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Chapter 381

When the sun was starting to set, Ryan had already done all of his preparations. Still, in the end, he caught himself being overly worried about the possible outcomes. He even gave some of his potions to Natasha, but in the end, he also lent his spatial ring that was completely filled with them. Why? Because Ryan wouldn't need any potions...

"All right, buddy," Ryan said to Furball. "Your job is to keep attacking the monsters from a safe distance. You will be carrying someone else on your back, so try to be gentle. Also, don't bite her unless she is a lost cause."

Natasha frowned when she heard that. If it was a joke, it wasn't funny, and Ryan didn't smile or laugh either. In any case, she was thankful for the fact that she would move on Furball's back. He was fast and sturdy, so he was a perfect watch... wolf.

"On Furball's back, you will be able to use Firing Posture," Ryan said. "Don't start attacking until you hear any noise or movement from the monster's side."

"Are you sure this is a good idea?" Natasha said while pointing at the spatial ring. "You might be overestimating your abilities. To protect a crazy bitch like her, anyone will need all the help they can get."

"I prepared a plan B, and that isn't something I would like to show to your friend," Ryan said.

"Anyway, don't cause problems to Furball. Unless you want to get bitten."

After a while, Irina finally showed herself, and much to Ryan's surprise, her bodyguards, would stay behind again. Ryan couldn't understand why she would travel around with those guys to the battlefield when they were utterly useless. Despite the fact that she was going to face an army of hundreds of thousands with only two others on her side, Irina looked confident as always.

“Let’s go,” Irina said.

Although she took the lead, Irina had to wait for Ryan to make them levitate. Since they were several kilometers away from the dungeon, they had to fly for a while but eventually arrived in the area exactly two kilometers above from the bosses. Irina couldn’t see them due to the distance and the darkness of the night, though.

“I can’t see them from here, we will have to get closer,” Irina said.

“If we do that, they will notice us,” Ryan said. “Don’t worry I will drop you right in above one of them. All you have to do is wait and use Concentrated Strike.”

“You are not here to give me orders,” Irina said.

Ryan was starting to consider letting Irina fall and not cover for her since she was an annoying bitch. Now that he thought about it, despite everything, she was quite stupid. After all, she was under Ryan’s mercy, and still, she didn’t change her behavior.

After taking some deep breaths, Ryan decided to put his plans into action. Killing more than two or three bosses in that situation before they get closer was impossible, but decreasing their numbers wasn’t the only thing Ryan could do to make the fight easier. Ryan took out several of the magic weapons he created in the last few days to level up his skills and then made them spin. After that, he activated Perfect Aim and fired them in the direction of the boss’s eyes. In a single instant, Ryan blinded six of them. Although he wished that he could have attacked like that five more times, Ryan only successfully managed to blind the other six bosses. The others found him and Irina and began to fly toward them. However, they were forced to stop because that area began to tremble... thousands of golems were marching toward the army of monsters.

“Good... it is working,” Ryan smiled when he saw his mana being recovered at insane speeds.

Ryan grabbed his two crossbows and also made two magic bows that were copies of the heavy crossbows and made dozens of bolts rain over the bosses that were hesitating.

“Hey, that wasn’t part of the plan,” Irina protested.

“It was, this is the only way to prevent you from being surrounded by those freaks,” Ryan said.

Ryan tried to slow down the bosses as much as possible, but in the end, after just a couple of seconds, those gigantic flies were already close to them. Femradiel controlling Irina made her fly toward the monsters, and even before those creatures could do anything to attack her, she appeared close to one of them and attacked the monster’s eyes. At least she was smart enough to understand that blinding the enemies was something absolutely necessary.

The bosses tried to surround her since they couldn’t use their spells while they were so close to each other, but Ryan made sure to pierce them with the short spears he had prepared beforehand to use as projectiles.

Anesthetic Short Spear (Curse) (+4)

Effect: Decreases by ten points during five seconds all of the attributes of your foes.

Strength + 42, Speed + 28

Durability: 60/60

Ryan managed to blind two other bosses, but the others noticed the attack and escaped. Much to Ryan’s surprise, the blinded bosses decided to retreat. They probably will be able to regenerate their damaged eyes, but Ryan at least managed to buy some minutes.

While the monsters’ attention was on Ryan again, Femradiel made Irina move around the monsters at incredible speeds. Ryan was pretty sure that she was using her own powers instead of relying on Ryan’s status, but it wasn’t time to complain. Suddenly, the bosses opened their mouths, and they made dozens of small flies fly toward Irina. Ryan attacked them, but some still escaped... their numbers were just too high.

Instead of flying in circles, Femradiel suddenly changed Irina’s trajectory and made her fly around all directions. Trying to predict where she would go next was impossible, which made her escape from the flies. However, that came with a price...

“You are going too far...” Irina complained while her face was blue due to dizziness.

Class: Hunter Lv 74 (+ 02 UP / Elementalist Lv 55 / Monk Lv 16 (-)

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

Rank: 132th

Health: 1529/1529 (4,11/s)

Mana: 2376/2376 (4,11/s)

Stamina: 2271/2271 (4,11/s)

Strength: 31 (+166) (+130)

Dexterity: 2450 (+1725) (+95)

Speed: 140 (+813) (+48)

Intelligence: 81 (+662) (+33)

Endurance: 28 (+131) (+160)

Control: 06 (+889) (+10)

Mentality: 08 (+46) (+70)

Luck: 74 (+20)

Recovery: 1000 (+1167) (+360)

Willpower: 30 (+46) (+40)

Coins: 27.055.441

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Spiritual Attack Lv 06, Sonic Blade Lv 01,

Passive Physical Skills: Eagle Eyes Lv 72 (+ 02 UP), Concentration Lv 72 (+ 02 UP), Archery Lv 72 (+ 02 UP), Accuracy Lv 72 (+ 02 UP), Stealth Lv 61 (+ 04 UP), Alchemy Lv 16 (+ 05 UP), Auto-Medication Lv 15 (+ 05 UP), Motivation Lv 01, Skill Camouflage Lv 01,

Spells: Potion Creation Lv 15 (+ 07 UP), Hunt Lv 07 (+ 06 UP), Silent Attack Lv 01, Silent Movement Lv 01,

Support Skills: Curse Resistance Lv 08 (+ 07 UP), Spiritual Resistance Lv 04 (+ 03 UP), Fatigue Resistance Lv 04 (+ 03 UP),

Classes:

Combat: Beastmaster Lv 39 (+ 02 UP), Archer Lv 66 (+ 02 UP), Combat Archer Lv 61 (+ 02 UP), Sentinel Lv 17 (+ 03 UP), Demon Hunter Lv 18 (+ 03 UP), Dark Slayer Lv 04 (+ 03 UP), Silent Killer Lv 04 (+ 03 UP),

Non-Combatant: Whitesmith Lv 16 (+ 02 UP), Alchemist Lv 13 (+ 06 UP)

Race: Centaur, Lesser Dragon

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Irina was smart enough to charge Concentrated Strike while Femradiel made her move around, so when the first chance finally appeared. Irina managed to pierce both eyes of another boss and cause massive damage. A lot of viscous liquid that was the blood and bodily fluids of the monster splashed on her, and she ended up throwing up... but Ryan considered that a low price for almost killing the boss. Ryan focused all his attacks on that monster for a few seconds, and they finally managed to kill the first boss.

You obtained 651.369 coins.

That was a lot more coins than Ryan had expected... Regardless, those thoughts disappeared when the monsters finally realized that chasing Irina was useless and that Ryan was controlling her. They didn't move from their position; they only opened their mouth toward him, and then Ryan saw several of those Poisonous catastrophes appear.

"Shit..." Ryan said while he was sweating cold.

The angle was bad, if they fire at the same time, the attacks will cover Ryan's field of vision, and he wouldn't be able to use Flash. Moreover, the monsters were smart enough to wait in order to gain time and make Ryan even more nervous. Irina managed to attack one of them from behind and stop the monster, but Ryan still had to worry about fourteen other bosses.

Ryan couldn't risk letting those attacks get close to Natasha and Furball. They would decimate everything in a massive area. So, Ryan decided to fly even higher in the sky. However, he never showed his back to the monsters, and he still managed to keep attacking with his crossbows and magic bows.

At the end, not only the bosses fired their spells at the same time, they even made the massive spheres of deadly liquid join together and create a seemingly unavoidable gigantic spell. Ryan tried to escape with his increased speed and Flash, but the bosses even managed to control the sphere and make it change directions when he did it.

Ryan bit his lips in annoyance since he didn't have any other choice... and then he turned around while he was escaping and used Power of Money like there was no tomorrow. In the end, the skill reached level where it could even cause damage to something as massive as that. Ryan didn't manage to make the sphere of death to explode, but at least he opened a path through the liquid... Still, the smell alone made Ryan lose health while he was passing through it. At the same time, his nose and ears started to bleed.

When Ryan reappeared, even Irina showed a look of surprise. She thought that Ryan wouldn't be able to avoid such an attack. The bosses weren't much better. While they didn't talk, they were smart enough to understand that Ryan did something far beyond their wildest imaginations.

While the monsters were in shock, Ryan bombarded the same monster Irina was attacking, and eventually, another boss fell. They were making some progress, but they still had a long way ahead of them.

"This is taking too long..." Ryan muttered, annoyed.

"Let me offer a solution to the situation," Femradiel said.

"As long as it doesn't require me transforming into a dragon, I will accept any idea," Ryan said.

In the end, Femradiel stayed quiet, and Ryan sighed. While Ryan already threw away his pride in order to save his own life when he used Power of Money, things were relatively well in his head. As long as he isn't forced to use it to defeat monsters, that was barely acceptable.

Long-ranged attacks weren't the best solution, so the bosses decided to use their sharp claws. The moonlight made those look particularly sharp while glinting, so Ryan couldn't help but gulp. Ryan immediately made his magic weapons that were on his back spin around him. It was time to let things become a little more personal.

While Irina was flying around attacking one monster at a time, Ryan was trying to escape from the boss's relentless attacks flying throughout the darkness of the night. When they got close enough, they tried to split him in half, but Ryan blocked the attack by using his magic weapons. At the same time, he tried to blind the monsters by attacking their eyes with dozens of bolts being fired every second, but the

monsters were smart enough to leave one or two of their claws free to block those. That was getting annoying, so Ryan decided to use a new trick to surprise those beasts.

Ryan equipped his Flame Sword and then smirked before firing a barrage of Sonic Blades. The creature he attacked tried to use all of its claws to block the attacks, but those easily broke before the might of that skill... in the end, three of those hit the monster's head, making it pierce all the way to its brain.

You obtained 841.362 coins.

“Holy shit... how come a level one skill can be so powerful?” Ryan muttered in shock.

“It is all thanks to your high dexterity and mildly high intelligence,” Femradial said. “Not to mention, the cost of the skill... you underestimated its potential.”

Despite that amazing discovery, Ryan clicked his tongue in annoyance... he didn't think he would need much stamina to win that fight, so he only prepared mana potions. While he could use magic to restore it, it wasn't that fast. Besides, he doubted that the monsters would fall for the same trick twice.

The bosses slowed down on the chase and gained some distance over Ryan, and while he bombarded them with bolts, they focused on defense. All of his bolts had been deflected.

“Is that all you can do?” Irina asked while smiling confidently after she finally killed one of the bosses by herself.

“... Femradial, let her fall for a while,” Ryan said.

Only a few minutes had passed since the start of the fight, and they managed to kill some bosses. That was a lot of progress, but much to Ryan's annoyance, the bosses that he had blinded earlier were approaching, and they weren't blind anymore.

Ryan clicked his tongue in annoyance, but in the end, he quickly recovered from the unpleasant surprise. It was time to change his plans. Fortunately, he had some new ideas. There was nothing like the crazy reality of the battlefield to refresh one's mind.

"Femradial, you can be a little rougher with Irina," Ryan said.

"I don't know what are you talking about," Femradial said.

"Make her spin like I do with my weapons, that will be increasing the piercing power of her attacks," Ryan explained. "Even if she falls unconscious, her stats still will apply to the attacks. So, you can treat her like one of my weapons. However, try to be a bit less obvious with your attacks, try to attack the wings of the bosses whenever possible, that should work better than trying to blind them."

Ryan had been playing safely until now since he didn't actually know how much mana he was recovering thanks to his golems, but since they won't last forever, it was only natural that it was time to take some chances.

Activating Deadly Aim, Ryan began to relentlessly attack all the monsters. Even though he wasn't focusing on a single one of them, the attacks caused critical damage and made huge chunks of the monster's body to fly around. At the same time, Femradial finally made Irina spin at a speed that she felt satisfied. She made her fly around like a very annoying fly that could easily cause high amounts of damage. When some bosses tried to block her charge, they even lost their claws. Things were going well, but as expected, Ryan noticed that using Deadly Aim with every single of his attacks was too much... his mana was finally decreasing.

"Shit... why does something troublesome always happen when things start to go well?" Ryan clicked his tongue.

Ryan didn't have any other real plan per se, but he decided to stick with what was working, and so far, surprising the monsters with new attacks surprised quite well. While it was annoying to use that kind of skill, Ryan decided to compromise due to the situation.

"Femradial, attack when you see fit," Ryan said.

“What are you talking about? I am already doing that,” Femradiel said.

Ryan suddenly opened his mouth, and then a massive torrent of cold wind flew toward the nearest boss. The monster tried to block the attack imagining that it was one of Ryan’s ordinary skills, but in the end, the beast failed. Ice Breath completely froze the arms of the monster and a good part of its face. Femradiel noticed what Ryan meant earlier and quickly attacked that monster’s head and completely annihilated the defenseless monster.

You obtained 741.653 coins.

That was good way to attack, but in the end, the bosses retreated even more. Ryan’s strength was at a long-distance, but the monster understood that he was no pushover at middle and close range.

“I am reading the thoughts of this girl and while she is barely conscious, she is planning to make you pay for this,” Femradiel said.

“Ignore her,” Ryan said. “Letting her attack alone is a waste of time and mana.”

Since the bosses increased the distance between them and Ryan even more, Ice Breath wouldn’t be as nearly as effective. So, Ryan needed to surprise the monsters with something different. However, before he could come up with anything, the monsters opened their mouths, and that green sphere of death appeared.

“Not again...” Ryan sighed.

Ryan immediately flew upward, but then he had another idea. He turned around and activated Plagiarism. He stopped using Telekinesis for a second, but in the end, while he was falling, he fired several of low-level Poisonous Catastrophe at the monsters.

You plagiarized Poisonous Catastrophe level 20.

Effect: It grants you the power to charge an attack that has the effects of poison and acid. Causing damage equal to your intelligence multiplied by ten percent for 0.1 seconds of charge.

You can charge the attack for 2.0 seconds.

While Ryan didn't cause much damage, but he at least stopped half of the monsters from attacking him with a barrage of those annoying spells. Soon after, Ryan reactivated Telekinesis and lost the ability to use Poisonous Catastrophe. Some of the bosses were agonizing with the poison in acid in their mouths, while others decided to stop their charge and kill Ryan as fast as possible.

Ryan resumed his escape, but he decided to block the magic projectiles with his shield this time. Since the attacks had been far weaker than the first wave, Ryan managed to block them, but his shield almost melted several times, and, in a hurry, he had to repair them. When Ryan finally obtained some seconds to breathe, he saw the bosses slightly trembling due to his shield's reflective power.

Irina, while being controlled by Ryan, attacked the stunned monsters. The speed was so intense and effective that Ryan even considered attacking like that with his Chaos Axe. However, that kind of strategy only worked when someone like Ryan could cover for Irina, so he discarded that idea. Another boss fell down thanks to Irina and Femradial's relentless attacks, but it looked like things were about to become troublesome.

"I am sensing the approach of an unknown army coming from the south," Femradial said.

Ryan looked in that direction, but he didn't find anything. It looked like some unexpected guests decided to join the fight, and Ryan didn't like their timing. Coming from that direction... it couldn't be Irina's soldiers; it was too soon for them to show up.

"Shit, why now of all times..." Ryan muttered in annoyance.

No matter what happens, Ryan couldn't get caught between two armies. That would be beyond disastrous... and unfortunately, it looked like they will have to retreat completely. However, before he could decide that, Femradial interrupted him.

"It looks like someone from that army is trying to communicate with this woman," Femradial said. "I can't read the message since she is unconscious."

Ryan gave the order for Femradiel to stop, and then they slowly moved away from the monsters while he kept them in check by firing bolts occasionally alongside Deadly Aim. They had to be fast because eventually, the beast would understand that Ryan was trying to stall for time

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Irina woke up when Ryan used Purification on her. Strangely enough, that spell even can dispel the effects of dizziness... she tried to attack him, but she quickly stopped and then showed an expression full of annoyance.

“Shit... he noticed much earlier than I expected,” Irina said.

“Who is talking with you?” Ryan asked. “The guy who is bringing an army? Is he a friend of yours?”

“He is an annoying piece of shit... but I guess he is on our side,” Irina said. “Let’s retreat and meet with him. Or we might get caught in his pawns attacks.”

That seemed like the best thing they could do, so Ryan fired a few Sonic Blades and fired some bolts with his Heavy Crossbow. In the end, since all of them were wounded, the bosses decided to take that chance to recover. They lost some allies, but they gained a deal of knowledge about the things that Ryan could do... next time, they won’t suffer so many losses.

Natasha frowned when she saw Ryan and Irina retreating. Unlike them, she

had a pretty good time hunting the demons, so her skills leveled up like crazy, and she loved that. But then her expression changed when she heard about the news.

“Coming from the South... is that Victor?” Natasha asked.

“Of course, it is, your stupid wench,” Irina said, annoyed. “A dungeon like this can’t appear out of nowhere and exist without the knowledge of those who live nearby. While I kept the existence of this place a secret, that asshole probably has some spies in my camp that informed him of the dungeon. I

thought it would take a week for the information that I would try to clear the dungeon to reach him, but I was wrong.”

Ryan finally understood everything. While Irina was unreasonable in trying to clear the dungeon in a week, she had a good reason for that... more or less. She wanted to obtain full control over that dungeon, but if Victor joins the fight, that won't be possible.

After running away from the monsters for a few minutes, Ryan and the others finally met the army that Femradial had mentioned. There were only one hundred or so people in there, but those guys looked pretty tough looking. Not to mention, the leader seemed leagues above the others. It was a green-eyed dude who had light brown hair and a great physique. While his army had male and female soldiers wearing full plate armor, the only gear that he had was a pair of silver boots and gauntlets that made Ryan remember a dragon with the gravures in it.

Boris (Indri)

Class: Monk Lv 80 / Brawler Lv 70 / Champion Lv 68 (-)

Race: Lesser Dragon/-/ —

Rank: 75th

Health: 2425 (+80.000)

Mana: 2121 (+80.000)

Stamina: 2396 (+80.000)

Strength: 1250 (+8000)

Dexterity: 150 (+8000)

Speed: 1550 (+8000)

Intelligence: 81 (+8000)

Endurance: 1000 (+8000)

Control: 50 (+8000)

Mentality: 250 (+8000)

Luck: 70 (+8000)

Recovery: 1000 (+8000)

Willpower: 250 (+8000)

Coins: 2.099.452

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Skills: Bash Lv 80, Concentrated Strike Lv 80

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Speed Lv 70, Improved Strength Lv 70

Spells: Acid Lance Lv 150

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 200, Cold Resistance Lv 200, Electric Resistance Lv 200, Poison Resistance Lv 200,

Ryan couldn't help but frown while looking at that guy... he was even stronger than Alissa. That was insane... in any case, he didn't know if his frown or something else made Victor angry, but he was glaring at him. He said something in Russian, and he looked pretty displeased, but as usual, Ryan didn't understand anything.

"What is this foreigner dog doing in my country?" Victor asked.

"Don't start, Victor," Natasha said. "He has been helping us for the past few days, you who only arrived now have no rights to complain about who is fighting with us or not."

"I have all the rights to contest your incompetence," Victor said. "Have you no shame on relying on a man from another world country to do your job?"

"So, you even put spies on my camp as well," Natasha furrowed her eyebrows. "You are the shameless one here, keeping an eye on your allies and refusing to help when they need a hand."

"Ryan, this guy is..." Femradial said, but then she was stopped.

Victor turned into a blur, and the next time Ryan saw his body completely, he was preparing to punch Natasha. Ryan pulled her back with Telekinesis and, at the same time, slowed Victor down with the same skill. His mana quickly dropped to dangerous levels, but he managed to stop his attack entirely.

"... bad news," Femradial continued.

The one hundred or so soldiers behind Victor pointed their weapons toward Ryan, but they didn't dare to attack someone who managed to stop an attack from their leader.

"You are going to pay for this," Victor said.

“Oh yeah? Are you going to call your big bro? The dragon inside you?” Ryan asked. “Don’t cry too much in front of him, otherwise he might get disappointed.”

“Stop,” Natasha said. “Are you going to embarrass yourself even further in front of your subordinates, Victor? You have fallen so low to the point where the first thing you think of doing to those who disagree with you is attack them. You are a real embarrassment for all the survivors of our country.”

“... It looks like you really have a death wish,” Victor said.

Meanwhile, Irina was watching the whole exchange as if she was having the time of her life. She really wanted to see Victor getting what he deserved, but even so, she wasn’t putting much faith in Ryan or Natasha’s victory if a fight breaks out.

“Our agreement was not to get on each other’s way,” Natasha said. “If you can’t keep your word, then you deserve the respect of your subordinates. If you aren’t here to help, then leave. Once the dungeon is cleared, we can solve this issue. The safety of our people is our only goal.”

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In the end, Natasha convinced Victor to back down on the matter, at least for the time being. Ryan had no idea what they agreed beforehand, but since Irina was the one who started the mission, she still was the one who would give the calls. At least when it comes when they should attack, and they should retreat.

“We will attack tomorrow at noon,” Irina declared. “We have the numbers to succeed in a frontal attack, but I am still tired thanks to a fucking someone... and you guys are also tired since you worried to arrive on time.”

“We can fight right now,” Victor declared.

“That is my decision, if you don’t like it, you can leave and try later in case I fail,” Irina said and then turned around and headed to her tent.

“I will remember that,” Victor said.

“You sure like those words, don’t you?” Irina shrugged.

Victor gave the order for his men to set up a camp on their own, and they quickly accomplished that task. Meanwhile, Ryan and Natasha were resting in the open air and in front of a campfire. That was a first for Ryan... to fail in a fight and still have the chance to keep his head in its rightful place.

“Thanks for before, but you shouldn’t do that again,” Natasha said. “Victor only did that to scare me, he wouldn’t dare to attack me.”

“Duly noted,” Ryan said.

“Victor was once my boyfriend, so you can rest assured that what I am telling is the truth,” Natasha said.

“That was something I didn’t need to hear,” Ryan said while recalling the events of the battle. “Anyway, give me the spatial ring and let’s see how much damage you caused to my stock of potions.”

The fight against demons was lasting for quite a while compared to the others. Despite that, Natasha didn’t use even twenty percent of Ryan’s stock. As expected, Active Spiritual Recovery helped quite a bit. In any case, Ryan had a feeling that the situation will be solved tomorrow. Victor was strong, and despite the fact that he didn’t look like someone who relied on strategy, they passed that much confidence.

“What do you think of the next battle?” Ryan asked.

“Honestly, I don’t think we will have to worry,” Natasha said. “While Victor didn’t choose the medusa’s dungeon to guard, he chose an area almost equally difficult that had many dungeons to guard. Everything to obtain more power and train his subordinates. In just a few months, they cleared thirty or so dungeons.”

That was a lot, considering that he stayed in a single region. From a certain perspective, Victor accomplished even more than Ryan, even though he was dumber than him. In any case, Ryan decided to

make spare short lances since he didn't recover the ones he used to blind the bosses. However, Natasha was fidgeting for some reason, and what was preventing him from concentrating.

"What?" Ryan asked.

"I need a favor to ask," Natasha didn't let that chance go to waste. "I want to learn how to summon a Warg. It was pretty awesome to fight alongside Furball and I want an ally like him."

While Ryan imagined that something like that was bound to happen, he couldn't help but sigh. Still, for some odd reason, Ryan felt that he should give Natasha a hand with that. It looked like his male instincts of helping a pretty girl whenever possible still were alive. That or the fact that Natasha didn't stay quiet when Victor was about to dash at him for no real reason.

"Well... let's see if we can find some tricks with the Teacher class," Ryan shrugged. "Still, you will have to feed your Warg for quite a while before he can do anything against monsters."

Ryan spent the night trying to find a hole in the Teacher class, and fortunately, he found one. It was a lot more time-consuming, but he could teach his students some skills even while not casting them. To save mana, he could make a Fireball fly around him, and his students would slowly learn the spell. The same thing could be applied to Furball. Ryan just had to give him orders constantly. In any case, based on what Natasha mentioned about the learning bar, it would take a little more than four days for her to learn the skill.

After sunrise, even though they still had a battle ahead of them, Natasha decided to negotiate with Victor about the use of his tier three dungeon, and his position became clear from the very beginning.

"You and your soldiers can come and use it whenever you want now that you proved yourselves able to clear a level three dungeon," Victor replied. "However, no foreigner will obtain a class in my dungeon."

"If you decide to be unreasonable, I won't let you use my dungeon either," Natasha said. "Why don't you grow up a little? While you were playing your conspiracies games, Ryan helped me a lot and I decided to repay the favor. He is even helping Irina, who is a crazy bitch. He paid her and even let her get the drops, he is willing to do the same with you, but it looks like you are too stupid to realize that this is a good chance."

Ryan felt his back getting itchy since it was weird to be praised like that by someone who he only met a few days ago. Still, he was actually hoping that Victor would keep saying no. Why? Because he was looking for an excuse to cause problems for that asshole, he just needed a few more excuses, and Ryan won't feel even a little bit guilty when he causes some dungeon breaks on Victor's territory. Once he does that, invading his camp and entering the camp will be a lot smoother, Ryan would only need a couple of hours for that, and a few dungeon breaks will truly help him with that.

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Natasha tried to convince Victor for quite a while, but in the end, she gave up because it was the same as talking with a door. A door that could walk and punch you when it gets angry.

"Sorry, but it looks like we will have to improvise," Natasha said. "If you try to sell to him some equipment, then perhaps..."

"I have no intention of making business with assholes," Ryan said. "Regardless, this is not really a problem, there are many other ways in which I can get what I want."

"... Without causing problems for the people of my country?" Natasha hesitated to ask.

"I am not that considerate, the best I can do is reach my goals without causing casualties," Ryan replied. "I can't cross some lines to reach my own goals, but I can't naively think that I can solve problems without breaking a few bones of those that might stand in my way."

Natasha imagined that Ryan would, no matter what, clear the tier three dungeon under Victor's control. She felt like she had to help him, but her options were limited, and Ryan wasn't someone patient either. In the end, the time for the next fight has come, and she failed at thinking of a new solution.

"Let's get going," Irina declared.

As expected, Irina decided not to use any plan. While that seemed idiotic, Ryan decided to wait and see. Some of his golems managed to escape from the fight last night, so they were waiting for Ryan's

commands, and he will use them to massacre the demons. In the end, when the demons appeared in their field of vision, Irina just did one thing.

“Attack!” Irina raised her sword and shouted.

Like an army of brain-dead crazy demons, Victor’s army, led by him, charged toward the monsters. They even weren’t orderly with their charge... there was no formation as if they trained as individuals and not as a proper army. It was such a waste of momentum... but at the very least, there was no hesitation coming from them.

“Repeat what you did yesterday,” Ryan told Natasha, and then he began to levitate.

Natasha nodded, so Furball and her dashed to attack the monsters from their sidelines. Ryan might not have another chance to. He also gave the order for his golems to return... they just needed a few minutes. He began to attacks with his crossbows, but his concentration broke since Irina was still behind. Her eyes were stuck on Victor while her sword was in her hands. She wanted to see him fight before she joins the battle.

When Victor started to kill the demons, he looked like a hot-knife cutting butter while he attacked the monster. There was no resistance, and whenever he selected a target, he would disappear from a moment, and the demon would be split in half in the next half a second. Even in his humanoid form, he was essentially stronger than Ryan. No wonder his rank was so high...

“... Fucking bastard, he increased the distance even more,” Irina clicked her tongue and then said.

It looked like Irina hoped that the distance in terms of raw power between her and Victor had decreased, but she was dead wrong. Victor was still stronger, and he could become at least eight times stronger by turning into a dragon... Despite that, she quickly joined the fight.

The human army was unstoppable. Even though their status began to decrease due to the pollen, they didn’t even try to retreat. Ryan tried to kill as many wasps as possible on their path to decrease the debuff effects, but in the end, he also had to move forward because the monsters were chasing Victor and moving away from his range.

Coming from the North, the golems that Ryan had created joined the fight, and once again, Ryan's mana began to be recovered at insane speeds. After summoning two magic bows, his attack speed doubled, and dozens of monsters fell by his hand every second. To the point where even Victor couldn't help but stop and look at Ryan's direction.

"Don't stare at me dumbass, they are coming," Ryan frowned when he saw the bosses flying toward Victor and his soldiers.

While making bolts rain over them, Ryan also used his short lances and made them spin to blind those fuckers again. However, before he could do anything, Ryan saw Victor jumping toward one of them. The monster prepared a short Poisonous Catastrophe, but before it could fire it, Victor disappeared. In the next moment, he reappeared behind the beast, and then the boss was split in half...

"How the heck can he do that when his weapons are gauntlets and boots?" Ryan frowned.

"If you move supersonic speeds, even blunt damage can split an enemy in half," Femradiel explained. "However, I think he is actually using some sort of spell to make his attacks sharper. Even though his weapons have that shape, he can still cover them with mana and give the shape of a blade."

That explanation seemed a bit weird, but despite that, it also seemed strangely accurate. Victor selected another target, and at the same time, his soldiers jumped to attack the other bosses. While some of them even failed at reaching the bosses, most of them managed to land a hit, and each other's attacks caused massive damage. In the end, the soldiers alone killed three bosses in less than a minute.

"Just what the hell..." Ryan muttered in shock.

Ryan didn't stop his attacks, but at that point in time, he focused on attacking the mobs since he could end up hitting Victor's soldiers due to the fact that their coordination sucked. Regardless, Ryan was having a hard time watching that army of humans. They were insanely strong despite their many weaknesses as a group. But to think that they could defeat those bosses so easily... in the end, the bosses didn't last even five seconds.

After coming this far, believing that working with many others would only slow him down, Ryan was forced to ponder if his assumptions weren't incorrect. Victor forced him to do that. He was stronger than him, even without the draconic powers and his soldiers were quite strong as well. Maybe only a

group of three could take down a dragon... and they were completely loyal to Victor. Perhaps the problem wasn't the lack of trust that Ryan had in others. Maybe the problem was Ryan himself...

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In the end, the battle that Ryan thought it would last until the following day ended before sunset. Some wasps and cocoons could be found here and there, but essentially, they couldn't do anything alone. Ryan couldn't do anything aside from accepting the might of Victor and his army.

"He got much stronger than before..." Natasha said, visibly impressed. "While I don't like his attitude, it is thanks to him that we finished this much earlier than we anticipated."

"I guess so," Ryan said while he was looking at Victor's soldiers gathering the loot.

Ryan didn't find anything worthwhile being dropped, so he wasn't interested in the spoils of war. He was interested in getting his next class and then moved on. That whole situation put several doubts on his mind, and the only thing he could do to get rid of them was to move on.

"Hey, Victor!" Irina shouted. "Let's go already, I am tired of waiting. Not everyone here will be able to get a class, so you should leave those who won't get a class to organize the loot. Select twenty of your men to come with us."

"Twenty-one," Victor said.

"Don't even start," Irina said. "While I feel like punching this guy as well, I already gave him my word that he would get a class here. Unlike you and the others, you aren't fighting since the very beginning. You should be thankful that I am letting you guys go first instead of my bodyguards."

Victor couldn't say anything after that. It looked like him trying to push his will on others was a common occurrence, but Natasha and Irina rarely let him control them. They weren't strong as him, but they were leaders of their own camps, after all.

In the end, they headed toward the dungeon while some soldiers stayed behind for the cleaning. While Furball could get some good status points by eating those monsters, Ryan didn't trust those guys. It was better to take him along. Some wasps still spawned and tried to block their way, but obviously, they failed miserably.

The interior of the dungeon was a bit weird. Unlike the others, that one was almost completely dark. Some soldiers illuminated the place with magic, but even so, the effects of those spells were strangely weak...

"The demons did this in the past?" Natasha asked.

"No," Ryan replied.

Despite that, Ryan wasn't nervous since his Corruption Sense wasn't alerting him. At the end of the dungeon, they also only found the purple crystal and the treasure chest. As if it was only obvious, Irina was the first one to get her class followed by Victor and Irina. Then it was finally Ryan's turn.

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: Blade Master, Gunner, and High Mage.

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.

Ryan has been lucky once again despite his mood. He had the option of three new classes, even though, once again, he didn't want to stray from the path that he had chosen. Regardless, it was a good chance to learn more things about other classes. The question was who he should ask those questions. Aside from Natasha, pretty much everyone there disliked him quite a bit.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Gunner!

You obtained the following skills: Mana Cannon, Mana Missiles, and Fire Cannon.

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

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Mana Cannon.

Effect: It grants you the power to fire a high concentrated attack of pure mana that can cause damage equal to your intelligence plus your dexterity per second.

Cost: 100 mana per second

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Mana Missiles.

Effect: It grants you the power to select several targets and fire homing missiles that will pursue them, causing damage equal to ten percent of your dexterity plus your intelligence.

Number of targets added by each level up: 05

Cost: 20 mana per missile

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Fire Cannon.

Effect: The fire elemental version of Mana Cannon. The added damage is equal to the previous skill plus ten percent for every level up.

Cost: 130 mana per second.

You obtained 01 status point.

Ryan frowned when he saw the skills. That class was a mix of magic and physical long-ranged attacks. Not only that, the bonus of status was slightly different... That was the first time something like that happened. Regardless, while some of those skills didn't fit his combat style, they would be useful to surprise his foes. Ryan discovered that such a thing was quite necessary recently.

"Onto the next step," Natasha said when Ryan left the treasure chest.

"Which is?" Ryan frowned.

"Try to convince Victor of letting us use his dungeon," Natasha replied.

"Don't concern yourself with that, I will find another way to solve the issue," Ryan said. "Let's just focus on making you learn Summon Warg as fast as possible."

"I can't, it will be troublesome for me if you cause problems to my fellow Russians," Natasha said. "Besides, I don't like to feel indebted to others and until now, I have the feeling that my debt has been only increasing."

Ryan was too tired to argue with Natasha, so he let her think that he needed her help to find a way to clear the last tier-three dungeon of her country. In any case, Ryan wanted to train his new skills and gain some status points. However, using them in front of Victor, Irina, and their groupies wasn't a good idea.

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In the end, Natasha convinced Ryan to accompany Victor and the others who would return to their base. For the time being, six of Victor's subordinates will stay behind to guard the dungeon, and they will take turns with Irina's people. As for Irina, she was going to return to her city since she had no business with Victor.

"Let's hope this won't be a massive waste of time," Ryan said. "Or worse, let's hope that they won't attack me once we arrive there."

“You can relax, Victor is a nationalist that respects strength above all else,” Natasha said.

“While you don’t belong to his army, you also fought alongside his men to defeat some monsters that were threatening our country. So, at the very least, he won’t attack you without a good reason.”

Victor’s sense of values was weird, but Ryan decided to trust Natasha on the matter. Ryan traveled on Furball’s back the whole time, so he got the attention of many soldiers. They even frowned since he constantly made Furball do backflips and play dead. Making him use magic would speed Natasha’s learning process even more, but Ryan didn’t have any reason to make himself look even more suspicious.

Regardless, since he had some free time, Ryan decided to check the dungeon shop. He broke his record of coins in his wallet. While that was good, money was only useful when it could be used. Much to Ryan’s surprise, he finally had the chance to buy something he really had been waiting for.

Space Manipulation tome

Effect: it gives you the power to manipulate space up to a certain extent. The more you level up this skill, the more things you will be able to do later on. Currently, you can connect reality to a space in your head where you can store a certain number of items.

Price: 35.000.000

For some reason, the skill didn’t have a cost in mana, and there wasn’t a specification as to how many things Ryan could store in there. Still, he didn’t hesitate in buying the tome since it looked, he could do other things aside from storing things in another dimension and greatly interested him.

After using the tome, Ryan learned that the skill only had a cost when he created a space in his mind to store the things. Also, to keep that space connected to reality, he had to spend one point of mana per second. It wasn’t that bad. The only problem was that Ryan couldn’t have two of those spaces, nor could he increase the size of it after its creation. He could destroy one then make another, though.

Ryan used all his mana and managed to create a space that had the shape of a cube that was thirteen meters long, tall, and wide. It was pretty spacious. Moreover, Ryan could see the place in his head, as if it was a completely white warehouse that had no walls, ceiling, or ground.

“Interesting...” Ryan muttered.

While Ryan wanted to experiment more with his new spell, he decided to do that later since he was drawing too much attention to himself. In any case, Ryan expected that they would head a little more toward the West while they were accompanying Victor and his henchmen, but much to his surprise, they were heading South-East.

“We only recovered this area of our country and that is the amount we can manage right now due to the vast number of dungeons,” Natasha explained. “We are planning to eventually head more toward the West, but... I don’t think it will be possible in the short term.”

Too bad for Natasha, but Ryan knew that delaying that will only cause more problems for them in the future. More dungeon breaks will happen, the monster population will increase, just like their workload. Hopefully, some other survivors will be dealing with the problems on the other side of their country, but it was hard to hope for that since they didn’t find any sign of them so far.

“We are getting too close to Mongolia and China, aren’t we?” Ryan asked. “Is there a reason why he set his camp near the border?”

“Yes, as you already know, Victor is muscle-head nationalist,” Natasha replied. “While such problems didn’t happen yet, he is always expecting that other countries’ survivors might attack us at any moment.”

While Ryan couldn’t care less about Victor’s opinions or reactions, they were fortunate enough to be walking a little behind Victor’s soldiers. Victor himself couldn’t hear them, and his soldiers couldn’t understand English, so Natasha felt pretty much free to say whatever she wanted.

In the end, after marching non-stop for a full day and an entire night, they reached the extreme South-East part of the Russian territory. In a place where they were only a few hours of travel in which they could reach Mongolia, China, and even North Korea. Ryan also wasn’t so far away from Japan. While he didn’t follow the coast as he had planned, he apparently saved a lot of time.

Natasha probably thinks that Victor is a borderline lunatic who always fights imaginary enemies, but Ryan could only respect his cautious nature. Even with his limited resources and personnel, he managed to create several posts around the border in which his men kept watching everything that might enter Russian territory. While they were moving, he saw hundreds of those posts before reaching Victor's camp.

Ryan's surprises didn't end there. Instead of rebuilding a proper city or camp to house his subordinates, Victor used his power and influence to build a massive war fortress in front of a tier-three dungeon. Aside from the entrance and some small windows, Ryan couldn't see anything that could bring sunlight to that massive building. It had at least seven floors, and it was five hundred meters long and wide. Given how arrogant Victor was, Ryan imagined that his camp would be a castle and he would sit on a throne, but he was a crazy militaristic man to his very core.

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While his soldiers were entering the fortress, Victor stayed behind and waited for Ryan and Natasha to show up. While it didn't look like he would forbid their entrance, he wasn't showing a very welcoming expression on his face.

"You are the leader of one of our camps, even though it is the smallest, you are still a leader," Victor said. "However, here, you will have to follow my rules."

"Whatever you say..." Natasha shrugged.

"As for you... you can't leave Natasha's said," Victor said while glaring at Ryan. "If someone sees you walking around alone, my men will restrain you."

They certainly will try, but Ryan didn't intend to let their job be easy. Rather than that, he wasn't even interested in entering the fortress. He just wanted to clear the dungeon and then leave. There was nothing else for him in that country.

"You know why we are here, Victor," Natasha said. "Let's just solve that matter already."

“That matter is already solved, I won’t let a foreigner obtain power in my country,” Victor said.

“We need to negotiate this, I already gave my word that Ryan would clear our level three dungeons,” Natasha said.

“That is your problem, not mine,” Victor said.

Even Ryan was already tired of that exchange. As for Natasha, she was having a hard time controlling the volume of her voice. She wasn’t exactly a calm person, to begin with. If she were, she wouldn’t have promised to help Ryan to accomplish his goals in her country.

“There must something we can do to convince you to change your mind,” Natasha said.

“... If you become my subordinate, I will give him permission to use my dungeon,” Victor said.

“Why you...” Natasha clenched her teeth.

“Oh, boy... here I thought we were talking serious business here,” Ryan sighed. “But in the end, you just want her by your side, huh. Your life here must be pretty lonely.”

It was Victor’s time to clench his teeth in anger. Apparently, that was a touchy subject, and much for Victor’s annoyance, he couldn’t just attack Ryan after he said that. It would only confirm his point and make Victor embarrass himself even further. Natasha had a hard time believing that Victor still had feelings for her, so she only frowned.

“I can’t abandon my subordinates,” Natasha said. “I learned a lot in the last few days thanks to Ryan, I will pass to you all that knowledge if you agree to help us here. Believe me, you, me and everyone else in the entire world will need to hear about this, if we want to survive in this world. The problem that we are facing is much bigger than we expected.”

Victor considered Natasha’s words for a few seconds. Even though he was a muscle-head, Victor was fully aware that he was focusing too much on protecting his territory. While he didn’t waste a single day of training, Victor still felt that he was too passive in his actions. Aside from this time where he left the

border to obtain half of a new dungeon's rights, he couldn't remember the last time in which he took some risks or obtained some valuable intel. Only someone like Ryan, who crossed several countries, could have the intel that would be extremely valuable to him.

"... I will listen to that intel first and determine if they are really that valuable," Victor said. "Only after hearing all you have to say I will determine if he can enter the dungeon with you."

"You'd better not to try to screw with us by forcing me to tell you those things first, Victor," Natasha said.

Victor and Natasha proceeded to enter the fortress, but Ryan decided to stay behind and watch the dungeon from afar. While he probably won't obtain the chance to fight the monsters, seeing their status was already good enough in that kind of situation.

The dungeon was one of those underground dungeons which appeared in an area that had no mountains. Ryan was expecting to see some type of underground monster that would love the darkness like bats, but much to his surprise, he found a type of monster that he saw many times before.

Fire Golem – Lv 190

Health: 12.000/12.000

Mana: 12.000/12.000

Stamina: 12.000/12.000

Strength: 2500

Dexterity: 2500

Speed: 500

Intelligence: 2500

Endurance: 2500

Control: 2500

Mentality: 2500

Luck: 500

Recovery: 7500

Willpower: 2500

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Fire Charge Lv 150

Passive Physical Skills: Steel Skin Lv 100, Focus Lv 100

Spells: Explosive Bullet Lv 120, Explosive Arrow Lv 120

Support Skills: Earth Resistance Lv 250, Fire Resistance Lv 250

“Well, well... look has been upgraded,” Ryan muttered while he watched some soldiers fighting a fire golem.

Much to Ryan’s surprise, all the soldiers had shields, and not even a single one of them tried to dodge the golem’s attacks, be they ranged or melee. They always tried to block the attacks, even though each one of them could make them fly for several meters. Although Fire Golems were more balanced than the ordinary ones, they still were a force to be reckoned with. Ryan even wished that his golems could evolve and become like those, but that was a bit too much.

“I have nothing to do here... I guess I will make some potions and store them inside my storage dimension,” Ryan shrugged.

Ryan decided to rest his back against Furball’s fur. While the weather had improved considerably, Ryan already grew accustomed to that, and it was pretty relaxing. While the fortress guards still threw annoyed looks at him, Ryan ignored them all and focused on the task ahead.

Congratulations! The class Alchemist has reached level 20.

Now you can produce STR potions!

Formula: eight red soul essences + one green soul essence + one blue soul essence.

After reaching that notification, Ryan felt even more compelled to make potions. Not only was that another good source of income, but he will also be able to increase his status without consuming mana... Ryan couldn’t ask for more.

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STR potion

Effect: Increases your strength temporarily by twenty-eight points for three hundred seconds. This effect can stack indefinitely, but all the bonuses will disappear five minutes after the first potion was used.

Ryan rubbed his chin while he analyzed the first potion made. After doing some basic calculations, Ryan confirmed that the bonus base of strength was twenty points. The other eight were thanks to his Alchemy and Auto Medication skills... while it was weird that such passive skills could change the description of an item, Ryan didn't pay much attention to it. The real important information was that Ryan could increase his attributes temporarily by using several of those potions.

"Femradiel, do you think my class and skills will level up faster if I keep making those STR potions?" Ryan asked.

"Evidently," Femradiel replied.

While eventually, Ryan will run out of red soul essences, he had a lot of them since he mostly made mana potions and a few stamina ones. Besides, by using them, Ryan will be able to train more effectively in his melee classes. While his primary fighting style won't change, those extra bonuses of level-ups will help him a lot.

Just like Femradiel said, the class and the Alchemist class's skills leveled up quite fast while he was making them. Unfortunately, Ryan didn't have more than a single hour to make some of them. He thought Natasha would spend a lot of time together talking and perhaps making out, but when they showed, Victor wasn't showing the expression of someone who scored. In fact, he looked even more annoyed than usual.

"Hey, where are the demons' dungeons?" Victor asked.

"The two near my country were already being dealt with," Ryan replied. "The third one is in Peru, near the capital, Lima."

"I want the other two locations," Victor.

"I won't tell their locations," Ryan replied.

"Ryan..." Natasha said.

“Some people I know are working there,” Ryan said. “There is no way I am going to let someone like him get close to them.”

“The dragon inside him is trying to read your mind,” Femradiel said.

Ryan immediately focused his senses and then recalled the fights that Alissa had against Baal and Lilith. Those were pretty intense memories, so they were easy to make them appear inside his head. At the same time, it was a useful way to stop thinking about the dungeons’ locations. After a while, Victor gave up on waiting for his dragon to do the work for him and then stepped forward to glare at Ryan even more closely.

“You can stare as much as you want, you are dead wrong if you think someone like you scares me,” Ryan said.

“... If I challenge those demons, where are my chances of winning from your perspective?” Victor asked.

“... It is hard to say since they didn’t go all out when I saw them,” Ryan frowned and then replied. “Still, if you really are eight times stronger in your draconic form and if they underestimate while you try to finish the fight in a single strike, maybe you have a ten percent chance to kill them.”

“That is strangely accurate,” Natasha said.

“I want to kill them as well, so I am always trying to simulate a fight with them in my head,” Ryan explained. “Besides, that is just a very positive estimative. They are arrogant and I don’t think they plan on fighting alongside their minions, but if their minions interfere... Well, you already can imagine.”

Natasha gulped since she could easily recall the last two fights against those demons. While things ended fairly well to the human side, Natasha was fully aware that it was only because they got lucky thanks to the fact that Victor was a greedy idiot.

Regardless, strangely enough, Victor didn’t become enraged after hearing that. Knowing him, Ryan imagined that he thought that he was much stronger than any demon. Still, even so, he realized that several other humans were stronger than him, considering the ranking alone.

In the end, Victor left without saying any other word. Thus, it was impossible to determine if Natasha accepted the deal. However, that was only from Ryan's perspective. Apparently, Natasha had already obtained some details.

"The dungeon was already cleared today, so we will have to wait until tomorrow," Natasha said after a long sigh.

"Thanks, you saved me from a lot of trouble," Ryan said.

"You and the people from this area, right?" Natasha smiled.

"Indeed," Ryan nodded and then resumed his potion-making.

"... You can't even deny, huh," Natasha sighed again.

It looked like Ryan's journey on Russian territory was coming to an end. While he faced some problems here and there, Ryan considered that he accomplished his mission. In the end, he was going to obtain another tier-three class, and he didn't have to kill any human. Now he just needed to clear the dungeon and help Natasha learn Summon Warg. Fortunately, based on Natasha's estimations, that was going to happen tomorrow as well.

In the end, Ryan spends the entire day and night outside the fortress making those potions and helping Natasha with that skill. Ryan also made sure to forge some crossbows since he didn't want to leave that region without creating a magic item that had the fire golems soul. Unfortunately, even though Victor gave permission for Ryan to use the dungeon, Victor himself was going to clear the dungeon in order to confirm that Ryan wouldn't do anything suspicious. Without any other choice, Ryan decided to use plan B.

"Can I kill one of them?" Ryan asked. "I can pay you for it."

"No," Victor replied.

Ryan sighed... maybe it was time to jump to plan F: fuck that asshole by causing a dungeon break. In the end, Ryan also gave up on that. While he didn't mind causing problems to Victor any imbecile that decided to follow him, he didn't want to cause problems to Natasha. From all the humans Ryan knew, she was the least annoying, after all.

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In the end, Ryan felt like he only lost time during the whole trip toward the end of the dungeon. Victor was strong enough to sweep the floor with the Fire Golems, so Ryan didn't learn anything in particular, not even when he fought the boss: a magma golem.

Magma Golem – Lv 200

Health: 75.000/75.000

Mana: 60.000/60.000

Stamina: 45.000/45.000

Strength: 5000

Dexterity: 2500

Speed: 1250

Intelligence: 5000

Endurance: 5000

Control: 2500

Mentality: 5000

Luck: 500

Recovery: 15.000

Willpower: 5000

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Explosive Touch Lv 200

Passive Physical Skills: Steel Skin Lv 150, Focus Lv 150

Spells: Magma Arrow Lv 120, Magma Spear Lv 120

Support Skills: Earth Resistance Lv 250, Fire Resistance Lv 250, Electric Resistance Lv 250

“This looks like something who would cause some problems to me...” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully.

It was kind of annoying to admit that, but Victor was stronger than Ryan in all senses, with the exception of the strategical thinking. Ryan wasn't a genius, but Victor was that much of a muscle-head. As if he was trying to show off in front of Natasha, Victor blocked all the monster's attacks and didn't hesitate to punch and kick the monster. While he fought for a few seconds, he probably could have decimated the monster in a few seconds if he had turned into a dragon.

“Be quick,” Victor said to all those who had come with him, Natasha and Ryan.

Fortunately, Victor wasn't as silly as Irina, so he didn't care if Ryan would be the first or the last to get the class. He only wanted speed from everyone inside the dungeon.

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: Soldier, Mimic, 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, huh...” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “Conjurer I have already seen, as for the others... they are a bit weird.”

As usual, Ryan would choose the select class, but since the class was weird, Ryan was hesitating. Knowing that everyone aside from Natasha was a muscle head, they probably chose the Soldier class, but even when Ryan used Appraisal on some, he didn't see the class.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Mimic!

You obtained the following skills: Status Copy, Skills Copy, and Temporary Transformation.

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

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Status Copy.

Effect: It grants you the chance to copy the status of someone or something else. You can copy the status of any sapient being as long as the total amount of all attributes doesn't exceed yours. If the total status points obtained by the target exceed yours, each attribute will lose a certain number of points to equal the current number of your status.

Cost: 25 mana per second

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Skills Copy.

Effect: It grants you the chance to copy someone's skill list or something else that you have seen before. You can copy all the skills of any sapient being as long as the total number of skills and levels doesn't exceed yours. If the total skill points obtained by the target exceed yours, each skill will lose a certain number of levels to equal the current number and level of skills in your list.

Cost: 25 mana per second

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Temporary Transformation.

Effect: It grants you the chance to assume the form of someone or something else.

Cost: 50 mana per second.

You obtained 01 status point.

It indeed was a weird class... using those skills in combat seemed useless for Ryan since he could only see himself as an archer, and until now, he didn't see anyone better than him when it comes to long-range stealth attacks.

“Well, I guess it will be useful for some infiltration jobs... not like I had to do that until now,” Ryan shrugged.

“The way you humans obtain power is really weird,” Femradiel said. “While those abilities are weird and not combat-oriented, they still are powerful abilities. That is only something someone can learn after decades of deep study of the uses of mana.”

“I couldn’t agree more,” Ryan said. “In any case, try not to talk too much when there is another dragon nearby. I want to keep your existence hidden from potential enemies.”

“You can rest assured that the dragon inside Victor won’t notice my presence,” Femradiel said.

Ryan sighed because those reassuring words only make him feel more worried as far as he was concerned. In any case, Ryan’s job in Russia was over, and now he just needed to help Natasha for a few more hours, and then he will be free to leave. However, knowing Victor, he will probably annoy him if they leave while he stays behind.

“Which class did you choose?” Natasha asked.

“That is none of your business,” Ryan replied. “In any case, if you truly wanted to become a better archer, then you already know that there is only one option for you.”

“While I know that, I couldn’t help but hesitate,” Natasha said. “Do you think I can learn some of your skills if I use Skills Copy with you and then practice the skills as much as possible?”

“Who knows?” Ryan shrugged. “You should try and confirm that theory. Instead of relying on others to learn new things, you should explore the system by yourself as much as possible.”

While Ryan could understand how useful and efficient it was to learn things from others, a person who only relies on that to grow stronger, will never become the strongest. After all, they will always stay a few steps behind people like Ryan. Regardless, thanks to Natasha, Ryan learned something that he should investigate later since he knew that classes and some skills have many quirks and perks that could be useful, but the system never reveals them directly. Finally, she taught him something instead of the other way around...

When Natasha finally learned Summon Warg, she immediately used and jumped toward the puppy that appeared before her. She was so excited while smiling from ear to ear and rubbing her cheeks on her partner's cheek that Ryan couldn't help but smile a little. She was indeed an animal lover...

"So cute, so fluffy!" Natasha said.

"I thought that you wanted a partner to help you in combat," Ryan shrugged. "Anyway, that Warg will be completely useless for a while, you can see by its status. I hope that you won't feed him all that much because you want to keep its current appearance... that would make my hard work almost completely meaningless. Regardless, it is time for me to go."

"I am really thankful for your help, Ryan," Natasha said while she was holding the Warg in her arms as if the creature was a teddy bear. "Someday, I will repay the favor. I wish you good luck on your journey."

"... I don't believe in luck, fate, and destiny, but I will accept your kind words," Ryan said and then jumped on Furball's back.

Without wasting any more time, Ryan gave Furball the order to move on. In the blink of an eye, he left Victor's camp and Natasha behind. Natasha waved his hand toward him until he disappeared in the distance. She felt thankful for the fact that he made a friend after so long. The people she knew either only respected and admired her but always kept their distance. As for Ryan, he only treated her like an ordinary person. Not like a leader of a survivors' camp.

Ryan also felt refreshed that he managed to interact with someone that he didn't particularly hate or felt annoyed with. While he didn't feel that way with Furball and Femradiel, they were different from the others. Regardless, the mission was finally over, and Ryan had to choose his next destination.

"China is too big just like Russia, and I really don't want to go to North Korea," Ryan muttered. "It looks like the best option is Japan, but I need to fly over three hundred kilometers of ocean... Before that, maybe I should talk with Alissa and confirm that things are all right. Strangely enough, she hasn't been calling me all that much these days."

Now that he thought about it, Gustavo and the others haven't been as nearly as noisy as he thought they would be... that was strange. Perhaps Ryan was getting used to working with others, and that was

why he was missing the conversations he had with them... that being said, Ryan would rather die than say that out loud.

“What?” Alissa asked, visibly angry when Ryan started the telepathy link.

“Are you in a bad mood?” Ryan asked. “How unusual.”

“Of course, I am, you woke me up in the middle of the night,” Alissa said. “Are you lonely or something?”

“It is the difference in the time zones, dumbass,” Ryan said. “Anyway, if you don’t mind, I want to know if things are alright where you are.”

“The same as always, Mark is hitting his head against the wall due to the survivors, your goody two shoes’ friends are moving around trying to solve problems like firefighters,” Alissa said. “Aside from that, the only things worth noticing are that Arthur can already speak some words and that I cleared the troll’s dungeon.”

“Is that so... good for you,” Ryan said.

“There is another thing... your friends are asking less and less frequent about you,” Alissa said, and then her tone changed. “It looks like they are angry that you left the country behind in your quest for power.”

“They are not my friends and what they think doesn’t concern me,” Ryan said. “Anyway, you still are reading other people’s mind, huh. Maybe I should teach everyone how to counter that spell.”

“I guess another thing worth noticing was that the power of the demons in Houston suddenly increased,” Alissa said. “It looks like the tier of the dungeon increased, when I went there to clear the place, some of my guys obtained the classes.”

“So, that happened there as well, huh,” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows and then said.

Things were changing in the world again, and Ryan was quite sure that he wouldn't like those changes. Regardless, he also explained to Alissa that something similar happened in Russia. Naturally, she was interested in the topic when she heard the words: demons and Beelzebub, and just like Ryan, she found it strange that the general didn't show up.

"Their actions are changing..." Alissa said. "Now that they know that some of us can fight against them, they are trying harder to make their dungeons reach max level faster. Regardless, to think that you would find so many Russians and someone even more high-ranked than me... Why didn't you invite him to the telepathic channel?"

"Because he is a muscle-head asshole," Ryan replied.

"If you are going as far to be that directly... I guess he wouldn't help us all that much," Alissa said. "Anyway, some tier two dungeons are also appearing now and then, and while the people here are getting stronger, you already know that Mark's system will eventually collapse. You should return as fast as possible.

After that, Ryan ended the call. While he really wanted to return as fast as possible to his home country, Ryan was fully aware that if he stays there, getting stronger slowly, in the end, he won't be able to do anything. Although the people in the base won't be able to use the tier three dungeons, he found, for the time being, it doesn't mean that they won't be able to use them later. So, mapping them was actually useful.

Now that Ryan confirmed that everything was all right, he could continue his journey without worrying too much about it. However, he also felt that he should learn some real teleportation spells sooner, if something happens and he is too far away.

Class: Hunter Lv 76 (+ 02 UP / Elementalist Lv 55 / Monk Lv 16 (-)

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

Rank: 115th

Health: 1599/1599 (4, 37/s)

Mana: 2492/2492 (4, 37/s)

Stamina: 2450/2450 (4, 37/s)

Strength: 31 (+166) (+130)

Dexterity: 2550 (+1825) (+95)

Speed: 140 (+851) (+48)

Intelligence: 81 (+674) (+33)

Endurance: 28 (+131) (+160)

Control: 06 (+942) (+10)

Mentality: 08 (+46) (+70)

Luck: 74 (+20)

Recovery: 1100 (+1167) (+360)

Willpower: 30 (+46) (+40)

Coins: 55.441

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills:

Passive Physical Skills: Eagle Eyes Lv 75 (+ 03 UP), Concentration Lv 75 (+ 03 UP), Archery Lv 75 (+ 03 UP), Accuracy Lv 75 (+ 03 UP), Alchemy Lv 29 (+ 13 UP), Auto-Medication Lv 20 (+ 05 UP), Motivation Lv 01, Skill Camouflage Lv 01,

Spells: Mana Cannon Lv 01, Mana Missiles Lv 01, Fire Cannon Lv 01, Spatial Manipulation Lv 06 (+ 05 UP), Status Copy Lv 01, Skills Copy Lv 01, Temporary Transformation Lv 01,

Support Skills:

Classes:

Combat: Beastmaster Lv 41 (+ 02 UP), Archer Lv 68 (+ 02 UP), Combat Archer Lv 63 (+ 02 UP), Dark Slayer Lv 04 (+ 03 UP), Silent Killer Lv 04 (+ 03 UP), Mimic Lv 01

Non-Combatant: Alchemist Lv 25 (+ 12 UP)

Race: Centaur, Lesser Dragon

Chapter 393

To make sure that nothing unpleasant would happen to him, Ryan decided to cross the ocean while flying several kilometers above sea level. However, while he managed to avoid those unpleasant surprises in the sea, Ryan had others when he finally reached Japan. Even though it wasn't that cold in the last part he had visited in Russian, the whole Northern part of that country looked like the North Pole. Everything was covered in ice and snow, and Ryan couldn't identify a single landmark. Moreover, the number of monsters was ridiculous. Fortunately, or perhaps, unfortunately, he could only find a single species.

Frozen Wolf – Lv 300

Health: 8000/8000

Mana: 15.000/15.000

Stamina: 7000/7000

Strength: 1200

Dexterity: 1500

Speed: 750

Intelligence: 200

Endurance: 1000

Control: 1000

Mentality: 1500

Luck: 400

Recovery: 2500

Willpower: 1500

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Ice Claws Lv 280

Passive Physical Skills: Concentration Lv 200, Stealth Lv 150,

Spells: Ice Spear Lv 250, Frost Armor Lv 250

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv 400, Earth Resistance Lv 200, Electric Resistance Lv 150

“Shit... level three hundred,” Ryan clicked his tongue in annoyance. “The dungeon which spawns those fuckers definitely broke more than five times.”

“If you don’t mind while you let the severity of the situation trouble you, can I use Magic Bow to kill them?” Femradiel asked. “Their numbers are high, so this will be a good opportunity for me who didn’t do anything battle-oriented in a while.”

While Ryan frowned when he heard that, he understood that Femradiel had a point. Besides, while those enemies certainly were tough, they weren’t a real threat to Ryan. He could fly, defend himself and attack without giving them a chance to attack with Silent Attack, so he let Femradiel stretch her battle instincts while he was pondering about the situation.

“Can you feel any human presence?” Ryan asked.

“Not a single one in twenty kilometers in all directions,” Femradiel replied.

Ryan would find it weird if there were any survivors around when Ryan could count hundreds of monsters with his eyes alone. Regardless, based on what Ryan knew, the frozen wolves were probably

interfering with the environment. That was why everything was frozen or covered in snow. While that would take a while, he was determined to kill all the monsters and bosses he might find.

You obtained 150 coins.

You obtained 150 coins.

You obtained 150 coins.

...

Unlike Ryan, Femradiel was really good at multitasking. After killing the monsters, she would use Telekinesis to bring them to Furball, and if they dropped something or iron ores, she would bring them as well. She was too efficient, so Ryan thought that he was cheating or something by relying on her... even though she limited herself by using Ryan's skills and attacking based on his status as well.

"Magic Bow is really convenient... there is no need to pull a trigger, after all," Ryan said. "Anyway, I guess I should help."

Ryan equipped his Pestilence Crossbow and Heavy Crossbow and joined the massacre. After a while, when they landed, Furball began his feast. However, despite the number of corpses, his status wasn't growing that fast. As expected, those were, at best, tier two monsters.

"While you are having your fun, don't forget to search for humans, Femradiel," Ryan said. "I am using Radar and Awareness, but my range can't compare to yours."

"Trying to make more friends?" Femradiel asked.

"While Victor is an asshole, he made me realize that an army of humans can become a powerful asset if trained correctly," Ryan replied. "I can't make an army of humans if I don't find any. In any case, if I rescue some and bring them to Alissa or even Gustavo and his friends, I am sure they will become useful eventually."

“Why not train them yourself?” Femradiel asked. “Ah, wait... your trust issues.”

“If you already know, then don’t ask,” Ryan said. “Don’t answer your own questions either.”

The number of monsters was so high that Ryan made a mental note to pick the Necromancer class the next time he sees it. While he couldn’t let the dungeons reach the max level anytime soon, he couldn’t just stay forever in a single place hunting small fry creatures. While he was moving toward the South, he tried to kill as many monsters as possible, but he only killed those that actively stood in his way.

Ryan and the others quickly found some dungeons, but he ignored them all since hundreds of bosses were protecting them, and all of them were only tier two. Femradiel still killed some of them, but only while she was passing by, the monsters chased them but eventually gave up. Ryan and Furball were just too fast.

In the end, Ryan and the others crossed the entire northern part of Japan in a single day. While they still wasted some time moving around and looking for survivors, they didn’t find any. That was... really worrisome.

“I am picking presences in the South, several of them,” Femradiel said. “But... I don’t think things are looking good.”

“What do you mean by that?” Ryan frowned.

“Their numbers are fairly big, but they are fighting against each other,” Femradiel replied. “I increased my range by focusing on a single direction, and due to it, I can’t confirm that, but there are two fairly powerful presences among them and I don’t think they belong to humans’ presences.”

Ryan frowned when he heard that. He didn’t know many Japanese people, but he was fairly certain that they were a pretty civilized bunch. He couldn’t imagine people that valorized their culture all that much to turn down against each other after just five months of crisis. However, what Ryan was really worried about was those non-human presences... why would monsters participate in the fights of humans. They certainly weren’t summoned monsters. After all, Ryan couldn’t imagine a summoned creature becoming much more powerful than several humans. That would be way too weird...

Chapter 394

Ryan had to cross a small part of the Pacific Ocean to reach the place where Femradiel found human presence, and much to his surprise, some survivors were really fighting against each other. As if that wasn't enough, he saw two massive beasts fighting against each other as well. A silver tiger and a black tortoise.

Byakko – Lv 330

Health: 71.000/85.000

Mana: 52.000/65.000

Stamina: 51.000/65.000

Strength: 3500

Dexterity: 2500

Speed: 1500

Intelligence: 3000

Endurance: 3500

Control: 1500

Mentality: 2000

Luck: 700

Recovery: 25.000

Willpower: 2000

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Electric Strike Lv 280

Passive Physical Skills: Focus Lv 250, Steel Skin Lv 150

Spells: Lightning Lv 200, Electric Spear Lv 180

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv 300, Fire Resistance Lv 200, Electric Resistance Lv 200,

Genbu — Lv 325

Health: 95.000/115.000

Mana: 31.000/35.000

Stamina: 25.000/35.000

Strength: 5000

Dexterity: 1000

Speed: 500

Intelligence: 1500

Endurance: 5000

Control: 1000

Mentality: 4500

Luck: 500

Recovery: 25.000

Willpower: 4500

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Burning Touch Lv 250

Passive Physical Skills: Stone Skin Lv 250, Bronze Skin Lv 200, Steel Skin Lv 150

Spells: Fire Cannon Lv 200, Fire Aura Lv 150

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 350, Electric Resistance Lv 250, Cold Resistance Lv 150

Ryan felt like he watched some crazy movie while those stupidly large monsters were rampaging around and destroying the terrain. A single step was enough to make the ground tremble, and when they turned their bodies around, the survivors had to focus on not getting thrown away by the gusts of wind.

“Ryan, those are dungeon bosses,” Femradiel said.

The bosses had the same size of dragons, but they were stronger than any dragon Ryan saw until now. While that was an important characteristic, Ryan ignored that and was wondering as to why the monsters were facing each other and ignoring the Japanese and the other way around. Why the heck the survivors were ignoring them...

“I am sensing a strange link between the humans here and those beasts,” Femradiel said. “It is a link similar you and Furball have... that link is giving humans power.”

Ryan’s expression darkened... in the end. It looked like those survivors decided to join the monsters’ side. While they were still living on Earth, that doesn’t change anything from Ryan’s perspective.

After using Appraisal on the survivors, Ryan saw that they had certain skills that looked very weird. Those who were on Byakko’s side had the Autumn’s Blessing, and those on Genbu’s side had the Winter’s Blessing. Ryan had no idea what those skills could do, but given that now and then, the survivors could cover their bodies with flames or lightning, he concluded that they were some type of elemental power up.

“... Let’s give them a single chance,” Ryan grabbed his crossbows and then summoned the magic bows. “As for the monsters, they won’t have the same privilege.”

While Ryan wasn’t so above ground level, he was close enough to let the survivors see him, and they finally found him when Ryan started to rain bolts and magic bolts over the two massive beasts. Their health quickly decreased since he focused on hitting their heads.

The Japanese survivors stopped fighting against each other and found the unknown man attacking the two monsters and couldn't help but open their mouths wide in surprise. In their eyes, that was insanity.

When the two beasts finally found Ryan, they also stopped attacking each other, and they opened their mouths toward him. A lightning bolt and a fire cannon flew toward Ryan, but he blocked the attacks with his shield. While the shield's durability decreased by fifty percent in a single instant, the monsters' received some of the reflected damage and were forced to stop their attacks.

"You might want to speed up things a little bit," Femradial said.

Doing that alone was impossible, but instead of asking for help, Ryan focused his attacks on Byakko. The silver tiger immediately assumed a defensive instance while Ryan aimed at the monster's eyes. To stop the unknown threat, the beast tried to jump attack Ryan, but Genbu bites Byakko's tail.

Ryan shook his head in disapproval. In the end, monsters will always be monsters. They could only see a single path in front of them, the path where everything would end in their favor.

Byakko's health was quickly approaching dangerous levels, so some of the survivors decided to attack Ryan. They fired many long-ranged electric attacks toward him, but before the number of attacks could escalate, the other survivors did the same as Genbu and attacked them from behind.

"So, it is going to be like that, huh..." Ryan furrowed his eyebrows. "What a pity..."

While Genbu was holding back Byakko, Ryan pointed his crossbows toward those that attacked him. In an instant, fifteen survivors died when bolts pierced their hearts. The other ones froze in shock when they confirmed the power of someone who decided to challenge those massive beasts.

You obtained 25.236 coins.

You obtained 12.985 coins.

You obtained 33.457 coins.

...

“You didn’t hesitate... I am surprised,” Femradiel said.

“You already know that I won’t forgive those that attack me,” Ryan said.

The other group of survivors stepped back, and Ryan decided to ignore them for the time being and then focused his attention on Byakko again. Before the black tortoise could finish off the monster with a single bite on its neck, Ryan used Seal and then transplanted the boss’s soul on a crossbow. Ryan finally obtained his first magic weapon enchanted with the power of electricity.

Thunder Lord Crossbow (Electric)

Effect: fire bolts at the cost of fifty points of mana that shock your foes for 0.25 seconds.

Dexterity + 150, Intelligence + 60

Durability: 140/140

Without wasting time, Ryan pointed his new weapon at Genbu. When huge chunks of flesh began to fall from the monster’s face, the other survivors also attacked Ryan... it looked like Ryan would have to cause another human massacre.

Chapter 395

Since Genbu was more of a tank and less than a long-ranged monster, Ryan wasted some time attacking to finish off the monsters. The Japanese survivors also bothered Ryan quite a lot, but Femradiel blocked their attacks with Ryan’s shield. In the end, Genbu also fell down. Those gigantic creatures were troublesome to some extent, but since they were fighting alone, they weren’t a real threat. Besides, Ryan wasn’t fighting alone anymore.

Fire Master Crossbow (Fire)

Effect: fire bolts at the cost of fifty points of mana that will burn your foes and decrease their recovery by fifty points for sixty seconds.

Dexterity + 150, Intelligence + 60

Durability: 140/140

After obtaining another powerful weapon, Ryan turned around to face the survivors. Despite everything, they didn't retreat or showed any sign of fear or resignation. They were ready to die fighting. Ryan could only respect their spirit, but not their choices of joining the monsters' side.

Do you want me to do it?" Femradial asked.

"Why would I let you solve my problems?" Ryan asked.

"Despite your resolution, I can see that you are disliking this quite a lot," Femradial replied.

Ryan couldn't say anything to that. That was the truth. While those people decided to make an enemy out of him, he didn't have to like the killing or the fact that the number of his enemies was decreasing. In the end, to satisfy his ego and to make the turmoil inside him to calm down, Ryan finished the survivors by firing Mana Arrows on their hearts.

You obtained 9.632 coins.

You obtained 17.789 coins.

You obtained 20.036 coins.

...

Ryan took a deep breath after the last one of them fell. The path he had chosen to follow wasn't an easy one. By cutting down the root of some problems that could grow in the future, Ryan saved himself from many headaches, but everything has a price. The price had to pay now was that he was more or less contributing to human extinction.

While Furball was eating some parts of the fallen monsters, Ryan got the loot that the survivors had. Some pieces of armor and magic weapons of all types and shapes, but those weren't particularly powerful. So, he sold all of them.

"Things are a bit weird here... bosses are fighting against other bosses and humans joined their fights as well," Ryan muttered. "It would be stupid to hope that I won't see this scene repeating itself several times."

Just thinking about that was enough to make Ryan tired. He will never get tired of hunting monsters. If he gets tired someday, it would be the same as abandoning Earth and leaving it in the hands of monsters. However, on the first day he took a human life, he got tired of it... it was only natural.

"Can you guide me to where you can feel similar presences of those monsters?" Ryan asked.

You will have to head South a little more, I can't pinpoint the location of the dungeons from so far away," Femradiel said. "But I can feel four massive concentrations of mana in a single area. I think those are what you call level three dungeons."

"Are they close to each other?" Ryan asked.

"Really close," Femradiel replied. "To the point where I can find it strange how come two bosses managed to reach this region."

By the look of things, the dungeons were so close that the monsters could easily find each other. While Femradiel found it weird that those bosses had come to this region when their dungeons were hundreds of kilometers down South, Ryan found it natural. After all, there was no way that the dungeon masters of four dungeons that broke three or four times would manage to organize the positions of hundreds of bosses, even more so when some humans joined their side.

In the end, Furball managed to get ten points in intelligence when he ate one of Byakko's legs and ten points of recovery by eating one of the Genbu's limbs. That was quite a lot of progress, considering that Furball only ate. Still, Ryan didn't feel like celebrating or anything.

Without wasting any more time, Ryan began to head South. However, instead of flying and easily revealing his position, he decided to let Furball transport him. Despite his size, he was quite silent while running, and with that, he will be able to surprise other bosses. However, after traveling for just a couple of minutes, he saw in the distance a group of survivors escorting other survivors, and a Byakko was with them.

"Femradial... why didn't you alert me of this?" Ryan asked.

"I thought you were only interested in the dungeons," Femradial said. "You will waste a lot of time if you decide to stop after finding every little situation on your path."

At first, Ryan didn't understand the meaning behind Femradial's words, but then he noticed that the group being escorted didn't have weapons and looked pretty beaten down. Some special shackles were also restraining her hands and legs... Ryan's blood started to boil when he saw a boy who seemed no older than ten years with a single-arm, and the other arm still was bleeding.

Despite your words and your cold attitude, you still can't leave other humans alone, huh?" Femradial said, and for some reason, she looked disappointed.

"You can call me naïve if you want, but in the end, by acting now, I will get rid of some assholes while doing something meaningful," Ryan said. "Besides, if I help those prisoners, I will be able to gather intel much faster than just by mindlessly killing monsters and other humans."

"You don't owe any explanations to me," Femradial said. "I am just worried that if you decide to act like this every single time, you will end up dooming us some day. If you die, I die. Also, I am pretty sure that you are fully aware that hostages' situations are where people like you expose your neck too much."

Ryan couldn't retort Femradial's words, but in the end, as long as he fights, as usual, the chances of things taking a wrong turn somewhere would be pretty small.

In any case, Ryan had to choose his targets carefully. By the look of things, the hostages would be forced to join the monsters' side. Ryan didn't know of the details, but since the demons could capture humans as well and turn them into monsters, Ryan assumed that the ritual with the monsters in the area was less shady since the humans didn't change all that much.

"Who should I kill first?" Ryan asked himself while rubbing his chin thoughtfully. "The boss or the humans... the boss will take a while to take down, so the humans might take the hostages and use them like shields. Not like that will be a problem, the problem is if one of them gets nervous and kills someone."

While Byakko could also decide to kill the hostages, Ryan could prevent the monster with a barrage of attacks. The Thunder Lord Crossbow certainly could stop Byakko... or maybe not, since Ryan created that weapon by using the soul of the same boss.

"Well, it can't hurt to try," Ryan said and then shrugged.

That crossbow was one of his two most powerful weapons, after all. Before equipping that weapon, Ryan equipped the pestilence crossbow. In a matter of a few seconds, he activated Perfect Aim and then fired twenty points and made them fly toward the hearts of armed survivors. While they were wearing armor, the bolts still pierced their hearts due to the power of Ryan's stealth skills and several other passive bonuses. The hostages opened their eyes widely in shock when their kidnappers began to fall dead one after the other, and soon, they began to run when Byakko began to tremble soon after some explosions happened.

Much to Ryan's surprise, Thunder Lord Crossbow was working. However, only for half of the period was it supposed to work. Still, that was more than Ryan actually needed.

While Byakko was suffering from the shock effects, Ryan fired his pestilence crossbow's bolts on the monster's eyes. The creature tried to resist, but in the end, his relentless attacks made the monster lose its eyes. Not that had been necessary since the beast could only endure so much of Ryan's attacks in that defenseless position.

Ryan couldn't help but frown, considering that such a monster was supposed to be stronger than ordinary dragons, and yet, Ryan killed it with ease... well, not quite. Ryan used the soul of the monster to increase the power of his crossbow.

Instead of celebrating that his most powerful weapon became ten percent more powerful, Ryan raised his guard because he noticed a third party's approach thanks to Radar.

He immediately pointed the crossbow in that direction, but he didn't pull the trigger since the approaching people were walking normally and didn't even try to hide their presence. After a while, some of them stayed behind, but a single dark-haired woman wearing purple armor and carrying a glaive in her right hand showed. She raised her arms toward the sky to show that she means no harm, and then she said something, but Ryan shook his head since he didn't understand a single thing.

"I can't speak Japanese," Ryan said.

"English?" The dark-haired woman frowned. "Are you Australian?"

"American," Ryan replied.

The frown on the woman's face got a little more severe, but then she relaxed when she noticed that Ryan only killed the kidnappers. As for Ryan, he didn't relax at all. That woman and others had been tailing the hostages, but they didn't do anything, after all.

Haruna

Class: Swordsman Lv 35 / Samurai Lv 28 / Guard Lv 22 (-)

Race: -/-/-

Rank: 7.654th

Health: 1145/1145

Mana: 742/742

Stamina: 950/950

Strength: 550 (+ 150)

Dexterity: 460 (+ 50)

Speed: 500 (+ 150)

Intelligence: 250 (+ 50)

Endurance: 600 (+ 100)

Control: 320 (+ 70)

Mentality: 600 (+ 100)

Luck: 100

Recovery: 400 (+ 150)

Willpower: 600 (+ 100)

Coins: —

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Concentrated Strike Lv 55, War Cry Lv 30, Dash Lv 25,

Passive Physical Skills: Swordsmanship Lv 45, Shield Mastery Lv 35

Spells: Fireball Lv 50, Frost Arrow Lv 45, Earth Arrow Lv 42

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 45, Cold Resistance Lv 41, Electric Lv 36

Ryan frowned when she saw that woman's status. Considering her caution to rescue her fellow countrymen, she was a lot stronger than Ryan imagined.

"I thank you for your help," Haruna said and then bowed. "My name is Haruna, may I ask who you are? I never heard of you and I believe someone with your level of strength would be pretty well-known in these parts."

"The name is Ryan and I just arrived in your country," Ryan replied. "Anyway, you were following the hostages, right? Why didn't you act sooner?"

"... We were waiting for the right moment to strike," Haruna hesitated. "We lost a battle against that group a few hours ago and our strength decreased. Another direct confrontation wouldn't change anything, so we hoped that another boss would show up and start a fight. The idea was to rescue them during the confusion."

"Did you watch that boy losing his arm in silence?" Ryan asked while pointing to the boy he saw before approaching alongside the other hostages.

"... I did," Haruna closed her eyes and lowered her head. "Despite everything, I decided not to act."

“That is all that I needed to know,” Ryan said and then approached the boy before healing his arm. “I believe I helped you guys quite a bit now, so I am going to ask a few questions and then move on since I don’t want to waste my time with you. What is going on with your country?”

“Do you mind if we talk while we walk back to our hideout?” Haruna asked. “This is a long story and we are exposed here. Besides, it is getting late.”

“Lead the way.” Ryan replied.

Chapter 397

In order to speed up things a little bit, Ryan gave Femradiel the duty to kill all mob monsters that approach the group. Her senses were better, and Ryan wanted to pay attention to Haruna’s story. Still, thanks to that, Haruna and her soldiers that were twenty pretty beaten down men and women, frowned when Ryan’s attacks killed several monsters without him looking at them. He was gaining credit for Femradiel’s works.

The monsters that Ryan found were smaller versions of the bosses, and their names were pretty much the same, but they also had the name offspring after them. However, until now, Ryan only found Byakko’s offspring and Genbu’s offspring.

“So, you aren’t from here... Can I assume that the dragons caused a lot of destruction pretty much everywhere?” Haruna asked.

“Yes, that happened in every single major city,” Ryan replied.

“I see... after the dragons destroyed pretty much all of our civilization, those who managed to survive began to fight the monsters and obtain strength to recover our lands,” Haruna explained. “However, human settlements were too far apart and too few, the number of monsters was too high. So, we felt like we were losing the war. When we found about dungeons and classes, the situation improved a little, but then when we found the four dungeons around Tokyo things took an unexpected turn.”

“The bosses offered you power,” Ryan said.

“Indeed... so something similar happened in other places?” Haruna asked.

“In a sense, but it is the first time I saw the bosses fighting alongside humans,” Ryan replied.

“People like me found that too suspicious, but others quickly were convinced since they obtained power without doing anything particularly dangerous,” Haruna said. “Besides, the four beasts were supposed to be mythical creatures that can bring luck, so many of us thought they were the answer to solve this crisis.”

“Byakko and Genbu... what are the others?” Ryan asked.

“Seiryu and Suzaku,” Haruna replied. “Others like me found it strange that those monsters were at a war with each other. So, we were cautious of them. However, after a while, the four beasts managed to convince humans that those who didn’t accept their offer of power were infiltrate agents that worked for other monsters that soon might attack our country. We became their enemies and they even went as far as causing dungeon breaks to create copies of the original bosses.”

Ryan sighed when he heard that. While he could understand that many were blinded by the power they obtained since with that power, they could protect their family and friends. It was very disappointing that they went as far as causing dungeon breaks. No wonder the level of those monsters was that high.

“The humans on the beast’s sides and the beasts themselves fought against each other for quite a while, but since their powers were pretty balanced, they failed at winning the fight,” Haruna added. “So, they decided to capture other survivors and force them to join their side.”

“I can’t imagine how that might solve the problem, as far as I am concerned, those empowered soldiers weren’t that powerful,” Ryan said.

“They received some obvious power-ups at the beginning, but the beasts stopped doing that even though they apparently could power up a single human many times,” Haruna said.

“They wanted to make the humans on their side fight harder by promising those who might stand out even more power. While I think those guys you killed were pretty powerful thanks to it, they relied on that boost too much and thus their growth decreased.”

That was one of the reasons why Ryan didn't want to rely on Femradial's power. Human nature is something complicated. Once most of them get used to something, they tend to overuse it, and when that something is too beneficial, it becomes like an addicting drug. Power in itself was probably one of the most powerful drugs, but the path to becoming powerful wasn't an easy one. That was why some of the Japanese survivors allied themselves with the four beasts.

"I am not familiar with Japanese mythical creatures, but I assume they are similar to the creatures in your folklore, right?" Ryan asked. "Byakko is a tiger and Genbu is a turtle, what are Seiryu and Suzaku?"

"Seiryu is an Eastern dragon and Suzaku is like an Eastern version of Phoenix," Haruna said. "At least in terms of overall appearance."

As expected, those monsters were Eastern mythological creatures. While for their size, Ryan managed to kill some of them with relative ease, it was only because they were dumb and alone. Also, they couldn't fly... Seiryu and Suzaku can, and those will definitely be a pain to fight against. Not to mention, their numbers must be pretty insane by themselves, and Ryan had to multiply that by four.

"Fortunately, most of them are just copies from the originals," Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "Is there anything else you can say about them that you find it weird?"

"I guess the fact that they never talk? Not even with their allies..." Haruna frowned. "I assumed that they really don't see humans as allies or as foes strong enough foes, but I might be wrong about that because when I first heard of them, some survivors said that they did talk with them."

"Possibly, talking is something only the originals can do," Ryan nodded to himself. "So, aside from those four dungeons near your capital, is there any other that can spawn really powerful creatures?"

"No, but it has been a while since we investigated the Southern part of our country, so I can't be sure," Haruna said. "Seiryus and Suzakus dominated those parts and we have even more trouble fighting them."

So, the melee monsters that couldn't fly were dominating the Northern region, and the long-ranged monsters that could fly were in the South. Ryan concluded that they figured out staying in a single place and fighting against three other species wasn't productive. So they divided themselves and moved a

little... Still, there was a question Ryan wouldn't obtain by asking Haruna... who are the dungeon masters, and why they put their dungeons so close to Tokyo?

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"Well, that is all," Ryan said and then turned around just when they were about to reach their hideout.

"Wait, you need a place to rest, don't you?" Haruna said. "You can stay with us since fighting at night is too dangerous. If we give us some time, we can recover and organize our forces and fight together, you are planning to clear the dungeons, right? You certainly will need our help."

"I don't think so, you neither have the strength or the spirit to be of any help," Ryan said. "You already know that."

Haruna couldn't say anything to contest Ryan, while fortunately, Ryan healed the boy's arm that struggled against the survivors that joined the monster's side. She still was agonizing over the fact that she chose to watch and wait for a better chance to rescue her allies. While she chose the majority's safety over the life one, she still couldn't forgive herself for that. In the end, she just watched Ryan leave on Furball's back.

"While also agreeing that you did the right thing in choosing not to fight with those who are weak and have weak spirits, I must say that you might be trying to bite more than you can chew," Femradiel said. "The whole situation is on another level if compared to everything you faced until now."

"As long as we proceed carefully, everything will work out in the end," Ryan said. "While we are in a race against time, there is only so much that can be done on Earth. It is annoying to admit that, but Earth is doomed, the dungeon masters will eventually arrive and I can't prevent that, but I can prepare for it."

"How so?" Femradiel asked.

"By getting stronger like there is no tomorrow," Ryan replied, and as far as I am concerned, this is the perfect place for that."

“So, you are really planning to kill all the bosses?” Femradiel asked. “Even though the humans can cause dungeon breaks as much as they want?”

“I don’t think that is true, if the humans on their side could cause as much dungeon breaks as they want, their level would be much higher, possibly, the dungeon would have reached the max level a long time ago.”

Femradiel realized that was true... possibly, the dungeons could only grow so much in a short amount of time. Or maybe there could only exist a certain number of bosses at the same time, even though they were all copies from one original. Regardless, she realized that considering the monsters’ strength, Ryan wouldn’t have much use of Active Spiritual Recovery. So, for a while, she won’t receive that much mana.

“I won’t be able to recover much mana while you fight, so I would like to level up some of your skills and learn others to compensate for that during the times you will be resting between fights,” Femradiel said. “Can I level up your Passive Recovery?”

“You can make my skills level up as well with the mana you receive?” Ryan frowned. “Wait, isn’t that counterproductive for you?”

“Yes, I can.” Femradiel replied. “And no, even in the short term I will recover the mana invested pretty fast. There are other skills that you might learn to increase your mana regeneration, but knowing you, you won’t accept learning them. Unless, you decided to learn Hydromancy and Cryomancy later.”

“There is that option as well, huh,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully.

Ryan considered his options carefully. Given the set of skills he obtained lately, he didn’t have much use for magic aside from defending. Besides, the cost in the mana of his most powerful crossbows was pretty high. If he decides to use magic and his bolts and arrows to attack at the same time, he won’t be able to level up as fast as he wants his archer-related classes. It was high time for Ryan to confirm the path he wanted to choose...

“All right, let’s learn the skills that you recommend,” Ryan said.

Femradial was surprised by Ryan's decision. While he let her help more than a few times as of late, this time, he took a step forward to balance the status of their cooperation. Since they had the contract, strictly speaking, Femradial didn't need all that much mana anymore. In fact, she was already receiving more mana now than when she had a body.

"... All right," Femradial said. "I am going to pass the knowledge directly to your mind. There are some skills that will be really useful later on, but let's start with the basics."

Ryan's head began to hurt a little since the knowledge of that skill was quite dense and complicated. Still, once he understood the memories where Femradial used the skill, he got how useful that skill would be, and that was one of the basic skills from Femradial's perspective.

Congratulations! You learned the skill Mana-Eater.

Effects: it grants you the power to consume the mana inside inorganic things. You can consume ten points of mana per level.

Cost: 10 mana

You obtained 01 status points.

Congratulations! The skill Passive Recovery has leveled up.

Congratulations! The skill Passive Recovery has leveled up.

...

Congratulations! The skill Passive Recovery reached the max level.

You obtained 30 status points.

“What? Max level already?” Ryan frowned. “Femradiel... you didn’t say the skill would reach the max level.”

“That surprised me as well...” Femradiel said. “I didn’t think humans could only level up some skills up to one hundred. How weird... if I use the monster’s way to level up skills, that shouldn’t be a problem.”

“I am asking why you made the skill level up so many times...” Ryan said and then sighed. “Whatever... This is an unexpected limitation. Why can some skills only reach one hundred and others don’t have the same limit?”

Even after thinking for a while, not even Ryan or Femradiel managed to think of a proper explanation. He even managed to forget about Mana-Eater for a while due to it... in any case, while that skill wasn’t that useful at level one, once it leveled up, Femradiel managed to obtain a lot of mana from the magic items Ryan made.

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Electric Short Spear

Effect: Causes electric damage and paralyzes the foe for one second after every hit when causing more than five percent of damage per attack.

Durability: 80/80

Mana: 760/800

Now that Ryan could use Mana-Eater, he also could see another piece of information on his magic items. It was the amount of mana they had within themselves, and it was exactly how much mana he could obtain. Since the number of mobs on his way was high, Ryan didn’t waste much time creating magic items. He only got the drops and then let Femradiel use Mana-Eater.

“You can also use this spell on dead monsters,” Femradiel said.

“Let’s leave the bodies for Furball,” Ryan said while watching a small battle between the silver tigers and the black tortoises. “Besides, just like you said, I don’t have time to waste by making pauses so often.”

While Ryan decided to hunt those monsters down to strengthen himself, things already got complicated pretty soon. Even a small-scale battle between those two species of monsters was something way too massive for Ryan. Attacking them randomly might turn him into everyone’s target, so Ryan had to proceed with caution... to some extent. He didn’t have much time to be cautious.

“I guess I should stick to the basics, attack with Thunder Lord Crossbow the black tortoises and then burn the tigers with Fire Master Crossbow,” Ryan muttered and then frowned when one of the silver tigers got hit by a body slam and then hit a nearby mountain, making everything in the area tremble.

Instead of waiting for the monsters to kill themselves a little more, Ryan equipped his Sagittarians’ Bow and then knocked his Paralyzing Spear. Finally, he realized that he had to upgrade his longbow as well, and the best option was to create a new one.

“Now that I can use Spatial Manipulation, I can also store something as big as a ballista,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “Maybe I should make two of them and seal the souls of those freaks.”

The power of such enchanted weapons would really be something to see. However, that was something that could help him in the future, but not now. The most obvious solution to that problem was to rely on Power Shot. However, Ryan will hit only a single monster, and he has to defeat ten of them, before he becomes their dinner. Attacking from above wasn’t a possible solution since the silver tigers could hit him with their lightning bolts. In the end, Ryan managed to come up with a plan, it wouldn’t let him finish those ten monsters instantly, but it was something worth a shot.

“Let’s see if this can work...” Ryan muttered.

Ryan summoned three magic crossbows and then equipped his most powerful weapons in each hand. In the end, even before starting, Ryan thought that what he was doing was insane... but fighting against an army of thousands of monsters that were even stronger than dragons was equally insane. Regardless... Ryan activated Power Shot in all his weapons, and it actually worked.

“Holy shit...” Ryan laughed nervously.

His stamina was dropping at an insane speed, but Femradiel managed to recover Ryan's stamina and mana by using several potions. The level of resistance of those creatures was insane, so Ryan only stopped charging after five minutes when his stock of stamina potions was completely empty... he will have to focus on those on his potion creating process as well.

At the last moment, Ryan activated Deadly Aim and Perfect Aim, and then he fired. Even though he didn't break a record of charging Power Shot, his skills still pushed Ryan backward and made him fly for dozens of meters. In the end, Furball got Ryan since he spun so much that he almost lost consciousness, but somehow, his crazy plan worked.

You obtained 70.000 coins.

You obtained 70.000 coins.

You obtained 65.000 coins.

...

Five bosses died instantly. The power of his crossbows was that insane. It was a pity that Ryan couldn't the monsters' souls to make more magic items, but that was just a minor nuisance.

Before the monsters could find him, Ryan jumped on Furball's back and then gave him the order to run. At the same time, he began to attack the monsters with his crossbows. Fortunately, it looked like Ryan picked the right targets. Only two silver tigers could keep up with Furball's speed... However, they failed to get close due to Thunder Lord Crossbow's power.

"Kiting have never been this fun," Ryan smirked.

"You shouldn't forget that you are low on mana potions," Femradiel said. "End this quickly before you have to rely on recovery alone to fight."

"Yes, conscience," Ryan said.

While Ryan was delaying the monsters with Thunder Lord Crossbow, Ryan decided to charge another Power Shot with his other weapon. After a while, he fired the two bolts at the same time and made half of the face of a silver tiger explode. Before the creature could recover, Ryan pulled the triggers several times and then finished off the boss.

After that, Ryan equipped his Pestilence Crossbow and fought the remaining monster with poisonous and electric bolts. Whenever the beast tried to open its mouth and hit Ryan with a lightning bolt, he hit the monster's tongue with a bolt and shocked the beast. After a while, the monster's mouth was so full of bolts that the creature couldn't close it.

In the end, the monster decided to retreat, but Ryan fired a Power Shot and destroyed one of the creature's legs. Unable to do anything, the beast became an easy target for Ryan's Magic Upgrade. He used the creature's soul to make his crossbow even more powerful.

"I can do these three more times, but I can't neglect the other crossbow and those three black tortoises." Ryan said and then gave Furball the order to return to where they left the remaining monsters.

Killing three black tortoises had been surprisingly easy since they were slow. Unfortunately, since Ryan kept his distance, the monsters pretty much destroyed all the area's vegetation with their fire attacks.

Chapter 400

After some experimentation, while he was crafting another ballista, Ryan realized that those wouldn't help all that much per se. The reason was simple, the monsters were big, and he still would need a lot of time to charge the projectiles with Power Shot. His newest crossbows were a better option in terms of efficiency since Ryan could even use them alongside Firing Posture. So, he decided to adopt the ballista.

Mortal Needle Cannon

Effect: Consumes one hundred points of mana to fire a single massive steel needle capable of piercing the toughest flesh and ignoring ten percent of the target's Endurance.

Dexterity + 450

Durability: 250/250

The new ballista was thinner than the ones Ryan made before, but it was longer to be able to fire Steel Needles that were thirteen meters long. While those wouldn't kill the monsters, the needles at least would bother the bosses during the whole fight. Ryan intended to use it to damage the bosses' legs. However, before that, Ryan had to enchant the weapon with the soul of a monster.

"No... I will wait for a while," Ryan shook his head. "Crafting this thing took me a whole night and I don't intend to make another for the time being. Instead of selecting a monster to enchant this weapon, I should take a look at the other two. For the time being, the ballista will serve its purpose."

"As usual, you are always finding nastier ways to kill monsters," Femradiel said.

Ryan was still hundreds of kilometers away from Tokyo, so it was time to pick up the pace using his newest creation. While finding survivors was hard, and that didn't happen since the Haruna's group, finding the bosses wrestling each other was pretty common, so Ryan soon obtained a chance to test the weapon. Byakko and Genbu were fighting pretty much alone. They were the perfect test subjects, but then Ryan had another nasty idea.

"I didn't think you could be this brutal..." Femradiel said, and she sounded pretty impressed in a negative way.

"You already know what is about to happen, huh," Ryan smirked.

Ryan created a small earth tower and then took out his ballista from his storage dimension. Without even using Power Shot, Ryan pulled the lever, but not after he activated Deadly Aim and Perfect Aim. The massive steel needle flew in a straight line toward Byakko's right eye and pierced it. The creature screamed in agony, but despite the critical damage, the monster didn't die... yet. Ryan fired three more steel needles while Deadly Aim and Perfect Aim were also active. The projectiles hit the first needle and made it pierce the monster's head even more. After the second shot, the first projectile broke, the third one took its place, and the fourth one finished the job.

You obtained 70.000 coins.

Just like that, Ryan managed to kill a powerful monster without exposing himself. While he had to use half of his total mana, the experiment had been a success. It wasn't perfect, but it had a lot of room for growth.

"I guess I was lucky that when I fought you, you weren't this nasty," Femradiel said.

"I can't disagree with that," Ryan said.

Killing the black tortoise wouldn't be that fast, so Ryan only aimed at the monster's legs and made sure that the creature lost all the little mobility that it had. Once that happened, the monster couldn't even turn around properly. Ryan just flew and then landed on the back of the creature and beat it down until he finally obtained the chance to use Magic Upgrade.

"Nasty and efficient, that is how hunting monsters should be," Ryan nodded to himself in satisfaction. "Go on, buddy. It is time for your breakfast, when we leave this country, I want you to be as strong as those fuckers."

That was probably impossible, but no one could prevent Ryan from dreaming about it. In any case, while Ryan didn't need to look for drops anymore, he found it weird that lately, the number of drops had been decreasing. It has been a long while since the last time he obtained a decent time by killing monsters. So, he considered the idea of increasing his luck again.

"Luck is for weaklings," Femradiel said.

"I thought you couldn't read my mind..." Ryan frowned.

"I didn't read your mind, but your expressions are easy to read," Femradiel explained. "You should work more on your poker face and stop looking around trying to find loot."

That was something difficult, given that Ryan was as straight as his arrows and bolts... Regardless, he decided to increase his luck slightly and then see if things will improve a little bit. Even Furball had two

times more luck than him, so perhaps Ryan should let him fight more small fries and see what happens. The problem was that the small fries had at least two times more health than him.

“Femradiel, can you talk with Furball?” Ryan asked after suddenly having an idea.

“In a sense,” Femradiel replied.

“Can you pass your knowledge of some skills to him?” Ryan asked.

“That is impossible,” Femradiel replied. “While Wargs are fairly intelligent monsters, he won’t be able to assimilate the knowledge of a dragon. You are only able to do that because our spirits are connected due to the contract.”

“Is that so... that is a pity,” Ryan said.

Unfortunately, Ryan didn’t find another way to make Furball stronger. After Furball finished his meal, Ryan and the others proceeded to resume their journey. However, after a while, they change their course because Ryan found dozens of humans guarding a dungeon. Even from a distance, Ryan saw some Reptilians trying to leave the dungeon but failing due to the Japanese survivors.

It was another tier two dungeon, it wasn’t worth Ryan’s time, but in the end, he chose another route because he didn’t want to kill more humans. Even if they had joined the monsters’ side... Ryan didn’t want to become a butcher. Unless they attack him later, Ryan decided to leave them alone, to keep his sanity and his hands from being drenched with even more human blood.