

Domain 421

Chapter 421

It looked like Ryan stepped on a landmine. Yet, despite Titania's words, he wasn't even a little bit worried. Ryan already knew that something like that could, in fact, he considered that would happen as soon as the bosses defeated him. While that was a bit scary, he just used that as a fuel to motivate himself even more to win.

Titania decides to stop pulling her punches and put her hands together before firing a single concentrated electricity beam toward Ryan. However, he blocked the attack with his shield. Thanks to the effect of the weapon, Titania's attack didn't last for long. However, while she lost two thousand points of health, Ryan's shield lost ninety percent of its durability. Using that kind of strategy probably won't work for long. However, Ryan had a better idea...

Ryan canceled his magic bows and also stored the real ones, and then in the next moment, he created a massive sphere of water and then froze it with Water Transformation. Titania frowned since that obviously wouldn't block the power of a concentrated lightning bolt. Still, she soon understood what Ryan was plotting since his image was getting distorted on the other side of the sphere and eventually disappeared.

Instead of letting Ryan continue with his plans, Titania attacked the ice sphere and destroyed it completely. A good part of the ice melted and became steam... before Titania could find Ryan, the steam turned into mist... no, Ryan made a cold mist cover the entire room. Titania bit her lips in annoyance since the temperature was quickly dropping.

Titania tried to end things as fast as possible with her electric attacks, but when she charged the lightning bolt, she suffered some damage... Titania wounded herself with her own magic. That wasn't something that happened before without the intervention of her foes.

"What was that..." Titania frowned.

Before she could notice, Titania's whole body was covered in a thin layer of ice, she was suffering damage, and her speed decreased as well. Trying to disperse the cold wind, Titania fired a powerful gust of wind toward the exit of the dungeon, but since she focused on dispersing the weather, her attack

stopped at the ice wall that sealed the exit of the room. Right above it, she found Ryan, and despite the cold, he was completely fine.

“I thought you had great pride in your archery skills... I guess I was wrong,” Titania said.

“You will have to try a little bit harder to taunt me,” Ryan said. “Regardless, you don’t have to worry about that, I am going to finish you with my archery skills. I am just creating the right terrain for that.”

Titania tried to sense the presence of her pawns on the other side of that ice wall, but it looked like Ryan created a massive barrier in just a few seconds. Moreover, the weather was also increasing the barrier’s strength while his flame swords were killing the monsters. They will probably break before Ryan manages to end the fight, but the ice wall will certainly stop the monsters.

“I guess we can continue now,” Ryan said and then equipped his heavy crossbows.

Despite the unfavorable situation, Titania still was smiling. That made Ryan frown since it looked like she had a card hidden up her sleeve. Still, Ryan ignored it and began to fire his bolts.

Titania’s speed had decreased thanks to the cold, and now she couldn’t out speed Ryan’s bolts anymore. Grabbing them with her hands, she managed to decrease the damage received, but she was running out of patience little by little.

Ryan noticed that his mana regeneration had decreased slightly. That was a sign that one of his swords finally broke. While things were more or less under control, Ryan decided to go all out. In a single instant, Ryan uses dozens of DEX potions, and then his attack starts to make Titania’s hands hurt like hell.

In a fit of rage, Titania gave up on stalling for time and charged toward Ryan. He tried to use Flash to escape from her attack, but much to his surprise, Titania caused a small wind explosion behind her, making her speed increase. In the end, she grabbed his neck before he could escape. Titania used her lightning bolts again, while she still was damaging himself, it was obvious who would last longer.

Ryan mustered all the willpower he had to control the cold air around and make it stick in Titania's body after he also activated Regeneration. However, he wasn't healing fast enough, and the layer of ice that was increasing the damage that she was suffering still wasn't enough...

Ryan opened his mouth and used Ice Breath, trying to freeze Titania's head while also blinding her temporarily with his attack. In the meantime, he also summoned his ballista behind her, and while using Telekinesis, he pulled the lever. The massive steel needle pierced Titania's back and made her lose control over her powers for a second. An attack from behind in which she didn't notice obviously caused critical damage, but it didn't kill her, but it gave Ryan some room to breathe.

Ryan activated Perfect Aim and Deadly Aim and tried to fire several bolts on Titania's, yes, but her arms got in the way. That wasn't good, soon she recovered from the damage suffered and used lightning bolts to shock him, but she was forced to stop when a massive ice needle pierced her from behind and froze a good part of her back. Controlling the cold air, Ryan created another one on his ballista and then pulled the lever again. Her entire back froze...

"Where are you... my dear..." Titania muttered before the third ice needle finally pierced her heart and turned her into an ice statue.

You obtained 500.000 coins.

Ryan fell on the ground when the corpse finally lost the grip over his neck. While coughing, Ryan tried to recover as fast as possible since his mana wasn't regenerating as fast as before. Just as Ryan had imagined, Titania was waiting for reinforcements... but from whom?

Class: Hunter Lv 86 (+ 04 UP / Elementalist Lv 55 / Monk Lv 16 (-)

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

Rank: 91th

Health: 1925/1925 (5,26/s)

Mana: 3050/3050 (5,26/s)

Stamina: 3010/3010 (5,26/s)

Strength: 31 (+170) (+130)

Dexterity: 2750 (+2450) (+220)

Speed: 140 (+1036) (+48)

Intelligence: 81 (+695) (+33)

Endurance: 28 (+153) (+160)

Control: 06 (+1118) (+10)

Mentality: 08 (+73) (+70)

Luck: 140 (+20)

Recovery: 1200 (+1600) (+360)

Willpower: 30 (+71) (+40)

Coins: 17.233.712

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills:

Passive Physical Skills: Eagle Eyes Lv 84 (+ 03 UP), Concentration Lv 84 (+ 03 UP), Archery Lv 84 (+ 03 UP), Accuracy Lv 84 (+ 03 UP), Stealth Lv 71 (+ 03 UP), Dual Wield Lv 13 (+ 12 UP),

Spells: Water Walking Lv 01, Substitution Lv 01, Wind Armor Lv 10 (+ 09 UP),

Support Skills: Shock Resistance Lv 15 (+ 05 UP)

Classes:

Combat: Beastmaster Lv 53 (+ 04 UP), Archer Lv 80 (+ 05 UP), Combat Archer Lv 75 (+ 05 UP), Sniper Lv 58 (+ 03 UP), Weapons Master Lv 44 (+ 04 UP), Sentinel Lv 35 (+ 05 UP), Ranger Lv 30 (+ 03 UP), Poisonous Archer Lv 09 (+ 03 UP), Mimic Lv 03 (+ 02 UP),

Non-Combatant:

Race: Centaur, Lesser Dragon

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The fairies were starting to make the ice wall crack, but in the end, when they finally appeared, dozens of battle machines bombarded them alongside Ryan's magic bows. Ryan lost three useful magic weapons thanks to them, so he didn't hold back while massacring the little beasts. Fortunately, it looked like he was going to recover what he lost pretty soon, at least in a sense.

You obtained 180 coins.

You obtained 180 coins.

You obtained 180 coins.

...

Ryan also used the extra mana he was getting to freeze some of the fairies while keeping them still was kind of hard since their hands were like very sharp claws and their teeth were even more powerful than their claws, he still managed to turn them into some special arrows and a new weapon.

Confusion Crossbow (Mind) (+6)

Effect: fire bolts at the cost of fifty points of mana that might confuse your foes based on their level of mentality and willpower for twenty seconds.

Dexterity + 119, Intelligence + 64

Durability: 80/80

"I was expecting a mind-controlling weapon, but I guess this isn't so bad," Ryan shrugged. "The monsters will probably harm each other when they enter the confusion status... probably."

While Titania didn't drop anything, at least Ryan gained a new weapon and some intel. No, he actually confirmed his guess. Titania tried to stall for time while talking because she was hoping that something else aside from her fairies would come... it wasn't the dungeon's bosses since not a single one of them appeared... it was probably another dungeon boss.

"I thought it wasn't possible for monsters of other dungeons to enter the dungeons of other monsters..." Ryan frowned. "Now that I think about it, this dungeon was supposed to spawn only fairies... So why black tortoises come from here?"

There were too many questions that would keep bothering him for a while, but Ryan decided to put them aside for the time being. It was time to receive his true reward. Ryan approached the treasure box and touched it.

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: Warmaster, Hexblade, and Puppet Master.

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

It looked like Ryan got lucky again, two new classes he could choose, and one of them was in the place of his usual choice. That being said, he wasn't quite sure if that class would pay off given how much trouble Titania caused him.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Hexblade!

You obtained the following skills: Critical Focus, Crossbow Expert, and Sharpshooter.

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

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Critical Focus.

Effect: It grants you the chance to keep channeling spells and let skills stay active even when you receive damage that would likely make you lose focus. The amount of damage you can receive without losing the control of your abilities is twenty multiplied by the level of the skill

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Crossbow Expert

Effect: It increases the power of your attacks when using crossbows by two percent per level.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Sharpshooter.

Effect: It increases the speed of your projectiles by ten percent per level.

You obtained 01 status point.

While the skills were a bit different than Ryan had expected, they weren't half bad. Passive skills were one of the few things in this new Earth that Ryan would never get tired of, even more so when they increase his attack power.

Ryan left the dungeon in a hurry to see how things were outside, and much to his surprise, he didn't notice any changes. Furball and the Steel Eagle still were sleeping in the same place he had left them. In the distance, Ryan couldn't see any changes in the black tortoises' camp either. Since that was the case, Ryan returned to the dungeon and grabbed the loot dropped by the fairies.

"It looks like I missed a few things..." Femradiel suddenly said.

"You don't say..." Ryan said.

"To think I would fall asleep this badly without even noticing the enemy's plot... I am ashamed of myself," Femradiel said after a long sigh.

"Well, no harm done," Ryan shrugged. "I defeated the dungeon master, at least the version in which she had brought to this world... and in a sense, you helped me. You can't feel relieved for that, though. Since it was by accident."

"Can you give me a brief summary of what happened while I was away?" Femradiel asked. "To prevent that from happening again, I level up my Sleep Resistance."

Ryan explained the few things that he was certain of, but in the end, more doubts entered his mind when he arrived at the black tortoises' camp, but he couldn't find a single one of them. There wasn't a single sign of fights either.

“Based on what you told me, I can only assume that the black tortoises were summoned monsters,” Femradiel said. “The fairies summoned them and controlled them from the shadows to do their binding.”

“I guess their summoning was a bit different from the convention if they needed to do that...” Ryan said and then sighed. “It is a pity; I was hoping to gain a lot more coins by defeating them.”

Now the real question was with who Titania was working with, but now that Ryan’s head had cooled down, he quickly found a possible explanation. There were two thrones in Titania’s garden, and that only means while she was a queen, she had a king on her side, and the king was in one of the two remaining dungeons.

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Ryan wanted to rest a little since the fight against Titania had been tiresome, mentally speaking. As of late, Ryan was able to use less and less often Power Shot to finish off the bosses. While that was only natural given the creatures, he was trying to face. It didn’t change the fact that it was annoying. However, his break was quickly interrupted when those three were teleported near him again—the soldiers of the man who was guarding Tokyo.

“What now?” Ryan asked without trying to hide his displeasure.

“We have come on behalf of our master to thank you for your actions,” The man Ryan spoke earlier said, and despite Ryan’s words, he didn’t get angry. “Thanks to Lord Ryan, many of our citizens have been saved.”

“Who is Lord Ryan?” Ryan frowned. “I didn’t think I was teleported to the Middle Ages... while my parents were quite awesome, they weren’t nobles.”

“As far as I know Japanese people are quite polite,” Femradiel said. “So, I don’t think they are treating you like a nobleman. Anyway, they must be thanking you because you defeated the fairies and those were controlling some survivors while giving them powers.”

“I don’t need any thanks since I did that by accident,” Ryan said. “Still, if someone wants to thank me, they should come in person, not send some... emissaries or something.”

“Our master wants to do that, but he can’t leave his domain and currently, you stand too far away from the limits of his Telepathy,” The guard said. “Our master once again expresses a wish to welcome you to Tokyo, this time as an honorable guest.”

“I will check my agenda and confirm if I have any free time in the next few weeks,” Ryan said.

Despite his sarcasm, the guards only nodded after disappearing again. Once again, Ryan confirmed several interesting things... it looked like the guardian of Tokyo really had a domain stone, and that was what granted him the power to erect a magic barrier on his camp. While that guy was quite troublesome, it was probably thanks to him that another dungeon master didn’t try to kill Ryan while he was fighting Titania.

“What do you think, Femradial?” Ryan asked.

“I think your predictions aren’t that off the mark,” Femradial replied. “Still, I wouldn’t just accept my words blindly, after this failure, I need sometime to reflect on my actions.”

“... I guess even dragons can get depressed,” Ryan shrugged.

Several things were becoming evident as of late. One of them was the fact that the guardian of Tokyo couldn’t leave his domain because he didn’t have someone who he could trust with the authority and power granted by the domain stone. That was probably why he didn’t try to save the people outside his domain. Another thing that Ryan knew was that he could learn several things from him about the domain stones. It was much better to learn all the ins and outs before using it in order to prevent some mistakes. Since Femradial didn’t warn him of any ill intentions coming from the guards, it was safe to assume that the invitation wasn’t a trap... Still, Ryan was reluctant in meeting that person for some reason.

“I guess it is probably because he is the most influential person of this country right now and because he is more powerful than me,” Ryan said. “Therefore, I can’t just ignore him and do what I want in his playground.”

Since he wasn't a monster, the guardian wasn't Ryan's enemy. So, he couldn't act like usual... That was something he never noticed before, but it looked like Ryan had a problem with figures of authority.

"Who could have thought that I could be such a loose cannon," Ryan laughed a little.

In any case, Ryan decided to relax a while longer since Furball and the Steel Eagle still was sleeping. As usual, he didn't relax at all and just created potions like a madman. Around noon the next day, Furball and the eagle woke up, and Ryan already knew where he should go: Tokyo.

"I didn't expect you would go there," Femradiel said.

"While it will be a bit annoying, I need more intel about certain things. Besides, I can't let my pride get on the way that often," Ryan explained. "Also, while I am not an emissary from my country, keep ignoring that man will probably cause problems for my homeland."

The number of survivors around the world was incredibly low, so all the human race had to work together to face their common enemy: all the monsters.

Ryan didn't know if that would be useful given that the leader on the other side could use things like Telepathy and Clairvoyance, but he still decided to check something from the sky before reaching Tokyo. He didn't find anything odd aside from the fact that most of the city had been destroyed, but the center was almost entirely intact... or has been restored in the last few months. Since the camp was in the heart of the previous Tokyo, all the buildings were pretty tall and could house hundreds of people.

"I can sense a magic barrier a few meters ahead," Femradiel said.

Ryan made his Steel Eagle fly in circles while he was looking around and confirming that some soldiers were guarding the magic barrier's borders. However, weirdly enough, Ryan didn't find a single monster.

"Apparently, there is a fight happening in the South-East side of the barrier," Femradiel said.

"... More and more I am finding it difficult to believe that you aren't reading my mind," Ryan frowned.

“I told you, your expressions are just that easy to read,” Femradiel said.

Ryan sighed since he also was starting to think that was indeed the case. His grumpiness decreased quite a lot after he began to explore things outside his country. So, instead of an angry expression, most people could only see a slightly confusing one on Ryan’s face.

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“It looks like you are finally here.”

When Ryan landed and began to walk toward Tokyo, he suddenly heard that voice. While the voice seemed quite young and despite that calm and polite, Ryan couldn’t help but raise his guard against someone that could directly talk to his mind.

“I apologize for last night, I was planning to offer you some support while you were clearing the dungeon, but since I noticed that another dungeon was changing in its behavior, I decided to keep it in check,” The guardian of Tokyo said. “My name is Suzuki Yahiko, but you can call me by my first name.”

“So, you are Suzuki...” Ryan said.

“Actually, Suzuki is my surname,” Yahiko said, and he seemed a bit amused by Ryan’s words. “Regardless, I already formed the guards near you of your arrival, so you shouldn’t find any trouble while entering Tokyo.”

Just like Yahiko said, the guards that found Ryan didn’t do anything. Only after he crossed the magic barrier, one of them approached him and said that he would guide Ryan toward the guardian’s home.

“So, that is a barrier made by the domain stone...” Femradiel said.

“Did you notice something in it?” Ryan asked.

“It is a spell-like no other that I have seen...” Femradiel explained. “It looks like the magic barrier is directly connected to the dungeon master, and he can determine with a single thought those that can enter and those that should leave. Also, for some reason, I feel like we just entered his range of attack.”

“Well, that isn’t surprising since he can use Clairvoyance and is powerful enough to hold back four tier-three dungeons mostly by himself,” Ryan said.

“It isn’t because of that... it is because of the barrier... like he can move around this place almost without a single restriction,” Femradiel said. “I am pretty sure he isn’t a long-ranged fighter like you.”

That picked Ryan’s interest. While it seemed like he entered into a danger zone, he also had the power to erect a domain like that, and it would be pretty awesome if he could have a range as massive as that.

In any case, those who lived near the border of the barrier were mostly soldiers and guards, and those who lived in the center were civilians that had close to no powers. Ryan even saw some men and women rebuilding some buildings while kids were playing around with the skills they learned in the last six months.

All in all, it looked like nothing seriously have happened to those people in the last six months, and that was at the very least shocking from Ryan’s perspective. He didn’t think the domain stone could do that much.

Yahiko’s home was located at the top of a special building in which only those that worked directly for him could live in. While the building itself wasn’t something majestic or made to show how awesome they were, it still was pretty modern and kind of high-class. The elevator even still was working...

“You can find him on the last floor. He should be able to receive you at this moment,” The guard said.

Ryan sighed... why couldn’t they meet in a more appropriate place... why does he have to enter the apartment of a guy he didn’t know anything about? In any case, just to be sure, Ryan touched a certain vase on the first floor to activate Substitution. If something happens, he can instantly teleport to the first floor. However, when Ryan reached the floor where Yahiko’s apartment was, he only found a single ordinary room. The place had some furniture, but overall, it was pretty empty.

Yahiko was sitting cross-legged on his balcony, it looked like he was meditating, but Ryan couldn't sense him gathering any mana. Yahiko was like the most Japanese man, dark-haired, tall, and his eyes were deep brown. Ryan couldn't see anything in his overall appearance that could make him stand out as a powerful warrior. However, Ryan could sense a powerful aura around him... an aura different from those who had joined forces with a dragon.

"This guy is..." Femradial said, visibly surprised.

Yahiko (Ghost)

Class: Ancient Samurai/ — / —

Race: — / — / —

Rank: 05th

Health: 25.000/25.000

Mana: 35.000/35.000

Stamina: 45.000/45.000

Strength: 5000

Dexterity: 7000

Speed: 5000

Intelligence: 2500

Endurance: 3000

Control: 7500

Mentality: 4000

Luck: 2500

Recovery: 10.000

Willpower: 4000

Coins: —

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Sonic Slash Lv Max, Concentrated Strike Lv Max

Passive Physical Skills: Swordsmanship Lv Max, Strong Arms Lv Max, Improved Strength Lv Max

Spells: Quick Legs Lv Max, Ghostly Samurai Absorption Lv Max

Support Skills: Pain Resistance Lv Max, Fire Resistance Lv Max, Cold Resistance Lv Max

“It is an honor to meet you finally, Ryan,” Yahiko opened his eyes and spoke. “If you don’t mind, I would like to talk while I stay here. I need to keep my focus.”

“You are not a monster, are you?” Ryan asked.

“In a sense, I guess I am,” Yahiko smiled. “Shall I explain why you find my statuses weird?”

“Go on. I have a feeling that this will be a pretty entertaining story,” Ryan replied.

“Well then... everything started that day when the dragons started to destroy the world,” Yahiko said. “I was in a graveyard visiting my parents that died five years ago, and before I could do anything, a fire dragon tried to destroy the place and burn me alive. Somehow, I survived purely by chance because, in that graveyard, the spirit of an ancient samurai was resting there and possessed my body.”

“What?” Ryan asked with a frown on his face.

“I know how that sounds, but that is exactly what happened,” Yahiko smiled again. “The samurai summoned a ghost sword and then used it to slay the dragon. At first, he tried to erase my existence for some reason, but once he realized that we had a connection, his spirit fused with mine.”

“A ghost took over your body... why would a ghost suddenly appear at such a convenient time?” Ryan asked.

“I think that is how the dragon slayers are born,” Femradial replied.

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Femradial's words only puzzled Ryan even more... he thought that the dragon slayers were just another type of monster that dungeons were spawning. But now that he thought about it, if that were indeed the case, they would do something else instead of hunting dragons. They would work hard to make their dungeons reach the max level first... while hunting powerful creatures could help, hunting weaker monsters was much more efficient.

“I didn't notice, but it looks like you truly have a dragon spirit inside of you,” Yahiko said.

“That is weird since you don’t smell like them.”

“Do you hear that, Femradiel?” Ryan asked with a smile on his face. “He says that dragons’ smell... bad, I assume.”

“I didn’t mean that,” Yahiko said. “I was talking about the smell of their existence that smells like the seven deadly sins.”

“They smell like the seven deadly sins?” Ryan frowned. “I bet only some special soaps can help them with that.”

“... Back to the topic,” Yahiko said. “Since you already know the revival of some of us, I can skip some small details. Based on the information I obtained from the spirit of the samurai that possessed me, we weren’t summoned by unknown beings like the dragons, and we certainly aren’t like the other monsters that are coming to Earth by using dungeons. The will of the planet is what summoned the guardians.”

“Guardians?” Ryan frowned. “The guys who keep hunting dragons?”

“That is hard to explain, but I will try to be as simple as I can,” Yahiko said. “Just like the creatures of old are returning to our world, some legends are being revived again. Some are being revived by those who existed in the age of gods, the will of the planet is summoning others who aren’t that easy to control.”

“That is quite convenient,” Ryan said. “You are trying to look different from others who are in similar positions as you.”

“I can’t deny that,” Yahiko said. “But if I were lying, I wouldn’t be standing here and talking with you. I would try to kill the dragon inside of you. She can read my mind, right? Then she must know that I am not your or her enemy.”

Femradiel didn’t reply, but it looked like she had the same thoughts Ryan had earlier about Yahiko. In any case, Ryan also couldn’t feel any intentions coming from him, so at the very least, they could maintain a neutral relationship while their goal is the same.

“You said that you obtained the power to defeat a dragon after absorbing the spirit of a samurai,” Ryan said. “That is a bit hard to believe, that the people of centuries ago had that power. Unless their legends are deeply related to the level of power you could obtain from them.”

“You were correct. How famous a certain legend also determines the power of a guardian or a fallen. That is how I refer to those who decided to side with the monsters,” Yahiko said.

“However, my current level of power isn’t due to absorbing the spirit of a single samurai. As you can see, I only have a special class that I obtained when I first got the first spirit, but I also have a skill that grants me the power to absorb the spirits of other samurais.”

“It looks like a very useful but limited skill,” Ryan said.

“Well, we are on the lands of the samurais, so there is no better place to have it,” Yahiko smiled. “Thanks to that skill, I managed to defeat and absorb the power of samurais of old, and also thanks to it, I managed to protect a good part of Tokyo and its citizens.”

“That is why I came here, to talk about the powers you obtained as a dungeon master,” Ryan said. “If you tell me everything you know about it, we will be even, and you won’t have to treat me like you owe me something.”

“That is something I can gladly share with you since you also have the same chance as me,” Yahiko said. “There is no need to trade that small piece of information for the favor you gained with us by saving the lives of thousands.”

“That was an accident, and I don’t want to hear about useless things like that,” Ryan said.

“Right, right,” Yahiko laughed. “As you already know, the description of most skills and items doesn’t show everything they really can do. It is the same with the domain stone. The important thing that you need to know is that you can’t change your domain’s location once you use the stone. However, you can expand it with mana and coins. You also have access to a number of planets where you can create dungeons to invade them, some of them are new to these kinds of changes made by mana, but others aren’t so new... they are the worlds of where some creatures that are trying to invade Earth live.”

Ryan frowned when he heard that, since that a small detail that contested Ryan's new theory that this whole invasion thing wasn't something that was caused by an unknown being from an alien planet or civilization... Yep, Ryan was assuming too many things while obtaining new pieces of information and forgetting others...

"You probably heard that you could only select up to five bosses to spawn, but you can buy more slots to make different types of creatures to appear once a dungeon breaks happen, at the cost of coins and mana, of course," Yahiko said. "The domain system is quite complex, but those are the basics. You have to see for yourself instead of hearing my perspective about it."

Ryan nodded at that because, in fact, he didn't want to learn about everything. He only wanted to know about the limitations in order to prevent some troublesome mistakes. Now Ryan had to make another decision, look for other tiers, three dungeons all over the world, or create a domain in his home country...

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"Now, if you don't mind, I would like to ask you about the fight you had with the boss last night," Yahiko said. "I have some predictions about the creature you faced, but I need to confirm it."

Ryan also wanted to learn more about the creatures in the other dungeons, so talking now would help him in the short term. While Ryan still wanted to work alone, he didn't need to work against Yahiko.

"Titania, huh," Yahiko said. "As expected, we didn't help you last night because Oberon, the king of fairies, left his dungeon and tried to interfere in your fight. Just as I mentioned before, I held him back and his army in the South."

"You failed at killing him?" Ryan asked.

"Fighting a boss without leaving this domain is possible, but very unlikely," Yahiko replied. "Right now, I don't have someone I can trust with all the power of the dungeon master system. A single instant is enough to cause a lot of trouble and put the entire population at risk. That is why I used summoned monsters to stop Oberon."

“Is that so... By the way, why did those four dungeons appear around Tokyo?” Ryan asked.

“I assume they want my power as a dungeon master,” Yahiko said. “With my domain stone, the bosses would have the perfect terrain to create a new base on our planet.”

Ryan nodded since it made a lot of sense. He saw more than a few kids playing around, and it looked like they never saw a monster in their lives. While Yahiko probably had to pay something to have such a high defense level, it was worth the cost.

“I believe you still want to clear those dungeons,” Yahiko said. “As you already know, I watched you from afar and heard a lot from Haruna, so I can understand that you would rather work alone, but for the sake of efficiency, we should split the work.”

That wasn't a bad idea. While Ryan liked a challenge, there was no need to make things difficult. Besides, he was a stranger in those lands, so at the very least, he should consider Yahiko's proposal in the matter.

“I guess that is fine,” Ryan shrugged. “What do you have in mind?”

“Right now, the most troublesome opponent is Oberon since he can control the vermillion birds, also known as Suzaku,” Yahiko said. “So, we should deal with him as soon as possible before Titania finds a way to intervene in the fight. While you just cleared her dungeon, we can't underestimate them. I am not a bright strategist, and while I have some experience while fighting, I never cleared a dungeon, so the best thing I can do is give you some soldiers that will obey all your commands.”

Ryan sighed... that wasn't what he had in mind. Until now, he only had the experience of a single large-scale battle while 'leading' people. That was when he was facing the succubus, and Alissa began to fly to fight the bosses. During that time, all he did was shout angry and call her soldiers' names because they couldn't fight while keeping their attention on their surroundings.

“I am not someone who is appropriate to lead others,” Ryan shrugged.

“Mmm... that might be a problem,” Yahiko rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “In that case, I will call Haruna to be the second leader of this operation, and she will be the one who will give the orders to my soldiers.”

“Why her?” Ryan frowned.

“She knows you to some extent, right?” Yahiko asked. “Based on what she knows about you, she will give the orders. Also, she is a pretty good leader. She managed to keep her friends from joining the monsters’ side for quite a while, and the number of losses her group had over the last six months is quite small.”

That was a pretty solid argument, and Ryan knew that Yahiko was telling the truth since he knew Haruna to some extent. So, his worries were eased a little bit. Since everything was more or less ready, Ryan decided to wait for the others who would go with him on the Southern side of the barrier.

“I will be waiting for them in the outskirts of the city,” Ryan said and then turned around.

“You really live at a crazy pace,” Yahiko laughed. “Just one more thing, Ryan. I believe we can cooperate more often, so I would like to open a telepathic channel with you. Given how much you like to travel, I would like to ask you to connect with other people who might help us in the future on this channel.”

In the end, Ryan didn’t even think of refusing since the other channel wasn’t bothering him in the slightest. While it would be useful just to put Yahiko on the first channel, Ryan wasn’t the one who created it, and Gustavo said clearly that he only wanted people who could transform into dragons on that one.

“All right,” Ryan said.

All in all, that conversation had been quite fruitful. However, Ryan was still left with a worry in his head... it was Yahiko’s position in the ranking. He was the fifth strongest human, and that was strange given the way he obtained power and the skills that he had.

“It is time to make for messing up last night, Femradial,” Ryan said. “The enemies this time are firebirds... essentially. You have the elemental advantage, so I am expecting great things from you.”

“How odd, given your usual tactic of solving everything by yourself,” Femradial said.

“This time, I am not alone, so I don’t have to follow my code of honor that strictly,” Ryan said.

“Code of honor, huh...” Femradial said. “That really fits you.”

Furball barked as if Ryan had forgotten about him, and then he patted his head. While Furball was reliable, the matchup this time was quite troublesome since the enemies could fly. Maybe it was time to upgrade Furball’s skill list...

Chapter 427

Furball’s coolness increased quite a bit when Ryan bought the tome and made him learn Ice Cannon, a spell one tier below Ice Breath. While the range wasn’t that impressive, it was more than enough for the time being. Besides, with his speed, Furball could approach most enemies and attack them before they could react. While they were waiting for the others, Ryan gave Furball the order to train the skill, and he also used some mana potions on him.

“Sorry for the wait,” Haruna said after arriving while leading a group of twenty soldiers. “We met again much sooner than I expected.”

“I guess so,” Ryan said.

Ryan ignored Haruna’s smile and just went straight to the business. If his memories were correct, half of the guys she brought were her old companions, while the other half belonged to Yahiko’s army. It was hard to be sure since they all were using the same set of armor. The only real difference was that Haruna’s friends still had their old weapons alongside the two katanas the ordinary soldiers carried with them.

“Let’s get going,” Ryan said.

“Our leader said that I would give the orders once the fight happens, but aren’t you going to say anything about what we should or shouldn’t do?” Haruna asked.

“I don’t know how things will proceed since the enemies can fly, and they are much stronger than anything I faced before, so I can’t say what you should or shouldn’t do,” Ryan replied.

“You should ask those who had fought the vermillion birds a few times for tips and strategies. All I can say is that once we find the boss, you guys will have to hold back the minions for me. Trust me. You won’t like to stay nearby once the fight starts.”

Ryan recalled that he turned the last part of the dungeon into a pretty decent copy of the north pole to seal Titania’s attacks. Normal humans couldn’t endure that cold. Ryan only could because of Femradriel’s power.

“Anyway, give me the details about the fight last night,” Ryan said. “Yahiko blocked the monster’s advance, but he didn’t do it alone, right?”

“Yes, although we didn’t have many chances to act since he went all out to help you,” Haruna said. “We used some long-range weapons, but we didn’t help all that much. Since the fight, the vermillion birds and fairies stopped attacking us.”

As expected, the monster called Oberon decided to retreat now that he had lost Titania’s support. It looked like the fight was going to be more difficult since Oberon knew that he couldn’t underestimate Ryan and because he was mad. He killed his wife, after all.

“What the vermillion birds can do?” Ryan asked.

“They can create fire tornadoes when they flap their wings, but they really like it to fire explosive fire arrows,” Haruna replied. “When they are about to die, they always try to self-destruct near their enemies. We have to defeat them before they have that chance because the power of the explosion is massive and because they can revive if they manage to kill someone with the attack.”

That was a weird condition to revive. In any case, the monster really looked like the Eastern version of phoenix. Considering its elemental skills, Ryan considered the idea of killing some Azure dragons and making some magic crossbows, but in the end, he changed his mind.

“Lord Yahiko selected the best users of ice magic for this job, so things should be fine,” Haruna said.

Added to that fact, Haruna and everyone else had a backpack filled with mana potions... that wouldn't last even for a single hour of fighting.

“Lord Yahiko will send supplies to us whenever necessary, so you don't have to worry about that,” Haruna said.

“See? I told you... you are pretty easy to read.” Femradiel said.

“Hey, Yahiko,” Ryan said. “If you are watching us, you should prepare a huge supply of mana potions and send them to us as soon as possible. I want to finish this job tomorrow, so don't be stingy. Your people will pay for the potions later.”

No one aside from Haruna could understand what Ryan said, but they could guess based on his tone, and naturally, they didn't like it. Despite that, some soldiers appeared after a few minutes carrying some boxes filled with potions. Ryan stored them inside his storage dimension in order to keep their pace.

After walking for a while, Ryan frowned since they didn't have to fight a single time, and there was no monster in the distance. Fairies could hide while they controlled their foes, so Ryan's Radar was active but wasn't picking anything.

“Did you guys get attacked by the vermillion birds and the azure dragons at the same time?” Ryan asked.

“... No, that never happened,” Haruna replied after she made the same question to her allies. “Do you think the monsters might attack us from behind now that we are so far away from Tokyo?”

“I think that it is possible,” Ryan replied. “Do you know if the azure dragons are being controlled as well?”

“We think that is the case,” Haruna replied. “But until now, we haven’t confirmed that since we never had the chance to enter the dungeon. Lord Yahiko will probably send another team to investigate the remaining dungeon, so when we return, we will probably obtain the answer for that question.”

Ryan’s doubts would disappear if someone could tell him the precise time the other team will do their job... in any case, while the possibility of being attacked from behind was small, Ryan couldn’t relax.

To prevent that unpleasant surprise, Ryan gave the order for his steel eagle to fly high and keep its eyes on the surroundings. Hopefully, his pet will notice the enemies’ approach and will warn Ryan before the monsters could kill the eagle. Just to be sure, Ryan made his pet absorb some SPE potions, but that was only temporary and quite costly... Ryan has to learn a spell that increases speed.

Chapter 428

When Ryan found the monsters, his frost crossbow was already in his hands. However, instead of using it, Ryan just stared in amazement at the number of vermillion birds, the bosses and the ordinary ones.

Suzaku – Lv 350

Health: 55.000/55.000

Mana: 75.000/75.000

Stamina: 65.000/65.000

Strength: 3000

Dexterity: 3500

Speed: 2500

Intelligence: 4000

Endurance: 1500

Control: 2000

Mentality: 3000

Luck: 500

Recovery: 25.000

Willpower: 3000

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Explosive Touch Lv 320

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Speed Lv 300, Improved Strength Lv 320

Spells: Fire Tornado Lv 350, Fireball Lv 350, Explosive Resurrection Lv 300

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 500, Shock Resistance Lv 250, Wind Resistance Lv 200

“Together, they look like a massive warehouse of dynamite that is about to explode,” Ryan said while facing the thousands of monsters around the dungeon that was in the center of a grove.

As expected, the fairies were also summoning the monsters. Ryan and the others could see that happening now and then. However, it also looked like they were focusing only on numbers since some of the monsters were just wandering around the dungeon with no apparent purpose. They weren't being controlled.

“What do you think, Femradial?” Ryan asked.

“I would say that defeating this massive number of monsters is possible,” Femradial replied.

“The real question is: can we defeat them before they get too close and use their self-destruction skill? Even though some of them aren't being controlled, all of them will attack us once we begin to kill their kin.”

Ryan nodded at that; it was only natural. Although it was weird that the monsters couldn't notice that some of their allies were being controlled by the fairies. The simplest way to prevent casualties was for Ryan to attack from the sky and keep the monsters' focus on him. Oberon most likely would appear and try to kill Ryan, so the chances of that failing were quite low. Ryan just had to last for a while and then decrease the monsters' army little by little alongside Haruna and the others.

“Femradial, you will stay here and bombard the enemies, since you can't recover mana as fast as me, you will need to stay close to the mana potions,” Ryan said. “If the monsters get close enough, don't hesitate and go all-out.”

“So, I am babysitting,” Femradial said.

“I think that it is more accurate to say that you will make sure that those guys will be useful for as long as possible,” Ryan said. “Besides, you will have the chance to attack as much as possible while I draw the monsters' attention. So, this position is the best for you given the current circumstances.”

Furball would stay behind as well since a lot of mana was required to make him levitate. As for the Steel Eagle, the creature would remain on guard duty and make sure that no third party will join the fight unnoticed.

Ryan doubted that those would be useful, but he decided to equip the Frozen Gauntlets just in case. After giving a few more warnings, Ryan began to fly high in the sky until he disappeared from everyone's sight. His basic plan was to cause as much damage as possible, so he will need some distance and distance over his enemies to succeed in that. It would be great if Ryan could keep fighting at high altitudes, but if he does that, Femradiel, Haruna, and the others won't be able to offer him any support. So, he decided to do that only at the beginning of the fight.

"Well, here goes nothing..." Ryan said and then canceled Telekinesis.

Ryan summoned his magic bows and began to charge Power Shots with them. A bit sooner than Ryan had expected, the monsters noticed his approach. He was just a tiny point in the sky five kilometers above ground level. However, they still noticed his approach or his energy being concentrated... Regardless, Ryan decided to wait for a while longer since the monsters would fly toward him in a big mob. In the end, things proceeded as Ryan had planned, and when he finally released his Power Shots, dozens of bosses and hundreds of ordinary monsters died. While his mana was being recovered thanks to the monsters' death, Ryan also activated Rapid Shot, Arrow Shower, along with his Magic Bows and continued to decimate the monsters.

From Haruna's perspective, it looked like a spaceship had just entered Earth and began to destroy everything in its path... that was the power that Ryan had obtained. It was even insane due to the fact that Ryan wasn't prideful and didn't look satisfied with his level of power. While all humans wanted more power, it looked like Ryan's hunger was on another level...

Haruna woke up from her stupor when Furball barked while looking in another direction. When she looked in the same direction, she saw a weird yellow-ish cloud moving toward them... those were the fairies.

"It is our turn now, everyone," Haruna said.

As soon as Haruna finished that sentence, Femradiel opened her mouth and used Ice Breath. In just a few seconds, she froze hundreds of fairies, but since the massive sphere of ice that covered them was cracking, it looked like they didn't die.

“What are you waiting for?” Femradiel asked. “Attack!”

Haruna and the others did as they were told, even though it felt weird obeying the commands of a small dragon. While they were freezing, the fairies couldn't do anything to evade the massive wave of attacks and died by the droves.

When Ryan noticed that his mana regeneration increased a little bit, he also noticed that the others had already started the fight. So, he increased his attack speed even more by firing Ice Arrows at the monsters, but in the end, he was forced to slow down and use Telekinesis again to fly away since the vermilion birds started to explode near him. The heat caused by the explosions was no joke, and to make matters even more complicated, their allies suffered no damage despite them.

Chapter 429

Ryan flew around the area while attacking with his Magic Bows. It was the only thing he could do in order not to lose speed. Still, even though he could control them with a single thought, the monsters still got close enough to attack him.

“It won't be that easy, huh...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows.

When the nearest monster exploded, Ryan used Flash and escaped from the damage caused. Still, soon enough, he had to repeat the same thing. It looked like the power of his Magic Bows that were essentially copies of his Frozen Crossbow wasn't enough.

It seemed a bit too soon for that, but in the end, Ryan used some DEX potions to increase his firepower alongside Ranger's Awakening. Thanks to it, his bolts slowed down the monsters chasing him to the point where he didn't even have to use Flash anymore.

Ryan smiled in satisfaction, but then he suddenly felt a shiver, and then he used Flash several times in rapid succession. Ryan's ears began to ring when a massive lightning bolt passed by the place he had

been a few moments ago, and in an instant, it killed dozens of bosses. After looking in the direction the attack came from, Ryan saw a weird man at the dungeon entrance. He was also blond and had long pointy ears, but unlike Titania, he wasn't wearing a dress made of flowers, he had a flower crown, but his body was covered by what seemed to be an electric barrier.

Oberon – Lv 450

Health: 60.000/60.000

Mana: 239.000/240.000

Stamina: 90.000/90.000

Strength: 500

Dexterity: 2500 (+ 300)

Speed: 2500 (+ 200)

Intelligence: 8500 (+ 1500)

Endurance: 3000 (+ 200)

Control: 4500 (+ 500)

Mentality: 6000 (+ 1000)

Luck: 2000

Recovery: 90.000

Willpower: 6000 (+ 1000)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Confusion Touch Lv 400

Passive Physical Skills: Focus Lv 380, Mind Enhancement Lv 350, Blessing of the Fairies Lv 380

Spells: Thunder Armor Lv 350, Fly Lv 400, Wind Manipulation Lv 300, Wind Transformation Lv 300, Wind Creation Lv 300, Thunder Cannon Lv 400, Thunder Storm Lv 250

Support Skills: Wind Resistance Lv 400, Electric Resistance Lv 400, Shock Resistance Lv 350, Cold Resistance Lv 250

Although he seemed pretty pissed, Oberon was indeed a good match for Titania. It was annoying to admit it, but he looked almost supernaturally handsome, even from Ryan's perspective. However, Ryan was more interested in the type of weapon he could obtain if he seals his soul into a weapon.

“It looks like ice magic won't be of any use against him...” Ryan frowned. “That is odd, while he is a bit stronger than Titania, I can't understand how his Cold Resistance is so high.”

It looked like Titania warned Oberon about how Ryan defeated her. That would explain why he left the dungeon so soon, but Ryan had a hard time believing that Oberon trained his Cold Resistance up to that point in just a few hours.

“Femradiel, make sure that you and the others won’t get his attention,” Ryan said. “It will be a terrible match up... I will try to draw his attention to the other side of this area and you guys will keep attacking the monsters freely.”

“I don’t think he will let you,” Femradiel said. “He will definitely try to get you by surprise while using the other monsters.”

“He is welcome to try,” Ryan said.

Ryan pointed his Magic Bows at Oberon and fired. However, some sparks of lightning suddenly appeared around Oberon’s body and repelled the projectiles... It was like some kind of automatic defense that can protect Oberon no matter what.

Oberon kept glaring at Ryan as if he was trying to open a hole in him with his eyes alone... Ryan couldn’t understand why the guy was so angry, given that his wife has a semi-immortality. In any case, Ryan began to fly toward the opposite direction where he left Femradiel, Haruna, and the others, and just like Femradiel said, Oberon made the vermillion birds fly toward Ryan. He didn’t have time to slow them down, so the monsters got close enough and exploded. Ryan used Flash to escape, but then another lightning bolt flew toward him... Ryan escaped after using Flash again, but his eyes were spinning.

“This is getting old really quick,” Ryan bit his lips in annoyance.

Ryan couldn’t even begin to think of a way to attack Oberon at the moment. It seemed like making him spend his mana as much as possible seemed like the best approach. However, with a recovery that high... it didn’t seem like a plausible plan of action.

“Let’s try that...” Ryan muttered.

Ryan began to charge a Power Shot after summoning his Fire Master Crossbow. Oberon just looked annoyed at him since it was evident that Ryan’s attacks wouldn’t land that easily. Regardless, Oberon made the vermillion birds fly and explode once they got close to Ryan, but this time he only used Flash once. When the lightning bolt flew toward him, Ryan blocked his shield after covering it in a thick layer of wind.

Somehow, the shield withstands the attack, and Oberon tasted a bit of his own poison and trembled when he suffered damage. However, Ryan was stunned due to the sound caused by the impact of his shield against the Thunder Cannon. Several vermilion birds used that change to approach, but they stopped in midair after Ryan used Purification and summoned his newest crossbow to attack them. While his confusion crossbow only worked against the small fries, it showed Ryan something very interesting... The bolts made the fairies lose total control over them. Against the bosses, it stunned them for several seconds since the fairies' power and the effect of his crossbow countered each other.

That cost him a lot of mana, but Ryan freed several of the monsters from the fairies' control while Oberon was recovering from that unpleasant surprise.

Femradial, can you do two things at the same time?" Ryan asked.

"Freeze or kill the fairies that will appear, right?" Femradial asked. "Leave it to me."

Chapter 430

Ryan and Femradial quickly were decreasing Oberon's army now that they didn't need to kill all of them. Despite that, Oberon didn't seem more enraged than before... It looked like his fury had already reached the peak a long time ago.

Upon noticing that an attack from a distance would give Ryan just enough time to escape, Oberon decided to change his tactics. He began to fly slowly toward him. Ryan didn't know if he was trying to look badass since he was a king, or that was just another tactic to make Ryan get tense. Either way, he couldn't care less about it.

When Oberon pointed his right hand toward him, Ryan fired his Power Shot toward the boss. His bolt and Thunder Cannon collided against each other, and a massive explosion happened. Ryan used that chance to fly high and then free several other monsters from the fairies' control, but much to his surprise, Oberon approached him and began to fire lightning bolts. Ryan used his shield enchanted with wind power to repel them, but his shield wouldn't last long if that continues...

"... I guess it is time to do what I wasn't expecting to do," Ryan muttered after clicking his tongue.

Ryan stopped firing with his Magic Bows and then used Flash to approach Oberon. Whenever he moved slightly, Ryan moved to the side in order to escape from his sight. Before Oberon could find a pattern in Ryan's movement, he disappeared from his sight. Then Oberon felt a powerful impact on his back, followed by several touches that slightly bothered him.

When Oberon turned around, he saw Ryan shaking his arms that the electric barrier had electrocuted. Despite that, Ryan succeeded in making some poisonous bolts pierce the monster's skin, and he noticed that the boss was suffering considerable damage... it wasn't much, but it was progressing.

"The barrier focused on the points my punches touched, that means I can't open a hole in it... shit," Ryan clicked his tongue in annoyance when he saw several monsters flying towards him.

Just because Ryan found a hole in Oberon's plan of attack, it doesn't mean his victory was assured. Regardless, while Oberon was pulling away from the bolts from his back, Ryan summoned the short spears he enchanted with the spirit of the fairies. However, instead of firing them from different directions, Ryan made them spin very close from each other, forming a longer spear. Oberon's annoyance increased slightly since he knew what Ryan was planning.

When the boss moved its hand, Ryan fired the short spears, and as expected, Oberon used Thunder Cannon. His attack slowly destroyed one spear after the other, but while doing that, his attack was completely stopped. Oberon imagined that Ryan would use that chance to attack. Still, much to his surprise, Ryan flew away from him, and then he landed on the ground, only using Earth Manipulation and Earth Transformation to create a single long sword. After that, Ryan bombarded the face of a random vermillion bird until it froze and it was knocked down. Ryan used Seal on it. He repeated while his short spears were being destroyed one after the other.

Explosive Long Sword (Fire) (+6)

Effect: it causes explosions upon contact that consumes fifty points of mana per second, and the damage caused will be equal to your strength plus your intelligence.

Strength + 150, Intelligence + 105

Durability: 150/150

“Now this is more like it,” Ryan said while swinging around his new weapon that emitted a black and red glow.

“... What do you think you are planning to do with that?” Oberon finally opened his mouth.

“Oh, you can talk!” Ryan said, faking his surprise. “I can’t say it, since that would ruin the surprise... but I can give you a small hint: it will be even worse than what I did with your wife.”

Oberon bit his lips until they started to bleed. In a single instant, dark clouds covered the sky, and Ryan confirmed it wasn’t a fluke since Oberon used half of his mana in that instant as well.

“Focus on defense, Femradial,” Ryan said.

Soon after Ryan finished that sentence, lightning bolts began to fall from the sky like rain. Some of them almost hit Ryan, but the vast majority decimated the vermillion birds and the fairies that controlled them. Ryan used Flash non-stop to dodge the Thunder Storm, but he failed at protecting his eardrums... his sense of balance was completely messed up, but even in that situation, Ryan continued to move around, trying to dodge the lightning bolts and while also charging Concentrated Strike.

Ryan used several potions to increase his speed and another status alongside his mana and stamina, and much to his surprise, he wasn’t interrupted even a single time. The monsters couldn’t move without risking getting hit by lightning bolts, and even though he was trying his best, Oberon couldn’t control the power of such a massive spell completely.

When Ryan’s mana reached a certain point, he used Full-Heal and then recovered himself. It was time to put his plan into practice... little by little, Ryan approached the boss, he made sure to always stay in Oberon’s field of vision, trying to taunt him to attack as many times as possible in order to make the idiot spend his mana.

Suddenly, Ryan used Flash several times in a straight line to approach Oberon. He didn’t waste that chance, and Oberon prepared Thunder Cannon, but Ryan disappeared from his field of vision at the last minute. In the next moment, Oberon felt a sharp pain on his back, and then he began to fall... his wings had been cut.

“I told you that it would be worse than what I did to your...” Ryan said, but then he stopped when he felt a shiver.

Ryan used Flash to escape, but in the end, he still got hit by a lightning bolt when several of them fell from the sky around Oberon... Ryan didn't have the chance to block or dodge it.

Chapter 431

When Ryan opened his eyes again, he couldn't move a single inch. Little by little, he began to recall what happened... he cut down Oberon's wings but then was hit by a single lightning bolt. In the last second, he somehow activated Wind Armor and Mana Barrier, and that was probably what saved him, but it looked like his joints had been fried up.

“Woah, you survived that...” Femradiel said. “I thought you were a goner, I even stopped fighting since I thought I was going to disappear as well.”

Ryan looked around and only saw his new weapon at his side. Aside from that, he could only see the burned ground that the lightning bolts had hit. In the distance, he could see some vermillion birds flying, but Femradiel was keeping them busy. Then, Ryan suddenly began to hear footsteps... it was Oberon.

Using the little mana he had, Ryan tried to heal himself, but while his health was recovered, his body still was paralyzed... that wasn't good. For some reason, Oberon wasn't trying to fry him with another lightning bolt, but that doesn't mean he couldn't do anything with his hands. Ryan used Telekinesis and forced his body to stand, only to see a half-dead Oberon walking toward him. As expected, he suffered quite a lot, even though he didn't receive a direct hit by his own spell.

“Not bad, king,” Ryan said while he raised his sword by using Telekinesis. “You certainly are resilient... for a fairy.”

Ryan made his sword spin and then fired it at Oberon, but he activated the electric barrier again. The piercing damage and even the power of the explosive effect only made Oberon stagger a little bit. Now that Ryan had recovered a little bit, he could see that Oberon lost an eye and the other was covered in blood... that was probably why he was walking toward him instead of attacking from a safe distance. When Oberon finally saw Ryan's shadow from his perspective, he pointed his hands toward him, but

then Ryan created a hole beneath him by using Earth Manipulation. Ryan tried to close the hole, but the electric barrier was getting in his way.

“So annoying...” Ryan clicked his tongue.

Ryan had an idea when he noticed that the spell was automatic since they were close to each other. That was possible again... Ryan created a lot of water around Oberon and then decreased the temperature while it was approaching the boss. Oberon tried to make it go away by using a gust of wind, but he only succeeded in making the ice that was in front of him go away. The thin layer of ice on his sides and back began to melt and cover him in steam while it touched the electric barrier. Oberon started to suffer damage from the electricity as well and thus was forced to cancel the spell.

“This is more like it...” Ryan said.

Unfortunately, things didn't become easier after that. Oberon fired several wind spheres that hit Ryan and made him fly backward for several meters. When Ryan finally stopped spinning, he used his sword to block the attacks, summoned a single Magic Bow, and activated Perfect Aim before firing. A single poisonous bolt destroyed Oberon's remaining eye.

“Ugh... how dare you...” Oberon muttered.

“There is no need to get upset,” Ryan said. “This is just a fake body, right? Now, just obediently accept your defeat and become a magic weapon for me.”

Ryan prepared to cut off the boss's limbs, but before he could do any of that, Oberon cast once again Thunder Storm... Ryan clicked his tongue in annoyance since he had too little mana. In the end, he activated Concentrated Strike and flew toward the monster before hitting his face with his knee. The spell was canceled since the boss finally fell unconscious. Ryan sighed in relief, but he couldn't sit on the ground to relax since he couldn't move his body.

After using enough potions, Ryan used Purification and recovered some control over his body. In the distance, Ryan saw the number of vermillion birds decreasing while others just flew away from the battlefield... which was good. He had some time to do what he wanted.

Titanium Storm Long Bow (Stone)

Effect: fire bolts at the cost of seventy-five points of mana that will shock your foes for a set amount of time-based on their Shock Resistance.

Dexterity + 120, Intelligence + 60

Durability: 150/150

You obtained 3.562.100 coins

“Not bad I guess,” Ryan nodded to himself in satisfaction. “Wait... why did this guy have so many coins?”

The cost of mana was troublesome as usual, but at least the effects and overall power were pretty useful. Besides, Ryan was feeling that he was getting lazy by relying solely on crossbows and automatic shots with the Magic Bow skill. If one wants to keep improving, one has to improve the basics. That being said, there wasn't much where Ryan could improve since he practically knew the number of times he missed a shot.

After thinking for a while, Ryan concluded that Oberon obtained coins by killing the vermillion birds and even his own fairies... which was weird. Ryan felt like testing if that was possible, but he was stopped before he could do it.

“If you don't mind, we need some help to prevent the monsters from flying to other areas,” Femradiel said. “Things are going well, for now, but it might become messy with any misstep.”

Ryan sighed... he wanted to relax a bit more since his muscles were still sore due to that lightning bolt. Still, he soon rejoined the fight since he wanted more coins and also wanted to make some more magic items by using the vermillion birds. He decided to think that as a necessary job to be done before he gets his real reward: the next class.

Class: Hunter Lv 90 (+ 04 UP) / Elementalist Lv 57 (+ 02 UP) / Monk Lv 16 (–)

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

Rank: 85th

Health: 2021/2021 (5,26/s)

Mana: 3185/3185 (5,26/s)

Stamina: 3230/3230 (5,26/s)

Strength: 31 (+170) (+130)

Dexterity: 2750 (+2720) (+220)

Speed: 140 (+1195) (+48)

Intelligence: 81 (+695) (+33)

Endurance: 28 (+153) (+160)

Control: 06 (+1245) (+10)

Mentality: 08 (+73) (+70)

Luck: 140 (+20)

Recovery: 1200 (+1600) (+360)

Willpower: 30 (+71) (+40)

Coins: 24.778.952

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Power Shot Lv Max (+ 01 UP),

Passive Physical Skills: Eagle Eyes Lv 87 (+ 03 UP), Concentration Lv 87 (+ 03 UP), Archery Lv 87 (+ 03 UP), Accuracy Lv 87 (+ 03 UP), Stealth Lv 74 (+ 03 UP), Crossbow Expert Lv 07 (+ 06 UP), Sharpshooter Lv 07 (+ 06 UP),

Spells: Summon Warg Lv 55 (+ 04 UP), Ranger's Awakening Lv 26 (+ 04 UP),

Support Skills: Electric Resistance Lv 32 (+ 07 UP), Shock Resistance Lv 19 (+ 04 UP),

Classes:

Combat: Sage Lv 60 (+ 03 UP), Beastmaster Lv 53 (+ 04 UP), Archer Lv 84 (+ 04 UP), Combat Archer Lv 80 (+ 05 UP), Sniper Lv 60 (+ 02 UP), Weapons Master Lv 49 (+ 05 UP), Sentinel Lv 38 (+ 03 UP), Ranger Lv 35 (+ 05 UP), Hexblade Lv 08 (+ 07 UP),

Non-Combatant: Alchemist Lv 33 (+ 03 UP)

Race: Centaur, Lesser Dragon

Chapter 432

Ryan sighed when he checked his skill list. His best skill finally reached the max level. To think that his best skill, the first active skill he learned by himself, would reach the level cap so soon was disheartening, to say the least. Not even the fact that he won the fight in a single day improved his mood.

“I can’t believe we did it... we won in a single afternoon!” Haruna shouted and jumped as if she had done something very impressive.

While that was indeed impressive, Ryan couldn’t share the same excitement. Regardless, it was time to proceed toward the dungeon... after getting his loot. While they were all fire-based, Ryan managed to obtain some magic items that were a little better than the old ones he lost in the last few days. As for the others he got, they were only half of the things the monsters dropped.

“I guess we are set to go,” Haruna smiled despite being exhausted due to the fight.

“It looks like someone is happy because they are about to receive a promotion,” Ryan said.

“Well, I am just trying my best for my friends to receive good treatment,” Haruna said. “While Lord Yahiko doesn’t discriminate the old or new members of his camp, he recognizes that fact that he needs to be careful with how he treats everyone.”

Lately, Ryan learned how useful it was to have a human army, but he also learned that he had to consider several useless things. What Haruna mentioned was one of them... in the end, an army of monsters was less balanced, but at least he didn’t have to worry about that kind of bullshit.

After the loot was distributed, Ryan, Haruna, and the others headed toward the dungeon. While Ryan kept his guard up in case Oberon had left something behind to cause problems for him, Ryan didn’t find anything. As usual, some fairies spawned inside the dungeon, but nothing major happened.

“I guess they live in the same world...” Ryan said while looking at the ground, ceiling, and walls of the dungeon covered in flowers and vines.

Now that Ryan thought about it, those flowers were from another planet. He wondered if they could be useful in some sort of way, but Analysis didn't show him anything. In the end, they found the purple crystal and the treasure chest rather quickly.

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: Dark Knight, Poisonous Archer, and Conjuror.

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.

"No luck this time, huh," Ryan said and then sighed while shrugging. "... I suppose it can't be helped."

It happened again... those were three classes that Ryan have already seen before. Regardless, that might be a good chance. Ryan suffered too much damage in a single moment against Oberon, so maybe it was time for him to grow a little sturdier. While the Conjuror class interested Ryan, he already had his hands full by using two crossbows and controlling the Magic Bows with his mind.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Dark Knight!

You obtained the following skills: Bloodthirsty, Cursed Rage, and Health Boost.

Your health and strength will increase by six points, your stamina, mana, endurance, and mentality will increase by three points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Bloodthirsty.

Effect: It grants you the power to heal yourself based on the damage caused when using swords. You can heal one percent of the damage caused per level.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Cursed Rage

Effect: It consumes one point of health per attack to increase the power of your attacks when using swords by one percent.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Health Boost.

Effect: It increases your health by twenty points per level.

You obtained 01 status point.

Ryan couldn't help but stare in amazement at those skills. Not only they didn't consume his stamina and mana, but they were also incredibly useful. The Dark Knight class granted Ryan a lot of survivability.

“Who could have thought that you could become this excited by obtaining a class that doesn't improve your current fighting style...” Femradiel said.

Congratulations! You have reached the rank of the 80 strongest humans! Keep clearing dungeons and defeating monsters to raise your rank, and you might receive some nice rewards!

Current Rank: 79th

You obtained Fly tome.

“... What?” Ryan muttered in shock.

Ryan thought he wouldn't obtain anything anymore by raising his rank, but it looked like, once again, his predictions were off the mark... moreover, Ryan had been lucky. Fly consumed only twenty points of mana per second and increased his movement speed by one percent per level...

“That and several other spells you could have easily learned just by using Draconic Transformation just once,” Femradial said.

“All this time, and you still don’t understand that I don’t intend to use such skill,” Ryan sighed.

“Why not?” Femradial asked. “You already letting me join the fights, so why not stop being so stubborn?”

“This is this and that is that,” Ryan said while he shrugged.

After a long sigh, Femradial decided to end the talk right there. Regardless, while Haruna and the others were getting their classes, Ryan decided to level up Fly a little bit. Weirdly enough, it was much convenient to use Fly than use Telekinesis to move around.

Ryan felt like since the day he was born, he could freely move in the air... it was pretty fun, relaxing, and the sense of freedom couldn’t be compared to anything else. Ryan decided to train that skill whenever possible because he would need that boost in movement speed.

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After everyone picked their classes, Haruna left some of her friends behind. They would guard the dungeon until a proper team could take their places.

“Let’s get going,” Ryan declared.

In just a few minutes, the sun would set, so there was no real reason for Ryan to be in a hurry. Fighting at night against flying enemies alone was possible for Ryan, but today he will have to give up on that he won’t have the chance to clear the dungeon solo.

It was already dark when they arrived in Tokyo, and the guards frowned since no one looked particularly injured, and those who came back seemed in a bad mood.

“It looks like you succeeded and much sooner than I predicted,” Yahiko said via Telepathy. “You should come to my base; we have room for guests and food ready.”

“I am going to pass,” Ryan said. “If you don’t mind, I want to pass my time here alone on the roof of the building.”

“Well... you free to do that as long as you don’t damage anything,” Yahiko said, and he sounded slightly surprised.

Ryan flew to the roof of that building, and he took with him Furball while the steel

eagle went alone. His pet ate a lot of monsters while Haruna and the others were gathering the loot, so only Ryan had to hurry about food. Fortunately, he stored a lot of the vermilion birds’ meat to cook later.

“You don’t need to eat, Femradial?” Ryan asked.

“Dragons only need to eat to devour the mana that resides in the corpses of the defeated foes,” Femradial replied. “All this mana that I am getting while I exist inside of you serves like a pretty continuous banquet.”

“If that is the case, your next body should be fatter, since you clearly don’t exercise enough,” Ryan said.

Ryan cooked some of the meat he got and was more than satisfied with the taste. As expected, the tougher the enemy, the tastier they will be.

While Ryan was eating, Yahiko suddenly appeared and decided to join. It was only thanks to him that Ryan noticed that the small Tokyo that had been rebuilt looked really pretty at night. Some houses had electricity, while others used fire-base tools to keep things illuminated, but even so, all those lights made Ryan feel a sense of comfort in his chest. Despite everything, the human race still was trying to keep moving...

“The team that I sent to clear the azure dragons returned,” Yahiko said with a serious expression. “All of them returned alive, but... their situation wasn’t good and they only killed a few bosses.”

That was very good for Ryan, more dragon hearts for him, but he couldn’t actually celebrate that since Yahiko’s soldiers probably almost died trying to do their job. Ryan thought they wouldn’t go as far as Yahiko kept them safe in the magic barrier, but Ryan’s presence and accomplishments probably made them try harder. He was a foreigner that did in a few days what they failed at doing in months, after all.

“So, no clue about the creature who is controlling them, huh,” Ryan said.

“Yes, although I don’t think it is safe to assume that all of the four beasts were being controlled,” Yahiko said. “As I told you, the ghost that tried to take over my body was summoned by the will of the planet, we can’t confirm that they are on our soldiers, but they certainly are trying to prevent the destruction of the world.”

“Meaning?” Ryan asked.

“What I mean is, in our culture, those four creatures were supposed to bring good luck,” Yahiko said. “So, while some monsters tried to control them, there is a small chance that the azure dragons aren’t being controlled as well. They are aiming for my head because I absorbed the power of many ghosts that could have become guardians.”

That was a pretty interesting and confusing theory, but Ryan decided to keep his own hypothesis about the problem. Yahiko was powerful, but he somehow still could think that some external factors beyond human control were trying to keep the world safe. Ryan couldn’t do that; he couldn’t trust in what he couldn’t see when the world was in the situation, and humans have been losing the war for the past six months. Even Ryan was already working while assuming that they would keep losing the first battles until the dungeon masters come to Earth, but then that arrival would be the sign that they could win the war. If the true body of the dungeon masters is killed, then they will disappear for good.

“I am thinking about going tomorrow to the dungeon with you,” Yahiko said. “I think I found someone that can shoulder the weight of the power of a dungeon master.”

“Haruna...” Ryan said.

“So, you noticed it,” Yahiko said.

“It is the most obvious choice given her accomplishments and her personality,” Ryan said.

“Besides, you probably can read minds, so you are one hundred percent sure that she isn’t thinking of her own gains.”

“That is correct,” Yahiko nodded.

“I can’t say that I like that idea, I want the dragon hearts for myself,” Ryan said.

“You are refreshingly honest, Ryan,” Yahiko laughed. “Unfortunately, I can’t let get all of them. I want to give the chance to those who stayed behind in this race for power to recover the time lost. The dragon hearts will give me that chance.”

“That is all good and everything, but you are making a mistake,” Ryan said. “Give too much power for the people to do what they want and they will begin to follow their own rules, I saw something like that happening a while ago. As far as I can tell, you have done a good job not getting ahead of yourself with all that power, so why not focus on strengthening yourself even further?”

“Because that I am already carrying too much weight on my shoulders,” Yahiko replied. “Whether I like it or not, I am the leader and the hope of my people and if I fall, the people here will probably lose all the hope and go down without a fight... I can’t let that happen.”

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After that talk that Ryan had with Yahiko, he spent the night pondering about such things. In the end, he only confirmed the fact that working alone was the best. While his life was on the on a daily basis since he rarely picked the fights that he could easily win, at the very least, Ryan knew that the success or the failures were resting only on his shoulders. He didn’t have to rely on anyone... aside from his pets.

“I guess I have what it takes to be a dictator,” Ryan shrugged. “Or things go on my way, or they go the highway.”

“It took you a while to notice that,” Femradiel said.

It was only natural that he would think of his Steel Eagle as a vehicle than as his ally, but in the end, Ryan couldn't do the same to Furball and, to some extent, with Femradiel. They helped him more than a little bit, so their safety was starting to bother him quite a bit as of late... bother him in a good sense. Still, as long as he survives, they will live, and Ryan wasn't planning to die anytime soon.

When the sun started to rise, Ryan noticed that things were getting kind of intense in that building. Many people were moving around in a hurry. Since that was a big deal and probably the first time that happened, Yahiko would alert everyone that he was going to leave his domain and someone else would do his job for him.

“I am not planning to stay in a single place forever, so I guess I have to find someone to look after my domain now and then,” Ryan muttered. “Apparently, the range of the domain can increase by using mana and stamina, but I won't be able to relax until my domain can cover the entire territory of a large state.”

“You are pretty ambitious,” Femradiel said.

“Aren't you going to offer yourself that job?” Ryan asked.

“Knowing you, you would only wonder if I am plotting something by doing that,” Femradiel said. “I am not very interested in managing a dungeon, since the things that I need to become stronger will be consumed by the dungeon pretty much all the time.”

“So, you decided to stay away from that problem since it would only slow you down,” Ryan said. “What a teammate you are.”

“While you are not wrong, it doesn't mean I won't do it,” Femradiel said. “As long as I have some tools, I can counter some demerits and besides, if you give the order, I will obey it.”

“I really don't want to give such an important job to someone who doesn't want to do it,” Ryan shrugged.

Furball was pretty strong, so maybe he could guard the domain in case some creature clears the dungeons that Ryan might possess. As long as Ryan gives him the right skills, he truly could become an awesome watchdog. The only real problem was that it was kind of worrisome to give such an important task to someone who could only bark.

Regardless, that was a problem Ryan could worry about later. While standing at the top of the building, Ryan watched Yahiko's whole speech to his people. Ryan didn't understand a single word, though. Thousands of people came to watch him, and despite everything, they didn't make much commotion. Just like Yahiko said, those people relied too much on him. When the people began to disperse, Ryan approached only to see a really excited Yahiko and a nervous Haruna.

"Don't worry, you got this," Yahiko said.

"Yes, sir! I will try not to disappoint you too much, sir!" Haruna said.

"... I don't think that is too late to reconsider this," Ryan said.

After hearing that, Haruna got even more nervous and a bit depressed, but Yahiko only laughed. In his eyes, it looked like Haruna was truly the person for the job. The only question was for how long? Ryan, Haruna, and the others cleared the previous dungeon in a single afternoon. Now he would clear a more difficult dungeon with the help of his pets and just another person... they had to be faster because her nervousness might be too much for Haruna. She will end up making a mistake. If that happens, her lack of confidence will only get worse.

"Shall we go then?" Yahiko asked.

Some people accompanied Ryan and Yahiko, but they eventually stopped when they reached the barrier's boundaries. At that moment, Ryan finally realized that Yahiko wasn't wearing a single piece of armor. Even if his items were on a storage dimension, proceeding without equipping them at that moment seemed like arrogance.

"Where are your items?" Ryan asked.

“You mean this?” Yahiko asked after he summoned a semi-transparent set of Japanese armor and a katana.

Ryan frowned when he saw those since he failed at identifying the items... actually, they weren't items. They were some kinds of skill that Ryan never saw before and couldn't even begin to understand.

“I call them the ghost sword and the ghost armor,” Yahiko said. “By summoning the spirits of some samurais that I absorbed, I can transform them like this as well. If I use several spirits, the armor and the sword become much more powerful.”

“That seems pretty useful...” Ryan said.

In a sense, it was like an item that could grow almost infinitely stronger. While Yahiko's special skill had a limit, he will eventually find a way to improve it. Ryan wanted power like that too, or at least a weapon that could grow with him, but he didn't have a single idea where he could get or how he could forge such a weapon.

After advancing for a while, Ryan felt that weird sensation that he was being watched. In the end, Femradiel warned him about the location of a single enemy. Even before Ryan could do anything, an azure dragon hidden at the peak of a certain mountain began to fly away from them. Ryan began to charge his Power Shot, but in the blink of an eye, Yahiko swung his sword, and two seconds later, the dragon lost its head

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“I guess that was a scout dragon,” Yahiko said while the monster was falling. “To think that they would even go as far as using a boss to do a scout's work... we really can't underestimate them.”

Ryan was having a hard time keeping his mouth closed since he was astonished. He knew that Yahiko was powerful, but not to that extent... Ryan could kill such a dragon in one shot, but he needed some preparation. In any case, Ryan recognized the skill he used. It was Sonic Blade. It was a skill that didn't have many limitations aside from its high cost. So, it was evident that Yahiko could use it constantly without worrying about anything.

"I guess the difference in rank is being shown in combat as well," Femradiel said via Telepathy. "I am glad we aren't his enemy."

"You really are a coward, huh," Ryan said.

"There is no courage in trying to fight an enemy that can weep the floor with your body, that is only madness," Femradiel said.

After they approached the body, Yahiko cut it down into several parts before getting the dragon heart and storing it inside a ring. It was a relief for Ryan to know that Yahiko at least couldn't use Space Manipulation. In any case, instead of leaving the rest of the body behind, Yahiko teleported it back to Tokyo.

"Are the bodies that useful?" Ryan asked. "Those dragons don't look as sturdy as the other ones."

"Azure dragons can become decent pieces of light armor for long-ranged fighters, but we mostly use them for their meat," Yahiko said. "I am sure that you already noticed, but the people of this country value their tradition and culture quite a lot. That is why most of them use traditional armor. Speaking of which, it is kind of strange to see an archer using such a black armor."

"It is the best armor that I found and I also wear it for some other reasons," Ryan said.

Yahiko understood that was a topic Ryan didn't want to talk about it, so he stayed silent after that. While Ryan thanked him for his consideration, he still got annoyed later... Yahiko killed several other azure dragons in one shot. Thus, Ryan was starting to wonder if he really needed any help to clear the dungeon.

"You are not messing with me, are you?" Ryan asked.

"Hahaha, sorry about this," Yahiko said after laughing for a while. "The truth is, it has been a while since I fought a difficult fight, so I wasn't so sure if I could clear this dungeon alone. While I do have some tracking skills, I am kind of slow when it comes to that, I hoped that you would watch my back."

“Despite how much I helped your country, you even have the nerve to use me like that, huh,” Ryan said. “Why I am not surprised?”

“I don’t think use is the correct word, I think trust is the correct one,” Yahiko said. “Besides, I am going to pay for all your services once we finish this job.”

“Why I feel like I am not going to like my payment?” Ryan asked.

“You are such a worrywart, Ryan,” Yahiko laughed. “Don’t worry, I assure you that you will like your reward.”

Ryan couldn’t feel any ill intentions coming from Yahiko. Still, he couldn’t bring himself to trust the guy that easily. It probably because he was monopolizing pretty much all the dragon hearts...

After a few hours, they finally found the azure dragon’s dungeon... Yahiko wasn’t surprised by its location, but Ryan was... it was in the ocean and completely underwater. As if that wasn’t troublesome enough, all the dragons were also hidden underwater.

“You should have warned me about this,” Ryan said.

“Your Underwater Resistance is at a low-level?” Yahiko asked, surprised. “My apologies... I didn’t consider that. Even though I spent training mine for weeks while I waited for this opportunity.”

“Well, there is a way to solve this problem to some extent,” Ryan said.

“My turn, huh,” Femradiel said.

While Ryan could just create a massive tank of water and level up the skill right there, he didn’t want to waste more time than he already was going to waste to clear the dungeon. Now more than ever, it made a lot of sense Yahiko came instead of sending his subordinates. Fighting monsters in their habitat is much more difficult.

“Getting the loot after defeating them will be a pain in the ass,” Ryan said. “Regardless, how we should proceed now? I am fairly certain that we can start the fight and decrease their numbers from a distance.”

“Are you fine in letting me take the charge when I didn’t have a decent fight in months?” Yahiko asked.

“This is your country, and its future depends on this fight,” Ryan replied. “If we fail here, I want you to be responsible for it. Or if we succeed, everyone will know that you were responsible for it.”

“Sometimes it is hard to know if you are being considerate or cold,” Yahiko frowned. “Well, they have the advantage in the ocean and in the sky, given their numbers, we shouldn’t give them the privilege to deal the first strike either. Let’s bombard them from a distance and make them taste a bit of their poison.”

It looked like Yahiko wanted to use that opportunity to release all the frustration and anger the monsters caused to him and his people. However, they were several kilometers away from the dungeon and the ocean. While they had the high ground due to the surface of the region, Ryan had no idea if Yahiko would be able to hit the monsters. He will have to help him with that...

“I assume you are thinking of using Clairvoyance to help with your aim, but you should have your mana for when the things start to get messy,” Ryan said. “I will make the azure dragons leave the ocean.”

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Yahiko was quite interested in how Ryan would do that since he had no idea how he could do the same. In the end, he didn’t notice anything while Ryan just stared at the ocean. However, eventually, his presence changed, and Yahiko tried to see what changed with Appraisal. He finally noticed his status and skills for the first time, but they were more mage-like than archer-like.

Ryan raised his arms toward the sky, and then dark clouds appeared in the sky, his mana was being sucked at incredible speeds, but Femradiel used the potions to help him with that. Eventually, the preparations for Thunder Storm were complete, but Ryan failed at controlling the spell. Dozens of lightning bolts fell on the ocean and electrocuted everything around, but several others also hit the land...

“Shit... I wanted to hit them after they leave the ocean and slowly decrease their numbers...” Ryan clicked his tongue and then said.

“What did you expect? You never train your spells at the same pace you train your archery skills,” Femradiel said.

You obtained 75.000 coins.

You obtained 75.000 coins.

You obtained 250 coins.

...

Ryan recognized that fact, but he still hoped that his focus would help him with that. Regardless, it looked like despite everything, Ryan succeeded to some extent. Dozens of corpses of bosses began to float in the ocean, and hundreds of the mobs also appeared. After recovering from the shocking surprise, the others left the sea and prepared for the fight... there was no point in hiding when Ryan could cause such much damage from afar. His strategy of copying Oberon’s skills and statuses worked. Maybe he should use those types of skills more often. Still, since they were never that satisfying to use, Ryan was reluctant despite their usefulness.

Seiryu – Lv 370

Health: 65.000/65.000

Mana: 80.000/80.000

Stamina: 65.000/65.000

Strength: 2000

Dexterity: 3500

Speed: 2000

Intelligence: 6000

Endurance: 1500

Control: 3000

Mentality: 4000

Luck: 1500

Recovery: 25.000

Willpower: 4000

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Aquatic Charge Lv 330

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Speed Lv 330, Improved Strength Lv 320, Improved Intelligence Lv 310

Spells: Water Tornado Lv 350, Water Manipulation Lv 350, Wind Manipulation Lv 350, Water Cannon Lv 300

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 200, Shock Resistance Lv 220, Wind Resistance Lv 200, Water Resistance Lv 200

The monsters began to fly toward Ryan and Yahiko, but their range was larger than they had predicted. The azure dragons opened their mouths and fired Water Cannons. Ryan summoned his shield to block and stop their advance, but it was unnecessary... Yahiko swung his sword, not only cutting their attacks with Sonic Blade but also beheading the monsters that charged too eagerly...

“... Maybe you should strive to reach that level of strength, Ryan,” Femradiel said via Telepathy. “You can’t be arrogant until you reach that level of strength.”

Ryan ignored Femradiel’s words and then equipped his newest bow. Without worrying about the cost of mana each arrow consumed, he fired and shocked the dragons for a few precious moments. Yahiko used to behead them. They were a pretty good team... but Ryan knew that his presence was completely unnecessary there. Without breaking a sweat, Yahiko could kill dozens of dragons in a few seconds, after all.

“Oh, well... no point in complaining and getting annoyed,” Ryan shrugged. “I just have to obtain as many coins as possible and then get my next class.”

While Ryan and Yahiko’s combined attacks could completely stop the boss’s charge, the same couldn’t be said about the ordinary monsters. Their numbers easily reached the five digits mark, and it would be a waste to use Yahiko’s attacks just to kill them. Femradiel tried to kill them, but the elemental match-up wasn’t that favorable for her.

“I guess I will need to develop some other elemental affinities and pass to the next familiar,” Femradiel said.

“You are planning to make more... of your offspring and use them like that?” Ryan frowned.

“That was just a manner of speaking,” Femradiel said. “What I created and I can create is a small version of my body. Besides, that will be useful, I want to keep my main body with its natural properties.”

Dragons were weird... but Ryan decided to forget about that and change his targets. Yahiko was more than capable of dealing with bosses alone. Without hesitating, Ryan summoned his Magic Bows and began to attack the ordinary monsters. Despite that, the monsters were getting close. Little by little... things won't be that easy, it seems.

“We will have to split,” Ryan said.

“It is okay, don't worry,” Yahiko said.

When the monsters were just five hundred meters away from them, Yahiko canceled his ghost armor and made it disperse. After a few seconds, several ghosts took shape, and for some reason, they were all wearing the armor and sword that Yahiko wears. However, Ryan could easily tell them apart. Even though they were ghosts, they had some scars on their bodies and their hairstyle was pretty much different from each other.

“Kill them,” Yahiko said.

The ghosts flew in all directions while approaching the monsters. Several Water Cannons were fired towards them, but the spells passed through them... they really were convenient creatures. As if they were some killing machines, the ghost began to split the azure dragons in two... even faster than Ryan.

“It looks like your pride is being damaged by the minute,” Femradiel said.

“Just... shut up, Femradiel,” Ryan said after a long sigh.

In the end, Ryan only confirmed what he already knew. Yahiko didn't need his help, and he couldn't clear the dungeon by himself. The azure dragons weren't pushovers, but they never had the chance to scratch Ryan or Yahiko. Still, he waited patiently for the time where the dungeon master who was pulling strings to show up and make the battle hard, as it should be... but they never showed up.

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“That was unexpectedly anticlimactic...” Yahiko said while he and Ryan walked across the corpses of the headless dragons.

Ryan was as confused as Yahiko was. He didn’t imagine that the fight wouldn’t end like that... maybe Yahiko was right, and no one controlled the azure dragons. Yet, Ryan decided to keep his guard up. He had a feeling that he couldn’t describe, with words bothering him in his chest.

“Do you think something is waiting for us inside the dungeon?” Yahiko asked.

“I am not sure,” Ryan replied. “Underwater, I am not nearly as effective, but I don’t think you will face any problems. If someone laid a trap for us, that someone probably already know your attack power won’t decrease inside the dungeon... considering that, it would be a pretty stupid idea to wait for all these monsters to be decimated and only after that attack.”

Another possibility was that the dungeon master gave up since the other three dungeons were cleared and the armies defeated. Facing a group of people who could do it alone wasn’t a good idea, even more so when Yahiko never participated in the fights and was strong enough to clear those dungeons alone.

“Can you change the boss of your dungeon?” Ryan asked.

“I can, but only once the bosses are defeated, or if I buy another slot for a boss, but the order can’t be changed,” Yahiko replied. “Do you think the dungeon master was here but decided to escape upon noticing that their changes were small?”

“I think it is possible... while it is difficult, and probably requires a stupid amount of mana, I bet that some monsters can travel between the world and Earth without relying on the dungeons,” Ryan replied while rubbing his chin. “When those four dungeons appeared?”

“At the same day I obtained the domain stone...” Yahiko replied. “That is what made me think that they wanted my domain.”

“That was probably what caused their downfall... they didn’t think you would last this long,” Ryan said. “Anyway, hopefully, others that also used their domain stones won’t have fallen for the attack of monsters. Otherwise... things might be pretty messy in other regions.”

Without wasting any more time, Ryan and Yahiko jumped into the ocean and swam toward the underwater dungeon. While some monsters were spawning, none of them were really a threat to them. In the end, they confirmed that there wasn’t a trap waiting for them inside the dungeon. That was disappointing, as it was a relief. Regardless, Ryan hurried to pick his class because even though his skill improved his resistance, he could only last a couple of minutes underwater.

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: Warlord, Sentinel, 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 already had the Sentinel class, and he had already seen the High Mage. While it was interesting, he was more interested in the melee one. Hopefully, he would get lucky again, but even if he doesn’t, Ryan was more interested in the bonus points he would receive with each level up.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Warlord!

You obtained the following skills: Improved Strength, Steel Nerves, and War Cry.

Your health and strength will increase by six points. Your stamina, mana, endurance, and mentality will increase by three points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Improved Strength.

Effect: It passively increases your strength by five points per level

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Steel Nerves

Effect: It increases your perception when dodging all types of attacks by one percent per level, making them apparently slower as they approach.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: War Cry.

Effect: It increases your and your allies Strength and Endurance by five points per level for sixty seconds.

Cost: 50 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Before Ryan could complain about his new skills, he left the dungeon since he was running out of air. He had decided not to worry about the skills earlier, but in the end, he couldn't help but feel disappointed.

"Well... at least I obtained a buff that works in the area and doesn't consume much mana," Ryan said after sighing.

"It looks like our work is done here," Yahiko said. "I am kind of excited that I got my first class after clearing my first dungeon, but I don't feel any difference in me."

"My job is done here and since there is no other tier three dungeon, I am going to depart," Ryan said. "See ya."

"I don't think anyone can do that with the world in this state, but you should take it easy for a day at least, Ryan," Yahiko said. "I can tell that you have been in battle mode for quite a while... you remember

a documentary about soldiers that had PTSD and couldn't go by a single day without thinking about fighting."

"Your persuasion skills need some work," Ryan frowned. "While I look on edge from your perspective, I am completely fine. I didn't lash my anger at anyone... yet. So, there is nothing to worry about."

"But about your reward?" Yahiko said. "I left it in Tokyo and in this kind of situation, we need to celebrate our success."

"I hate crowds; besides, you are lying," Ryan said. "If you truly obtained something valuable that you intended to give me, you wouldn't store somewhere else, not when you have a storage ring."

"You got me there," Yahiko laughed. "Still... it doesn't change the fact that I need to reward you in front of my allies for your efforts, while I don't care about keeping appearances, this is something that I want to do, you freed thousands of Japanese men and women, after all."

"... I am not interested, but I will give you the chance to tell me one reason to stay here for a few more hours," Ryan sighed.

"A reason? How about a Teleportation tome?" Yahiko showed an unusual smirk.

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In the end, Ryan decided to stay for the rest of the day and spend the night in Tokyo as well. It would be stupid to leave without receiving the tome. Considering how useful it would be, Ryan also decided to help Yahiko with the celebration. As long as he doesn't have to give speeches and smile to everyone, he would stay and celebrate... not like everyone would be able to understand his words.

"I should have asked him to give me the tome in order to level up," Ryan said while he was watching the citizens of the city preparing for the party. "in any case, this is a good opportunity for me... I have almost a full day to think about what I should do next."

“Going home or keeping looking for other tier three dungeons, right?” Femradiel asked. “If you don’t intend to stay in your domain for long, you should look for a guardian to keep things in check while you travel. I know some spells that might help you with that, making sapient beings completely obedient to you, but it won’t solve anything if that someone isn’t powerful enough to hold down a possible threat while you are away.”

“Are you talking about brainwashing?” Ryan frowned. “I would rather not use something like that...”

“It isn’t brainwashing, it is just a spell to prevent someone from doing something you don’t want,” Femradiel said. “Well, first you have to look for someone who you can trust for that. I am pretty sure you don’t have someone like that, right?”

Ryan could only nod... while he gave Zoe an important task, it was a bit different from that. Besides, he couldn’t put any more weight on her shoulders. Regardless, if Ryan doesn’t find someone appropriate, he could just fill his domain with summoned creatures. Now that he was going to learn Teleport, his movement speed would increase several times. While he probably didn’t have enough mana to move between countries, maybe one day he will have...

“Yeah, I am going to return for a while,” Ryan nodded to himself. “I just need to look for a good place where I can find many monsters of several species, I will be able to obtain a lot of mana and coins by creating a domain in such a place. That is what I need to keep the domain growing.”

After making his decision, Ryan waited patiently for the celebration. Although there weren’t many resources to be used, Yahiko made sure that his people would be able to enjoy the party without holding back. After all, they will be able to leave his domain and do whatever they wanted from now on. Be it create other camps near other dungeons or try to rebuild the infrastructure of their old society.

When the party started, Ryan felt incredibly out of place because most of the Japanese wore clothes that looked traditional or at least pretty comfortable. While Ryan didn’t take his equipment out even for a second. After the party’s start, Yahiko gave a speech on a wooden platform and soon called Ryan. While he heard some applauses, Ryan couldn’t help but frown... it was weird to listen to an ovation in unknown words. In the end, Yahiko quickly gave Ryan the tome since it was obvious that he didn’t like to be the center of the attention.

Congratulations! You learned the skill Teleport.

Effect: It grants you the power to instantly move over long distances. You can teleport to places that you have already been or that you can see. The distance crossed is equal to the amount of mana used multiplied by ten meters per level.

Ryan finally grinned from ear to ear, but he should have done that after leaving the platform since he looked like someone who was planning to do something questionable with his new skill. Yahiko laughed heartily at that, but the others who watched the whole event couldn't help but frown. Ryan noticed his misstep and then slightly bowed before leaving while using Teleport. Ryan returned to the building's roof in the blink of an eye, where Yahiko and his closest followers lived.

"I see now... this spell is different from Flash, it requires some concentration to be used, so it can be cancelled by attacks and external forces," Ryan nodded to himself in satisfaction. "Sorry about this, Femradiel, but I will use my mana like there is no tomorrow."

"I was going to recommend you to do that," Femradiel said. "While I am planning to make another familiar, that isn't something I am in a hurry to do."

In that sense, Ryan wanted to give Femradiel some pointers since the familiar had to help him in combat, but that was hard, and Femradiel was the one who knew what is possible and what isn't.

After a while, Yahiko appeared and then gave Ryan a spatial ring. That was the one which he used, but right now was filled with the dragon hearts his soldiers managed to recover that day. Apparently, it will take three days for all of them to be recovered, so Ryan was getting one-third of the total.

"There are five hundred of the big ones and fifteen hundred of the small ones here," Yahiko said. "You said that you won't wait any longer, so you are going to miss a few thousand of the small ones."

"That is fine, while I want my status to grow, relying on dragon hearts will probably make me a little lazy, even more so considering what I am going to do next," Ryan said. "Thanks for the help... while you will use the dragon hearts to help your people, I can assure that the people in my country will pay a decent price if you decide to sell them."

"I will think about it if the necessity arises," Yahiko said and then offered a handshake. "I hope that we will fight together soon, Ryan and the next time will be the last fight for the sake of our planet. I wish you good luck on your journey."

“I wish you luck as well,” Ryan said after accepting the handshake.

Chapter 439

Since Ryan wasn't that sociable, Yahiko said that he could depart even in the middle of the night. His people would celebrate until sunrise, so only a few people would be able to see him off the next day. There was no sense in waiting... without wasting time, Ryan began to use Teleport. He had the pretty crazy idea to use it to cross the Pacific Ocean in a straight line. That was even more insane, given that Ryan had to spend three times more mana thanks to Furball and the Steel Eagle. In any case, thanks to that, Ryan leveled up the skill at an insane speed.

“Yep... Crossing an ocean relying on potions alone would be pretty hard,” Ryan nodded to himself. “Thankfully, I obtained a lot of magic items in the last few days and I can use Mana-Eater to get a lot of mana.”

Since that skill wasn't at a high level, Ryan and his pets had to stay at a pretty high altitude in order for them not to fall in the ocean while he recovers his mana. But it was kind of fun to experience so many free falls, and his pets didn't seem bothered by it.

“Hehe, this feels awesome...” Ryan smiled, full of satisfaction. “Even at level one, this skill could let me cross twenty kilometers instantly... I guess you should Zen more often, Femradiel. I need a lot more mana to increase the usefulness of this skill.”

“Like I said, the skill is always active,” Femradiel said. “Besides, even if it is better than Meditation, you can't expect miracles.”

In the end, it looked like the best option was to use some status points to increase his mana and recovery or just level up his magical classes. Thanks to recovery alone, Ryan could teleport fifty meters per second, but he wanted more...

“That is right... I should make some magic items that increase recovery and upgrade them,” Ryan muttered to himself. “I just need to find the right monsters that have a stupid level of recovery... trolls will do.”

Ryan didn't even return to his home country, and he already knew what he would do next. That was good, much better than to keep hesitating over his options. Around the time the sun was rising, Ryan found some land ahead. While his traveling speed thanks to Teleport had increased, it was crazy to think that he could cross the entire Pacific Ocean in just six hours. Eventually, he learned that he wasn't back in his home country... well, he was in a sense. He had arrived in Hawaii.

"I guess my course was slightly off..." Ryan said while he was falling from the sky and watched the island filled with monsters. "I can't even imagine what the people here had to endure since they didn't have many places to hide or to run to..."

Water Snake Lv 400

Health: 15.000/15.000

Mana: 20.000/20.000

Stamina: 10.000/10.000

Strength: 1500

Dexterity: 3500

Speed: 1500

Intelligence: 7500

Endurance: 2000

Control: 2500

Mentality: 5000

Luck: 1500

Recovery: 12.500

Willpower: 5000

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Strangle Lv 300

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Speed Lv 320, Improved Intelligence Lv 350

Spells: Poison Bullet Lv 300, Water Cannon Lv 350

Support Skills: Poison Resistance Lv 400, Underwater Resistance Lv 400, Cold Resistance Lv 350

Ryan couldn't help but feel shivers when he finally identified the monsters... they were some pretty larger blue and green snakes. Ryan never got close to any snake before, but it looked like he had some phobia level towards them.

“Level four hundred... I guess no one here had the chance to clear the dungeon,” Ryan muttered. “I can't see any other monster species, so I guess those creatures had been enough to decimate the biggest island of this archipelago. Do you sense any other dungeon nearby Femradiel?”

“No, and I am one hundred percent sure they belong only to a tier two dungeon,” Femradiel replied.

“I guess I can assume you don’t want me to waste much time here, huh,” Ryan said.

“I can’t sense any humans, so there is no real need for you to stay,” Femradiel said. “You want to look for tier three dungeons and help other humans, right?”

“Well... if it is possible and doesn’t put me at risk...” Ryan shrugged. “In any case, this place will give you some decent amount of mana, so let’s kill some snakes and delay the level up speed of these monsters.”

In the end, Femradiel assumed her Wyrms form and decided to increase their hunting speed. While her elemental nature wasn’t that favorable against the water snakes, she surprised Ryan while firing Lightning Bolts from her mouth. It looked like she was readying herself for the creation of the next familiar.

While Femradiel, Furball, and the Steel Eagle were killing the snakes, Ryan used his old tactic to summon a golem and put some battle machines in them. Only after creating one thousand of those, which made Ryan work all morning, he decided to move on. That was weird since Ryan and his pets didn’t even advance a few kilometers inland...

“I guess I am in a hurry to return as well...” Ryan frowned.

It was understandable but surprising nonetheless. There was no place like home... while Ryan’s home had been destroyed, he still could feel much more relaxed knowing that he in American soil... or at least in the American continent.

In the end, Ryan finally returned to America a few minutes before sunset. Still, he couldn’t help but frown when he saw hundreds of monsters walking around the coast as if they were the owners of the place. That was weird since around that time, Mark’s plan of guarding all the dungeons should have been completed...

“You were away only for a few weeks, but it looked like things changed for the worse in these parts...” Femradiel said. “I can sense many unguarded dungeons in this region.”

Ryan didn't like to hear that... but he thanked Femradiel for informing him sooner than later. Ryan rushed back to the base in order to confirm what the hell was going on.

Chapter 440

Ryan arrived on the base at midnight, and even though his senses weren't as good as Femradiel's, he noticed that something was off. The number of guards around had decreased, and when he looked in the distance, Ryan confirmed that the parties guarding the dungeons decreased from six members to two.

"It has finally happened, huh..." Ryan said and then sighed.

After using Search, Ryan found Mark in the meeting room, and despite the fact that it was in the middle of the night, many others were with him there. While Ryan was heading to the room in question, he noticed that there weren't any signs of a fight inside the base. The number of people in there decreased considerably, but those who left did so without starting a fight... that was good. Otherwise, Ryan would have some people to hunt down. He couldn't leave such troublemakers alone, after all.

Usually, when Ryan enters that room, he was received by some faces full of surprise, but to some extent, relief. However, this time, he was welcomed by several sighs. In fact, some people looked at him with pretty annoying expressions. Some of them were Anna, Natalia, and even John seemed pretty displeased.

"It looks like some people here have been sucking lemons..." Ryan said. "Why the sour faces?"

"It is amazing that you can joke around at times like these," Natalia said.

"... Where have you been, Ryan?" John asked.

"Where should I start? I just spent the entire morning taking a sunbath in Hawaii," Ryan replied.

“Stop with this, Ryan,” John glared at him. “Not a single person here is in the mood for that kind of nonsense.”

“Maybe I will consider that once you stop looking at me as if I am the cause of your problems,” Ryan said and then noticed that Alissa wasn’t in the room, even though everyone he knew was there, with the sole exception of Zoe and Arthur.

Much to Ryan’s surprise, Daniel, who stayed quiet for a while and maintained a neutral expression on his face, seemed a bit annoyed by Ryan’s words. It was only natural since he was more or less arguing with his father... in any case, it looked like the idiot finally grew some balls and brains since he didn’t change his expression even when Ryan frowned while looking at him.

“Can you sit, Ryan?” Mark asked. “I believe this conversation will take a while since we didn’t have time to talk in the last few days. I also believe that you have a lot of intel to sell.”

“I guess so...” Ryan said and then sat on a random chair. “I was so busy that I didn’t notice that.”

“I can’t believe some people have the nerve to think about their own gains in times like these...” Anna said.

“I can’t believe that despite being a former cop, you failed at keeping the survivors of this place on the line,” Ryan said. “I guess you are getting out of shape.”

“Why, you little...” Anna got up and hit the steel table, making it crack.

“Anna, if you can’t hold back your anger, perhaps you should live,” Carter said. “This isn’t a place where we should let our feelings get in the way.”

It looked like many things really changed... since even the always silent Carter was scolding Anna. Maybe she also noticed that was unexpected, so Anna decided to sit back and stay quiet.

“Your report,” Mark said.

Even Mark wasn't being that polite anymore, but Ryan decided to let it slide in the end. Otherwise, that conversation wouldn't go anywhere any time soon. It took a while, but Ryan eventually gave a pretty decent summary about the things he saw and learned after arriving on the next continent. While he stayed quiet about certain things like his domain stone and Teleport, he didn't hide the things he learned about Yahiko and Victor. Yahiko didn't seem like a threat given his absurd power, and Victor didn't seem interested in expanding his theory. He was only interested in recovering the Russian territory from the hands of the monsters. However, not even that, and the fact that three dungeon masters tried to kill the fifth strongest man in the world surprised anyone. It looked like they were too tired to show any surprise, or maybe they couldn't care less since their hands were already full as it is.

"I guess it is your turn now," Ryan said.

"... As you already noticed, many people that once lived here left," Mark said after a long sigh. "Some of them grew tired of following simple rules, and others just left because they felt powerful enough to survive on their own. However, some of them decided to join the enemies' side."

"What about it?" Ryan asked. "Hunting them down is that difficult?"

Finally, Mark's expression broke, and seemed pretty amazed at Ryan's calm words. He wasn't the only one who showed a lot of surprises. Mia, Tristan, and Luke seemed pretty shocked by Ryan's words. He finally understood why... they probably never had to kill a single human being since the monsters appeared. While Ryan could understand those three conflict feelings, Mark's reaction seemed weird from Ryan's perspective.

"What? You tried to capture Alissa and me, don't tell me that you never thought about killing us," Ryan said.

"... I am a soldier... a retired soldier, but I was trained to defend my people, not to kill them," Mark said.

"Well, they decided not to be your people anymore," Ryan frowned. "So, I can't see why you are conflicted about fighting them. While we don't have many survivors on our side, those who joined the enemies' camp don't care about this. They are betting the future of the human race on their lives. Unless you want to trust such a thing on the shoulder of traitors, you should make up your mind about

fighting those that were once your comrades. While that seems troublesome, I will stay for a while, so perhaps I should solve that problem for you. It looks like I was wrong about you guys, after all.”