Overgeared 1091

Chapter 1091

'Why would he say something so useless?'

The Arrogant Blue Dragon's Boots—Grid felt that the newly created boots were perfect. He was confident that he had completed the best item with impeccable features. The only regret was the existence of the reconstruction option.

What was the point of the boots having a destruction recovery ability and fixed durability after damage when the durability was infinite? It was a useless option because there was nothing that could damage the durability or destroy the form in the first place.

However, Reconstruction was a function of Berith's Hoof, and the fixed durability post-invincibility option was a function created by the title Protagonist of Two Eras. The item was made from Greed, making these two options a natural occurrence. The existence of these two options didn't cause any harm, so Grid wasn't bothered.

However...

-I think there is a risk of becoming a troll due to the Lightning God skill, but I don't think it is something to worry about unless you are really unlucky.

Lauel's words struck a chord with Grid.

Lightning God—it was a probability skill that gave him complete physical resistance but made him vulnerable to magic. He could be ruined if it were triggered against an enemy strong in magic. Of course, the probability of triggering Lightning God was low, and the advantages were greater than the disadvantages. The probability of receiving damage from Lightning God was extremely low.

"...It is rotten."

Grid was generally unlucky. He once believed that an act of great luck was the result of the accumulation of bad luck.

'I think there will be a situation where I'm ruined by Lightning God ...'

Grid was plagued with great worries. He felt nervous and anxious as he continued to focus on Lauel's concern.

'Hut ... I won't be hit by such an obvious development again.'

He trusted that he could meet the development with his strength. After all, he had already gone through things like these many times. A typical example was Braham's Assimilation. It happened during the 2nd National Competition's PvP event. Grid had pulled out his last card Braham, only to lose to Kraugel because of Braham's trolling.

It was an unexpected development at the time, but now it was an obvious development. Unless the storytelling ability of the god of his destiny was at the level of a third-rate writer, the same story development wouldn't come out again.

'Of course, I can get through the crisis.'

It would be disadvantageous if Lightning God were activated when fighting a magician. However, Lightning God had a mana burn effect. In the worst crisis, the mana burn could be used to turn the crisis into an opportunity.

'In the end, I can do well.'

He had the ability to take full advantage of the upcoming good luck and use the bad luck in reverse. Grid controlled his mind and wore the boots. The long boots, which went up to the knees, made Grid look even better. Grid stood in front of the mirror and smiled with satisfaction.

'I did a good job making these long boots.'

Naturally, more materials were consumed, but he had no regrets. The larger the area that the boots covered, the greater the area of protection and the higher the defense. The long boots—originally made of metal—were inconvenient to move in and had the effect of slowing down movement. Now adamantium's ability to freely change the hardness, strength, and brittleness blocked the side effects.

"Quick Movements, Blackening."

Grid pulled out the Ideal Sword and entered his peak speed. The player's maximum movement speed was 100 meters in five seconds, but Grid transcended this and was capable of four seconds. Thanks to Greed, his speed was comparable to Noe's. Every time Grid crossed the training field, a loud sound rang out. Piercing through the dust, the flying demonic energy created dozens of afterimages.

"Wahh..."

It was the early morning when even birds don't chirp. As they led their heavy bodies out, the grumbling soldiers were shocked.

"What is this?"

The knights, who were swallowing back yawns in front of the spirits, had their spirits awakened. The man running at full speed through the training ground again and again and again was their king.

All the soldiers, who were sick of suffering every morning despite having enlisted to defend their family and country, and all the knights, who worried about giving up every night despite vowing to make a name for themselves and to have unbreakable loyalty, had hot faces.

They couldn't not know. Grid had been working all night in the smithy for the past month.

'His Majesty is the one who is most tired...'

'Yet he is running around the training ground early in the morning to be a role model...'

[The soldiers' motivation and morale are soaring into the sky!]

'Isn't this crazy?'

Soldier—a former naval member of the Eternal Kingdom—was defeated by Peak Sword during the Cork Island War and joined the Overgeared Guild's army after that.

He played a role in the founding of the Overgeared Kingdom and was subsequently promoted to be Asmophel's lieutenant in recognition of his skills and diligence. Recently, he had been eager to fill in the gap caused by Asmophel's absence. He was busy every day with his colleagues, training soldiers on behalf of Asmophel, and performing assignments. This wasn't an easy task.

That was natural. It was impossible for a player to show charisma and leadership equivalent to Asmophel. No matter how strong his colleagues were, Soldier didn't have complete control over the tens of thousands of soldiers. The morale of the soldiers fell every day, and the training efficiency deteriorated. Reinhardt's troops were coming to a standstill. However, at this moment...

"Ready to go!"

"Full force! Shout forward!"

"Waaahhhhhhhh!"

"…"

The recently unmotivated soldiers suddenly had bright eyes as they trained actively. Their fallen morale soared into the sky. This happened just because Grid showed himself on the training ground.

'It is truly special.' Soldier smiled as he watched the soldiers and knights train with powerful shouts.

The Overgeared Kingdom...

He felt it was truly amazing that a great kingdom, which was growing to represent the continent, was still under the influence of the lone Grid.

"Soldier."

"Yes!"

Soldier, who was filled with admiration, responded vigorously to Grid's call. In reality, he was a soldier, and his sense of discipline was very strict. In the middle of the training ground, Grid called out to him, "Come here. Let's spar once."

"It is an honor!"Soldier didn't hesitate.

Was there any fool in the world who would refuse the opportunity to spar with the Overgeared King? It was a great learning opportunity even if he didn't win.

"Haap!"Soldier pulled out his weapon and quickly narrowed the distance to Grid. It was a great momentum worthy of one of the top 5,000 players in the unified rankings. He attacked.

Grid didn't even draw a weapon and swung his lower legs to block.

"…!?"

The confused Soldier stepped back as the repulsion generated by the black boots pushed his sword back. He wanted to find out the identity of this repulsion, but it wasn't possible in such a short amount of time. Soldier decided to avoid any conflict with these unidentified boots and aim for the upper body.

However, he couldn't take any action.

"…!?"

Suddenly, Grid was engulfed in lightning and floated into the sky. This was a complete flight, not a leap. It was without equipping Braham's Boots.

'Are they new magic boots made with the tears of the water clan king?'

The moment Soldier had this thought...

"Come Down."

Grid spun in the air and a lightning bolt fell and struck Soldier. This was literally lightning. It was not an attack that human beings could react to and avoid. Soldier was pierced.

[You have suffered 30,000 damage.]

[You have been affected by the 'electric shock' state!]

"...!?" He became defenseless.

Grid had already come down behind Soldier's back. "Thanks for the hard work."

"Yep."

It was a victory without even taking out a weapon. Grid overwhelmed a top 5,000 ranker with just a pair of shoes. If there were any witnesses, they would say this was a bug. Nevertheless, the two parties involved didn't make a fuss. They both knew it. This power was only the beginning. Grid could've dealt with dozens of rankers with just the pair of boots, not just one.

The utility of the Blue Dragon's Boots was as good as possible. He flew with Lightning Speed and secured a safe distance before linking the next attack, not allowing the opponent to react.

'It is exciting.'

This game was truly about items. Grid felt a surging emotion for the first time in a while and laughed happily.

Meanwhile, Soldier was praising himself. He complimented his past self for deciding to join the Overgeared Guild.

There wasn't a single kingdom that responded to the Violet Kingdom's request. The formation of the allied army was in vain. The isolated Violet Kingdom was forced to stop the invasion of the twilight orcs on its own, and most of its territory was seized. As the strength of the twilight orcs spread through various media, the number of players who changed races to an orc increased rapidly. The Violet Kingdom was driven to the brink and requested troops from all over the continent.

An official letter also arrived at the Overgeared Kingdom, asking for help in return for a reasonable price. Of course, the Overgeared Kingdom refused the request. The Gauss Kingdom and other kingdoms near the Overgeared Kingdom also rejected the request. They couldn't afford to help another kingdom when they didn't know if the Overgeared Kingdom would invade their territory. On the other hand, most of the countries far away from the Overgeared Kingdom sent troops to the Violet Kingdom. Their desire to grow their power made them covet the price presented by the Violet Kingdom.

It was the same for the Fold Kingdom. The land was barren and resources were scarce, so the poor Fold Kingdom only had 300,000 hard-working soldiers to deal with monsters. The chance to send troops and make money was a great opportunity for them. However—

"We won't send an army."

The Fold Kingdom also rejected the Violet Kingdom's request. The Fold Kingdom had served the Overgeared Kingdom for a long time. The will of the Overgeared Kingdom was their will.

"Is that what you came here to ask?"

Grid informally scolded the person who personally came to the Overgeared Kingdom to answer the Overgeared Kingdom's will—1st Prince Shining of the Fold Kingdom. Even so, Grid's expression was warm. He had been very fond of Prince Shining since the first day they met, and this attitude hadn't changed. Above all, Prince Shining was the man who protected Irene and Lord at the risk to his own life during the Yatan Church's attack on the Vatican.

"Isn't it nice to see Your Majesty with this excuse? I am relieved and pleased to see that you have remained strong." Prince Shining was a bit excited.

The man who changed the empire—the Overgeared King was Shining's idol.

Grid laughed. "You speak pretty well. You should meet the queen and prince while you are here. They will be pleased to see you."

"I am honored."

"Wait," Grid called out to Shining who was about to leave.

The Fold Kingdom might be the poorest kingdom, but it was a kingdom with a set of 'strong soldiers.' Prince Shining, who had already been appointed as the next king, was also a named NPC. This meant there were endless possibilities for his development.

"This is a gift."

"…!!"

It was a transparent blue sword, which looked like a shark that couldn't be seen in the barren Fold Kingdom—a kingdom without access to the sea. Prince Shining was dumbstruck as Failure was handed to him.

"This is a sword I've been using for over 10 years."

It was unreasonable to present it to his colleagues because of the extreme conditions of use. Grid had enough blue orichalcum, so he could rebuild it at any time. His blacksmithing technique had greatly improved compared to the past, and he could now produce a result that was far superior to the existing Failure.

...There was no need to explain the facts. Grid omitted as much as possible when he spoke to Prince Shining.

"It will be hard for you to use this sword right now. Still, you will be very strong if you can handle it. For the foreseeable future, train with the goal of being strong enough to handle the sword."

"Y-Your Majesty..."

"It is a reward for risking your life for the queen and prince."

"I just did what I had to. Why give me such a gift ...?"

"Stop talking nonsense and accept it."

"…"

A subordinate nation was one that was exploited by the nation it was obedient to. This was the existing concept. Then what about the relationship between the Fold Kingdom and the Overgeared Kingdom? Since the time it started serving the Overgeared Kingdom, the Fold Kingdom had always been receiving benefits. Thanks to the Overgeared Kingdom, they were protected from the empire, their people didn't starve, and the royal family regained peace.

At this moment, he received another gift. It was a sword that could be passed down as a royal heirloom for generations. One of the emblems of the Overgeared Kingdom was held in Prince Shining's hand. Prince Shining, who was unable to speak for a while, barely suppressed his feeling of being blessed. "...I will never forget Your Majesty's grace and will repay it forever."

A favor that was small for Grid created another eternal ally.

Chapter 1092

It was an opening. The world changed overnight. Those visiting the forest heard the singing of elves while armored men wrestled and played on the beach. On one mountain, people with dog ears appeared to play tricks on merchants while orcs hung around villages.

How many people imagined that they would spend their daily lives with these species? Intelligent players who had been eagerly reading web novels and manhwa adapted easily, but most people were confused by the strange changes. They were frightened or anxious by the emergence of these difference species they had never heard about.

Still, weren't humans adaptive creatures? The confusion was only for a moment before the people quickly adapted to the change. Some people cooperated with the different species to see new opportunities while others chose to be part of the species, and some others took advantage of the species' innocence to hit them in the back of the head. There were also people who hunted and traded these species like they were monsters.

The conclusion was that this world was the same, regardless of whether they were a different species or human. Meanwhile, the Overgeared Kingdom presented the direction of the new era.

"Hey, you over there! Ask the orcs to carry the heavy loads!"

"Leave it to the wildlings! Their sense of smell goes far beyond the vision of our eyes!"

It was a society without prejudice. The only thing that mattered was if they had the ability, regardless of origin, status, or race. Otherwise, as long as they had passion, the society proposed by the Overgeared Kingdom gave opportunities and reasonable compensation. In fact, many achievements were made.

The Overgeared King had suffered irrationality, so his ideas set the kingdom free... Some said this, but the truth was far from this. The Grid from the time of discrimination and ridicule was too different from the current Grid. The old Grid was like this, the old Grid did that...

People couldn't really realize it from listening to other people's words. Those who discussed Grid of the past were confused about whether they were telling the truth or a lie.

"Are the elves still in the news?"

The Overgeared Palace's meeting room was where the 10 meritorious retainers gathered to discuss each agenda. It was a place that had always been buzzing, but now it was empty. There were only two people who sat at the round table, Grid and Lauel.

"Yes, they still don't trust humans. They exercise their autonomy in every forest and only create friction with humans. They aren't inclined to cooperate with humans."

"It is a shame they can't feel trust ... "

Grid knew the pain that the elves had suffered. They had been branded as coveted and became prey for humans just because they loved peace rather than violence. They had made countless sacrifices throughout their long history. Players had even attempted to enslave them. For example, Kir who was once hailed as the merchant king. It was Grid who saved the elves from him.

Lauel smiled bitterly at Grid who couldn't hide his sadness. "The elves are a wounded race. It is hard for them to trust people, even if they trust Your Majesty. It is out of their own sense of loyalty that they aren't even looking at the forests of the Overgeared Kingdom."

"I just hope time will become a medicine... By the way, I remember that the population of elves is fairly small. Is it even physically possible for them to control forests across the continent?"

"The elves themselves are an upper species, and the 'Te' leading each tribe are amazing. Additionally, the beasts of the forests are friendly to them. At the behest of the elves, hundreds of thousands of beasts attack humans who invade the forests. Therefore, armies and players all over the world can't recapture the forests."

"The elves were only captured by Kir because of the Yatan Essence. Otherwise, they are very strong. There are also the elementals."

Even the top rankers wouldn't be able to handle the 12 Te. The Te were powerful enough that even Grid would need to be careful if the battle environment were a forest. Despite the elves having a small population, it wouldn't be difficult for them to occupy forests and exercise their autonomy. Of course, the story would change if the empire acted.

"What is the empire's position?"

"Even the elves can't invade the empire. There is no justification for the empire to invade the forests, so there is no conflict between the empire and the elves. It is only us and the empire."

"...?"

"Most countries apart from the Overgeared Kingdom and the empire have no access to forests. The mines in the forests have been shut down, and all economic activity has been disrupted, including logging, hunting, and gathering."

"That means ...?"

"Prices for minerals, wood, herbs, leather, and other commodities are skyrocketing. The players who already noticed are rumored to have stocked the items since the beginning of the elves' activities, but as you know, there is a limit to the economic power of an individual. What's more, I moved one step faster than them and stocked up on all the items."

"The Overgeared Kingdom and empire's forests are all in operation?"

"Yes."

"Crazy."

It meant the Overgeared Kingdom and empire would divide the battle gear market. The empire had nurtured tens of thousands of NPC blacksmiths, thousands of blacksmith players, and a large number of craftsman level NPCs. The two countries were currently supplying most of the items on the market, and in particular, the market price of high-end items was set by the Overgeared Kingdom. It was safe to say that the economic market itself had fallen into the hands of the Overgeared Kingdom and the empire because they monopolized the resources.

Given the power of money, perhaps the world would change faster than people perceived. It might not be long before the Overgeared Kingdom and the empire divided the entire West Continent.

"…"

"Are you afraid?" Lauel asked when he saw that Grid's expression was stiff rather than rejoicing.

"Do you know? I still haven't looked around my country."

"…"

"I've been told the location of Yorel City that governs it as well as how many people there are and their specialties, but I have never seen it with my own eyes. There are hundreds of such cities and villages. What about when I have territory that is dozens of times bigger than it is now? What if the number of people serving me increased by hundreds of times? I can't handle it."

"There is a way to be crowned as emperor—set up many kings and share the responsibilities with them. The Saharan Empire also acknowledges Your Majesty."

"...That's even scarier."

His colleagues' trust...

He was worried that many flies would twist his colleagues. For example, what if the 10 meritorious retainers became kings? They would have many people by their side to manage their own territory, and there would always be those with their own agenda. The Overgeared Kingdom and Overgeared Guild would gradually become contaminated. In the worse case scenario, a civil war might take place out of Grid's control.

When Grid confessed this, Lauel smiled. "Sure, it isn't easy to be emperor."

"Thank you for all your help. If I had the ability, I wouldn't have all these small worries. However, you know what type of person I am. I can't handle the position of emperor."

He was too modest. Grid was able to notice many things beforehand. For example, when he gave Failure to Prince Shining a short time ago. However, Lauel conceded Grid's position. Forcing someone to become emperor when they didn't want to could cause all types of side effects. It was also true that the current Grid wasn't good enough to rule a country many times bigger than it was now.

"Then what is Your Majesty's goal? Do you aim to maintain your position while steadily developing the Overgeared Kingdom to a level you can manage?"

"Hrmm... That was it not long ago, but I've changed my mind."

"…?"

"I think supremacy is just a process and a means."

"…!"

"The reality of the gods, the seven malignant saints, the expelled gods, the yangbans and the Hwan Kingdom, Pagma and the great demons..." Grid paused. These episodes were the backbone of Satisfy. Then he continued, "I want to know everything about them. I need strength to access the truth."

"..." Lauel's heart suddenly jumped. Wealth, honor, and power—the ultimate goals for most people were nothing but two-dimensional concepts for the current Grid. Lauel realized that Grid's thinking might have reached a very high level.

"After I discover the entire truth, I think it would be nice to retire and run a small smithy. I have to do a small amount of work to prevent dementia."

"Haha... That is great. You will feel comfortable and satisfied every day after retiring."

"That's right."

"Where do you intend the smithy to be?"Lauel wasn't asking about the location but the dimension. Players were living in reality and Satisfy, two different dimensions.

Grid laughed. "It will obviously be in both."

[The Violet Kingdom has been destroyed.]

[Players who were once members of the Violet Kingdom will become 'refugees.' Refugees will suffer from increased stamina consumption and increased damage...]

[The Twilight Orc Kingdom has been born!]

[The roar of Great Orc Lord 'Uruchan' is shaking the continent!]

The scheduled history was completed. The Violet Kingdom lasted less than three months before the invasion of the orc army, which boasted a terrifying recovery and breeding power. This meant that the troops sent by various countries didn't help much.

This was the birth of a new kingdom. After hundreds of years, a nation of a different species emerged. Players who turned into orcs and made contributions in the war against the Violet Kingdom earned rewards such as receiving the new 'champion' class or greatly increasing their stats.

"In the face of the orcs' volume offensive, wouldn't even the empire and the Overgeared Kingdom be embarrassed?"

Public opinion changed. They analyzed that the twilight orcs could threaten the supremacy of the West Continent, which was known to be divided between the Overgeared Kingdom and the empire. Surprisingly...

"It is quiet ... "

The orcs weren't greedy about expanding their power. They lived a peaceful life, as if they were satisfied with the territory they had. This was until an accident broke out.

[Orc Lord Uruchan was defeated and killed in a showdown!]

[Teruchan, who won the showdown, has been crowned the new orc lord!]

[Teruchan declares!]

"We! Orcs! Want a bigger territory!! Guruk! Gruruk!"

The orcs began their march according to the will of their new leader. Many kingdoms started to suffer from the constant invasion and looting, including the Fold Kingdom.

Chapter 1093

(Are you satisfied with being an orc?)

A survey was conducted on players who changed races. The response rate was 68%, which was very good. Of those, 80% answered positively. It must be positive. Most of the players who switched race to an orc were melee damage dealers. In the first place, they chose the orc race because of the orc's physical power. Stamina that didn't wear out easily, high health, destructive power, a broad vision, and so on—the orcs' superior physical abilities greatly satisfied them.

-It is a race optimized for battle.Survival is guaranteed, and there are fewer blind spots in your vision.You can't lose if you're fighting a player of the same level.

-The problem is that mana is reduced by two times, so you can't use many skills.

-I agree. The mana itself is lacking, and mana recovery is so slow that it is vulnerable in long fights. When it comes to intelligence, buffs are essential.

-The intelligence coefficient should really be buffed. I lose every time I meet a magician. I can't resist the abnormal statuses caused by spells, and my health drops every time I'm hit by magic.

-Don't you want too much?I'm in a position to wish for a buff. But to be honest, if I receive an intelligence buff in my current state, it will be too much.

-That's right. $\exists \exists$ There are more advantages than disadvantages right now, but if we receive a buff here, who would stay human? Everyone would be orcs $\exists \exists$

The conversations and reviews between orcs in various communities attracted thousands of people. The orcs' strengths were clear enough to attract those who were reluctant to be non-human. Of course, there were many drawbacks. Apart from the intelligence issue, there were the irregular teeth, rolling eyeballs, and jutting chin.

First, it was a fatal problem that their appearance didn't meet the usual aesthetic standards. Additionally, the quest contents were generally simple and disregarded level because the intelligence of orc NPCs was generally lower than that of humans, resulting in significantly higher difficulty. They often made players do crazy things. There was even a joke that orcs had no quests.

Either way...

'I'm going to change my race to an orc.'

'Me too!'

Many people raised their hands based on the merits, instead of the disadvantages of the orcs. In particular, players who had a class with low dependence on skills attempted to change race to become an orc. Meanwhile, the Chinese media's attitude was noticeable.

Chinese martial arts are one of the most popular in the world. As a result, most Chinese people are interested in and proud of martial arts. In Satisfy, they often choose the martial artist class. Just imagine how many Chinese martial artists changed to the orc race to maximize their strengths? What do you think? Yes, your imagination will come true. Not only will the proud Chinese people dominate the various PvP competitions, but they will also rise to the top of the rankings.

Chinese players are pure. While Grid has his items and Kraugel relies on skills, Hao only trained in control and is a complete version of a Chinese player. The Chinese attitude of focusing on training yourself rather than relying on external factors... It is misleading to argue if it is right or wrong, but it is undeniable that such an attitude has alienated Chinese players. In order for China to regain its title as a gaming powerhouse, players need to change their attitudes. Now the orcs are a means to overcome the weaknesses of the Chinese players. Thus, the future of China is very bright.

[If China's top rankers change their race to an orc and adapt well, China's overall ranking in this year's National Competition will be at least second. Then in the next one or two years, we will completely surpass the United States and South Korea.]

This was fanatical praise. The ambitions of the Communist Party were lurking in the background of the various media outlets praising the orcs. It was intended to make their players become orcs and increase their national status. It was media play that was almost to the extent of brainwashing. The media even took out the card called Hao to complete the picture that the Communist Party wanted.

[Hao, the world is hot about orcs these days. Recently, you are becoming a topic of discussion because the half draconians receive no separate stat benefits. There is speculation that you will become a supreme player if you change your race to an orc and strengthen your physical abilities. What do you think about this?]

 \llbracket It is true that the stats benefits of a half draconian are the same as those of a human. Just like in the orc's case, it is assumed that the stats coefficient will be adjusted only when players have a chance to choose to become half draconian. \rfloor

 \llbracket That's a shame. Then right now, are you considering changing your race to orc? rbracket

[No. There are only two opportunities per account to change races, and once you change your race, you have to be cautious because you won't be able to change it again for at least two years. Additionally, I am benefiting from the half draconian's skills. Therefore, I don't want to give up the existing benefits to change race to an ugly orc.]

🛾 I-I see. 🌡

The Chinese media had long isolated and used Hao as a scapegoat. Now they started to mention Hao again and asked for an interview to take advantage of Hao's reputation. The fact that Hao was China's top ranker hadn't changed. The media wanted Hao to empower the press by acknowledging the value of the orcs.

However, Hao sprinkled ashes on them.

[Don't be too blind about the orcs. The coefficient of health and stamina is obviously 1.8 times higher than that of humans, but as the second half progresses, skills will become more important than stats. A double drop in intelligence will grab at your ankles. Also, don't forget that the power-loving thoughts of the orcs will provoke great upset sooner or later.]

 \llbracket Ah, yes. I'll finish the interview here. floor

Once again, Hao became a target of the media. They attacked Hao with the conspiracy theory that his master Grid was behind the reason why he opposed China's experts. In a communist country where public opinion could easily be manipulated and controlled, it was simple to act against a single person. Hao's claims were lost in the criticism.

"...It is tiring every time." Hao found himself increasingly exhausted. Memories of the South Korea he visited a few years ago lingered before him. The streets were lined with the buildings belonging to Grid and the Overgeared members. He missed that free atmosphere.

"…"

Hao remembered the faces of his ancestors who had been respected from generation to generation and had to shake off his thoughts. He knew. In order to loosen the shackles of a mind that oppressed others and to start anew, he had to honor his country. As for the surest way to honor his country? It was to beat Grid.

'Just once.'

...At least once. He would soar into the clouds if he could beat Grid once. The Chinese trend of treating Grid as a villain while painting Hao as Grid's minion would be fixed.

'I must win once.'

For his new beginning and for Grid's honor, Hao longed for victory.

"Orc warriors! You! Worship Teruchan! Guruk! Gruruk! I will give you the glory of going to war with me! We! Take away the territory of humans! Guruk! Kruruk! We will build our empire!!"

"This is crazy!"

The players who had changed to the orc species trembled. Their goal was to become a ranker or to play on the stage of the National Competition, but this was ruined once the long war appeared. To be honest, the players didn't care about the orc's country. It didn't matter to them. After all, it had been less than a few months since they became orcs, so they didn't feel any sense of belonging yet.

There weren't even any quests. The new lord, who had taken the throne by force, was so ignorant that he didn't know how to deal with people. He emphasized that it was an honor to follow him and didn't intend to give any carrots. It was a madness that the players didn't swallow.

"I want to leave this war!"

The players attempted to leave. In the first place, players were enjoying the game. They had the right to freedom and no reason to surrender to the orc lord's orders. This was what they believed. Then what was this?

[If you leave the ranks now, you will be considered a deserter. All kinds of punishments and constraints will follow!]

"XX!!"

"No, what is this?"

Orcs were a militant species that worshipped power. All its people were treated as soldiers, and the players were no exception. They couldn't be freed from the military laws which were made one-sidedly by the orc lord. Of course, the people didn't accept it easily.

Players ignored this and left the ranks. Then they were all killed. Their necks were cut by the other orcs next to them, behind them, or in front of them. Even if they died, resurrected, logged out, and then logged in again, they couldn't escape from the orc army that had already begun its march.

In the orc society that valued instincts, the orc lord's will was absolutely binding. The subordinate orcs couldn't go against the senior orcs. It was the reason why some players had the 'right to control some orcs' after changing to a twilight orc.

[The great lord Teruchan has declared war!]

[You will join his army at Teruchan's will!]

"What the hell is this X game?!!"

The biggest difference between Satisfy and existing games was the degree of freedom. Unless they committed a crime or were bound by specific quests, they could always play Satisfy according to their own will. At this moment, common sense was broken. Orc players encountered an ignorant leader and were forced to experience the barracks.

'Someone kill that damn bastard!'

The twilight orcs launched a conquest war. Humans, as well as orc players, wanted their march to stop. However, it was hard to find the forces to stop Teruchan and his fanatical elites, who were strong enough to be treated as 'magicless great demons.' Everyone was in pain.

"Why is the development different than expected?"

In Reinhardt's smithy, Grid clicked his tongue after receiving Lauel's report. In many ways, the expressions in his and Lauel's eyes weren't good since they analyzed that the orcs were unlikely to expand.

Lauel replied, "The twilight orc lord is the king who rules over all orcs. I guessed before that he had great intelligence, and in fact, the previous orc lord was cautious. For hundreds of years, he pretended to be humane in order to not stimulate the empire, while not forgetting the helplessness his people had experienced under the oppression of the empire. So my analysis wasn't wrong."

"In any case, you didn't expect it. You didn't say that another orc could kill the old orc lord and become the new orc lord, waging a war."

"It was so obvious that I didn't say it. However, I did expect it. Since the orcs are a species that relies on strength, I analyzed that the path of succession to the throne would take place through strength and calculated that the orc lord could change at any time."

"...?"

Lauel's biggest weakness was his weak mentality. His mind often stopped working when he faced unexpected variables. Of course, he had the wisdom to block 99 out of 100 variables.

"Do you have a contingency plan that is within the expected range?"

"No?"

"…?"

Hey, this person was crazy.

Lauel shrugged at the anxious Grid. "The orc's march has provided justification to the empire. The empire gave them freedom in order to achieve unity, but they can't stand by and watch the orcs continue to wage war. The empire will once again fight the orcs."

"Ah..."

The orcs, who met the wrong master, would be sent to their graves.

"I see. It isn't a problem for us. No, it isn't a problem to care about."

Right when Grid was nodding, it happened.

"There is news that the orc army has invaded the Fold Kingdom! It is the main army that Orc Lord Teruchan is leading!"

"What?"Grid's expression stiffened. He rose from his seat as he recalled the loyalty shown by the Fold Kingdom and Prince Shining. "I will go. I have to sort this out."

Lightning bounced around the Blue Dragon's Boots. Additionally, four black hands floated in the air. They were the resurrected God Hands.

Chapter 1094

-The possibility of suffering direct damage seems very low....

-Yes.

Those who were anxious about the orcs' march, calling it the 'worst disaster since the great demon', gradually regained stability.

-It is quite different from the great demon.

The great demons treated humans as cattle. They one-sidedly abused, slaughtered, and ridiculed humans. The orcs were different. They were also intelligent beings who could be classified alongside humans. Unlike the great demons, they were common-sense opponents and not as cruel as the great demons. They didn't impose their ideas of justice on humans. However, they argued that they needed territory to live.

"I, the lord who leads the great warriors, Teruchan! Our great warriors don't have the hobby of torturing the weak! Guruk! Gruruk! I will guarantee your safety if you raise the white flag and surrender your land!"

Howl City Fortress—it was the gateway to the Fold Kingdom, and there were always 30,000 elite troops stationed there. The soldiers were commanded by veterans who went through all sorts of hardships, and the knights led the way in defeating the invaders.

Yes, Howl's army was valiant. They would stand up, even if the empire invaded. The reason why the Fold Kingdom wasn't afraid of the empire's retaliation after going under the Overgeared Kingdom was that they trusted Howl's army. However...

"These sons of a bitches. Why covet our kingdom? They are many countries richer than us."

"That's right. There is no use for this barren land."

"Perhaps they aren't aware of the state of our country? They are surprisingly good conversationalists. Perhaps they will step back if we explain it well?"

Even Howl's army was shrank back in front of the orcs. The sight of 100,000 dark-skinned orcs, with a height of at least two meters, under the walls placed a great pressure on them. In particular, the orc lord in the lead was terrifying. The mere sight of his eyes made them feel nauseous. A few soldiers' pants were already wet.

"Umm..." Marquis Veze—the lord of Howl and the symbol of the Fold Kingdom's armed forces who was famous for being the idol of tens of millions of guardian knight players—came to a decision after agonizing over the matter." A conversation. That is a good way. Open the gates. I will go out and talk to them."

"That is impossible!" The marquis' men were shocked.

Sure, the orcs were unexpectedly gentleman. They were like knights worshipping chivalry. When they heard that the small villages the orcs passed on the way were safe, they thought that orcs were better than some humans. However, this could be an act. In the first place, orcs were the enemy. There was no fool who would tell their commander to step into the middle of enemy territory.

"The fortress is doomed the moment they harm you or take you hostage."

"That's right! Please be cautious! Please send out the warden!"

"The captain is hiding while asking for a conversation? The orcs will respond well. They would laugh at us."

"Just fight! It is too dangerous for you to go out in person!"

"That's right! They are orcs! Monsters! There is nothing to talk about!"

"Then shall we fight blindly?"

"We have 30,000 strong soldiers! We'll be able to hold on if we stay in the castle!"

"There is hope because an army has been dispatched from the capital!"

"Is it really possible?"

"..." Everyone shut their mouths at the marquis' question. The marquis' gaze was aimed at a large spear stuck in the city gates. It was a spear that Orc Lord Teruchan had thrown from 'an invisible place.' The spear caused cracks in the walls, and even dozens of knights combined couldn't pull it out. It was as if it had been there since the beginning.

"We will only be able to hold on for two days. The moment they start the offensive, the walls will collapse, and the fortress will be thoroughly trampled on. Rather than increasing the number of victims with meaningless resistance, it is better to try and talk to them first."

"However, if the marquis suffers a disaster, we won't be able to last for even two days."

"The moment they strike at my neck, throw away the fortress and retreat to the capital. Prince Shining will immediately grasp the situation and take you in."

"Do you want us to be cowards who run away without even fighting?"

"Of course, some people will point fingers at you. Still, don't worry. Everyone will know that today's choice was the only way to protect the country. Endure the humiliation for our country."

"Sir!"

The people couldn't persuade Marquis Veze any longer. He broke through the barriers made by his subordinates with his body and left the castle.

"This...!"

The pale nobles and knights urgently rushed to the walls. They saw Marquis Veze come face to face with Orc Lord Teruchan. The Marquis was a guardian knight who specialized in defending. Among the other nobles and knights, Marquis Veze' body was large like that of a giant yet he felt dwarfed among the orcs. In particular, he looked like a little kid compared to Teruchan.

"I am Veze, the leader of this fortress and a marquis of the Fold Kingdom. Orc Lord Teruchan, I will tell you something despite the shame."

"Grruk. Kruruk! Go ahead," Teruchan responded in an interested manner. He was very pleased with the courage of the slender man who jumped into the middle of the enemy alone.

"The territory of our Fold Kingdom is famous for being the most barren on the continent. The mountains are common, and we don't have the strength of the sea. It has no value even if the orcs conquer it."

"Then we should invade other kingdoms? Grruk."

"...I'm asking you to step down."

The number and types of monsters that appeared in the Fold Kingdom were much higher than other kingdoms. Marquis Veze, who always fought in the vanguard, had cut off the breaths of tens of thousands of monsters. It was a strange and difficult thing for Marquis Veze to bow his head to orcs whom he had always regarded as monsters.

Even so, he didn't hesitate at all. He bowed his head politely. "The Fold Kingdom isn't worth conquering. Please withdraw."

Disparaging the country—it was a crime that couldn't be forgiven, even if it was for the sake of the country. In particular, Marquis Veze felt more shame and guilt since he had been fighting for his country all his life. However, he was forced to speak honestly since he wanted the orcs to step down. The Fold Kingdom was a country that wasn't even worth conquering...

This was also a popular assessment in the world. Teruchan listened to him and laughed. "For our warriors, the territory of the Fold Kingdom is the best place."

"…?"

Marquis Veze had been looking forward to the orcs' 'ignorance.' He thought they invaded the Fold Kingdom because they didn't know anything. That's why he believed a conversation would work. The orcs would leave easily once they realized they had nothing to gain from conquering this place. Yet he received a completely unexpected response. The territory of the Fold Kingdom was the best?

Teruchan smiled at the baffled marquis. His large teeth were more intimidating than any beast's.

"Grruk. We train and fill our hunger by hunting monsters."

"…!"

"More than any other country. Grruk. Kurruk. The Fold Kingdom is the right place for us."

This was a failure. Marquis Veze took in a shocked breath as he realized the hope he sought was a vain dream. Simultaneously, he made a quick decision. He had to go back to lead the soldiers to retreat. In order to fight against the orcs, it was most efficient to rally all the armies throughout the Fold Kingdom to the capital. However, this idea was soon dampened.

'This…!'

Retreat wasn't possible. The red-spotted leopard—thousands of these beasts were domesticated by the orcs. They were powerful enough to hunt monsters and were several times faster than horses. Teruchan saw Marquis Veze's trembling gaze directed at the leopards and was merciful.

"Human with courage."

"…?"

"You can speak with dignity in front of me. Grruk. Based on your manner, you are also a warrior. Kurruk. Out of a warrior's honor, I want to give you a chance."

"…!"

'A chance!' The lost hope was once again illuminated in the marquis' eyes. The orc lord directly gave his country a chance, so there was no reason to resist.

"Thank you!"

Teruchan suggested to Marquis Veze, "Fight me."

It was a duel. Moreover, it was a duel that was advantageous to Marquis Veze.

"If you compete with me, Orc Lord Teruchan, for more than 10 blows. Grruk. Kurruk. I will respect you as a warrior and withdraw. Grruk."

"...!" Marquis Veze was incredulous.

He didn't need to fight and win. He just needed to endure 10 blows and the orc army would retreat...? Marquis Veze doubted it because it was too favorable. Teruchan thought the wary looking Marquis Veze was cute.

"The warriors who follow me and your men are watching. Guruk. Here. Kurruk. If I'm lying, grruk, I will be expelled from the seat of a lord."

It meant he could be trusted. Marquis Veze nodded. "Okay. I'll accept the suggestion. Please don't forget your promise."

He was forced to grab onto this line, even if it was rotten. If he didn't grab onto this line, the only thing they would be waiting for was doom. With this resolve, the marquis pulled out his shield and his sword. He was a knight with a firm resolve. Not only was he revered by the knights of other nations, he was also the idol of tens of millions of guardian knight players. The orcs let out excited sounds. It was because he covered his entire body with a shield while he held his sword, causing him to exert a great pressure. There was no room to attack. Any attack seemed like it would be blocked and counterattacked.

Teruchan burst out laughing. "Indeed! An outstanding warrior as I expected! Kuhahahaha!"

He had dark skin reminiscent of evening, and it was thicker than sheet metal. The twitching muscles were as majestic as rocks. The calluses on the hands, which were huge enough to hold a watermelon in one hand, proved that he was a trained warrior and not just a beast who relied on natural strength.

All the elements that made up Orc Lord Teruchan pressed on Marquis Veze. Even so, Marquis Veze didn't shrink back. He was also a champion of reversal. Born in the weakest country, he had always fought against disadvantages. He knew better than anyone how to stand up to fight and defeat a strong enemy.

'Come!'

Marquis Veze used all types of defensive skills. There were seven skills that could each stand up to a player's ultimate attack.

'Being able to learn one of the will make you the strongest tanker.' This was the guardian knights' beloved statement that made Marquis Veze seem like a giant tree rooted for hundreds of years.

His shield went up. Teruchan's broadsword was inserted. Then...

"Cough!" Marquis Veze's body flew over 100 meters and rolled across the ground.

"S-Sir!" The 30,000 soldiers at Howl Fortress were astonished.

-Oh my god...

The viewers and netizens all over the world were dumbfounded. It was shocking to see the ultimate goal of the guardian knights, Marquis Veze, be knocked down with a single blow. Teruchan stood in place and waited for Marquis Veze.

"Now it is only one blow. Grruk."

"K... Kuock..."

Marquis Veze, who barely raised his body, stumbled like he was going to fall. Nevertheless, he persisted. He stood using the support of the shield and pointed his sword at Teruchan. An opponent with such a strong attack power that it made defense meaningless.

After a single blow, Marquis Veze realized that the only way to win the 10 blows exchanged game was to attack. Of course, this method didn't work. Before Marquis Veze's sword could touch Teruchan, the broadsword had already struck Marquis Veze.

One blow, two blow, three blows...

Up to that point, Marquis Veze barely shielded himself, but he soon became distracted and missed the shield. Tankers from all over the world felt skeptical as they watched the broadcast. There was an attack power that even the ultimate tanker couldn't withstand.

Who would've become a tanker if they had known this? That's right. The power of Orc Lord Teruchan was denying the notion of a tanker itself, destroying common sense. Teruchan's presence began to surpass that of a great demon.

On the other hand.

"Kkuk... Kuoock..." Marquis Veze fell down and groaned, unable to compete with Teruchan after the fifth blow. Before the pinnacle of a different species, he felt the first sense of helplessness since he was born. He realized how insignificant he was and despaired at the power that the Fold Kingdom couldn't stand up to.

Then Teruchan's voice rang out, "A chance. Grruk. You missed it. Great human warrior. Kurruk. Return. Then wait with your subordinates in fear. Guruk. We will march."

"..." Marquis Veze's expression darkened. There was no profit. He was afraid to return with his wounded body and to face his soldiers. How could he soothe the morale that had plummeted with his defeat? How could he call on the soldiers to fight together? With his heavily wounded body, Marquis Veze's steps were so heavy that they didn't fall easily.

It was at this moment that a ray of light fell from the sky, and a man appeared. He had black hair with a crown on his head. All eyes on the scene, including Marquis Veze and Orc Lord Teruchan, were drawn to him.

"You. Who?" Teruchan asked.

Hundreds of millions of viewers could anticipate the answer they would hear.

"The Overgeared King."

"...King?" Teruchan's eyes were filled with excitement. He didn't wonder why the Overgeared King had appeared here. He just wanted to know how much strength the human king had.

Grid smiled as he glimpsed Teruchan's desire to fight right away. "Bring it on."

There was no answer. Teruchan's shoulders moved, and simultaneously, an over-two-meter-long broadsword flew toward Grid's chest.

-Ah...

The chat windows of various countries were flooded with the viewers' lamentations. It was an attack that even the best tanker couldn't block. The people analyzed that even Grid wouldn't be able to stop it. If only Grid had arrived one step earlier...

If he had seen the power of the orc lord, he wouldn't have allowed such a sudden attack, and victory wouldn't have been decided so easily. The viewers who were feeling regretful belatedly saw a shocking scene. Four black-gold hands—Grid's old symbol which hadn't emerged for a long time—blocked the path of Teruchan's broadsword.

"How interesting. Grruk. A toy!" Teruchan threw off the God Hands and attacked Grid again. This time, it was a completely different orbit that aimed at Grid's lower half. However...

"...!?" The one who withdrew was Teruchan, not Grid. It was because an unknown repulsion caused Teruchan's broadsword to bounce off.

"Magician?"

"A blacksmith."

"...?"

Lightning wrapped around Grid. Grid floated into the air so that his eyes were in line with Teruchan, who was two heads taller than him. "10 blows. If you can endure 10 blows, I'll spare your life."

"…?"

Were human kings crazy? Teruchan seriously questioned it as he used a skill for the first time. He rotated his broadsword like a windmill and threw it to pierce his target's armor. It was the strongest attack skill that had the effect of 'Ignore 100% of the defense.' Yet... the broadsword returned and pierced Teruchan's chest.

"...Gruruk."

Why? Teruchan was more angry than amused. He met a long-awaited rival, but rather than being happy, he was annoyed.

Chapter 1095

'The odds of victory are sufficient.'

Most people rated the orc lord in the same class as the great demon. The orc lord was vulnerable to magic but his overall combat power was comparable to a great demon. Why? For a typical player, both the great demons and the orc lord were untouchable targets.

By normal standards, the orc lord and great demons were eventually perceived to be on the same level. However, Grid was different. Based on his experience of raiding two great demons and his level of knowledge of Satisfy's worldview, the orc lord was far below the great demons.

It was impossible to know the story if the species was comparable to the lord of hell or had a special parent, such as the vampires. It was easy to understand when thinking of King Maxong of the water clan.

The pinnacle of his species, he was a powerful being but he was eventually overwhelmed by Grid, Grid's knights, and Iyarugt's ingenuity.

What if he raided a great demon with the same amount of power he used when fighting Maxong at that time? It would've been impossible. That's right. The orc lord might be difficult for high rankers and named NPCs but he was a child compared to the great demons. He couldn't guarantee victory even if he fought one-on-one with Piaro or Mercedes.

'Even if he fights with me.'

The epic sagas of transcendence. The new God Hands and the Blue Dragon Boots. Grid had grown rapidly in recent years but he still wasn't confident about winning against Piaro or Mercedes. He might be catching up in terms of stats but he was still far behind them in overall skills. Grid was unable to cope with Piaro's miraculous farming that changed the environment around him or Mercedes' ability to see everything.

Still, the orc lord was different. Before coming here, Grid analyzed footage of the orc lord and was convinced he could win. Everyone knew that the orc lord was susceptible to magic, had no items, and used very limited type of skills. Therefore, it was easy to analyze his patterns.

Of course, the power of each skill was reminiscent of the great demon's magic (the decisive reason why people placed the orc lord in the same level as the great demons), but Grid was capable of evading and he had the God Hands and the Blue Dragon Boots. In other words, not only could he defend, he could also fight back. From the orc lord's first blow, to the next attack, and finally the throwing skill. During the first part, Grid never allowed an attack from the orc lord thanks to the reasons listed above.

'I can win.'

He had to win. Grid once again vowed. He placed a lot of meaning on this confrontation. He was determined to win against the orc lord and be perceived as a strong man by the orcs. It was hard to see the effect of Pangea's Duke of Virtue and Different Species' King if he lost to the orcs who valued power.

'Win and make them submit.'

It might be child's play compared to the great demons but Teruchan was still the peak of a species. At least on this West Continent, the peak of a species was one of the strongest beings. It was better for Grid to obtain as many strong people as possible to fight against the great demons, the yangbans of the East Continent, and perhaps the gods. Therefore, he coveted the orc lord. He especially liked the hot-tempered but moderate personality.

"10 blows. If you can endure 10 blows then I'll spare your life."

Grid's eyes were filled with greed as he declared to the orc lord. The moment Grid exposed his essence, some animosity aroused inside Teruchan.

'I, the lord of great warriors. Being looked at like prey.'

It was disgraceful. Humans and orcs were different species and they each had a different talent. That's why he didn't impose strength—what the orcs valued—upon the humans or laugh at their weakness... With such a mindset, Teruchan respected but pitied humans. He would understand and be merciful.

In other words, he recognized them as weak and poor beings. By Teruchan's standards, Grid attitude was crossing the line.

"Your eyes. Gruruk. They are arrogant."

Teruchan's eyes became ugly as he looked at the human—who identified himself as the Overgeared King—in front of him. Teruchan might be an honor-conscious warrior but he was an orc. Compared to humans, the orcs had poor patience because they prioritized their instincts. There was a degree of respect and mercy but he couldn't tolerate a single strand of strength from a weak species.

"Get your head straight. Then. Gruruk. I will spare your life. Kurruk."

"You still don't understand the situation?" Grid smiled calmly at Teruchan. "The one showing mercy isn't you but me."

"Gruruk!! Rude!!"

Teruchan exploded in anger and threw off the mask of a gentleman. He nakedly expressed an orc warrior's fervor and mettle. It meant the shackles had been released. Teruchan became stronger. No, he was complete. A blackish-gray aura that was around 1.5 meters wide started to rise around Teruchan.

[Fighting energy is at the maximum.]

[Strength, stamina and agility have increased by 50%.]

Grid's fighting energy, which had already responded from the moment he faced Teruchan, reached the peak in an instant. Teruchan's eyes widened as a purple-red light appeared around Grid.

"Gruruk!! The legend I've heard of ... !"

The Hero King. The human known to be the strongest in history. Wasn't it too much like the aura of Sword Saint Muller whom even the orc lord of that time worshipped? Teruchan was belatedly nervous. It was too late to realize that the person in front of him shouldn't be regarded as weak just because he was a human.

"Transcended Link Flower."

Grid aimed for this gap that Teruchan revealed and already completed his sword dance. Tens of thousands of blue petals floated over the plains filled with 100,000 twilight orcs. The darkness caused by the orcs' thick skin lifted and the entire battlefield was brightened.

-Ah...

Was this the fragrance of the Peach Blossom Spring? The viewers were captivated by the mysterious and beautiful scene shown on the bleak battlefield. Every single orc in the army of 100,000 orcs watched with their mouths wide open. Meanwhile, Teruchan was extremely focused.

He grasped the situation and shouted to the orcs, "Gruruk!! Grit your teeth!!"

At the same time, 40 energy blades flew through the rain of petals and struck Teruchan. Tens of thousands of petals bombarded the orc army. Sharp winds swept through the orc army as they were cut by the petals. In between, there were lightning that seemed to be infinitely linked.

[Transcended Link Flower]

Three sword dances have been sublimated into a single field.

Fire 40 swords with 200% physical attack power, 'marking' all enemies in sight as a target.

An additional two sword energy will be generated per mark and the added sword energy will aim at the targets. Any marked target hit by the sword energy will receive 122% physical damage + 20% magic damage.

Every two hits by the sword energy will create an additional mark. A maximum of five marks can be stacked up.

Skill Usage Conditions: Have a sword type weapon equipped.

Skill Sword Energy Cost: 300

Skill Cooldown Time: 20 minutes.

★ The effect of Detect Force, Wind Cutter and Lightning will be applied.

Mana Consumption: 3,600

This was the greatness of the 'field of view' wide-area skill. Grid launched upwards with Lightning Speed ahead of time and his vision covered the majority of the battlefield, allowing him to wound tens of thousands of orcs at the same time.

Teruchan shouted at Grid who was rising higher in the sky, "Gruruk!! Focus on the battle against me!"

They were in a one-on-one battle with their honor and pride on the line. Now it seemed like this person was dealing with his army without focusing on him? Grid's arrogant attitude succeeded in greatly irritating Teruchan. His cool head heated up as he smashed his feet against the ground and jumped up. Unbelievably, he was hit by 40 energy blades and the sword energy yet his thick skin was almost intact.

'It is definitely great.'

The orc army, which clenched their teeth in response to the orc lord's call, didn't utter a moan despite being cut by the petals and struck by lightning. The orc lord himself handled most of the impact of Transcended Link Flower without wearing armor.

Orcs. Honestly, he hadn't expected there to be such great warriors among the species he treated as monsters. Grid inwardly felt admiration as he floated in the air and started the steps for his next sword dance.

"Flower."

From the time Grid received Great Swordsman Pagma's Swordsmanship, he had a formula for dealing with the enemy. First, stack as many marks as possible through the linkage of Flower.

"Linked Kill Flower Pinnacle."

It was the strongest four fusion sword dance that could extract the maximum theoretical damage. Additionally, the weapon Grid was currently using was Belial's Staff + the Enlightenment Sword. [Belial's Staff + Lightning Sword Born from Enlightenment and Strong Desires]

Rating: Myth (Transcendent)

Omitted.

- * 30% increase in intelligence.
- * 40% increase in magic attack power.
- * 30% bonus fire attribute damage.
- * 30% bonus dark attribute damage.
- * 15% bonus lightning attribute damage.
- * There is a certain probability of flames (large) being released when attacking.
- * There is a low probability of illusions being released when attacking.
- * There is a low probability of summoning a red lightning bolt when attacking.
- ★ There is a certain probability of a black flames explosion when attacking.
- * 30% increase in magic casting speed.
- * You can cast three types of magic at the same time. However, proficiency is required.

When fire and dark magic are cast simultaneously, the magic power of each one was increased by 200%.

* Every time a spell is cast, a shield that absorbs 5,000 damage is automatically created. Targets that strike the shield are subjected to the fear and slowed states.

★ The options such as fire emission, hallucinations, red lightning summoning, black flames explosion, and so on are considered as casting a spell.

* 20% increase in magic critical chance.

* 150% increase in magic critical damage.

The attack power and magic attack power were slightly lower than when they were individual items. It was the negative effect of the sword and staff losing their form during the combination.

There was also no significant change in the option values. However, there was only one area.

* Every time a spell is cast, a shield that absorbs 5,000 damage is automatically created. Targets that strike the shield are subjected to the fear and slowed states.

★ When triggered, the options such as fire emission, hallucinations, red lightning summoning, black flames explosion, and so on are considered as casting a spell.

This crazy fraudulent option made Grid semi-invincible. The effect was greater against the orcs who were vulnerable to magic.

"Gruruk...?!"

Teruchan suffered a serious injury from Linked Kill Flower Pinnacle as he leapt through the air. For the first time since his confrontation with the previous orc lord, his skin was peeled off and cut. His eyes burned with a greater fighting spirit as he fought back.

A translucent shield enveloped the Overgeared King. It was only a short time before Teruchan ripped it apart. Yet whenever the Overgeared King danced with his sword or black flames exploded, it regenerated and protected its master along with the four moving hands. The hard armor and strange boots meant this person's body was perfectly protected.

"A shell! Guruk! Hiding! Kurruk! Like a turtle!!"

He ridiculed loudly but Teruchan's heart was uncomfortable. Every time he destroyed a shield, his body became heavier and his fear increased. Of course, Teruchan was the peak of his species and was 'immune to many abnormal conditions or recovers quickly from them.' He was completely resistant to the 'fear' abnormal condition. Additionally, only a small part of the 'slow' effect was applied.

However-

"You...! Indeed...! Magician...!"

Teruchan's attack speed as he swung the broadsword through the air was only a bit slower but it was definitely slowed. It was such a light slowdown that the viewers didn't easily notice but it was a big hit for Grid who had grown to such a high level. Weapons appeared in the God Hands which were struck by Teruchan's attacks, whether they were spears, staffs or a sword. Teruchan was struck by them but didn't even budge.

"Tickles...!"

There was no disturbance in his natural body. Teruchan believed that his skin and muscles were harder than armor. He was confident that none of the swords could breach the skin and muscles he had trained to another level. The orcs, who used crude tools compared to humans, couldn't understand the concept of being overgeared.

"...Cough?!"

Blood filled Teruchan's mouth. He looked down with surprise and saw Grid's weapon piercing his chest. The astonished Teruchan swung the broadsword in vain. Grid reflexively used a skill and overcame Teruchan's slow speed with his lightning speed.

"Blackening."

He reached maximum speed. Grid's body was gradually engulfed in lightning. He carried out the steps of the sword dance while avoiding Teruchan's attacks that fell like heavy rain.

"Transcended Linked Kill Pinnacle."

"...Keok!"

The warrior screamed. There was no more shame. The rock-like giant, Teruchan collapsed to the ground. Grid didn't pursue him. In his incandescent state, he stood in the air and moved one foot.

"Come Down."

The sky split apart with lightning. A huge blue dragon descended behind Grid. It looked very different from a normal dragon. The lightning accompanied by an unidentified monster swept through the battlefield at Grid's feet. Then.

'One time, two times, three times...'

Teruchan hurriedly began to count. It was to calculate how many times Grid had struck.

Chapter 1096

Gravity stiffened the hard skin and crushed the entire body. The scenery that entered his field of view passed quickly. The screams of the wind echoed endlessly.

'Nine...'

Orc Lord Teruchan fell down from the clouds high above him. He was going to collide with the cold and hard ground but he only focused on counting. The thing that made him afraid wasn't the destruction and suffering of his fallen flesh but the loss of honor.

The Overgeared King. The human being who provoked him to endure 10 blows...

He was indeed strong. His skills, amazing swordsmanship, tricky magic, powerful lightning, and selfmoving artifacts made him greater than the previous orc lord. Surprised by this person's ability to summon a dragon, Teruchan realized that he had to be mindful of defeat.

Lightning accompanied the blue dragon that struck Teruchan. As he felt the exhilarating pain of all the cells in his body stiffening, Teruchan admitted it. The opponent was strong. The title Hero King was never false. Yes... He might lose. Even so, no matter how strong the opponent was, there shouldn't be a vain defeat.

He was the king of warriors. If he was to be swallowed by the dragon then he would bite off the dragon's tongue. He was the pinnacle of all orcs and the leader of the twilight orcs yet he couldn't withstand 10 blows? It was an act that insulted all the orcs in the world. All orcs would lose their prestige because of him. Just like the old days. He had to hold on, endure.

'10…!'

Just before colliding with the ground, Teruchan's eyes widened. This sum referred to the number of times they attacked and defended. During his brief stay in the sky, Teruchan had wielded his broadsword over 20 times. Teruchan's sword and roar had torn up nearly 30 of Grid's shields.

He had endured. The human's expression was so imposing he had been worried about losing in less than 10 blows, but it was a pointless worry.

"Guruk!"

'I can overpower you in 10 blows.'

He met the declaration of the Overgeared King and kept the minimum of his honor. Teruchan's eyes burned again. His muscles, nerves, and cells, which had been stiffened by the lightning, woke up in

response to his strong 'mental strength.' It was a movement reminiscent of a predator. Just before colliding with the ground, Teruchan was released from his paralysis and regained his motor nerves. He gritted his teeth and twisted his back, flattening his posture. Teruchan's giant body fell to the ground.

A deafening roar shook their ears as the 100,000 orc army screamed.

"Ohh...!"

Marquis Veze and the soldiers of Howl Fortress felt admiration. They imagined the orc lord dying beyond the cloud of dust. The orc lord had hard skin and muscles that couldn't be invaded with a sword but they believed he couldn't be safe after falling from such a high altitude. Yet...

"Kuooooooh!"

Teruchan's appearance was relatively fine as the dust cleared away. The orc stood with his hands and feet on the ground like a beast and roared madly, enthralling his fellow orcs. The bodies of the orcs, which had been paralyzed by the lightning, woke up simultaneously.

"Teru—chan!! Guruk!"

"Teru—chan!! Guruk!"

Kung kung! Kung! Kung kung! Kung!

The orcs' habit of submitting to a strong existence was based on survival instincts. It was considered a challenge the moment they chose to disobey so they were forced to obey if they didn't want to die. Yet at this moment, all the orcs stomping their feet and chanting Teruchan's name were acting rationally, not instinctively. They were fascinated by the sight of the bloody Teruchan, who had fallen from the high sky. They were enthusiastic as they shouted for the second coming of a legendary human. The propaganda called 'Grid' united the orc species.

In the sky, Grid started sweating.

'He is still fine after being hit like that. The damage from Transcended Link Kill Pinnacle was less than I thought.'

Grid did his best to end the battle in less than 10 blows. His fighting energy reached the maximum and he fought with all his items, sword dances and magic. The successive use of Linked Kill Flower Pinnacle and Transcended Link Kill Pinnacle showed how serious Grid was about this battle.

[Transcended Link Kill Pinnacle]

Four sword dances have been sublimated into a single field.

Fires seven energy blades per second that deal 3,700% physical damage. Every time it attacks the target, 'Disarm' will be triggered. In addition, there will be a bleeding and desperation effect.

This skill will ignore 65% of the target's defense.

★ The effect of Detect Force, Wind Cutter and Lightning will be applied.

Skill Usage Conditions: Have a sword type weapon equipped.

Skill Sword Energy Cost: 400

Skill Cooldown Time: 2 hours.

In accordance with the principle that Transcend doubled the attack power, the power of Kill should also have double the attack power. When used on a target with the maximum number of 'marks', the 22,560 physical attack + 100% magic attack power meant that Linked Kill Flower Pinnacle had a higher damage coefficient.

There was a disadvantage of course. It had a longer cooldown due to its stable power and it was less powerful than Linked Kill Flower Pinnacle against opponents with an overwhelmingly high physical defense. Against Orc Lord Teruchan, it was worse than Linked Kill Flower Pinnacle. His magic resistance was low but his physical defense was high. Teruchan's defense meant the effect of Pinnacle would surpass Transcended Link Kill Pinnacle. The initial damage from Linked Kill Flower Pinnacle was also less than Grid expected. It was deadly that Teruchan was an opponent without 'items.' The Disarm effect was useless because he wasn't wearing any armor.

'His stats are killing me.'

Grid clicked his tongue as he stared at the distant Teruchan. Teruchan's health was now less than onefifth but Grid was desolate. Teruchan's recovery speed was too fast but the bigger problem was that Grid had depleted his sword energy. That's why Grid couldn't connect any additional sword dances when Teruchan was hit and paralyzed by Come Down! In order to recover his sword energy, he had to keep swinging his sword. However, he couldn't do this because he declared that he would beat Teruchan in 10 blows.

'Flower, Transcended Link Flower, Link, Kill...'

Facing the orc lord looking up into the sky, Grid counted how many sword dances he had used. It was seven. He only had three out of 10 blows left. Was it possible to overpower the orc lord with three blows when all his ultimates were already consumed?

It was impossible. Grid trembled.

'Fucking God's Command.'

If it had activated even once then the orc lord would've surrendered by now. The 50% probability was no different from the lottery. He really had bad luck... A strong rage was soaring.

It happened when Grid was gritting his teeth.

"Human king! Guruk!" Teruchan called out to Grid. Teruchan's right arm and left leg were drooping from when they broke as he landed. "I... Guruk! I've endured more than 50 blows!"

Teruchan's expression was full of cheer. A hint of pride even peeked through. He acknowledged Grid's skills and was pleased to have survived Grid's offensive.

Grid frowned. "What do you mean? Haven't I only used seven?"

"Guruk? You swung your sword. Guruk! Many times! It is 40 times! It's weird!"

What was he saying in front of so many eyes? Grid saw the absurd reaction from Teruchan among the orcs and snorted. "That is an absurd argument. I might've swung my sword dozens of times but I only used seven sword dances. So it is seven blows."

"...?"

"…"

Was he a hooligan? Grid's logic made the battlefield as still as death. Teruchan, the orcs and the soldiers of the Fold Kingdom shut their mouths. Even the ferocious orc lord had kept his promise to Marquis Veze and honored him. Then what about the Overgeared King who was equal to the empress? Some people were disappointed while others pointed fingers.

Meanwhile, Teruchan looked excited. "Guruk...! I see! It is still only seven!"

It was scary. The Overgeared King was a strong human. This was Teruchan's honest feeling. This was the reason why.

"Good! Guruk! I wanted to fight more!"

Teruchan's desire to win burned in reverse. Teruchan wanted to know his limitations. He longed for an extreme battle he could pour all his energy into. He had no regrets, even if it meant dying. If he was afraid then he wouldn't have become a warrior in the first place.

"Gruruk!! Let's fight! Until one of us falls! Continue!"

"That's a great suggestion."

A duel with no restrictions. It was a proposal that was naturally tempting for Grid, whose sword energy was depleted. Grid smiled like a great demon.

"I am looking forward to it."

Grid descended. He intended to draw out the time as much as possible while the duration of Blackening was maintained. Grid was unaware of it but as he descended, his body was gradually becoming incandescent. It was the conditional passive that belonged to the Blue Dragon Boots. Once he reached the maximum speed, there was a low chance that his body would turn into lightning.

"Kurruk...!"

Was this the will of the world itself? Teruchan's heart beat faster as he blocked Grid's sword. Grid's strike that contained the acceleration from descending was enough to push Teruchan back.

"Human...! Your name! Guruk! Tell me!"

Teruchan's burning gaze and Grid's greed-filled gaze intertwined in the air.

"Grid." Lightning swelled. The moment the duration of Item Combination ended, the Enlightenment Sword returned to its complete form and connected with Teruchan's broadsword. "I am greedy for you."

His skin became hotter with every blow exchanged. As expected, Grid was affected by Teruchan's skill and let out blunt words.

"Kuahahahat! Guruk! A warrior! Doesn't obey humans!"

Teruchan burst out laughing. It wasn't ridicule. There were no signs of displeasure. He was thinking about the long history of a lord worshipping humans.

The sound of friction between the sword and broadsword became louder. Grid and Teruchan's concentration reached the peak and they attacked and defended along all sorts of trajectories. The cameras of broadcasters from all over the world started to miss their movements. It reached the point where they had to give up on any melee shots.

The Lightning God invaded Grid's body. The power of the broadsword didn't touch his body.

Chapter 1097

For the two billion Satisfy players, there was one memory commonly engraved in their minds—Grid's strength. Among them, it was his 'attack power.' People didn't forget the day when this Asian person appeared on the world stage for the first time. He defeated great demons and annihilated the rankers in the National Competition. Grid's unparalleled damage set new standards and targets for the two billion players.

Now the orc lord Teruchan.

"I! Guruk! Want to! Win!"

He remained steadfast despite allowing Grid's sword dances that even the great demons shrank back against. He fought against Grid with a ragged body that didn't fall and he didn't know how to give up. Still, it was funny. He had 100,000 elite troops yet he insisted on a one-on-one match to the very end. He was foolish and stupid.

Even so, few people laughed at Teruchan. His attitude of respect for manners and honor attracted people.

Shortly after Grid summoned the blue dragon, the breaking news reports called it one of the 'four sacred creatures' of the East Continent. In response to Teruchan's call, Grid descended to the ground and used speed and movements never seen before. Unlike the previous days when he faced his opponent with his attack power and defense, he moved lightly and took the upper hand with his body.

In particular, his footwork was dominating. He countlessly did the steps of the sword dances and was unusually proficient in using his lower body.

"Guruk...!"

Teruchn's broadsword was blocked by Grid's use of his legs. Grid's speed as he chased after Teruchan was like an arrow that already left the bowstring.

Kick the enemy, chase, strike, and step back.

During this process, Grid's combat methods as he was protected by the God Hands were lethal. It was hell for his opponent. In a word, he was fighting well. Who laughed at his control? The times when Grid was still lacking faded from the viewers' memories. They gradually fell for Grid. Teruchan might've

attracted the public's favor with his charming personality but Grid dominated the masses with his irresistible power.

-Holy shit!Show me a bit closer!!

The viewers concentrating on the battle started to spit out harsh profanities. Grid and Teruchan's movements were too fast to capture and their collisions so destructive that it caused the cameras to shake or fly away. It was why the cameras of the broadcasters chose to shoot from a distance despite not delivering enough of the situation to the viewers.

As a result, Grid and Teruchan's appearance became smaller until they were like dots. They could read the overall battle better but the two people's expressions and breathing couldn't be seen, causing the liveliness to drop significantly.

-The cameramen are too incompetent. If the problem is the camera shaking, go close enough to see with your eyes and send that video. Tsk.

-Don't you know that streamers died doing that?

-They have to challenge it even if its dangerous. They can hit the jackpot if they take the video correctly.

-More cameramen already seem to be challenging it.99.9% are unable to access due to the orcs or are killed in the explosions.

-In any case, if they record in this state, you can zoom in later.Look here.

If a broadcaster or private broadcaster requested certification, the S.A Group would contract with them and provide various broadcasting items. It was why there were so many broadcasts related to Satisfy. A typical example was a drone camera. In a form that NPCs couldn't recognize, they flew quickly and broadcasted the situation of Satisfy.

However, the small size meant it was vulnerable to shock and the functions were limited in an extreme environment like now. Therefore, popular broadcasters such as Bunny Bunny rushed to the scene. They broadcast the scene directly with their own eyes, providing viewers with a high level of realism and solid information. Compared with the cameras, getting closer to the subject was overcome by choosing the assassin class.

-Uh...?

The disgruntled viewers watching the broadcast felt their eyes widen. From the time since Grid used the Fly magic. No, the electric currents that started to hover around Grid from the time he rose in the sky in a different way from the Fly magic were now burning completely white.

Lightning. There was a ridiculous optical illusion that Grid himself had become lightning...

—!

[]...!?]

The community, including the audience chat windows, were quiet. It was as if the Internet around the world had been disconnected at the same time. All the posts and chat windows stopped updating. Even the broadcast commentators and experts were silent.

Grid disappeared with a flash and penetrated through Teruchan's defenses. There was a sound like thunder and a fountain of blood spurted from Teruchan's chest.

"Keok ...! Cough!"

The giant, standing there like a great mountain, shook. Experts said 'I think he has exceeded the player's maximum speed' as their eyes kept losing their place despite persistently tracking Grid's speed. However—

"I...! Warrior! Guruk! I'm a warrior before I'm a lord! Kurruk! I! Fight!"

His hands didn't let go of his broadsword. Teruchan roared and swung the broadsword randomly through the air. Then suddenly, he rushed back to catch Grid, rotating and kicking. Grid's speed seemed lightning fast but it was only an illusion created from the perception.

[Lightning God Lv. 1]

A conditional passive.

Assimilate with the breath of the blue dragon.

Once you reach the maximum speed, there is a low chance that your body will turn into lightning. At this point, all attacks are converted to lightning. Every time you hit the target, a lot of mana is burned (10% of the total mana).

You are immune to all physical attacks, but you will take twice the damage from magic attacks without any defense or resistance. It also leaves a current that deals 10 times the damage in your movement path. The duration of the electric current is 2 seconds.

It won't be released until the speed drops and will be released immediately once you deviate from the maximum speed.

* If you die while the Lightning God is active, the wrath of the blue dragon will occur.

* Skills attached to myth rated items can be upgraded.

There was no speed buff involved with the Lightning God skill. It was just possible to deceive the target's senses due to the bright appearance and loud sound effects from the 'lightning' setting. Teruchan and the viewers were forced to be under the mistaken impression that Grid was really lightning fast.

However, this only lasted for a moment. Teruchan saw through its essence and his intense counterattack poured out. The incandescent Grid was cut by the broadsword and repeatedly stabbed.

-Wow.

-Is it dangerous?

The stopped chat windows quickly updated. The viewers who had been watching Grid for years had grown attached to him without realizing it. Meanwhile, Teruchan was an opponent they had just met. He wasn't a player. Despite Teruchan's great charm, few people wanted Grid to lose to him.

-Yes, Grid will die.

-It is cool.

Of course, not everyone was the same. Some people were jealous of Grid and felt delighted.

-....??

Their smiles didn't last long. Teruchan's broadsword might be slicing at Grid but Grid didn't shed a single drop of blood.

"Guruk?"

Was it an illusion? What type of magic had he already suffered? Teruchan panicked when he cut Grid several times but couldn't feel it. He nervously swung the broadsword faster but Grid was like the moon in the pond. He couldn't be cut.

"Kung!Kung kung!"

Teruchan swung his broadsword while snorting. He was eager to find Grid's real body.

"…!"

A chill went down Teruchan's spine. It was because Grid's smell came from the illusion in front of him. That's right. This wasn't an illusion. It was real.

"100,000 Army."

Utilizing the Lightning God's ability to nullify physical attacks, Grid used Item Combination, which had cooled down during Teruchan's onslaught, and joined Belial's Staff and the Enlightenment Sword again.

"Massacre Sword."

The swordsmanship of Undefeated King Madra. The 30 slashes amplified by lightning struck Teruchan. It was a timeless cut, like 30 swordsmen were wielding their swords at the same time. The 100,000 Army Swordsmanship contained a mystery that even Teruchan, who pursued extreme physical strength, couldn't imagine.

"Amazing!"

He felt pure admiration and decided it was better to defend than confront it. He hastily activated a skill to harden his skin.

"…!?"

The skill wasn't activated. It was because his mana had been burned by the Lightning Incarnation passive during his fight with Grid.

Teruchan destroyed exactly eight of the 30 slashes. It was a great achievement done with only his physical strength. There were no skills. He neutralized the Undefeated King's skill with basic attacks? Grid was convinced by his opponent.

Name: Grid Level: 403 Health: 152,540 Mana: 41,844 Sword Energy: 1,200 Strength: 3,590(+480) Stamina: 2,197(+800) Agility: 3,190(+430) Intelligence: 2,657(+830) Dexterity: 5,167(+980) Persistence: 1,632(+430) Composure: 1,188(+430) Indomitable: 1,423(+540) Dignity: 2,096(+430) Insight: 1,986(+430) Courage: 1,242(+430) Political Power: 181(+430) Demonic power: 31,590 Good luck: 631 Deity: 7

Remaining Stat Points: 590

As could be seen from the status window, Grid's total strength exceeded 4,000 with the help of various titles. His strength coefficient had also increased since level 400. Additionally, Grid enjoyed increased stats thanks to his fighting energy accumulating as well as the extra damage from the courage stat. There was also the +4 enhancement of the Enlightenment Sword.

In conclusion, Grid's overall damage was equivalent to a very good field boss. He was able to use legendary skills so it was accurate to say he was more powerful than a boss monster.

However, Teruchan competed against Grid without any skills. It was also with an old broadsword. Since Teruchan was calibrated by the system as the peak of his species and his physical ability surpassed Grid, it wasn't impossible for Teruchan to neutralize the skill with basic attacks.

"I like you more and more."

He seemed to be facing the limits. Teruchan's breathing was very rough after 100,000 Army Massacre Sword. The end of the fight was coming.

[The duration of Blackening is over.]

[All stats will return to normal figures.]

[The maximum speed has fallen and the Lightning God has been released.]

The collected demonic energy and lightning dissipated. Grid returned to his original form and pushed back his sweat and blood soaked hair. He soared up with a handsome forehead and sharp eyes.

'Grid should've appeared in the Demon King's Subjugation with his original appearance. That would've made him an even darker great demon.'

This was what a famous Hollywood actress wrote on social media. There was a story that she was rushed to the hospital after getting a billion likes and becoming too happy, but let's skip that because it wasn't important. The most important thing was...

"A warrior's spirit ... !"

Grid's ferocious appearance was liked by Teruchan.

[The title 'Pangea's Duke of Virtue' is activated!]

"...??"

It was a title that had a certain probability of sparing a monster when hunting. In other words, the target had to be pushed to the brink of death. Why did Pangea's Duke of Virtue appear at this timing? Grid was startled. He belatedly noticed that Teruchan had fainted with eyes wide open. No matter what Grid tried, the remaining two-tenths of Teruchan's health were running out fast.

"Look! Open your eyes! Don't die!"

-...Just let him go.

-Grid seems to have a new hobby.

-Not letting him die after all that?

The viewers clicked their tongues as Grid clutched and shook the dying orc lord.

Chapter 1098

Pangea's Duke of Virtue had a terrible chance of triggering once every few years. Grid only kept Pangea's Duke of Virtue and didn't expect it to actually burst out.

After fighting and winning, he planned to try and obtain Teruchan using the 'Different Species' King' title, which had the effect of 'gaining great affinity with different species' and 'two times the probability of creating a good impression if the target is a different species.'

Now the effect of Pangea's Duke of Virtue was triggered.

'It is honey. Did the odds increase after activating against Noll?'

The fire that soared due to God's Command stopped. However-

"Look! Open your eyes!"

The joy was fleeting. Teruchan was dying. The orc lord who had endured Grid's onslaught was trembling.

"Wake up! Get up!"

Teruchan looked confused as Grid pulled out a potion. He raised Teruchan and forcefully poured potions into his mouth. However, it didn't work at all.

'He can't be healed?'

Why wasn't he recovering? Was this trolling? Grid brought up Teruchan's status window since they were now colleagues.

Name: Teruchan

Age: 19 Gender: Male

Race: Twilight Orc

Title: Strongest Warrior

* Strength and health stats increase in proportion to the duration of the battle (up to 30%).

Title: Usurper

* Increases attack power, defense, health and resilience when fighting 'leaders' (up to 20%).

Title: Indomitable Warrior

* Nullifies damage over a certain amount up to 10 times. Once these 10 times are exhausted, you will use up Origin True Energy (cumulative reset once every 30 days).

Level: 500

Strength: 4,003 Stamina: 6,130

Agility: 2,280 Intelligence: 320

Skills: Iron Arm (A), Roar of Strength (S), Instinct (S), Belief (S)

Like most twilight orcs, Teruchan was abandoned by his parents at the age of 5.

After fleeing deep into the mountains to escape the empire's surveillance and oppression, the twilight orcs' home was ridiculously small. Teruchan survived alone and the twilight orcs were liberated from the oppression of the empire.

"We must not let our children experience our misfortunes."

Teruchan claimed as he defeated the former orc lord who opposed the war. His desire to seize the lord's position was due to the happiness of the newly born children.

"…"

The Ultimate Warrior, Usurper and Indomitable Warrior. These were the titles that made Teruchan's stats shine. It was why Teruchan could withstand most of Grid's attacks. Even so, Grid was paying attention to another part.

'He is 19 years old? This terrifying giant who looks like a vicious criminal? Even though he looks 20 years older than me?'

"No, shit!"

Now wasn't the time to be thinking about that. Origin True Energy was the energy that was the source of life. Once it was depleted, a transcendent person would die. Teruchan's life was at stake.

'Right! Ask Sehee...!'

Grid was reminded of his sister, only to freeze like a statue. He was reminded of Khan's end. Ruby hadn't been able to save Khan. Death that occurred naturally was something that not even the Saintess could prevent.

"...Dammit!"

He couldn't call Ruby. The weak-hearted child would suffer from guilt after being unable to save Teruchan. Putting a stone in his sister's heart just to hold onto this rotten line... He couldn't.

'I wish he was a bad guy.'

Grid glanced at the dying Teruchan. If only Teruchan was simply a ferocious invader and predator, then his heart wouldn't have been so heavy. At best, he would've been unhappy with and resented Pangea's Duke of Virtue. However, Teruchan wasn't evil. He was determined to fight for the children, not himself, and didn't force humans to worship his power. If only Grid didn't know this. Grid was very distressed about the information he learnt about Teruchan through Pangea's Duke of Virtue. He felt sorry for Teruchan, who had to die before being able to fulfill his dream. He was sad to know he had lost such a person.

"Shit... Damn..."

Teruchan's trembling voice was heard in Grid's ears as he cursed.

"Grid. Guruk... In your hands... I will die... Spirit..."

"Shut up!" Grid shouted.

He didn't want to feel even more pained. Of course, he knew of a possibility that could save Teruchan. It was the White Peach, an item that restored all health and vitality when eaten. A super-special hidden item that could only be taken once in a lifetime considering the absurd effects, the White Peach was likely to restore even the exhausted Origin True Energy, yet Grid couldn't extend his hand.

Was it because Teruchan's value was low? No. His value alone exceeded expectations. It was thrilling just imagining him at the forefront of the battlefield with Noll. He knew that Teruchan's performance would be greater when dealing with strong opponents like the grandmaster and yangbans.

However-

'It isn't possible. I can't give it to him.'

Grid already had too many precious people. Irene, Lord, Piaro, and Braham—from the time he summoned Piaro to the perilous imperial palace, Grid had already vowed to save the White Peach for them. He felt really sorry for Teruchan who was dying in front of him but the weight of the lives of those already precious to him was different.

"Glory... Guruk..."

"Shut up!"

It was rotten. He never imagined that things would be so unpleasant. He had come to the Fold Kingdom with the mindset of saving them from the orc lord. He didn't expect to go through something like this. It happened as Grid made a pained expression and grabbed his chest.

"Overgeared King!" Someone appeared and shouted. It was Marquis Veze. He pointed to the 100,000 orc army rushing over from a distance. "Those who have lost their king will run wild! You have to avoid it!!"

Grid had broken the '10 blows' promise with ridiculous logic and crushed Teruchan.

Marquis Veze had been suspicious of Grid for a while. He was concerned that the reason why Prince Shining praised Grid like a god was because he had been brainwashed by Grid, but then he soon realized—the reason why Grid wasn't afraid of his reputation being lost was to share a 'sword conversation' with Teruchan, which was why he pushed for a confrontation with Teruchan.

Throughout the battle, Teruchan was uplifted and expressed joy and respect towards Grid. It was the atmosphere of becoming friends with Grid. That's right. Grid respected Teruchan in his own way. He sympathized with the twilight orcs, who glorified combat, without scoffing at their ruthlessness. As expected, he was a great person. His intention was to persuade Teruchan to end the war but things went wrong. Teruchan was dying and the furious orcs would never forgive Grid.

"Hurry while I buy some time!"

Marquis Veze held his shattered shield and faced the 100,000 army of orcs alone.

"Marquis Veze!"

"My Lord! What are you doing not running away?"

The knights of Howl Fortress were in a hurry. Someone gave the order to open the gates while someone else had already jumped off the walls and was crossing the plains. All of them wanted to save Marquis Veze. Marquis Veze's lion-like roar echoed through the battlefield.

"Everyone, retreat! Be sure to take refuge in the capital along with the Overgeared King!"

"My Lord!"

"It is a command!"

"…!"

The knights rushing at Marquis Veze stopped at once. It was the last command of their esteemed superior and they couldn't break it. An old knight met Grid's eyes and shouted at him desperately, "Your Majesty! Come quickly! Don't let Marquis Veze's sacrifice be in vain!"

'Bullshit.'

Grid clicked his tongue and ignored the knights' cries. Then...

"Uh!"

The four God Hands flying around Grid grabbed the marquis' limbs in unison.

"Your Majesty?"

The perplexed marquis alternated looking between Grid and the orc army in front of him. The distance to the front of the orc army was now less than 200 meters away.

"I'm here to help you, not to sacrifice your life."

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"Your Majesty...!"
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Marquis Veze didn't finish his shout. It was because Grid threw him in the direction of the knights. Grid stood next to the gradually fading Teruchan and faced the orc army. The sight of the 100,000 dark-skinned orcs charging was reminiscent of a massive wave of rocks.

'It's garbage.'

Appearing before the orcs was a failure. He spent almost all his skills and resources fighting Teruchan so his condition was a mess. It was right to run away like this. Grid knew this but he couldn't step away. It was due to the red-spotted leopards at the forefront of the orc army. Thousands of leopards were running with orcs on their backs and their speed exceeded that of horses. If Grid left, the soldiers of Howl Fortress wouldn't be able to stop the leopards' pursuit and would be destroyed. At best, the rewards from running into the army would be lost.

Grid reminded himself—his first purpose was to be the guardian of the Fold Kingdom.

"Shit... Come!"

He also needed a means to relieve his boiling anger. Grid shouted at the enemies rushing like a tsunami and aimed the Enlightenment Sword. He was conscious of the cameras and let out curse words with a mutter. A one against 100,000 confrontation. If it was anyone other than Grid, the people would've snorted with ridicule. It was because it was Grid that the viewers didn't laugh and kept focused.

Noe, Randy, Tiramet and the Overgeared Skeletons appeared beside Grid, the God Hands held the Red Phoenix Box and the sky was cloudy. It was the moment when he was going to use Storm Demonic Energy Field on the front leopard. The leopards stopped running and the orcs jumped off the leopards. Thousands of orc warriors rushed to Grid without pulling out their weapons.

"Gruruk!! Great warrior!"

"...?"

"We! Lord's body! Guruk! Want it!"

"…"

Grid belatedly grasped the situation. The only one who determined the orc's policy was the lord. Once the lord died, the orcs had no reason to go to war. They had to go back home, elect a new orc lord and follow the new policy. In addition, from the perspective of a 'warrior', Grid and Teruchan's fight was legitimate and they didn't intend to take revenge on Grid. '...Basara.'

Her idea of liberating them was right. They weren't beasts. Grid nodded and opened the way for the orcs.

"Take him."

"Thank you. Grruk."

The orcs beat their chests with their fists and bowed, then they carried Teruchan onto a leopard. Teruchan looked almost like a corpse with his blue skin and closed mouth. At this moment.

"…?"

"...?"

An intense light flashed in the sky. It was caused by Mass Teleport. Both Grid and the orcs were amazed as they turned their attention to the sky. Great Sage Sticks and Lauel came into view.

Lauel hurried to the ground and pulled out a fruit. It was a white fruit—the White Peach.

"You...!"

The surprised Grid tried to stop Lauel but it was too late. Lauel forcibly opened Teruchan's mouth and shoved the White Peach into it.

"I know the entire situation. I think this is the only way to save him."

"No, are you crazy? That is...!"

"I know the value of the White Peach. That's why I'm investing it here."

"You have to eat...!"

"It is too big a luxury for me to eat it. Don't you know that I'm retired now?"

"That's because you're busy! Once you come back ... !"

"No. I chose this path because I like it and I don't want to leave this path. I will continue to assist Your Majesty with ruling the Overgeared Kingdom so I don't need this luxury."

The effect of the White Peach was to increase the experience, regardless of level, and thus, the higher was the level of the player, the more astronomical was the value of the item. It was given up by Lauel. Grid knew that it had required a great decision. Lauel was obviously sacrificing himself. Thanks to that sacrifice...

"Guruk…!"

Teruchan took a breath and opened his eyes. The viewers and the orcs were wide-eyed. It was as if the entire world was watching.

"Great warrior...! Life saver! I! Teruchan! Guruk! You! I will serve you!" Teruchan swore.

Was Grid really his life saver...? There were many questions but in any case, Grid had gained a new subordinate.

Chapter 1099

"I! Teruchan! Guruk! You! I will serve you!"

"…!"

"…!"

Teruchan's oath once again caused a great stir. It wasn't an exaggeration to say that the orc lord serving Grid meant the species itself had fallen under Grid.

 $\[$ It's unfair! A typical player will get a small pet while Grid will be the master of tens of millions of orcs? Who will compensate for the deprivation other players will feel? $\]$

[Isn't it more difficult to fight the orc lord than it is to tame a pet....? Who could do it apart from Grid?

[Don't joke around! That isn't the point! I'm pointing out the problems that will arise if a single player has too much power!]

[Why do you think that? Grid is already the king of tens of millions of people. Does it matter if he has more people now?]

[It is unlikely that the orcs will be incorporated into the Overgeared Kingdom in the first place. They are already a huge country and can't accommodate the orcs. It will end up as an alliance, just like the water clan.]

That's right! However, the water clan isn't the same! Don't overlook the fact that tens of millions of players have already changed their race to an orc! What if Grid uses his relationship with the orc lord to infringe on the players' sovereignty?

That's right. The orc lord gives absolute orders. The orc players couldn't resist the orc lord's command to go to war. The moment the orc lord gives the order 'fight for Grid,' tens of millions of orc players will be Grid's puppets. Grid can give the players unfair orders through the orc lord.

[Will one player infringe on the rights of tens of millions of players? It is an amazing leap. If this happens, will the S.A Group stay still? What type of neighborhood store do you see the S.A Group as?]

[Yes. You are worrying too much. Aren't the orc lord's commands classified as quests and players are given a reasonable reward? Why don't you take the lead in talking about issues that can be discussed rather than taking a hard stance... Ah, come to think of it, General Zhang and Li Tai, aren't you Chinese? I understand why you are agitated.]

 \llbracket Why does it matter where I come from? floor

I Who in the world doesn't know that tens of millions of Chinese players have changed their race to an orc due to the incitement of the Chinese government? The ultimate goal was to control the orcs by

making their players into the orc lord. How bad would things have been if something went wrong? What about now? Won't it be decades until a talent that can beat Grid appears in China?

🛿 Bullshit! Shut up!! 🌡

The atmosphere of many broadcasts became heavy. The panelists often raised their voices at each other. The viewers awakened to how many Chinese people had infiltrated the world and expressed concern over what was happening.

-Isn't the rule among orcs that the person who defeats the orc lord is the new lord?Won't Grid be promoted to orc lord and the orcs will completely be his arms and legs?

-The people who turned into an orc seem to be ruined by Grid. If he forces a quest with a strange reward, it will be a huge waste of time.

There were all sorts of disturbances but they calmed down quickly. Contrary to some people's concerns, Grid wasn't the orc lord. It was natural. Grid wasn't an orc so he couldn't be the orc lord. The orc lord selection rule 'the one who beats the lord becomes the lord' only applied among orcs. Furthermore.

"I, Teruchan! Guruk! Will forever be loyal to the great warrior Grid! Guruk! This isn't as a lord but as an individual! No complaints are allowed!"

It wasn't the 'twilight orcs' who submitted to Grid but 'Teruchan.' He dismissed people's concerns by clarifying this. Teruchan's intention was to calm the backlash inside the orcs but it also suppressed the players' anxiety and repulsion.

'I'm glad.'

Lauel was relieved. Orcs had a terrifying breeding power. The Overgeared Kingdom wouldn't have been able to avoid a serious financial crisis if they had been incorporated into the Overgeared Kingdom. The best farmers, including Piaro and Hurent, wouldn't be able to fill the orcs' stomachs because they only enjoyed meat. In addition, the territory of the Overgeared Kingdom was limited so it would be difficult to accommodate the orc population. Furthermore, due to the strength-loving nature of the orcs, there would be conflicts with the existing people. This way, the Overgeared Kingdom could avoid all responsibilities and problems while calling on Teruchan when necessary.

This was an ideal result. However, Grid didn't think of this and was disappointed.

'Did he want to swallow up the orcs?'

'Dammit.'

Lauel spoke to the floating Grid.

"The orc lord isn't a hereditary position. It wouldn't be strange if the orc lord changes tomorrow. This means the relationship between the Overgeared Kingdom and the orcs will change dramatically every time the lord changes. The new lords can rebel against Your Majesty so accepting the orcs as your people carries a lot of danger."

"Hmm... You don't regret it?"

"Yes, this is much better for now. You can avoid the jealousy and vigilance from other players."

"Okay, I understand."

Grid nodded as he felt more at ease. He suggested to Teruchan, "If you are sincerely loyal to me, sign a contract with me."

"Grruk. Contract? Loyalty is blind. A contract is strange."

"That's not what I mean ... Um."

It was really difficult to explain. Grid thought for a moment before triggering the Different Species' King title. The 'contract' system was activated.

[Contract]

[If the target is another species, you can propose a contract.

The target you contract with will 'awaken' strengthened racial characteristics. You will acquire some of the racial traits of the contracted target.

You can't destroy a contract once it is made.

However, the other person can destroy the contract at any time and the racial trait you acquired will disappear. Additionally, the contract will be canceled if the target permanently dies and the racial trait you acquired will disappear. In both cases, the contract count can't be recovered.]

Grid, who had contracted with Hao, now had only two contracts remaining. This meant that he couldn't misuse them. Having thought carefully, Grid decided to sign a contract with Teruchan. Grid coveted the orc's racial characteristic of increased strength and stamina.

[The orc lord 'Teruchan' has been designated as the target of the contract. It is suggested that the 'Oath of Affection that Transcends Race' is shared with the target.]

[If the target accepts the contract, the status of the target is increased and all characteristics are strengthened. You will also gain some of the characteristics of the twilight orcs.]

[The target can terminate the contract at any time. If the target breaks the contract, the twilight orc characteristics you gained will be lost.]

Numerous notification windows popped up in front of Grid.

"Kururuk..."

Teruchan was speechless after confirming the contents of the contract. No matter how stupid he was, he could tell that the terms of the agreement were unilaterally advantageous to him.

"Grruk. Great warrior. So much. Trust in me?"

Grid told Teruchan, who couldn't accept it. "Don't you trust me? Then I have to trust you too."

"...Good! Grruk!"

[The target has accepted the contract!]

[You will randomly acquire one of the twilight orc's characteristics as a contract reward!]

[...Interacting with your amazing luck!]

[Congratulations! Your 'stamina' stat coefficient is increased by 1.8 times!]

[The health growth increase per one point of stamina has increased from 30 to 54!]

[The defense bonus per one point of stamina has increased from 1.2 to 2.1!]

[Affinity with Orc Lord Teruchan has risen by 20.]

'Good!'

Players who changed their race to an orc had to make all sorts of sacrifices. From the aesthetic perspective of a human, they had to live with the somewhat ugly appearance and take a huge loss in intelligence. However, Grid enjoyed some of the orc benefits without any penalties. In particular, the increased stamina coefficient was a tremendous gain for Grid who had higher health due to the First King title.

"Teruchan! Impressed! Guruk! Great warrior! When you need me! Call me! Guruk! I will run over at anytime!!"

"Stay in the Overgeared Kingdom for a few days. I will make you a new weapon and armor."

"Gruruk!! Okay! Thank you! Warriors! You guys go home first! Grruk!"

"Gruruk!! Gruruk!"

The 100,000 orcs on the plains surrounding Howl Fortress all withdrew. It happened in an instant, reminiscent of a tide escaping. Marquis Veze and his soldiers were stunned. The orc army that could destroy their kingdom in a few days had withdrawn like they were a lie. They witnessed the miracle created by Grid from beginning to end but there was no sense of reality.

Grid said goodbye to them. "If there is a chance next time, let's meet again. Greet Prince Shining for me."

"Ah, yes! I look forward to seeing you again!!"

"Attention!"

Marquis Veze and the 30,000 troops saluted. Their eyes were only filled with respect for Grid.

(Shocking! Tens of millions of Chinese players have fallen under Grid!)

(Twilight orcs, it is hard to be completely free from Grid's influence...)

The Chinese media was upset. They found it absurd and dismal that in a single battle, Grid had poured cold water on China's momentum. The People's Liberation Army of China violated South Korea's airspace in the name of a 'mistake.' Two Chinese fighter jets ignored South Korea's Air Force's warnings and travelled through the East Sea at will.

It was an obvious demonstration of force. It was a warning for the people of a small country to stop pretending to be bigger. It was also intended to isolate Grid by creating anxiety in the people of South Korea.

Then, later that day, China was thoroughly criticized by dozens of countries, including the United States. In particular, the United States, the European Union, and India discussed all types of regulations, stating that China threatened peace and shouldn't be at the heart of the global economy.

This was the power of the S.A Group. The power of the S.A Group, which developed and serviced Satisfy, had reached the level of a country, not a company. It had all types of trades with developed countries and established good cooperative relationships with them. Lim Cheolho had no intention of forgiving China for their disrespect to South Korea and the threat to the S.A Group's headquarters. He started to retaliate against China using all types of methods as well as his cooperation with various countries.

Once the capsule production plant set up in China was shut down, the Chinese government realized the seriousness of the situation and issued a statement. They acknowledged and apologized for their disrespect to the people of South Korea, and swore that this would never happen again.

Chairman Lim Cheolho, who was watching Grid's progress while eating chicken and drinking soju, was actually the world's biggest tycoon. He was someone Grid recognized as a 'grandfather' and who wore a party hat when attending Grid's birthday party.

Chapter 1100

"Armor. Gruruk. Don't want it. It's frustrating."

"I'll wear it normally and take it off when I'm fighting."

"...?" Then why wear it? As he watched Teruchan, Grid was convinced that Teruchan was much smarter than Jude. Grid cleared his throat and added, "You must be ready for any unexpected attacks."

"No need. Gruruk. Warriors won't be subjected to cowardly ambushes."

"Listen to me. Are you loyal?"

"That is something separate! Gruruk!"

"…"

Teruchan's muscles seemed to be carved out of thick rocks. Grid had witnessed their expansion. In particular, every time Teruchan used the Iron Arm skill to throw his weapons, Teruchan's shoulders and forearms more than doubled in size.

'That's why I made cloth and leather armor.'

Grid obviously failed. The cloth and leather armor Grid made wasn't able to keep up with Teruchan's muscles' expansion. The cloth stretched by a certain amount and was torn to the limit of its elasticity while the leather squeezed Teruchan's muscles.

'I understand why he doesn't like it. It is uncomfortable.'

No, Teruchan must've felt a fear beyond discomfort. He would've realized that his armor would become shackles that would harm.

'I can't force him to wear armor until I have enough Greed.'

Greed had very free elasticity. This was a characteristic it inherited from adamantium. Grid was convinced that armor made of Greed would withstand Teruchan's muscles' expansion. However, it was too much to make armor with Greed right away.

If he removed the pavranium-related traits from Greed, the 'Grid' condition of use would disappear. However, there was no guarantee that the insane dragon hammer and anvil would delete only the traits he wanted to remove. If even the properties of adamantium were removed, the whole point of using Greed to make the armor would disappear.

'My experience has shown that the properties of the metals are likely to be eliminated. I can't try it yet as I might consume a few pieces of Greed.'

First, it was necessary to improve the insane dragon hammer and anvil. He had to make it easier to choose his desired properties.

"Then take this." Grid threw a large cloth at Teruchan. "It is underwear. Wear this even if you don't wear underwear."

The only thing Teruchan was currently wearing was a piece of yellow, discolored cloth. It barely covered his important areas, and from behind, his hard buttocks were exposed. It was sensational enough that some male groups protested, stating that the male body was more sexually objectified than necessary. In any case, the value of the defense wasn't as good as the appearance.

On the other hand, the Grid-made underwear boasted double-digit defense. It was a huge defense of 10. 10 was definitely better than nothing. It could be particularly helpful for Teruchan, whose defense surged on a percentage.

"It is bigger than you're used to, so it might be frustrating at first, but you'll get used to it. It is as close to the skin as possible, so there won't be any discomfort or interference to your behavior."

"…"

"Ah, don't worry that it will pop out. I put an extra piece of cloth in front."

"…"

The dense stitching was maintained at regular intervals. The underwear that Grid handed over not only looked nice, but it also contained the effort and care of the creator. Looking at the underwear with a blank expression, Teruchan asked carefully, "Great warrior. I like this armor. Gruruk. Is the underwear made by you?"

"I have a lot of talent."

"...Gruruk..." Teruchan's eyes reddened. Like many orcs, he was abandoned by his parents at a young age, so he was unfamiliar with receiving gifts. It was the first time someone had carefully made him

precious underwear that should be worn every day. "Until the cloth is destroyed. Gruruk. Without changing it every day. Gruruk. I will wear it carefully."

"What? What are you saying? I will make a lot, so change them every day."

"No! I won't take it off once! Guruk! Your sincerity! Won't be forgotten!"

"…"

He didn't hear Grid's words. If Teruchan's skin was green like normal orcs, he would've been nicknamed Tree Frog. Grid smiled and brought up the recipe for Failure. The reason why he didn't take out the production method for the White Tiger Sword or Enlightenment Sword was that Failure was a 'greatsword.'

However, Teruchan was good at using the broadsword, so Grid thought Teruchan's synergy with Failure would be much better. In the beginning, Grid regarded Failure highly.

'The damage estimate of Failure is incomparable to that of other swords.'

Looking at the blueprint of the White Tiger Sword that Grid created with Kraugel, the damage for the unique rated White Tiger Sword ranged from 493 to 817. Then there was the production method for the Enlightenment Sword. The damage of the unique rated version ranged from 930 to 1,050.

On the other hand, the default damage for the unique rated Failure was ranged from 733 to 1,621. Of course, the White Tiger Sword and the Enlightenment Sword were one-handed swords. They were fundamentally different from Failure which was a two-handed sword that maximized aggression.

Moreover, Failure was made of low-value materials instead of adamantium, blood stone, the sacred creature's breaths, and the by-products of a great demon. Despite the premise of being made using relatively low-grade materials, the damage estimate of Failure was comparable to a divine sword's. It wasn't just at a scary level. This was a scam. As a result, the penalty of excessive 'conditions of use' occurred, and this was the reason for the name 'Failure'. Nevertheless, Teruchan was the strongest warrior.

Teruchan was able to meet the conditions for using Failure.

'30% of 4,000 is 1,200, so Teruchan's strength in combat rises up to 5,200. Right?'

Grid knocked on the calculator again, just in case, before telling Teruchan, "Teruchan, I'm going to make you two weapons. One is a more usable broadsword, and the other is a very good greatsword."

"Guruk?"

"Instead, you will have to make full use your strength to swing the greatsword. You usually use a broadsword. Carry the greatsword on your back and use it in battle. Always practice to become good at changing weapons.

"Why is it hard?"

Teruchan really didn't understand. As the strongest warrior, why wouldn't he be able to swing a sword easily? Understanding it was impossible for him.

"I. Gruruk. A giant tree can be uprooted and wielded. A sword. Gruruk. It is easy to swing."

"I think it is due to the poor structure... Well, you'll know once you use it yourself."

Grid poured all the Greed that had been gathered into the roaring furnace. Of course, one was left for proliferation.

"Let's start production."

Grid pulled out the insane dragon hammer and anvil. Unlike armor, there was no problem if the properties of the minerals are deleted. Therefore, there was no hesitation in his actions.

Ttang!Ttang!

Smelting, forging, tempering, quenching, and so on...

Surprisingly, Grid's speed wasn't fast as he underwent a series of processes. No, he was slower than average blacksmiths. It was because he formed the shape of the sword with the hammer without using the casting method. Grid might be able to mass-produce items within a few hours using the auto-production method, but he still stuck to manual work for important items. He didn't care about straining his body or mind if he could increase the chances of getting a better result.

'I need more strong colleagues.'

In Satisfy, peace was a timely concept. The 2 billion players were working hard, and there were countless new episodes starting or ending. It could be a small story about the evacuation of the house next door or a serious story involving the Yatan Church and the great demons.

However, one thing was certain. Some episodes would surely be accompanied by a new crisis. There was also a possibility that the stage of the game, currently confined to the West Continent, would be extended overnight to the East Continent. Grid needed to prepare for when the time came. So, he wanted more colleagues, and he wanted his colleagues to be strong. This was why he understood and endured the long absences of Asmophel, Mercedes, and the 10 meritorious retainers.

'I can't be ashamed when meeting everyone again.'

Ttang! Ttang!

'I hone my environment.'

The Legendary Blacksmith's Breath and Legendary Blacksmith's Patience had been changed to passive skills during his competition against the blacksmithing god Hexetia. Based on that power, Grid's concentration reached the limit.

[The Failure Honoring the Strongest Warrior has been completed!]

"...?" Grid woke up from the trance that he had fallen into when working. Of course, Grid had hoped for a great result. Most of the properties might've been deleted, but he used Greed as a material. Still, he didn't dare wish for a modifier to be attached.

Failure itself was a defective item, so the system had a low probability of a high degree of completion. Yet a modifier was attached. It was perfect for Teruchan.

[Failure Honoring the Strongest Warrior]

[Rating: Unique (Growth)

Durability: Infinite

Attack Power: 1,190~2,005 Defense: 80

- * Agility +60
- * There is a low probability of blocking the enemy's attacks.
- * There is a chance of activating '5 Joint Attacks.'
- * There is a chance of activating 'Cutting.'
- * The skill 'Bisect' will be generated.
- * There is a high probability of triggering 'Crush.'
- * There will be a fear effect if the enemy is more than 10 levels lower than the user.
- * +20% damage when used by Teruchan.

After reaching enlightenment against the god, Blacksmith Grid reinterpreted the failed work that he made during the days when he was lacking.

It is a greatsword, but its cutting ability is excellent because of its unique shape. The greatsword resembles a shark—the predator of the sea—and incites fear in the enemies. The small blades spiking out from the sword will increase the defense.

Additionally, all elements are in consideration for Teruchan.

Teruchan will feel a sense of unity with this weapon.

Conditions of Use: Teruchan. Grid.

Weight: 860]

"I brushed my teeth as much as possible ... "

Grid didn't expect the conditions of use to change this way. He looked like a liar. It was a state where he couldn't be an example for a 19-year-old kid...

Grid shook his head and looked out the window. It was a deep night. He started working in the early evening, so it hadn't been long since he started.

'...No.'

His eyes were watery, and his legs were shaking. There was no sensation in both of his hands. The sweat all over his body had cooled down. Grid confirmed that his stamina gauge was running out and glanced

to the side. He saw Teruchan. Teruchan's eyes were hollow, and his thin cheeks made him seem like he was sick.

"What? Why are you like that?" Grid asked with worry.

"Grruk. You are not a great warrior." Teruchan's big hands wrapped around him. "You. Gruruk. You aren't a great blacksmith."

"...?"

In front of the baffled Grid...

"You." Teruchan felt to his knees. "You are Great Grid. Grruk."

Teruchan was ignorant of blacksmithing. Therefore, he observed Grid's attitude. Then he was thrilled many times. Grid had been working two and a half days for him, who was an enemy only a few days ago. His true heart toward Teruchan would never be forgotten.

"Armor. Gruruk. I'll wear it. I will wear it even if I feel uncomfortable."

"That ... " Grid was startled.

Was it due to the title effect of Different Species' King? His affinity with Teruchan was reaching the maximum. It was the best record ever. Grid smiled and stroked Teruchan's forehead, which was bigger than his.

"You don't have to wear it if it is uncomfortable. You could become upset."

"No. Gruruk. I'll wear it."

"No. I'll make new armor for you later."

"Until then. Gruruk. The armor you made today. Gruruk. I'll wear it."

"No, dammit! Listen to me!"

"Hiccup! I understand."

"S-Sorry for getting angry."

"Grruk..."

Damn, he swore in front of Teruchan and made Teruchan feel like he got scolded. Grid hated himself.

Simultaneously, in a forest in the Gauss Kingdom...

"Human, get lost. This is the territory that we elves are defending."

"Tell me where that black thing is before you die."

Another species was meeting a man with green hair.

"Black thing...?"

"Your old colleague. I need the flesh of the fallen."

One step...

After acquiring the third class—Demon World Noble—and gaining more authority, he was only one step away from the resurrection of his old lover.