

Domain 761

Chapter 761

Ryan's Ice Breath made the copies disappear, but after a few moments, they would appear on the same spot as if nothing had happened. Ryan was fast... but not fast enough to destroy all of those at the same time. After five laps, Ryan grew tired of that and decided to change his plans.

"Can you pinpoint the dungeon master's position, Femradiel?" Ryan asked.

"No... this larger concentration of mana is messing with my senses," Femradiel said.

The large concentration of mana was due to the illusions, there were close to ten thousand copies, so it wasn't surprising that they were messing with Femradiel senses. Those fuckers were being used to fool their eyes and other senses as well.

For some reason, the dungeon master wasn't attacking Ryan. In fact, it was kind of hard to say that the dungeon master was nearby. One mistake, and the creature might get hit by Ryan's Ice Breath. Once that happens, Ryan can easily find the original. In the end, Ryan tried to move away from that spot in order to find the crystal of the domain. Once he does that, finding the dungeon master should be easier. However, the illusory copies followed him while maintaining their perfect circle.

Ryan decided to ignore them, but as it turned out, they weren't there just to make him waste his time. Ryan and Femradiel noticed that their eyesight was getting blurry, not because of the heat of the desert but because of the copies.

Congratulations! Your Illusion Resistance has leveled up.

Congratulations! Your Illusion Resistance has leveled up.

Congratulations! Your Illusion Resistance has leveled up.

...

"It seems the mana they are emanating is affecting our bodies," Femradiel said.

Ryan sighed. He was getting impatient again, but it was only natural since he couldn't waste time in a place like that. Without any other choice, Ryan summoned his magic bows and then used them alongside Arrow Shower. Much faster than before, the illusions were destroyed and took a while for those to reappear, but Ryan achieved his goal of stopping the mana from messing with their senses. It was a bit of a risky plan since Ryan was using too much mana, but so was the dungeon master keeping the fuckers active.

In the end, Ryan's plan of expanding his mana to make the dungeon spend even more mana worked. Very suddenly, Femradiel stopped watching the battle and then looked above them.

"I sense something above us," Femradiel said.

"Why so sudden?" Ryan asked. "Are you sure it isn't a trap?"

"I felt something like a large concentration of mithril... most likely, the dungeon master is running out of batteries," Femradiel said.

Ryan teleported to above, and then he saw the very moment a small point began to disappear. The dungeon master was really controlling the illusions from above... Regardless, his plan of running away again didn't work because Ryan's Absolute Appraisal and his eyes were very good.

Tarragon

Health: 51.000/51.000

Mana: 189.000/189.000

Stamina: 19.000/19.000

Strength: 4600 (+ 1100)

Dexterity: 8500 (+ 900)

Speed: 6600

Intelligence: 21.650 (+ 3600)

Endurance: 5500 (+ 1400)

Control: 11.100

Mentality: 9000 (+ 2500)

Luck: 1500

Recovery: 26.000 (+ 9000)

Willpower: 9000 (+ 2500)

Coins: —

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Power Shot Lv 450...

Passive Physical Skills: Focus Lv Max, Improved Intelligence Lv Max, Enhanced Intelligence Lv 740, Augmented Intelligence Lv 320...

Spells: Illusion Magic Lv Max, Charm Magic Lv Max, Summon Electric Golem Lv Max...

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv Max, Fire Resistance Lv Max, Earth Resistance Lv Max, Illusion Resistance Lv Max...

“What a dumbass... he didn’t keep Mind Armor or any spell like that active,” Ryan said.

Before the enemy could, Ryan used Search and found the asshole’s location. Without wasting any time, Ryan and Femradiel bombarded the area with magic projectiles. Ryan would have finished the creature with the Absolute Death Crossbow if he could, but he needed to see the enemy for the projectiles to work.

In the end, the attacks worked and forced the dungeon master to cancel the illusions by using Mana Barrier. That being said, the creature didn’t receive any damage. Tarragon was exactly like his copies, so Ryan didn’t take notice of his appearance. Instead of that, he kept firing arrows as he flew toward the dungeon master. The creature didn’t do anything aside from trying to escape in his semi-indestructible barrier of mana.

“It seems he can’t use his illusions inside the Mana Barrier,” Femradiel said.

“Let’s not jump to conclusions,” Ryan said. “The last time I did that, I lost all the scales on this body.”

Femradiel wasn’t the type to underestimate her foes, but prudence was necessary more than ever. Still, Ryan could tell by looking at the dungeon master that she was probably right. The creature was completely taken by fear... given how many years the dungeon master has been capturing dragons, Ryan assumed that was insane. Unless... he didn’t have much experience in situations like those, where he couldn’t use his best powers.

Using the Absolute Death Crossbow seemed a bit too much for an enemy of that level. Still, Ryan didn’t hesitate in using the Vibrating Crossbow. The creature trembled from head to toe when the Mana Barrier began to shake. However, despite that, the dungeon master eventually stopped, and Ryan

stopped as well, not because he didn't need to chase the dungeon master any longer, but because he saw two others approaching, and they were pretty identical with the first one. Not only that, they were using the same pieces of armor.

“What the hell is going on here?” Ryan frowned.

“In the end, my instincts are always right...” Femradiel said.

It didn't take long for Ryan to connect the dots. The three dungeon masters didn't have the same skills, preference for monsters. They were competing with one another for no reason... but because they were from the same species and lived in the same world.

Class: Artemis' Disciple Lv 89 (+ 07 UP) / Frozen Spellcaster Lv 94 (+ 03 UP) / William Tell's Apprentice Lv 88 (+ 08 UP) (-)

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

Rank: 8th

Health: 16932/16932 (25,25/s)

Mana: 17725/17725 (25,25/s)

Stamina: 19330/19330 (25,25/s)

Strength: 881 (+4322) (+130)

Dexterity: 35493 (+12255) (+550)

Speed: 1270 (+8510) (+48)

Intelligence: 1352 (+5921) (+33)

Endurance: 1398 (+5295) (+160)

Control: 1476 (8450) (+10)

Mentality: 1452 (+4195) (+70)

Luck: 1080 (+2760)

Recovery: 5850 (+8250) (+1045)

Willpower: 1452 (+4293) (+40)

Coins: 390.444.986

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Arrow Shower Lv 92 (+ 15 UP), Chi Explosion Lv 13 (+ 06 UP), Draconic Sword Lv Max, Draconic Bow Lv Max

Passive Physical Skills: Eagle Eyes Lv 179 (+ 10 UP), Concentration Lv 179 (+ 10 UP), Archery Lv 179 (+ 10 UP), Accuracy Lv 179 (+ 10 UP), Stealth Lv 179 (+ 10 UP), Xenolingualism Lv Max, Draconic Hunger Lv Max,

Spells: Draconic Transformation Lv 210 (+ 35 UP), Frost Armor Lv 204 (+ 35 UP), Ice Breath Lv 224 (+ 35 UP), Teleport Lv 182 (+ 12 UP) Acceleration Lv 09 (+ 03 UP), Skill Bestowal 09 (+ 05 UP), Memory Manipulation Lv 11 (+ 04 UP),

Support Skills: Illusion Resistance Lv 41 (+ 30 UP), Sloth Aura Lv 04 (+ 03 UP),

Classes:

Combat: Crystal Archer Lv 68 (+ 03 UP), Marksman Lv 78 (+ 06 UP), Mad Archer Lv 38 (+ 08), Fallen Archer Lv 32 (+ 07 UP), Draconic Knight Lv 01, Draconic Archer Lv 02 (+ 01 UP)

Non-Combatant: Trickster Lv 37 (+ 04 UP)

Race: Centaur, Dragon, Kobold, Triton,

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Even Femradiel couldn't help but flinch while looking at the three dungeon masters. Fortunately, it didn't look like they came to help each other. Tarragon was as much surprised as Ryan and Femradiel.

"It seems that you are in a bad spot, Tarragon," One of the dungeon masters that just arrived said.

"You are getting careless lately, aren't you?" The other dungeon master asked. "To think that you would let enemies come to our world so easily..."

??? – ???

Health: ???/???

Mana: ???/???

Stamina: ???/???

Strength: ???

Dexterity: ???

Speed: ???

Intelligence: ???

Endurance: ???

Control: ???

Mentality: ???

Luck: ???

Recovery: ???

Willpower: ???

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Passive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Spells: ???, ???, ???...

Support Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Since the other dungeon masters weren't stupid enough to join the battle without activating some defensive spells to hide their status, Ryan would never discover their names. Not like he was actually interested in it. Instead of asking, he decided to refer to them as dungeon masters one, two, and three.

Although he could be disrespectful to that extent in his mind, Ryan couldn't underestimate them in real battle. They might not be that good in a real combat, but their skills were the real deal. While the tension was rising thanks to the stares of the three dungeon masters, Ryan summoned the massive sword that he gained a few days ago.

"I will control this, focus on using your usual attacks," Femradiel said.

"All right," Ryan said.

The three dungeon masters faced Ryan and Femradiel, but the massive sword hit them before they could do anything. Unfortunately, a Mana Barrier appeared and protected them. Ryan created magic copies of his Vibrating Crossbow and attacked all of them at the same time. While those attacks were costing a stupid amount of mana, he couldn't afford to kill one of them at a time.

That kind of attack worked pretty well. First, Ryan could even see the Mana Barrier growing weakly. Still, in the end, he also saw the dungeon masters making some pieces of mithril show up and then get absorbed by their hands. Once that happened, the power of the Mana Barrier worked.

"Maybe you should have focused on taking one at a time, after all," Femradiel said.

Perhaps Ryan could have succeeded if he had focused his attacks on a single target, perhaps not. Either way, he just realized that things won't be so simple anymore. Before Ryan could think of another tactic, he noticed the three dungeon masters disappearing like mirages. However, once Ryan used Absolute Zero and froze everything around, they appeared. They were forced to use Mana Barrier in order to save themselves. In order to prevent them from trying to escape again, Ryan summoned copies of the Spiritualist's Crossbow and attacked all three at the same time while Perfect Aim was active. That should work for a while...

"Why don't we use the Draconic Bow?" Femradiel asked. "It should be the best weapon in our arsenal right now. Besides, sooner or later, we should see what that is capable of."

"It costs too much mana," Ryan replied. "Both of us can't use it at the same time."

Femradiel understood the meaning behind Ryan's words, but she waited patiently. The dungeon masters grew tired of staying on the defense and finally summoned some golems right above Ryan... Although they were from the same species and were enemies, it seemed that their way of thinking was absurdly similar. Before the creatures could attack Ryan, he teleported to the right below them and then opened his mouth to swallow them. Hopefully, Ryan won't regret that...

Congratulations! The skill Electric Resistance has leveled up.

You recovered five hundred points of mana.

Congratulations! The skill Cold Resistance has leveled up.

You recovered five hundred points of mana.

Congratulations! The skill Earth Transformation has leveled up.

You recovered five hundred points of mana.

Just like the dungeon masters, Ryan frowned when he saw those notifications. He expected that Draconic Hunger could work even against monsters, but not that well. Ryan decided to charge at them

while they were surprised, but in the end, he had to select one since they were too far away from each other.

“It is time, Femradiel,” Ryan said.

Femradiel nodded when Ryan said that, and then he teleported to right behind the first dungeon master. He tried to grab the creature, but the Mana Barrier got in the way. However, a massive ice bow appeared below them and fired an equally massive arrow toward the dungeon master. The shot alone made the entire area vibrate, but things only got crazier when the projectile hit the target.

The Mana Barrier protected the dungeon master... for a short time. Ryan saw the exact moment that the mana of the target ended one moment after the impact, and then the massive arrow exploded, making all of them in the area move backward. It wasn't an elemental explosion. It was an explosion of pure mana... thanks to that, Ryan knew that the resistances of the creature would be useless. Still, even before the dust cloud that the explosion caused could disappear, he already knew the result.

You obtained 2.362.952 coins.

“Only this much?” Ryan frowned.

Although Ryan complained, he knew the reason why he obtained so little coins. It was because Femradiel did all the work. At the end, when the dust cloud disappeared, they saw a massive hole in the desert. It was as big as the one the previous dungeon masters caused. That wasn't surprising, given that Femradiel used all her energy to do that.

“I suddenly feel like crap...” Femradiel said, visibly exhausted. “Remember me not to use this skill again unless it is absolutely necessary.”

Ryan wished that he could say that he would, but he didn't have time for it in the end. The other two dungeon masters decided to run away, and they went in two opposite directions... things have taken a troublesome turn. Ryan and Femradiel will have to split up again, but she won't have time to recover, so he gave her Soul Eater.

Although Ryan had no idea how to find the dungeon master, Femradiel told him the direction in which she could feel the presence of another crystal domain. Naturally, he found it, alongside with a barrier protecting an army of ice golems inside. Apparently, the dungeon master decided to follow a roundabout path, but Ryan couldn't care less about it. He bombarded the barrier.

It didn't take long for Ryan to see some golems suddenly dropping on his back, the dungeon master was nearby, and he didn't want to face Ryan directly. Perhaps the creature didn't even have the skills for a proper fight, and that idea only enticed Ryan to attack even more vehemently than before, even though the golems were damaging his back.

"I can do this all day, bitch," Ryan muttered. "I have the power of an ice dragon."

Ryan said that as loudly as he could because, in the end, he will have to kill the dungeon master in order to obtain the domain. The dungeon master didn't show up, but the ice golems inside the barrier began to move and fire magic projectiles at Ryan. They were barely causing any damage, but even one hundred ant bites were bound to cause some.

The rain of ice spears kept falling for quite a while. Still, then before Ryan could think of changing his strategy, he saw some dragons appearing inside the domain... It looked like the dungeon master finally decided to use them.

"Son of a bitch..." Ryan said and then clicked his tongue in annoyance.

However, much to Ryan's surprise, the dragons began to attack the ice golems still inside the barrier. Ryan frowned for a short while, and then he saw Nakine appearing as well. It seems that they won the battle on the other side.

"Great... now we just have to find that annoying bitch," Ryan said.

Finding someone that was only good at three things, but one of those things was to hide, wouldn't be easy, but Ryan didn't have to waste time thinking about that. That massive desert was a pain in the ass. Finding anything human-sized would be difficult, but Ryan decided to use his best weapons for the task: his eyes. He was naturally good, thanks to his massive dexterity. Still, now with Draconic Eyes, he could even find traces of mana. After teleporting to above the domain, Ryan began to look around in order to

find any traces of mana. The dungeon master didn't have anywhere to run aside from his own domain since the others would be locked by a barrier.

It didn't take long for Ryan to find some traces of mana and then find a humanoid figure that had a lot of mana. Again, his eyes were that good. Fortunately, since he was so far away, the dungeon master didn't notice what Ryan did. From his perspective, Ryan had only disappeared. Killing the enemy would be easy. Ryan just has to use Draconic Bow. Still, in the end, he was really interested in the illusory skills of the creature... if they could brainwash dragons, those skills couldn't be looked down upon. Or maybe they should, since Ryan and Femradial never gave them the chance to fall under any decent spell.

After thinking for a while, Ryan had an idea. The fool couldn't use Mana Barrier while it uses his illusory powers to hide himself, so Ryan could easily snipe the dungeon master. Once he chops off his limbs, the pain will make the creature unable to chant any spell. It seemed like an overkill, but Ryan summoned his Absolute Death Crossbow, it wasn't time to pull his punches, and he had to help Femradial.

Once Ryan made up his mind, he pulled the trigger four times, and the four limbs of the dungeon master exploded. The creature fell on the desert without noticing what happened. Only after a few seconds, the pain took over his entire mind. In the blink of an eye, Ryan teleported toward the dungeon master and then finished the job.

You obtained 99.932.698 coins.

Illusory Crossbow

Effect: At the cost of three hundred points of mana, it grants the power to make your targets see illusory copies of yourself for three seconds. The effect can stack, but it can only work if the bolts fired cause some damage.

Dexterity + 500, Intelligence + 500

Durability: 200/200

"Not bad, I guess," Ryan nodded to himself.

Without wasting any time, Ryan turned around in order to search for Femradiel. Still, he stopped when he actually used Search and found her approaching... once again. She finished the job faster than him.

“Hi there, slowpoke,” Femradiel said. “It is just me or am I finishing our targets faster than you lately?”

“Careful not to fall from your high horse,” Ryan said.

“I can say the same thing about you, can’t I?” Femradiel asked.

“Maybe?” Ryan shrugged.

The mission was finished faster than Ryan thought, even though Femradiel imagined that things would get complicated. They actually did when the two dungeon masters showed up. Still, they were too dumb and decided not to fight together to defeat their common enemy.

“It seems you two are alive and well,” Nakine said when Ryan and Femradiel approached. “I didn’t imagine that we would accomplish this so fast.”

“How did you exterminate the three armies outside?” Ryan asked.

“Some allies from the nearest village came and helped us,” Nakine replied. “They are stronger than most of us, so their help quickly changed the tide of the battle. Not to mention, they showed up the very moment you defeated the first dungeon master, so in the blink of an eye, we got the help of two hundred new allies.”

It looked like even the dragons that were under the illusion spell helped them. In the end, that wasn’t unexpected. The dungeon masters kept them alive and well because they would be useless without their strength. In any case, things were going well, almost half of the job was almost complete, but Ryan couldn’t help but worry since Alissa didn’t show up until now.

Once again, Ryan, Femradiel, and the others spent one day dealing with the aftermath of the battle. Although the momentum was on their side, they couldn't afford to just look for the other fight. According to Nakine, things will only get more complicated, even though they had more powerful allies on their side, and the reason for that was the power of the next enemies.

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Draconic Warrior!

You obtained the following skills: Draconic Health, Draconic Strength, and Draconic Endurance.

All of your statuses have increased and will increase by one hundred points once this class levels up.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Draconic Health.

Effect: It permanently increases your health by one hundred points for each skill at the max level that you have.

You obtained 1000 status points.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Draconic Strength.

Effect: It permanently increases your Strength by one hundred points by each skill at the max level that you have.

You obtained 1000 status points.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Draconic Endurance.

Effect: It permanently increases your endurance by one hundred points for each skill at the max level that you have.

You obtained 1000 status points.

Fortunately, the new class improved Ryan's mood. He had been fighting with his fists a lot lately, but he wasn't obtaining the results that he wanted. Perhaps with this power-up, things will change a little bit. Otherwise, Ryan will have to give up on using the advantage of his size during some fights. That didn't seem like a good idea. Ryan felt like he would gain more by scaring his opponents first, since dragons were scary, and then use his best long-ranged skills to finish off the bastards.

While Ryan and Femradiel were helping the new dungeon masters to level up their monsters, Nakine suddenly stopped and then looked in the direction of the tribe that just joined their side. Ryan imagined that the dragons there were talking with him via Telepathy. In the end, it seemed that Nakine didn't get some good news because as soon as he turned around, he faced Ryan and Femradiel.

"It is about your friend," Nakine said looking a bit worried for some reason. "It seems that she decided to pick a fight with our next targets."

"Who is she fighting with? How far is she now?" Ryan asked. "If she is fighting, I assume that she thinks that she can win."

"We don't know their names, but we know that one of them is a mad warrior and another is one who provides him with all sorts of weapons made of mithril," Nakine said. "The quality of their equipment is much better than anything we created over thousands of years. As for the distance between the battlefield and this place... at your top speed it should be six hours. We heard that the battle just started, can your friend last so long?"

It seems that they finally found some elder gods. Still, Ryan couldn't tell who they were based only on that little information. As for Nakine's question, Ryan had no idea. Even the logical Femradiel wanted to believe in Alissa, but by fighting alone and when her mind has been so much unstable lately... that fight might trigger her Transformation to a Cursed Dragon.

"I see... well, we are going ahead and do the clean-up of the terrain for you guys, so don't take your time," Ryan said.

"We can go with you, this fight won't be like the others, we really should work together," Nakine said.

“We can’t, we won’t risk missing Alissa this time,” Ryan said. “We will go ahead alone since it will be faster. As you said, this fight won’t be like the others, so don’t worry, you will arrive on time.”

In the end, Nakine decided not to insist. He could tell by looking Ryan in the eye that he won’t break his promise, but he couldn’t risk failing with Alissa as well. Regardless, Ryan picked his Soul Eater and then used it after telling him which direction he should go.

“Do you have any idea why Alissa picked a fight with two elder gods?” Ryan asked. “She was pretty good at finding monsters even when Orgar was around, so she should be even better than before. Unless she forgot her original goal, she should have felt a large concentration of dragons.”

“You know her for longer, I should be the one to ask that,” Femradiel replied. “Well, my guess is that she already knows that the dragons here can’t give the answer that she wants and decides to ask the elder gods with her fists since she doesn’t want to look for another world and another species of dragons.”

That sounded like something even the Alissa of six months ago would do. Regardless, given the powers that Thanatos and Belphegor had, Ryan would bet that she was on the right track. Still, from another perspective, it was crazy just to pick a fight with random elder gods. She should look for the ones like those who have the power to revive the dead or control the mind of others as they see fit.

“Now that I think about it, I can’t help but wonder if it is actually possible to recover Orgar’s mind,” Ryan said. “He said that their pact would turn their minds into one, and even if she finds a way to rebuild her body, I can’t imagine that separating the pieces of a mind to create another one is a simple thing to do.”

“She probably has that power, since I have as well, Alissa just needs the mana to create a body, but...” Femradiel hesitated. “Dragons aren’t supposed to be that good at controlling kinds. The only way I can imagine her succeeding is by copying her own mind and deleting her memories and then transplanting to another vessel leaving only Orgar’s memories. But would that be the real way to revive Orgar?”

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Ryan was wondering that himself. Most likely, it was just a method to create a copy. But from another perspective, Orgar didn’t die, so he couldn’t be revived... Ryan couldn’t help but wonder if Alissa had

those questions in her mind. She probably thought of that, and that was why she was looking for the knowledge of dragons. The older they are, the more knowledge they have, after all.

Nakine said that the trio would last for six hours, but since Ryan was using Soul Eater, it only took them one hour to reach the region where the battle had taken place. There were some mountains here and there, but overall, the place was basically a massive grassland... a massive grassland that was trembling in hundreds of kilometers in all directions because some crazy individuals were fighting.

Ryan and Femradiel approached a bit more slowly while trying to hide their presence since the battle seemed lively, so most likely, Alissa still was fine. After a while, they found Femradiel in her draconic form. In the end, she wasn't much different from Ryan. The dark marks on her body were even more prominent and more considerable. The only difference was that the other parts weren't blue but silver.

Alissa

Health: ???/???

Mana: ???/???

Stamina: ???/???

Strength: ???

Dexterity: ???

Speed: ???

Intelligence: ???

Endurance: ???

Control: ???

Mentality: ???

Luck: ???

Recovery: ???

Willpower: ???

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Passive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Spells: ???, ???, ???...

Support Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Classes:

Combat: ???, ???, ???...

Non-Combatant: ???, ???, ???...

Ryan tried to check her status, but he failed. In the end, he quickly forgot about that; when Alissa opened her mouth, a massive cannon of light flew to the distance. Ryan and Femradiel didn't even have the chance to check the enemy, and they imagined they would never have the chance to do so because Alissa's attack left a path of destruction. The beam of energy even melted the ground... still, what surprised Ryan was the fact that her attack didn't have any signs of corruption.

In any case, after a few moments, a certain figure fell from the sky and then landed on the magma as if it was nothing. The figure was wearing a full set of mithril equipment and resembled a human quite a lot. The red hair and the red eyes that had a transparent glow. It was really an elder god, but that one was different from all the others. He was taller, and instead of special armor and weapons, he only had simple items made of mithril. They probably were possible, but they didn't look more powerful than Thanatos' scythe and Poseidon's trident.

The elder god had two short axes in his hands. He also had a horned helmet on his head. If it weren't for the whole plate armor that he was using, Ryan would think that he was some Norse elder god.

Tyr

Health: ???/???

Mana: ???/???

Stamina: ???/???

Strength: ???

Dexterity: ???

Speed: ???

Intelligence: ???

Endurance: ???

Control: ???

Mentality: ???

Luck: ???

Recovery: ???

Willpower: ???

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Passive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Spells: ???, ???, ???...

Support Skills: ???, ???, ???...

“Tyr? Isn’t that the Norse god of war?” Ryan frowned. “Oh, boy... things just keep getting better and better.”

Now the two axes started to make sense. Still, Ryan didn't imagine that a Norse elder god would use full plate armor. Regardless, even though the armor seemed pretty durable, Tyr decided to dodge the attack. Thanks to that, Alissa was hesitating. Even from far away, Ryan could hear her fist and teeth clenching. She looked angry as hell. If Ryan approaches suddenly, he might become the next target.

"What is the plan?" Femradiel asked. "This is going to be very difficult."

"It doesn't look like she needs our help right now, even though they have been fighting for over an hour, their bodies are almost completely fine," Ryan said. "I am more worried about the fact that we can only see Tyr. Not to mention, his army of monsters isn't around."

After using Clairvoyance, Ryan found the dungeon a few kilometers away, and he found an army of winged creatures whose bodies were covered in fur. They didn't seem that powerful, so Ryan decided to ignore them. Tyr suddenly charged toward Alissa, and instead of blocking the attack, she tried to slice in half with her claws, but in the end, her hands and the axes were the only things that collided. For some reason, Tyr looked a bit bigger, maybe it was the tension in the muscles he was exercising, or perhaps it was due to something else. Still, Ryan couldn't help but frown at it since he was three meters tall.

In the end, Alissa began to lose the contest of strength. Still, in the end, she clenched her teeth, and without activating any skill, she suddenly began to push Tyr backward. It was kind of shocking to see an elder god losing such a direct confrontation. Ryan didn't imagine humans would be able to do that. He didn't expect that any human would be crazy enough to fight them without some preparations.

In any case, it was a pretty good chance for Alissa to use some spells right now. Even if her hands were busy, there were plenty of ways for her to attack an enemy that couldn't move. She probably could use the Magic Bow, but for some reason, she never used it. After winning the contest for a while, Alissa decided to step back for a short while. She did so in order to gain some distance and prepare a big punch. Tyr was caught off guard, and even though he tried to block the attack with the axes, he was sent flying backward for several kilometers.

"Something is off..." Femradiel said. "Alissa gained a buff in strength without using any spell, item or potion."

"Maybe Rage helped her with that," Ryan said.

“Do you really think she only began to use Rage now?” Femradiel asked. “Are you an idiot?”

“Hey, there is no need to offend me,” Zaos furrowed his eyebrows. “In any case, I guess I am an idiot.”

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That was a tough question, and Ryan nodded at it. There was only one explanation for that sudden power up... Alissa probably obtained a skill similar to Wolf's Greed. That might be what will help her win the battle, but it still is a risky plan. Since Ryan didn't know the skill's cost, things might not be so bad.

Suddenly, Tyr appeared after a huge jump. It was quite insane that he recovered so fast and was able to jump from such a large distance. Ryan took a good look at it and confirmed that Tyr was completely fine, just like armor. As if that wasn't enough, he also seemed a bit taller.

“It seems that also Tyr has some tricks up his sleeve,” Femradiel said. “His presence is a bit bigger and more powerful after that punch.”

“Well, that is a given, he is an elder god,” Ryan said.

Still, Ryan couldn't remember facing an enemy that, whenever got hit, apparently, got stronger and bigger. Tyr dashed toward Alissa again, and this time, she was the one who was pushed backward. Ryan saw the scales around Alissa's hands cracking due to the pressure.

“Now what, Ryan?” Femradiel asked. “This isn't an ordinary foe, and I don't think Alissa can win this alone.”

“With her current state of mind, we can't afford to jump in the middle of the battle,” Ryan said. “She will think that I will be trying to humiliate her. Despite her looks, Alissa is pretty prideful. Let's wait and see for a while, when things are about to take a bad turn, we will jump in.”

Ryan wanted to get rid of the second dungeon master before jumping in that fight, but Tyr would notice that. Ryan doubted that he could beat that fast and silently while fighting Tyr's partner.

While Ryan and Femradiel were talking, the tide of the battle suddenly changed. Tyr's attacks grew heavier, and with each one, it was visible that Alissa was receiving severe damage. It was quite insane to see someone like Alissa being pushed down so much by someone who wasn't even using magic. Alissa opened her mouth again and fired the beam of energy, but Tyr didn't feel the need to dodge the attack this time. He put the two axes in front of himself and stood his ground. When the attack ended, all of them saw the Norse god of war practically unscathed, but a lot of heat was emanating from his body.

"Why are you pulling your punches?" Tyr asked while frowning. "This can be a very entertaining fight if you use all the skills at your disposal, so why are you trying to overpower me with strength and dragon breath alone?"

Alissa didn't answer the question and dashed toward Tyr, but the target blocked her attack with a single hand while looking a bit bored. That was quite something since Alissa's attacks could make the entire air vibrate. As if that wasn't enough, he barely could see her punches. Tyr stopped growing, but since Alissa didn't grow any stronger, he didn't have a hard time blocking her punches. After so many failed attempts, even Alissa was forced to realize that she was wasting time... unless she was trying to level up her melee classes. That plan was far too reckless. Even if she manages to gain a class useful like Ryan did against Thanatos, the opponent this time was different.

Suddenly, Alissa changed her posture and moved her right fist slightly backward. A lot of energy began to gather around her fists, she was trying something else for a change, but that was another risky attack since she wasn't moving at all. Despite that, Tyr waited patiently for her. He had total confidence that he could survive an attack of that level...

"This isn't good," Femradiel said. "The more that guy suffers damage, the stronger he gets. I have no idea for how long his powers can stay so high, but we might have some problems if we let this fight drag for too long."

Ryan was fully aware of it, but even so, he couldn't afford to step on Alissa's pride and rage. At the end, when Alissa was about to launch her attack, Ryan noticed that something was off. For a brief moment, he felt a different type of energy being activated on her body, and once she did that. She dashed with lightning speed toward Tyr. Ryan also saw the very moment the smiles disappeared from his face. Still, he didn't have time to react to the sudden movement.

The entire area trembled for quite a while. Ryan and Femradiel felt Tyr's presence growing weaker in the distance. He had been thrown so far away that Ryan couldn't see him by relying on his eyes alone.

Meanwhile, some sparks of lightning were appearing around Alissa, and Ryan could even see the water inside her body turning into steam... she looked like a character of a fighting anime. Still, that special attack came with a cost. Alissa's right hand was destroyed entirely. Her strength alone couldn't defeat Tyr. Hence, she relied on momentum to gain extra power.

Alissa's hand began to heal itself since she was exhausted. Ryan had no idea what kind of skill she used, but it probably consumed all her energy. After all, on the path she ran in the blink of an eye, she damaged the earth the same way her light beam could. Almost everything behind her had turned into a line of magma.

"Did you feel that?" Femradiel asked. "For a short moment, I felt some energy that resembled the Lunar Arrow around Alissa's body. It was a skill like Teleport, but instead of manipulating space, she just increased her speed."

"It seems pretty useful for combat," Ryan nodded. "When it comes to speed, a certain elder god comes to mind... I wonder if Alissa gained that kind of power."

As soon as Ryan finished that sentence, Tyr showed up in the same way as before. He jumped and then landed on the same spot he had been a moment ago. This time, his entire armor was cracked, and he was bleeding from his nose and ears. Maybe Alissa won't need their help, after all...

Chapter 767

Although Ryan thought that, he noticed that Tyr was smiling. Even while his armor was falling into pieces on the ground, he was smiling as if he was having the time of his life.

"See? You can do it if you try hard enough," Tyr said.

"Asshole..." Alissa clenched her fists.

"Armor," Tyr said after he threw away the remaining mithril covering his body.

A new armor identical to the previous one suddenly appeared, and without wasting time, Tyr wore it. Alissa couldn't help but feel annoyed by it since she couldn't do anything against it. She didn't have enough energy to heal her arm fast enough, and even if she had, it would take a while for the bones in her arm to mend completely.

Ryan didn't want to interfere, but he didn't want to see Alissa getting hit until she fell unconscious. She was pretty stubborn, so she won't go down with half-assed attacks. Only attacks that might take her life will put her down, even so...

Even Ryan began to clench his fists in annoyance. Alissa caused him a fair deal of trouble, but he couldn't care less about it right now. The only thing on Ryan's mind was the wish to prevent her defeat. Ryan began to ponder about what he should do. Tyr was giving time for Femradiel to heal her hands, so he had some time to think. After all, not even Alissa was crazy enough to attack with a single hand.

In the end, Ryan didn't come up with any plan. Alissa wasn't stupid, and she would notice if Ryan interferes in any way. When Alissa's arm was back to normal, the fight resumed. Naturally, since Alissa was tired and Tyr was stronger than before, he was winning the battle. Still, it looked like the winner wasn't decided yet.

Congratulations! The skill Corruption Sense has leveled up.

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Congratulations! The skill Corruption Sense has leveled up.

...

The dark marks of Alissa's body were getting bigger, and Ryan also noticed that her eyes were also getting wilder. Even without using that other skill of instantaneous movement, she dashed toward Tyr fast enough to escape Ryan's eyes. Tyr blocked her attack, but his axes began to crack as well. It seems she obtained another power-up through rage... Ryan confirmed that after what happened.

"HAAAAAAAAAAAAARRRRRRRRRRGGGGGGGGGGGGHHHHHHHHHHH!"

Alissa screamed from the depths of her soul; it wasn't a scream of suffering. Ryan felt like he did something similar before, but he couldn't quite remember when. Regardless, Alissa opened her mouth, and she fired a dark beam of energy. Everything around her and Tyr was enveloped in an explosion. Ryan and Femradiel had to cover their eyes because of the impact of everything around them being pushed into the distance.

Even before the cloud of dust raised by Alissa's attack could disappear, Ryan heard that she didn't stop there. Using her fists, she punched the ground, and every time that happened, the whole region would tremble. As if that wasn't enough, cracks began to appear in the entire region. It looked like Alissa was destroying the world as a whole with her fists alone.

Amidst her madness, Alissa didn't lose sight of her goal. Tyr was caught off guard thanks to the dark breath, but he survived the attack. That was why she was attacking the ground because he was there. Tyr's second armor was already shattered thanks to it, his axes were nowhere to be seen, and he was covered in blood from head to toe. Alissa's attack didn't only wound Tyr externally. Her attack also caused a fair amount of internal damage... his wounds were emitting that miasma and were slowing down his regeneration speed. However, now Tyr was six meters tall, and his presence was much more powerful than before.

"Give me your hand, Ryan," Femradiel said.

"What now?" Ryan asked.

You obtained 515.693.325 coins.

Femradiel passed to Ryan all the coins she had, and he quickly understood why. Alissa was getting lost in her anger, so they will have to pull her back somehow, and the idea was to use the same thing that Thanatos used.

Tyr got up and then headbutted Alissa. He didn't even waste time asking for new weapons from whoever was helping him. He knew it was a waste of time against Alissa. So, he decided to fight using his fists alone. Meanwhile, Ryan checked the dungeon shop in order to see the most expensive skills he could buy right now. He found a lot of neat things that he wanted to buy, but not the skill he actually needed at that moment. Fortunately, eventually, Ryan found the skill he was looking for.

Anger Manipulation tome.

Effect: it grants you the power to manipulate the anger inside you and others. When draining the anger of others or of yourself, you can't just make it disappear, so it will be turned into mana that can be used to restore your own mana or be used offensively. When increasing the anger of others, you can't do it without paying the price. You will have to turn your mana into anger.

Cost: 100 mana per level.

Price: 1.000.000.000 coins.

Fortunately, it didn't look like the skill had a range limit or any other type of restriction, so Ryan could even use it from a distance. Without wasting any time, Ryan began to drain Alissa's anger, and he actually could feel his body getting hot when he sucked her anger even from a distance. However, since Ryan was focused on the task, he didn't let that control him.

"It is no good, this will take too much time," Femradiel said upon noticing that Alissa wasn't growing weaker fast enough.

"Well, at least the anger is making me able to use the skills without losing a single point of mana," Ryan said. "Besides, we can't just make her angry by being subdued out of nowhere. Otherwise, Tyr will notice and win the fight."

Since the corruption took over her entire body, Alissa was able to face Tyr. However, the Norse god was still growing stronger, so it was hard to know who will reach the limit first.

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Amidst her madness, Alissa attacked Tyr mercilessly. When he got close enough, she would smash his head with both her arms, but when he got slightly away, she would summon some Dark Magic Bows to bombard him from above. As expected, she could use that kind of skill, but Ryan didn't imagine that she would only use it in such a state. It was weird. When she was conscious, she was so mad that she didn't want to use anything that made her remember Ryan and his betrayal. Still, when madness took over her mind, her instincts forced her to do everything in order to win.

Ryan understood what she was thinking while Alissa was fighting. Her anger wasn't something that would disappear after talking for a while. Ryan knew that even Anger Manipulation has limitations, so unless he makes her forget about Orgar, her anger will always return in spades. Unfortunately, Ryan didn't plan on changing her memories to that extent. He didn't have the right, nor did he want to make someone disappear from the memories of another.

Regardless... Ryan was using Mana Manipulation to increase the effectiveness of Anger Manipulation. Still, there wasn't any sign of changes on Alissa. Maybe he should feel thankful for that because things were getting too heated in that fight, and a single mistake might break the balance, and the chances of Alissa losing thanks to it were pretty high.

At some point, Alissa and Tyr grew so much more powerful than when they exchanged blows directly. Lightning bolts flew from their arms and burned a piece of the ground in the area. For a second, Ryan couldn't help but wonder if he made a mistake when he decided to use long-ranged weapons to fight. Using his fist like that seemed a lot cooler and fun.

Eventually, even Tyr began to realize that things were getting dangerous, he was losing too much blood, and he wasn't regenerating fast enough. While he was growing faster and stronger due to Alissa's attacks, she was also becoming more vital for some reason.

"Alright... I already had my fun," Tyr said. "It is time to end this."

Instead of attacking like usual, Tyr jumped to the sky, and for a second, he looked more like a supersonic rocket than a human. Alissa quickly followed him, but before she could catch up, something changed on Tyr. The sky shone for a second, and then something flew straight into his heart... it didn't have to be an attack. Ryan confirmed that because instead of weaker, Tyr grew stronger. The energy inside his body grew so dense that his hair began to levitate. At the same time, the wounds on his body began to regenerate faster, even though the miasma was supposed to prevent that.

"What was that?" Ryan asked.

"Some sort of buff spell?" Femradiel frowned. "At least it looks that way... it is weird though. Buff spells were supposed to work to increase the exterior strength or the interior magic power. That one just increased all his status exponentially in a single second."

When Alissa finally caught up with Tyr, the enemy punched her face, and even from so far away, Ryan felt like he heard a crack coming from Alissa's neck. In the next moment, she fell down at a speed that made the entire region tremble upon the impact. For a second, Ryan began to sweat cold, imagining the worst. The power of the punch and the impact could be compared to Alissa's Dark Breath, but it was much more dangerous since a punch was much more of a concentrated attack. However, much to his relief, Alissa got up. Her neck was really broken, though. However, soon the corruption healed her wounds and fixed her neck.

Congratulations! The skill Corruption Sense has leveled up.

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...

"This is like a never-ending cycle," Femradiel said. "The damage is only increasing her powers and that isn't good. Her body can only heal itself so much in a short amount of time. Not to mention, these power ups are bound to destroy her body."

Ryan knew what Femradiel was talking about. Whenever he overused his powers or obtained a power-up thanks to dragon hearts, he would feel his body falling asleep, or he would feel a huge deal of internal pain. If Ryan had to compare with anything, it was like forcing a bottle to withstand more water than it could handle.

After Alissa recovered from the previous attack, Tyr didn't let her gain the upper hand with her madness. Whenever she flew at him, he would kick her on the face and make her fall on the ground just like before. He was strong and fast enough that Ryan couldn't even see his moments. He could only see the results of his actions. Still, something was off, Tyr wasn't smiling anymore, and he didn't hurry to finish off Alissa while she was recovering from the damage.

"I am tired of watching this, Ryan," Femradiel said. "Alissa is slowly breaking apart, if we let her continue fighting like that, she won't recover."

“Well, if you have any idea on how we can jump into that fight without risking becoming the targets of those two, I am all ears,” Ryan said.

Even Femradiel knows that Alissa will forget her target and attack him if Ryan shows up right now. Not to mention, they still had to worry about Tyr’s partner, who hasn’t shown up yet. In the end, Femradiel stayed silent for quite a while because she wasn’t thinking logically at the moment. She only thought that she didn’t want to lose a friend. Still, there was no point in acting to help someone, only to put themselves at risk. However, Femradiel was as stubborn as Alissa, and she wouldn’t let things end like that.

“I have an idea,” Femradiel said. “It is a bit risky, but if we succeed, we will save Alissa from her madness and make her join our side.

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Ryan knew that Femradiel was smart, but that was just too good to be true. Still, he could at least listen to her idea. Her plan was simple: she would use Teleport and then move Alissa away from the battle. As much as that was annoying, Femradiel already learned Anger Manipulation since Ryan has been using it for the past hour alongside Mana Manipulation. Her idea was that the effect should be more powerful if she touches her. While it would be dangerous since there was no telling for how long she would have to do that, Femradiel would stay on Alissa’s back, where she couldn’t be touched.

“Why would Anger Manipulation be more effective with you?” Ryan asked. “Even if what you said is right, the level is higher ei me.”

“That isn’t the issue, I am doing it because my presence won’t upset her all that much,” Femradiel replied. “But now that you mentioned, even though the level of the skill is low with me, it should be more effective because my intelligence is higher and you focus only on dexterity. Anyway, don’t try to go all out, just buy us some time and then we will come to help.”

Femradiel was a bit too confident on that plan. Weirdly confident... Still, once again, Ryan decided to listen to her. Just to make sure that she would need all the help he could get, Ryan gave Femradiel a lot of INT potions and even Soul Eater.

“Use it to protect yourself if things get dangerous,” Ryan said.

“I don’t need it,” Femradiel said. “Alissa is a friend, she won’t hurt me.”

“That might be Alissa, but at the same time it isn’t her,” Ryan said. “Don’t get careless and use it.”

“Whatever, but I am telling you, I won’t need it,” Femradiel said.

Alissa was reaching a level of exhaustion that Ryan began to think that Femradiel was right. According to Nakine, cursed dragons might stay in that form for hundreds of years without problems. However, even if they had an extra power compared to others, their bodies had the same physical limits, and fighting like mad dogs will only make them reach the limits much sooner.

Regardless, after finishing their preparations, both of them put the plan into motion. Just as planned, when Alissa flew to attack Tyr, Femradiel appeared on her back and then used Teleport. Tyr frowned when that happened since he didn’t feel the presence of others nearby. Before the dungeon master could think of doing anything, Ryan attacked him with the vibrating crossbow. Tyr saw his left chest being burned by the beam of wind and then blocked the attack barehanded.

“Maybe I should have used Draconic Transformation...” Ryan muttered.

That was what Ryan thought when he felt Tyr’s stare on him. The Norse god of war wasn’t angry, only puzzled. In any case, Ryan needed to buy time, so he couldn’t show everything he could do. The more the enemy underestimates him, the better.

“Another Earthling?” Tyr frowned. “I didn’t think I would find one so soon after that girl... still this presence that I feel. Are you the one who defeated Poseidon?”

Ryan forgot that the elder gods could sense that he gained the powers of the foes he defeated. In the end, trying to buy time was useless in his human form. So, Ryan quickly used Draconic Transformation.

“There is no need to be so tense, we are going to fight alright,” Tyr said. “Still that doesn’t mean that we can talk before it.”

Ryan couldn't help but feel that that was a trap. Until now, not a single one of the elder gods tried to talk with him. They only treated him like an insect, until they were forced to take him seriously.

"Still, I can't see how you defeated Poseidon, you don't look strong enough," Tyr said. "Was he in a bad condition? Did he have a cold or something? Why did he lose?"

"Because he picked a fight with the wrong person, because he tried to flood the world, and because he spent most of his time sitting on a throne," Ryan replied. "Are you satisfied with the answers?"

"For someone who watched a friend getting beat up so much, you sure are hot blooded," Tyr said. "However, I can understand the logic behind your words. The second and third points seemed logical, but not the first. Do you know how many humans joined our side?"

"No, and I don't need to," Ryan said. "Until the very last day of their lives, humans will do everything to survive. You can judge them by your standards, but I won't, not anymore."

Tyr stayed in silence after that. For a god of war, he sure was a bit different from what Ryan imagined, even more so considering that he was from Norse mythology. Perhaps Ryan was just too narrow-minded. Even if some might have the title of god of war, it doesn't mean they will be bloodthirsty mad dogs.

"I asked that girl what her goal was, but she ignored me," Tyr said. "What are your goals here? This isn't Earth, we are on a far more durable planet, the elder gods won't hold back against you. Did you come here because you defeated Poseidon? Or did you come here for the mithril?"

"You sure ask a lot of questions, answering those will change anything?" Ryan asked.

"No, but you want to buy time don't you?" Tyr asked. "I don't hold back against anyone, and I don't underestimate anyone, so the only chances of you defeating me is by fighting alongside those two."

Ryan was looked down many times, and many times as well, he got enraged by it. However, this time, he didn't feel anything. Maybe he grew more resistant to that kind of thing, or maybe that was just the

reality that he had accepted since the very beginning. Either way, it didn't matter. Ryan only smiled in response, and that finally made Tyr a bit angrier.

Chapter 770

Maybe it was due to Anger Manipulation, but Ryan felt keener to sense that kind of behavior change. Thus, he noticed a full second before Tyr could move what was about to happen. He flew toward Ryan at a fearsome speed, but he didn't escape Ryan's eyes. For some reason, he wasn't as fast as he had been when he fought Alissa in the last minutes.

Ryan didn't try to dodge the attack. Instead, he bombarded Tyr with his Immobilizing Crossbow while Vital Hunter was active. He couldn't throw away the chance of decreasing the status of the enemy like that. Still, he only attacked for a few instants. Ryan tried to block the charge, but in the end, he was pushed backward easily, and even though he kept his guard up, Ryan felt his bones cracking.

Suddenly, Tyr was forced to move backward when he felt something approaching. It was the massive sword that Ryan gained a few days ago. While it was a weapon too big to be used even in his Draconic form, Ryan could easily wield it alongside Telekinesis.

Tyr looked at the weapon spinning vertically and couldn't help but frown at the speed and the sound caused by it. He wasn't the type who would measure the strength of his foes by using Appraisal. He would see them fight and judge their strength. Considering the speed and size of the weapon, it seemed that Ryan was more than he looked.

Still, the sword didn't make him flinch, not when it began to spin so close to Ryan. He dashed toward him, and when the weapon approached, he just punched it, making it move to the distance quite easily. Ryan knew that the weapon wouldn't be useful against an opponent of that level, but that didn't bother him. Because as soon as he got close enough, Ryan summoned several copies of the Vibrating Crossbow and attacked him from behind. Ryan was hit again, but he saw the face of annoyance on his foe's face.

Before he could put any more force on pushing Ryan backward, Tyr was forced to retreat and escape the range of the magic bows.

"Helmet, and armor," Tyr said.

Ryan couldn't help but clench his teeth as soon as he did that. A new horned helmet and armor appeared and tried to equip them. At the very least, he was taking things more seriously, but now Ryan won't cause that much damage. Unless he uses his big guns. Ryan didn't want to rely on them because they were noisy... the crossbows he had created by defeating some big guns.

Before Tyr could return to the attack, Ryan had an idea. He began to fly around in circles while bombarding Tyr with copies of his Spiritualists Crossbow. He focused the bolts on Tyr's face, so whenever he got too close, Ryan increased the barrage. Tyr used his hands to protect his eyes, and then he lost sight of Ryan for a few precious moments, and then he would find him in the opposite direction and gaining even more distance.

"This is boring... this is nothing like the other fight," Tyr said. "Have you no shame? A girl has bigger balls than you."

"I am pretty sure she won't be happy by hearing this," Ryan said. "Anyway, I will make sure to pass the message."

Tyr got annoyed after hearing that. After all, it sounded like Ryan was declaring that he would win. He increased his speed again, but then suddenly, his helmet cracked. Ryan's concentrated attack finally showed some result, and Tyr saw Ryan firing the Hydra's bow. The target was his forehead. However, Tyr easily granted the Arrow with both hands... much to his surprise, though, he felt a sharp pain in his stomach. Tyr had no idea what hit him, but he saw a hole in his armor and a deep wound in there as well.

"What..." Tyr muttered in shock.

Ryan imagined that Tyr would grow in size a little, but it looked like six meters was his limit. That was why he had used the other weird skill to increase his strength. Regardless, there wasn't time to celebrate. While Tyr didn't know what Ryan did, there was no telling if that strategy would work again. That is why he began to prepare the next strategy while Tyr was confused.

"You are taking your time, Femradial..." Ryan thought.

Ryan wished that he could check things with her, but he couldn't. In the end, despite the questions in his head, Tyr decided to charge toward Ryan again, but not before he could change his armor and helmet.

Now that Ryan thought about it, Tyr's partner should have been able to see what Ryan did and tell Tyr. So why Tyr still looked troubled?

Tyr also had his weapons back, and he looked far more severe than before. It was time for Ryan to think, should he keep using the same strategy or use another before Tyr could understand how come Ryan caused so much damage so fast? In the end, Ryan had to act by instinct. Tyr tried to slash Ryan's arms with his axes, but Ryan blocked them with his forearms. However, he didn't spill a single drop of blood. Ryan covered them with a thick layer of ice. At the same time, Ryan used Ice Breath.

Tyr's body quickly began to be covered in ice, but the Norse god of war didn't mind it. The ice covering Ryan's arms quickly began to crack, and soon enough, Ryan's arms suffered wounds and spit blood. Ryan clenched his teeth in annoyance, but in the end, he smirked. Ryan's blood quickly moved to Tyr's face, and the enemy was forced to retreat. By doing so, Tyr fell into another trap. Several magic bows were right behind him, and they bombarded him. The magic caused by them was minimal, but Tyr still felt annoyed because his strength decreased every time they hit him. Ryan had used the Berserker's Crossbow, which could steal the enemy's strength for a short period of time.

Chapter 771

After gaining a boost in strength, Ryan teleported to the right above Tyr, and with all his might, he kicked him. Tyr was forced to move downward thanks to the impact. It was more than annoying to help the enemy by causing damage like that. Still, Tyr knew that this kind of effect could only work for so long, so he charged toward Ryan. By staying on the offense, he wouldn't let Ryan make use of that extra boost of energy. Ryan showed an expression of surprise when Tyr approached, but ultimately, Tyr was the one confused in the end. Ryan didn't try to block that attack and got hit in the face, and soon after that, an invisible force hit Tyr's face, and he felt the taste of blood on his mouth.

"A reflection skill..." Tyr said, annoyed.

"Not quite," Ryan said and then pointed toward his mouth, which was also bleeding. "See? I still got damage."

There was no point in explaining to the enemy what he did, but it was obvious that Tyr would understand what Ryan did much sooner than later. Tyr was a rather straightforward individual. As soon as he heard what Ryan said, he charged once again. It was a bit troublesome to face someone so direct like that, but it was better than to face a target that could use long-ranged attacks and annoying skills.

Ryan repeated that same tactic of using Vengeful Explosion whenever possible to cause critical damage, but in the end, even though he could heal himself whenever he wanted, that plan alone wouldn't work forever. Ryan realized that after attacking Ryan's chest, Tyr moved his arm and then protected his own chest and blocked the Vengeful Explosion. He had already found one weakness of that skill... it could only reflect damage on the same place the caster suffered the attack.

"What a boring skill," Tyr said.

"You think so?" Ryan asked.

Tyr charged toward Ryan again, but then he used Teleport to escape. For some reason, he teleported to ground level and then used the skill again after a while to other places. Tyr found that weird, but then he realized why Ryan did that... he picked the mithril pieces of his armor and helmet that fell due to his attacks. As if that wasn't enough, he saw Ryan swallowing some pieces of the mithril.

"I hope that I won't bore you with this," Ryan said.

Ryan used all that extra mana to create a massive arrow of solidified light. Tyr dashed at Ryan before he could use all that extra mana to his attack, but in the end, he didn't escape it since Ryan used Perfect Aim and Deadly Aim. Tyr completely ignored the attack since it didn't become powerful enough to deal critical damage. However, the projectile of light still blinded him for a few seconds.

Although he couldn't see it, Tyr could feel that Ryan didn't move an inch, and apparently, he wasn't planning any attack either. When the light dissipated, Tyr saw Ryan massaging his shoulders. Soon afterward, Ryan disappeared, and then Tyr felt something hitting him from above.

"What..." Tyr muttered.

Ryan's physical strength increased a lot in just a few seconds, and Tyr couldn't understand what he did. In terms of raw power, he still wasn't at Alissa's level, but he far surpassed his previous strength.

"What did you do?" Tyr asked when he landed on the ground.

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

Rank: 8th

Health: 20332/20332 (27,25/s)

Mana: 19125/19125 (27,25/s)

Stamina: 20530/20530 (27,25/s)

Strength: 881 (+6922) (+130)

Dexterity: 38993 (+12955) (+550)

Speed: 1270 (+9510) (+48)

Intelligence: 1352 (+6821) (+33)

Endurance: 1398 (+7995) (+160)

Control: 1476 (9450) (+10)

Mentality: 1452 (+4995) (+70)

Luck: 1080 (+2760)

Recovery: 6450 (+8850) (+1045)

Willpower: 1452 (+4993) (+40)

Coins: 105.444.986

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Herculean Strength Lv 92 (+ 06 UP), Fighter's Spirit Lv 76 (+ 06 UP), Draconic Sword Lv Max, Draconic Bow Lv Max

Passive Physical Skills: Eagle Eyes Lv 185 (+ 06 UP), Concentration Lv 185 (+ 06 UP), Archery Lv 185 (+ 06 UP), Accuracy Lv 185 (+ 06 UP), Stealth Lv 185 (+ 06 UP), Pain Resistance Lv 103 (+ 12 UP), Xenolingualism Lv Max, Draconic Hunger Lv Max, Draconic Health Lv Max, Draconic Strength Lv Max, Draconic Endurance Lv Max,

Spells: Draconic Transformation Lv 215 (+ 05 UP), Frost Armor Lv 209 (+ 05 UP), Ice Breath Lv 229 (+ 05 UP), Memory Manipulation Lv 11 (+ 04 UP), Anger Manipulation Lv 29 (+ 28 UP),

Support Skills: Mind Boost Lv 09 (+ 04 UP), Sloth Aura Lv 09 (+ 05 UP),

Classes:

Combat: Storm Caster Lv 57 (+ 06 UP), Crystal Archer Lv 75 (+ 03 UP), Hercules' Descendant Lv 28 (+ 06 UP), Marksman Lv 88 (+ 06 UP), Death Lord Lv 05 (+ 01), Draconic Knight Lv 01, Draconic Archer Lv 03 (+ 01 UP), Draconic Warrior Lv 02 (+ 01 UP),

Non-Combatant: Time Mage Lv 19 (+ 05 UP), Sloth Lord Lv 03 (+ 02),

Race: Centaur, Dragon, Kobold, Triton,

Chapter 772

Ryan didn't have any weapon that he could use on his Draconic form, but that wasn't a problem. He used Mana Manipulation to increase the thickness of his Frost Armor around his arms and legs and then dashed toward Tyr. The foe did the same, and their arms collided. In the end, since he lost the hesitation, Tyr won the trade. While Ryan was being pushed backward, he made copies of the Vibrating Crossbow appear and attack him. Tyr zig-zagged with lightning speed to dodge the beams of wind.

When Tyr got close enough to Ryan, Thanatos' Scythe appeared, and the blade almost touched his neck. Tyr bent his body to dodge the weapon because he instantly recognized the weapon. He actually managed to dodge, but Ryan smashed him with both of his arms on the ground. Tyr suffered some damage, but it was minimal. Without any weapons or using any skill like Lunar Arrow, he could only do so much.

Tyr got up and tried to headbutt Ryan. Although that wasn't the best option, it was the only thing Ryan could do: he thickened the Frost Armor around his head. Still, despite that, the armor cracked in that part, and Ryan saw the world spinning.

"Mental note for the future... do not use headbutts, dumbass..." Ryan muttered amidst the pain.

Although he said that, Ryan realized that Tyr didn't attack him soon afterward. When Ryan recovered from the shock, he saw a dizzy Tyr, bleeding from his forehead. Ryan decided to capitalize that chance and then grabbed Poseidon's Trident like it was a fork and tried to pierce Tyr. Still, then he recovered just in time to jump backward.

Ryan clicked his tongue and then stored away from the weapons. While he couldn't use the power of those weapons fully, he could make up for it by using Telekinesis. At that point in time, there was no reason to hide his trump cards. For the first time in two weeks, Ryan wondered why he was doing that anyway. While he liked to use Stealth, he wasn't the type to hold back in a fight. So, what do the dungeon masters see that he could do? He just has to make up for it.

When Tyr landed on the ground, he was bombarded by invisible bolts that he couldn't even feel them approaching. Ryan finally summoned the Absolute Death Crossbow and began to use it. Since he was causing direct damage and he could be hit anywhere, Tyr was forced to cover his eyes since his eyelids had been damaged. Tyr thought that he would solve the problem by doing that, but it didn't, since the crossbow had been crafted by using Thanatos' spirit. Besides, it could cause extra damage against elder gods.

In order not to run out of mana, Ryan swallowed other pieces of mithril. Still, instead of attacking from a distance, he kept firing the crossbow as he approached Tyr. Ryan tried to recall that feeling, and without letting the anger take over his mind, he used Dark Ice Breath. When Tyr noticed that the attack would be different, it was too late. He had already been completely covered in a thick layer of dark ice.

Congratulations! The skill Ice Breath has leveled up.

Congratulations! The skill Ice Breath has leveled up.

Congratulations! The skill Ice Breath has leveled up.

...

Before his vision could get clouded, Ryan deactivated Rage and used Anger Manipulation to calm himself down. That actually worked, but Ryan wasted some precious seconds since he focused only on doing that. In the meantime, the dark ice began to crack. Before that could happen, Ryan began to collect a lot of light in the area and solidified, turning into a giant arrow of light. In the blink of an eye, he used all the mana he had obtained by eating the mithril. When the ice finally broke, Tyr was hit by that attack.

The explosion of light burned everything in the surroundings of the battlefield, and as much as Ryan wanted to keep attacking, he couldn't since he got so close to the explosion that the light blinded him for a few seconds. When Ryan could see things again, he saw Tyr standing a few meters away from him, covered in blood, and miasma was leaving his wounds. It was the same state Alissa left him before. Ryan decided to use another Ice Breath, but even before he could open his mouth, he saw his eyes getting clouded by the corruption. If he were to use that attack again, he would lose his mind. Without any other choice, Ryan decided to finish him off with the Absolute Death Crossbow. However, some mithril shields appeared around Tyr, and Ryan lost sight of him... which was weird. Tyr didn't say anything.

“Don't interfere,” Tyr said. “Things were just getting interesting.”

It looked like Tyr was talking with his partner. As expected, whoever was working with him, watched the whole fight and decided to interfere once they realized that things might become messy for Tyr. In the end, Ryan lost his golden chance. The effects of the STR potions were finally over, and he had used all of

the ones he had. He still had other options, but the chances of Tyr falling for them were pretty low. Even if he falls, Ryan was expecting that Tyr's partner would interfere again.

While Ryan was wondering about what he should do, he noticed that Tyr was frowning while looking behind Ryan's back. Thanks to that, he noticed that someone was approaching, and that was Alissa in his draconic form. However, Femradiel was nowhere to be seen... that being said, Alissa's hands were covered in blood.

"No way..." Ryan muttered.

In the end, it looked like Femradiel failed, and she stayed silent about it since that was her plan, to begin with. Still... It was weird that she didn't warn Ryan since it was obvious that Alissa would come for him. What happened to her?"

Chapter 773

"Got you," Femradiel suddenly appeared from behind Alissa.

Ryan frowned after he heard that. Now that he thought about it, Alissa's eyes were focused, and Corruption Sense wasn't alerting him of anything. After looking her in the eye for a while, Ryan saw Alissa looking away. If Femradiel succeeded, then why were Alissa's hands covered in blood?

While Ryan was thinking about that as well, but then suddenly, he felt another presence behind him. Then Ryan saw a muscular, bald man nearby Tyr, and then Ryan saw his eyes. They were silver-like and had that same transparent glow.

Hephaestus

Health: ???/???

Mana: ???/???

Stamina: ???/???

Strength: ???

Dexterity: ???

Speed: ???

Intelligence: ???

Endurance: ???

Control: ???

Mentality: ???

Luck: ???

Recovery: ???

Willpower: ???

Coins: —

Status: —

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Passive Physical Skills: ???, ???, ???...

Spells: ???, ???, ???...

Support Skills: ???, ???, ???...

“It is time to retreat, you are too wounded and you can’t take them at the same time right now,” Hephaestus said.

“Are you mad? I won’t retreat right now when things just become interesting,” Tyr said.

“You have been doing what he wanted for the past six hours,” Hephaestus said. “If you continue to fight, I won’t help you and I will deliver the last blow and then gain your domain and resources.”

Hephaestus had the body of one but certainly wasn’t a warrior of the level of Tyr. He was the Greek god of blacksmiths, metalworking, carpenters, craftsmen, artisans, sculptors, metallurgy, fire, and volcanoes. He was the god of many things from Ryan’s perspective... In any case, his voice had a certain power of authority, and Tyr didn’t even think about talking back or insisting on doing otherwise. Come to think of it, Hephaestus probably had been offering him some support without asking for anything in exchange. Hence, Tyr had to do something for their partnership.

“... I will be waiting for you guys, on my domain,” Tyr said. “Bring all your troops because this will be a true battle and we will use all of your resources. I will be waiting for you expectantly.”

After saying that, Tyr and Hephaestus disappeared. It was a pity to let them go when Ryan showed so many of his skills. Unfortunately, even though he wasn’t a real warrior, Ryan could tell that he wouldn’t be able to defeat Tyr and Hephaestus at the same time, even if Femradiel and Alissa help them.

In the end, Ryan sighed and then calmed down his nerves. Once he turned around again, Ryan saw Alissa back on her human form. As expected, she looked exhausted and even thinner than the first time he saw her.

“If I approach, are you going to bite me, Alissa?” Ryan asked.

“I am not a dog,” Alissa replied.

“Can I approach?” Ryan asked.

“Just don’t get too close, or I will be forced to kick your balls,” Alissa said.

“Speaking of balls, you left a big impression on Tyr,” Ryan rubbed his chin thoughtfully. “He said that you had bigger balls than mine.”

“Let’s stop talking about nonsensical things,” Femradial said. “Let’s sit down a little bit.”

“I am sorry, Alissa,” Ryan said once they sat down on the ground and relaxed.

“I won’t forgive you for hiding that kind of thing from me,” Alissa said, a bit angry. “But I realized now that I went overboard with my anger. You respected Orgar’s wishes and I should have respected his wishes as well.”

Alissa said that while checking her hands. After thinking for a while, Ryan came up with a hypothesis, perhaps in her rage, Alissa killed Alissa or at least one of her familiars, and the blood in her hands was what made her wake up. Still, there was no point in talking about that. Besides, Ryan concluded that was what Femradial planned from the very beginning.

“So, what are you going to do now?” Femradial asked. “Our goal was to find Alissa and bring her back to Earth.”

“We stay and keep our agreement with the Pendragons,” Ryan said. “I also don’t want to return before dealing with Tyr and Hephaestus. The question is, what Alissa is planning to do?”

“I will stay here until I find the answers that I want, if I don’t, then I will go somewhere else,” Alissa said.

In the end, Alissa didn’t want to let Orgar go yet. It was only natural, and Ryan didn’t want to convince her otherwise. Besides, Alissa needed a goal to keep going.

“What about Arthur?” Ryan asked.

“I already made my mind, Arthur doesn’t need me with him,” Alissa replied. “The people there are growing stronger, much more than any of us expected, so he is safe. Did you see Daniel lately?”

“Yeah, that dumbass wanted me to turn into a dragon in order to fight me,” Ryan replied. “Naturally, I didn’t fall for such an obvious trap. The strongest mind won.”

“If I remember well, you couldn’t transform because I wasn’t with you,” Femradiel said.

“That is a small detail,” Ryan shrugged.

“Anyway, what is wrong with your new appearance, Femradiel?” Alissa asked.

“I don’t see anything wrong with it,” Femradiel replied.

“I can see two big reasons right in front of me, big and very round reasons that confirms what I said,” Alissa said.

“Well, I just created a new body and things happened naturally,” Femradiel replied. “I just created a body perfect for combat.”

“Yeah, right,” Ryan and Alissa said in unison.

Those three laughed for a while after that. It seems things were OK with them again. However, things were about to get tense again... Ryan saw the dragons approaching in the distance.

“Well, now... what should I say to them?” Ryan frowned.

“We have time to organize an attack now, I am sure that is what they want the most,” Femradiel said.

Ryan nodded. He owed them at least that much after making them come this far. Still, Ryan wanted to return to Earth as fast as possible now that Alissa was back. Perhaps Ryan will have to do certain things in order to speed up that reconquest.

Chapter 774

After explaining what happened to Nakine and his friends, Ryan and the others talked with Alissa about her recent actions. After doing some research and defeating a dungeon master that could spawn dragons, she obtained a lot of knowledge. She even knew now how to create a link between worlds like the dungeons could create.

“How can you do that?” Ryan asked.

“Speaking frankly, I can’t do that perfectly,” Alissa said. “I can only reactivate older links... apparently, the connection between worlds disappear after a while when the dungeon masters disappear and no one takes their place. Anyway, the process needs a lot of mana and the blood of high-levelled creatures. I will spare you the details.”

“By doing that, it will grant you the power to create domains?” Ryan asked.

“No, for some reason, it only grants the user the chance to teleport,” Alissa replied. “The ruins where I found that information couldn’t explain that either. My guess is that something else is needed to create a full-fledged domain.”

“I see... Still, to think that you would defeat a dungeon master that could spawn dragons alone,” Ryan said. “No wonder that guy took a liking to you.”

“That guy?” Alissa frowned.

“Your Chinese friend, Fang Shi,” Ryan said. “I tried to follow you by using the same dungeon, but he didn’t let me enter his domain, much less use his dungeon.”

“You have a good memory, only after two weeks of talking to him I finally memorized his name,” Alissa said.

“Well, his name does sound powerful,” Ryan shrugged. “Regardless, it makes me wonder how come you could make friends so fast while you were so enraged.”

“What are you trying to imply?” Alissa frowned.

“Nothing, absolutely nothing,” Ryan shrugged.

Ryan looked around then noticed some stares coming from the dragons. Pretty much everyone aside from Nakine was looking at Ryan with irritated eyes. While Ryan was used to them, he wasn’t used to being stared at by such big creatures.

“It seems that they didn’t like to hear that we let Tyr escape,” Femradiel said. “We had the perfect chance to finish off one of the dungeon masters alone, but we let him go and now he is behind a massive army of monsters.”

“Tyr could have escaped at any moment, he could use Teleport, after all,” Ryan said. “If anyone thinks I didn’t do enough, that anyone is welcome to try and do better.”

Ryan couldn’t help but think that Nakine’s allies were relying too much on Ryan and Femradiel and now on Alissa. While they had an agreement, the agreement didn’t say that they had to solve all their problems alone. Regardless, at least Nakine was reasonable enough not to think about complaining.

“What monsters are they using?” Ryan asked.

“One of them, probably the blacksmith you mentioned, is summoning elementals,” Nakine replied. “As for the other, he is summoning Dark Knights.”

Those were two species of monsters Ryan never heard of before. Which was weird since he was pretty sure Tyr and Hephaestus had their own dungeons on Earth. Another thing that was weird was the fact that a Norse god and a Greek god were working together.

“... I imagine they are troublesome,” Ryan said. “Anyway, how are we going to proceed now?”

“If you don’t mind, now that you have recovered your friend, I would like to take things slowly,” Nakine said. “The Dark Knights are troublesome just like you mentioned, so we will need an army of our own. Some chimeras are on their way, but we will need some more days in order for them to reach here.”

“What about the next village?” Ryan asked.

“We were considering the next power up to help us, it is a good time to reach the other village since the dungeon masters are waiting for us,” Nakine said. “While they don’t have much more dragons than the other villages, that power up will help this group already.”

“I guess we can only wait for the chimeras,” Ryan said. “If you don’t mind, I would like to take Alissa to the other villages and make her obtain the power of the crystals.”

“Well... she is already powerful I am sure, so if she gains more power, it will increase our chances of success,” Nakine hesitated for a few moments. “If you don’t mind hearing some complaints once you reach those villages, you can go.”

“No problem, I am good at ignoring others,” Ryan said.

“I would say that you are a professional at doing that,” Femradial said.

“It seems I wasn’t the only one that gained power using unorthodox means,” Alissa said. “At getting my ass kicked, I wouldn’t refuse the chance to gain more power, but...”

Even Alissa was against the idea of gaining power without doing anything in exchange. Helping them finish on the task of helping the pendragons seemed quite a lot. However, while she changed her mind thanks to Femradiel, she still was focused on only finding a way to bring back Orgar.

In the end, while they waited for the chimeras to join the fight, Ryan and Femradiel took Alissa to the other villages and made her gain those classes. Just as Nakine said, some dragons complained. After all, that was the power of dragons that freed the entire species from the madness, but in the end, they didn’t insist on that for long. Thanks to the mithril that they gained from the dragons and in the last battles, the trip didn’t last long.

“Oh? Those are some interesting classes,” Alissa said.

While they were moving between the villages, they saw several armies of chimeras moving. After obtaining so many domains, it was no surprise that they would have so many monsters on their side. During the whole trip, Ryan saw at least two hundred thousand chimeras. While they weren’t the strongest of the monsters, they were pretty good to use since they had mobility and long-ranged attacks. Still, the most critical tasks still were on Ryan, Femradiel, and Alissa’s hands because they couldn’t afford to lose the chimeras. After all, they had many more dragons to be freed.

Chapter 775

Congratulations! You have become a Level one Draconic Lancer!

You obtained the following skills: Draconic Skin, Draconic Lance, and Draconic Stamina.

All of your statuses have increased and will increase by one hundred points once this class levels up.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Draconic Skin.

Effect: It grants you extra defense against physical attacks. This skill decreases the damage caused by physical attacks based on the level of the enemy.

You obtained 1000 status points.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Draconic Lance.

Effect: It grants the power to summon a special lance that is created by using your very soul that will cause damage according to your spirit level.

Cost: all your mana

You obtained 1000 status points.

Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Draconic Stamina.

Effect: It permanently increases your health by one hundred points for each skill at the max level that you have.

You obtained 1000 status points.

After getting to the next draconic class and then rejoining the pendants, Ryan and the others sat to rest for a short while. The last few days had been pretty tiring, even though the only thing they did was teleport around.

“You smell weird,” Alissa said.

“It seems you developed new hobbies since the last time I saw you,” Ryan said.

“Even for a far I can tell,” Alissa said.

“Apparently, you trained your hobby,” Ryan shrugged.

“She is talking about the corruption on your body, idiot,” Femradiel said. “Your scent also changed when you obtained Wolf’s Greed and the powers of Poseidon, Thanatos, and Belphegor.”

“You defeated them?” Alissa frowned.

“Not alone,” Ryan said.

“No wonder your presence feels so messy,” Alissa said. “Still, are you sure it is a good idea for you to be here? If I were the allies of those you defeated, I would attack your domain.”

“They already did it,” Ryan said. “Still, while they destroyed the barrier, they can’t obtain my domain without killing me.”

Ryan showed the skills he gained to Alissa, and she immediately understood how difficult it had been for them to defeat those enemies. After all, those same skills had been used against them.

“Speaking of which, did you gain something when you defeated the dungeon master that could spawn dragons?” Ryan asked. “They probably weren’t an elder god, but they should be a fairly strong creature.”

“Indeed, I still... think that you show and talk openly about your skills...” Alissa frowned while looking at Femradiel and, more specifically, at her boobs. “You changed a lot. I wonder why.”

“As always, you are quick to jump to conclusions,” Ryan said.

After a while, the armies of chimeras had been completely assembled in the region. All the dragons were already ready as well, so they only needed to hear Nakine’s command to march toward the dungeons.

“The plan is simple as usual,” Nakine said. “Ryan, Femradriel, and our new ally, Alissa, will face Tyr and Hephaestus. While we will try to eradicate the Dark Knights, once we kill enough of them, we will join the fight and leave the remaining to the Chimeras.”

As expected, Nakine was trying to keep the Chimeras away from the dungeon for as long as possible. Traveling around between dungeons wasn't something fast. Even though the chimeras could fly, they weren't fast enough. Besides, the chimeras couldn't move in small groups. Otherwise, other dungeon masters might attack them. Most likely, Nakine was planning to defeat all the other dungeon masters that captured dragons with that army alone.

“Are you okay with that?” Nakine asked. “I am fully aware that these enemies are much stronger than the others.”

“No problem,” Ryan said. “If we work together, we should be able to take down Tyr fast enough, the real problem is Hephaestus, we don't know a single thing about him, aside from the fact that he is giving weapons made of mithril to Tyr.”

Nakine nodded, and the other dragons also felt a bit tense thanks to that. Tyr was already powerful enough to defeat the four hundred dragons they now had on their side. Still, more than fearing an enemy, they already knew what he could do. They feared an enemy that they didn't know a single thing of.

Without wasting any more time, they began to march toward the dungeon. Ryan, Femradriel, and Alissa already had their own battle tactics ready to employ. Still, when they checked the region around the two dungeons, they quickly understood that things wouldn't be so simple. Two hours ago, that wasn't there, but now they could see a magic barrier at the level of the barrier of the domains in that region. Naturally, they also could see Tyr, Hephaestus, and an army of one hundred thousand Dark Knights.

Dark Knight Lv Max

Health: 125.000/125.000

Mana: 99.000/99.000

Stamina: 112.000/112.000

Strength: 15.700 (+ 3100)

Dexterity: 8500 (+ 900)

Speed: 9600

Intelligence: 11.650 (+ 3600)

Endurance: 10.500 (+ 2500)

Control: 7.100

Mentality: 9000 (+ 2500)

Luck: 7500

Recovery: 50.000 (+ 20.000)

Willpower: 9000 (+ 2500)

Coins: —

Status: 00

Skill List

Offensive Physical Skills: Concentrated Strike Lv Max, Sonic Blade Lv Max, Bash Lv Max...

Passive Physical Skills: Herculean Strength Lv Max, Improved Intelligence Lv Max, Enhanced Recovery Lv 740, Augmented Strength Lv Max...

Spells: Vampirism Lv Max, Dark Aura Lv Max, Dark Sword Lv Max...

Support Skills: Cold Resistance Lv Max, Fire Resistance Lv Max, Earth Resistance Lv Max, Illusion Resistance Lv Max...

While the Dark Knights were humanoid creatures, their bodies were mostly made of shadows. The only physical parts that Ryan could see were the armor that was made of mithril. Considering their bodies and skills, Ryan and everyone else concluded that their army would be wiped out even though they had two times more Chimeras.

“This is a problem,” Ryan said. “They erected a barrier because they knew we would try to wipe out their army with a single attack, or at least a good part of it.”

“If we work together, I bet we can damage the barrier and a good part of the Dark Knights,” Femradriel.

“I don’t think so, Tyr doesn’t seem the type who would use that kind of strategy, but Hephaestus sure looks like someone who would,” Ryan said. “Most likely, he also prepared for that kind of scenario.”

Chapter 776

They had a big problem on their hands and not a single solution. Even if they join their forces, alongside with the dragons, Ryan doubted that they would be able to concentrate a powerful attack that would be enough to put the barrier down and at least half of the Dark Knights. Unless...

“Have you guys used those weird skills against them before? Draconic Lance or Draconic Bow?” Ryan asked the pendragons that joined the army recently.

“We use it pretty much every time when things get dicey.”

After hearing that, it became evident that Hephaestus erected the barrier thinking about those powerful skills. If the dragons use that technique at the same time, Tyr and Hephaestus won't have time to react, so it was the best way to cause a lot of damage. However, they won't have enough mana to fight for a while.

"Did you guys have any mithril?" Ryan asked.

"No, we only had a reserve because our opponents were relatively weak," Nakine replied. "The other tribes couldn't afford to store it since they had to fight with their lives on the line. Do you want use to eat mithril to recover the mana? We can always recover the fragments that will be left once we kill the dark knights."

"What if they are expecting this as well?" Ryan asked. "We can't risk it... Oh, well, I guess I will have to share mine with you guys."

Ryan didn't even have time to create a decent weapon made of mithril, and now he was forced to give them his payment for that kind of job. It was a pity, but if the plan works, Ryan will be able to recover some of his investment... probably. As soon as Ryan began to distribute the mithril, they noticed that things were changing inside the barrier. At least half of the Dark Knights were flying toward them. Tyr and Hephaestus noticed what Ryan was doing...

"Just share it among yourselves," Ryan said and then took out half of his mithril. "Let's get going, we can't let Tyr and Hephaestus attack the chimeras."

Femradiel and Alissa nodded. They quickly flew to the sky and prepared to attack the Dark Knights, but then Tyr flew toward them, and at the same time, a rain of swords fell over their bodies... that was probably Hephaestus's action. At first, they ignored the swords, but then when the first one easily pierced their scales and wounded their bodies, they noticed that it wasn't a good idea.

"I can't stop the swords, they are special and can cut flesh and ice like butter," Femradiel said after she tried to shield Ryan and Alissa with ice magic.

Hephaestus stayed inside the barrier, and Tyr didn't hesitate in closing up. Considering what they were doing, they wanted to make Ryan and the others worry about the swords falling on them while Tyr

attacked them from below. Even by fighting alone, he would have some leeway against three enemies. Ryan tried to grab the swords and then store them in his spatial storage, but then he learned that it wasn't possible. They disappeared after a while.

Before they could come up with a solution, Alissa and Tyr collided against each other. Since Tyr was on his normal size, their strengths were equal, but then Alissa lost her focus when some swords pierced her back.

“Go offer her a hand, I will deal with the swords,” Ryan said.

“All right,” Femradial said, and they jumped from Ryan's back to Alissa's.

In just a few minutes, Ryan tried several ways to stop the rain of swords, he tried to attack them with Power of Money and even Mana Arrows, but nothing worked. When he tried to create an iron shield, the swords easily pierced it. As expected of the Greek god of blacksmithing, he sure knew how to forge some annoying weapons.

Ryan blocked with his own body some swords that were about to fall on Alissa and Femradial. Thanks to it, he noticed that each sword only pierced his body up to a certain extent. That was weird... Hephaestus' skills probably had some sort of trick. But before Ryan could figure it out, he heard some explosions coming from below. The Chimeras and the Dark Knights finally were fighting, and just as expected, the Dark Knights were easily winning the fight. However, Nakine and the others bombarded the enemies with Draconic Warriors. Each time a Draconic Arrow hit an enemy, it would explode, and at least fifty Dark Knights would disappear... It was a pretty decent number, but not enough. If each of the five hundred dragons takes down fifty enemies like that, they will kill only twenty-five thousand of enemies.

Congratulations! The skill Pain Resistance has leveled up.

You obtained 01 status points.

Congratulations! The skill Pain Immunity has leveled up.

You obtained 01 status points.

“I don’t have time to worry about them...” Ryan muttered in pain as the swords fell on his back.

Femradiel and Alissa were trying to speed up the fight since they knew what Ryan was doing, but in the end, Tyr was getting stronger thanks to that. Once Ryan got used to the pain, his mind began to work again. It was the first time he had to face such a weird attack, but he understood before plenty of others that were equally hard to understand. He didn’t find a solution to cancel the attack. Still, he found a way to make the enemy suffer the same pain... by using Vengeful Explosion.

Ryan redirected the damage he felt back to Hephaestus, but the barrier protected him. Still, the barrier trembled since the damage of his attack wasn’t something to laugh at. While that wasn’t making Ryan suffer any less, perhaps it would be enough to destroy the barrier before Tyr falls. That being said, Ryan had been fighting for far too long to think that things would go that smoothly.

Congratulations! The skill Rage has leveled up.

You obtained 01 status points.

Congratulations! The skill Rage has leveled up.

You obtained 01 status points.

“I’d better come up with another plan... otherwise, it will be my turn to go on a rampage.

Chapter 777

Ryan couldn’t help but sigh in the end. While one thing led to another, he should have understood that from the beginning... he could counter Hephaestus’s skill by using the Mana Barrier. If his own barrier protected him from Vengeful Explosion, it was only obvious that would be the case.

Once Ryan found out the weakness of that skill, Hephaestus surprised Ryan. From the very beginning, he didn’t have to make the swords fall... he could make them appear and fly toward the enemies from all directions. The very moment he used that for the first time, Ryan felt shivers when he saw Femradiel

and Alissa surrounded by dozens of them. Fortunately, Femradiel had some crazy reflexes and used Teleport before they could get pierced by all of the projectiles.

“It seems that you aren’t bothered that your friend is intervening now,” Ryan said.

“This is a war, not a duel,” Tyr said. “It is different from before.”

“It sure is,” Ryan said and then summoned the Vengeful Sea Crossbow.

The same way Hephaestus attacked those two, Ryan attacked Tyr. He saw himself surrounded by dozens of water bolts and then moved his arms to protect his vitals. As much as that annoyed Ryan, it actually worked since he was also wearing another armor made of mithril. However, Ryan used his previous tactic while Tyr wasn’t looking at him. He used Power of Money to damage his armor in a single point without letting him notice it.

Alissa and Femradiel noticed what I did and then approached Tyr in the blink of an eye. Femradiel made a massive ice hammer fall on his head, and then he was forced to block with his arms. At that moment, Alissa punched his left side, and the damaged part created by Ryan broke. Thanks to that, her punch hit Tyr’s left side and broke several of his ribs... before he fell on the ground and broke the others from his left side.

Ryan smirked, and then Hephaestus looked really annoyed. Suddenly, he stopped using those weird swords and then left the barrier, and that was weirdly unexpected. Due to the surprise, all of those three forgot to attack Tyr once again. Hephaestus was unarmed and didn’t have armor either, but he sure looked like he was about to fight. Then when Ryan, Femradiel, and Alissa were about to attack him, his body began to grow. He grew and only stopped when he was like one thousand feet tall. The ground cracked under his feet, but then he began to levitate. Soon after, Hephaestus made a full plate armor made of mithril appear, and he wore it... that was going to be tough.

Out of nowhere, a big rock appeared and then fell toward Hephaestus’ feet. Still, then he kicked, and Ryan was instantly sent flying backward for hundreds of kilometers. Before, Alissa and Femradiel could do anything. Hephaestus disappeared, and Tyr showed up to block their path.

“Ah, I wished that I could see this,” Tyr smiled. “I never saw him fighting, but he sure has the skills to smash your friend like an ant.”

At the same time, Ryan was almost smashed by the rock and against a mountain. In fact, he probably only survived the attack because he got Draconic Skin the previous day. When Ryan healed his body and moved away from the rock, he saw Hephaestus' feet about to finish the job. Ryan escaped by using Teleport, but he teleported instinctively to behind Hephaestus, and thanks to that, he got punched. Hephaestus turned so fast that Ryan didn't even have time to think of dodging. Such was his speed...

Congratulations! The skill Pain Resistance has leveled up.

You obtained 01 status points.

Congratulations! The skill Pain Immunity has leveled up.

You obtained 01 status points.

Ryan fell on the ground this time, but the pain wasn't anything less annoying than when he hit the mountain. Once again, he got as fast as possible when Hephaestus was about to crush his head with his feet.

This time, Ryan escaped to the distance, but then Hephaestus quickly followed him by using Teleport. Ryan faced plenty of massive opponents that could move at speeds that it didn't make any sense considering their bodies. However, Hephaestus was a cut above them. Ryan grew tired pretty quickly of being beaten one-sidedly, so he used a cheap trick, he summoned Vengeful Sea Crossbow again, and they bombarded Hephaestus's face with water bolts.

"Hephaestus, free me and together we can crush this worm," Poseidon said.

Ryan knew that Poseidon would say such a thing. After all, they were uncle and nephew. Still, much to his surprise, Hephaestus didn't even blink and completely ignored Poseidon's words.

"At least answer me, your dirt blacksmith!" Poseidon shouted.

While he was protecting his eyes, Hephaestus approached Ryan to kick him, but then when Ryan was about to fly away, he suddenly felt a change in the air, something was about to happen, and he successfully discovered what was about to happen... Hephaestus created another big rock and kicked toward Ryan. However, this time, the projectile split in half when Ryan used his crossbow and aimed at the center of the rock. Even Hephaestus frowned since he didn't expect that Ryan could react and cause damage so fast.

“Come to think of it... you guys have a history, right?” Ryan asked. “Among one of the many men Aphrodite cheated on you, Poseidon was one of them.”

It looked like Ryan stepped on a landmine. The look in Hephaestus' eyes changed. He looked pretty calm until now, but now his eyes were as vicious as his actions. Using his whole body, Hephaestus dashed toward Ryan, and thanks to a miracle, Ryan reacted on time to dodge and move to high in the sky.

“Although I got mad when I saw Mia and Daniel that day, but even though we were in the same situation once, he is far angrier,” Ryan said.

Hephaestus burned everything on his path with his speed alone. For a second, Ryan thought he was Hermes instead of Hephaestus. That speed was just that crazy.

Chapter 778

Hephaestus quickly found Ryan again and then flew toward him. He seemed like a mad bull charging around like that. Still, while it wasn't one of the most skillful ways to fight, it was highly effective. Although making the enemy mad was one of Ryan's most common tactics, he decided to shut up regarding the problems that Hephaestus had with Aphrodite, the main reason being the fact that he was suffering damage from his words as well.

Ryan used Flash to escape Hephaestus' charge. He succeeded and then began to attack his left side. Still, as if the quality of his own armor were a league above the other, Ryan didn't cause a single scratch. When Hephaestus returned, he dodged again and used Power of Money, but not even that skill.

“Let's see...” Ryan muttered.

The next time Hephaestus attacked, Ryan didn't try to dodge until the very last moment, and then when the enemy got close enough, Ryan summoned that big ass sword and made it collide against Hephaestus' neck. The massive creature was actually forced to slow down when the blade scratched his neck. Still, it wasn't nearly enough. The wound was too small since Ryan didn't have time to make it a spin.

Hephaestus took his time to check the wound on his neck, and Ryan used that chance to fire Acid Arrows on the enemy's face. He also fired poisoned arrows since he had no idea at which level Hephaestus' poison Resistance was. In that regard, the Chimeras Crossbow really came in handy since they could fire three bolts at the same thing.

"Tsk," Hephaestus clicked his tongue in annoyance.

In the end, Ryan's plan was working pretty well. Hephaestus looked as if he was being annoyed by the acid and Poison. However, he quickly charged at Ryan again. In order to keep attacking nonstop, instead of using Teleport or Flash, Ryan used Evading Shot, and since he was using it alongside almost twenty magic bows, he could maneuver pretty well in midair and dodge Hephaestus attacks.

At some point, Hephaestus cooled his head and noticed that the charge wouldn't help him in any way. So, he returned to the tactic of firing rocks at Ryan. However, this time, he kicked some that were pretty weak, so his kicks made them explode, and a cannon of small rocks that were fast like machine guns flew toward Ryan. He dodging them would be impossible, but Ryan clenched his teeth and decided to accept the pain. He couldn't stop attacking, after all.

While he was moving backward, Ryan attacked Hephaestus and made sure that the effect of the poison was stacking up. It was even better since the power of acid could decrease endurance and mentality, so those two were an excellent combination. Meanwhile, Ryan also made sure to dodge all the pieces of the rock that were about to hit his vitals. While Hephaestus only summoned some big rocks, they were made of mana and, after being kicked, could fly faster than the speed of sound, so they would naturally cause a lot of damage, even against Ryan's Frost Armor.

"Tsk," Hephaestus clicked his tongue in annoyance again.

After doing that, Hephaestus changed his tactics... rather drastically. Out of nowhere, a massive hammer made of mithril appeared in his hands, and Ryan couldn't help but gulp. If Hephaestus, with his speed, hits him with that, Ryan would be a goner. Ryan decided to create some distance between them, but

Hephaestus quickly began to follow. As if that wasn't troublesome enough, he used those special swords to block his path.

"This guy..." Ryan mustered.

Ryan quickly activated Mana Barrier, but that didn't make Hephaestus stop. His torrent of swords only grew more severe... perhaps he wanted to make Ryan run out of mana, and that was bound to happen since it was obvious that Hephaestus was more prepared for the battle.

Ryan suddenly stopped and then changed directions. Instead of running away, he flew directly toward Hephaestus' face. He could fly at the same speed as the swords at his best speed, so his back was fine. The problem was his front. Hephaestus began to swing his hammer, ready to smash Ryan into a pulp. But in the end, Hephaestus, only his swords with his swing, created a powerful shockwave. As for Ryan, he decided to see Hephaestus speed from a safer distance. As it turned out, he barely had room to see his swing.

"Shit..." Ryan said. "Haste is already active and Sloth Aura won't be enough... Perhaps if I cast Slow on him, then perhaps our speeds will more or less equal."

Even if that plan works, Ryan will have to consider the cost of mana and the danger of getting too close to Hephaestus. There wasn't room for mistakes... Ryan decided to summon the Absolute Death Crossbow and then hit Hephaestus' eyes. There was a small hole in the helmet that he was using, so it should work. He probably didn't have Tyr's crazy reflexes, so the chances of him blinding him for a while were quite high. However, the very moment Ryan pulled the trigger, a visor made of mithril appeared and protected Hephaestus.

"Son of a bitch... he probably watched my whole battle against Tyr and now has some countermeasures," Ryan clicked his tongue in annoyance.

Out of nowhere, Hephaestus began to spin around while holding his hammer with both hands, and then after a while, he tossed it toward Ryan. He used Teleport to move upward, and Ryan succeeded, but then Hephaestus appeared right in front of him and grabbed his neck.

"Fuck..." Ryan opened his eyes widely.

Without wasting time, Hephaestus began to suffocate Ryan, and he immediately understood that he would die in a few moments. The difference in physical strength was that big... When Ryan felt that his neck was about to snap, he used the Draconic Bow. The weapon appeared right in front of Hephaestus, and he didn't have time to dodge. In the end, the arrow flew and caused a massive explosion in the area.

Chapter 779

Thanks to the explosion, Hephaestus loosened his grip, and Ryan freed himself. However, he paid a high price since he was so close to the explosion. His front body suffered some burns, and he rolled on the ground for quite a while, but despite the pain, he got up. He needed to heal himself and recover his mana. After all, Ryan was pretty sure that he didn't cause much damage. He aimed at Hephaestus' face, but the helmet was on the way.

When the dust and smoke disappeared, Ryan saw Hephaestus standing a few meters away from the explosion center. His hands were bleeding since he involuntarily moved his arm to use the hammer and protect himself, but aside from that, he was pretty much fine. However, the miasma was coming from the wounds in his hands.

"You really did it, huh..." Hephaestus said while he looked at his hands. "With his, you certainly were able to damage Poseidon. You are lacking in power, but with some preparations, yes... it is possible."

Although it looked like Hephaestus was talking to Ryan, he only looked to the ground while he said that. It was really weird... seeing Hephaestus interested in the fact that Ryan defeated some elder gods without an army.

"I guess I should report this to my father, after all," Hephaestus said.

Ryan couldn't help but sweat cold when he heard that. It wasn't like he didn't consider the hypothesis of he facing elder gods and they asking for help, but if Zeus comes to that world. Then that truly would be the worst-case scenario. However, for some odd reason, Hephaestus didn't move from his spot. He just stayed there silently. He was already sending his message...

"Oh, shit..." Ryan muttered.

At that point in time, there was no point in trying to stop Hephaestus. Still, the idea that the strongest god of Olympus might target him in the future made Ryan sweat cold. Why only now? Shouldn't he be aware that was bound to happen once he killed Poseidon, who was Zeus' older brother? No... Ryan wasn't worried about the possibility of a fight; he was worried about the possibility that he wouldn't be the one starting. Ryan loved stealth attacks, but the idea of suffering one was kind of nerve-racking.

"Oh, well..." Ryan shrugged.

Your dexterity has increased by fifteen points.

Your dexterity has increased by fifteen points.

Your dexterity has increased by fifteen points.

...

In the end, Ryan deactivated Draconic Transformation and used Wolf's Greed. There was no better moment than that since Hephaestus was busy. Fortunately, Hephaestus ignored Ryan's action for quite a while for some reason, so his dexterity increased by more than one thousand points. It wasn't nearly enough to make any difference in that fight, but it was better than nothing.

When Hephaestus prepared to attack, Ryan was already back in the game, hitting Hephaestus' hands. While he couldn't cause much damage thanks to that juggernaut of an armor, he could make the poison spread through the wounds and then make him unable to use that stupid big hammer. However, Hephaestus noticed what Ryan was planning and then changed his posture, making the hammer protect his hands.

"What an annoying guy..." Ryan said.

Despite that, Ryan insisted on attacking Hephaestus' hands. However, he had to stop when he got close enough and swung his hammer. Ryan used Teleport to move away, and when he saw Hephaestus finishing his swing, Ryan had an idea. At that very moment, Ryan used the summoner's crossbow. Naturally, Hephaestus ignored the few bolts that flew to his face. Still, then he regretted that when the

magma Golems appeared and exploded. Even though they had no divinity or corruption, the self-destruct attack was bound to cause massive amounts of damage.

Hephaestus stopped moving while he was trying to get rid of the magma in his face, and then Ryan put into motion his next plan. When Hephaestus recovered his vision, he saw Ryan charging a massive spear of light. Hephaestus already knew what that could do, so he raised his guard. In the end, Ryan fired the projectile much sooner than imagined, and Hephaestus destroyed the projectile with his hammer. Light enveloped the area for a while, blinding him, but then he opened his eyes again. Hephaestus saw Ryan doing the same thing..

“What is he planning...” Hephaestus frowned.

That didn’t make any sense... Still, Hephaestus understood that he couldn’t let Ryan do whatever he wanted. He watched the fight between him and Tyr, and he knew that Ryan wouldn’t do anything without a good reason.

Hephaestus only figured out what Ryan was planning when he fired the third light spear. After the light dissipated, Hephaestus heard a crack coming from his hammer. Right below the head, he found a small point damaged... Ryan used Power of Money like crazy to cause that small amount of damage. Still, it had been more than enough.

“Now things are a bit fairer,” Ryan said, and then he began to create an ice hammer above him. “Wanna bet which one is the strongest?”

“A foolish question,” Hephaestus said.

Although Hephaestus looked pretty annoyed since a human was trying to compare a single weapon created by magic with a real one, he looked strangely excited as well. Perhaps it was due to the fact that he didn’t have the chance to test his weapons against others often. In the end, Hephaestus dashed, and Ryan made his hammer spin at fearsome speed to collide against Hephaestus’.

In the end, the heads of both weapons collided and caused a massive thunderous impact that cleaned the area around them. Not to mention, the noise caused by them could have been heard dozens of kilometers away. Ultimately, Hephaestus’ hammer won the exchange, the ice hammer broke into pieces quite fast. However, the ice shards didn’t fall around the area, they flew toward Hephaestus and pierced

several parts of his body. Hephaestus' expression broke to one of pain, and then surprise, when he saw dozens of Hydra's bows above him.

Chapter 780

Just as Ryan expected, Hephaestus couldn't move so fast to dodge those arrows, so he moved his hammer to protect himself. Ryan counted on that, and thanks to it, the hammer of mithril broke, and then the head fell. However, Ryan picked it by teleporting, and then he stored it in his spatial storage.

"This entire plan of yours was just to get the hammer?" Hephaestus asked.

"I just want more mithril, that is all," Ryan said. "Still, I heard that your weapons are made of mithril, but yours seems different. It can't be compared to Poseidon's or Thanatos', why?"

"Why should I answer that?" Hephaestus asked.

"Well, it can't hurt to ask," Ryan shrugged. "I imagined that you were the one who forged their weapons, but I guess I was wrong."

"You weren't wrong, I did forge their weapons," Hephaestus replied.

Ryan couldn't help but think that Hephaestus was working with Tyr just to have a near-infinite supply of mithril to play with. That was probably why he wasn't bothered when Ryan broke his hammer. Still, what would be the secret to his forging when his own weapon was like the other Greek gods?

In the end, Ryan didn't have time to come up with an answer. Hephaestus made the cable of his weapon disappear, and then he pointed his right hand toward Ryan. He didn't like that... he thought that Hephaestus was a pure melee fighter, but it looked like he assumed too much. Suddenly, that whole region began to change. The temperature began to rise so much that even Ryan began to have a hard time breathing. Ryan saw everything vibrating around him due to the heat, and his nose began to bleed... that was a level of heat even higher than when Ryan fought in that world filled with volcanoes.

Congratulations! The skill Heat Resistance has leveled up.

You obtained 01 status points.

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You obtained 01 status points.

...

“Oh, shit... come to think of it, he is the Greek god of fire,” Ryan thought.

Even before he received Femradiel’s power, Ryan never liked fire. Maybe because its tone would make him remember a certain someone. Either way, now he disliked it even more due to his ice dragon powers. Unfortunately, not even Frost Armor was helping him with that spell.

Ryan decided to attack while Hephaestus was busy controlling the spell. Still, he soon moved his hand, and the spell stayed active. That was bad... really bad. Hephaestus charged toward Ryan again, and this time, he didn’t have time to react... Hephaestus was faster than before, it didn’t make any sense, but he was.

The air left Ryan’s lungs upon impact, and he felt most bones of his body turning into dust even before the impact could make him move away from Hephaestus. Ultimately, Ryan only stopped when he hit the ground and created a massive crater. The first thing he did when he finally could control his body again was spat a huge amount of blood, and then he used Full-Heal, but despite that, his body was almost completely destroyed, and it would take a while for his bones to be mended.

Just like before, Hephaestus tried to crush Ryan’s head by stepping on him, but he quickly teleported to high into the sky. Despite moving away from Hephaestus and gaining a distance of forty kilometers, the heat wasn’t letting up. From that height, Ryan confirmed that his spell was even crazier than he had

imagined. It was affecting everything around Hephaestus in a massive range of forty kilometers wide, and as far as Ryan could see, it worked upward until the end of the atmosphere of that world. Could Thanatos or Poseidon have done something similar?

Hephaestus quickly approached Ryan again, and he could only teleport away from the enemy since he didn't know what to do. That was Ryan hated facing enemies he didn't know a single thing off because he didn't have countermeasures, and coming up within the heat of the battle was complicated, to say the least.

Even without teleporting, Hephaestus was faster than Ryan in that space. He could cover thirty kilometers near instantly. So, Ryan had to Teleport a lot, and his supply of mana was quickly ending. While he could eat some mithril, it wasn't the answer that he needed.

“The range of this spell is a problem, just like the fact that it moves around his body...” Ryan furrowed his eyebrows.

Considering Hephaestus' speed, Ryan couldn't escape since his own range of Teleport was based on what his eyes could see or the places he had been. To move to places he had been, he had to concentrate for a short while and envision the place, but he couldn't do that now thanks to that heat and the mad bull chasing him like there was no tomorrow.

At that point in time, Ryan could only come up with a single way to fight Hephaestus: let the anger control his body. According to Femradiel, he could fight on par even against Thanatos while the corruption was controlling his mind. The problem was what would happen later. It was a bit risky, but Ryan had another idea...

Ryan tried to swallow some mithril, but then Hephaestus increased his speed to catch him off guard. That actually worked, and then Ryan's body was hit against Hephaestus' chest. However, this time, Hephaestus was forced to stop after a few moments. While Ryan's body was rolling on the ground, almost completely destroyed, Hephaestus found his chest bleeding, a sharp pain coming from there. It almost reached his heart, but even though it didn't kill him, the Mithril Sword of Suffering caused critical damage to his body, and his spell weakened thanks to it.

“Shit... what a fucking monster,” Ryan muttered in pain while he was trying to get up. “Not even that worked.”

The sword was supposed to cause more damage according to the enemy's endurance. Still, even at pinpoint range, it didn't pierce Hephaestus' heart.