

Domain 501

Chapter 501

After hearing those words, Ryan heard the sound of something snapping coming from Alissa. It looked like Femradiel stepped on a landmine.

“Haha, you sure can talk big, huh,” Alissa said. “Even though you lost to a single human and even begged for him to become his vessel.”

“I admitted my defeat, so your words don’t bother me,” Femradiel said. “While I really bothered him many times for Ryan to become my vessel, I don’t regret that either and I would gladly do that many more times if the necessity arises. Becoming Ryan’s partner opened many doors to me and I can’t even see how strong I can become by working with him, I was fortunate. I can’t say the same thing about your partner.”

“All right, all right...” Alissa showed a cold smile. “You will have the chance to train with me, hopefully, you will have the chance to regret it later.”

Ryan watched the whole exchange with a frown on his face. It looked like Alissa and Femradiel were much more prideful than he thought. They couldn’t withstand hearing so many taunts without doing anything, but what surprised Ryan most was the fact that Orgar stayed quiet the whole time.

“Why don’t you say something?” Ryan thought.

“I am quite interested in the power this dragon of yours has,” Orgar replied. “Besides, Alissa hasn’t fought a difficult battle in a while. I believe this will help her in that regard.”

What a stupid reason... in any case, letting those two run wild inside his domain would be insanity. The best place for them to train against each other would be in the slime’s world. While some slimes suddenly appeared there, they certainly wouldn’t get in their way.

“If you guys are serious about this, then you will have to move to another place,” Ryan said.

“Nah, don’t worry,” Alissa said. “I won’t transform or even move from this spot. Unless your friend here sucks at controlling her powers, then you won’t have to worry about this situation inside your domain.”

“Is that so...” Femradiel made her Wyrms body move forward and then said. “If that is the case, this one here will be enough.”

Ryan sighed, he could easily imagine that conversation moving forward, and those two would keep saying things that they wouldn’t do in order to keep the fight fairer. However, in the end, that was just a way to taunt each other. Unless Ryan steps in and decides some rules, that training session was bound to cause a massive headache to him.

“I don’t know why I am doing this, but you will decide the rules,” Ryan said. “If you feel unsatisfied by it, then this won’t happen at all.”

In the end, Alissa and Femradiel didn’t complain. In order to prevent the other side from using any poor excuses, they would need some rules and a referee. Since Ryan was someone who couldn’t care less about their pride, he probably was the best person for the job.

“All right, the first rule is that neither of you can move from the spot you are, you can move your body to dodge some attacks, but if both of your feet move away from your current position, you lose,” Ryan said. “The second rule is that you can’t fire a projectile bigger than your hand, if you get too worked up and fire a too big projectile, you lose as well.”

Truth to be told, Ryan wasn’t so sure that such a rule would be enough. Two people with Draconic Powers could easily cause a lot of destruction just by firing small magic projectiles.

“The third rule is, you get hit once, you lose,” Ryan said. “Again, don’t try anything funny in the heat of the moment. That is all.”

“No melee combat, huh,” Alissa furrowed her eyebrows.

“As for a melee combat without moving would be too restrictive,” Ryan said. “It is better if you fight in a way that skill can play a major part in the final result.”

Since Femradiel didn't have anything to say, Alissa also felt compelled to accept all the rules. In the end, the training session would be pretty straightforward, but the most skilled would stand victorious... Again, Ryan couldn't understand the necessity of a training session when one side had to lose and the other had to win.

Ryan raised his right arm to give the sign of the start of the training session, but it was more accurate to call that a fight with some pretty restrictive rules at that point in time. When he moved his arm downward, the fight started.

Using both of her hands, Alissa fired several Thunder Bullets at Femradiel. However, those were blocked by an Ice Wall. Still, given the power and the number of projectiles, the Ice Wall quickly began to melt. Femradiel couldn't stay on the defensive for long, so she fired several Ice Bullets from the sides of the Ice Wall. Ryan couldn't help but frown at that... Essentially, Femradiel was firing projectiles from a place she wasn't. It was easier to cast spells by using the hands, after all. So, it looked like she was mimicking Ryan when he used the Magic Bows.

The Ice Bullets quickly lost speed the more they approached Alissa. Ryan recognized what she was doing... she changed the gravity field in a certain area to do that. As if that wasn't enough, she also gathered all the Ice Bullets, increased their size by clustering a few of them together, and then fired it back at Femradiel.

Femradiel used several Ice Walls to block the attack, and in the end, they never hit her as well. As expected, even though Femradiel had far fewer tricks up her sleeve, her ice magic was probably more effective than anything that Alissa could use.

In the end, since the area was getting filled with Ice Walls, Alissa decided to melt everything with Fire Bullets. It was the perfect moment to use that since it was Femradiel's elemental weakness, and much to everyone's surprise, the Fire Bullets quickly passed through the Ice Walls.  $p_{??} \cup_{??} (??)_{??}$

Class: Artemis' Disciple Lv 04 (+ 03 UP) / Elementalist Lv 89 (+ 10 UP) / Monk Lv 16 (-)

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

Rank: 54th

Health: 4421/4421 (9,94/s)

Mana: 5920/5920 (9,94/s)

Stamina: 6240/6240 (9,94/s)

Strength: 531 (+254) (+130)

Dexterity: 4600 (+3825) (+350)

Speed: 1120 (+1710) (+48)

Intelligence: 981 (+1395) (+33)

Endurance: 858 (+227) (+160)

Control: 926 (+1810) (+10)

Mentality: 908 (+247) (+70)

Luck: 1030 (+25)

Recovery: 2700 (+2420) (+845)

Willpower: 930 (+259) (+40)

Coins: 9.652.412

Status: 03

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Stunning Impact Lv 01, Triple Slash Lv 01

Passive Physical Skills: Stamina Boost Lv 07 (+ 06 UP), Fury Lv 01

Spells: Teleport Lv 34 (+ 05 UP) Fireball Lv 19 (+ 18 UP), Lunar Arrow Lv 04 (+ 03), Clairvoyance Lv 15 (+ 05 UP), Shadowy Disguise Lv 01, Poison Bomb Lv 01, Fire Creation Lv 01, Earth Creation Lv 01, Wind Creation Lv 01,

Support Skills: Fast Conjunction Lv 06 (+ 05 UP),

Classes:

Combat: Sage Lv 96 (+ 07 UP), Summoner Lv 61 (+ 05 UP), Sorcerer Lv 45 (+ 05 UP), Mage Lv 15 (+ 07 UP), and Wizard Lv 13 (+ 05 UP), Conjurer Lv 04 (+ 03 UP), Gladiator Lv 01, Assassin Lv 01,

Non-Combatant: Alchemist Lv 49 (+ 04 UP)

Race: Centaur, Lesser Dragon

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Although the Fire Bullets were powerful enough to easily pass through the Ice Walls, they weren't powerful enough to completely shatter them. So, Femradriel had the chance to create some concentrated Ice Bullets and cancel the Fire Bullets.

Ryan really felt proud of himself for coming up with that idea. Whatever happens now, neither of them will be able to complain about the result, which was indeed a contest of skill. Still, Ryan couldn't help

but worry that Femradiel might go a bit overboard and use her reserves of mana to go all-out and win. The mana she had been saving to create a new body.

Ryan's predictions came true much sooner than he had imagined. Femradiel began to condense her mana in several points around her. Those points turned into invisible machine guns that fired endless Ice Bullets.

"Femradiel..." Ryan facepalmed.

Alissa tried to stop them by using Gravity, but as expected, it wasn't enough. So, she cast several Fire Walls to decrease the Ice Bullets' power. Before Ryan could notice, the area around them was getting covered by mist. A lot of ice melted, after all, so something like that couldn't be helped.

"10, 9, 8..." Ryan suddenly said.

"What is that?" Alissa frowned.

"The countdown for the end of the only round of this... whatever the hell you want to call this," Ryan replied.

"You never said anything about a time-limit!" Femradiel protested.

"Really? Well, my bad," Ryan shrugged. "4, 3, 2, 1. The fight is over, both of you are losers. Happy now?"

"There are no losers when there are no winners..." Alissa said and then sighed.

In the end, both sides didn't feel like taunting each other anymore. While it didn't last long, the fight served a good purpose. Neither of them could underestimate the other side. After all, their skills were more or less at the same level. A contest of brute strength could have a winner, but neither of them would feel satisfied by that. When Ryan noticed that, he couldn't help but frown. Unlike those two, he certainly liked to overpower his foes. Skill was just another factor to him.

"I forgot to mention, but it looks like your show worked," Alissa suddenly said. "I wished I had watched that."

"My show?" Ryan frowned.

"That thing you showed to everyone back in the base," Alissa explained. "Thanks to you, those idiots back there changed their ways a little bit. Upon noticing that a single human could have easily defeated them, they noticed that they needed more power to protect themselves in case you go crazy again. Now they are only guarding and training the real difficult dungeons."

"Is that so," Ryan said, trying not to look much interested in that.  $\rho \int \sqrt{x} dx$

It looked like Ryan achieved his goal. While it might cause some issues later to leave the low-level dungeons alone, it couldn't be helped given the severity of the situation. Humans couldn't afford to think that far ahead when god-like creatures will begin to walk on Earth in less than six months.

"That being said, with only a few exceptions, pretty much everyone at the base hates you," Alissa said.

"I couldn't care less about that," Ryan shrugged.

That was already something within Ryan's expectations. The real important thing about that whole mess is that the people there won't cause problems to Arthur and Zoe. Now that the low-level dungeons would be left alone, perhaps that was a good chance for Ryan to level up his magic class. The more low-level creatures around, the more chances he will have to use the weak spells in his arsenal.

"You said before that low-level monsters fear your presence," Ryan said. "I imagine you solved that problem by now. Do you know any skill that might attract the monsters toward us?"

"Orgar taught me how to hide his presence from other monsters, so from their perspective I am not much different from a human," Alissa said. "That being said. I know of some spells that might cause the monsters in a certain area to feel your presence and feel enraged by it, but there are several limitations."

“I know some spells that can do that too,” Femradiel said.

“Why are you suddenly so competitive...” Ryan said and then sighed.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill Taunting Aura.

Effect: It makes your presence more easily noticed by all savage creatures in the area. It also entices them to attack you. The range of the skill is one hundred meters multiplied by the level of the skill. However, the skill level also increases the physical attack and the endurance of the monsters affected by it by one percent per level.

Cost: 50 mana per second.

You obtained 01 status points.

In the end, Ryan chose that skill because it seemed the more efficient. However, the extra effect was a bit troublesome. It might cause some issues for him to boost the strength and the endurance of his foes by one hundred percent at higher levels. It would be fine if the rewards could also increase by the same amount, but that obviously wasn't possible. Without wasting any time, Ryan activated it to make the skill level up as fast as possible.

“I guess I am going to clear some dungeons and make this skill level up,” Ryan said.

Although he only failed a single time, Padmini's situation annoyed Ryan quite a little bit and still was troubling him. Maybe Ryan needed more intel before invading a world in order to obtain another domain, or perhaps he just needed to level up Taunting Aura to prevent the dungeon masters from controlling their minions effectively.

“I forgot to ask this as well, but how come do you have eight dungeons inside your domain?” Alissa asked. “I have been postponing the use of the domain stone, but if this is the result of using one, maybe I never will.”



It was a bit troublesome, but in the end, Ryan gave Alissa a summary of the things he experienced in the last few weeks. Maybe she won't use the domain stone, but she will need to know at least that much to prevent some headaches and to solve problems instead of causing new ones by using her domain stone.

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"I see, so you're having some troubles while dealing with dungeon masters," Alissa nodded after she heard Ryan's summary of the last events. "Well, it isn't that surprising given that they are creatures that probably lived for much longer than us. Still, if you ask me, I would say that you are losing a golden chance because you are rushing ahead trying to deal with small fries."

"What do you mean by that?" Ryan frowned.

"Those are going to cause problems for us aren't those dungeon masters who try to do things behind the scenes," Alissa replied. "If we keep strengthening ourselves, when the time comes, they will be at best, a minor nuisance. Think about it, what they will be able to do if someone like Thanatos and Lilith decided to go at each other. Nothing, right?"

"That isn't the issue here, while it isn't much, by obtaining some domains we can decrease the problems we will face later on," Ryan said. "Besides, the domains can also become a good source of coins."

"You can get as many coins as you want just by fighting and by doing so, you will also become stronger," Alissa said. "Considering the things, you said, trying to take a domain from some sapient beings can be a huge pain in the ass. Besides, the more domains you have, the more time you will have to spend guarding them. Thus, you will have less time to train certain skills and obtain more classes."

Alissa was strangely convincing... Ryan was pretty sure that she wasn't that logical a few months ago. Ryan recognized her points, but he still couldn't believe that the human race could survive a war against mythological beings just by relying on brute strength. They needed some trump cards, and the domains could play that role. While some dungeon masters attack Earth, their back would be exposed on their bases, and Ryan wanted to use that chance to strike. However, since dungeon masters couldn't manifest themselves in all worlds when they reach a certain level of power, a lot of preparation was needed.

"I hate to say this, but... she has a point," Femradiel said. "We know that you have been facing some problems trying to defeat other dungeon masters. I guess it is too early for that. Come to think of it, it is

already amazing that you have three domains when most of the dungeon masters lived for hundreds of years. You should focus on increasing your strength and once you become a few times more powerful than you are, defeating dungeon masters and obtaining their domains will be something that you will do much more smoothly.”

Ryan was stubborn and prideful, but he wasn't that stupid. Alissa and Femradriel had a point. He rushed ahead without thinking because he realized the potential the domains had. Still, Ryan couldn't get his hands on several of them when he wasn't even on the rank of the ten strongest humans. Come to think of it, he realized that the special classes would help him much more than any domain until at least he obtains an equal number of domains and classes.

“I guess you are right...” Ryan said after a lot of hesitation.

“What? Who are you and what you did to Ryan?” Alissa said, showing an expression of disbelief. “The Ryan that I know would never admit that he is wrong about something...”

“... How many guys called Ryan you know that call you a chopping board?” Ryan asked.

“Only one... and he is probably the most stupid guy who I know,” Alissa said and then crossed her arms, trying to play it cool. “Who cares about boobs anyway, they are just lumps of fat.”

“Whatever you say,” Ryan shrugged. “Anyway, I am going to train this new skill. You guys can keep training, but if you damage the domain or kill any of my summoned creatures... well, I won't be as understanding as before.”

Without wasting any more time, Ryan teleported to another dungeon that was relatively close by. The dungeon was spawning Harpies, and since those creatures could fly and were pretty good ranged attackers, leaving them alone. At the same time, multiplying wasn't the wisest of the ideas. Fortunately, that was a tier two dungeon, so Ryan would be able to train his skills relatively well.

“Let's do this without crossbows,” Ryan stored his weapons away. “Thunder Bullet probably would be enough to deal with them, but in order to level up the Mage class, I will have to stick with Fireball.”

The harpies were scattered around several mountains, but then when Ryan activated Taunting Aura, several of them began to fly towards him. Just as expected, when the skill worked on several monsters, it soon leveled up, and the range expanded, making even more monsters fly toward him.

“I need to start now, before they can overwhelm me with sheer numbers,” Ryan said. “Without my archer skills and crossbows, I am pretty much an ordinary survivor.”

Although his primary skills were sealed, Ryan still had many others. His magic damage was far above the average survivor. When the Fireballs hit the Harpies’ faces, they exploded and caused critical damage that made the monsters stagger and became easy targets for a barrage of other Fireballs.

The Harpies caused some trouble when they used their wind magic, but Ryan could easily dodge them with Teleport. He was starting to feel that he was relying too much on that skill, but in the end, not leveling it up would be insane.

After a couple of minutes, the hundred or so harpies had been killed, and Ryan had gained a level in the Sage class, two in the Elementalist, and eight in the Mage class. As much as it felt weird not using crossbows, it was definitely the right choice when facing small fries. Fortunately, just before he killed all the monsters outside the dungeon, the Sage class reached the max level. Now, Ryan just needed two more...

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Unlike before, after clearing the dungeon, Ryan didn’t fill the last part of the place with Fire Golems. Leaving the harpies increasing in number and then returning later to exterminate them was undoubtedly the best option to level up new classes.

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: Butcher, Assassin, and Alchemist.

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.

“Only one option this time, huh,” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows. “I suppose it can’t be helped... Still, what a name for a class.”

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Butcher!

You obtained the following skills: Bloodstorm, Cleave, and Seismic Slam.

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

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Bloodstorm.

Effect: Swings your melee weapon around, and the more enemies you hit, the more powerful your attack will be.

Cost: 50 stamina

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Cleave.

Effect: In midair, it increases the power of your next attack when using a melee weapon.

Cost: 50 stamina

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Seismic Slam.

Effect: It increases the power of your next attack and, when hitting the ground, causes a tremor that will disrupt the movement of the foes around.

Cost: 100 stamina

You obtained 01 status point.

Butcher really deserved the title of a melee class with those skills. They certainly would have some synergy with classes like Dark Knight and Dark Slayer.

“I guess sacrificing those three classes will give birth to a pretty insane special class,” Ryan nodded to himself in satisfaction. “Still training then will be something else since I am not used at fighting in close quarters.”

Despite that, Ryan felt pretty good about himself. Trying to obtain domains only caused him some severe headaches, but getting new classes was always something refreshing to do. That only wasn't true when he has to clear tier-three dungeons that haven't been cleared a single time.

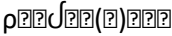
“I guess I should return to my domain before looking for the next dungeon,” Ryan said. “I need to confirm that those two didn't destroy my base while I was away.”

Much to Ryan's surprise, when he returned, he saw Alissa and Femradiel sitting on the ground and talking calmly about something. Weirdly enough, they were pretty close, and they didn't seem to be bickering about some nonsense.

“Yeah, Orgar always says that I should use Zen more often, but it is so boring,” Alissa said. “I already spent my whole life on a bed without doing anything, but now I want to move my body and exercise it while I hunt some monsters.”

“That is understandable, but you can't neglect how useful Zen can be,” Femradiel said. “Zen is that much useful in the long run and besides, you can fight all day every day. That is where Zen really is important, it can rest your body and spirit at the same time.”

It looked like they were giving advice to each other. That was weird. Ryan couldn't help but wonder how come they managed to solve their issues and become friends so fast. In any case, Ryan didn't want to interrupt, and he certainly wasn't to join the conversation.

Before Femradial and Alissa could notice his arrival, Ryan decided to leave again. Ryan quickly found a horde of salamanders several kilometers at the North of his base. 

"I guess I will have to use Wind Blade this time," Ryan shrugged. "Not the best option, but it should do the job here."

Before activating Taunting Aura, Ryan sneakily used Wind Blade to attack and slay some Salamanders and then level up his skill. Despite everything, two shots in the neck were enough to kill the level three hundred salamanders.

Congratulations! Your class Elementalist has leveled up.

Elementalist Lv 99 → Lv Max

Intelligence + 2, Mana + 2, Health + 1, stamina + 1, recovery + 1, control +1.

"Finally..." Ryan sighed in relief.

Due to the fact that he was using a weaker skill, Ryan had to fight for quite a while to slay all the monsters in the vicinity of the dungeon. However, thanks to that insistence, he managed to reach another important point. However, making another magic class will probably take a while. Unless Ryan uses mana potions like there is no tomorrow.

"After obtaining the next special class, it will take a while to get the next one," Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "I guess I will be able to focus on leveling up the new classes."

Although Ryan had the plans to sacrifice some archer classes with another one that had stealth skills and do the same with Dark Slayer, Butcher, or Dark Knight, leveling up those would take a certain amount of

time because they were at least tier two classes. He didn't have any other choice but do that sporadically.

When Ryan entered the dungeon, he slew the few monsters that got on his way without any trouble. Killing the boss using low-level spells to increase the amount of time he will train his magic classes would be something pretty tricky, so he had to focus, but in the end, his focus was disrupted when he saw the dungeon boss—a two-headed salamander.

Two-headed Elder Salamander – Lv 550 (Mutant)

Health: 75.000/75.000

Mana: 75.000/75.000

Stamina: 45.000/45.000

Strength: 5000 (+ 1000)

Dexterity: 2500 (+ 400)

Speed: 2500 (+ 500)

Intelligence: 5000 (+ 1200)

Endurance: 4500 (+ 500)

Control: 3500 (+ 600)

Mentality: 3500 (+ 700)

Luck: 2500

Recovery: 45.000 (+ 15.000)

Willpower: 3500 (+ 600)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Dash Lv 250, Paralyzing Bite Lv 200

Passive Physical Skills: Enhanced Strength Lv 150, Enhanced Recovery Lv 150, Enhanced Intelligence Lv 150

Spells: Flamethrower Lv 400, Ice Cannon Lv 400, Fire Spear Lv 350, Ice Spear Lv 350

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 600, Cold Resistance Lv 400, Shock Resistance Lv 600, Electric Resistance Lv 400

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Ryan couldn't help but frown while looking at the boss and its status. He never imagined he would find a mutant species so far, this late in the game... either he was very unlucky, or those creatures were rarer than he thought.



Even though Ryan kept his distance and didn't move, the boss noticed his presence and fired a massive wave of flames covering a good part of the dungeon. Ryan managed to block it with his shield. Still, then he was forcefully teleported to the last part of the dungeon... that certainly wasn't a creature he could mess with.

"I guess it can't be helped," Ryan said and then equipped his Spiritualist Crossbow and Thunder Lord Crossbow.

The monster finally found him again and tried to burn Ryan to ashes, but he escaped after using Teleport. However, when he pointed his weapons toward the beast, the other head opened its mouth and used Ice Cannon. Ryan was caught off guard since he didn't imagine any ice skills would cause him damage, but his legs quickly froze. Ryan used Purification to decrease those effects a little bit and then began to fire his bolts at the enemy.

Ryan clicked his tongue in annoyance when his bolts decreased in speed and lost a lot of power thanks to the Ice Cannon. In the end, the projectiles hit the monster but barely caused any damage.

"I guess this one won't be tamed..." Ryan furrowed his eyebrows.

The other head of the salamander moved to hit Ryan with its attack as well, and Ryan used that chance to teleport away from their range. When he reappeared behind the monster, Ryan summoned several Magic Bows that had the same effects as his Spiritualist's Bow. Defenseless, the boss was bombarded by numerous attacks and lost a lot of mana, but even so... Ryan didn't cause enough damage to make the enemy feel any real pain.

"Come on..." Ryan frowned. "It is just a tier two monster, even if it is a mutant, it shouldn't cause me so much trouble."

Ryan was starting to think that he was getting carried away. It couldn't be helped since it has been a long while since that type of monster caused him any trouble. Despite that, Ryan forced himself to use some DEX potions. The power of his attacks managed to overpower the Flamethrower and the Ice Cannon. Still, even so, Ryan was also forced to use a lot of mana potions before the beast finally fell dead. In the end, Ryan felt more troubled than victorious...

You obtained 250.000 coins.

"I guess I am getting carried away lately..." Ryan scratched the back of his head.

The surprises didn't end there that day. On the place the two-headed salamander fell, Ryan found a small bottle that contained the monster's blood. It has been a while since he got one of those, but as usual, getting them was quite a pleasant surprise.

Kobold 's Blood.

It grants you the following skills: Dark Vision, Heroic Axe Mastery, Steel Skin.

As expected, the blood of another monster would grant Ryan some skills challenging to find. In any case, as usual, he drank it without thinking too much about it. However, for the first time after doing that, Ryan felt a wave of pain passing through his entire body for a single moment that paralyzed him.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Dark Vision.

Effect: It grants you the chance to see to some extent in entirely dark places. The range of the skill is equal to the level of the skill multiplied by five meters.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Heroic Ax Mastery.

Effect: Increases damage when using axes by three percent per level.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Steel Skin.  $\sqrt{2}$

Effect: It passively increases your endurance by ten points per level.

You obtained 01 status point.

“I guess I already have too much of monsters’ blood inside me...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows after he checked his body and confirmed that nothing changed. “It is a pity that I can’t ask anyone about this. The only person who is crazy enough to use several of those is me.”

After that, Ryan headed toward the treasure chest and sighed when it opened. It was only natural, but it looked like his options were decreasing as of late. That was kind of weird considering that there were more than two hundred dungeons in his country.

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: Spearman, Trickster, and Alchemist.

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.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Spearman!

You obtained the following skills: Hyper Body, Iron Will, and Death Leap.

Your strength and health will increase by four points, your mana, stamina, speed, and endurance will increase by two points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Hyper Body.

Effect: It temporarily increases your health by fifty points per level.

Cost: 100 mana per second.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Iron Will.

Effect: It temporarily increases your mentality by ten points per level.

Cost: 30 mana per second

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Death Leap.

Effect: A powerful attack that increases in power the higher you jump.

Cost: 100 stamina

You obtained 01 status point.

It was a pity that Ryan didn't get a single passive skill. Still, in any case, Hyper Body certainly would be useful in some extreme situations. Like in situations where his health would drop to zero, he will be able to escape by using it. Hopefully, his health won't drop to zero once the skill is deactivated.

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When Ryan returned to his domain, he saw Alissa and Femradiel sparring again. He had to work for an entire day and night to kill all the salamanders around that dungeon, but he couldn't understand how come they were still at it. Ryan more or less knew that rivalry between men could create a friendship. He even saw that in the past, but he never expected that something like that could happen between women.

“You sure are late, Ryan,” Alissa said since this time she noticed his arrival. “I guess I was wrong, your partner certainly is someone reliable.”

“Yep... Furball certainly is reliable,” Ryan said.

“So, I am still below Furball in terms of trust, huh,” Femradiel said.

“Don’t blame yourself for it,” Ryan shrugged. “I do have high standards, after all.”

“Ryan, you already can learn Cryomancy, do you want to obtain that ability now?” Femradiel asked.

“Normally, I would say yes, but I can’t see why I should do it when I am not going to use it anytime soon,” Ryan replied. “I want to find a way to level up a specific class as fast as possible and while Cryomancy is a magical skill, it will only slowdown that process since several other classes will level up as well.”

“If you want to level up a specific class, you should use the skills that that class granted you,” Alissa said.

“Everyone knows that, but I was wondering if there is something else that can be done, like a trick in the system,” Ryan explained.

“I highly doubt that you will find such a convenient thing this late in the game,” Alissa said.

Ryan could only nod at those words. Femradiel could help Ryan a little with that with the monster’s system, but even that much help won’t be that effective. The best way to level up a skill is by using potions that increase the main attribute that determines the power of that skill and fight against a powerful foe. Ryan suddenly realized that he could boost the leveling up the speed of his classes if he transforms into a dragon that uses potions like DEX potion and then fights against like Alissa. Still, in the end, he didn’t feel that good about changing his mind. Strangely enough, Alissa was looking at him as if she was reading his mind, but that shouldn’t be possible since Mind Armor was active.

“It looks like you finally realized that,” Alissa said. “So, what is going to be? You will do anything to achieve his next goal or will you let your pride get in the way? Before you use that as an excuse, I still owe you a lot since my guys are gaining a lot of coins while they are fighting inside the dungeons.”

In the end, aside from his pride, there was no real reason to not train with Alissa. Given that she was the only one who could kick Ryan’s ass in the country and that Ryan also could transform into a dragon, both of them would benefit from that.

“I guess it is fine, it is not like I will end up owing anything to you again after this,” Ryan shrugged.

“You are a real pain in the ass, the same as ever,” Alissa said.

Alissa thought Ryan would transform right at that moment. Still, much to her disappointment, Ryan proceeded to create a lot of INT potions. As usual, Ryan couldn’t see her attributes, so he will have to confirm how much damage she would receive once the fight starts. ρ??C??(?)???

Alissa used Draconic Transformation, but nothing changed in her appearance. As always, she looked quite menacing, and her presence was that intense. However, Alissa couldn’t help but frown when Ryan transformed.

“A blue dragon with a lot of dark shades?” Alissa said, visibly surprised. “I have never seen anything like it.”

“I would say that Ryan’s powers are affecting Femradial’s previous appearance since his power has increased exponentially before he accepted the contract,” Orgar explained. “It is quite common for the emotions of a human to take shape like that.”

Ryan already had imagined that was the case. Although he calmed down in the last few months, it looked like his dark side wouldn’t never leave him alone. However, instead of getting worried about that, he felt relieved. If he ever forgets about his past, Ryan knew that he was bound to repeat the same mistakes over and over again, and that was something he couldn’t afford to do.

Since they were training for the sake of increasing their own power, Alissa decided to let Ryan attack first. Both of them knew that Ryan was obviously the weakest one of them, so until he obtains a certain

level of strength, things won't proceed all that well. Without hesitation, Ryan fired several Wind Blades, and those hit on Alissa's shoulders. It was kind of shocking, and that left a dreadful feeling inside Ryan, but not a single scratch was caused. However, on the other hand...

Congratulations! The skill Wind Blade has leveled up!

Congratulations! The skill Wind Blade has leveled up!

Congratulations! The skill Wind Blade has leveled up!

You obtained three status points.

"So, it is like that, huh," Ryan frowned.

"Don't feel too bad about it," Alissa smirked. "Femradiel told me that you barely used Draconic Transformation. My skill on the other hand is at level 150."

That must give her some crazy bonuses in all attributes. No wonder Ryan didn't cause any scratch... in any case, Alissa let Ryan attack as much as he wanted because she knew that his ability to withstand damage was below average.

"Go on," Alissa said with a condescending smile. "We will stay here for a little more than two days. Hopefully, you reach the level of strength where you will be able to scratch me."

"Getting reckless, aren't we?" Ryan furrowed his eyebrows. "Speaking of which, what is your position in the ranking now, Alissa?"

"I am the fourth," Alissa replied.

Chapter 507

Despite all her power, Alissa still was only the fourth strongest human in the world. It was rather impressive that in terms of raw power alone, she was stronger than Yahiko. Still, the real problem was that three individuals were stronger than her, and Ryan had no idea who they were.

“It isn’t time to space out,” Alissa said, and then she shrugged. “Come on, you need to become stronger in order for one day you become a decent training partner. It would be really helpful if you can achieve that in our lifetime.”

Ryan sighed. If he had been getting carried away lately, Alissa was too far ahead of herself. In any case, she deserved some punishment. After waiting for five minutes, the effects of the INT potions ended, and Ryan proceeded to use all the others that he had. Every single one... in just a few seconds, he used four hundred of them, and Ryan’s intelligence spiked to around twenty thousand points.

When the next Wind Blade hit Alissa, the massive impact made her whole body tremble, and then her left shoulder was also pushed back quite a lot. She frowned since she didn’t bother to use Analysis on the potions Ryan used.

“You are cheating, aren’t you?” Alissa frowned.

“I am just trying to make things as efficient as possible,” Ryan shrugged. “If it hurts too much, I will try to hold back.”

“Ugh...” Alissa groaned in annoyance.

“That is why I told you to study your skills more,” Orgar suddenly said.

Although the difference in power was big, Ryan just learned that he could decrease it by using hundreds of potions. That meant that even beings like Thanatos and the demon generals could be defeated. Regardless, Ryan’s goal had been accomplished, so he held back a little. His goal wasn’t to wound Alissa. She had learned her lesson, after all. However, in the end, she forced him to go all out when she began to fire several Wind Blades toward him as well.



To protect himself, Ryan fired the magic projectiles and repelled Alissa's. Every time they collided, the air around vibrated. That was rather shocking, but in the end, Ryan won that trade since his skill was at low-level but was leveling up like crazy.

The skill Wind Blade has leveled up.

The class Mage has leveled up.

The skill Wind Blade has leveled up.

The class Mage has leveled up.

...

Although Ryan won the first round since Alissa was exhausted, he didn't feel victorious. Not only did he have to use all his INT potions to increase his magic powers, but he also had to use several mana potions. Meanwhile, Alissa didn't use a single one. The good side of that was that the Mage class leveled up ten times in just five minutes.  $\rho\tau\tau\tau\tau\tau\tau(\tau)\tau\tau\tau$

"I guess it is actually possible to make the Mage class reach the max level before Alissa leaves," Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "Maybe I should put my classes aside for the time being."

"To think that you would cause this much damage without using your crossbows..." Alissa said, visibly annoyed. "I guess I was getting carried away."

"Did you have any class that reached the max level?" Ryan asked.

"No, what of it?" Alissa asked. "I am pretty sure that such a thing has nothing to do with this."

"So, you just use whatever skill you want when you are fighting without putting much thought into it?" Ryan frowned.

“Yep,” Alissa replied. “Aside from those two demons, I have yet to find a worthy enemy that will force me to use strategy or something as boring as that.”

Ryan sighed when he heard that. Alissa sometimes was just too much... in the end, he explained to her about the special classes, and when night came, he showed her the might of his Lunar Arrow. Even in her draconic form, Alissa tried to block the attack. She succeeded, but in the end, the place was burning quite a bit. After that, she tried to dodge the attack, but even though she knew the magic projectile would come from the same direction as the moon, she wasn't fast enough. Her tail got hit by it, and then she spent several minutes applying cold water in the burned area.

“What the hell was that?” Alissa asked in disbelief. “How come a skill that has such a low-level of mana can be so fast and so powerful?”

“You already know why, it is a light-type spell and your resistance against that is low,” Orgar explained.

“So, it is really like that,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “Although this skill had some hidden bonuses due to the class it belongs to.”

“What class?” Alissa asked.

“Artemis' disciple,” Ryan replied.

“The Greek goddess of the hunt and the moon?” Alissa frowned. “That is a weird name for a class...”

“I couldn't agree more,” Ryan shrugged.

For a while, Alissa considered the potential of those special classes. Lunar Arrow was a fine example of how they could be interesting to have. Still, in the end, Ryan's thirst for power was what made her decide to pursue those classes as well. Even though his pride gets in his way many times, he still reached a point where he could wound her pretty deeply. Even though he could do that only at night... because that was the condition to use Lunar Arrow.

Ryan continued to use Wind Blade in order to level up his Mage class. Still, his progress speed decreased a little since Alissa used several skills in order to level their classes that were at high-level. Despite that, Ryan still managed to reach his goal.

Congratulations! You have reached the requirements to obtain a special class. Do you wish to sacrifice the classes: Elementalist, Sage, and Mage? Y/N?

With a large grin on his face, Ryan chose yes. As expected, those moments where he had no idea what exactly would happen next were insanely exciting. To the point where he could even forget that Earth was quickly approaching a chaotic era like no other...

Chapter 508

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Spellcaster!

You obtained the following skills: Ice Blaster, Glacial Spike, and Ice Cannon.

Your intelligence and mana will increase by eight points. Your health, stamina, recovery, and mentality will increase by four points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Ice Blaster.

Effect: It fires an orb at the enemy and, upon impact, causes damage and freezes them for one second.

Cost: 200 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Glacial Spike.

Effect: It summons a spike of ice and causes damage on the enemy by surprising them with an attack from below.

Cost: 100 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Ice Cannon.

Effect: The ice version of Flamethrower that decreases the speed of the foes by one point per level per second.

Cost: 100 mana per second

You obtained 01 status point.

In the end, Ryan was betrayed by his high expectation... he had forgotten a single but very important detail. The rank of the classes also influenced the rank of the special class. Given that Elementalist and Mage were tier one classes, it wasn't that surprising that he received just a tier four special class. As if that disappointment wasn't enough, Alissa and Femradriel were also quite curious as to what was Ryan's new class. In the end, a quick demonstration had been enough to make them frown as well.

"Is that it?" Alissa asked. "Those can't even be compared to Lunar Arrow."

"Well, I forgot to mention that the rank of the sacrificed classes plays a major role," Ryan said. "I suppose we should be happy that this is a tier four class."

"What a letdown... in any case, I am going to clear the dungeons since my soldiers are already ready to leave," Alissa said.  $\rho_{??} \int_{??} (??)_{??}$

In those four days, Ryan's overall magic powers increased quite a lot, thanks to Alissa. That was probably the method he had been looking for to cheat the system. Find someone powerful who isn't an enemy

and train with them. In any case, Ryan couldn't even say that she owed him anything since she made Ryan save a lot of time.

"I have to be more careful with the classes I am going to sacrifice," Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "Tier three dungeons are hard to find, but I guess they are going to spawn more frequently from now on. The real probably will be the time to level them up."

"You probably will save some time if you have the chance to sacrifice some low-level special classes," Femradiel said. "Can that be done?"

"No idea, but if it is impossible, I will definitely do it," Ryan replied.

There was only one way to find out if that was possible, by obtaining three of those tier four special classes and then make them reach the max level. No... if he reaches the max level in a single one, the system will notify Ryan if that class can be sacrificed. It looks like Ryan will have to level up the Spellcaster class quite often from now on.

In the end, Alissa cleared all the eight dungeons in less than one hour and alone. The power of the fourth strongest human wasn't something to laugh at. Ryan will have to work pretty hard to reach that level of power. It would be a difficult task, given that Alissa was dumb but not a slacker.

"I guess this is it," Alissa said. "I will come back to play if I have some free time. Things are rather dull in that base, after all. If it weren't for Arthur, I would have any real reason to go there."

"Now that I think about it, you are going to stay away from the base for more than a few days, huh," Ryan said. "Certainly, you won't consider these four days anything but a break."

"Are you joking?" Alissa asked. "We obtained four tier three classes and four tier two classes in just four days. This is a lot of progress for just a few days' time, I will certainly return to the base and then play with Arthur at least for a week."

Ryan changed his mind. Alissa certainly was a slacker, but it was only natural since she couldn't risk letting her soldiers fight for too long. They have become quite the powerful individuals, but they weren't at Ryan or Alissa's level when it comes to harsh training.

After saying her goodbyes to Femradial as well, Alissa and her lackeys left Ryan's domain. Although things had been rather noisy in the last few days, Ryan didn't feel annoyed by it. Besides, now more than ever, Ryan confirmed that Alissa was one of few people he could trust when things start to get really rough.

"Well, then," Femradial said. "I am going to resume my training. Before that, do you want to learn Cryomancy or not?"

Ryan thought for a second, not learning that skill would be a waste since he didn't know what else he should learn. Besides, that skill will certainly increase the power of his Frozen Spellcaster class and skills.

"All right, let's do it," Ryan said.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill Cryomancy.

Effect: Greatly increases your control over the ice element and its variants. It also increases the power of your ice-based attacks by three percent per level.

You obtained 01 status points.

"Thanks, I didn't ask before, but is your training proceeding at a favorable speed?" Ryan asked.

"More or less, it would be better if I could take my time fighting the bosses, but we can't risk letting them become too powerful too fast, right?" Femradial said.

"... You know what, you should do that," Ryan said. "If we can't defeat those dungeon masters that don't have the confidence in fighting alone, there is no way that we will have any chance facing the big guns. You can focus on what you can do to become stronger, I will do the same thing."

While Ryan's words surprised Femradial, in the end, she didn't try to change his mind. Ryan was changing again and in a positive manner. Instead of worrying about how strong his opponents can become, he decided to focus on his own power.

"Anyway, I will return to the dungeons, you should organize your golems again," Femradial said. "Thanks to Alissa's help, I had a good idea for the next familiar, but I will need some time to obtain enough mana."

"Is that so... I guess her visit hadn't been that useless," Ryan said.

While Ryan was allocating his golems inside the dungeons, he considered his options. As usual, he could leave the country and search for tier three dungeons in Africa and Europe, but he already knew how much of a pain some natives could be. Not that he would be any better. If a stranger suddenly asks to use his dungeons, Ryan probably would throw them in the ocean.

"I have almost two hundred dungeons nearby that I can clear for classes," Ryan said. "That is the other option. Should I focus on that while I increase my domain in all aspects?"

That was a tough question. Staying would grant Ryan some stability and peace of mind while going abroad was risky, but it also could give him some nice rewards. According to Yahiko, the Indians and the Chinese were focusing on their problem. Probably many of them realized that in less than six months, things will become even harder. That was why no one was acting with world domination in mind. Still, not seeing the situation in those places with his eyes seemed like a bad idea. Things could be better in Africa and in Europe, but Ryan wouldn't bet on that."

"Oh, well," Ryan said and then shrugged. "This late in the game I can risk everything by trying to access the situation of the whole planet. Instead of worrying about others I will expand my domain and raise the strength of my army."

Ryan will be forced to become stronger when the big guns start to spawn on Earth, but he won't have many chances to do so if the difference in strength is that big. Fortunately, his army already had some powerful generals. They were Furball and Femradial's familiars. Ryan just needed more powerful minions while he became stronger as well.

“Keep watching things while I am away, buddy,” Ryan patted Furball’s head. “You can eat your veggies without worrying about anything, but just make sure to stay away from the Ghouls. I think I don’t need to say this, but they probably won’t become a decent snack for you.”

Area Lv 23: 59 square miles      Level UP cost: 550.000 coins or 5.500.000 mana

Monsters Book Lv 08              Level UP cost: 4.500 coins or 40.000 mana

Barrier Lv 12

Level UP cost: 12.000 coins or 120.000 mana  $\rho_{\text{??}} \cup_{\text{??}} (\text{?})_{\text{??}} \text{??}$

Army Lv 11                          Level UP cost: 23.000 coins or 230.000 mana

Dungeon T1 Lv 44 (93%)          Level UP cost: 88.000 coins or 880.000 mana

Coins stored: 756.338              Mana stored: 3.652.842

“My domain is already large enough that I can’t see the borders while I am at the center,” Ryan said after he opened the domain’s menu for a second. “It is time to look for other types of minions to put in my army.”

After using Teleport, Ryan quickly found another dungeon near his domain. The creatures being spawned there were Earthworms, and he couldn’t let those attack his barrier from underground. While they certainly weren’t a species that would be useful in his army, Ryan still approached and used Taunting Aura to lure them since their dungeon was one that he hadn’t cleared yet.

When the monsters approached, Ryan mercilessly killed them with his Magic Bows as he walked toward the dungeon. He didn’t even have to use his hands and pull the triggers of his real crossbows to eliminate the threat. In the end, he left a trail of corpses behind and entered the dungeon while pondering about the next class he should level up.



“To make things as efficient as possible, I need the potions that boost my stats when I decide the next class to level up,” Ryan nodded to himself. “Alissa has her own things to do, so I can’t afford to bother her with this whenever I feel like it. Besides, if transformed into dragons outside my domain, we are bound to draw the attention of some troublesome foes. Hell, I don’t even know if we are safe enough inside the barrier.”

While Ryan couldn’t bother Alissa often, it was too late to pretend that he didn’t have Draconic Transformation. Several enemies already knew that Ryan had Femradial’s power, so Ryan felt compelled to use that skill while he ‘trains’ his powers against some troublesome foes that he shouldn’t leave alone.

“I knew this was going to happen... the more I use that power, I feel less compelled not to use it,” Ryan said and then sighed. “While that skill leveled up quite a lot, in those four days, I shouldn’t use it again... Unless I have no other choice.”

Resealing that skill would be for the best. Not only Ryan’s enemies wouldn’t know the total power he could obtain from it, it will also work as a mental trap to make them wonder when Ryan is going to use it.

Even when Ryan reached the last part of the dungeon, he had no idea which class he should use it. To make things as inconvenient as possible for him, Ryan decided to use the skills of the last class he obtained. That would be a pretty efficient way to keep his guard up and to level up classes that Ryan usually didn’t use. So, after using some STR potions, Ryan equipped his strongest spear. Weirdly enough, the spears he got from the Reptilians still were the best he had... even though they hadn’t been upgraded a single time. While that was disappointing, in the end, it worked pretty well against the boss of the dungeon that was just a gigantic Earthworm.

## Chapter 510

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: Viking, Combat Archer, and Summoner.

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.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Viking!

You obtained the following skills: Flurry, Bash, and Headbutt.

Your strength and health will increase by four points, your mana, stamina, speed, and endurance will increase by two points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Flurry.

Effect: Based on the number of stamina consumed, it lands a flurry of near-instant hits on the target.

Cost: 30 stamina per hit.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Bash.

Effect: It used a shield to smash the head of your target, causing massive damage and stunning them for a second.

Cost: 50 stamina

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Headbutt.

Effect: It grants you the power to harden your head and deliver a surprise attack using your head as a weapon. The strike will paralyze the foe for two seconds after the attack.

Cost: 30 stamina

You obtained 01 status point.

After clearing the dungeon and opening the treasure chest, that was the surprise that he had. Since he only had a single option, he couldn't complain about the skills, but Viking class certainly had some too simplistic skills...

"Using these skills to clear the next dungeon will be a real pain in the ass..." Ryan furrowed his eyebrows.

Before leaving the dungeon, Ryan checked the dungeon shop to see what types of summoning skills he could learn. Much to his disappointment, he could only buy the tomes: Ice Golem, Magma Golem, Electric Golem, and Steel Golem.

"With the exception of Giant Bee, all the summons are inorganic creatures... why?" Ryan asked while frowning.

While those types of golems were quite useful in their own right, Ryan was expecting to be able to summon far more powerful and useful monsters than golems. With the monster book, Ryan could summon all types of monsters, from goblins to Steel Eagles. However, he couldn't actually summon them unless he obtains a new dungeon for each type of monster and assigns them to a dungeon.

Since they would be useful to slow down and freeze some monsters when a new army arrives and try to attack his domain, in the end, Ryan bought the Summon Ice Golem tome, and that cost him five million coins.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Summon Ice Golem.

Effect: It grants you the power to summon a special variation of the original golem.

Cost: 3000 mana

You obtained 01 status points.

Ice Golem – Lv 01 ρ??c??(?)???

Health: 600/600

Mana: 600/600

Stamina: 600/600

Strength: 500

Dexterity: 200

Speed: 100

Intelligence: 1000

Endurance: 700

Control: 200

Mentality: 600

Luck: 100

Recovery: 700

Willpower: 600

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Freezing Punch Lv 15, Ice Fortress Lv 01

Passive Physical Skills: Stone Skin Lv 20, Focus Lv 20

Spells: Ice Arrow Lv 20, Ice Trap Lv 10,

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv 50, Freezing Resistance Lv 50

As expected, they were a bit stronger since they cost more mana to be summoned. In any case, leveling them up would be a pain since they were too weak if compared to most monsters in the world. Ryan will have to be patient and let them become stronger while they just exist. However, he had another idea when he noticed that the sun was setting.

“It is time to pay them a visit,” Ryan smirked.

Ryan activated Silent Movement and then used Teleport. He repeated that several times until he reached the Reptilians camp one hour after. Although things were pretty dark, he easily found the monsters' base. Things changed greatly since the last time Ryan had been there. Not only the Reptilians increased the area of their base, but they also built several buildings and even created some ice walls to protect everything inside from attack by unwelcome guests.

“Ice Golems aren't a good match up against them, but I guess it is fine,” Ryan said. “I just want to make them level up a little bit while I also destroy the base of those fuckers.”

While that was possible and a pretty good idea, given that it would be a pain to let those creatures attack his domain whenever they have enough strength, Ryan had to be fast. As far as he knew, only a

single person had the nerves to attack the Reptilians before and anyone who worked for Echidna. That someone was Ryan himself, so before Echidna noticed that he was doing something and reinforcements, Ryan had to finish his job really quick.

“They have three dungeons here... come to think of it, what will happen if I try to obtain a class that I sacrificed?” Ryan frowned since he had no idea what would happen. “Can I recover that class? I need to test that later...”

Ryan was pretty sure that would be impossible since he still had the skills of those classes, but it was worth the shot. Before Ryan could get even more sidetracked, he began to summon Ice Golems. While he was using potions like crazy since he didn't deactivate Silent Movement, Ryan never took his eyes out of the Reptilians base. Those creatures should have to get used to being attacked by monsters now and then, but not by humans. So, that much caution was absolutely necessary.

“I guess I will have to sacrifice these guys since teleporting them back to my domain will take too much time,” Ryan concluded after he summoned the hundredth ice golem. “Well... forcing them in suicidal charge will probably make them level up faster...”

Ryan realized that was something his enemies have been doing quite often, but in the end. It wasn't like he had any other choice...

## Chapter 511

Ryan decided to put his plans in motion when he had two hundred Ice Golems under his control. Since he didn't want to leave any of his traces behind, Ryan made his golems run toward the Reptilians camp after he teleported to several kilometers above the camp. Only someone with eyes as good as his would be able to find him.

Before the Ice Golems could be found or start their rampage, Ryan looked for the bosses in the area. They were the most troublesome foes, after all. Much to his surprise, Ryan even found Eci eating something in front of a campfire. It was hard to tell from that position, but he looked pretty down.

“I guess it is only natural, he got his ass kicked many times against me, after all,” Ryan shrugged. “It is kind of surprising that he didn't lose his job or was executed for his failures. All villains execute their incompetent minions... Maybe I am using the wrong type of knowledge here.”

Before Ryan could waste even more time, he used Lunar Arrow and instantly killed Eci and several other bosses. While it was surprising that he did that with a low-level skill, Ryan was more surprised that only their heads were destroyed by the attacks. Even though they probably didn't have Light Resistance, their mentality was surprisingly high.

You obtained 80.000 coins.

You obtained 80.000 coins.

You obtained 80.000 coins.

...

The Reptilians were caught off guard when their leaders were suddenly shot down, they tried to find the enemy, but they didn't find anything in the dark sky of the night. As if that wasn't enough, the Ice Golems suddenly jumped over the ice walls as if they never existed from the very beginning.

The unarmed Reptilians tried to fight back, but only the guards in the walls managed to deal any real damage at the low-level ice golems. In total synchrony, the Ice Golems fired Ice Arrows at the Reptilians. They managed to kill a few monsters just by the sheer number of projectiles, but that wouldn't be enough. Several other Reptilians got their weapons in the meantime.

"I can't see any more bosses, so I guess I can focus on the regular monsters," Ryan said. "This would be the perfect chance to level up my weakest classes, but I can't let those fuckers see me. I can't use crossbows either. So, now what?"

Ryan couldn't even use the skills he already showed to the Reptilians. While Lunar Arrow was hard to see as a proper arrow, the cost of mana was too high for Ryan to use to kill mob monsters.

In the end, Ryan decided to use something new. Something that could cause a lot of damage even though it was at a low level. Ryan created several boulders using Earth Creation and then let them fall after using Deadly Aim. Gravity did its magic, and then several Reptilians had their heads crushed by the two-hundred-pound boulders after a few seconds.

The skill Earth Creation has leveled up.

The skill Earth Creation has leveled up.

The skill Earth Creation has leveled up.

...

“Hehe, this isn’t so bad,” Ryan grinned from ear to ear.

It was certainly impossible for the Reptilians to identify the attacker by using such a tactic alone. From their perspective, it wouldn’t be weird if they think that some meteors were falling at a very bad time.

While that was good and all since the level of the skill was low, Ryan was spending too much time creating the boulders, and while his Ice Golems gained many levels, they were quickly being disposed of by the Reptilians.

“I suppose it is time to retreat, without the bosses, they probably will have a hard time building their strength again,” Ryan said.

Ryan felt satisfied by the fact that he discovered a new way to attack while conserving a lot of mana.

When Ryan returned to his camp, he suddenly felt weird. The last few days had been oddly peaceful for him. Even though he killed thousands of monsters... not only that, returning to his domain every time was starting to feel like he was returning to his home after a day of work. Even though there was a single thing in all his domain that could make him remember his old home.

“This is weird... I guess it is because I have been traveling around nonstop,” Ryan said and scratched the back of his head. “Well, now that has come to this, maybe I should teleport that old hut here.”



Although that had been his idea, Ryan began to wonder if he should really do it. What was the point? The number of hours in which he sleeps during a week could be counted with the fingers of his hands.

“Nah, I shouldn’t let these weird ideas get the better of me,” Ryan said. “I can’t relax at such times; humans are at war against monsters. Besides...”

Ryan didn’t want to say that out loud since it would be the same as admitting that his past was haunting him, but he didn’t want to become that person, that happy-go-lucky idiot that he once was. Having a home would certainly make him become relatively lax... in order for him to leave his combat mode. A house or even a proper bed was completely unnecessary.

“As expected, socializing with other people is making me have more and more thoughts unrelated to fighting,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “This isn’t a good...” ρ??(??)???

Fortunately, that was a problem that could easily be solved. Ryan just had to find another target. Even though the whole country was covered by the darkness of the night, Ryan still decided to leave his domain and then look for another dungeon to clear. Anything was better than him returning to his past self, even becoming a death machine, a battle freak, or robot whose sole purpose is to hunt and kill monsters.

Class: Artemis’ Disciple Lv 04 (+ 03 UP) / Frozen Spellcaster Lv 01 / Monk Lv 16 (–)

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

Rank: 53th

Health: 4690/4690 (10,65/s)

Mana: 6220/6220 (10,65/s)

Stamina: 6550/6550 (10,65/s)

Strength: 531 (+288) (+130)

Dexterity: 4750 (+3825) (+350)

Speed: 1120 (+1810) (+48)

Intelligence: 981 (+1604) (+33)

Endurance: 858 (+269) (+160)

Control: 926 (+1910) (+10)

Mentality: 908 (+293) (+70)

Luck: 1030 (+25)

Recovery: 3000 (+2550) (+845)

Willpower: 930 (+309) (+40)

Coins: 652.412

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Stunning Impact Lv 01, Triple Slash Lv 01, Blood Storm Lv 01, Cleave Lv 01, Seismic Slam Lv 01, Death Leap Lv 07 (+ 06 UP)

Passive Physical Skills: Stealth Lv 95 (+ 05 UP), Stamina Boost Lv 07 (+ 06 UP), Fury Lv 01, Dark Vision Lv 01, Heroic Ax Mastery Lv 01, Steel Skin Lv 01, Flurry Lv 01, Bash Lv 01, Headbutt Lv 01,

Spells: Taunting Aura Lv 09 (+ 08 UP), Hyper Body Lv 08 (+ 07 UP), Iron Will Lv 04 (+ 03 UP), Ice Blaster Lv 01, Glacial Spike Lv 01, Ice Cannon Lv 01, Summon Ice Golem Lv 01,

Support Skills: Nocturnal Eyes Lv 35 (+ 05 UP), Fast Conjunction Lv 06 (+ 05 UP), Cryomancy Lv 01

Classes:

Combat: Beastmaster Lv 73 (+ 04 UP), Gladiator Lv 01, Assassin Lv 01, Butcher Lv 01, Spearman Lv 13 (+ 12 UP), Viking Lv 01

Non-Combatant: Whitesmith Lv 25 (+ 03 UP), Alchemist Lv 52 (+ 03 UP)

Race: Centaur, Lesser Dragon, Kobold,

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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: Champion, Rogue, and Sage.

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.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Champion!

You obtained the following skills: Ki Explosion, Tiger Stance, and Tiger Cannon.

Your strength and health will increase by four points. Your stamina, mana, mentality, and willpower will increase by two points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Ki Explosion.

Effect: It grants you the power to cause an explosion around your body that will cause equal damage to all the enemies around you.

Cost: 100 health, 100 mana, 100 stamina.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Tiger Stance.

Effect: It passively increases the attack speed of your unarmed attacks by two percent per level.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Tiger Cannon.

Effect: It grants you the power to send a shockwave through your hands that causes magical and physical damage.

Cost: 100 mana

You obtained 01 status point.

In the end, Ryan spent the entire night cleaning a nearby area of monsters that a certain dungeon had spawned. While it had been pretty difficult at the start, Ryan managed to fight while using only the skills he obtained from the last class he received. While the new class wasn't that impressive, Ryan obtained some nice spoils.

Mirage Crossbow (+8)

Effect: at the cost of 100 points of mana, it grants the user the chance to fire invisible bolts.

Dexterity + 144, Intelligence + 144

Durability: 120/120

It was kind of surprising that Ryan never heard of the Invisible Treants before. In any case, despite their convenient skill to become semi-invisible, they were shorter than the other treants. They were much frailer as well to the point where Ryan could defeat them with Headbutts. He spent the night spamming that skill in order to level up his Viking class.

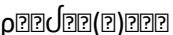
“I am not satisfied with my level of power, but I guess clearing two dungeons and getting two classes every day is a pretty decent feat,” Ryan nodded to himself when he arrived in his domain. “Now I guess I need to have another goal related with special classes... obtaining one of them every week seems close to impossible, but how about one every two weeks?”

While Ryan was thinking about that, he noticed that things in his domain were awfully quiet. Usually, Furball would come to greet him, but this time he didn't do that. Fortunately, if Femradiel didn't warn him of anything, Ryan knew that nothing serious had happened. After a while, Ryan noticed that the number of his Fire Golems had decreased and that Furball and several of them were fighting inside the specters' dungeon.

Death's Specter Lv 110

Health: 3500/3500

Mana: 6500/6500

Stamina: 2500/2500 

Strength: 300 (+130)

Dexterity: 700

Speed: 800

Intelligence: 950 (+170)

Endurance: 500

Control: 1150

Mentality: 800 (+250)

Luck: 150

Recovery: 2000

Willpower: 800 (+250)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills:

Passive Physical Skills: Alert Lv 80, Focus Lv 60, Spearmanship Lv 50, Intangibility Lv 120

Spells: Health Steal Lv 70, Mana Steal Lv 70, Stamina Steal Lv 70, Spectral Absorption Lv 60

Support Skills: Fire Resistance Lv 50, Cold Resistance Lv 50, Shock Resistance Lv 50, Death Sense Lv 70

“It looks like the leveling up speed of my Fire Golems isn’t keeping up with them,” Ryan said and then rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “I knew this was going to happen, but not so soon...”

While Ryan could summon an undetermined number of monsters to guard his domain, they had a level cap. That was a major flaw in his strategy, given that the monsters that the dungeons spawn don’t have such a limit. In the last few days, Ryan assigned his Red Falcons on the guard duty as well to make them stronger. Still, as expected, not even them could become stronger than tier three monsters.

That was the limit of Ryan’s strategy to rely on monsters to help him. At the end, that made Ryan realize that perhaps the dungeon system, at least when it comes down to humans, was only useful when the dungeon master can use many of them to do certain things. Thanks to the classes, they could become strong faster than most monsters. However, Ryan wouldn’t give up yet. He summoned and then lent him one of his crossbows. After doing some tests, Ryan confirmed some things.

“Not good, huh...” Ryan said and then sighed. “Already knew that summoned monsters can’t learn skills that easily, but I guess it is also a waste of time to lend them some weapons.

The only ideas Ryan had to solve that situation at the moment were to rely on other necromancer’s skills or just head to Canada and then tame some skeletons. The second option didn’t seem that appealing, but the first option seemed pretty difficult.

“You did well, buddy,” Ryan said to Furball. “It is a pity you can’t use weapons. Well, not that you need it.”

For the time being, Ryan just summoned several other Fire Golems and gave the order to Furball to keep doing that job of helping in clearing certain dungeons when the necessity arises. However, since that was risky. Ryan created some equipment for him that would increase his resistance against monsters, such as the specters that can steal health, mana, and stamina.

“I guess Femradiel is busy fighting and projecting the next body,” Ryan said after he realized that she didn’t come up with an excuse not to help Furball.

In the end, it looked like Ryan will have to improvise again. Summoning classes were hard to come by. He certainly couldn’t ask Mark or the others for information about the dungeons in which will grant him those classes. He refused to help them time and time again, after all.

## Chapter 513

Although it was possible, summoning all types of creatures wasn’t the most efficient way to level up the Summoner class. The most efficient way was to use Summon Slime, Summon Giant Bee, and use Protect. In order not to mess up with his plans of using his newest class to clear the next dungeon, Ryan decided to use the Giant Bees to guard the Centaur Archers’ dungeon. Despite the fact that only a few of them would be able to attack the Centaurs that will spawn, Ryan filled the entire dungeon with them in order for the place to remain guarded for at least a few days and also because Ryan wanted to level up his class and skill.

Congratulations! The Summoner class reached level 80.

Congratulations! The skill Summon Giant Bee reached level 75.

“I guess this will be enough for the time being, let’s check in a few days how many times the class and the skill will manage to level up,” Ryan said.

Ryan left his domain again, but instead of looking for the next dungeon to be cleared, he went to the slimes’ dungeon. Clearing the place had been easy since he had left some monsters behind to guard the place, and they were still working. Ryan even had the idea of using the slimes to create a new crossbow. However, the treasure chest didn’t open when he tried it.

“I guess it is really impossible,” Ryan shrugged. “Well, at least I managed to obtain a new weapon with an interesting effect.”

Immobilizing Crossbow (+8)



Effect: at the cost of fifty points of mana, it grants you the power to fire crossbows that put your enemies under the slow status for thirty seconds when they are hit by the bolts. Each projectile decreases their speed by five points.

Dexterity + 136, Intelligence + 136

Durability: 120/120

In the end, the weapon was slightly weaker if compared to the last one since Ryan used the spirits of the slimes, but that didn't bother him. While humming, which was a rare occurrence, Ryan left the dungeon, only to be surprised by the arrival of some unexpected individuals. Tristan, Natalia, and some other survivors from the secret base.

"You..." Natalia said as if she was munching something very unpleasant.

Natalia's hostility didn't surprise Ryan, but he couldn't help but frown due to the fact that Tristan seemed even more pissed than his sister. In fact, Ryan could clearly see that he was about to start the fight. He was barely preventing himself from doing something stupid since he knew that they had no chance against Ryan, even less so if he uses Draconic Transformation. p??J??(?)???

"You have guts kid, and you have a brain as well," Ryan said. "I guess you will survive for long."

Tristan clicked his tongue in annoyance. Although Ryan wasn't exactly taunting him, Tristan couldn't hear anything but mockery coming from Ryan's mouth. In any case, while it was only natural that he would be received with much hostility even by some people who he didn't even know, Ryan was getting quite pissed. To the point where he even considered playing the role of the villain even further. If some people don't have the courage to face their enemies, then they shouldn't have the luxury to expose their hatred toward them.

"What are you guys doing here?" Ryan asked and then equipped his newest crossbow. That immediately made the other survivors, aside from Tristan and Natalia to back down.

"We don't owe you any explanations," Natalia replied. "What are you doing here?"

“I don’t owe you any explanations,” Ryan replied.

Natalia clicked her tongue as well, and, in the end, she just guided the people that were with them to inside the dungeon. Ryan couldn’t help but shrug since that behavior was cute, if anything. They certainly need to practice how to make their anger look a bit more menacing.

“Don’t try anything funny in there, this place is under my control,” Ryan said.

“What are you going to do if we don’t care about your useless claims?” Natalia asked. “Are you going to put on another show again?”

“No way, bad kids don’t deserve to see a spectacle,” Ryan replied. “Bad kids need to be punished.”

“... You have disappointed me, Ryan,” Tristan said without trying to hide the hatred in his eyes.

“I wonder how I am going to live with myself after hearing this...” Ryan shrugged.

After understanding that nothing would come from continuing that conversation, Tristan, Natalia, and the others entered the dungeon. That was a bit annoying, but Ryan had to stay behind in order to confirm that they won’t cause problems. That dungeon was another source of income for Ryan, and since no one claimed ownership of that place before, now it belonged to Ryan.

In any case, they probably came this far to discover why the number of slimes had decreased. It was only obvious that they wouldn’t return to that area without a good reason. Moreover, the survivors didn’t look as exhausted compared with the last time Ryan saw them, so that confirmed what Alissa said about the change in their behavior.

After a while, the group left the dungeon and the area without looking behind or saying anything. Ryan felt more or less good about how he forced them to change. Now he was pretty sure that they wouldn’t become a burden when the real fight starts. That being said, he was a bit worried about how their behavior changed Arthur and Zoe’s life inside the base. Ryan didn’t want to use Clairvoyance to check with his own eyes how those two were doing, but he doubted that Alissa’s reports alone would put his mind at ease.

“Oh, well,” Ryan said. “About that anything bad will happen to them while Alissa stays there and they also know that things will get messy for them if I discover something that I don’t like. For the good or worse, Mia is also there and I doubt that she will let anything happen to those two, so it is fine.”

## Chapter 514

Back in the secret military base near Indianapolis, Mark and his allies were having one of those meetings. A while ago, they only happened once a week. Still, now they were happening pretty much every day since everyone who was living in the base started to work in the nearest dungeons. Now that they didn’t have to walk or run for days for them to have a chance to arrive at their new home.

“Report,” Mark said.

“Things proceeded favorably today as well,” Hugo said. “According to our estimations, Daniel will obtain a domain stone in two days.”

“What about Mia?” Mark asked.

“She didn’t change her mind yet,” Hugo replied.

“... Good grief, that girl needs to get a grip,” Mark said after a long sigh. “Can’t she move on already?”

“I believe she already moved on,” Katelin said. “The real problem is the fact that she doesn’t want to become Ryan’s enemy.”

Currently, the only people who were close to Mark but weren’t in the room were Daniel, who was fighting and clearing dungeons to become one of the top one hundred strongest humans to obtain a domain stone, Mia who was taking a break and looking after Arthur, and Tristan and Natalia, who went to check why they didn’t find a single slime using their satellite.

Just as Ryan had expected, they changed their modus operandi. Instead of doing what they couldn't, everyone in the base made up their minds to pursue the power that they needed to protect their new home. Going too far away was a waste of time, so they decreased their area of action.

Regardless, due to her innate talent, Mia becomes the first member in the base to obtain a domain stone. While Alissa had one and didn't use it yet, everyone knew that such an item had some incompatible characteristics with Alissa. Thus asking her to use it would be a waste of time.

"What is the point of worrying about that now?" Mark asked.

"I believe she is fine not working together with him, but becoming an enemy is another matter altogether," Katelin said. "She deeply believes after hearing Alissa's explanation that all those who obtain a domain on Earth will become enemies at some point. She doesn't want to become the main responsible for Ryan's fall if a battle between our forces were to happen."

"Even after all that?!" Mark raised his voice. p??(??)???

"I am just saying what I think she is thinking," Katelin shrugged. "There is no point in getting angry at me."

"What do you think Ryan's current goal is?" Cole asked. "According to the images that we received; his domain covers a good part of old Dallas. In less than a month, he will probably have the entire region under his control. Alongside many other dungeons that will only increase the speed of his domain expansion."

"Who cares about that?" Anna asked.

"You should care about it, Anna," Carter said. "Until now, we more or less knew what Ryan wanted, but lately, it is impossible to determine. He is living only with his own summoned monsters and barely interacts with anyone else. Someone with such a damaged psych, might do many unexpected things."

"I know that she doesn't trust anyone aside from his summoned monsters that are forced to obey him, but he crossed the line," Cole said. "He might be thinking that he is doing this for the sake of our country

or of the world, but his actions have been far too irresponsible. He almost caused the doom of thousands of survivors here just to prove his point.”

“What has he been doing lately?” Holland asked. “Can we even do anything without a domain if he goes mad again?”

“According to what we learned, only certain people allowed by the dungeon master can enter a domain,” Hugo explained. “There are two ways to enter without being an ally, through a dungeon or by destroying the barrier. According to what we observed, he has been clearing dungeons and trying to obtain more domains. So, we might become his next target the very moment someone uses a domain stone in here.”

“We will prepare accordingly not to lose our next trump card,” Mark said. “For the time being, that is the only thing we can do to prevent another chaotic situation. You are all dismissed.”

After a while, Mark saw himself alone in the meeting room. He accessed his computer in order to check the situation of all survivors that had returned that day from their duties in clearing the nearest dungeons. Mark couldn't approve of Ryan's methods, but he couldn't deny their effectiveness. After surviving the dungeon breaks that he had caused, all the survivors inside the base that could fight experienced a huge boost in strength and morale. It was no surprise that something like that would happen at such a crazy event.

As if that wasn't enough, not a single life had been lost since Ryan's stupid show. That was how Mark called the day where he caused the dungeon breaks. Moreover, even those who were sent to the most difficult dungeons only returned with a few scratches on their bodies.

Mark sighed when he analyzed those archives for a few more minutes. He couldn't but blame himself for the misdeeds of the younger generation. If he had done something else from waiting for other branches of the government to come and help them, Mark and his men could have obtained a power that would grant them the chance not to rely too much on Ryan and Alissa. Since that didn't happen, those two have been doing whatever they wanted, and no one could stop them. Until now, Alissa didn't cause any trouble, but who knows that another incident like that will happen, and this time the perpetrator might be Alissa herself.

“Power corrupts, huh...” Mark muttered under his breath.

Mark didn't want to believe that was the case, he wanted to believe that only bad people would do bad things with power, but lately, he felt less and less compelled to think that way...

## Chapter 515

Although those have been helping Ryan a lot lately, Ryan couldn't help but feel thankful when he noticed that his stock of dragon hearts was almost over. While those tasted good in all ways one could think to cook them, Ryan was already sick of it. It was no surprise. Not even the craziest human could withstand eating something like pizza for one month without taking a break.

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: Crusader, Combat Archer, and Sorcerer.

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.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Crusader!

You obtained the following skills: Holy Cross, Indomitable Spirit, and Boomerang Shield.

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

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Holy Cross.

Effect: A quick double slash in the shape of a cross that causes explosive damage and even more damage against demons and undead.

Cost: 50 mana.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Indomitable Spirit.

Effect: It casts around the user a magic barrier that will protect him against negative effects. The power of the negative effects will decrease according to the level of the skill.

Cost: 30 mana per second

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Boomerang Shield.

Effect: A skill that can only be used when a shield is equipped. The heavier the shield, the more damage the skill will cause.

Cost: 50 stamina.

You obtained 01 status point.

After another day of hard work, Ryan teleported back to his domain to check things and relax for an hour or two before he left to search for another dungeon to clear. However, instead of relaxing, he was bothered by Alissa. ρ??C??(???)???

“Ryan... you won’t believe what I just heard,” Alissa said while she apparently was having a hard time controlling her laughter. “A lot of people here in the base think that you have gone mad and your actions might put the whole country at risk.”

“That isn’t surprising,” Ryan said. “Rather than that, it is surprising that you haven’t been caught hearing other people’s conversations or reading their minds.”

“Unlike what you might be thinking, I only did that to make sure I know what is happening and seems out of place,” Alissa explained. “This certainly is a good motive.”

“I don’t really care if you don’t have a motive or not, but if you were caught doing that it might cause some issues,” Ryan said. “Besides, you don’t owe me anything.”

“You worry too much, I just found it funny that the people here think you are plotting world domination,” Alissa said. “Anyway, you shouldn’t drop your guard since everyone here is wary of you.”

After saying that, Alissa ended the telepathic link. In the end, it really looked like she just tried to share a funny story and that she wasn’t even a little bit worried about the severity of that situation.

Before Ryan could think a little more about the results of his actions regarding the people in the secret base, he noticed that another telepathic link between someone and him was being forcefully created. Alissa was the only one who usually would do that, but since she just did, what would be the point of doing again? Much to Ryan’s surprise, Gustavo was the one who did it.

“Hello again, Ryan,” Gustavo said, and he sounded too tired for any more greetings.

“What’s up? You sound tired,” Ryan said.

“Just facing a troublesome situation with underwater dungeons lately,” Gustavo replied. “I wanted to talk about that, have you people in your country having problems with those types of dungeons?”

“Not that I am aware,” Ryan replied. “As far as I know, all the survivor camps are pretty far from the sea. That being said, I would know if monsters from the sea started to invade the land.”

Ryan was using Clairvoyance pretty much whenever possible to find new dungeons, so he would have noticed such a problem if his country was facing such a problem. However, maybe even if there are some underwater dungeons near his country, would the monsters leave the ocean and lose the terrain where they have such an advantage?

“I am glad to hear it,” Gustavo said while smiling. “Anyway, but you should stay cautious of possible attacks. Another type of monster has been causing several problems to us lately, to the point where we are even considering the idea to move away from the coast.”



“That sounds like one hell of a monster...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows in surprise. “Didn’t Alissa share the knowledge about the domain stones with you guys? I would bet that would help.”

“We tried to use that, but it didn’t work,” Gustavo said. “Since the center of the domain was in the center of our city, the border of the domain quickly reached the ocean, but that only worked for the barrier to become a target for the Hydras.”

“Hydras...” Ryan frowned when he heard that name. “Are they those dragon-like serpents that I heard in Greek mythology?”

“Indeed, they are,” Gustavo said while nodding. “As far as we know here, it looked like they kept a low-profile until now in order to build up their forces. Thanks to that, they now control a good part of the area of the Atlantic Ocean we monitor.”

Ryan didn’t like what he heard... to think that a single species of monsters managed to defeat all the others and now was causing problems for humans. That was something beyond troublesome. Ryan couldn’t help but wonder if he should increase his investigation scope...

## Chapter 516

Ryan got curious about the subject, so he asked a little more about the Hydras to Gustavo. According to him, they were essentially invincible in the ocean. While they could be wounded, they could heal insanely fast. Gustavo and his friends didn’t even have the chance to try to behead one and see what would happen. So, they were unaware if those creatures could obtain two more heads when they lose one.

Before he could notice, Ryan created a massive pool and then entered it to train his Underwater Resistance. While that was beyond unpleasant, Ryan discovered that he could increase his time underwater by using Regeneration and other healing spells. Thanks to his health, Ryan could stay for quite a while underwater, but losing health for being unable to breathe was, again, beyond unpleasant.

“No Water Breathing technique, huh,” Ryan said between one of the training sessions he used to level up Underwater Resistance. “It is a high-level skill... so, maybe I should clear some more tier three dungeons to find it.”

There was also the possibility that Ryan could obtain a class that would have that skill, but the chances were quite low. That would be one heck of a specific class, after all. While Ryan was readying himself for another training session. Femradial approached in her Wyrms form.

“You are doing something weird again...” Femradial said. “Did I miss something?”

“It looks like some troublesome dungeon master managed to take over the Southern side of the Atlantic Ocean,” Ryan replied. “I want to check how things are on our side.”

“Permission to say that is one of your stupidest ideas,” Femradial said.

“Permission not granted,” Ryan said.

“This is serious Ryan, there is no doubt in my mind that humans aren’t creatures made to fight underwater,” Femradial said.

“Well, I am human, but I also am Night Demon, Lesser Dragon, Centaur...” Ryan shrugged.

“None of those bloodlines grant you any skill that makes you stronger underwater,” Femradial said.

“Underwater, your powers will be at least halved. You might be able to surprise some enemies, but most of them will be able to feel your presence from a similar distance. Your eyesight will be way less effective due to the density of the water. Not to mention, even with your new body that can’t be compared with the ones humans had in the past, you can’t survive if you were pulled to a certain distance below sea level. You would need certain skills to survive that and you don’t have a single one.”

“If things get dire, I can always use Teleport,” Ryan said.

“Your optimism always comes at the worst of the times...” Femradial said. “Well, it looks like you are determined to fight in the ocean no matter what. So, I guess I will have to help you. I believe I have a lot more experience than you at fighting in such a place.”

“You didn’t notice several things lately, even though your spirit is supposed to be inside me,” Ryan said. “Are you sure you can control remotely those two familiars while also offering me some support?”

“I can’t guarantee that I won’t make any mistakes, but this will be good training for me, I need to get used to being at three places at the same time, after all,” Femradiel said.

Although Femradiel was treating that as training, he couldn’t complain since he would need all the help he could get. Besides, her power to find dungeons would really come in handy... Hopefully, he won’t have to face too many bosses before he gets the chance to clear them. ρ??∪??(?)???

Femradiel tried to teach Ryan some techniques that would allow him to stay underwater without suffering damage. Still, in the end, those required way too much control over mana, and Ryan wasn’t that good at it. So, he will have to increase his ability to stay underwater in a hard way.

After training that skill nonstop for a full day, Ryan felt confident that he could stay underwater for at least half an hour while maintaining his state of almost total composure. So, once again, he left Furball in guard duty while he teleported to the country’s East Coast. Upon arriving there, Femradiel got unusually confused.

“I never investigated these parts, but...” Femradiel hesitated.

“But?” Ryan asked.

“There are too many dungeons near this coast,” Femradiel said. “That is weird since we can’t see a single monster leaving the ocean.”

“Give me an exact number,” Ryan said.

“I can sense a few dozen pretty easily since they are tier two dungeons, but there might be more even deeper,” Femradiel said. “I won’t be able to track them down unless you use Draconic Transformation and approach deeper levels.”

“That skill again, huh...” Ryan said.

“It can’t be helped, the level of mana in the ocean is much higher than I remember, that works like a barrier that more or less decreases the power of tracking skill,” Femradiel explained.

As usual, Draconic Transformation could help Ryan quite a lot. Femradiel didn’t mention it, but it was possible that it would grant Ryan the chance to stay underwater for an unlimited amount of time. After all, the first time he found Femradiel, she was hiding underwater.

“How deep are those tier two dungeons?” Ryan asked.

“It is within the range of how far you can go,” Femradiel said. “I can give you the exact location, the pressure might cause some problems in your ears if you teleport to them.”

“There is that as well, huh...” Ryan said and then sighed. “Great.”

“Of course, that isn’t a problem if...” Femradiel said.

“If I use Draconic Transformation...” Ryan said. “Dear me, you sure love that body.”

“We are prideful creatures, you didn’t forget it, right?” Femradiel asked.

“How could I forget it, you are always nearby to remind me,” Ryan shrugged.

Without wasting any more time, Ryan jumped into the ocean, and much to his surprise, the water was a lot colder than it was supposed to be. Femradiel wasn’t joking when she mentioned the mana level in the oceans...

## Chapter 517

It didn’t take long for Ryan to find the nearest dungeon and the first wave of enemies that would get on his way. Those creatures were much uglier now that they had human size. They were the mutated or an

alien version of the Seahorses. While Ryan didn't know much about those types of creatures, he was pretty sure they weren't supposed to have a light blue skin tone.

Azure Seahorse Lv 430

Health: 35.000/35.000

Mana: 55.000/55.000

Stamina: 25.000/25.000

Strength: 2600 (+ 300)

Dexterity: 3900 (+ 600)

Speed: 2500 (+ 300)

Intelligence: 5500 (+ 900)

Endurance: 1900 (+ 400)

Control: 3800 (+ 700)

Mentality: 3300 (+ 400)

Luck: 2500 (+ 300)

Recovery: 12.000 (+ 3000)

Willpower: 3300 (+ 400)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Aquatic Charge Lv 300

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Intelligence Lv 250, Improved Recovery Lv 250, Swim Lv 500

Spells: Water Cannon Lv 350, Ice Spear Lv 300

Support Skills: Cryomancy Lv 350, Hydromancy Lv 400, Cold Resistance Lv 600, Water Breathing Lv 600

“I never saw those creatures before, but their level is pretty high...” Femradiel said via Telepathy. “They must be the species that are hunting in the Giant Crabs in these parts, that is why we didn’t find any of them.”

Ryan had a few things to say, but he just nodded since he couldn’t speak underwater. However, in the end, Femradiel notified him of a pretty obvious fact.

“You don’t need to use your mouth to talk,” Femradiel said. “I can read your thoughts; you just need to give me temporary permission.” ρ???(?)???

“Ah... right,” Ryan thought.

Ryan already had done something similar before. In fact, he does that whenever he leaves his domain. Otherwise, he wouldn’t be able to communicate with her properly over long distances.

Several of those creatures spread around the area in order to surround Ryan. He immediately equipped his Amphibian Crossbow and pulled the trigger. However, much to his surprise, his target sped up and dodged the projectiles. Despite the effect of his weapon, the bolts still were much slower than he had imagined.

The number of enemies was relatively low, so Ryan didn't have to worry about mana. Before they could enter their attack range, he activated Deadly Aim and Perfect Aim. The monsters were fast, but not that fast. As expected, the monsters suffered critical damage at every single shot. They were fast and relatively decent long-ranged fighters, but their endurance was stupidly low.

"I suppose I should make a crossbow using their spirits," Ryan thought.

Aquatic Crossbow (+8)

Effect: At the cost of one hundred points of mana, it temporarily increases your intelligence after using this weapon for ten seconds. The bonus in intelligence will be four points per shot and can stack.

Dexterity + 150, Intelligence + 150

Durability: 130/130

Despite the fact that Ryan was pretty sure he was the fast person stupid enough to fight underwater, he didn't find that many monsters. Ryan and Femradiel found several azure seahorses, but it couldn't even be compared to the number of monsters he usually faced in dungeons that have been left alone for several weeks.

"It is probably because they aren't at the top of the food chain here," Femradiel said. "While they must have the advantage against Giant Crabs, those creatures probably only serve as a snack for the Megalodons."

Ryan nodded at that, but in the end, not even those gigantic sharks were the kings of the oceans. While Ryan was warier of the Hydras, it doesn't mean that there were no other predators around. Hopefully, Ryan won't have to deal with creatures like Krakens. If Megalodons exist, then those other monsters

probably exist as well. However, Ryan found himself shivering while imagining their long and slimy tentacles. It looked like Ryan found another fear...

“How weird of you to have a fear like that...” Femradiel said.

“I am already regretting letting you read my mind...” Ryan thought. “Anyway, which direction is the nearest dungeon?”

“At your one o’clock, five hundred meters away from your current position,” Femradiel replied.

Moving underwater wasn’t that difficult since Ryan could use Telekinesis to move his own body. Still, then he realized that he was wasting a good chance.

Congratulations! You learned the skill swim.

Effect: it passively increases your movement speed while underwater by five percent per level.

You obtained 01 status points.

While it would take a while for Ryan to reach a decent speed while using that skill alone, he was certain that it would be worth the hassle.

In the end, Ryan found the dungeon with plenty of time left before he started to feel the need to return to the surface. In the end, the dungeon was just another underwater cave, and much to his disappointment, there wasn’t a single boss guarding the place. The number of azure seahorses barely reached the three-digit mark.

“Something is off here...” Ryan thought.

“Really? If you ask me there is nothing weird,” Femradiel said. “This dungeon might have broken several times and hundreds of bosses spawned, but they wouldn’t endure stay inside their base for so



long without feeling the need to hunt for food. They probably left and spread around and were hunted down by a stronger monster.”

What a terrifying imagination... but in the end, Ryan noticed that it was only logical. From the monster’s perspective, it was probably easier to hunt other monsters in the ocean. He thought things down there would be way more terrifying given that all the underwater dungeons pretty much broke more than six times, but in the end, that wasn’t the case. Or so Ryan thought at the beginning, then he realized that the lack of monsters was a sign that the big guns were more powerful than any monster Ryan fought inland.

“I should have asked the Hydra’s level to Gustavo...” Ryan thought.

It was too late to worry about that. Still, Ryan decided to proceed carefully since the lack of monsters was a sign that something powerful cleared the area a few days ago.

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After going to the surface to breathe for a while, Ryan returned to underwater and then headed to the dungeon as fast as possible. He felt that his ears were a bit weird since he was going downward too fast, but it looked like his body was adapting fairly fast to the environment.

Although the dungeon was completely dark, thanks to Dark Vision, Ryan could see his surroundings fairly well. He did the right thing in training that skill previously... However, that skill wasn’t a level high enough to grant Ryan the power to see far ahead in the darkness. So, he only found the boss’s presence thanks to Radar instead of thanks to his eyes.

“Shit... forget about preemptive strikes, I won’t even be able to see the last part of the dungeon completely like this,” Ryan thought.

“I can see things fairly well here,” Femradiel said. “So, you can leave the fight to me. While it is pretty a decent foe, I should be able to defeat it using your skills alone. You can focus on using potions.”

“But that is...” Ryan hesitated.

“If you didn’t put so many restrictions in yourself, this fight would be a breeze,” Femradiel said. “Besides, as far as I can tell, that one is a tier two monster. You shouldn’t feel that troubled by this.”

Although Femradiel would be using her instincts and Ryan’s skills to fight, he still couldn’t help but feel troubled by it. It was only natural that he would need some support to fight underwater. Still, he didn’t imagine he would have to leave an entire boss fight in Femradiel’s hands.

In any case, while Ryan could rely on Radar to fight, aiming properly wouldn’t be the same thing as before. Ryan wouldn’t even be able to use Perfect Aim or Deadly Aim, after all. He had to have a clear vision of the foe. Given the current range of Dark Vision, Ryan would have to get too close, and that would nullify his advantage completely as a long-ranged fighter.

“For someone who can take pride in your decision-making speed, you sure think too much about the small stuff,” Femradiel said. “Relax, in a few hours, Dark Vision should be powerful enough and make you completely able to see your foes in places like this. Remember, you are wasting your breath while you hesitate.”

“All right, then,” Ryan thought. “Let’s see if this idea of yours is really plausible.”

Ryan gave Femradiel the chance to control his body. Then he focused his mind on using Spatial Manipulation and Telekinesis only. After a few seconds, Femradiel used Teleport and suddenly appeared in front of the boss. Ryan should have asked about her battle plan...

Atlantis Knight Lv 550

Health: 125.000/125.000

Mana: 175.000/175.000

Stamina: 75.000/75.000

Strength: 8000 (+ 1300)

Dexterity: 6500 (+ 1200)

Speed: 3500 (+ 900)

Intelligence: 12500 (+ 1800) ρ???

Endurance: 4200 (+ 800)

Control: 4500 (+ 900)

Mentality: 6500 (+ 800)

Luck: 2500 (+ 300)

Recovery: 40.000 (+ 10.000)

Willpower: 6500 (+ 800)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Aquatic Charge Lv 500, Death Blow Lv 450,

Passive Physical Skills: Improved Intelligence Lv 450, Improved Recovery Lv 550, Swim Lv 700

Spells: Water Cannon Lv 550, Ice Spear Lv 500,

Support Skills: Cryomancy Lv 550, Hydromancy Lv 600, Cold Resistance Lv 800, Water Breathing Lv Max

Although Femradiel said that the enemy wasn't that strong, Ryan had the chance to use Appraisal when she got too close and confirmed that certainly wasn't the case. Putting the name that made Ryan worry aside, that boss certainly was at the level where he could defeat the previous Femradiel in the ocean.

The boss resembled quite a bit the Azure Seahorses. Still, that one actually had arms and legs, and he also had a pretty fit body. It looked like, unlike its minions, the boss would rather fight in close quarters. The monster not only had a fit body, but it also had a blue-spiked helmet and a breastplate made of corals that looked like diamonds.

Instead of asking if she had lost her mind, Ryan began to use potions left and right while Femradiel summoned several Magic Bows and attacked the boss. The creature also had a trident, but despite the melee weapon, the boss just repelled the attacks and tried to gain some distance over them.

Despite the fact that they actually had the advantage in a long and medium ranged fight, Femradiel kept following the boss and getting closer with Teleport. Eventually, Femradiel noticed that was a waste of time. The boss was just too fast.

Ryan didn't notice it since Femradiel had been pretty cautious about it and because of the darkness of the place. Still, then when the boss finally stopped moving, he saw that Alissa had laid some traps here and there. While he was moving around, Alissa created some steel grains. She made them attack the boss's body while it was moving around and dodging her magic attacks. Those grains quickly moved toward the monster's legs and then began to pull it down after it took a shake of some sharp-looking shackles.

While the monster was receiving some damage since it was resisting, Femradiel prepared a big attack. However, before she could actually attack, the boss attacked the shackles. A single attack had been enough to make the creature give up on its legs. As soon as the attack was repelled by the weirdly sturdy shackles, they proceeded to cut off its own legs. Everything below its knees had been sacrificed.

"Holy shit... I didn't think even monsters could do that so easily," Ryan frowned.

In order not to fall for the same trick twice, the monster gave up on the strategy of moving away from the enemy. The monster charged, and Ryan barely saw the creature closing the distance between them. Femradiel did and used his shield to block the attack. However, a single attack had been enough to shatter it into pieces. Ryan wanted to scream, but he didn't do it. Despite the fact, that was one heck of an expensive shield.

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Even without its legs, the boss could move much faster than Femradiel. Although the creature was suffering some damage from her attacks, it wasn't nearly enough to stop or even slow down the boss. At some point, the creature got close enough and impaled Ryan's right shoulder with the trident. However, Femradiel instantly healed the wound.

"Hey..." Ryan thought since he was unable to keep quiet any longer.

"My bad, my bad," Femradiel said. "It won't happen again."

Ryan wanted to know how come Femradiel could affirm that so easily, but in the end, what she said turned out to be true. He didn't realize it before, but Femradiel has been attacking the boss with the magic copies of his Immobilizing Crossbow, and the monster was quickly losing its speed. After that first attack, the boss never had the chance to get close enough for its trident to even scratch Ryan's body.

Once the boss's speed dropped, Femradiel's aim naturally improved, and the monster became unable to dodge or even block most of her attacks. Despite the fact that the power that Ryan's body had been halved, the monster didn't even last five minutes.

You obtained 125.000 coins.

"I guess I underestimated this creature as well..." Femradiel said. "I forgot to mention it, but while the power of your body has been halved due to the environment, the aquatic monsters overall power increased by thirty percent."

Ryan noticed that at some point in the fight. That was why the fight lasts longer than it was supposed to, considering that their target was just a tier two monster. Even though the creature was at level 550...

Much to Ryan's surprise, the monster's equipment disappeared when the creature fell dead. However, the trident didn't. He didn't analyze the weapon before, but it seemed a pretty decent one.

Atlantis Knight 's Trident.

Effect: It increases the damage caused by your physical attacks by twenty percent while fighting underwater.

Strength + 150, Speed + 120

Durability: 50/200

Atlantis... Ryan didn't like to see that name again. Atlantis, according to Greek mythology, was Poseidon's kingdom. The pride of the god of the oceans and brother of Zeus... suppose Poseidon was really the one controlling the seas. In that case, he would probably be the first Olympian god to manifest himself on Earth. Ryan naturally would slow down that as much as possible. Still, just the idea of drawing the wrath of the Olympian gods to himself was enough to make his head hurt.

"First the six generals of hell and now the Greek gods..." Ryan thought. "Why does my life have to be so intense?"

Before that thought could depress Ryan even further, he decided to open the treasure chest. Checking the purple crystal was out of the question since he didn't want to risk seeing a Greek god at such a time.

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

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.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Barbarian! 

You obtained the following skills: Deathblow, Defend, and Inspire.

Your strength and health will increase by four points, your mana, stamina, speed, and endurance will increase by two points whenever you level up your class.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Deathblow.

Effect: A powerful horizontal swing that increases in power while you charge at the enemy.

Cost: 50 stamina.

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Defend.

Effect: It temporarily increases your defense against long-ranged attacks by raising a shield and entering a defensive posture. The damage decreased will be equal to the level of the skill multiplied by ten.

Cost: 30 stamina per second

You obtained 01 status point.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Inspire.

Effect: It temporarily increases the mentality and willpower of your allies by ten points per level when fighting in the frontlines.

Cost: 30 mana per second.

You obtained 01 status point.

In the end, Ryan picked another melee class, which was the sixth in a row that only increased his melee-related status. While Ryan was satisfied that he was sturdier, it was a pity that fighting up-close with those new classes was a suicide in such an environment.

After obtaining his newest class, Ryan left the dungeon and then returned to the surface. Things had been far less dangerous and time-consuming in the ocean than he had predicted. However, Ryan didn't drop his guard.

"I bet my Ice Golems can survive underwater, but the difference in power between them and the Azure Seahorses is too big," Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. "Even hundreds of them probably won't be able to hold back the Atlantis Knights for more than a couple of minutes."

"The elemental affinity is also a problem," Femradiel added. "They won't cause any real damage. Maybe at level one hundred, the Electric Golems will be able to do something, but it will take a while for you to make them reach that level."

Ryan could only nod at it. Still, he couldn't waste time thinking about the problems he couldn't solve. The only thing he could do right at that moment was to confirm if Poseidon really was the one who was going to spawn first. Letting that happen would be disastrous since seventy percent of the Earth's surface was made of water, and given what Poseidon could do based on mythology, he alone probably could destroy the entire world.

"Where is the next dungeon, Femradiel?" Ryan asked.

"So, you want more, huh," Femradiel said. "I guess this will be the start of a very long mission..."

Despite the fact that she fought pretty well in the ocean, it looked like Femradiel wasn't that fond of it. Regardless, at least she didn't try to stop Ryan again.



Once again, it didn't long take for Ryan and Femradiel to find their next dungeon. Fortunately, the dungeon wasn't that deep since it was spawning Giant Crabs, and they liked to fight underwater and out. Their numbers were pretty low, and their levels weren't that high as well, the reason being a certain predator that was moving around the area in search of food.

Megalodon – Lv 490

Health: 150.000/150.000

Mana: 100.000/100.000

Stamina: 60.000/60.000

Strength: 7500 (+1500)

Dexterity: 5500 (+500)

Speed: 2000 (+500)

Intelligence: 5000 (+1000)

Endurance: 7000 (+1100)

Control: 1800 (+200)

Mentality: 5000 (+1200)

Luck: 2000

Recovery: 50.000 (+10.000)

Willpower: 5000 (+1200)

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Bite Lv 400

Passive Physical Skills: Swim Lv 550, Improved Recovery Lv 300, Enhanced Recovery Lv 250

Spells: Water Creation Lv 400, Water Manipulation Lv 320

Support Skills: Underwater Resistance Lv 550, Cold Resistance Lv 600, Freezing Resistance Lv 500

“For Odin’s eyepatch...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows in shock. “Is it just me or that thing is bigger than I remember?”

“It is just ten meters bigger than the ordinary ones,” Femradiel said. “I guess it is a boss.”

“Still, I don’t remember the other one being that menacing,” Ryan thought. “Now that I think about it, why those monsters always have too much health, mana, and stamina and other attributes that are more important are completely neglected.”

“Those two things are related,” Femradiel replied. “The more vital energy a creature has, the more menacing it looks from the perspective of weaker monsters. Creatures like Megalodons find it more appealing to defeat their targets even before the fight. Just look, despite its level, the big guy here is just waiting for the Giant Crabs to spawn. This one probably saw its companions having their ass kicked and decided to build its strength hunting Giant Crabs and Azure Seahorses.”

As usual, Femradiel's theories seemed pretty reasonable. Still, that couldn't explain why he found a single megalodon in the area. Maybe the monsters migrated to other areas only to have their ass kicked, but that was just a possibility.

In any case, to enter the Giant Crabs dungeon, Ryan will have to defeat that massive beast. No, he could act teleport to inside the dungeon, but Ryan felt that would be a waste...

"Well, I guess that thing and underwater, I can't afford to pull my punches," Ryan thought and summoned several Magic Bows and the activated Power Shot in all of them. "If something else approaches while I am fighting that, I will be counting on you to warn me, Femradiel."

"I think not using Draconic Transformation also counts as pulling your punches, but whatever," Femradiel said.

Ryan concealed his bloodlust, but after a while, the monster noticed his presence due to the vast concentration of energy around him. As expected, the beast dashed toward Ryan since he looked like a pretty decent snack. He had to wait until the very last moment since the monster was too fast. Fortunately, in the end, Ryan made the monster eat his magic projectiles. The creature not only suffered a lot of damage but also was slowed down enough that it granted Ryan the chance to escape by using Teleport.

Ryan immediately prepared for the next wave of attacks. Still, he noticed that the monster was already moving toward and its wounds were being healed at terrifying speed. As expected, just fighting directly fair and the square was a lousy idea...

After firing another wave of Power Shots that have been charged just for a couple of seconds, Ryan equipped his Immobilizing Crossbows and then created several magic copies of them.

"Oh? Am I really seeing this?" Femradiel asked.

As much as that annoyed him, Ryan decided to shamelessly copy Femradiel's previous tactic. He also decided to ignore her words since it wasn't time for that, and he didn't have time to come up with a good strategy against that kind of foe. It took a while, and even though that was one boring strategy, Ryan escaped by using Teleport from the big shark attacks and then decreased the monster's speed little

by little until he becomes much slower than Ryan. With that massive body, the Megalodon just became a practicing target for Ryan.

In the end, Ryan decided to use the monster's spirit instead of just killing. Ryan also considered the possibility of taming the beast, but for science's sake, he created a new magic weapon first.

#### Aquatic Predator Crossbow

Effect: At the cost of one hundred points of mana, it restores one hundred points of your health every time an aquatic foe is killed.

Dexterity + 150, Intelligence + 110

Durability: 140/140

"Not bad, huh," Ryan thought.

"So, are we just ignoring the fact that you copied my strategy?" Femradiel asked.

"I wouldn't say that I copied," Ryan shrugged. "I would say that use it as a basis for a new one. After all, you charged mindlessly at the boss while I did the reverse."

"I did for a reason, you know," Femradiel said. "Just like you like to fight under several restrictions to make yourself stronger, I did something similar to improve my battle senses. Giving even more advantages to the enemy is risky, but also increases the obtained combat experience."

"Well, let's just be happy that you are learning something from me," Ryan shrugged again.

"You are impossible..." Femradiel sighed.

Ryan laughed, but, in the end, he admitted that he learned something from Femradiel, even though he also realized that was a basic simple strategy that was stupidly effective. Regardless, before upgrading that already powerful crossbow, Ryan decided to tame the next Megalodon. While until now he was holding his own underwater, Ryan wouldn't mind some extra help. Besides, he couldn't think of any other monster that could be even more useful in such an environment.

Without wasting any more time, Ryan proceeded toward the dungeon while making sure to kill the Giant Crabs with bolts that wouldn't ruin their taste. Those would taste even more heavenly once Ryan's diet based on dragon hearts ends.