who seemed to be quite timid or disliked strangers quite a lot since she never kept eye contact for more than a few moments. Bianca was a redhead, not a natural one, but even so, the color always made Ryan frown while looking at her.

Maybe it was a coincidence, but each one of them had made a pact with a dragon of a different element. That being said, all of them had more or less the same level of strength... and that wasn’t something Ryan could think that was a coincidence.

Class: Hunter Lv 67 / Elementalist Lv 55 / Monk Lv 16 (–)

Race: Night Demon /Reptilian/ Ice Fox (–)

Rank: 209th

Health: 1191/1191 (3,19/s)

Mana: 1862/1862 (3,19/s)

Stamina: 1633/1633 (3,19/s)

Strength: 31 (+166) (+130)

Dexterity: 1650 (+1389) (+82)

Speed: 85 (+641) (+48)

Intelligence: 81 (+517) (+3)

Endurance: 28 (+131) (+160)

Control: 06 (+654) (+10)

Mentality: 08 (+36) (+30)

Luck: 74 (+15)

Recovery: 700 (+993) (+330)

Willpower: 30 (+36)

Coins: 236.441

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Power Shot Lv 87 (+ 02 UP)

Passive Physical Skills: Firing Posture Lv 22 (+ 11 UP),

Spells: Battle Machine Lv 21 (+ 16 UP), Magic Upgrade Lv 04 (+ 03 UP)

Support Skills: Improved Creation Lv 04 (+ 03 UP),

Classes:

Combat: Ranger Lv 06 (+ 03 UP),

Non-Combatant: Whitesmith Lv 08 (+ 07 UP),

Race: Centaur

Chapter 322

Ryan already imagined that since Gustavo and his friends had tanned skins, but their base really was at Rio de Janeiro. Although in the U.S. at that time of the year, things were pretty cold in some regions, that city was as hot as hell. That being said, people were living their lives normally. Some were even taking sunbaths at the beach. Obviously, a good part of the city was walled and was protected by many survivors...

“Things are much better here than I thought...” Ryan frowned.

“Well, we worked pretty hard to save as many people as we could when the monsters appeared,” Gustavo explained. “After that, we stole all the weapons of the militiamen and gave them to the survivors. One of those tier three dungeons that you mentioned, we got control over one of them pretty early thanks to it. Those classes are amazing, so it helped us a lot.”

For the better or the worse, Gustavo was a chatterbox, and since Ryan gave him some useful pieces of information, he gladly told Ryan the location of the tier three dungeons in Brazil. They had three of them... no wonder they had so many survivors and walled cities.

“Wouldn’t it be more convenient to move all your survivors to a single city?” Ryan asked.

“Yeah, but many of us don’t want to abandon our hometowns,” Gustavo replied. “Besides, we need to keep some advanced posts to keep an eye on things. There are too many dungeons in our country, and we are having a hard time monitoring them and relaying information across the country thanks to it.”

Despite that, things were much better in there than in comparison to things back home. Ryan never stopped the number of survivors working with Mark and the others, but they probably didn’t have more than five thousand. Moreover, only one-fifth of them could properly fight.

A few hundreds of meters away from the beach, Gustavo and his friends had built their headquarters. It was a place in which the soldiers could sleep in and even communicate with the other camps. Since they had the backing of some dragons, they had several tricks to communicate and move around. When Gustavo tried to explain how they worked, the blonde girl, Fernanda, kicked his right leg.

“Ouch... Sorry about that. The people here don’t like to talk about these,” Gustavo said. “I don’t understand the reason why we should hide this from you, though. You are going to make a pact with a dragon, right eventually?”

“I won’t,” Ryan replied.

“You won’t?” Gustavo frowned. “Why? I only see advantages.”

“I want to follow my own goals and make my own decisions,” Ryan said. “Besides, I don’t want power for free.”

“Well, that is admirable... and quite reckless,” Gustavo said. “You would be able to help a lot of people with the backing of a dragon. I know that some of them destroyed our society, but we can’t show prejudice to all of them.”

“I think I have been doing well, so far,” Ryan said.

“I see,” Gustavo said. “You really are the exact archetype of a lone wolf. It is weird to say that when you have a wolf as your partner.”

Although Gustavo could understand the reason behind Ryan’s actions to some extent, accept them so readily was another matter. He was someone who survived thus far by fighting alongside others, after all. Fernanda and Bianca were his friends from college. Paulo was his cousin, and Carlos had once been his P.E. teacher. Now they are his brother in arms that he could trust with his life.

When they arrived at their headquarters’ meeting room, Gustavo asked everyone to sit down while he grabbed a single map. Things weren’t that high-tech like it was in the secret base, but it was good enough.

“The dungeons that you are looking for can be found here, here, and the closest is the center of this city,” Gustavo explained. “You will have to travel for quite a bit since the other two are near our old capital, and the other is in the center of the Amazon forest.”

Ryan nodded when he saw the marks on the map. He would have to travel for a few days, but the real problem was to find the dungeon in the forest. Even if he flies high and has some directions, Ryan’s chances of finding it easily would be pretty low.

“We can offer you some assistance in getting a class in the dungeon that we have here,” Gustavo added. “Although only a certain number of people can obtain classes every day, we can help you with that since you are going to give us some information as well. We can even help you get a class in the dungeon near Brasilia, but we can only do that much. As of late, we are facing some problems with some individuals, so we can’t leave our HQ often.”

“I can clear the dungeons on my own,” Ryan said. “Still, despite saying that didn’t you left behind this city to find me?”

“Yes, and that was a mistake on our part. We thought you were one of them,” Gustavo said. “Your presence is weird since you have a dragon inside you, but you didn’t make a pact. Adding to the fact that you are pretty strong considering human’s standards.”

“Who are they?” Ryan asked. “Dragons, megalodons?”

“It is no surprise you didn’t meet them until now, but they will eventually start to hunt you since you smell like the dragons now,” Gustavo said. “We call them the ‘Dragon Slayers’... they are the main reason why the number of dragons decreased in the last few months. They are like dungeon bosses, but most of them are humans... to some extent, more or less.”

“Humans? Aren’t you talking about Cerberus and other creatures like them?” Ryan frowned in confusion.

“So, those are back too, huh...” Gustavo sighed. “I imagined that... no, I wasn’t talking about them. I talked about this guy that now and then approaches our coast in a ship and attacks us with some weird magic... he is a pirate very famous in the past. His name is Edward Teach... the black beard.”

## Chapter 323

Ryan furrowed his eyebrows when he heard that... a pirate was hunting dragons and causing problems for humans. As if that wasn’t weird enough, that pirate died more than three hundred years ago... just what the hell was going on?

“Your expression is showing exactly the same shock we had when we saw that guy for the first time,” Gustavo forced a smile. “Anyway, he appears now and then to attack our coast, so we have to stay alert, and unfortunately, he always disappears in the sea when he retreats, so we have never been able to finish him off when we had the chance.”

“Is that so...” Ryan said.

Ryan was even more surprised than when he heard about the Chupacabras. Monsters were one thing, but humans from the past coming back to cause problems to other humans... that wasn’t something he could understand.

“If you don’t mind, I would like to ask you about the locations of the tier three dungeons you already found,” Gustavo said. “You don’t need to tell us about the people you met along the way. Just the location is fine. Eventually, we will head to those places and negotiate with the survivors in the area.”

It looked like Femradiel didn't like it when she said that Gustavo and the others were some goody-two-shoes idiots. Then again... the dragons could be talking to each other to screw Ryan over. Since Ryan could stay the whole day imagining conspirations that might cause his death, he decided to stop.

Ryan told them the location of the dungeons. Lying would be a waste of time since they could read his mind, so Ryan focused on not thinking about the survivors around those dungeons. However, Gustavo and the others didn't look very excited about the classes they could find there.

"It will take considerable time to reach each of those dungeons," Gustavo said. "As expected, we won't be able to clear them anytime soon. Regardless, you have my thanks for sharing all those pieces of information with us, Ryan. While I cannot let you clear the dungeons alone, since it would be a waste, you can go and defeat the next boss along with the next group. You are going to help today's group, right, Bianca?"

"Yes," Bianca nodded.

"Then, can you please guide Ryan to the dungeon?" Gustavo asked.

"All right..." Bianca said and failed at holding back a sigh.

Ryan also felt like sighing. Of all people, he had to be guided by the redhead. Ryan couldn't help but still connect the red color to Mia at that point in time, and the first thing he recalls about her was cheating.

"Such a complicated life... things would be much simpler to humans if they had evolved to have multiple partners. If that were normal, you wouldn't have suffered so much."

It looked like Ryan had really reached the bottom of the hole... now. A dragon was trying to console him by using her weird common sense in a society where the strict rules, perhaps it would be normal to have multiple partners, but not anymore, given that human society was once based on logic and reason.

"You should hurry up and finish your business here," Bianca said once they left the headquarters. "While Gustavo welcomed you, we don't like strangers who might disrupt our peace."

“We? So, you can speak for the others?” Ryan asked.

“Don’t play dumb, you know what I mean,” Bianca said.

“Yeah, yeah,” Ryan said. “I am not feeling like taking a sunbath around here. Once I get the classes, I will leave you guys alone.”

While Gustavo was the typical charismatic and naive leader, it looked like some people close to him had to work in the shadows for things to work properly. Even though Bianca was rude, Ryan didn’t feel bothered by it. If anything, he felt more comfortable around her than around Gustavo. Those goody-two-shoes types really tire him out...

“The dungeon we are going to clear spawns Giant Spiders,” Bianca began her explanation. “All their attacks can poison you and decrease your speed. However, you don’t have to worry since a team that always stays in the area and me will defeat the mobs and the boss. You will stay behind along with the others that didn’t clear the dungeon and won’t do anything to interfere. Is that clear?”

“Sure,” Ryan showed a relaxed smile.

It wasn’t Ryan’s style to relax and let others do the heavy work, but if the other part was so eager to let him obtain a tier-three class for free, who was he to say no? although it was a pity that he wouldn’t gain coins or loot, for the time being, he wasn’t in a hurry to get them.

“You sure are relaxed... Why aren’t you interested in the guy they mentioned before. The dragon slayers were the creatures that I mentioned before, who are hunting me and other dragons.”

“You harvest what you sow,” Ryan shrugged with a hint of a smile on his face.

“I already told you, I didn’t hunt any humans, and I am pretty sure I didn’t come to this planet by my free will. Who would come to this place where we lost our strength alongside our memories?”

Now that Ryan thought about it... that indeed made sense. Perhaps the dragons came without knowing about such after effects, but given how knowledgeable they were, even with most of their memories missing, Ryan had a hard time believing in that.

“I am not afraid of death, but at the very least, I want to know why I am on this planet. I don’t want to go down without a fight either, but at this rate, that is what will happen. I need to recover my body and get stronger.”

Ryan didn’t say anything after hearing that, he already had his own problems, and he didn’t have any reason to make Femradiel life easier. However, it was annoying that he could feel a bit affected by her words... after all, he could understand the feelings of losing things beyond your control.

## Chapter 324

While Ryan was lost in thought, they arrived in the said dungeon, and he couldn’t help but frown at the high number of people working around the place. It looked like a small town where one could find anything that helps them clear a dungeon. Weapon shops, people selling potions, blacksmiths repairing and forging weapons... there were even some women with revealing outfits trying to sweet talk some survivors.

“Is that...” Ryan frowned.

“Prostitutes... some people concluded that they are not fit to fight, but they don’t care about selling their bodies,” Bianca said.

Bianca looked pretty disgusted. As for someone who fought since the very beginning, she probably loathed survivors who chose another path... Still, in the end, she and her friends knew that they couldn’t limit the survivors’ options.

Without wasting time, Bianca assembled the survivors who would get their classes today and the guards who usually stayed around the dungeon. Since she started to talk in Portuguese, Ryan didn’t understand anything, but Ryan could tell by the stares that some survivors didn’t like to give special treatment to an outsider when there were others from the city that have been waiting for their turn.

“Do you need a translation?”

“No... can you even understand them?” Ryan asked.

“Why do you think I can talk with you? Dragons have the ability to understand all sorts of living beings. While that skill is at a low-level like all the others when he arrived on this world, it is enough to understand the language of a sapient being.”

“How convenient,” Ryan said. “A skill like that must consume a lot of mana.”

“No, since I am talking directly with your spirit, I am not making use of that skill.”

“Let me guess. You are going to offer another contract or clause bullshit?” Ryan asked.

“... I wish you could feel this... the feeling of needing something desperately, something that you don't have that someone has... you need just a small portion to yourself, but you only receive insults and shame instead. This feeling is much worse given that I am a dragon.”

That was... pretty uncomfortable to hear. Ryan was only cautious, but it looked like, from Femradiel's perspective, he had been only sarcastically humiliating her. That wasn't his intention, but intentions alone aren't enough... what is really important are facts and results.

“Hey, we are going,” Bianca said.

While Ryan was lost in thoughts again, Bianca called him. He joined the group of civilians that didn't have a single class. Since it doesn't matter where he would be, Ryan decided to stay far behind the group. He would feel more comfortable by not exposing his back to strangers, even though they were much weaker than him.

Regardless, soon Ryan saw the Giant Spiders, and as expected, they were pretty creepy with their several eyes and body covered in fur. That thing was like three meters long and wide and... Bianca exploded it easily with a single Electric Sphere.

“Let’s go,” Bianca said.

When the next spider appeared, Ryan and the others were already inside the dungeon. This time he made sure to use Appraisal since he didn’t know when he would find those creatures again.

Giant Spider – Lv 110

Health: 1100/1100

Mana: 2400/2400

Stamina: 1500/1500

Strength: 400

Dexterity: 800

Speed: 800

Intelligence: 900

Endurance: 600

Control: 600

Mentality: 900

Luck: 550

Recovery: 1000

Willpower: 900

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Poisonous Bite Lv 110

Passive Physical Skills: Sting Lv 100, Slow Touch Lv 80

Spells: Spider Thread Lv 100, Poison Sphere Lv 80

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 40, Cold Resistance Lv 100, Earth Resistance Lv 90, Poison Resistance Lv 200

“I guess I could make some nice magic items out of them,” Ryan muttered under his breath. “Then again, I shouldn’t show what I can do that easily here.”

After Bianca singlehandedly killed ten or so of those spiders, they finally reached the end of the dungeon. Much to Ryan’s disappointment, the boss was just another spider. A bigger spider, but a spider nonetheless. Bianca and her friends began to run around the spider while firing magic projectiles. The spider did the same since the poor monster didn’t know which target to attack. Moreover, whenever Bianca attacked the monster with Electric Spear, the monster suffered a lot of damage and even was stunned for several seconds.

In the end, a tier-three boss that was at level 110 didn’t even last for a full minute against mostly Bianca. It was only natural given that she had the dragons’ power, but Ryan couldn’t help but sigh. He was getting bored much sooner than he had expected.

“When did I become such a battle freak?” Ryan frowned after laughing for a few moments.

Ryan couldn't tell what he did or if it was only natural given that he was the stranger, but Bianca made sure that he would be the last person to choose a class. While that bothered him a little, it was only due to the fact that he wanted to move on with his journey as fast as possible.

Congratulations! You have cleared the dungeon and obtained its treasure! As a reward for your achievement, you can obtain one of the three following classes: Saint Knight, Combat Mechanic, and Conjurer.

Please be aware that clearing this dungeon again won't give you the chance to unlock the other remaining classes. If you want to obtain them, you will have to search for those in other dungeons.

Two new classes appeared while Ryan had already seen the Conjurer class. Now that Ryan thought about it, he should have asked Gustavo about the classes, even if his options were already decided from the very beginning.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Combat Mechanic!

You obtained the following skills: Mana Bomb, Electric Enchantment, and Shock Resistance.

Your dexterity and stamina will increase by six points, your health, mana, control, and speed will increase by three points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Mana Bomb.

Effect: It grants you the power to fire a bomb made of mana that causes damage in a small area. The damage will be equal to your intelligence divided by the number of monsters hit.

Cost: 50 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Electric Enchantment.

Effect: It increases the damage of your attacks by adding the power of electricity. The extra damage will be equal to your intelligence plus 20 percent. It might shock the enemy if they have a lower mentality or if they are electrocuted for a certain amount of time.

Cost: 30 mana per second.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! Considering that you already have the skill Shock Resistance, your skill will level up five times.

You obtained 01 status point.

You obtained 01 status point.

You obtained 01 status point.

You obtained 01 status point.

You obtained 01 status point.

Chapter 325

"If you are done here, let's get going," Bianca said.

Before Ryan could think or analyze more about his new class, Bianca approached and said that. He was a pretty patient person, but that behavior was starting to get on his nerves. In the end, that was probably for good. Leaving that city and that girl behind would help Ryan more than anything right at that moment, but then Ryan learned about something troublesome...

“The dungeon in Brasilia needs to be cleared tomorrow soon after sunrise,” Bianca said. “So, we are going to depart now.”

It looked like she was going to be his guide toward the next dungeon as well. Ryan let out a long sigh and made a vein pop on Bianca’s head. As if she had any right to be angry...

“Let’s just endure each other’s presences, all right?” Ryan said. “Just lead the way. The sooner this is over, the better for both of us.”

Ryan jumped on Furball’s back, and then Bianca began to guide them toward the next dungeon. Meanwhile, Ryan began to think about Femradiel’s presence seriously. A class that granted healing or purification spells was rare, so Ryan will have a hard time finding a way to make her leave his body. It looked like the easiest way to solve that situation was to help her recover her body.

“Hey, Femradiel.” Ryan thought.

“You never used my name before, not that I cared about. Regardless, it is giving me the creeps.”

“You sure talk like a human... it is very weird.”

“Magic is what is making you understand me like this.”

“I will be frank with you. I don’t want to work with anyone, much less with a dragon. Also, having you inside me is annoying.”

“As expected of someone who has become socially awkward, you sure are good at breaking the ice.”

“Anyway, since I don’t want you inside me, I am going to help you recover your body. That old one still must be there, right? It will serve, right?”

“A body isn’t like the clothes you use. Once a link is severed, you can’t return to an old body.”

“Time for plan B already, huh... How much mana do you need to create a new body?”

“10.256.369.741 mana points.”

“Ten billion? What the hell? Why are the numbers so exact?”

“What did you expect? I want a fully-functional body that will continue to make me stronger. Ideally, I would need a lot more, but that amount is enough to create an exact copy of my old body. Are you going to sign the contract?”

“No contract, no clauses.”

“Even newborn kids aren’t that difficult... Without a contract, I can only drain one point of your mana per second. With this pace, I will need 327 years to obtain enough mana to reconstruct my body.”

“What if I find some magic item to store my mana. A magic item that steals mana from monsters would be perfect, actually.”

“Good luck finding that. Even if you find such an item, I doubt that the magic item will be able to store even a small percentage of the mana necessary.”

“... What are my options?”

“You have two. Sacrifice enough monsters with mana that equal that amount in a single moment or make a contract with me. Since my goal is to recover my body and yours is to get rid of me, we can make a clause that says that our cooperation will end once I have enough mana to reconstruct a body. That being said, that will not be beneficial to neither of us.”

“Explain.”

“You will use a lot of mana to do something that won’t benefit you directly, and I will recovery my body, but in the end, I will be too far behind the level of all monsters on this planet.”

Ryan agreed with that. All that much could be used to so many things. With that amount, Ryan would be able to summon more than seventy million golems... which was probably more monsters than the entire continent had.

“Besides, as I have mentioned before, many dragons are interested in the system that you humans have access to, so am I. The possibilities that you have greatly interest us. Dragons are greedy creatures, greedy for knowledge and power. While I think that power is only a means to an end, I want to obtain as much knowledge as possible, and I think that I only can do it by joining the side of a human.”

At least Femradiel was sincere about her goals. Still, that didn’t make things any easier for Ryan. He loathed the idea of obtaining a power that he didn’t deserve it; Ryan also disliked the idea of working with someone else who wasn’t one hundred percent loyal to him.

“I will probably regret this later, but since I want to see this entire situation to the very end, I am willing to become a slave if that is necessary to obtain your trust. The contract will be completely unilateral, and I will be able to intervene in matters that are related with dragons.”

“So, you are willing to go that far, huh.”

“Like all the other sins, greedy is also a curse. After being defeated by a single human, I don’t have much of my pride left. So, I am free to let my greed control my actions.”

That certainly wasn’t a half-assed greedy. Still, Ryan was hesitating... given how much knowledge Femradiel gave to him, he wouldn’t mind giving her a hand about her problem. If he only could get rid of the status bonuses that he will gain by joining forces with a dragon...

“You don’t have to worry about the bonus of strength you will gain by working with me. As long as you don’t transform in my draconic form, you won’t use my power. As for my techniques, I need to pass the knowledge to you for you to learn them. If I don’t do that, you won’t be able to use it.”

## Chapter 326

Ryan sighed... in the end, he looked for some downsides that would make him unable to help Femradiel, but since they didn’t exist, his morals forced him to help her. Being a guy who hates unfairness was really a pain in the ass...

“Let me read the contract,” Ryan said.

The ice dragon, Femradiel, wants to make a contract with you. By accepting the contract, you will have access to her knowledge database, battle experience, techniques, and status. She won’t be able to drain your mana unless you give her permission. She won’t be able to take over your body unless you give her permission. She won’t be able to participate in fights unless you give her permission. She won’t be able to read your mind unless you give her permission. She won’t be able to share all her knowledge, battle experience, techniques, and statuses unless you give her permission. By accepting this contract, you will have to swear that you fight to survive to see things through to the very end, and that you will work with Femradiel in matters that involve dragons. Do you accept it? Y/N”

That really was a slave contract... Femradiel couldn’t do anything unless Ryan wants, the sole exception is when dragons are involved. Even so, there was no saying that he couldn’t kill them... she truly was desperate to satisfy her thirst for knowledge.

“Are you fine with this? How are you going to become stronger?”

“I will convert the mana that I will absorb, and use it to level up my skills. Considering the contract, you won’t gain anything since you don’t intend to use my powers, so I will do the math, and convert the mana that you give me in coins. Once it reaches the right value, I will give you the knowledge of the skills that you want to learn. That should be enough to satisfy your massive pride, right?”

Now Ryan didn’t have anything to complain about, which was a pity. While he wasn’t naive like Lucas and Gustavo, he was kind of a goody-two-shoes as well... he couldn’t just ignore those who helped him in some way. Even when they were dragons... Ryan accepted the contract.

Congratulations! You have obtained the skill Draconic Transformation.

Effect: it grants you the power to transform into a dragon. The level of the skill determines how much your status will grow when in dragon form. Current level: Health, mana, stamina + 1000, all other attributes + 100.

Cost: —

Congratulations! You have become a lesser dragon. You have obtained the skills: Ice Breath, Frost Armor, the skill cold resistance has reached level 300. You obtained 271 status points.

“Hey...” Ryan said without trying to hide his anger. “Explain this to me.”

“I am sorry... I didn’t know such things would happen. I never talked with a dragon that signed a contract with a human...”

Ryan sighed, in the end, it wasn’t unexpected that Femradiel wouldn’t know certain things. Regardless, to think that Ryan would also obtain a dragon’s DNA... He saw that all those guys had that race, but Ryan didn’t imagine it was a thing that he would receive so soon... or that couldn’t be avoided.

“Thank you for accepting helping me, Ryan. I really am thankful for it.”

“What is that? Eww...” Ryan frowned and then trembled a little since he felt a shiver. “Why are you saying such things all of a sudden? It is creeping me out.”

“You really are a difficult human...”

Since Ryan wasn’t fighting, he decided to set the mana that he was recovering to be sent to Femradiel. As it turns out, he just had to think about it and the mana would be sent to her immediately.

Weirdly enough, even though Bianca watched the whole exchange, she didn't say a single thing. She didn't even frown when Femradiel's presence suddenly grew stronger. Probably because she knew that would happen sooner or later, there was no real reason for a human to refuse the power of a dragon. She didn't know that Ryan had no intention of using that power, and that he was that prideful.

"All right, it is working," Femradiel said and Ryan noticed that her voice sounded much clearer than before. "Now that I can see your status and skills, I can see that your build is quite messy."

"It looks like someone is getting too comfortable to say whatever..." Ryan said. "Sorry, buddy. It looks like from now on we are not alone anymore. Don't worry, though. You will always be my most loyal pet."

"I must say that I feel a bit insulted in being compared with a warg..." Femradiel said.

"Get used to it," Ryan said. "I rank my allies by how much they have helped me. Given that I am constantly giving you mana and that I had to sign this contract, I can easily say that you owe me a lot. As you stand now, you can't even be compared with Furball."

Femradiel wanted to believe that Ryan was joking, but he wasn't. In the end, he was the type of person who says everything that he thinks. Although was clearly a defensive system to make people stay away, he wasn't that cold-hearted, she understood that because he went for the trouble of accepting the pact even though he really wanted to be left alone and he truly believed that he already had the partner that he needed with Furball.

In any case, Femradiel still was satisfied. Even though Ryan was a difficult partner, he was one of the few humans that had the strength to fight on par with dragons and possibly the dragon slayers. Alongside him, Femradiel was absolutely sure that she would quench her thirst for knowledge and that one day, she would recover her memories.

"What do you think, Furball?" Ryan asked. "After getting the two next classes, should we look for those troublesome fellows known as dragon slayers or should we clear the slimes dungeon and obtain the power to create a dungeon? I bet Femradiel will piss herself if we choose the first option."

She will just need a little bit of patience...

## Chapter 327

It looked like Bianca underestimated Ryan and Furball's abilities. She rushed to reach the capital before sunrise, but they arrived at midnight. She probably thought that a monster of that level wouldn't last long, but she didn't know that Ryan could restore Furball's stamina.

"I guess her level of Appraisal is low," Ryan thought. "Even though she has the backing of a dragon, the skill isn't at a high level."

"Even those that made a pact with us need to focus on certain skills if they really want to reach a certain level of strength", Femradiel explained. "Even though people like her have the benefits of two systems, her dragon needs mana and she also needed mana to fight, so the skills they can level up together are limited."

As usual, Femradiel always explained things even though she couldn't read Ryan's thoughts anymore. Then again, imagine what is thinking at some moments wasn't that hard.

Regardless, the capital of Brazil was quite a different place. It didn't look like a proper city, since most buildings that had been built had some sort of function aside from housing ordinary individuals. Weirdly enough, the dungeon appeared pretty close to the president's residence... It was a semi-underwater dungeon that spawned mermaids. Even though it was midnight, Ryan saw them because the whole area around the dungeon was being illuminated by floodlights.

Mermaid – Lv 120

Health: 1500/1500

Mana: 2500 /2500

Stamina: 1800/1800

Strength: 400 (+150)

Dexterity: 600 (+200)

Speed: 450 (+250)

Intelligence: 1100 (+300)

Endurance: 400 (+150)

Control: 650 (+150)

Mentality: 800 (+150)

Luck: 300

Recovery: 800 (+150)

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Alluring Voice Lv 110

Passive Physical Skills: Sleepy Touch Lv 100

Spells: Charm Lv 100, Sleep Lv 100

Support Skills: Pain Resistance Lv 100, Cold Resistance Lv 100

“So, they are like Succubus...” Ryan muttered. “Interesting... I feel like making a magic weapon out of them would be useful. Then again, I need to be careful with my actions here.”

It looked like Ryan was losing some golden opportunities to create some interesting magic items, but it was better than risking losing the chance to get two more tier-three classes for free.

In the end, Ryan decided to wait for sunrise while he meditates. It was the only thing that he could do that was useful and wouldn't make him the center of the attention, after all.

"May I make a suggestion?" Femradiel asked.

"... About what?" Ryan asked after sighing.

"About the use of your free time, while Meditation is useful, there are better versions of that skill which you can use."

"What is the name of the skill?" Ryan asked.

"I believed the skill has two more levels, but I can only remember the second level," Femradiel said. "It is called, Zen. Just like Meditation, it can recover your mana and increase your intelligence now and then. However, it is five times more effective."

Ryan used the Dungeon Shoo, but he didn't find the tome being sold. The cost was probably that high. Regardless, Femradiel didn't give up just with that.

"I can teach you the skill in the blink of an eye. However, I believe it will be more beneficial if we divide the rules." Femradiel said. "Zen is the next level of Meditation, so you have to focus a lot more to keep the skill active. In a sense, you will have to cut your link to the external world. You don't look like someone who would do this while you are surrounded by strangers, so I will do that for you and you will keep your awareness of the surroundings."

"What I said about giving me powers that I didn't deserve?" Ryan asked.

"I am trying to help because you said that I owe you a lot. I recognized that fact and I am trying to help you in exchange. Besides, you will eventually gain more mana and that will help both of us."

“Give me one good reason to let you do that,” Ryan said. “I already told you many times, I don’t want powers that I don’t deserve.”

“Because I want more mana to increase the potential of draconic transformation. Besides, you don’t have to worry because I will get all the extra mana recovered. Your total mana and intelligence will increase now and then, but you can consider that a fair trade for the mana that I will receive.”

Although it was useful that he could share the work with Femradiel, Ryan feared that he starts relying on others right now, he will stray to a path where in the end, he won’t feel satisfied with the outcome. While Femradiel needed his permission to do anything, she still was her own... existence. She was different than Furball that could disappear with just one of Ryan’s thoughts... maybe Ryan was going too far with the whole idea about gaining power by himself, but...

“I suppose strengthening yourself will be necessary when we find certain individuals,” Ryan said. “I don’t plan on relying on you when some dragons attack me, but if those dragon slayers attack me because of you, you will have to deal with them.”

“Some sort will be welcomed when that time comes,” Femradiel said. “As I said, I was killing golems to strengthen myself because I wasn’t strong enough to defeat those who tried to kill me.”

In the end, it looked like Ryan wouldn’t be able to keep a neutral instance in those situations. Besides, even if that wasn’t their intention, those dragon slayers are causing problems for humans. So, they were Ryan’s enemies as well. Regardless, Ryan gave permission for Femradiel to use Zen.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill Zen.

Effect: It recovers five points of mana per minute multiplied by the level of the skill. It can occasionally increase your mana and intelligence.

You obtained 01 status point.

Weirdly enough, when Femradial used Zen, Ryan felt an inner peace like he never felt before. It looked like the problems of the past didn't matter anymore. However, he also discovered that a single dark emotion was enough to cancel the skill.

## Chapter 328

Zen was a dangerous skill; Ryan almost fell asleep many times while Femradial was using it. Regardless, finally, morning came and Bianca was reuniting the new group that would clear the dungeon.

"I can keep using the skill even while you fight," Femradial said. "However, you can't get too worked up."

Ryan wouldn't have to fight, so the chances of that happening were close to none. Regardless, people around the capital didn't look at him with weird eyes like in Rio de Janeiro. They probably assumed Ryan was someone influential and that was he was receiving preferential treatment. It was weird that they would think that with the world in that state...

"Let's go," Bianca said.

Once again, Bianca took the leadership of the whole mission and no one dared to contest her, even though she wasn't from the area. Regardless, Ryan was interested in how she would handle things inside the dungeon since her favorite attacks were the electric ones and half of the dungeon was underwater.

While their walking speed was low due to the water on their waists, Ryan didn't notice anything troublesome aside from that. Bianca didn't use electric spells, but her wind ones could easily destroy the mermaids' heads... for some odd reason, she beheaded all of them with Wind Blades. In any case, much to Ryan's surprise, she stopped before they could arrive in the last part of the dungeon.

"Things will get difficult from now on," Bianca said. "The boss of the dungeon is just a slightly bigger version of the mermaids, I am sure all of you already heard that, but she has some troublesome abilities. We will work hard to finish the fight as fast as possible, so I would like to ask you not to panic and whatever happens, don't approach the monster."

Ryan wanted to know what the hell she was talking about, but in the end, he decided to wait for the surprise. Most of the survivors who were going to receive a glass were gulping imagining the fight ahead, so at the very least, Ryan would be able to kill his boredom.

Slowly, everyone entered the last part of the dungeon where the boss was about to spawn. Bianca and her team approached the purple crystal and prepared for the fight while Ryan and the others stayed close to the path that leads to the exit. Suddenly, the purple crystal shone and the boss appeared. Now that Ryan could see one of those creatures before they could use their magic, he saw that they were pretty ugly... they had the torsos of women, but their heads were like a fish.

Bianca and the others began to bombard the monster with long-ranged attacks, but that hadn't been enough to kill the monster or even stop it from counterattacking. The creature raised both arms upward and then the level of the water inside the cage began to rise.

"Ah... so they were talking about this," Ryan said.

The survivors around Ryan began to panic... it was their first time fighting against a boss and they also had a time-limit. So, it was only natural that they would react that way. As for Ryan, he wanted to obtain as much experience as possible for future reference.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill Underwater Resistance.

Effect: it increases the amount of time you can stay underwater without running out of air by one percent per level.

You obtained 01 status points.

Ryan received an unexpected but pleasant surprise, but he ignored it and instead kept his eyes on the boss fight. Even underwater, Bianca's Wind Blades were taking huge chunks of the boss' flesh, but it looked like in her human form, she needed some time to defeat the monster. Her friends were also swimming around the monsters and using magic to decrease their health, but it looked like things could go south at any moment.

In the end, the most obvious thing happened. Without being able to attack any of Bianca's friends due to their barrage of death, the monster decided to attack those who weren't participating in the fight and use them as shields. The beast wanted to buy time in order to make the others run out of air.

Ryan decided to use Telekinesis and stop the beast, but the very moment the big mermaid showed its back toward Bianca, she created a vortex of wind and water that pulled back the monster toward the center of that place. Her friends resumed their attacks since Bianca couldn't do anything else while she controls the vortex.

"Aren't you going to help?" Femradiel asked.

"Nope, she got this," Ryan said.

Although the survivors didn't hold their breath properly due to their fears, in the end, the fight ended before anyone could suffocate. Even though they were leagues behind Bianca, they still fought against that boss dozens of times, so they managed to finish the job. The level of the water decreased the very moment the boss died.

"I guess this is one of the dungeons that will lead me to a world where I can find some sapient monsters..." Ryan furrowed his eyebrows. "Even though it didn't speak, the boss was pretty smart."

In the end, the boss also dropped a pretty impressive staff, but Ryan didn't bother analyzing it. It couldn't be his, after all. As usual, the survivors made a line to pick their classes and Ryan was the last one. He didn't know much about Bianca, but he imagined that she would leave without saying a thing since her job was over and she knew Ryan wasn't crazy enough to pick a fight against them by attacking the city. However, she did stay behind.

"Gustavo probably already contacted the survivors who are guarding the dungeon in the Amazonas, if you head to the point in the map in a straight line, no one will bother you," Bianca explained. "But if you don't, you will have to give some explanations to the survivors in the camps you might stop."

"I will go in a straight line toward the dungeon, you don't have to worry," Ryan said.

Even after giving her warning, Bianca stayed behind and waited for Ryan's turn. However, she didn't look to be in a talking mood, so Ryan stayed the whole time silent instead of asking about the classes... he really had become bad at dealing with redheads.

Congratulations! You have cleared the dungeon and obtained its treasure! As a reward for your achievement, you can obtain one of three following classes: Guardian, Magic Archer, and Caster.

Please be aware that clearing this dungeon again won't give you the chance to unlock the other remaining classes. If you want to obtain them, you will have to search for those in other dungeons.

It looked like Ryan was getting used to those tier three classes, while they were still impressive, neither of them could surprise him all that much. Maybe it was time to look for the tier-four classes... then again, Ryan didn't know if he was ready to face the monsters that would come out from them. The difference in power between the tiers was clear and based on Ryan's experience, the difference was even more visible at higher levels.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Magic Archer!

You obtained the following skills: Elemental Nature, Magic Bow, and Mana Arrow.

Your dexterity and stamina will increase by six points, your health, mana, control and speed will increase by three points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Elemental Nature.

Effect: It grants you the power to change the nature of your Mana Arrows.

Current natures that you can use: Fire.

Cost: 30 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Magic Bow.

Effect: It grants you the power to summon a magic bow. The summoned bow can replicate all the attributes, costs, and effects of bows and crossbows that you once possessed. You can summon one more magic bow every ten levels.

Cost: 10 mana per second.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! Considering that you already have the skill Mana Arrow, your skill will level up five times.

You obtained 01 status point.

You obtained 01 status point.

You obtained 01 status point.

You obtained 01 status point.

You obtained 01 status point.

In the end, Ryan still was caught off guard by the skills he received. While Mana Arrow seemed far too weak to be a skill that one could learn by receiving a tier-three class, the others were pretty interesting. Ryan already could imagine many applications for them.

“May I ask why you are so obsessed with classes that are related with bows?” Femradiel asked. “Based on what I know and on the fact that you like to work alone, I am pretty sure you have what it takes to become a pretty decent all-rounder.”

“For two reasons, because defeating enemies from a distance is pretty cool and because surviving is not enough for me,” Ryan replied. “I want to survive until the very end relying mostly on the things that my father taught me and prove how awesome he was.”

“Was your father a famous archer or something?” Femradiel asked. “What about your mother?”

“Why are you suddenly interested in that?” Ryan frowned. “You are creeping me out again... Besides, didn’t you already read all my memories?”

“No, I only read the most recent and powerful ones,” Femradiel replied. “The ones related with Lucas, Zoe, Alissa and Lucia. The older the memory, the more I had to use to find it, and as you know, I didn’t have much to spare. Anyway, I was just curious, you don’t have to answer. I was just wondering if hearing about someone else’s past would help me remember my own.”

“I am pretty sure you left a lot of your memories on that corpse,” Ryan said.

“Creatures that have mana in their bodies store their memories in their spiritual body as well,” Femradiel explained. “Haven’t you wondered about how weird is that you can grow strong so fast? It is because of your memories being engraved in your physical body. The stronger and the more intense your life is, the faster you grow strong.”

It was a weird method to grow strong, but it comes to mana and magic, it made sense. The spiritual body was what made everything else stronger, sharper, and more durable... Regardless, back to the topic, Ryan wasn’t sure if he wanted to talk about his parents. Still, for the good or the worse, Femradiel was working with him just like Furball. Ryan hated unfairness, so he couldn’t treat them differently.

“Let’s talk about this when we head to the next dungeon,” Ryan said.

Ryan concluded that was the best option since he has been keeping Bianca waiting and he was already tired of her sweet presence, and welcoming behavior.

“Thanks for the tour,” Ryan said. “See ya.”

“Wait,” Bianca said. “Now that you decided to work with the dragon inside you, things changed.”

“How so?” Ryan frowned.

“Gustavo wants to keep contact with others like us, in case something happens,” Bianca replied. “That way, we will be able to collaborate and work together and help each other. You are the first one we found, but we will give you the power to make others join this group.”

While that seemed interesting, Ryan didn't want to keep contact with people like Gustavo and Lucas, their good nature was too troublesome for Ryan. Still, it seemed that they had some method to talk with each other over long distances and Ryan would have to spend a lot of time to move around and investigate certain areas... that would save him a lot of time.

“Give me your hand,” Bianca said. “This rune will give you the administrator rights for the Telepathy channel that we created... you should feel honored since only us have those rights.”

Ryan saw a symbol glowing on Bianca's right palm, it wasn't harmful, but Ryan still hesitated because of the downsides of accepting such proposal... in the end, Ryan decided being rational since the advantages far outweighed the demerits. He accepted the proposal.

Chapter 330

“Hey, it looks like Ryan decided to join our secret group,” Gustavo said when the symbol on Bianca's hands finally appeared on Ryan's. “Welcome aboard, Ryan.”

“Don't make me regret this later,” Ryan said.

“And how we can do that?” Gustavo asked.

Although Ryan was already regretting since that telepathic link was like a phone that was always on, he decided not to mention it. Regardless, Ryan thought he would have some peace after leaving his home country, but he didn't imagine that he was so dead wrong... he ended up on a path where his life wouldn't grant him much mental peace.

"If you don't want to talk with anyone, you can cut off the link for a few hours," Bianca explained. "That being said, it might cause some issues if your timing is off."

"I will be careful," Ryan said. "Anyway, I am leaving."

Ryan was in a hurry because he didn't fight even a single bit in several days. He was afraid that his aim and instincts would grow rusty. He didn't have many chances to fight since all the path toward the Amazonas had been mostly secured by Gustavo and his friends. Moreover, the monster Ryan found along the way got smashed by Furball.

"So, are you going to talk about your parents now?" Femradiel asked.

After sighing, Ryan stopped for a moment to analyze his last actions. In the end, he couldn't find many explanations as to why he agreed to make a contract with Femradiel. Even though he wasn't going to lose or gain anything unless he wishes for it, he could tell that his decision was a strange one. Ryan found two possible explanations: the death of Lucia and her friends was one of them... the other was something that Ryan didn't want to admit, but maybe, just maybe, he didn't honestly want to be left alone. Maybe by talking about his past, Ryan would be able to understand more about himself... all that non-stop fighting kept his head too busy, and Ryan didn't have much time to calm down and think things through.

"Maybe you don't know this, but humans didn't have to fight before the dragons appeared," Ryan started. "The biggest things my father hunted were probably some deer. Still, he taught me everything I know about how to use a bow and how to track animals by following some traces on the ground... he wasn't a legendary hunter, but he was the best in my eyes."

"I can't say that for certain, but I don't believe dragons came from a peaceful land like this planet was before," Femradiel said. "If that weren't the case, we wouldn't feel so out of place and weak here. Anyway, and what about your mother?"

“My mother was just an ordinary housewife,” Ryan said. “However, she was the kindest person I had ever seen. As far as I can remember, she always taught me that I should always smile and be kind to others. Until very recently I thought that was the way people should live, I managed to get even someone like Mia as a girlfriend and fiancée, following that philosophy, after all. I still think that she wasn’t wrong in raising me like that, but since I followed her words blindly, something annoying happened... probably thanks to the fact that I was too selfless, if I had been a bit more selfish, such a thing could have been avoided.”

Ryan wondered why he was talking so openly... it was probably because humans always want to find someone who can listen to their problems and complaints. However, Ryan wouldn’t do that to anyone, not with another human... only with someone who would never get involved with Daniel and Mia in any way.

“Thanks to my mother, I lived a decent peaceful life, but thanks to my father, I survived until now,” Ryan said. “I will try to find a good middle term for the things I learned from them.”

“Is that why you are talking about that with me and why you treat Furball so well?” Femradiel asked.

“I guess so,” Ryan said. “I know that Furball won’t change, so I don’t have to worry about him. As for you, if you mess up... you already know how coldly I treat the people I don’t like.”

“You talk as if you hadn’t been harsh before with me,” Femradiel said. “Regardless, thank you for treating me like a real partner... even though the contract is too restrictive.”

“Already complaining, huh,” Ryan said. “Well, let’s see for how long you will deserve the treatment.”

Ryan felt a bit lighter since he put a lot of things out of his heart. Since Femradiel was in no way related to his old problems and will never be, that helped a lot. Moreover, now that Ryan puts in words the things that he thinks and wants to do, something inside him changed. His goals were the same as ever, kill as many monsters as possible, get classes, become powerful, and prove that he could survive by using the things he learned from his father. However, now he also knew that he couldn’t keep letting the past control his anger and actions so often. The best way to deal with Daniel and Mia was to ignore them. If they don’t take a single moment of his life, Ryan will be able to focus on his goals and achieve them faster. Instead of letting his anger to escape constantly, Ryan decided to use it as fuel when he finds his true enemies... that was the best way to make use of that extra power.

“I guess this is the right path for me,” Ryan muttered under his breath. “I guess this is a turning point in our journey, buddy. Let’s focus on hunting some fuckers to start this with the right foot.”

Ryan took a heavy burden out from his back. Although he wasn’t the type who would get carried away in those kinds of situations, he felt invincible... even in his wildest dreams, he couldn’t have imagined that his journey would only get harsher.

## Chapter 331

Since the number of monsters along the way was pretty low, Ryan decided to have an excellent time taking a nap on Furball’s back, but eventually, he had to give up on that. The terrain in the Amazon Forest wasn’t that nice for a giant but a fast creature like Furball. So, they had to fly quite early.

“If we fly in a straight line, we will find it,” Ryan muttered as if he was trying to calm himself.

“You can rest assured that we will find the dungeon,” Femradiel said. “With my senses, I can easily pinpoint the location of all nearby dungeons, the more high-level they are, the easiest it will be to find them.”

“Is that so?” Ryan said. “I guess you really aren’t going to be that useless, huh.”

“You can drop the acting, Ryan,” Femradiel said. “You are embarrassed after having a frank talk after so long, but dragons like me can’t understand that. Trying to look cold or sarcastic aren’t helping you.”

Talking with Femradiel was talking with a super helpful A.I., it was a pity that Ryan couldn’t see things like that. After that talk, he suddenly got annoyed by his own actions since he exposed too much about himself... Ryan just learned that he wasn’t as stable as he thought that he was.

Regardless, they finally found the dungeon around noon of the next day. As expected, the dungeon had appeared near the region’s biggest city, a place called Manaus. Although Ryan didn’t find much destruction in the forest, most of the city had been completely destroyed. Only a small part of it had been restored by the survivors and was by using by them to keep the dungeons in the area under control.

“If you have already arrived at Manaus, you should look for someone called Ricard,” Gustavo said via the telepathy channel. “I already talked to him a few minutes ago, and he is waiting for you at the plaza.”

“Good, that does mean that I can show up the way I want,” Ryan said.

Although many people caused a ruckus when Ryan suddenly appeared at the plaza mentioned, Ricardo and his men calmed everything down. Ricardo was a tall man who had light-brown hair and green eyes. Although he looked the type who would make success with the ladies, Ryan only saw a battle-hardened warrior in front of him. Not a man who would fool around whenever possible. For some coincidence, Ricardo was also a bow-user. However, his was pretty long and emitted an orange-red glow.

“I presume you are Ryan,” Ricardo said.

“Yes,” Ryan said.

“If you don’t mind, I would like to ask you to fight alongside us,” Ricardo said. “Gustavo said that your strength can be relied on and we are facing some problems as of late here.”

“I can help,” Ryan said. “That being said, I have no idea how he can say that since he never saw me fighting.”

“Follow me,” Ricardo said and then began to walk toward the center of the city where the dungeon was located. “Can I assume that your crossbow is a weapon enchanted with some element?”

“Yes, you can,” Ryan nodded.

“I don’t know if Gustavo and the others told you about the monsters that this dungeon spawn, but they are a bit difficult,” Ricardo said. “While physical attacks work on them, the damage caused isn’t something that bothers them. Thus, around here we focus on elemental attacks to deal with them.”

“If you try to be more specific, maybe I will be able to prepare and be more helpful when fighting them,” Ryan said.

“Right... they are mummies,” Ricardo said. “They are undead creatures and since they are dead, they are completely invulnerable to pain. While plain damage doesn’t stop them, ice attacks and electric attacks can give us a few precious seconds to deal with them.”

Hopefully, Ryan will be able to deal with them by using Power Shot, but he would have to change his weapon and use some elemental buffs if that weren’t possible.

“Can’t we slow them down by destroying their limbs?” Ryan asked.

“No, even if they lose their limbs, they can regenerate them with their undead flesh,” Ricardo replied. “We already tried many ways to stop them, and we lost many by doing so. The only answer is freeze or shock them.”

Ryan wanted to disagree and test a few things, but it wasn’t a good idea to try a few things and ignore the leader of the area experience. Maybe a few seconds charged Power Shot would be enough. All monsters can only spawn six times every ten minutes, after all. It would then be too much for Ryan to ask to clear the dungeon alone while the others follow behind him.

“I have the right skill to freeze them over,” Femradiel said.

“I won’t choose the easy way out,” Ryan said. “There is no other choice, I will see what I can do with Electric Enchantment.”

Poison probably wouldn’t be much effective either, but using the crossbow would be much more convenient, so Ryan kept it. When they reached the dungeon in question, Ryan found that only non-fighters would try to get a class. By the look of things, the survivors in that area had a real hard time clearing the dungeon every day if they needed that many fighters.

“Aside from their high-tolerance to pain, the mummies have also other troublesome characteristics,” Ricardo said. “Once their bandage grabs someone, that someone is lost. They lose their strength and thus aren’t able to free themselves. Anyone who touches the mummies also loses their stamina and physical strength. Once that happens, the only way is to kill both the mummy and the captured.”

“Really?” Ryan asked.

“Yes, the mummies use the stamina to make their body stronger and the captured eventually join the undead army,” Ricardo explained. “That is all we can do for our friends... kill them before they become puppets.”

Class: Hunter Lv 67 (+ 02 UP / Elementalist Lv 55 / Monk Lv 16 (-)

Race: Night Demon /Reptilian/ Ice Fox (-)

Rank: 202th

Health: 1191/1194 (3, 53/s)

Mana: 1871 /1871 (3, 53/s)

Stamina: 1633/1639 (3,53/s)

Strength: 31 (+166) (+130)

Dexterity: 1850 (+1395) (+82)

Speed: 85 (+644) (+48)

Intelligence: 81 (+517) (+3)

Endurance: 28 (+131) (+160)

Control: 06 (+657) (+10)

Mentality: 08 (+36) (+30)

Luck: 74 (+15)

Recovery: 800 (+993) (+330)

Willpower: 30 (+36)

Coins: 236.441

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills:

Passive Physical Skills: Zen Lv 07, Underwater Resistance Lv 01,

Spells: Magic Upgrade Lv 04 (+ 03 UP), Mana Bomb Lv 01, Electric Enchantment Lv 01, Draconic Transformation Lv 01, Frost Armor Lv 01, Ice Breath Lv 01, Magic Bow Lv 01, Elemental Nature Lv 01,

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv 300 (+ 271 UP),

Classes:

Combat:

Non-Combatant:

Race: Centaur, Lesser Dragon

## Chapter 332

That was troublesome... to lose allies and then fight them because they become undead monsters. That was the kind of thing that quickly broke the spirit of most battle-hardened soldiers. No wonder Ricardo looked so grim. He probably had lost and killed many friends due to that dungeon. As if it wasn't enough, the dungeon looked like a mausoleum, and even some skulls made of stones could be seen around the entrance... it looked like the dungeon master of that place was really nasty, but the critical piece of information was that dungeon masters could do that.

"Given the power that the mummies, have can you help us?" Ricardo asked.

"I guess," Ryan said. "What is the dungeon boss, by the way?"

"A mummy with a crown... the Pharaoh, Osiris," Ricardo replied.

At that point in time, getting surprised was a waste of time and energy, so Ryan only nodded after hearing that. In any case, Ricardo at least gave Ryan the chance to test his powers. That was necessary since it looked like he lost two mages that could use ice and electric mage in the last few days. Now he only had a single mage that could use ice magic and slow down the monsters, but he could only do that much since that survivor only had two classes and couldn't leave the city to get other classes.

When the next mummy left the dungeon, Ryan made sure to take a good look at it, as well as using Appraisal. The monster really looked like something a skeleton would be. The flesh could only be seen in a few points, but it was so dead that the purple skin made Ryan avert his eyes. No, it was probably due to the smell... Regardless, the monster was really covered in bandages from head to toe. Ryan activated Electric Enchantment, but the smell was so strong that he missed the monster's head and only hit the torso.

Mummy – Lv 125

Health: 2374/3000

Mana: 1000/1000

Stamina: 100/100

Strength: 1000

Dexterity: 100

Speed: 100

Intelligence: 100

Endurance: 2000

Control: 250

Mentality: 1000

Luck: 500

Recovery: —

Willpower: 1000

Coins: —

Status: —

## Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Tiring Touch Lv 120, Tiring Bandages Lv 100

Passive Physical Skills: Stone Skin Lv 100, Bronze Skin Lv 80, Steel Skin Lv 60

## Spells:

Support Skills: Pain Resistance Lv 350, Fire Resistance Lv 50, Cold Resistance Lv 50, Shock Resistance Lv 50, Poison Resistance Lv 250,

Ryan frowned when he saw those statuses, but in the end, the surprise made him attack four more times and kill the beast. Although he used a lot more mana than he was used to, mummies weren't as troublesome as he thought. He had the skills and status to solo the mobs.

You obtained 130 coins.

"I don't like this... for a dungeon that never broke, their level is too high," Ryan said.

"That shouldn't surprise you, the stronger the creature is, the more mana they emit," Femradiel said. "Considering the level of the monsters, it looks like it is pretty evident that stronger monsters emit more mana and can level up faster, even when their dungeon doesn't break."

Ryan didn't consider that, but it did make sense after the experiment with the iron scorpions. The dungeon master of that dungeon probably knows that, and that was why he chose such a weird move to win the race.

"Well... it looks like Gustavo wasn't exaggerating," Ricardo frowned. "However, let's try this again and this time, let's check for how long your skills stun the enemy."

Ryan nodded at that, and when the next mummy appeared, he fired a single bolt on the monster's chest. In the end, the creature got stunned for half a second... it wasn't so bad given the level of the skill and the fact that Ryan didn't allocate a single point into intelligence. It could be improved, but Ryan won't have time for that.

"That is more than enough," Ricardo said. "You and our ice mage will hit the monsters once at the start of the fight and the others will finish off the creatures. As for the boss battle, Osiris usually can resist two times more crowd control spells in comparison to his minions. For how long do you think you can attack while shocking him?"

"Around five seconds I guess," Ryan replied.

"Given how much damage you can cause while you are at it, it should be more than enough," Ricard nodded. "Once we find the boss, go all out and once you run out of mana, leave the rest to us."

Got it," Ryan said.

Ricardo left to prepare a few more details for the fight. Meanwhile, while decided to use his head to find a better way to deal with those undead monsters, but he didn't find any.

"Why did you lie to him?" Femradiel asked.

"I don't like that some know exactly what I can do with my skills," Ryan replied. "That is why I also didn't tell him that I could finish off the boss with Power Shot."

"Even though you are probably going to work with his friends in the future?" Femradiel asked.

"I highly doubt that I will," Ryan shook his head. "I will only exchange information, my hands are already full, I can't involve myself with problems of other nations."

"What if the problem they might face escalates and becomes something that might threat your homeland?" Femradiel asked.

“That is a possibility that I would like to avoid thinking about it in order not to lose the few nights of sleep that I still have,” Ryan said. “Anyway, why do you care if I lie to him?”

“Just asking out of curiosity,” Femradiel replied. “Anyway, if you don’t want to let others know about the things you can do, then you should learn some spells to counter Appraisal.”

“So, those exist, huh,” Ryan nodded in satisfaction. “I will need their names, hopefully, they will also block the mind-reading technique of other dragons.”

### Chapter 333

When the preparations had been completed, Ryan, Ricardo, and the others entered the dungeon. Fortunately, the dungeon’s layout was pretty simple, and there wasn’t anything decreasing their movement like the water in the mermaid’s dungeon. As soon as the first mummy appeared, Ryan fired a bolt and electrocuted the monster. Soon after, the ice mage who looked like a kid in his teens fired an ice sphere at the monster’s legs and froze it over.

“Now!” Ricardo shouted.

Ricardo and the other long-ranged fighters bombarded the mummy with magic and enchanted projectiles. Surprisingly enough, Ricardo’s bow was pretty powerful and could fire Magma Arrows, but the cost was very high and not much useful against undead monsters. Regardless, the mummy died since it didn’t have the chance to move from the spot.

“I guess the melee fighters are only going to fight against the boss,” Ryan concluded, since ten or so fighters didn’t participate in the fight. “In any case, this thing of being respectful in other people’s country sure is tiring. I could have cleared those three dungeons in a single day if I had the chance.”

“Isn’t it good that you still respect others of your species even though you are more powerful than them?” Femradiel asked.

“I suppose so, but that doesn’t mean that it is annoying,” Ryan said. “With every passing day, I confirm time and time again that fighting solo is the way to go.”

“You should have been born as a dragon with that attitude,” Femradiel said.

Maybe it was due to the fact that Ryan did whatever the hell he wanted in the past four months, but in the end, he made a mental note to avoid that situation again. He thought that obtaining three classes without doing nothing would be fun, but he was mistaken.

After a few minutes, Ryan and the others finally reached the end of the dungeon, and there he saw Osiris sitting on a throne of bones... Ricardo didn't mention that he could do that.

“The trick to winning this fight is to do so as fast as possible,” Ricardo said. “Osiris can summon other mummies, so we can let the fight last for long and we can't let him use his summoning skills.”

Ricardo looked at Ryan as if he was saying that he would have to start the fight by himself. While he didn't mind that, Ryan wished that he had heard about it sooner. Regardless, instead of wasting time complaining, Ryan just moved toward the last part of the dungeon, running and firing his bolts.

Osiris – Lv 155

Health: 21000/21000

Mana: 10000/10000

Stamina: 5000/5000

Strength: 5000

Dexterity: 1000

Speed: 1000

Intelligence: 1000

Endurance: 4000

Control: 500

Mentality: 1500

Luck: 500

Recovery: —

Willpower: 1500

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Tiring Touch Lv 150, Tiring Bandages Lv 130

Passive Physical Skills: Stone Skin Lv 150, Bronze Skin Lv 120, Steel Skin Lv 100

Spells: Summon Mummy Lv 150

Support Skills: Pain Resistance Lv 350, Fire Resistance Lv 50, Cold Resistance Lv 50, Shock Resistance Lv 50, Poison Resistance Lv 250,

Osiris looked at Ryan, but before he could even think of attacking him, the bolts pierced its bandages and body while they electrocuted the beast. At the same time, Ricardo and the others positioned themselves around the boss.

Ryan stopped attacking after precisely five seconds, and when that happened, Ricardo and the others joined the fight. Despite the risk, the melee fighters didn't hesitate and sliced apart Osiris's body bit by bit.

Just in case, Ryan began to charge Power Shot. Nobody was paying attention to him anyway, so it didn't matter. However, in the end, nothing happened. Ryan sighed in relief when the boss died for two reasons. The first was because he didn't have to act and because that bullshit of being a nice visitor was finally over.

"Good work, everyone," Ricardo said. "It has been a long while since we fought against this boss and none of us suffered a single injury. The victory is ours, but the drop belongs to a single person, I believe no one can contest that the visitor deserves the reward."

For a change, Ricardo cracked a smile on his face. While Ryan was happy for the loot since Osiris dropped a tome, those words and the others' attention made him very uncomfortable.

"... Thanks," Ryan said and then forced a smile while he received the tome.

Ryan wondered if that was a common thing around these parts. While he could understand the exhilarating feeling after winning a tough battle, those speeches were too cringe from his perspective.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill Summon Skeleton.

Effect: it grants you the power to summon an ordinary skeleton whose health, mana, and stamina will be equal to the level of the skill multiplied by fifty.

Cost: 100 mana

You obtained 01 status points.

“One of these hm, huh,” Femradiel said, and for some reason, she seemed displeased. “I hate necromancers...”

Ryan felt that he should ask why, but in the end, he decided not to. It was better if he keeps Furball and Femradiel at the same distance. Since Furball wasn't the type to share his problems, Ryan didn't have to worry about the distance between them, but things were a bit different with Femradiel. She was a sapient who was probably many times older than Ryan, so by default, she was a massive box full of issues that Ryan didn't want to get involved in.

While Ryan was waiting for his turn to pick a class, Ricardo approached him. Since he looked a lot more relaxed than before, it was Ryan's turn to get tense.

“Gustavo told me that you are traveling around the continent and looking for dungeons like these,” Ricardo said. “Do you think that you found all of them?”

“I don't know, I still need to check the extreme North of the continent,” Ryan replied.

“How about you return here once you finish your search?” Ricardo asked. “We could use the help of someone like you. You can easily become my right hand and obtain several benefits.”

Chapter 334

“Tell me more...” Ryan said.

“What do you seek? More power? We can give you the preference in the obtained drops,” Ricardo said. “Do you want to enjoy a good life? I can find some girls for you and even build a nice home for you and them.”

“... How many I can have without causing some issues with Gustavo and his friends?” Ryan asked. “We don’t want to have issues with them, right?”

“As many as you want, people nowadays will do everything to gain the favor of those in power,” Ricardo explained. “Just tell me when you think you might return and I will make some preparations.”

“All right... I have some things to deal with in my home country,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “So, I should be able to solve them in three weeks.”

“Good, I will be waiting for you,” Ricardo said and then offered a handshake to Ryan and then left before anyone could find suspicious that they were talking in such a low tone.

Ryan sighed after that... as expected, he shouldn’t waste his time working with others in the future. The chances of him finding more people like Ricardo who wanted to use him were pretty high, and since that kind of idiot had a lot of influence, Ryan couldn’t kill them that easily.

“For a second I thought you were serious about making a deal with him,” Femradiel said.

“It is only natural, you don’t know me all that much,” Ryan shrugged.

Ryan’s turn finally arrived, and he didn’t waste any more time. He should have used Appraisal on Ricardo and the others when he had the chance to see his options, but in the end, the surprise excited Ryan even more than he had expected.

Congratulations! You have cleared the dungeon and obtained its treasure! As a reward for your achievement, you can obtain one of the three following classes: Swordmaster, Poisonous Archer, and Illusionist.

Please be aware that clearing this dungeon again won’t give you the chance to unlock the other remaining classes. If you want to obtain them, you will have to search for those in other dungeons.

Although the other classes seemed less focused on doing a single thing, once again, Ryan made his choice pretty quickly, but not before he could hear Femradiel sighing inside his head.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Poisonous Archer!

You obtained the following skills: Paralyzing Arrow, Spiritual Poison, and Explosive Poisonous Arrow.

Your dexterity and stamina will increase by six points, your health, mana, control, and speed will increase by three points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Paralyzing Arrow.

Effect: It enchants your arrows with a poison that can paralyze your foes depending on their mentality and willpower.

Cost: 40 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Spiritual Poison.

Effect: It enchants your arrows with a poison that can cause direct damage to your target's mana pool. The toxin can last for three seconds, and the damage is equal to the skill level. This effect can be stacked.

Cost: 20 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Explosive Poisonous Arrow.

Effect: It grants you the power to fire a magic arrow that explodes upon contact and creates a poisonous cloud that can affect several targets. The damage caused is equal to your dexterity plus your intelligence divided by the number of targets.

Cost: 60 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

“You certainly have bad luck with classes and skills you obtain,” Femradiel said.

“It looks like you have a problem with certain types of skills and classes,” Ryan said. “Let me guess, you don’t like combat styles that rely on furtivity and indirect means to defeat an enemy.”

“I am a dragon, after all,” Femradiel asked. “There is not much of pride left, but there is still some. You can’t expect that creatures like me would approve that, just so you know, Poison Dragons do exist, but they are shunned by the others.”

“Although you say that, dragons annihilated humans when they were much more powerful,” Ryan said. “You guys pride didn’t get in the way when you killed thousands, right?”

“First of all, I didn’t kill a single human,” Femradiel said. “Second of all, do you really want to hear me defending my species when they annihilated the humans?”

“... No,” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows. “Anyway, let’s get the hell out of here.”

Ryan left in a hurry the city without saying goodbye to anyone, not that he had anyone to say goodbye. Regardless, while he and Furball were flying crossing the Amazon forest, Ryan wondered if it was time to continue his search or just head to Colombia and then talk with Lucas before returning home. Ryan thought that job would last a few months, but barely four weeks had passed since he started that journey.

“I guess this journey is nearing its end,” Ryan said. “If there were any other tier three dungeon in the continent, Lucas and Gustavo would have noticed, the monsters coming out from those places are really troublesome, after all.”

It was time for Ryan to return to his home country and take the next step. At that point in time, there was no sense in denying that he was worried about Zoe and Arthur. Even though he checked things with them every day with Search, seeing things with his own eyes will be better.

“All right, next stop is Colombia,” Ryan said. “Let’s talk with Lucas and finish them as quickly as possible. After that, we will return to the base.”

In the end, after a single day of traveling, Ryan met Lucas again. Although he welcomed him, Ryan left as soon as he explained about the telepathy link that Gustavo had created. If he wanted to talk about anything, they didn’t have to see each other. While that was troublesome in some ways, at the very least, Ryan wouldn’t feel uncomfortable directly.

## Chapter 335

“So, after talking with your friends, are you going to exterminate all the monsters in a foreigner world to become a dungeon master?” Femradiel asked.

“They are not my friends,” Ryan said. “They are survivors that now and then I work with for the sake of gathering intel as fast as possible.”

“Right... you only consider those that are one hundred percent loyal and have no means of betraying you your friends...” Femradiel said. “Anyway, that will take a lot of time and won’t be very helpful to increase your strength, are you sure about that?”

“Yes, I am sure about that, and no, you are not my friend, we are brothers in arms,” Ryan said.

“Regardless, I won’t have to worry about time if I use my auto-farm method of slaying monsters.”

“No... it will take a lot of time,” Femradiel said. “Golems are too slow; can you imagine how many months it will take for them to run across even a small planet?”

That was something that Ryan didn't consider... his auto-farm skills certainly had some weakness. Maybe Ryan will have to use the Giant Bees in the place of the golems. They shouldn't have a problem if Ryan tries to conquer the slimes' world. While Ryan was considering his options, he finally arrived on American soil. While he saw some monsters running around in Mexico, he didn't find any in the distance... it looked like Mark put his plans of guarding all dungeons much sooner than he had predicted.

“It looks like the people of your country is finally getting used to the new world,” Femradiel said. “While that is good for them, it isn't good for you. The number of monsters you can hunt decreased exponentially and so was the potential that you could use them to make yourself stronger.”

“One step at a time,” Ryan said. “First, we will focus on obtaining the power of the dungeon masters, after that, we will worry about that problem. Anyway, let's make you use your legs for a change, Furball. Dash, full speed ahead.”

Ryan stopped flying and then gave his partner the order. Strangely, Furball barked excitedly. He didn't complain or looked uncomfortable, but it looked like he really liked to run instead of flying. While the ride wasn't that comfortable, at least Ryan had some extra mana to practice his new skills.

Around the time the sun was starting to set, Ryan finally returned to the base. Surprisingly enough, things looked neater in the small town above the place, it looked like Mark, and the others had had too much free time on their hands. Knowing Mark, Ryan thought he would be waiting for him at the entrance, but he wasn't there.

“Where is Mark?” Ryan asked one of the guards protecting the entrance.

“... Commander Mark is at the meeting room,” One of the guards replied with a frown.

Commander Mark... it looked like his position changed a little bit once everyone understood that they couldn't wait for the government to come to their rescue. While Ryan wasn't an exact stranger, most of the guys who worked for Mark didn't like him since he didn't respect titles or formalities.

Regardless, Ryan found Mark and many others in the meeting room. For some reason, things looked pretty intense inside the room, and even though Ryan opened the door abruptly, the atmosphere improved a little. Cole, Anna, Carter, John, and Katelyn were there. While it wasn't a perfect combination, at least the noisy ones weren't there.

"Did I interrupt something?" Ryan asked.

"Yes, but it is not like you care about it, right?" Anna asked with a frown on her face.

"Look who is still on the edge after all these months," Ryan said. "If you are too busy, Mark, I can return later."

"It is fine, you can join us," Mark said. "Please sit, this may take a while."

Ryan just wanted to ask for a brief summary of whatever was troubling them, but asking something like that would only make Anna noisier. So, he decided to be patient. He just returned for a journey, so he could take a few hours of his time to kick back and relax.

"Do you remember when you told me about your fight against Mephisto and that demons can turn humans into monsters that obey them?" Mark asked.

"How could I forget that?" Ryan asked.

"Well, they became monsters all right... we fought against some of the men who were captured by Lilith and Baal," Mark said. "However, even while the system considers them monsters, they still have human DNA... so, they still can enter dungeons, cause dungeon breaks and even obtain classes."

Ryan frowned when he heard that... that was terrible, so why he didn't see any monster many monsters on the way to the base? It was obvious, while they could cause dungeon breaks, by doing so, the humans who joined the demons would only help other species by doing that. However, by getting classes, they would increase their strength, and some classes were really troublesome...

“Those humans tried to go North and obtain the tier three classes in the Fenrir’s dungeon,” Mark said. “They failed there since many of the bosses are still there, but they didn’t fail when they tried to clear the Chupacabras’ dungeon... in the blink of an eye, they killed many of Gonzales’ friends and they cleared the dungeon. Thus, twenty-four troublesome necromancers were born.”

Yep... things became quite troublesome while Ryan was away. While he couldn’t blame himself or the others for it, he couldn’t help but sigh in disappointment. While creatures like Bolvath can summon skeletons, demons are an easy target for Ryan. Moreover, their numbers couldn’t increase that often. However, those humans didn’t have to worry about that.

“Where are they?” Ryan asked.

“They return to the demons’ world,” Mark replied. “However, occasionally, some of the humans who became slaves of the succubus appear and try to head North to obtain the classes there as well. They understand that is their best shot... they can’t hope to cross all the country and march South without being attacked by us.”

## Chapter 336

“Daniel and the others who have experience fighting the Chupacabras are currently guarding that dungeon,” John added. “We are also planning to make some of the people here become necromancers as well. To combat fire with fire.”

“I wonder if that will work,” Ryan said. “Considering that those creatures returned to the demons’ world, I assume that they are planning to strengthen that class there and return once the time is ripe. Besides, just making some people get the class isn’t enough, they need the aptitude since Necromancer looks like a pretty nasty class.”

“... That is exactly why we are having difficulties finding those who want that class,” John sighed and then said.

“While I can understand more or less the situation, I think you should change your plans,” Ryan said. “You can obtain the Demon Hunter class in Canada, that will help against the demons. As for other countermeasures, I think taking away one or two survivors of each guarded dungeon and allocating them to the demons’ dungeons will solve the issue.”

“We also thought that... but given that they don’t know when the demons will appear, the survivors are afraid that they will become weaker in comparison to others since the number of demons that can be hunted is limited,” Mark explained after a long sigh.

Ryan couldn’t say that since he was doing whatever he wanted, but humans really were some egoistical dumbasses. Apparently, they didn’t even want to take turns while guarding the demons’ dungeon... Ryan soon lost interest in the question.

“Well, if there is nothing else bothering you, I would like to ask about the things that happened here while I was away,” Ryan said.

“Aren’t you changing the subject too fast?” Anna asked. “This question isn’t solved yet.”

“I can see that you guys have been trying to solve this for the last few days, but I don’t think there is much any of you can do,” Ryan said. “Humans are starting to get relaxed again, thanks to it, their most primal instincts are coming to the surface. You can’t expect that they will follow all of your commands now that they have the power to fight the monsters.”

No one could say that Ryan was wrong. That is what happens when you give too much power to people. While they weren’t bad leaders, Mark and the others didn’t consider that giving every single person power would lead to a situation where they would become so uncooperative. Ryan imagined that something might be because of human nature, once humans get used to something good, they will eventually wish for more. Once they get accustomed to improvements, they won’t feel satisfied with the status quo.

“So, nothing aside from that happened?” Ryan asked. “That is good, I guess.”

“What do you think we should do about this, Ryan?” Cole asked.

“To solve the situation, you guys can go there and make a camp around the dungeon,” Ryan replied. “However, that will only create more problems in the future, unless you find a way for the survivors to be more cooperative, their behavior will only get worse. Still, if the worse happens, the situation will solve itself.”

“... Are you talking about if the demons managed to defeat us?” Mark asked.

“Yes, if they do that, the survivors will have some taste of despair again and they will become more cooperative, this place is yours, after all,” Ryan said.

“Are you insane?” Anna asked. “We can’t let that happen, many of us will die and the monsters around the dungeons will take over our lands again.”

“That won’t happen, the demons will hunt all the other species in order to make their dungeon reach the level max first,” Ryan said. “The real problem will start from that point onward. Demons like Lilith, Baal, Mephisto, and perhaps even the devil himself will be able to walk freely on Earth. When that happens, we all will be pretty much screwed. By the way, where is Alissa?”

“She is training with her soldiers in Canada since the population of monsters is higher there,” Mark said. “She isn’t interested in this problem.”

Figures. Ryan didn’t want to get involved either because helping them would only make the survivors get carried away more. Besides, Ryan wasn’t the firefighter of the base whose sole job was to solve their problems.

“Well, here is the data that I collected in the last few weeks,” Ryan said and then passed his notebook to Mark. “How much can you pay me for those?”

“Like I said... why do you keep trying to change the subject?” Anna got up and asked, visibly annoyed. “This isn’t a solved question yet!”

“Sorry, but it is your problem, not mine,” Ryan said. “I can’t imagine an easy way out of this mess. The shit will hit the fan eventually anyway, just prepare for it.”

“Can’t we count on you to guard the dungeon in the north, Ryan?” Cole asked.

“Nope, I already decided my next step, so I will focus on it,” Ryan replied. “If I were you, I would focus more on strengthening yourselves. That way, when the shit happens, the chances of you surviving will increase.”

“But that is...” Cole hesitated.

“We aren’t a proper government, so this was bound to happen since we didn’t create laws and similar things to keep everyone on the line,” Carter said. “He is right, Cole. We can’t expect that all things will work out in the end.”

It looked like Carter was the only cool-headed of the trio. Regardless, Ryan was determined to follow his own plans, and everyone could see that he wouldn’t change his mind. So, there was no point in continuing that conversation since they couldn’t see another solution to the problem.

In the end, Mark paid Ryan two million coins for all the information he got in the last weeks. It seemed a bit too much, but given that he found several tiers three dungeons and that he made contact with some group of survivors, Mark felt that was the right amount.

## Chapter 337

After leaving the meeting room behind, Ryan began to look for Zoe and Arthur. Fortunately, they were in the same place, so it looked like Ryan would save some time. Still, despite the fact that he checked things with them pretty often, he didn’t notice something very peculiar... Arthur had grown a bit in those three months, and now Mia and Zoe were teaching how to walk.

“What the hell...” Ryan muttered.

“Big bro!” Zoe jumped happily when she heard Ryan’s voice. “Isn’t this amazing? Arthur is only a few months old and he already can walk.”

“... How?” Ryan asked in shock.

“Apparently, all kids are growing up quite fast now,” Mia explained with a sweet smile on her face that made Ryan frown. “According to Alissa, the mana level on the planet is affecting us on that level. However, it looked like those who have mana but already are adults won’t age that fast.”

That seemed really convenient and kind of scary. Ryan didn’t notice that his body had changed that much. Regardless, Ryan didn’t know how to feel about that. While he wanted to live until he sees the day where Earth will be free of monsters again, but he didn’t want to fight for decades or centuries... that thought was even scarier.

“I also grew a few centimeters on the last months,” Zoe said proudly.

“Good for you,” Ryan said. “Anyway, did something happen in the last week with you or Arthur?”

“No, everything is the same as always,” Zoe replied. “Only the uncles and aunties seemed troubled lately.”

“By uncles and aunts are you referring to the people who work with Mark?” Ryan frowned.

“Yes,” Zoe replied.

While Ryan wasn’t fond of the idea of being called big bro by anyone, it was better than being called uncle. Regardless, Ryan wondered if he should teach Zoe the skill to summon a Warg, a beast-like that was much better than any other summoned creature, after all, but in the end, he gave up on the idea. The skill had a cooldown, so it couldn’t be used often.

“I should look for Alissa and connect her to this telepathic link,” Ryan nodded to himself. “If her brain still is working, he will take her guys to that dungeon and there some of them will learn the skill to summon wargs. A few weeks ago, Mark mentioned that they are using some sort of spell to move toward dungeons instantly, so eventually Zoe will have the chance to get that class.”

“Why are you worried about those two kids?” Femradiel asked via telepathy.

“It is none of your business,” Ryan replied. “Rather than that, did you know that mana can speed up the growth speed of living creatures?”

“I noticed, but never put much thought into it,” Femradiel replied.

Ryan sighed... it looked like even Femradiel could mess up sometimes. Regardless, now that Ryan finished his business, he could put up the next phase of his plans into action. However, when he turned around and prepared to leave, Mia stopped him.

“Wait, Ryan,” Mia said. “Don’t you want to help us teach Arthur to walk?”

“No,” Ryan replied and then left the area.

Even though Ryan’s response hadn’t been cold, it somehow hurt Mia even more than usual. It looked like he had lost all interest in her... Ryan was finally moving on, and that idea made Mia feel something cold inside her heart.

“Don’t give up, big sis,” Zoe patted Mia’s back and then smiled. “It is not like big bro is going to marry anyone anytime soon, right?”

In the end, the only thing Mia could do was to force a smile...

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While Furball was carrying Ryan toward the slimes’ dungeon, Ryan finally recalled that he didn’t ask Mark’s opinion if there was someone guarding the dungeon or if he could just clear the dungeon once and for all. However, given that it wasn’t the only slime dungeon in the world, he felt like no one would miss it.

“Wait a minute... does the slimes come from the same world?” Ryan frowned. “If they do, and I still kill every single one of them on their planet, that means that I will stop all slimes’ dungeons from working.”

“That is something that I don’t know,” Femradiel replied. “However, if that happens, aren’t you doing it to gain some intel? I am pretty sure some price has to be paid, to obtain most of the things.”

While that argument was pretty persuasive, Ryan couldn’t help but worry that his actions might cause some issues all over the world. If a dungeon stops spawning monsters, how will the survivors gain new classes? Although tier-one classes were pretty weak, they still could be the lifeline of many...

“Whatever... it is not like anyone will discover anyway,” Ryan shrugged. “I need to understand the power of the dungeon masters, so I will accept the risks.”

In the end, Ryan didn’t find anyone guarding the slimes’ dungeon... again. Survivors really got greedy as of late. Now they couldn’t care less about the small amount of coins slimes could give them. Thanks to that, Ryan had to kill many slimes in the area, and Femradiel was in a bad mood since he recovered a lot of mana while killing them thanks to Active Spiritual Regeneration. Even though the slimes reached level seventy, they posed Ryan no threat.

“Considering that you will shut down this dungeon anyway, why don’t you cause some dungeon breaks before doing it?” Femradiel asked.

“You are quite greedy, aren’t you,” Ryan frowned. “While I know the changes that the dungeon break cause in our world, I don’t know how that affects the monsters’ world, so I won’t take that risk. Rather than that, you should tell me when the amount of mana I gave you will reach the same level of coins I need to learn the skills to counter Appraisal. By the way, which are their names?”

“I only remember the simplest one,” Femradiel replied. “It is called, Mind Armor.”

## Chapter 338

Just to check, Ryan opened the Dungeon Shop and checked for the skill, but he didn’t find it... Ryan didn’t want to believe that skill like that would cost more than two million coins.

“I don’t know how this system measures the price of skills, but you shouldn’t think it will be cheap,” Femradiel said. “This skill can nullify all skills that affect your mind in the exchange of your mana. Illusion

magic, debuffs that would affect your mind such as Charm, and skills that might read the info about your or your items won't work while you keep it active."

"So, it is that useful, huh," Ryan said. "Anyway, how much more mana you will need for me to deserve that skill."

"Let me do some math here," Femradiel said. "Based on the current level of the skill, the amount of mana needed to level up the skill, the percentage in which the cost of the level up increased... you will need to kill 25.369 more slimes or wait 281 hours."

While those oddly specific numbers made Ryan frown, at least now he knew what he should do. Regardless, it looked like wait was the only option since Ryan had no intention of walking around the area while slaying slimes. He would leave that for Furball.

"All right, buddy," Ryan said. "You will hunt the ones that left the dungeon, and we will make sure no more of them will come. Try not to lick too much the slimes on the ground."

After saying that, Ryan entered the dungeon. It has been a while since he had been in that cave... although it was where his journey for power started, Ryan didn't feel a single hint of nostalgia. It has been a long while since he felt anything close to that...

While Ryan found some bosses waiting for him near the purple crystal, they didn't do anything to him. Ryan killed them before they could even think of doing anything. Now he finally could take his next step. The only problem was that Ryan didn't have any real efficient way of hunting the other world's monsters.

"Still struggling with that, huh," Femradiel said. "If it were me, I would just freeze their entire world."

"That certainly is a viable plan. Thanks for your valuable opinion," Ryan said. "I am not going to use your powers, Femradiel."

"I am just saying," Femradiel said. "You will waste a lot of time here."

Ryan sighed, and then he touched the crystal and then reappeared on the other side. For some reason, he saw himself in the middle of a desert... while he could feel the teleportation point behind him, Ryan couldn't see a single slime. Moreover, that was a pretty weird place for slimes to exist...

After transforming the sand into a pillar of earth to mark the place where he would find the teleportation point, Ryan began to fly in order to check that world. However, even after he was several kilometers above the ground, he didn't see anything aside from the desert.

"Do you still think that can freeze this entire world?" Ryan asked.

"If I have enough mana, I can't see why not," Femradiel replied.

She was a dragon, so it was only natural that Femradiel would have confidence in her powers. She froze an entire mountain when she tried to kill Ryan, after all. Regardless, Ryan had another reason not to leave the teleportation point. He certainly will get lost in that world.

After returning to the starting point, Ryan created a shelter around the teleportation point. The hot weather was starting to bother him, but in the end, he made things a little more comfortable by creating some ice arrows. After that, he began to summon skeletons and battle machines. After that, he gave the skeletons the orders to carry the battle machines... it was pretty weird to see those creatures tripping in the sand while carrying the battle machines, but at least they were pretty fast, thanks to their weight...

Skeleton – Lv 01

Health: 50/50

Mana: 50/50

Stamina: 50/50

Strength: 20

Dexterity: 20

Speed: 20

Intelligence: 20

Endurance: 20

Control: 20

Mentality: 20

Luck: 20

Recovery: 20

Willpower: 20

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills:

Passive Physical Skills:

Spells:

Support Skills:

“Boy, oh boy...” Ryan frowned when he used Appraisal on his skeletons. “They are worse than I thought.”

Fortunately, just while the skeletons’ health, mana, and stamina increase by fifty points when they level up, the other attributes increase by twenty. So, at the very least, the skill had a lot of potential.

“You are not planning to use only them to defeat all the slimes, are you?” Femradiel asked. “There is always the chance that they might miss the slimes at some point, you know.”

“It is fine. I am using them as bait anyway,” Ryan replied.

“As a bait?” Femradiel asked, apparently confused.

“Even this world has a dungeon master, right?” Ryan asked. “I want to make the dungeon master find me. Even if he is a slime, those creatures won’t ignore a new species of monster walking around in their world. Hopefully, I won’t have to defeat every single stink slime to become a dungeon master. Maybe there is a chance that I can steal the position of one.”

“I guess that makes sense,” Femradiel said. “Let’s just hope you won’t be disappointed in the end. If my guess is right, if you take their position, you won’t be able to make use of that power on Earth, only here.”

That was something Ryan had considered as well. Hopefully, Dungeon Master was something like a skill one could obtain by defeating a dungeon master in a duel. Still, there was a chance that it wasn’t a skill, but an item or relic that could be used in the said world. If that were the case, then Ryan won’t be able to avoid the hard work and will have to kill every single slime on that planet.

Chapter 339

In the end, Ryan endured doing nothing but summon skeletons for an entire week. However, as one would expect from someone who pretty much fought every single day against monsters in the last four months, Ryan got sick of it. To make things worse, he used that entire time to think of a way to eliminate all the slimes in that world, but he didn't find a better way to do it.

"Well, I guess it is time for plan B," Ryan got up and then said it while he was cleaning the dust from his clothes.

"I didn't think you have a plan B," Femradiel asked, surprised. "I am very surprised that you even managed to resist using it for so long."

"I am still trying to come up with plan B," Ryan said.

"So, that is why..." Femradiel said. "Anyway, I also underestimated this task. If you need some tips, I can offer some. Just like I can feel the concentration of mana due to the dungeons, I can also feel the concentration of mana in some places where monsters are agglomerated."

"So, you want me to fly while we look for those places using your senses, huh," Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "I guess there is no other choice..."

Ryan couldn't let his pride get in the way of such a critical mission. It was time to let Femradiel do more than drain his mana now and then in exchange for knowledge and skills... even though that was already plenty in Ryan's eyes.

Fortunately, Furball was outside, so Ryan would have some extra mana to create an earth block and give him some shadow while he flies. Although Femradiel assured him that she had memorized the place where the teleportation point was, and dragons couldn't get lost even in deserts, Ryan created a massive pillar to mark the place.

At first, Ryan tried to fly in a straight line, and since Furball wasn't with him, he managed to reach a pretty decent speed. However, that only made him frown since the desert seemed endless. Fortunately, he didn't find a single skeleton, but he could find faint traces of their footsteps. That means that they managed to cover quite a distance in just a few hours and nothing got in their way. Nothing power, at least.

“Can you feel anything?” Ryan asked.

“Just faint traces of the slimes defeated and of your skeletons,” Femradiel said.

“I need other tracking skills with a more large range,” Ryan said. “Radar and Awareness are useful, but they can only level up when the enemies find me first.”

“I can sense a pattern in the slimes movements,” Femradiel said. “It looks they are coming from the north.”

“Where is the north?” Ryan frowned. “I am not sure we can use such terms in an alien world.”

“... Go toward your three o’clock,” Femradiel said.

“What was that pause for?” Ryan asked, a bit annoyed while he changed the direction he was flying to.

“It was nothing, just let me concentrate for a while. I will try to find if there are any other changes in their traces,” Femradiel said. “Since those traces are old, I really need to focus, so don’t bother me.”

“Looks like someone is getting arrogant just because I decided to rely on you...” Ryan said and then sighed.

The more Ryan flew, the less he found traces in the sand. It was only natural since he had been at the heart of the desert, and the more he moves away from the heart, the older the traces get. Not even his good eyes could help Ryan with that.

Ryan flew in silence for several hours, and then eventually, the sun of the alien planet started to set. The insupportable heat gave place to the very annoying cold of the night. Weirdly enough, Ryan could even see some points freezing... the few points where air could condense and then turn into water.

“If I couldn’t manipulate the water of the atmosphere and then drink it, I wouldn’t know how I would survive here,” Ryan frowned. “Not a single sign of vegetation or an oasis... only this damn lifeless sand.”

It was hard to imagine how even monsters could survive in that environment. Regardless, Ryan was more interested in why there wasn't a single sign of any civilization in that place. He was just a former P.E. teacher, but Ryan was pretty sure there shouldn't exist planets with breathable air in which only had sand and nothing else. Based on his estimations, he already had crossed a distance equal to the Sahara unless Ryan chose the wrong direction. It looked like that desert had at least the double of that size.

"I am picking some mana concentration at your two o'clock," Femradial suddenly said. "There are many presences there and one very big presence."

It looked like they finally found their destination, so Ryan corrected his posture to reach the place mentioned. After one hour, Ryan's eyes finally picked something. From a distance, it looked like a sea in the middle of the desert, but after Ryan got a little closer, he confirmed that it wasn't the case... it was just a massive concentration of slimes. Some of them were leaving that area by walking while others disappeared within the air. In the center of those, Ryan found a gigantic slime.

Slime (Dungeon Master)

Health: 200.000/200.000

Mana: 200.000/200.000

Stamina: 200.000/200.000

Strength: 10.000

Dexterity: 2000

Speed: 1.000

Intelligence: 20.000

Endurance: 15.000

Control: 10.000

Mentality: 10.000

Luck: 5000

Recovery: 50.000

Willpower: 10.000

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Corrosive Touch Lv 400

Passive Physical Skills: Passive Recovery Lv 250, Active Spiritual Recovery Lv 230

Spells: Summon Slime Lv 550

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 500, Cold Resistance Lv 500, Electric Resistance Lv 500, Poison Resistance Lv 500,

That was becoming a normal occurrence as of late. Still, Ryan couldn't help but open his eyes in amazement at the sight and the status of such a creature. He thought that taking over the slimes' world would be a piece of cake, but Ryan was dead wrong.

## Chapter 340

"I can't believe I am seeing a slime that can take down several dragons alone," Femradiel said in amazement.

"While I am also surprised, I guess this makes sense," Ryan said.

"How does a slime this strong make any sense to you?" Femradiel asked.

"I imagined that dungeon masters have all kinds of benefits," Ryan said. "For example, what if a dungeon master can obtain all the experience and skills obtained by their minions? That would explain why that monster became that strong. While that is just a hypothesis, I am pretty sure dungeon masters have some kind of advantage over others."

That would explain why Baal and Lilith were so strong. However, they are monsters from legends. That probably wasn't the only explanation for their power. Regardless, Ryan could confirm that once he kills the slime, the question was: could he kill the slime?

"There is only one way to find out," Ryan said. "By using Power Shot... since I don't want to get close to that thing."

Ryan wasn't sure, but it looked like the slime was two hundred meters long and wide and probably fifty meters tall. Forget about defeating him in a direct fight. The monster probably could smash Ryan or at least suffocate him with that massive body. Even if Ryan survives all that, the chances of him surviving Corrosive Touch were pretty small.

"The stronger someone gets, the better their instincts become," Femradiel said. "If you want to destroy that monster in a single shot, you will have to get away more than a little bit."

Ryan could quickly solve the problem with Force. Still, he didn't want to run from a slime. While a full-powered Power Shot probably would solve the problem, Ryan was looking for a fight. It has been a while he felt that his life was in danger, and while he didn't enjoy the feeling, he needed to sharpen his instincts.

"Nah, let's fight that thing fair and square... to some extent," Ryan said. "I doubt that that thing will be the first dungeon master to arrive on Earth, but I need to get used to that level of the enemy."

"We? So you want my help?" Femradiel asked.

"No, that was just a manner of speaking," Ryan shook his head. "I like to win my fights alone. Besides, you would make things too easy."

"Can I at least kill the small fries to gain mana?" Femradiel asked. "You are going to keep using potions anyway to recover your mana so that the result will be the same."

"I guess that is fine..." Ryan said and then sighed. "You need to become more powerful to be able to do something once the fights you want to fight begin to show up."

Without wasting any more time, Ryan began to charge Power Shot. However, he made sure to make himself pretty relaxed. While he didn't want to finish the fight in a single shot, Ryan wanted to make use of his stealth skills and cause some extra damage.

In the end, Ryan managed to surprise the beast since he controlled his bloodthirst. After charging for five minutes, Ryan pulled the trigger, and the monster looked directly at him. The creature didn't have time to measure the strength of the attack, so Ryan's bolt caused an explosion and made the dungeon master tremble while the monsters on the way were utterly annihilated.

Instead of charging another Power Shot, Ryan used his crossbow like a machine gun, making good use of Firing Posture. It was time to see if the stacked poison could do anything against the creature. However, Ryan was forced to stop when the big slime spat several things toward him. Ryan thought those were some cannonballs, but to his surprise, they were slimes.

Ryan only had a few moments to see the creatures flying toward him, but some of them were emitting flames with their bodies, while others were freezing the air around them. Ryan dodged those, but when they hit the sand behind him, they exploded or froze all the ground around a pretty big radius.

“Didn’t you say that you would take care of the small slimes?” Ryan asked.

“Don’t talk as if you aren’t surprised by that attack as well,” Femradiel protested, and then she fired an Ice arrow to kill the fire slime and then an Electric Bullet to finish the other.

“I didn’t think you could use anything aside from ice,” Ryan frowned.

“I can, but I would rather not do it,” Femradiel said. “I only did it because you didn’t have any ice spell that would come in handy. Besides, I am using your skills right now since if I use any other, you will learn it.”

The dungeon master continued to use its mouth like a cannon, but this time before the slimes could hit anything, Femradiel fired her projectiles and stooped the monsters.

Ryan used that chance to continue his attacks, but as expected, the big boss eventually gave up when it noticed the invaders were more troublesome than they looked like.

Despite its size, the massive slime managed to jump pretty fast. Even while in midair, Ryan kept attacking, but eventually, he had to use Flash several times to escape from the impact point. He succeeded, but the slime created some arms to grab him. Ryan kept using Flash to gain some distance, but it didn’t look like the arms had a limit by how much they could grow.

“So annoying...” Ryan muttered.

Ryan hit the arms with his bolts, but he barely slowed down the monster or caused damage. All those bolts added with Power Shot’s power only decreased the monster’s health by fifteen percent.

“Well... at least now we know that he isn’t a half-assed dungeon master,” Ryan frowned. “This will last for a while, and that will only make the victory taste better.”

When the slimes' arms got too close to Ryan, he reacted instinctively and electrocuted them. Finally, the creatures flinched and slowed down a little bit.