

Overgeared 121

Chapter 121

"You brought a big shot here?"

Shay rebuked Dong Pao.

It was true that the higher level the target, the higher the ransom value. However, there was a line. An opponent that was too strong wasn't welcomed, because there was a possibility that their threats wouldn't work and the situation would reverse.

Dong Pao thought it was unfair. "The butcher's face and ID weren't revealed. How could I know that he would be the butcher?"

The person he met purely by chance and selected to be the target of a crime was actually the infamous Psychopath Butcher! Dong Pao felt a chill at the thought of accompanying him for half a day without knowing it.

'He is a very cruel and violent person based on the video... I was lucky he didn't sink a knife into my back while hunting.'

'What weak behavior.'

Shay shook his head as the scared and panicked Dong Pao. He pulled out a weapon that was around 80cm in length and rotated it with a swaggering attitude.

"Since we are already here, shall I measure how good the famous Psychopath Butcher is?"

In the end, he didn't back down from a fight.

Dong Pao made a fuss.

"H-Hey, Shay! Didn't you see his battle video? Are you ignoring the power of his wide area skills? He must certainly have a hidden class, so wouldn't it be better to retreat than fight? Isn't it better to settle this peacefully?"

"Peacefully? So a person who killed a lot of people in order to earn money wants peace?" Shay ridiculed before explaining the situation. "As you say, he has a powerful skill. I would've avoided him if I encountered him in a normal place. However, this cave seals all types of skills. There is a good chance we can win with that guy's strength sealed."

Shay was almost certain that he could win. Then he started the assault towards Grid.

Sakak!

The sword flashed in the darkness, while the black greatsword stood against it.

Chaaeng!

When the two swords hit each other, the dark cave brightened for a moment, as if sparks had been lit. At that moment, the terrible appearance of the skull helmet was clearly revealed. Shay remarked, "If

you were a regular person, I would wonder how you could wear such a terrible looking helmet. But it is pointless to understand the psychology of psychopaths.”

Grid shouted angrily. "Do you think I like wearing this helmet? I don't have a choice due to its performance! Fuck! Don't call me a psychopath!"

Chaaeng!Chaaeng!

Kerb and Sniffer admired the continuous exchange between the two.

"That bastard, he is quickly reacting to all of Shay's attacks."

Assassins had high agility, so their swiftness was outstanding among all classes. Shay was the 7th strongest assassin. When thinking about Satisfy as a whole, there were few who could respond to Shay's attack speed.

Grid was armed with a slow greatsword but he managed to block all of Shay's attacks. Dong Pao's mouth dropped open, "Is he skilled in combat, or is he predicting the trajectory of the attacks using Shay's movements?"

Kerb shook his head, "No, he doesn't have such skill. He is simply fast."

"What?"

Sniffer clicked his tongue at Dong Pao. "Do the Chinese have something covering their eyes? Get rid of it and look properly. The speed with which Grid is wielding his greatsword is comparable to Shay's attack speed."

Dong Pao couldn't believe it. Grid's greatsword was 3m long and weighed more than 20kg. On the other hand, Shay's sword was less than 1m in length and was light. When taking into account length and weight, wouldn't Shay have the advantage? Was it possible?

Kerb explained. "It means that Grid's strength and agility is high enough to exceed our imaginations. Skills aren't a problem. That person is a monster with stats."

Chaaeng!

"Kuk!"

After exchanging dozens of blows, Shay was forced to step back first.

'It feels like hitting a rock every time I hit the greatsword.'

His right arm was cramping up. Shay could no longer withstand Grid's overwhelming attack power.

"Grid... Your name isn't within the top 3,000 list, but you are much stronger than me. Even if you are a hidden class, isn't it too much to surpass the concept of level? Honestly, I think there's a problem with balance."

Grid snorted. "Have you ever met a hidden class? Then you don't know. In order to obtain a hidden class, constant effort and good luck is needed. Well, you might become a hidden class after 100 years of buying lottery tickets?"

“Unlucky bastard.”

Shay signalled to his colleagues. Then both of them moved in a flash, appearing on either side of Grid.

"First of all, I'll make you bleed! Then you will pay with your lives!"

Papapat!

Sniffer had yearned for a fight and threw three darts while shouting. On the other hand, Kerb remained silent as he aimed two daggers.

"What will you do?"

For Grid who accumulated a lot of combat experience, the thrown weapons were simple. He spun and hit all weapons flying from both sides. In the process, Grid sensed the unusual weight of the darts that Sniffer threw.

'Is he specialized in throwing techniques?'

The same assassins might have different characteristics. Some were specialized in stealth, others in swiftness, some in trap and another in throwing weapons. In a one-against-many situation, Sniffer was able to play the role of a sniper, so Grid decided that Sniffer was the most annoying. At the same time, a flash of black sword was fired.

"Aigoo!"

Sniffer leaned back and narrowly avoided the attack, then threw new darts from that dangerous posture. As Grid was paying attention to Sniffer, Kerb approached from the rear and swung his two daggers. Then Shay moved up the walls towards the ceiling and dropped towards Grid from the top.

It was a pincer attack with perfect timing.

'Victory!'

Shay, Kerb and Sniffer were convinced of their victory. But Grid was beyond their common sense.

Chaaeng!Chaaeng!

"...?!"

It was truly absurd. A golden disc suddenly appeared and blocked all of Sniffer's darts. Then it flew and blocked Shay's weapon. Another golden disc was competing with Kerb's daggers.

"What is this?"

What were these discs that flew and interfered with their attacks? The assassins were stunned. Grid started a sword dance while the three people were off guard.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Wave!"

Peeeeeeong!

Black sword waves spread all over the place. Turmoil appeared in the cave as the assassins flew all over the place without even screaming.

“Cough, cough! Ugh! How...? How can you use a skill in this place?”

Assassins had passive skills that allowed them to avoid all sorts of attacks with a certain probability. But this cave even sealed passive skills. It was unbelievable that Grid managed to use a skill in this place.

"Aren't there many stars in the world?"

Grid spoke as he approached the three people. The three of them were frightened and tried to resist.

“Ugh! Shit! Crazy!”

Shay's movements were noticeably slow. It was due to the debuff after being hit with Wave.

Chaaeng!Chaaeng!

Grid yawned as he blocked Shay's attacks, like it was boring.

"Damn you!"

It was the moment that someone within the top 1,000 rankings was shamed!

"Ohhhhhh!"

Suuk.

Grid lightly avoided Shay's attacks. Then Kerb was split in half by Dainsleif as he tried to approach from the rear.

"You monster!"

Sniffer couldn't laugh anymore as he threw all the darts in his possession. But the dozens of darts were blocked by just two golden discs. They failed to even hit Grid's cloak.

"Indeed, you guys can't even catch up with Faker's toes."

Sukakak!

A strike fell from the sky and struck Shay and Sniffer simultaneously. Grid watched them turn into a grey light and once again realized how strong Faker was. Then he turned towards Dong Pao.

“T-This...”

Complete devastation. Grid fired a single skill and killed three top assassins in an instant.

‘How...?’

Dong Pao once again checked Grid's level, since they were still in a party. 150. Grid had been level 147 the first time they met and he gained three levels on the way here to reach 150. Yes, a mere level 150 managed to beat the level 200 Shay and the level 180 Kerb and Sniffer.

‘Is this a hidden class...?’

It was his turn next. Dong Pao had tried to take money and kill Grid.

“H-Hik...!”

No one wouldn't want their experience to drop. Experience wasn't the only problem. In the worst case, a user would drop items when dying. Dong Pao wanted to avoid death, even if he needed to kiss Grid's feet.

"S-Spare me! Brother!"

Dong Pao bowed. Grid approached him and squatted, "How many people in this place have begged you with the same emotions you are feeling now?"

"..."

Dong Pao had never counted. Looking back now, he was able to realize the great despair that the people who had been harmed by him felt.

"I'm sorry! I'm really sorry! I'm a bastard! Brother! I won't bargain over the lives of others again! I will never commit evil again, so please spare me!"

"What? It has nothing to do with me if you do this to anyone else."

"B-But didn't you just talk about how many people I hurt here?"

"I was just wondering... I am thankful for your earlier support. I was going to distribute the items obtained from hunting with you, but now you have lost that right. Yes?"

Dong Pao nodded. "That's right! Your words are correct! I am the trash who tried to deceive you in order to take your life and money! It doesn't make any sense for you to distribute the items to me! Of course Brother should keep the items. So please just spare my life...!"

Dong Pao begged for his life until the last moment. But he couldn't escape death.

Puok!

"K-Keok!"

Dong Pao's face lost a large amount of blood at once and he quickly became like a mummy. Grid wasn't the one who killed him.

"Don't tell me, you..."

Grid braced himself. An unidentified woman appeared behind Dong Pao and sucked his blood like a vampire.

"Nice to meet you."

The woman smiled through a blood-soaked mouth. As soon as Grid saw her red eyes, many notification windows appeared in front of him.

[You have encountered Vampire Countess Marie Rose.]

[Marie Rose's evil influence makes your magic power turbid. All types of spells and skills aren't available.]

[You have resisted.]

[A vampire's gaze will subdue lower species. You will lose your willpower and control over your body.]

[You have resisted.]

[Marie Rose's attraction is absolute. Her charm is so high there is even high odds of both genders being attracted.]

[You have resisted.]

Grid maintained as large a distance from Marie Rose as possible. Then he carefully opened his mouth.

"Why did you suddenly wake up for hundreds of years when your seal isn't released? Were we being too loud?"

Marie Rose pointed to Malacus' Cloak.

"There is the blood of thousands, maybe tens of thousands of people soaked into the cloak you are wearing. Isn't that enough stimulation to wake me up?"

Malacus, a priest of the Yatan Church, had killed countless virgins for decades. The blood of the virgins completely covered the cloak and was a great stimulus to vampires.

"But you, aren't you quite unusual? You don't have strong divine powers like Rebecca's Daughters, nor do you have strong magic power like Braham, but my gaze and presence have no effect on you... How strange."

Marie Rose appeared to be in her early 20's. Jishuka had a glamorous beauty and Yura had a neat beauty, but Marie Rose's beauty transcended them. Her beauty was so unrealistic that it seemed like an illusion.

It was so perfect that Grid didn't feel any attraction towards her. He wasn't bewitched at all and could stay calm.

"Isn't this strangeness interesting? Are you interested enough to keep me alive? I woke you up from your seal, so please do me this favor."

Marie Rose caused the worst conditions, such as sealing of skills and controlling the body. If she had a strong wide area skill, she would be invincible. From 1st to 200th on the rankings, the top rankers wouldn't be able to defeat her even if they ran all at once. It was natural for Grid to feel fear. Marie Rose didn't dislike this.

"Cute. Huhut... Let's meet again one day."

Saaah!

Marie Rose's beautiful body instantly turned into black powder and was blown away in the wind. After that, Grid was concerned that Marie Rose would come back and took off his cloak. Then he stopped as he was about to go straight to the Vatican. He found several items on the ground.

"This is another good fortune!"

The assassins and Dong Pao dropped items after dying. Grid quickly forgot about the fear that Marie Rose caused as he smiled and picked up the items.

Chapter 122

"Rin, shouldn't you be faithful to me and Goddess Rebecca, as well as serve as a role model to the believers?"

The Vatican. Dozens of senior paladins and priests watched as one of Rebecca's Daughters, Rin was questioned.

She declared, "This is a misunderstanding. My loyalty to Goddess Rebecca and Your Holiness is eternal. I will never betray Your Holiness."

"If you are loyal, why haven't you responded to my calls? Shouldn't you obey my commands in any circumstances?"

Last January.

Drevigo rose to the seat of 13th pope after defeating the other candidates, and revealed himself as soon as he seized power. Almost two years after he became a pope, he broke the laws to fill his own self-interests and defiled the honor of Goddess Rebecca.

The high priests were remorseful and tried to correct their mistake, but they weren't successful. Those who made any comments were demoted to temples in remote areas. Only those who didn't care and became corrupt with the pope remained at the Vatican.

Reform was needed.

Finally, September of this year. The high-ranking clergymen rebelled in order to remove Drevigo from the pope's seat. But Drevigo had Rebecca's Daughters. They were absolutely loyal to the pope and the rebellion failed before their strength. After that, Drevigo was able to consolidate his position even more.

The priests lamented. Three of the strongest paladins fostered to guard the church were now protecting the worst pope. As long as Rebecca's Daughters existed, the pope would remain alive until the end and the Rebecca Church would rot.

But now. Due to Drevigo's endless desires, even Rebecca's Daughters could feel the change. Those who had been taught to be absolutely loyal to the pope from a young age were trying to escape their brainwashing.

"I... I felt confused because Your Holiness didn't fulfill your duties as a pope. I prayed to Goddess Rebecca to see if I should submit to your commands and to ask for answers."

Rin was strong but she was pure, like a little girl. The pope ridiculed her for answering so honestly.

"You wondered if you should submit to my commands?"

"...Yes."

“Why are you so simple?” The pope’s eyes widened as he shouted. “I am the agent of Goddess Rebecca! It is your duty to believe and follow me. Are you trying to use prayer as an excuse? Rin! You are a dangerous child! You are no longer my daughter! I will reclaim Ikael’s Sword!”

At that moment, a quest notification window appeared in front of Damian, who was standing next to the high-ranking paladin and priest NPCs.

[Pope’s Decision]

Difficulty Level: SS

Rebecca’s Daughters are the absolute weapons of the Rebecca Church. Their armed strength is reliable, but they can be dangerous if they aren’t under perfect control. The pope is worried about the worst and eventually gave a command.

Kill Rebecca’s Daughter, Rin. Killing her won’t deal a direct hit to the church. As long as Ikael’s Sword exists, an endless number of substitutes can replace her.

Quest Clear Conditions: Rin’s death.

Clear Reward: Abilities awakening.

* You can exert the true abilities of a paladin of the Rebecca Church.

Quest Failure: Level -4. Divine Power will decrease by 10,000.

[Would you like to accept the quest?]

There were three types of paladins in Satisfy.

The most popular type of paladins were those belonging to the Judar Church.

They specialized in a wide range of buff skills and had excellent defense. They were in charge of the party buffs, and were active in party hunting and raised because they were able to serve as the main tank. They were considered as the most popular class after the Rebecca priests.

Then there were the paladins of the Dominion Church.

They specialized in personal buff skills and had high attack power. They weren’t popular with large scale parties and raids, but they were popular in small party hunting. In addition, their single combat ability was the best among the paladins.

The last were paladins of the Rebecca Church.

They were the only paladins who could use Heal. But they didn’t have buff skills. However, their amount of healing wasn’t high, so they weren’t popular in party hunting or raids. It was a class that was only grudgingly accepted when a priest couldn’t be found. They had no buff skills and their combat ability was the weakest among the paladins.

They were much harder to find than paladins of other churches, and weren’t popular. It was rare to find a user who was a paladin of the Rebecca Church.

But wasn't it strange? Rebecca's Daughters were paladins, and not only that, they were the strongest among all NPC paladins. Thanks to their presence, Damian speculated that a Rebecca paladin would become stronger if they broke through a certain point.

If he reached his second advancement, wouldn't he become stronger than paladins of other churches? He thought for a bit before choosing to become a paladin of the Rebecca Church. However, he reached level 200 after much difficulty and didn't find anything special. The paladins of the other churches were still better than paladins of the Rebecca Church.

Damian felt extreme disappointment and skepticism. But right now.

'Abilities awakening...!'

It was the reward of his first SS-grade quest after playing Satisfy for over a year. If this quest was cleared and his abilities awakened, Damian was obviously going to become stronger as he originally anticipated. Damian had been waiting for this moment since he became a paladin of the Rebecca Church.

He made a decision.

"...I reject."

[If you refuse the quest, the pope will view you as a traitor. Do you still want to reject?]

"..."

He was a paladin of the Rebecca Church. Damian had struggled to raise his level and divine power. Everyone laughed and called Rebecca's paladins garbage, but Damian didn't stop dreaming of the day his abilities would awaken.

Then a month ago, he became 2nd on the paladin rankings. As a result of the effort that other people couldn't imagine, he was finally faced with the moment his abilities would awaken. So why was he refusing the quest?

"How can I aim a sword at Rin-chan?"

It was due to his virtuous heart. Damian had been watching Rebecca's Daughters for a long time, and was attracted by their beauty and charm. He ran a blog on the Internet praising Rebecca's Daughters.

"Don't underestimate my virtue...! I refuse the quest!"

[The quest was refused.]

[An angry Pope Drevigo has pointed you out as a traitor.]

"Disgraceful person! What are you doing? Get rid of him and Rin!"

Chaaeng!

Dozens of senior paladins simultaneously armed themselves. They rushed towards Rin and Damian after receiving the pope's command.

"Ah...!"

Rin was confused. She had been branded as a traitor after a lifetime of loyalty, so she had no idea what to do. Damian ran to her side and reassured her, "Rin-chan, it will be okay. I will protect you."

Excluding the time he spent playing Satisfy, Damian spent all his time managing his blog and watching Japanese anime. Now he had an opportunity to defend the heroine, just like the protagonists of the animes he watched.

Rin was tearful as she looked at his back.

"Damian... I'm not alone?"

Damian glanced at her and replied. "Yes. I am beside Rin-chan. And Goddess Rebecca will surely protect us."

At that moment, a new quest window emerged in front of Damian.

[Goddess' Divine Punishment]

Difficulty: Class change quest.

Your choice to reject the corrupt pope's command wasn't wrong. Goddess Rebecca has blessed you.

As an agent of Goddess Rebecca, punish the corrupt pope!

Quest Progress Reward: Abilities awakening.

Quest Clear Conditions: Pope Drevigo's death.

Quest Clear Reward: The hidden class 'Goddess' Agent.'

Quest Failure: Level -20. You will lose your current class. The complete corruption of the Rebecca Church.

* The hidden class change quest has the power to transform Satisfy's world, according to the result. Please be careful.

[Goddess Rebecca has blessed you for following her teachings faithfully.]

[Due to this, your suppressed powers have been awakened.]

[All stats have increased by 100.]

[The skill 'Light's Blessing' has been generated.]

[The skill 'Heart's Desire' has been generated.]

Kkuok!

Damian gripped his sword tightly.

Duguen!Duguen!

His heart was thudding. His blood was boiling. It was the first time in 32 years that his adrenaline rose like this.

'I chose this.'

Reality was different from manhwa. The main characters in manhwa were rewarded for their effort, but reality was grim. It was a world that was only beneficial to those who studied or had money.

In reality, Damian couldn't be a protagonist. But Satisfy was another reality, and his efforts and choices were repaid, giving him a chance to become a hero.

"Drevigo! As an agent of Goddess Rebecca, I will deal out divine punishment! Light's Blessing!"

[You and your party's defense, attack power and accuracy will increase by 80% for 3 minutes.]

"Ohhhhhh!"

Damian was surrounded by a golden light as he broke through the paladins and reached Drevigo. Drevigo reached out. "You dare to act as an agent of the goddess in front of me. Do you believe that you can receive a divine message?"

Kwaang!

Drevigo's belief in Goddess Rebecca was real. His overwhelming divine power was comparable to Rebecca's Daughters. The power of light fired from his fingertip easily penetrated Damian's chest.

"Cough..!"

[You have lost 41% of your health from a single blow.]

[You can't regain your mental state.]

What was this result? His vision was going crazy. His body couldn't move the way he wanted.

'Indeed, I... I'm not a protagonist.'

Damian fell into a stunned state and was unprotected. The moment the pope was about to launch another attack at him and all his efforts were in vain...

"How funny... I came here to meet the pope, so why is there a quest to destroy the pope?"

The doors of the huge room opened without permission and an outsider entered. It was a man wearing a scruffy cloak and a bizarre skull helmet.

"Who is it now?"

"A protagonist? I see."

Papapat!

After examining the situation, Grid threw three darts at the pope standing at the end of a long red carpet.

"Block it!"

The paladins used their shields to block the darts. But the moment the darts hit the shields, an explosion occurred and smoke emerged. Grid used that gap to rescue Damian and Rin from the enemy.

Then he suggested to Damian, whose eyes were wide at the suddenly revealed savior, "Invite me into the party. Instead, can I have all the items that the pope drops? I think that is sufficient for saving your life."

"..."

Chapter 123

"I... I forced Rin into this..."

The Vatican's backyard.

Isabel was crying with her face buried in her knees. She felt guilty for dragging Rin here.

"I wanted to refuse His Holiness's command... But I was afraid... I know how much Rin hates the current Vatican... It is because of me... Rin came back here because of me..."

Cassus tried to soothe her, "If you refused His Holiness's order, Rin would've been brought back by another person. Rin will be grateful for being brought politely by a friend, rather than being dragged by someone else. So please don't beat yourself up about it."

"..."

Isabel slowly raised her head. She looked at him with moist eyes. She carefully brushed her long platinum hair away from her eyes and asked gently.

"Rin... What will happen to her?"

The pope had convened the high ranking members of the church in order to determine Rin's fate. Isabel wanted to watch, but the pope didn't give her permission, making her become more anxious. She didn't want Rin to be treated unfairly.

Cassus couldn't say anything.

'Perhaps Rin will... She might be deprived of her qualifications, or in the worst case, she can lose her life.'

On the surface, Rebecca's Daughters were treated as sacred beings only second to the pope and received everyone's respect. However, the senior members of the church dismissed Rebecca's Daughters as consumables, mere powerful weapons. As long as the three divine artifacts were preserved, Rebecca's Daughters could be replaced at any time.

'Right now, Rebecca's Daughters are people who serve the pope. They are a thorn in the eye of the current pope. The pope will want new Rebecca's Daughters, who are unconditionally loyal.'

The pope would try to pass on the three divine artifacts to new people.

'Rin isn't the only one in danger. Maybe sooner or later, Isabel...'

Cassus' heart dropped. Rebecca's Daughters were raised in the church. They only knew how to exist as enforcers of the church!

'... Once they become useless, they are deserted.'

Why was this terrible thing happening?

'It is a poor fate.'

Isabel was only 17 this year and Rin was 19.

They were born with inherently high divine power and taught how to fight and be loyal to the church since childhood. If they were abandoned by the church, would they be able to adapt to ordinary life? It would be even more unfortunate if they were killed. It was too harsh for them to die without feeling the warmth of family, friends or even a lover.

'Also...'

Once new Rebecca's Daughters were born who were absolutely loyal to the pope, no one would be able to stop the pope for any longer. From then on, the Rebecca Church would walk the path of complete corruption. It was getting out of hand.

"Someone..."

Cassus, who was usually stoic and expressionless, couldn't hide what he was thinking. He shed tears for the first time in his life.

"Someone, please... Save us..."

"Cassus...?" Isabel was embarrassed by Cassus' unusual appearance. She had no idea what to do. "Why are you crying all of a sudden? Huh? I-Is it because of me? Am I so depressed that I am making you cry? I'm sorry. I'm sorry so don't cry. Everything is good. Rin will be okay, and someday Goddess Rebecca will lead His Holiness to the right path."

Isabel was free-spirited. Despite being harshly raised by the church, she had a strong personality. There were many times when she made people tired, but she had a warm heart like sunshine. She was in the most difficult position, yet she was smiling and comforting her subordinates?

Cassus became sadder at the thought of this sacred, beautiful and warm life ending. The moment he was about to burst out sobbing.

"Why is a big man crying? Eh? Especially in front of a girl. What a shame."

"...!"

Why was this voice familiar? Cassus was surprised by the emergence of an unexpected figure and hurriedly looked back. A black-haired young man was standing there with a smile.

"It has been a long time, Cassus."

"Grid...!"

Winston Castle had asked for the support of a priest to make the Divine Shield, and Cassus had been dispatched. At the time, Cassus had bonded with Grid while two Divine Shields were produced. But he never dreamed that this relationship would continue again.

Why had Grid come to the Vatican?

"Why are you here... No?"

Cassus' eyes widened in the middle of his question. It was due to the evil magic power and blood of virgins coming from the cloak that Grid was wearing.

"That cloak...!"

Isabel said, "That is Malacus' Cloak."

"Malacus' Cloak... Really?"

"Yes."

Isabel had several encounters with Malacus. It was because she raided several sites where Malacus was offering virgins as sacrifices. She was interrupted every time so she kept missing him, but she heard rumors that mighty soldiers of Winston destroyed Malacus. One of those mighty people seemed to be the young man called Grid.

"It is an honor to meet such a great warrior."

"Ah! You!" Grid glanced at Isabel and was startled. Then he became excited as he recognized her.

"Shield Thief! No, Shield Thief Girl! Ah, this... Ah! That's right! Was it Rebecca's Daughter? Hey! Rebecca's Daughter! Give me my shield!"

"What?"

Isabel had encountered Grid at Winston Castle. But she didn't remember Grid because she didn't see Grid at the time. Cassus explained to Isabel who was puzzled by the nonsense. "He is the blacksmith of Winston. He is the creator of the Divine Shield that you are holding."

"Omo, really? This young man has that type of blacksmith skill? Huh? But how can a blacksmith kill Malacus?"

Grid strode towards the puzzled and admiring Isabel. Then he unabashedly demanded, "Give me my shield."

Isabel was embarrassed. "I appreciate the fact that you defeated Malacus. But I can't help you. The Divine Shield is a dangerous weapon so we have decided to recall all of them. That other shield that you made, could you please give it back?"

"W-What?" Grid was dismayed. "How much money did I spend making these shields? Do you have any idea how great the value of the shield is? I can be rich if I sell it!"

"I understand but... I'm sorry. It can't be helped. The policy has already been set."

"D-Dammit!"

Grid was grumpy at the thought of losing his legendary rated Divine Shield. How could he be calm when he was going to be robbed of items worth hundreds of millions of won? In the end, Grid's face turned red as he prepared to fight.

"Blood won't be shed if you give me the shield immediately."

Grid was currently level 150. He was different compared to when the Divine Shield was stolen by the Yatan follower. His confidence was overflowing, despite facing the Rebecca Church's strongest paladin.

Cassus tried to talk to him as Grid pulled out the greatsword. "Grid, please calm down. Let's start with a conversation first. Why did you come here?"

"Ah, you! What are you saying? Do I seem like I want to talk right now? Eh?"

"Grid, please. Please calm down."

Cassus bowed deeply. Grid was reminded of the time he made the items with Cassus and somewhat calmed down. Then he explained, "I came to see the pope."

"His Holiness?"

"I have something that I want him to bless... I also wanted to ask for the Divine Shield back."

"Hah..."

Cassus felt it was mysterious. It was amazing to reunite with someone who he thought was merely a passing relationship.

'This is all Goddess Rebecca's doing...'

What did his relationship with Grid mean? The moment that Cassus was deeply interested.

Kwaang!

"...?!"

A powerful explosion rang out from inside the Vatican. Isabel's face turned white.

"This divine power... It is His Holiness!"

Something had certainly happened to Rin. Was the pope doing something terrible to Rin while she stood here? Isabel was concerned about the worst situation and rushed towards the Vatican immediately. Cassus blocked her way.

"Didn't His Holiness command you not to enter? Don't go. If you break his command, His Holiness will punish you and Rin."

Cassus was convinced that Rin was being punished.

Isabel gritted her teeth.

"Indeed... I have to save Rin from His Holiness!"

A gold circle was drawn in the empty space. Then a white spear emerged from it. It was one of the three divine artifacts of the Rebecca Church, Lifael's Spear. Grid observed the spear with admiration.

'I didn't recognize it before, but isn't this a huge weapon? It is much better than the Gale Spear that I made. No, it is a few dimensions above Dainsleif.'

There was only one person who could produce a weapon like this.

'Pagma...!'

He found a clue to Pagma in a place like this. Grid excitedly grabbed Lifael's Spear.

"Hey! Let me see this!"

"What?"

Isabel became angrier at Grid's actions and firmly waved her spear. He dared put his hand on a sacred weapon. She wanted to blow Grid's body into a tree that was 100m away. However...

"Huh?"

The spear wouldn't swing freely. It was because Grid's strength as he grasped the spear was beyond the category of humans.

"Eek!"

Isabel wielded the spear with all her strength. Then Grid's body was thrown 30m and he rolled across the ground.

Ku tang tang tang!

"Uhh..."

Grid felt his vision blurring. He barely managed to get up.

"What? What is with this girl's strength?"

Grid stopped putting points in intelligence after securing a certain amount of mana. Then he invested all his points into strength. At level 150 and combined with the effect of his titles, Grid had over 1,500 strength. He had the power to break rocks by swinging a fist.

Grid's strength had grown to the level where Toon couldn't compete anymore. Yet this huge strength wasn't a match against Isabel.

'Rebecca's Daughters isn't an empty name.'

She was a slender girl, but she exerted physical strength that was beyond the limits of humans! Isabel reached the front door of the Vatican while Grid was admiring her.

"Isabel! Please stop!"

'Just wait a little longer, Rin, I will save you!'

Cassus couldn't stop her. Isabel opened the doors to the Vatican, filled with the desire to save Rin. It was at that moment.

Kwaang!

A girl with purple hair descended from the roof of the Vatican and attacked Isabel.

"You!"

Isabel was astonished as she barely managed to defend against the attack. The girl who suddenly appeared at the entrance of the Vatican! She was the last of Rebecca's Daughters and the owner of Everiel's Shield, Luna.

"Here... You can't enter."

Isabel shouted at her, "Luna, get out of my way! Rin is in danger!"

Luna shook her head. "His Holiness' commands are absolute... I have to follow them."

"Really... You really can't? It is a request."

Isabel begged. But Luna was adamant.

"I'm sorry... I can't."

Luna was much younger than Isabel and Rin. She was 14 years old this year so the brainwashing was still strong. Unlike Isabel and Rin who thought for themselves, she only obeyed orders. She was the one who had the most achievements when suppressing the rebellion three months ago, and she was the one most favored by the pope.

"It is impossible to break Everiel's Shield... This can't be... Rin...!"

Isabel was well aware that she couldn't persuade Luna and felt desperate. At this moment, Rin was suffering alone. Isabel was the only one who could help Rin, but why was the goddess giving her such trials?

"Goddess, are you throwing Rin away...?"

The moment that Isabel felt despair... A notification window flashed in front of Grid.

[Help the Rebecca Church!]

Difficulty: Class quest.

The Rebecca Church is a religion with deep ties to Pagma. The friendship between 5th Pope Franz and Pagma is still spoken about hundreds of years later.

As Pagma's Descendant, you are obliged to help the Rebecca Church that is being corrupted by 13th Pope Drevigo.

Kill Pope Drevigo!

Help the Rebecca Church!

Quest Clear Conditions: Drevigo's death.

Quest Clear Reward: Goddess Rebecca's blessing.

* This is a sub-quest that works in conjunction with the second class quest. If you fail this quest, you won't meet the conditions to clear the second class quest.

"Are they crazy?"

Look at the warning window! If he failed this quest, he would fail his class quest! Grid couldn't understand it.

"Shit, what is this craziness?" It was a quest that caused him to tremble. "Ah, this is really... If I fail... Huh?"

Grid was complaining when his gaze fell on the spear in Isabel's hand. A transparent arrow, visible only to Grid's eyes, was pointed at Isabel's spear.

Chapter 124

A transparent arrow, visible to only Grid's eyes, was pointed at Isabel's spear. It was the helper system that guided the user. Like every other user, Grid received a lot of help from this system in the early days. It helped him even after he became Pagma's Descendant, like with the bellows.

Anyway, this meant the system was telling him that the spear was a clue to this quest.

"I see," Grid reminded himself. In the case of quests with an extremely high failure penalty, the system was set up to help the user succeed.

"Hey, Isabel."

"What?"

Isabel, who had been feeling despair over Luna, frowned at the call.

Grid told her, "I will kill the pope and then rescue Rin. In return, give me my shield. Understood?"

"..."

Why? Isabel felt an unknown sense of trust from Grid's absurd words.

'Believe in him.'

Somehow, she seemed to hear the voice of Goddess Rebecca.

"...Really? Will you really save Rin? Has Goddess Rebecca condemned His Holiness?"

Grid nodded at her question and replied, "Yes, that's what the sky said."

He approached Isabel and grabbed her spear that the arrow was pointing towards.

"You!"

Isabel panicked because Grid once again touched the sacred spear. Grid ignored her and used a skill,

"Legendary Blacksmith's Appraisal."

[The blacksmith who becomes a legend can appraise items with an excellent discerning eye. If a hidden feature exists in the target item, it will be found.]

[Sealed Lifael's Spear]

Rating: Legendary

Durability: 1,000/1,000 Attack Power: 730~1,270

- * Divine Power +1,500
- * All stats +60.
- * 100% increase in health recovery.
- * Fixed damage of +2,000 on each attack.
- * There is a high probability of activating the 'Light Wheel' skill.
- * There is a high probability of activating the 'Shield of Light' skill.
- * There is a high probability of activating the 'Light of Guidance' skill.
- * The skill 'White Transformation' will be generated.
- * Attack power +20% against those with dark magic power.

It is one of the three divine artifacts of the Rebecca Church.

The 5th Pope Franz asked the legendary blacksmith Pagma to seal its power.

Conditions of Use: Rebecca's Daughter.

Weight: 400

In the case of 'Failure' which Grid created without considering the balance, the conditions of use were ridiculously high but the performance was superior to common sense. And Lifael's Spear was a weapon that was almost like Failure. However, the surprising thing was that it was sealed.

'Pagma sealed it? Why?'

The moment that Grid was feeling admiration. A white flash emerged from the spear! Then a golden glow appeared and a notification window popped up.

[You have discovered a hidden feature in the item!]

[Lifael's Spear]

Rating: Myth

Durability: 1,500/1,500 Attack Power: 2,330~2,890

- * Divine Power +3,000
- * All stats +200
- * 300% increase in health recovery.
- * Fixed damage of +5,000 on each attack.
- * There is a high probability of activating the 'Light Wheel' skill.
- * There is a high probability of activating the 'Shield of Light' skill.

- * There is a high probability of activating the 'Light of Guidance' skill.
- * The skill 'White Transformation' will always be invoked.
- * Attack power +50% against those with dark magic power.

It is one of the three divine artifacts of the Rebecca Church.

It contains a tremendous divine power that human beings can't afford to handle, placing a heavy burden on the user's mind and body.

Since Rebecca's Daughters became short-lived after being unable to cope with the power of this weapon, 5th Pope Franz asked Pagma to seal its power.

However, Pagma's Descendant emerged during the 13th Pope's reign and was able to discover the true power of the weapon, unsealing it.

Conditions of Use: Rebecca's Daughter.

Weight: 400

[You have witnessed a god-made weapon!]

[Insight has increased by 200.]

[Your insight stat has exceeded 500. You will see the world differently from before.]

[All blacksmith related skill levels have increased by +1.]

[You can now produce myth rated items.]

"This?"

It transcended even 'Failure.' No, this was a weapon strong enough to disrupt the balance of the world itself.

'Myth rated items...' He never imagined that items higher than a legendary rating existed. 'Myth rated items, does that mean I am able to make items like Dainsleif? Rather...'

It was a new experience for Grid.

'This is a jackpot.'

There were numbers listed above Isabel, Luna and Cassus' head. Isabel had 55,000 above her head. Luna had 26,300. Cassus had 4,000. Through Grid's increased insight, he was aware of what these numbers meant.

'Their combat power.'

Kuoooh!

An enormous golden energy started to explode from Isabel. Due to the awakened Lifael's Spear, the skill 'White Transformation' was automatically activated. Then Isabel's combat power started to climb until it reached 120,000.

Grid laughed. "It is convenient but... What is this? I'm not the protagonist of a manhwa."

100 years ago, there was a manhwa that was regarded as one of the best masterpieces and created a craze all over the world. The manhwa characters could measure the target's combat power with a machine or ability.

"Why did an ability from a manhwa 100 years ago appear?"

He was only complaining with his mouth. Grid was well aware of how useful the newly acquired ability could be. On the other hand, Luna was looking at Isabel.

"..."

She had admired Isabel's beautiful hair for a long time. Luna's hair was colorful and curly, while Isabel's hair was platinum and long, like beautiful silk. Luna coveted it more than jewellery. Now Isabel's beautiful hair was influenced by the explosion of divine power.

"I have to fight." Luna also liked Rin. She followed Rin like they were actual sisters. It was the same with Isabel. Isabel was as good as Rin. But Luna had to fight. She was taught to obey commands.

In the end, Luna also used White Transformation. Her combat strength only reached 50,000. The difference in combat power was obvious.

'Isabel will win this fight.'

Grid was confident, while Isabel was feeling confused.

"H-How did this happen?"

Lifael's Spear became much more powerful than before. It was a power that couldn't be controlled. It seemed like she could beat any opponent. She was confident that she could penetrate Everiel's Shield, which boasted a high defense.

"Hey."

She was panicking as she felt her divine power rising indefinitely when Grid reached out to her. He spoke as if he was blessing her, "Have strength. I will go rescue Rin first."

"Um...!"

As soon as she heard Rin's name, Isabel recovered his spirit and grasped the spear tightly. She felt a desire to fight Luna.

'Okay.'

Isabel was motivated by the mention of Rin. Now Isabel would fight to save Rin. She would defeat Luna and kill the pope. It was perfect insurance. This would allow him to clear the quest.

"Let's go!"

Grid entered the Vatican after passing through Luna, who was blocked by Isabel. He ran down a long hallway while pulling out Dainsleif and the Frostlight Orc Chief's Helmet. Then he felt something from the innermost giant doors that were closed.

“There!”

Kwaang!

Grid kicked the doors with his feet. He witnessed the pope standing on the other end of the red carpet like a villain.

“That guy?”

The bewildered pope asked. Grid examined the situation before replying. A man and woman were surrounded by dozens of paladins and priests. It seemed like he appeared at an exquisite moment. Yes, just like a character from a movie.

Grid laughed at the atmosphere.

“A protagonist? I see.”

He answered and put a hand on his belt.

[Kenen’s Dart Belt]

Rating: Unique

The favorite belt of Kenen, a master of assassination who made many people panic.

One dart will be charged every 20 seconds and up to three darts can be charged.

The type of dart generated is random, and it will have different effects depending on the type.

Conditions of Use: Assassin Throwing Technique Level 7 or above.

Weight: 140

It was an item dropped by Sniffer when he died. It was similar to an infinite quiver, but the infinite quiver commonly had fixed types of arrows. But this belt produced random darts. This was a disadvantage, but Grid tried using it on the way here and the performance was very interesting.

‘That bastard, he must be crying tears of blood after dropping this item.’

Really stupid. A PK user had a very high probability of dropping items upon death. They dared to attack even knowing the risk, how stupid.

Papapat!

Grid laughed and threw darts towards the pope.

“Block it!”

The paladins used their shields to protect the pope.

Pepepeng!

The darts hit the shields and caused a smoke screen. Grid clicked his tongue. “There is the poison fog function, so why is this just plain smoke?”

As expected, he had no luck. He scowled as he moved quickly and rescued Rin and Damian. Then he checked their combat power.

'Oh, isn't this great?'

Damian's combat power was 12,500. It was very powerful for a user, considering that Rin had 27,000. He must be a top ranker. He seemed to be a paladin, so he should be useful as a tanker.

Grid told him, "Invite me into the party. Also, can I have all the items that the pope drops? I think that is sufficient for saving your life."

"..."

The silence was a positive agreement! In the first place, Damian must be completing a similar type of quest. Grid was convinced that Damian couldn't refuse, so he set the party leader to acquire the items and sent a party invitation. Then the desperate Damian was forced to accept the party.

Grid was happy as he confirmed the party information.

'As expected, he is a top ranker.'

Damian was a huge level 227. It was similar to the average level of the Tzedakah Guild. It meant he was within the top 200 of users. Damian was also stunned.

'What?'

The main character who emerged in an urgent situation and saved the heroine! The person had such a strong ambiance, yet he was only level 150? He thought Goddess Rebecca had given him a lifeline, but it was just a rotten lifeline. The moment that Damian was feeling regret.

Kwarurung!

A red lightning bolt pierced the roof of the Vatican and nestled in a black greatsword.

Pachichik!Pachik!

The appearance of a greatsword with red currents around it was very powerful. It was certainly a unique rated item.

'That weapon is amazing.'

Damian was feeling admiration when Grid asked him.

"As a paladin, can't you use buff skills? Please use buffs on me."

Originally, Rebecca paladins couldn't use buff skills. It was common sense that everyone should know. However, Damian awakened his abilities and received a buff skill. He checked the information on his newly acquired skills.

[Light's Blessing]

You and your party's defense, attack power and accuracy will increase by 80% for 3 minutes.

Skill Mana Cost: 900

Skill Cooldown Time: 300 seconds

[Heart's Desire]

The dead will be immediately resurrected on the spot.

* This doesn't apply to NPCs.

Skill Mana consumption: 80% of the maximum mana.

Skill Cooldown Time: 24 hours.

Amazing skills. A buff skill more powerful than Light's Blessing didn't exist yet. In addition, the resurrection skill was a top-tier skill that even second advancement Rebecca priests hadn't acquired. Perhaps he was currently the only one with a resurrection skill in Satisfy.

'Yes, this user might be weak but if I use these skills well...'

Maybe it was worth fighting. Damian used Light's Blessing.

"Wow."

Grid sincerely admired the buff effect. Then he started to show his transcendent sword dance.

"What is this?'

Damian was confused as he watched the man dance instead of attacking. Then Grid stopped dancing and discharged a red and black sword aura.

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

"Keok."

Damian was so amazed that he hiccuped.

Every time this man swung his sword, the 23 high ranking paladins that the church was so proud of would become injured. The priests struggled to save the paladins from the ruthless bombardment, but the speed at which the sword auras were flying was much faster than the heals. Three or four swords flew while the priests could only use Heal once.

The heals could no longer keep up and the paladins had to retreat, meaning there were no longer any people protecting the pope.

"You...!"

Grid spoke to the indignant pope, "Were you relying on them to protect you? How tragic."

Chapter 125

The pope shouted.

"Don't you know who I am? I am Pope Drevigo! I am the parent of 70 million people and as the agent of the goddess, the most sacred being in the world! You dare point a sword at me? This infidel, you aren't afraid of divine punishment!"

"Hrmm." Grid listened quietly before saying something. "You spat at me."

"W-What? Disgraceful person!"

He had never been insulted like this until now. A paladin was helping the traitor and now this? The pope's head turned red with anger.

"I will punish you myself! Don't think about leaving here alive!"

Grid glared at him coldly. "You are always talking about divine punishment... Pope, you haven't grasped the situation yet? I have come here to inflict divine punishment on you. You are the one who will be punished, not me. So shouldn't you act a little better? Tsk."

It wasn't just the pope who wasn't happy with this situation. Grid felt the same. If the pope was a normal person, it would've been easy to clear the quest to get the pavranium blessed. However, the pope was a corrupt man and endangered the Rebecca Church, causing Grid to struggle unnecessarily because of the quest changing.

"The introduction I received from my father-in-law is useless... You, this is really annoying."

Peeng!

Grid nervously squeezed Dainsleif. Then his sword aimed at the pope. But the pope wasn't going to stand still. He responded by launching light magic power.

Kwa kwang!

A powerful explosion occurred as a white flash and black flash collided. Due to the aftermath, 10m of the long carpet was burnt to pieces. The remnants of the carpet fell like red eyes looking at Grid with disapproval.

'My sword was blocked?'

Grid's sword was enhanced by the red lightning bolt and Damian's buff skill. The fact that he couldn't win against the pope's magic was basically proof that the pope's magic power was stronger than Grid's sword.

'My attack power right now is higher than Malacus' magic power. Malacus himself would fail to stop me, even if he unfolded a three-layer shield.'

Grid couldn't understand it. His increased insight showed that the pope had a combat power of 24,000. Given Damian's combat power of 12,500 as a level 227 ranker, 24,000 didn't seem very high. Just looking at the numerical value, two Damians would be able to exert combat power over the pope.

'Based on Damian... The Tzedakah Guild has an average combat power of 12,000 at the time of the Malacus raid...'

17 guild members were involved in the Malacus raid. If the average 12,000 combat power of each person was combined, the total combat strength would be over 200,000. But didn't they get overwhelmed by Malacus' strength, even with a combined combat power of over 200,000?

In other words, Malacus should have at least 200,000 combat power and the pope in front of him should be 10 times weaker than Malacus because he only had 24,000 combat power. But after an exchange of blows, the pope felt stronger than Malacus. It was curious.

'Well...'

Grid's high insight allowed him to understand the concept of combat power.

'A small gap in combat power is, in reality, a large gap to cover.'

Grid's assertion was correct. While Rebecca's Daughters, the pope, and Damian's attack power were all valued in the tens and hundreds of thousands, actual combat power was delicate enough to feel when there was even a single digit difference.

The concept of combat power wasn't $1+1=2$.

Let's assume that an attack power of 1 was an ant and an attack power of 2 was a praying mantis. It was impossible for two ants to beat a praying mantis.

Therefore, combat power was $1+1 < 2$.

This was how the 17 Tzedakah Guild members were overwhelmed by the lone Malacus.

"The sum of combat power is meaningless. 17 cats gathered together can't beat one elephant. And the pope is a top predator that can devour an elephant. Isn't he incredibly strong?"

"Cat? Elephant? What are you saying?"

The pope couldn't understand Grid's words. Grid grinned at his confusion. "I am a cat or an elephant. This is an opportunity to gauge which one."

"I don't know what you are talking about. Infidel, are you crazy?"

"Don't worry too much about it."

Grid wasn't discouraged despite learning that the pope was much stronger than Malacus. Rather, his blood was boiling with excitement.

'I wonder how far my strength will prevail!'

Grid had learned how to use his weapons freely during the Guardian of the Labyrinth raid. Lacking destructive power could be covered with control.

Pepeng!Pepepeng!

In Grid's hands, Dainsleif slashed at a different angle each time, the sword auras all flying in different orbits. Some flew to the front, to the side and to the rear of the pope. Unless the pope had eyes all over the place, it was impossible to intercept them all with magic!

Grid smiled with satisfaction. However, the pope was more formidable than Grid expected. The pope continuously unfolded his light magic power and intercepted Grid's energy swords one by one.

"This won't work!"

A wide area light magic attack was emitted along with the pope's shout.

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

It was an overwhelming sight. The white magic power spread like sunlight and shattered the black energy swords.

"Wow." Grid stared at the brilliant light that was slowly disappearing and truly admired it. "Really strong."

Was he feeling discouraged? No, that wasn't it.

"Okay! I have to do my best!"

There was a unique buff skill just for Pagma's Descendant. He could only use it for himself, but the effect was extraordinary.

"Blacksmith's Rage!"

[Blacksmith's Rage has been activated. Your attack power and attack speed will increase significantly for 20 seconds.]

"Ohhhh!"

Pepepeng!Pepepeng!

Grid doubled the speed with which he wielded Dainsleif. It meant that his attack speed had doubled.

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

The attacks poured down like a heavy rain due to Grid wielding the sword without a break!

"Hah..."

The pope's face turned white. He continuously fired light magic, but the speed of the light magic couldn't keep up with Grid's speed. Once again, the pope released light magic around himself. He was planning to sweep away all of Grid's energy swords again.

But this time, the result was different.

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

Blacksmith's Rage strengthened the power of the energy swords, causing the power of light to be destroyed instead. Then the swords landed on the pope's body.

"You have become stronger? Kuaaaaak!"

The light magic couldn't withstand the power of the swords, and the pope's body was hit again and again. The pope's terrible scream echoed in the hall as notification windows appeared in front of Grid.

[You have dealt 13,300 damage.]

[You have dealt 13,910 damage.]

[You have dealt 14,080 damage.]

[The Best Gauntlets option effect is activated, causing you to attack the target twice.]

[You have dealt 28,300 damage.]

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 31,050 damage.]

The pope's health gauge was dwindling at an incredible pace. Grid was able to determine the pope's total health by comparing the amount of damage suffered to the pope's health gauge.

'Is it around 300,000?'

The Guardian of the Labyrinth had a total health greater than 1.2 million. But it was a golem, not a human. The pope was a human being. His inherent health was lower compared to monsters, so this increased Grid's confidence.

'I can catch him with around 20 more hits?'

He might be able to overcome the pope without Isabel's help.

"Puhahahat! The pope should die and drop some items!" Grid burst out while expecting victory. He attacked the pope relentlessly and the health gauge ended up dropping to a quarter. Then the duration of Transcend and Blacksmith's Rage was over.

"I'll drive in the last wedge here!"

The pope was in a dying state. His white garments embroidered with gold thread had been torn to pieces a long time ago. Grid ran towards him. He narrowed the interval to 10m in a short amount of time and used the strongest skill.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Kill!"

Kuoooooh!

The overwhelming killing intent heated up the atmosphere. A dark haze surrounded Dainsleif. The moment Dainsleif was about to be stabbed into the pope's heart.

"Goddess' Breath...!"

The pope used magic. Then the pope's health gauge was refilled in an instant.

'A heal that restores hundreds of thousands of health?'

The pope's magic effect didn't end there. A green translucent shield was unfolded and completely neutralized Kill. Grid was scared. "What skill is this? Damn, is he a guardian knight?"

The pope used the invincible skill only meant for guardian knights! Grid was surprised by the unexpected move and retreated. Then the pope ridiculed him.

"The goddess' divine blessing fully protects my body and soul. No matter what you do, you can't harm me!"

The pope was fundamentally a priest. If Rebecca's Daughters were the peak of the paladins, the pope was the peak of the priests. The bloody body was restored and he used a broad heal for the paladins who were severely wounded and had withdrawn from battle. He ordered them.

"What are you doing? Kill that infidel right away!"

"..."

The paladins didn't like the pope. They didn't want to follow such an evil existence that made their church corrupt. But no matter how depraved the pope, he was obviously an agent of the goddess. The high ranking paladins were deeply religious and couldn't imagine rejecting the pope's order, grabbing their weapons. Then they simultaneously rushed towards Grid.

"No, Damian. What are you doing? Are you just doing to watch?"

Grid reacted nervously as he looked at all the opponents in front of him. Damian, who had been watching Grid with shock, belatedly recovered his spirit.

"I'm sorry!"

A person who was only level 150 had overwhelmed the pope! What the hell was Grid's identity? It was suspicious. Despite his deep skepticism and confusion, Damian added his power to Grid's in order to defend Rin.

Chaaeng!Chaeng chaeng!

Damian blocked a paladin's sword with a shield and fought back. His sword was sharp and the paladins couldn't easily defend against it. Then blood started to pour out of the paladins. Damian was awakened by this quest and received the strongest buff skill. This made him strong enough to overpower the church's senior paladins.

Both Damian and Grid were unaware of this, but Damian was now stronger than Toban, who was number one on the paladin rankings. He might not be able to defeat 23 paladins with his power alone, but he could tie up their feet for a while.

"Okay! I'll leave this to you!"

Grid determined that Damian alone was enough and rushed to target the pope again. However, the pope had no intention of allowing his approach. The pope blasted him with light magic power to stop him.

Pepeng!Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

The magician bombardment was concentrated on Grid. Grid wanted to avoid it, but it was hard because the pope grasped his movement patterns and reaction rate, using the power of light efficiently.

"Ack~!"

Pepeng!

A white ray narrowly passed over the top of the frightened Grid's head. Then another ray aimed at his face without giving Grid any room to breathe.

Jeeeong!

Grid hurriedly used the Divine Shield to defend. Then a notification window popped up.

[The durability of the Divine Shield has decreased by 78.]

‘Crazy!’

The Divine Shield was famous because it was strong against dark magic. But even without such features, the Divine Shield had excellent defense. Even with that, the pope’s blow had reduced the shield’s durability by 1/8th.

Grid lamented.

‘If only I was holding the legendary rated Divine Shield...!’

He wanted to get rid of the pope quickly and regain the legendary rated Divine Shield. Grid placed the shield in front of him and continued to move forward.

"How dare an infidel carry our battle gear! It is disgraceful!"

Kwaang!Kwaang!Kwaang!

Every time Grid stepped forward, a ray of light magic power flared and struck the Divine Shield. The Divine Shield rapidly distorted and cracks started to appear. It happened when Grid took his seventh step. The pope thought that his next strike would completely shatter Grid’s shield.

But Grid had no intention of letting his item be destroyed.

Peeng!

Grid identified that the white flash was approached and put away the Divine Shield. Then he armed himself with the Ideal Dagger and used Wind Blast. The swirling wind slightly twisted the orbit of the white flash. Then the ray brushed past Grid’s cheek.

Jjejeok! Part of the Frostlight Orc Chief’s Helmet was broken and a little bit of Grid’s face was exposed. Grid endured it.

"This method worked."

The pope gritted his teeth, "You still have a lot of tricks left!"

The pope was annoyed since that explosion should’ve blown off Grid’s head, and was about to attack again. Two golden discs appeared out of nowhere and stuck to his back.

“Kuk?”

The moment that the pope was panicking. Grid used Quick Movements and succeeded in narrowing the gap with the pope. Then he fired Pagma’s Swordsmanship, Link.

Pipit!Pipipipi-!

The attack speed of the dagger was incomparably fast compared to the greatsword. Then Quick Movements maximized his agility.

Grid used Link after equipping himself with the Ideal Dagger and managed to unleash 22 attacks. While the damage inflicted was less than that of when he used Dainsleif, the dagger's delicate control made sure that the pope was persistently hit.

"Kuaaaak You!"

The pope screamed and launched a counterattack, aiming precisely at Grid's heart.

Peeng!

"No!"

Damian screamed as he confirmed that Grid's health had fallen by more than half with a single strike. Those who lost more than 40% of their health in a single hit would be stunned and unprotected, meaning Grid was in considerable danger. Damian wanted to run over to Grid to give him healing and protection, but he couldn't move because of the paladins.

'This is the end! This quest will fail! I won't be able to save Rin-chan!'

At that moment, something strange thing happened: without taking a single potion, Grid's health still recovered as he remained unaffected by any abnormal status effects. Grid coolly plunged his dagger deep into the pope's heart.

Chapter 126

"Ugh!"

Grid felt pain and stumbled the moment the ray of light pierced his heart.

[You have suffered 14,560 damage.]

[You have lost 52% of your health from a single blow.]

His vision was blurry. A normal person would be in a stunned state, but Grid was fine. Then a green light emerged from the blue ring on his finger.

[The effect of Doran's Ring has been activated.]

[7,280 health has been restored.]

Doran's Ring immediately restored half of his lost health! Thanks to that effect, the injury in his heart area quickly recovered. Grid seemed like he would collapse but he quickly stood upright.

"What...?!"

The pope was caught off guard as the +8 Ideal Dagger pierced his heart.

"Cough!"

The pope's face was dismayed as he spat out black blood.

'What is this situation?'

The pope couldn't believe it. He thought it was finished the moment he penetrated the heart of the masked bastard, but rather than dying, Grid fought back?

"This monster...! Goddess' Breath!"

The pope barely managed to recover his spirit and heal himself. He regained all his health and kicked Grid. It was intended to open a distance so he could use magic, but Grid wouldn't permit the pope to leave. The pope was a priest, so he would have weak physical abilities. After avoiding the pope's kick, Grid grabbed his ankle and laughed grimly.

"You, did you think you could get away?"

A chill went down the pope's spine as his ankle was caught.

"Heok...! Let me go!"

"I won't let go!"

Pakak!

Grid hit the struggling pope's face. Then he firmly grabbed the pope's shoulders and pushed him hard. The pope fell to the ground. Grid's mad eyes could be seen through the helmet.

"Let's experiment with how long you can keep healing!"

"This guyyyy!"

Puk!Puk puk.Puk puk puk!

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 7,500 damage.]

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 6,980 damage.]

[Critical!]

[You have dealt 7,330 damage.]

A critical hit was activated every time he precisely stabbed the dagger into the pope's heart. Grid burst out laughing.

"Puhahahahat! Die! Die!"

"Kuaaaaack!"

Puk puk puk!

Red blood spurted. It was a horrible sight. The man in the bizarre skull helmet climbed onto the pope's body and stabbed the pope with a dagger, causing blood and flesh to scatter all over the place. The pope's sharp screams and the helmeted man's creepy laughter filled the place.

"U-Uwaaah..."

The paladins and priests turned pale. Right now, the helmeted man in front of them was a butcher and the pope was a beast. The beast was being slaughtered by the butcher. The Vatican, one of the most sacred places in the world, was being turned into a slaughterhouse in a manner of minutes.

“Kuweek!”

The priest started to feel nauseous as they looked at the bloody pope. To them, the man in the skull helmet looked like a demon. In order to punish the wicked pope, a greater evil had descended.

Damian was finally able to recall who the man in the helmet was.

‘Him...! I knew he was somewhat familiar. He’s the butcher who appeared on TV a while ago.’

The butcher in the bizarre skull helmet who smashed the Giant Guild in Winston! It was rumored that he was a psychopath, and Damian had no doubt about it.

‘He fights in such a terrible manner...!’

The sight of the pope being unable to resist the dagger continuously stabbing his heart wasn’t pleasant. In addition, the eerie light coming from the helmet made it creepier. On the other hand, the pope couldn’t believe the situation.

He reigned over 70 million people, and even kings bowed to him! As an agent of the goddess, he was one of the most divine people in the world! Now he was being humiliated by a trivial guy whose identity was unknown!

“Kuaack!”

The furious pope once again released light magic around himself. Grid judged that it wouldn’t be safe to be swept away by that power and hurriedly pulled away from the pope.

Kwa kwa kwang!

[You have suffered 12,600 damage.]

[You have lost 45% of your health from a single blow.]

It was completely impossible to avoid the light power pouring out.

Jjejeok!Jjejeok!

The Frostlight Orc Chief’s Helmet, that was tinged with red due to the pope’s blood, started cracking. Grid’s face was almost completely revealed. Then the pope shouted a new magic spell.

“Goddess’ Wrath!”

Papat!Papapat!

Two large gold circles, approximately 3m in diameter, was quickly created behind the pope’s back. Vast amounts of energy was coming from it. Grid became alert as mana was emitted from the magic circles.

Kuwaaaang!

It was like watching an anti-tank gun. The light magic power emitted from the circles was 10 times greater and stronger than the power of light used by the pope. It seemed able to destroy anything.

"This is the strongest divine magic! You won't be able to withstand this damage!"

Rin, who knew better than anyone that Everiel's Shield was the only thing that could defend against it, shouted urgently. But Grid didn't back down. He would show the peak of his item effects! He deployed the pavranium, the most powerful mineral that transcended the mineral of the gods.

Peeeeeeong!

Two small golden discs emerged and faced the huge white flash.

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

The ground shook. The Vatican, which had endured for 500 years, started to collapse. The priests and paladins screamed as pillars fell over.

"Rin-chan!" In the midst of the confusion, Damian rushed forward and hugged Rin. Then he protected Rin from the stones falling from the ceiling. "A-Are you okay? Rin-chan?"

"Damian..."

Rin felt something strange as she looked at the bloody Damian. She felt a yearning for the warmth of his arms.

"Me too..."

Rin existed only as a means to defend the pope and church, and this was her first experience of being protected by someone. Thus, Rin summoned Ikael's Sword.

"Me too...! I will fight!"

She had been lethargic and helpless after being abandoned by the church, but now she was filled with determination.

"If this is the goddess' will, I will follow! Punish the corrupt pope and rebuilt the Vatican! And Damian, with you, I will lead the Rebecca Church to the right path again!"

"Rin-chan...!"

A flag was planted! Damian flushed as he felt thrilled, then Isabel appeared.

"Rin! Are you okay?"

She had just finished subduing Luna. Isabel had worried about Rin's safety after witnessing the collapse of the Vatican. Had she lost her life to the pope? Isabel imagined the worst situation and ran, but fortunately, Rin was safe. She was relieved to the point where tears flowed down.

Rin shouted firmly. "Isabel! I will defeat His Holiness! He has sinned! It's what the goddess wants!"

Isabel nodded. "Yes...! Let's join forces!"

The moment that the strongest paladins decided to punish the pope. In the center of the collapsed debris of the Vatican! A voice was heard from within the smoke.

"My prey... Don't take it."

It was Grid. His helmet and armor were destroyed because of the shockwave.

"Damn bastard! I will make you pay for the value of my items!"

On the other side, the pope's shocked voice was heard. "How did you stop the Goddess' Wrath...? What are those golden discs?"

The throne where only the pope could sit. The pope was sitting down with exhaustion. His usual dignity was gone and his hair was matted.

Grid grabbed Dainsleif. Damian saw that he was trying to fight again and hurriedly used Light's Blessing.

Shaaaaaah.

Dainsleif started to be surrounded by a golden light. It was the precursor to Dainsleif's skill, Golden Flash.

"Ohhhhhh!"

Kuwaaaang!

Grid squeezed out all the power of Dainsleif and a golden flash flew through the remnant of the Vatican towards the pope. Until then, all of Grid's attacks were physical so the pope was astonished after using a shield that protected against physical attacks.

"Magic power...!"

That's right. The Golden Flash was a skill that deal damage proportional to his magic power to all targets in a straight line. Grid had no reason to use it since his strength was much higher than his intelligence. However, he used it with exquisite timing in this moment to penetrate through the shield.

"Kuaaaak!"

The pope screamed with pain! Then Grid fired Pagma's Swordsmanship, Link.

[The level of Link has risen.]

[Your damage will increase. The number of times a target is hit will increase by 5 times.]

It was the first time since acquiring Pagma's Swordsmanship. He had used it hundreds of times and it now had finally reached level 2. Now 17 linked strikes cut at the pope's body.

"Goddess' Protection!"

The pope barely managed to use a skill. A pale green translucent shield was deployed to protect his body.

"Die!"

The pope smiled with satisfaction as he unleashed a counterattack.

“Kuk!”

It was a widespread emission of light magic power so it was impossible to defend against with just two discs of pavranium. The pavranium couldn't protect Grid and Grid suffered a great deal of damage.

But Grid didn't fall down.

[You have suffered 13,000 damage.]

[You have suffered 9,500 damage.]

[A legend doesn't die easily. You can resist all attacks for 5 seconds with a minimum of health.]

“What...?! What the hell are you? Why won't you fall?”

The pope cried out in frustration as he tried to use a healing spell. However, he was both physically and mentally exhausted, and most of his magic power was consumed by Goddess' Wrath. It was impossible to use magic smoothly. In the end, he couldn't do anything.

“I...”

Grid unfolded his sword dance as he shouted.

“Am a legend! Pagma's Swordsmanship, Kill!”

[The level of Kill has risen.]

[Your damage will greatly increase.]

Peeeeeeong!

The pope grasped the last of his magic power and barely managed to deploy a shield. Then the huge greatsword penetrated the pope's chest.

“Cou...gh! You...!”

Red bloodshot eyes stared at Grid as the pope coughed up blood. Then the pope gradually turned into a grey light. Numerous notification windows popped up in front of Grid.

[You have defeated the 13th Pope Drevigo, who was corrupting the Rebecca Church!]

[500 gold has been acquired.]

[Party leader 'Grid' has acquired the Goddess' Essence.]

[Party leader 'Grid' has acquired the Holy Light Armor.]

[Party leader 'Grid' has acquired the Holy Light Gloves.]

[Party leader 'Grid' has acquired the Holy Light Crown.]

[145,350,000 experience has been acquired.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

[Your level has risen.]

Chapter 127

“Kuaaaaak!”

He was more naughty and wicked than anyone else, but also more noble and divine than anyone else. The reign of Pope Drevigo ended after a long struggle. Then he turned into light. The light that symbolized levelling up flashed around Grid’s body dozens of times.

“Heok...”

Damian was amazed as he confirmed it in the party information window. Grid had been level 150 and he jumped to level 170 instantly.

‘Gaining 20 levels at once...!’

That’s right. Grid overcame the pope who ruled over 70 million people and gained an unimaginable amount of experience.

On the other hand, Damian was in a party with Grid, but he only gained a small amount of experience. It was because the system judged that he barely contributed to the battle against the pope. In addition, there were two people in the party but all items dropped were one-sidedly gained by Grid.

Despite the pope being defeated, Damian wasn’t able to take advantage of the experience and items in any way. But Damian wasn’t disappointed.

‘I just used buff skills on him and tied up the feet of the paladins for a while. He took on the pope alone, and I can’t even envy him, because I didn’t give him much help.’

The bizarre skull helmet had been shattered by the pope. Damian looked at the exposed Grid with pleasant emotions.

‘Thanks to him, I was able to clear my hidden class change quest...’

Notification windows were being renewed in front of him.

[The quest 'Goddess' Divine Punishment' has succeed.]

[You have changed to the unique hidden class 'Goddess' Agent.']

[You are qualified to become the pope.]

[There is a possibility that you will be elected as a pope candidate.]

[If you are crowned as the pope, you can run the Rebecca Church. Please be patient until the day when tens of millions of people worship you.]

[The skill Goddess' Breath has been created.]

[The skill Goddess' Breath has been mastered.]

[The skill Goddess' Protection has been created.]

[The skill Goddess' Protection has been mastered.]

[The skill Divine Message has been created.]

[The Dignity stat has been opened.]

[The growth rate of divine power will become three times higher.]

[Goddess' Breath]

Recovers 100% of your health and 70% of your party members' health.

Skill Mana consumption: 30% of the maximum mana.

Skill Cooldown Time: 10 minutes.

[Goddess' Protection]

Creates a shield of absolute defense that will invalidate an enemy's attack once.

Skill Mana Cost: 2,000

Skill Cooldown Time: 1 hour.

[Divine Message]

You can hear the voice of Goddess Rebecca. The goddess will give you a lot of advice. You can earn big profits if you act on that advice.

Skill Activation Condition: Random

'Goddess' breath and protection... Pope Drevigo used it every few minutes, but that was an NPC correction effect. For a user, it was magic with a very long cooldown time.'

Was he disappointed? No, that wasn't it. Damian was thrilled.

'I didn't realize it until now. I have a unique hidden class...'

These were the ratings of the hidden classes: Rare, epic, unique and legendary! Most of the existing hidden classes had a rare rating. There were only three epic hidden classes revealed and no unique hidden classes. Most users and experts speculated that unique and higher hidden classes hadn't appeared yet.

But at this moment! Damian was able to obtain a unique hidden class thanks to Grid. It was a unique hidden class, far beyond a rare class! Damian was thrilled and felt infinite gratitude towards Grid.

'In my 32 years of life, I have lived a normal life without being able to feel this sense of accomplishment once...! Grid, you are my lifelong benefactor! I don't care if you are a psychopath. To me, you are an angel! Someday... I will repay you someday!'

Grid didn't know about it. The reason he defeated the pope was to clear his own quest, not to help Damian, who he didn't even know. He was unaware that Damian had just obtained a hidden class.

However, it was undeniable that Grid was Damian's benefactor. In the future, Damian would be sure to repay the favor to Grid, and Grid would gain a solid support without even knowing it.

"It was hard."

After knocking down the pope. Grid's stamina was depleted and he lay on the ground without any hesitation.

"I can't move a finger."

Due to the battle with the pope, the Vatican was completely devastated. Only a few pillars were barely standing, but the ceiling had completely collapsed, so it could no longer be called a building. There was a satisfied smile on Grid's face as he looked up at the blue sky through the collapsed ceiling.

'Jackpot.'

[Holy Light Armor]

Rating: Legendary (Set)

Durability: 924/924 Defense: 872

* There is a high chance of completely resisting dark spells.

* 300% increased in magic recovery effects.

* 40% reduction in damage from physical attacks.

* 50% reduction in damage from magic attacks.

-When 3 set items are equipped: Defense +500, health +6,000.

An armor that the legendary blacksmith Pagma made for 5th Pope Franz.

Thanks to this armor made by the god mineral adamantium, Franz was able to survive many times in the war against the Yatan Church.

Since it was an armor customized for Franz, the other popes have stored this armor away.

Conditions of Use: Franz.

Weight: 1,517

[Holy Light Gloves]

Rating: Legendary (Set)

Durability: 300/3000 Defense: 130 Attack Speed: +20% Accuracy +40%

* There is a normal chance of activating '5 Joint Attacks.'

* There is a high chance of activating 'Counterattack.'

-When 3 set items are equipped: Defense +500, health +6,000.

An armor that the legendary blacksmith Pagma made for 5th Pope Franz.

There is a legend that Franz, who has a weak sword technique, became a master of the sword when wearing these gloves.

Since the gloves were personally customized for Franz, the other popes have stored these gloves away.

Conditions of Use: Franz.

Weight: 10

[Holy Light Crown]

Rating: Legendary (Set)

Durability: 180/180 Defense: 20

* Intelligence +300

* Dignity +200

-When 3 set items are equipped: Defense +500, health +6,000.

A crown that the legendary blacksmith Pagma made for 5th Pope Franz.

There is a legend that Franz became more intelligent and dignified after wearing this crown.

Since the crown was personally customized for Franz, the other popes have stored this crown away.

Conditions of Use: Franz.

Weight: 25

Unlike the helmet, the crown's defense wasn't very good. However, the effect of the set items seemed enough to cover the lack of defense.

'The performance of the armor and gloves is the best.'

Grid equipped the items that he obtained.

[A penalty is applied because the item conditions aren't met.]

[Defense of Holy Light Armor will decrease by 55%.]

[As your understanding of the Holy Light Armor increases, the penalty will decrease.]

[Defense of Holy Light Gloves will decrease by 55%.]

[As your understanding of the Holy Light Gloves increases, the penalty will decrease.]

[Defense of Holy Light Crown will decrease by 55%.]

[As your understanding of the Holy Light Crown increases, the penalty will decrease.]

"Kuk."

In the case of legendary items, the penalty for not meeting the conditions of use was 55%. Therefore, only 393 defense would be applied if Grid equipped the Holy Light Armor. The defense of the Holy Light Gloves would be 59 and the Holy Light Crown would be 9 defense.

But there was the effect of wearing the three set items, so the defense wasn't low. Furthermore, the option effects were applied too. Grid thought about it positively.

'This performance... The understanding of an item will naturally rise if I use it, so I don't need to be disappointed.'

In fact, his understanding of Dainsleif had increased, so now the penalty was only around 20%.

'The bad thing is that they are items that can't be widely used. No one will buy it if I put it on the auction site... How rotten.'

Legendary items dropped for the first time, but why were they so special? Then a notification window flashed in front of Grid.

[The quest 'Help the Rebecca Church!' has succeeded.]

[Affinity with the Rebecca Church has risen to the maximum. Members of the Rebecca Church will have unlimited affection and trust in you. You will be able to receive aid from them.]

[Talk to Rebecca's Daughter, Isabel. She will give the goddess' blessing to the pavranium.]

He had some rest so he managed to move his limbs. He unequipped the items and rose from his spot with a groan. Isabel, Rin, Damian and dozens of Rebecca members were watching him.

"Grid..." Isabel approached Grid. Tears were seen in her eyes. "Thank you. Thanks to you, the honor of the goddess... I could keep Rin and everyone else."

Isabel bowed deeply after her words. Then the other paladins and priest also bowed in unison.

"..."

It was a solemn atmosphere. Grid had gotten rid of the pope who corrupted the church over the last two years, so they truly regarded him as a saviour.

'Cool!'

Wasn't this completely a scene from a manhwa? Damian looked at Grid with envy. He viewed Grid as a hero from a manhwa. He was like a great being who defended everyone against evil and was honoured by all after defeating the evil. It was the typical look of a main character that Damian had been dreaming about. Damian truly yearned to be Grid.

But it was only for a while.

"For free? If you really appreciate it, shouldn't you show me some courtesy? Isn't the Rebecca Church rich?"

Grid made the shape of a coin with his fingers and demanded with greedy eyes.

"Give me a tip. As you can see, my helmet and armor broke due to suffering a lot of damage against the pope. I also have to claim compensation for being mentally injured after Isabel refused to return the Divine Shield."

"..."

Grid was greedy. As everyone was speechless, Damian muttered with disappointment, "A person like this..."

After that.

Grid followed along after Isabel and Rin. They arrived in the centre of the collapsed Vatican. Despite the Vatican being swept away in the aftermath of the destruction, there were almost no scratches on the Rebecca Statue.

Grid handed Isabel the two discs.

"Please use the goddess' blessing on them."

Isabel received the golden discs. She fell to her knees in front of the goddess' statue and started praying. Then after a few moments, a warm light came down from the sky and wrapped around the golden discs.

Ttiring~

[Goddess Rebecca's blessing has fallen on the pavranium.]

[The pavranium will be able to demonstrate recovery abilities.]

"Recovery ability?"

Grid appraised the golden discs.

[Golden Discs Made of Pavranium]

Durability: Infinite

Golden discs made of pavranium, the strongest mineral produced by the collaboration between the legendary blacksmith Pagma and the legendary great magician Braham.

By default, they revolve around and protects their owner. They will also take other actions when given commands from their owner.

* They have obtained healing skills due to Goddess Rebecca's blessing. They will increase their owner's health recovery speed by 300%.

Weight: 5

"Wow."

This mineral could also acquire skills? He never even imagined it. The future was bright. In the future, he had to receive the blessings from God Dominion, God Judar and God Yatan. The pavranium would acquire new skills every time, so Grid had great expectations.

But there was still the matter of God Yatan. He was an enemy of the Yatan Church! How could he get the blessing of God Yatan?

Grid was sighing when Damian approached him.

"Mr. Grid!"

"What is it?"

Grid frowned at Damian's sudden shout. Damian asked him desperately, "Can I rub my cheek against those golden discs? It is my wish of a lifetime. "

Grid was bewildered. "Why?"

Damian snorted like a horny bull and explained. "Didn't it just touch Isabel-chan's chest? I want to feel the warmth of Isabel-chan's chest!"

"...?"

An ordinary looking person was talking like this, so Grid doubted his ears. Isabel hit Damian's side with her elbow.

"Keo... Keok!" Isabel-chan's elbow... Haack..."

Damian collapsed with a pained but happy expression. Isabel was so embarrassed that she blew him away with the kick. Then she passed the Divine Shield to the stunned Grid.

"We need a lot of money to rebuild the Vatican. We can't afford to pay you a tip but... I will give you this as promised."

It was the moment he recovered the legendary Divine Shield that was stolen a few months ago.

[Perfect Divine Shield]

Rating: Legendary

Durability: 680/680 Defense: 370 Magic Resistance: 280

* There is a high chance of completely resisting dark spells.

* The skill 'Divine Light' will be generated.

* The skill 'Divine Favor' will be generated.

An item made by a craftsman with great skills and potential, but his experience and reputation is somewhat lacking.

Thanks to the power of Cassus, a priest of the Rebecca Church, it shines with the divine power of the goddess of light. Due to its strength against dark magic, all followers of demons and the Yatan Church will suffer when facing this shield.

User Restriction: Level 190 or higher. More than 500 strength. More than 1,000 divine power. A member of the Rebecca Church.

Weight: 800

"...Well, this is it."

Grid was satisfied. With this Divine Shield, he was confident that he could fight the servants of the Yatan Church.

'Yes, if I can't willingly obtain God Yatan's blessing, I will force them to give me the blessing.'

Isabel carefully asked him, "Are you leaving now?"

She felt regret. But Grid was a busy person. He wanted to clear the quest as quickly as possible and return to Winston. Then he could spend a hot night with his beautiful bride!

"I have to leave. Oh, do you have any influence with the Dominion and Judar churches? I need to obtain God Dominion and God Judar's blessings."

Isabel smiled widely, "The Dominion Church and Judar Church are like our brothers. The Dominion Church and Judar Church have pledged allegiance to our pope... I can provide you some strength."

She felt sorry because she didn't have anything special to give Grid for his great help. She was glad to have a chance to repay Grid.

"I'll write an introduction. They will willingly give their blessings with my introduction. I want to accompany you but... Sorry. There is a lot of work to do, such as electing a new pope and rebuilding the Vatican."

"..."

Grid looked at Damian who had been kicked by Isabel, and confirmed that he wouldn't be able to get up for a while. Then Grid replied, "There's no need to be sorry. I don't want to be accompanied by a crazy girl like you. This is enough."

"W-What?"

Isabel became gloomy at the end of his words. Rin looked at him reproachfully, but Grid didn't notice.

After receiving the letter of introduction. Grid headed towards the nearest Dominion Church.

Chapter 128

The Judar Church, Dominion Church and Rebecca Church.

The three religions weren't in conflict. Rather, their relationship was very good. The Rebecca Church was like a parent to the Judar and Dominion churches. The god of health and wisdom, Judar, and the god of war, Dominion, were the sons of the goddess of light, Rebecca.

Among all three religions, Goddess Rebecca was recognized as supreme. The difference was that the Dominion Church had strong armed forces, the Judar Church worshipped health and wisdom, and the Rebecca Church sought justice.

However, the leader of the Judar Church had great ambitions.

"5th Pope Franz was originally from our church. At the time, the Rebecca Church didn't have anyone to become pope so they took him from our church and placed him in the seat of the pope."

It was true. The 5th Pope Franz was actually the head of the Judar Church. But the Rebecca Church lacked talent and elected him to become the pope.

"Look at the present Pope Drevigo. He is someone who isn't suitable for the status of pope. Everybody has been keeping it quiet, but the Rebecca Church is becoming corrupt due to Drevigo. He should resign and a new person must become pope. It's natural for the new person to be me."

The 11th leader of the Judar Church, Pascal! He was a prominent figure claiming to be the descendant of 5th Pope Franz. Thanks to his sincerity and outstanding talent, he became the head of the Judar Church, and now he was dreaming of becoming the Rebecca Church's pope.

"The 5th Pope and my ancestor set the precedent. It wouldn't be strange if I became a pope candidate."

The introduction was too long. A black haired man, who had been listening silently for a while, wanted to cut to the chase.

"So... What do I need to do for the sake of you and the church?"

The identity of the black man was Toban. He was 1st on the paladin rankings and the chief of staff for the Tzedakah Guild. Pascal ordered him as a paladin of the Judar Church, "The Rebecca Church is keeping the battle gear that Franz used during his lifetime. The Holy Light Crown, Armor and Gloves. I want you to take them back for me."

[A quest has been created.]

[Franz' Descendant]

Difficulty Level: SS

The most respected pope was 5th Pope Franz. It isn't an exaggeration to say that his reign helped the Rebecca Church become what it is today.

Pascal is dreaming of becoming the 14th pope! He wants to prove to the Rebecca Church that he is Franz' descendant. If he can prove it, there is a possibility that the forces against the corrupt Pope Drevigo will support Pascal to become the pope!

Use any means and methods to reclaim the Holy Light Crown, Armor and Gloves!

Pascal plans to prove his identity by wearing the pieces known only to be wearable by Franz.

Quest Clear Conditions: Reclaim the Holy Light Crown, Armor and Gloves.

Quest Clear Reward: Level +5. The Sword of Wisdom.

Quest Failure: Pascal's plan to become pope will be wasted. You will be hated by Pascal.

'Amazing!'

The rankings for the top rankers could fluctuate with just 1% difference in experience. Gaining five levels was a huge reward for Toban, who was currently level 232 and 68th on the unified rankings.

'I spend an average of 8-10 days gaining one level... If I clear this quest, I can gain at least 40 days of effort instantly. I will also jump in the rankings! But that isn't all...'

Toban felt joy as he confirmed the details of the Sword of Wisdom.

[Sword of Wisdom]

Rating: Legendary

Durability: 500/500 Attack Power: 385 Attack Speed: +3%

* When attacking normally, there is a chance to reset the skill's cooldown time.

* Intelligence +250

A divine artifact of the Judar Church.

In the past, the head of the church only gave it to the person they most trusted.

Conditions of Use: The best paladin of the Judar Church.

Weight: 450

'I want to have this sword!'

The Sword of Wisdom's attack power was ordinary compared to unique level 230 one-handed swords. It seemed lacking compared to the legendary rating. But the option attached to it was a scam. When attacking normally, there was a chance to reset the skill's cooldown time. If he used it with items that increased attack speed, the synergy could explode.

'As long as I have this sword, I can level like Pon and Ibellin!'

Due to the events of the Guardian of the Forest raid, Grid ordered that Toban would be last on the production list. He could only watch Pon and Ibellin with envy, so the reward for this quest was literally a ray of light.

[Would you like to accept the quest?]

"..."

The penalty was terrible if he failed the quest. He didn't know what he would suffer if his affinity with the head of the Judar Church fell. Since the degree of difficulty was so high, it was a quest with a low probability of success. But even with all of this, Toban wanted to do the quest because he coveted the rewards.

"I, Toban, will head to the Rebecca Church immediately!"

[The quest has been accepted.]

Pascal was very pleased with his aggressiveness.

"As our best paladin, I look forward to your performance. If you meet up with the spy I planted in the Vatican, he will tell you where the treasures are hidden. Act according to his guidance and bring back the treasures."

"Yes!"

Toban didn't delay any longer. He immediately set off towards the Vatican. On the way, he asked the guild for assistance.

{Guys! I received an SS-grade quest!!}

{Wow~ you finally received an SS-grade quest? Ohh, when will I have such good luck?}

{大 ⇨ 大 ⇨ What are the rewards?}

{A legendary sword. -_-v}

{A legendary item as a reward? Jackpot □ □ }

{But Toban, isn't a SS-grade quest really difficult? Can you clear it alone?}

{I think it will be hard on my own. Does anyone have time to come and help me? I will be sure to reciprocate later.}

{What are the contents of the quest?}

{Break into the Rebecca Vatican and steal three treasures.}

{The Vatican...?}

The atmosphere of the chat window changed. Everybody was confused.

{Aren't Rebecca's Daughters living in the Vatican? Do you have to fight them?}

{That... Isn't it better than Malacus? ;;;}

{Aren't there three of them? —,—;}

{Um... Toban, I'm sorry but I can't help you. If something goes wrong, I will die.}

{Me too... The risk is too big. I'm sorry.}

{Maybe it is better to give up on this quest. ~ _ ~;;}

"...These guys."

To a ranker, death was fatal. It was difficult to gain one level, so anyone would shed tears of blood if they died. What would happen if they dropped items? It was terrible to even imagine. It wasn't a matter of loyalty. Realistically, no one was willing to accept such a high risk quest for one man.

But Toban still had hope. It was Regas. Regas was someone who would help others in any situation! Wasn't his nickname Volunteer?

Toban sent a whisper to him. However...

[The other person has blocked all whispers.]

"Dammit!"

Toban muttered grouchyly. Regas would occasionally block the guild chat and whispers when training, and now seemed to be one of those times. He wouldn't be reachable for at least a week. It seemed like Toban would have to proceed on this quest alone.

"I guess it can't be helped... I have to proceed cautiously to avoid getting caught by Rebecca's Daughters."

Toban was trying to figure out a way to clear the quest alone when he received a whisper.

-Chief, if you don't mind, can I help you?

'Box?'

Box was one of the six new rankers who joined the Tzedakah Guild. His class was a linker! It linked magic to objects to control them, or connect objects together to form magic shapes that gave beneficial or harmful effects.

It was a class that required high judgment and magic power control, so the difficulty belonged in the highest level. However, Box was 1st ranked among the linker rankings. He was only 230th on the unified rankings, the lowest in the Tzedakah Guild, but the guild had great expectations towards him.

Toban felt relieved that he was willing to help.

-Oh?I'm very thankful!But is it okay?You might need to deal with Rebecca's Daughters?

-I don't mind the risk.In addition, Black Teddy and Asuka are willing to help you as well.If the three of us and Chief combine our strengths, can't we deal with Rebecca's Daughters or escape unharmed?

Black Teddy and Asuka were also part of the six new people who joined. In particular, Asuka was in the 20s on the unified rankings. Toban noticed that they wanted something.

-Do you want something in exchange for your help?

-Yes, please let us meet Bone Helmet.

"..."

The six new rankers all joined for a common reason. They hoped to meet Grid. Based on their attitudes, they joined the guild only to meet Grid. They seemed interested in what Grid's class was supposed to be, since they assumed it was a hidden class.

Toban refused them.

-I've said it many times, but I can't reveal his identity until I fully trust you.

-I swear that we just want to talk to him...Well, okay.You don't have to tell us who he is right now.I will help Chief as a favor?

-Um?

-Isn't this the process of building trust?In order to build trust, shouldn't we build up our camaraderie?

-The bottom line is, you want to build up trust quickly in order to discover his identity?

-Haha, yes.

-So relentless...Your intentions are impure, but thank you anyway.I need your help.Please.

He had to rendezvous with the spy near the Vatican. Toban told Box the time and place of the meeting and promised to meet them there.

Then two days later.

Toban arrived at the meeting place. But Box's group still hadn't arrived yet. The church's spy approached Toban who was standing alone. Then he received shocking news.

"Pope Drevigo was killed. He lost his life to one who was blessed by the gods, like you."

"What...?"

Blessed by the gods was a term NPCs used to refer to users. A user managed to defeat the pope, one of the currently strongest NPCs? Toban doubted his ears and asked for details.

"His ID... No, what was his name? How could he defeat the pope alone?"

"I was hiding in the distance, so I couldn't confirm his name. Anyway, he is very strong. He overwhelmed the pope with excellent swordsmanship."

"...I can't imagine it. There's such a strong user?"

Maybe it was the 1st ranked Kraugel that Pon often talked about? According to Pon, Kraugel's strength was beyond the limits of a user. Pon predicated that he wouldn't be able to compete with Kraugel, even if Pon joined forces with Regas and Jishuka. If it was him, he might be able to beat the pope alone.

'Even if it isn't him, the world is wide. There are over two billion users in Satisfy. It isn't strange that there are hidden people we don't know about. In fact, wasn't Faker completely defeated by the unknown girl called Euphemina a few months ago?'

But now matter how strong a user was, the pope should have the protection of Rebecca's Daughters. The user managed to face the pope and Rebecca's Daughters alone?

“What about Rebecca’s Daughters? Did they also suffer with him?”

The man shook his head, "Rebecca’s Daughters are safe."

“What? They’re safe while the pope is dead?”

"The recent pope was severely controlling Rebecca’s Daughters. In Rin’s case, she was on the verge of being discarded. Therefore, they didn’t help the pope."

"The pope was rash."

In the first place, the pope wasn’t Toban’s goal. It didn’t matter what happened with the pope. He just wanted Franz’ treasures. Toban asked about his original purpose, “The result is good. The Vatican will be in chaos and security will be relatively poor, making it easy to steal Franz’ treasures. Where are Franz’ treasures hidden?”

“That...” The spy looked uncertain.

Toban had an ominous feeling as he laughed awkwardly, "Don’t tell me that the person who defeated the pope picked up Franz’ treasures?"

"...That is literally what happened."

Toban exclaimed. "No, what about Rebecca’s Daughters? Aren’t Franz’ treasures precious to the Rebecca Church? They just let that guy take his treasures?"

“Yes... They felt sorry that they couldn’t reward him more.”

“Crazy!”

It was a strange twist. In Toban’s experience, unpredictable things were always the worst.

“Ominous... It is ominous.”

Box’s group arrived while Toban was feeling nervous.

Chapter 129

Box discovered Toban and greeted him with a smile, "You’ve already arrived."

Box was an extremely handsome man. He had clear skin, a flattering jawline, and eyes that were sharp enough to capture a woman’s heart. He had long black hair tied up, and the harmony of his appearance and hairstyle made him seem like a young master in the oriental paintings.

But there was a saying to look beyond face value. He played around too much with women. His nickname was Octopus Prince. There were rumors that he had several women on the hook at the same time. So many women had a grudge against him that female users launched a group called ‘Box Killing Group.’

"You’re on time."

Toban, who was nervous after talking to the spy, welcomed Box. Then he greeted Black Teddy and Asuka as well. But they lacked sociability, unlike Box. They ignored Toban's greeting and urged immediately.

"Let's go."

Black Teddy was a man in his 40's who was around 2m tall. Not only did he have a good physique, but he also gave off a tough impression with his eyes. However, he always carried a cute teddy bear in his arms that didn't fit his appearance or age. Toban had met him several times, but it was still difficult to adapt.

'That teddy bear...'

To be honest, it was hard to look at. A large hairy hand was touching the bear's head. The mole whispered to Toban, who was frowning.

"Toban, the person who knocked down the pope... He's wearing the Holy Light Armor. I think it's right to punish him, for the sake of our church."

[The contents of the quest 'Franz' Descendant' has changed.]

"This."

Toban's expression changed as he confirmed the new contents of the quest. He explained the situation to Box's group, "The treasures I have to recover are no longer in the Vatican. A user has intercepted them, so we have track him down."

Box looked troubled. "User? Ah, I'm sure it'll cost a lot of money. I don't know who he is, but nobody will give away quest items for free. He will likely ask for a lot of money."

Toban shook his head, "Money isn't a problem. We must fight that person. The altered quest is telling me to kill him. It seems like the treasures will drop if he is killed."

Box's color returned.

"Really? It's good that it's so simple."

The four people gathered here were top rankers. With their combined strength, it would be easy to defeat a user.

"I'll track him down quickly."

Box was confident. Black Teddy and Asuka were sniffing like this was trivial. Toban felt the need to make them more cautious.

"Despite the quest contents being changed to fight a user, the difficulty is still SS. This means the opponent is strong, so we should be alert. Share the quest information."

Toban's quest information appeared in front of the three of them.

[Franz' Descendant (2)]

Difficulty Level: SS

According to the information from a spy, an enigmatic figure killed the pope alone and obtained Franz' treasures.

Unfortunately, he seems to be wearing Franz' treasures.

Only Franz' descendant can wear his treasures, so Pascal's plan to prove his authenticity is slowly fading away.

Track him down and kill him!

Then take away Franz' treasures!

Quest Clear Conditions: Kill the enigmatic figure and reclaim the Holy Light Crown, Armor and Gloves.

Quest Clear Reward: Level +5. The Sword of Wisdom.

Quest Failure: Pascal's plan to become pope will be wasted. You will be hated by Pascal.

"...?"

Box's expression stiffened. Black Teddy also hesitated while stroking the teddy bear. There was a moment of silence. Then Asuka opened her mouth for the first time.

"Even I can't kill the pope alone."

Asuka was 28th on the unified rankings. The guild often compared her combat capabilities to Pon or Regas. In fact, she had the experience of killing a boss monster in the low 200's by herself. But according to the information they had, the pope was at least level 330.

She would never dare try to kill him alone. But the enigmatic figure described in the quest contents was said to kill the pope alone.

"Someone capable enough to defeat the pope... They must be at least in the top 10 of the unified rankings and have a hidden class. Perhaps it was Agnus?"

7th on the unified rankings, Agnus! He was one of the three epic hidden classes. He had countless unbelievable sagas.

Box sounded excited, "If it's him, this will be fun. It's a chance to figure out what his hidden class might be."

But Black Teddy disagreed, "Isn't the opponent too strong? Maybe we'll all die."

Asuka hissed at him. "If you are scared then leave. I will fight."

"Young Lady..."

Asuka was the daughter of the chairman of a global conglomerate. And Black Teddy was her attendant. Black Teddy started Satisfy due to her command. Asuka needed an attendant in Satisfy and chose Black Teddy.

At first, Black Teddy didn't know the game he was supposed to play. But as he played Satisfy with Asuka, he became a ranker. Now, as a genuine gamer, there were times when he forgot his duty.

"Then I'm out. I don't want to lose experience... It's hard to gain levels..."

"Ah, is that so? Will you really leave? I understand. Instead, you're fired. I don't need an attendant who doesn't follow their master."

"It was a joke. I will fight with you."

Black Teddy was the main breadwinner who supported his old parents and his terminally ill brother. He needed Asuka's huge paycheck for the cost of living as well as his brother's medical bills. So, he couldn't leave her. In fact, it wasn't just because of money. He had been around Asuka since she was five years old, so he was attached to her.

"If you're determined, let's depart."

The group to hunt the enigmatic figure who killed the pope was formed. They received the guidance of the spy and started to track the path of the enigmatic figure.

Then after three hours? In the dark woods that were like night, thanks to the thick trees blocking the sunlight, Toban was able to find a single man walking.

"Shh!"

Toban signalled his companions to stop. Then they hid as much as possible in the bushes.

"Is that him?" Box asked as he watched the black-haired man walking approximately 100m in front of them.

Toban nodded, "That's right. The system is telling me that it is him."

Box was puzzled.

"What is he doing with a shabby cloak like that? Doesn't he look too poor? Is he really the target?"

Toban replied, "High level users don't always arm themselves with the best items. Some don't like to be noticed."

The cloak the black-haired man was wearing was somewhat familiar to Toban. But the cloak didn't have any special design on it. Therefore, he didn't think much about it. Asuka silently glanced at Black Teddy. Black Teddy had served her for nearly 20 years, so he could read the meaning in her eyes.

"I understand. I will test his skills." Then Black Teddy used a skill. "Summon Black Bear."

Kwaaaaah!

The largest bear on Earth was the grizzly bear. The males had a body length that was around 3m and weighed more than 600kg. They were like a compact car. The black bear that Black Teddy summoned was around 1.5 times bigger and heavier than a grizzly bear.

The bear roared and started charging towards the black-haired man.

"...?"

The man who was peacefully humming stopped at the commotion. Then he turned his head. As soon as his face was revealed, the ID 'Grid' appeared over his head. Toban's eyes widened.

'Eh? Grid?'

Kwaaaaah!

While Toban was feeling confused, the black bear swung its front paw precisely at Grid's face. Toban belatedly recovered his spirit and cried out urgently.

"S-Stop! Stop that bear now!"

"What? What are you saying all of a sudden?"

The moment that Black Teddy was feeling puzzled.

Pipit!Pipipit!

The huge black bear's body was hacked by dozens of sharp slashes. Then it turned into grey light.

"...Strong!"

Box admired it.

The black-haired man held a small dagger and took care of a level 200 summons in the blink of an eye. Tremendous damage. Box knew of only two people who could exert such physical damage, Jishuka and the one in the skull helmet.

'Yes, he is strong enough to defeat the pope. But I am unfamiliar with anyone called Grid...'

He wasn't a ranker? How could he be so strong without being a ranker?

'Does he have a hidden class?'

While Box was making guesses, Black Teddy was furious.

"You mean bastard...! How dare you cut the cute bear without even a change in expression!"

"H-Hey! Just wait a minute!"

Toban tried to calm the situation down, but it was useless. Black Teddy loved bears, and once his rage was out of control, only Asuka could control him. But Asuka let him rampage.

"Summon Brown Bear Knights!"

Three brown bears, twice as small as the black bear, but armed with helmets, armor, swords and shields were summoned. They were level 240! Black Teddy commanded them, "Get revenge on the slaughterer of your own kind!"

Kuwaaah!

The bears were influenced by their master's psychological state and angrily flocked to Grid. They started to put pressure on Grid with their swordsmanship. But their momentum was brief. Grid avoided the brown bears' attacks and countered by stabbing his dagger in a gap of a brown bear's armor. However,

summons didn't know pain. They kept swinging their swords at Grid, despite suffering from huge injuries.

Grid clicked his tongue. "Why are you so strong?"

Pepepeng!

Grid threw a dart at a bear knight. Then poison mist emerged from the dart.

Kwaaaaah!

The poisoned knights started to bleed and stumble. Grid used this gap to deal the fatal blows, then turned his gaze towards the forest where Toban's group was hiding.

"What are these bears? Did they come from the circus?"

Toban realized as he looked at Grid.

'It isn't a system error... Grid really did defeat the pope.'

Black Teddy was 1st on the summoner rankings. In the guild membership test, he summoned the bear knights and showed great skills against Faker. Now those powerful bear knights were taken care of by Grid in just two minutes.

'When did he become this strong?'

Grid was presumed to have a legendary hidden class. It was the strongest class rating that could be obtained in Satisfy. But Grid's level was still low. When he checked the guild information window two weeks ago, Grid was only in the low 100's.

'Anyway, it's good.'

Toban had many questions, but he could ask them slowly. Toban would ask Grid to cooperate with his quest.

But the situation went wrong.

"Hey Grid..."

"I won't forgive you!"

The moment Toban was able to raise his body to say hello to Grid! Black Teddy pushed his way out of the bushes and summoned new pets. In addition, Asuka was exchanging blows with Grid.

Toban made a mistake. Come to think of it, Grid had never met the new guild members. So they didn't know each other. They might've seen each other's IDs in the guild information window or chat window, but they might've forgotten it since it was insignificant.

"Hey, all of you wait a minute... We are part of the same guild..."

Toban tried to calm the situation down, but it was useless. Due to Black Teddy and Asuka's pincer attack, Grid had pulled out his greatsword.

"Isn't this a pretty interesting situation?"

Box figured out Grid's identity after seeing the greatsword and smiled meaningfully. Then he used the puppet magic that was the symbol of linkers and started to control Toban's body. The situation was worsening.

Toban felt like crying.

Chapter 130

After knocking down the pope, Grid left the Vatican once his quest ended and was prepared for a new adventure. But before that, he needed time to recharge.

"Logout."

Grid returned to being Shin Youngwoo. He left the capsule and immediately searched for food.

"I'm hungry."

He distractedly yanked his boxers up his hips as he opened the refrigerator door. Inside were ham and egg rolls, meat and all types of dishes. On the table was a note from his mother.

'Son. Don't forget to eat meals regularly! It's good to make money, but don't play the game too much and exercise as well. ^^'

His beloved mother. In the past, the debt-ridden Shin Youngwoo was always worried at home. He often had to listen to his parents nagging. But now he was different. Shin Youngwoo succeeded in the game and paid off his debt, as well as his father's. Now he was promoted to the trustworthy eldest son, not the pathetic son they had to worry about.

"I will work harder."

Youngwoo didn't want to worry his parents anymore. He didn't want to see the two of them depressed again. He wanted them to be as happy as they were now. So he reminded himself. Satisfy wasn't a simple game, it was his work! He would quickly finish this quest and turn to making items, earning more money and making his family happier.

He finished his meal. Shin Youngwoo took a break for a while and watched TV. Then he changed to a Satisfy-related channel and started to doze off.

On the news, there were reports that the pope of the Rebecca Church had been killed by an unidentified person. The news enthusiastically analyzed who the person was that killed the pope and who would be elected as the new pope. But Shin Youngwoo didn't see the news due to falling asleep.

30 minutes later. Shin Youngwoo woke up and turned off the TV. He stretched before going back to the capsule to access Satisfy.

"I am in the best condition."

He had a delicious lunch and plenty of rest. Grid walked vigorously towards his destination. Thanks to the clean air, he hummed as he walked through the forest. But he was attacked by someone along the way.

At first, bears appeared and attacked, then people popped out. Their IDs were Black Teddy and Asuka. The IDs were somewhat familiar, but Grid couldn't recall who they were. Then a battle started without him knowing why.

Kuwaaah!

"What are these bears?"

The summons followed the summoner's taste. In general, male summoners preferred pretty women, while female summoners preferred handsome men. There was also a strong tendency to summon monsters that were intimidating to the opponent.

But these bears? Of course, there were quite a few users who liked animal-shaped pets like Black Teddy. However, it wasn't to the extent of Black Teddy. It wasn't just one or two bears. Like a bear fanatic, all of his pets were bears.

"Summon White Bear Warriors!"

Grid had already defeated different types of bears. Now Black Teddy summoned a white bear. It wore a red cloak with black sunglasses. Somehow, it seemed stupid. The bear who had a serious expression with folded arms seemed quite laughable.

'Isn't it kind of cute?'

Grid lost his tension and was caught off guard. The white bear warrior didn't miss this chance. It jumped through the air at the speed of lightning and dealt an uppercut.

Peeok!

[You have suffered 2,550 damage.]

[The effect of Doran's Ring has been activated.]

[1,275 health has been restored.]

"Kuk!"

Fast and strong. Then Asuka approached the surprised Grid. She wielded the double swords at the same time.

Chaaeng!Chaeng!

Chukak.

[You have suffered 2,900 damage.]

"Girl...!"

He was quickly wounded. It was difficult to defend against the two swords that attacked different parts.

'These two, they are good.'

He had defeated the pope alone. He thought that maybe he was the strongest? That idea was quickly removed as Grid became alert. Then he observed Black Teddy and Asuka. He used his high insight to grasp their combat power.

‘What?’

Grid was startled. Asuka had 18,000 combat power while Black Teddy only had 9,000, but that increased to 20,000 with his summons.

‘Their IDs are familiar. Are they top rankers?’

Grid hurriedly opened his inventory. Then he took out the Holy Light set that was so gorgeous it was burdensome to wear.

[You have equipped the Holy Light Battle Gear set.]

[The additional effects of defense +500 and health +6,000 have been received.]

The pure white armor with gold thread and the gloves gleamed. In addition, the small silver crown emanated dignity.

‘Now he seems like a high level user. That scruffy appearance was just a gimmick.’ The moment that Black Teddy thought so. The person with the ID of Grid put away the dagger and pulled out a giant black greatsword.

“That sword...!”

Asuka’s eyes widened with surprise.

What was the reason she joined the Tzedakah Guild? It was because she wanted to know the class of the helmeted person who displayed overwhelming skills at Winston and slaughtered the Giant Guild members.

She wanted to figure out all of the hidden classes.

As a second generation heir of a conglomerate, she came in contact with traders every day, and sometimes these traders sold her information about hidden classes. But she couldn’t change into just any hidden class. There were countless types of hidden classes, so she needed a lot of information to make the best choice. She had to meet with as many hidden classes as possible.

But the Tzedakah Guild hid the man in the skull helmet and didn’t let her meet him. It was annoying because she couldn’t fulfill her original intention of joining the guild, but now she happen to come across him in an unexpected situation.

“You are the Psychopath Butcher right?” Asuka didn’t conceal her friendly tone as she asked.

Grid wanted to snap at her.

The Frostlight Orc Chief’s Helmet was destroyed by the pope! He appeared like a prince in a manhwa thanks to the silver crown, yet he was still being called psychopath.

‘They know it’s me due to Dainsleif, even if the Frostlight Orc Chief’s Helmet is gone. Rather, shouldn’t she be attracted to my appearance?’

The Holy Light Battle Gear set had a very beautiful appearance. He was confident that it was cooler than any existing battle gear set. Grid was expecting girls to think he looked cool when wearing this set.

However, he was mistaken. The completion of fashion relied on the face! Grid had a somewhat average appearance so he would only cause resentment when he tried to dress gorgeously.

“What happened to the skull helmet? I think I preferred it when you wore the skull helmet.” Asuka talked randomly.

Then Grid’s anger reached its peak.

"This girl... Not even introducing yourself before attacking someone... No, it’s even a personal attack?"

Grid wasn’t the type to become nice to someone because they were a woman. Asuka had a considerable beauty, but it wasn’t enough to weaken Grid’s mind.

“You’ll be sorry!” Grid gritted his teeth and replied.

Then he started his sword dance. A sharp killing intent was concentrated on the greatsword and the air around it started to vibrate.

“Kill!”

A powerful attack flew towards Asuka’s heart. The surprised Black Teddy commanded the white bear warrior.

“Defend the young lady!”

Kuwaaah!

The white bear warrior was level 280. Among Black Teddy’s pets, it was the one with the strongest combat ability. It was stronger than a ranker. The bear swung and fist and stood up to the greatsword wrapped in darkness.

Kwaang!

The two collided. It seemed close at first glance, but that only lasted for a moment. The balance quickly broke as Grid’s Kill tore the mighty flesh of the white bear. Then the greatsword went through the thick body of the white bear warrior.

Grrr!

The white bear’s health was decreased by 1/3rd with one strike. Asuka would’ve fallen into a critical condition if hit by that. But the biggest advantage of a pet was that it didn’t know pain. The bear didn’t shrink back despite suffering massive damage. Instead, it counterattacked.

Peeok!

The head of the white bear warrior hit Grid's chest. But it didn't do much damage. Previously, Grid only wore boots and a cloak, so he was low in defense. Now he showed a high defense due to the Holy Light battle gear set. He didn't feel any pain at all from the headbutt.

Then the option of the Holy Light Gloves activated and 'Counterattack' was used, dealing great damage to the white bear warrior. In the end, Black Teddy had to interfere.

"Berserk!"

Summoners had dozens of passive and active skills that enhanced a pet's abilities. Among them, Berserk was a skill that only second advancement summoners could use. It gave pets a status conditions immune effect and temporarily doubled all of a pet's stats.

Kyaaaaaah!

The white bear cried out and swung its paws. Grid became on the defensive due to the fast and powerful onslaught. He would be subjected to terrible damage if he allowed the attack.

'What is this all of a sudden?'

He was confused for a moment. Grid had a lot of combat experience so he quickly figured out the situation.

'Is it a temporary buff? The abilities are raised to this level, so the duration must be short.'

Grid triggered Pagma's Swordsmanship, Restraint. Then the white bear hesitated and retreated from Grid.

Black Teddy was nervous, 'What is this all of a sudden? My commands aren't going through!'

The duration of Berserk was only 10 seconds. Every second spent retreating was valuable for Black Teddy. Grid triggered Blacksmith's Rage in this gap and rushed towards Asuka.

Kaaang!

Asuka crossed her double swords and tried to fight back. But Grid took the lead with his fast pace, forcing her on the defensive without a chance to fight back.

'Strange.'

Asuka was filled with doubts after fighting Grid. The greatsword that Grid was using was over 3m in length and seemed extremely heavy. Then what was this attack speed?

'Isn't it normal for the attack speed to be slow?'

It was a stereotype. Dainsleif was very light, despite being a greatsword. It was a sword made by Albatino, who was called the best blacksmith before Pagma, and was made of black iron, which was harder than steel, but twice as light. Dainsleif was a weapon that minimized the disadvantages of a greatsword.

Chaaeng!Chaaeng!

At first glance, Asuka seemed to be on the defensive against Grid's ruthless strikes. But Asuka still had some room. In particular, this was her forte. Her class was a berserker. She became stronger as the battle continued. Asuka was able to adapt to Grid's attack speed and she finally started her counterattack.

"Sword Frenzy!"

Flash!

Asuka's blue eyes turned red the moment she activated a skill. Then Asuka's double swords started to dance in a dazzling manner.

Chaeeeeeng!

It was the berserker's representative skill that attacked a target nine times, Sword Frenzy. Grid succeeded in defending against six strikes, but was unable to prevent the remaining three and was hurt.

[You have suffered 1,700 damage.]

[You have suffered 1,650 damage.]

[You have suffered 1,810 damage.]

Asuka provoked Grid, "Certainly, your defense has increased since you equipped the armor. But isn't it just high defense? You can't catch up with the speed of my double swords and will just be a sandbag."

Grid scoffed.

"Pagma's Swordsmanship, Link!"

Papat!Pa pa pa pa!

"...?!"

Black energy swords were generated at a tremendous rate and hit Asuka. The confused Asuka once again triggered Sword Frenzy, but it was useless. Sword Frenzy might attack 9 times, but Pagma's Swordsmanship, Link, attacked a total of 17 times. Sword Frenzy couldn't completely offset it and Asuka's body became covered with wounds.

Then Grid pointed his sword at Asuka's neck.

"What is your purpose for attacking me?"

On the other hand...

[Magic power has started to manipulate your body. It is hard to reject.]

[You will become the puppet of 'Box' for three seconds.]

'This!'

Toban couldn't move his body according to his will. He was the 1st ranked paladin with high magic resistance, so how could he be manipulated so easily? Toban thought it was ridiculous.

'I still have a long way to go.'

It hurt his reputation. It was an insult that couldn't be washed away. Toban trembled. However, the person who was really shocked was Box, not Toban.

'I can only control him for three seconds?'

Puppet magic was the ultimate magic for a linker. It was a powerful magic that sent magic power into the body of the target in order to manipulate it. And Box's ability to control magic power was by far the best among the linkers. If Box used the puppet spell, he could manipulate a monster for up to 5 minutes and a user for 30 seconds.

Yet Toban was only three seconds?

'The higher the level and magic resistance of the target, the lower the manipulation time. But... Isn't it guaranteed at least 10 seconds, even if the opponent has a higher level than me?'

Toban's magic resistance seemed to be different from all the opponents he met so far. Box admired it.

'This is the dignity of the 1st ranked paladin. The Tzedakah Guild is filled with monsters.'

Puppet had a cooldown time of two hours. It was a skill that could only be used once every two hours, so it was a waste to control a person for only three seconds. Box sighed and started to control the magic power connected to Toban.

"Chief, go and help Asuka."

"H-Hey! Stop!"

Toban begged but it was no use. His body suddenly moved into the gap between Grid and Asuka. Then he used a shield to deflect the greatsword pointing at Asuka's neck.

"...Toban?" Grid's eyes widened.

Toban laughed awkwardly, "Ah, hello?"

The puppet magic was released. Toban could move freely so he tried to explain the matter, but Box interrupted. "I am glad to meet you for the first time, Grid."

"Who are you?"

Grid felt instinctive dislike whenever he met a handsome man. So his expression darkened the moment Box appeared. Then Box said to him. "The three of us joined the guild a while ago. Right now, we are helping Chief with a quest. The quest requires us to kill you."

"Eh?"

Grid doubted his ears and looked at Toban. The panicked Toban explained the situation.

"Grid, it is a misunderstanding. I didn't know that you were the target of the quest. This is..."

Kyaoooooh!

The white bear warrior was released from the influence of Restraint. Then it ran to Grid, who was listening to Toban, and smacked Grid on the head.

[You have suffered 3,200 damage.]

Jeurereuk.

Grid spoke softly while bleeding from the head, "Are you talking to keep my attention so that someone else can attack...? Toban, are you really going to be like this?"

It was a huge misunderstanding. Toban panicked. At this rate, Grid might not make an item for him at all. He couldn't push Grid. Therefore, he had to get rid of this misunderstanding.

"Black Teddy! What are you doing? Can't you understand the atmosphere? Grid is a fellow guild member! Stop attacking!"

Toban shouted but Black Teddy just stroked his teddy bear and pretended not to know anything. In the end, Grid's anger exploded.

"Toban... You must've held a tremendous grudge after saying that I would make you item last. Right? So now you want revenge?"

Toban shouted, "That isn't the case! Right now, I am doing a quest to kill the mysterious person who kill the pope and took the treasures! I didn't know that the person would be you!"

"Didn't you attack me after knowing the truth? You know that I am the enigmatic person, so this is a great opportunity to proceed with the quest? Right?"

"No! Listen to my explanation! We don't have to fight! Sell me the treasures! I just need the treasures!"

"...You just need the treasures?"

Grid started to understand the situation. A relieved Toban pointed to the items that Grid was wearing.

"The Holy Light set. That's what I need."

Grid frowned, "Are you crazy? I won't sell."

"H-Hey, Grid. I'll give you a lot of money. Please do this for me just once. Yes?"

Toban begged. In fact, Grid was inwardly delighted. He was thinking that it wouldn't be possible to sell these items due to the limited usage conditions. Grid started acting as he asked.

"Sigh... I will consider agreeing to the favor since we are part of the same guild. How much will you buy it for?"

"2,000 gold each, for a total of 6,000 gold?"

Toban didn't know the features of the Holy Light set. He regarded it as simple quest items when he set the price. He was confident that he set a high price, but Grid was annoyed.

Even if it had a system of exclusive use, the Holy Light set still had a legendary rating. He thought he would get at least two million gold for each piece. But Toban wanted to buy it for 2,000 gold each? He must be joking.

"Are you playing with me right now?"

Wasn't this reaction strange? Toban changed the value.

"Then 2,200 gold each...?"

"Get lost."

"How much do you want?"

"Two million gold each."

"What?"

Grid was adamant. The Holy Light set was excellent, so it was better to use it himself unless it was sold for two million gold each. He wouldn't sell it for any less than that. But from Toban's perspective, the Holy Light set were simple quest items and Grid seemed like a scammer.

"Hey, this is honestly too much... I received my first SS-grade quest so please help me clear it..."

Box whispered to Toban who had a grim expression on his face.

-Chief, we want to fight with Grid to see his strength. We will kill him and obtain the items for you. Okay?

It was the temptation of the devil. Toban asked Grid one last time, "Grid, these items... Do you really intend to sell it for two million gold each? It isn't a joke?"

"I'm being serious. I'm not joking."

The negotiations broke down. Toban closed his eyes. And he whispered to Box.

-Pretend to use magic on me!

"...?"

Box was puzzled but acted according to Toban's request. He used a spell to enchant Toban. Then Toban suddenly disappeared. He shouted and sat down. Then he started acting.

"No? What is this? I can't move one finger freely. This is the ultimate linker magic that controls the target at will. I have been hit by Puppet! Oh my! This is serious! I can no longer stop them from attacking. Grid! It's dangerous!"

"..."