

Overgeared 461

Chapter 461

'It was predicted.'

Jajinmori was a kick used without any preliminary actions. It hit the target at close range, so it was impossible for the opponent to see it and respond. But Grid perfectly blocked it with the God Hand. It was clear that Grid took into consideration the timing of the action that had been performed only once in public before.

'That is enough.'

Kraugel appreciated Grid more than anyone else. Even more than Lauel, Damian, and Peak Sword. But now it seemed like he had undervalued Grid. Grid's true abilities surpassed Kraugel's assumed range.

'An incredible growth rate. Is this due to special training with Piaro?'

Kraugel couldn't imagine that Grid had reached the 60th island of the Behen Archipelago. He raised his rating of Grid to a new level.

'He can't be estimated.'

Kraugel had already prepared a number of things. He looked for the best method in real-time.

Duk.

Duduk.

Blood was dripping from Kraugel's abdomen. Red and wet drops fell on the stage where signs of destruction remained. It was a very surreal sight.

"T-This is impossible..."

"Kraugel was wounded...?"

The crowd was shocked, as if the sky had fallen. The sky above the sky. The high sky that no one could reach. Had he ever been hurt in a one-on-one match? No. It was common sense that Kraugel was invincible. However, Grid destroyed it at this moment. Their common sense was broken!

『 When Kraugel said he lost to Grid... It was true? 』

『 That's impossible. It's impossible for Kraugel to lose in a one-on-one match. In the first place, isn't he a monster that doesn't get hit by non-targeted skills? It's impossible for anyone to beat him. 』

『 Grid succeeded with a targeted skill, but the battle situation will soon change again. It will become favorable towards Kraugel! 』

The people of the world still believed in Kraugel's victory, but Grid was different. He found hope that he could win. He recovered the greatsword in Kraugel's abdomen and at the same time, he linked another attack with Iyarugt. Grid's face had a desire for victory.

However, reality wasn't that easy.

"Mole Ascension."

Kraugel was over 40 levels higher than Grid. In addition, he possessed more than 15 titles that exerted all types of effects. He wouldn't collapse because of one hit from Pinnacle Kill. He avoided Grid's attack while a beam shot upwards from White Fang. Iyarugt and Grid's Greatsword crossed in an X to try and defend, but Kraugel interfered by stabbing the dagger in that gap.

Seokeok!

"Kup...!"

Grid was hit in the jaw and resisted the 'fainting' status. Then he used Pagma's Swordsmanship, Pinnacle. During the process, he was stabbed twice in the side by Kraugel's dagger, but ignored it. He was convinced that he could take the lead in the battle by accumulating damage with Pinnacle Kill and now Pinnacle. However, the destructive power of Pinnacle was different from Pinnacle Kill, and Kraugel was able to counter.

"Tearing the Sky."

Tearing the Sky was one of the White Swordsman's ultimate moves. The fatal disadvantage was that it consumed mana, but it was a counterattack skill that exerted a high power by ignoring a certain percentage of the target's defense.

Kwajajajak!

Huge beast claws were carved into the sky where Grid was. The aura of Pinnacle was broken and the durability of Iyarugt and Grid's Greatsword was damaged. Five rows of blood appeared on Grid's chest.

"Kuaaaak!"

Grid let out a rare loud scream. It was because his defense was so high that he rarely felt pain. However, the damage suffered from the +9 True White Fang's counterattack was enormous. Now almost all his defense was ignored and the pain was unbearable.

Then Kraugel's kick hit Grid's face.

Peeng!

There was a sound like a balloon popping. Fortunately, Grid's face was unharmed. It was impossible to damage Grid with a generic kick, even if it was Kraugel. However, he successfully used Grid's face as a foothold to gain a favorable position. His black robe flapped and Kraugel rose in the air, an intense light shining around White Fang.

It was the precursor to a certain skill that Grid remembered.

'Meteor Sword!'

Kuooooooh!

Kraugel used White Light Steps to shoot towards the ground. A gigantic momentum like a meteor falling was created, and a deep pit formed in the 10m area of the stage around Grid. Grid struggled to try and stand upright.

'Magic Detection is still on cooldown...!'

Grid missed Kraugel's position because of the cloaking effect of White Light Steps and eventually used Revolve. Then he invoked Blood Cry.

Kiiiiing.

Iyarugt cried out enthusiastically. In the past, it was a balance loss inducing skill that was able to cancel out Kraugel's Meteor Sword in Reidan. One of Kraugel's rings shone.

Peeng!

It was a ring with the effect of 'awakening.' It burst and restored the wearer's mind. Thanks to it, Kraugel was able to get rid of the tinnitus in his ear and safely complete Meteor Sword.

Jjeejeeong!

"Kuaaaaak!"

It was thanks to the items that boasted the best defense such as Lantier's Cloak and Triple Layers that his life was saved. The power of the enemy's sword, which dealt damage equal to the target's defense + fixed damage, inflicted a serious wound on Grid.

Tak.

Unlike his fierce momentum, Kraugel landed lightly and threw the dagger to one side. It was towards the four God Hands in the distance, that were hammering in front of a small blast furnace. A notification window popped up in front of Grid.

[The skill Item Combination has been cancelled!]

'Dammit!'

It was a difficult skill to use in practice. Grid had one third of his health remaining and was standing at the crossroad of choice.

'I can't use Blackening either.'

His stats would rise with Blackening and he would be able to fight evenly with Kraugel. But he hesitated. It was because Iyarugt's experience was at 99%.

'I can raise the rating if I endure the next 50 or so attacks.'

If he lowered his health with Blackening, it would be harder to hold on. He didn't want one of them to die before Iyarugt's rating increased. Of course, it was Grid who was likely to die.

'Endure first.'

He made up his mind and put Grid's Greatsword into the inventory. He wasn't confident enough to concentrate on dual wielding while facing Kraugel.

'Does he have a way?'

Kraugel felt alert because Grid didn't use Blackening. The health that had decreased due to Pinnacle Kill was slowly recovering due to the effect of the title 'Troll King's Curse.' He believed that time was on his side, but became nervous due to Grid's attitude.

'I don't think I should drag out the time.'

He couldn't make a hasty decision just because he wanted to free his mother from pain as soon as possible. At this time, Kraugel analyzed the situation more calmly and carefully than before. Thus, he believed in his own judgment.

'Fast paced!'

Kurururung!

There was the sound of thunder from the clear sky and the earth began to surge. The stage that Kraugel and Grid were standing on shook violently, tilting and partially collapsing. The commentators shouted simultaneously.

『 This...! 』

『 This is the precursor to the wide-range skill that Kraugel used to defeat Tarma! 』

Heaven and Earth Rupture. It was the unique rated skill that Kraugel learned from the East Continent prior to the National Competition. It wasn't lacking in terms of range or power. It was the strongest attack that dominated the sky and earth.

"Heaven and Earth Rupture."

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

From the sky, heavy lightning bolts rained down and lava rose from cracks in the ground. There seemed to be no way to escape, meaning Grid would be hit hard. The Russian citizens cheered.

"Kraugel won!"

"Russia is first!"

On the other hand, the Korean people were frustrated.

"How to avoid a skill like that...?"

"It seems like the world is tilting..."

It was the moment when the audience ratings of the National Competition reached its peak!

[The effect of the title 'Secret Hero' has been used.]

[You have dispersed the consciousness of the enemies.]

The aggro was turned off.

[The skill 'Influence' has been activated. This effect will last for 10 seconds.]

[Reduces the defense of all enemies within 50m of you by 50%.]

[The skill 'Freely Move' can be used once.]

It was a high level dash skill that avoided all attacks until it reaches the 'desired target' within 200 meters.

Peeeeeeong!

Grid used Quick Movements and ran like a lightning bolt. His movement speed was so fast that it left a long afterglow. It wasn't a straight movement. Grid moved from side to side, avoiding the lightning and lava that were in his way.

"...!"

It was like looking at Kraugel. The crowd and viewers were speechless at Grid's phenomenal control.

"Blackening. Blacksmith's Rage. And Linked Kill."

Lasting 50 blows against Kraugel? It was crazy. Now he needed to win!

Peeng!

Grid made a decision and swung Iyarugt once.

Pepeng!

The second blow.

Pepepeng!

The third blow. Kraugel stabbed forward in order to break it. But it was useless. Grid's attack speed was too fast for him to handle and the God Hands also pincer attacked him. This made Kraugel collapse in the process of dodging.

'Too late...!'

Peeeeeeong!

In the end, the fourth blow of Linked Kill precisely struck Kraugel. Kraugel chose to give up avoidance and blocked. Of course, it wasn't possible to completely stop it. However, he used Eagle's Descent and pressed down on Iyarugt in order to minimize the damage. However, due to the high attack power from Grid's buffed state, Eagle's Descent couldn't stop Iyarugt's momentum.

Puooook!

Kraugel's chest was struck! He had one fifth of his health left, and straightened his staggering posture. Subsequently, White Fang moved upwards in a diagonal manner.

Chaaeng!

Grid blocked it and counterattacked. Kraugel also blocked it and repeated a counterattack.

Chaaeng!

Chaeeeeeng!

The bodies of the two men gradually rose into the sky as they exchanged blows. It was a phenomenon caused by not resisting the repulsive force that occurred whenever the two swords collided.

"..."

They knew that Kraugel was strong. But this strong? In addition, how was Grid able to pull out Kraugel's full power?

The rankers in the National Competition started to feel the level difference.

'We... We haven't even experienced half of their abilities.'

An entirely different class. The sky called Kraugel was much higher than they thought, and Grid was an impregnable tower, not one that would collapse.

Chapter 462

Chaeng!

Chaeng!

Grid and Kraugel's bodies rose into the sky. The blood and sweat coming from the two men scattered, reflecting like starlight.

'His attack power is too strong.'

Kraugel was desperately exchanging blows with Grid, who was in a full buff state. Every time their swords collided, Kraugel twisted the sword's orbit to offset the powerful destructive force, causing a rapid decline in stamina and pain in his wrist.

Above all, the big problem was the psychological pressure. What if his concentration was disturbed and he allowed one of Grid's attacks? The result would be defeat and he wouldn't be able to treat his mother's illness. The tension at the thought of his mother's health caused a huge burden on Kraugel's mental state.

'Definitely...!'

He had to win! Kraugel vowed and his concentration once again began to transcend the category of a human. He raised the passive effect of Keen Senses to the extremes and properly used dual wielding. After blocking Iyarugt with White Fang, he stabbed his dagger in the gap that was exposed.

Puk!

Chaeng!

Puk!

Chaaeng!

The number of injuries on Grid started to grow. Blood intermittently covered the mask on his face.

'It's unbelievable.'

Grid was surprised. He had the advantage in attack power, attack speed, and stamina, so why was he the only one getting hurt? The Slaughterer's Eye Patch and Iyarugt gave him the best path, but he never touched Kraugel's body. It was like grasping at air.

'This is the sky...'

No matter how hard he tried, he would never be able to reach it. The Grid of the past would've resented the natural difference in talent and felt inferior. He would've lost his temper. But now it was different. Grid no longer had a sense of inferiority. Grid started to enjoy himself.

'If I knock you down...!'

Yes, he would prove himself to be the strongest if he defeated Kraugel.

'I will win the title of the strongest!'

His lack of talent wouldn't hold onto his ankles. It was a great opportunity to prove that his effort wasn't small.

"Me!"

Jjejeong!

"I will win!"

Puk!

Grid shouted as loudly as possible to raise his own morale, but the battlefield was the worst. In fact, he was once again stabbed in the side by Kraugel's dagger. The OGC station's commentators, who had the largest number of viewers at the moment, were saddened.

『 Ahh... It will end soon. 』

『 Grid's really great. We will never forget his actions in allowing the Korean people a new dream. 』

『 That's right. Grid deserves to be praised forever as the player who raised South Korea from being ridiculed in Satisfy to being able to look at first in the rankings. 』

『 In the end, Grid is defeated. However, no one should blame him. He fought well. 』

It was also alone. The young Satisfy players in Korea watching the match started to burn with motivation.

"I will be strong like Grid."

"I will become Grid's power in the next National Competition."

The desire to stand on the same stage as Grid filled the hearts of the young people. That's right. Just like Grid felt awe and envy toward Kraugel, many young people of South Korea were feeling envy towards him. The past fool who wasn't acknowledged by anyone!

『 I don't think God Grid is going to lose. 』

The viewers didn't resist all the commentators predicting that Grid would lose. At the time when everyone was overwhelmed by Kraugel's power, some people believed in Grid until the end. One of them was OGC's guest commentator, Peak Sword.

『 God Grid won a fight against Kraugel before. No, it wasn't just Kraugel. He has always fought stronger enemies alone, and it's the same this time. Definitely! 』

Starting with Peak Sword's excitement.

"Our son will win!"

"..."

Sehee held hands with her parents and prayed for Grid.

"I bet 100,000 gold that Grid will win!"

"One million gold!"

"Then I am all in!"

"Hey, these people. We can't bet on Grid."

The Overgeared members.

"Dammit... We used to mock and harass you, but not anymore. You might never forgive us, but we are all acknowledging and cheering you on now. So please win, Shin Youngwoo!"

The 45th class of the Heroes High School.

"Youngwoo oppa, fighting!"

Sexy Schoolgirl Yerim.

The people who witnessed Grid's process of change believed in Grid until the end and cheered him on. They didn't want Grid's efforts to be in vain. But reality didn't flow according to faith and wishes.

Puok!

Grid allowed consecutive dagger strikes and was stabbed in the neck with White Fang.

"...Ah!"

This was the end. The crowd cheered for Kraugel and the people expecting a reversal were saddened. Lael closed his eyes tightly on the stands. He wanted Kraugel to win, but it was also painful to see Grid's defeat.

『 Look! Grid still has hope! As seen in the Damian match, he possesses a one time immortal skill! 』

During the battle against Damian, Grid survived being hit by magic despite his extremely low health. After that, the commentators were convinced that he had an immortal passive. At this time, a notification window appeared in front of Grid.

[The effect of Evil Spirit's Bloody Tears is activated. Your attack power will increase by 50% for 5 seconds.]

Every time he allowed an attack from Kraugel, he had become more blood-soaked. The Slaughterer's Mask became completely covered with red. This was one of Grid's plans.

"Haaap!"

Jeeeong!

"Hup...!"

The sudden rise in Grid's attack power wasn't something that Kraugel could overlook. The moment that he collided with Iyarugt, White Fang severely lost its durability and Kraugel's right arm became numb. The overwhelming difference in strength that occurred suddenly! Kraugel's eyes shook as he couldn't withstand the effects of gravity anymore and fell to the ground.

'A berserk skill?'

A skill that increased attack power as health decreased. Grid was a blacksmith, so how did he have a berserk skill? There was no reason to feel doubts. Once again, it was the power of items!

"Ack...!"

The God Hands started swinging at Kraugel as he fell, causing him to feel pain. His face became shadowed. It was Grid, who was emitting a different type of energy than the God Hands!

"Pagma's Swordsmanship!"

"Super Sensitivity!"

"Linked Wave Kill!"

Ku kwa kwa kwa kwa! Ku kwa kwa kwa kwa!

Blood red energy blades poured down like a tsunami! Every one of them was filled with a strong energy that could be called a disaster.

'It will be over if just one hits!'

In addition, he needed to win within seconds after activating Super Sensitivity. The key was to insert the last strike just after Grid's passive ended.

Suuk.

Kraugel barely escaped the bombardment of energy blades and widened the distance with Grid. The energy blades followed him to the end, but Kraugel's movements as he used the terrain to destroy them was divine. But Grid was like a wild beast. He didn't care about being hit in the immortal state, so he chased after Kraugel, narrowing the distance again in an instant.

In the end, Kraugel allowed Grid an opportunity to attack.

Chukak.

The bloody light barely brushed right past Kraugel's nose. Kraugel barely avoided it thanks to Super Sensitivity and accurately struck at both of Grid's eyes. It was intended to cause the blindness status.

Supak!

A white flash aimed accurately towards a teardrop. Right before it reached Grid's eyes, the duration of immortality was 3 seconds and Super Sensitivity was 4 seconds.

Kaang!

The God Hands protected Grid from Kraugel's attack.

2.5 seconds, 3.5 seconds.

"Wave."

Grid used Wave and reached Kraugel, but Kraugel escaped again.

2 seconds, 3 seconds.

Jjejeong!

The distance once again opened between Kraugel and Grid as Kraugel used the God Hands as a foothold.

"Huraah!"

Grid predicted that Kraugel would run away and threw a spear.

Puok!

"Kuk...!"

Kraugel had overlooked this skill and the spear pierced his shoulder. Kraugel rapidly paled while Grid partially recovered some health thanks to Elfin Stone's Ring.

1 second, 2 seconds.

Right here.

Taack!

This time, Kraugel rushed towards Grid. He easily dodged the Magic Missiles fired by the God Hands and reached Grid. It was White Light Steps combined with Super Sensitivity.

'Finally.'

This tough fight was over. Kraugel's mother was in front of him, smiling brightly.

Syuk!

Kraugel was filled with hope as his sword was about to pierce Grid's neck.

[Braham's soul, which lost a great deal of power from closing the hell door, has woken up from his sleep!]

[The cooldown time of Assimilation is over!]

“Assimilation!”

Grid’s last trump card was used. His hair turned white and his eyes became sharper than usual, causing the hearts of female viewers around the world to throb, while Kraugel’s heart sank.

“Shield.”

Jjeejeeong!

A translucent magic barrier blocked Kraugel’s sword. The white haired Grid made a funny expression as Kraugel’s face distorted with shock and despair.

“This is a talent from the heavens. But you’re still young.”

Hwaruruk!

The moment a spark formed at Grid’s fingertips.

Tak!

Kraugel threw away White Fang and placed his hands on the shield surrounding Grid.

“Crying Tiger.”

“...!”

Peeng!

An intangible energy pierced Grid’s chest beyond the shield while the flames from Grid burned Kraugel’s body.

"U-Unbelievable."

“Who won?”

The world fell into chaos as both men turned grey at almost the same time. Was it the sky or the impregnable tower? The results couldn’t be guaranteed until the video was replayed. However, Grid and Kraugel already knew the result.

“Mother...”

Kraugel trembled as tears poured from his eyes.

Chapter 463

[The duration of immortality is over.]

The worst notification window emerged as Kraugel was about to strike Grid’s neck with White Fang. Was he going to lose? But Grid still had a trump card.

[Braham’s soul, which lost a great deal of power from closing the hell door, has woken up from his sleep!]

[The cooldown time of Assimilation is over!]

“Shield.”

Jjeejeeong!

The moment that Assimilation was used, a shield blocked Kraugel’s attack and Grid was convinced of his victory. Until Braham opened his mouth.

“This is a talent from the heavens. But you are still young.”

‘Stop making noise and use a spell!’

Grid shouted, but Braham trusted his shield. He believed it would never be broken and summoned a flame. It wasn’t magic of a particular form. It was simply flames made of pure magic power. Grid’s mana was almost empty, so it was impossible to use a spell.

‘Well, this is enough.’

The man in front of Braham was also in a bad state. A light attack was possible. The moment that Braham smiled.

Tak!

Kraugel laid a hand on the shield. It was similar to Regas’ technique, who temporarily boosted his body’s weight by using its rotational power.

‘Don’t tell me...!’

Grid and Braham simultaneously became nervous.

“Crying Tiger.”

Peeng!

An intangible energy passed through the shield and struck Grid’s chest. The damage wasn’t strong, but Grid had only recovered 400 health from the effect of Spear Shot and Elfin Stone’s Ring. Grid was unable to withstand the blow and died immediately. Once again, he couldn’t enjoy the effect of Tiramet’s Power attached to the Rune of Darkness.

In his final moments, he saw Kraugel’s body being burned by the flames.

Kraugel was uneasy throughout the fight against Grid. In the end, would he lose? Would he not be able to treat his mother’s illness? Grid was so strong that he made even Kraugel, the ultimate player in the game, have these thoughts.

The ruler of the battlefield, Ares. The Black and White sisters. And Baal’s Contractor, Agnus.

Grid was no less skilled than the four people working on Satisfy’s central story and wasn’t left behind when it came to the possibility of development. In particular, at the end.

“Assimilation.”

Kraugel's heart froze as Grid's hair turned white and Blackening was lifted. Grid's white haired version had taken out Yatan's First Servant with Fireball. It was only supposed to be for a certain quest, but this power could be used in PvP? It was outside of Kraugel's scope and he faced a great crisis.

But in the end, he won. Kraugel's Crying Tiger was one step ahead of the white haired Grid's flames. The difference was as thin as a sheet of paper. If Grid hadn't been confident and used the magic immediately after Shield, the result would've changed.

[You have won a battle against a legend.]

[The legendary class, Sword Saint has been obtained.]

[Your level has dropped down to level 1.]

"Mother..."

He felt a surge of emotions. He would be able to free his mother from her suffering. He could repay the love his mother gave him all his life. Once again, he could be called 'Son.' Kraugel trembled as tears poured from his eyes. They were tears of joy.

As a result of the video replay, it was discovered that Grid died before Kraugel. It was a mere difference of 0.1 seconds.

『 Only 0.1 seconds... The moment that South Korea and Russia, Grid and Kraugel's fate changed. 』

『 The winner is Kraugel! Russia has taken first in the overall rankings! 』

『 It's really disappointing from Grid and South Korea's perspective. If Grid's magic had been 0.1 seconds faster, South Korea would've won first place. 』

Indeed, it was really competitive. As a result, Grid was defeated, but the sky fell. Who could possibly label Grid as a loser?

『 The title of the sky is no longer exclusive to Kraugel. 』

『 That's right. Grid also deserves to be called the best. 』

『 As of this moment, Satisfy has two suns. 』

The commentators of various stations started to praise Grid and most of the world was in agreement. However, Grid was different.

'In the end, I lost.'

He realized that he was still lacking to receive that title. But Grid wasn't frustrated. He was glad. It was true that the distance between him and Kraugel was gradually narrowing.

'Next time.'

Next time would be different. At that time, he would win the title of the strongest. Grid pledged with a grin as he gazed at Kraugel.

'Is he this happy to win over me?'

Kraugel was grabbing his chest with tears in his eyes. Grid thoroughly misunderstood the meaning of his tears.

'Rejoicing so much after beating me...'

Huhuhut!

Grid was proud despite losing.

1st. Russia (5 gold, 3 silver, 2 bronze)

2nd. South Korea (5 gold, 1 silver)

3rd. United States (4 gold, 4 silver, 6 bronze)

4th. Canada (3 gold, 3 silver, 3 bronze)

5th. Spain (1 gold, 2 silver, 1 bronze)

6th. Japan (1 gold, 3 bronze)

7th. Brazil (1 gold)

8th. United Kingdom (4 silver)

9th. France (3 silver)

Joint 10th place. Argentina, China (2 bronze)

12th. Turkey (1 bronze)

The final rankings for the National Competition was revealed. The United States and Canada, who were strong winning candidates, ended up third and fourth respectively. Most people didn't predict this result. In particular, it was shocking that South Korea, which was evaluated as one of the weakest countries, ended up second in the world.

『 South Korea is a very unusual case. Grid alone won five of the six medals. 』

『 It was also 4 gold medals and 1 silver medal. 』

『 If I had to pick an MVP for this competition, I would definitely pick Grid. 』

Of course, Kraugel's work was also dazzling. The impact alone allowed him to be compared to Grid. However, the person who won more medals was Grid. Few people would disagree if Grid was chosen as the MVP.

The 2nd Satisfy National Competition. The best one month festival held in Paris came to an end. The participants from all over the world stood on the stage for the spectacular closing ceremony. The person with the most spotlight was Grid. A new person who was the best! The second sun! And so on.

Grid had all types of new nicknames and the attention of the media on him was enormous. Beautiful... In particular, glamorous reporters wanted to interview him about the white haired Grid, causing Yura to poke Grid in the side.

"You're drooling."

"Heok."

Unbelievable! He was drooling while the entire world was watching!

'Why is there D cup...!?'

He had worked hard to manage his image, but this blew away instantly. Grid felt embarrassed and blushed, causing Yura to pull out a handkerchief and wipe at his mouth.

"..."

Really, she was a woman who behaved in misleading ways. The crowd and players from all over the world looked at Grid with jealousy.

"People are misunderstanding because you keep acting like this. Act moderately, or I will start thinking that you like me."

"..."

Yura's lips twitched. This was a great chance to confess that she liked Grid. But she couldn't honestly confess. She had received countless love confessions, but it was awkward and embarrassing because she had never confessed to anyone.

"It's very lively."

Peak Sword laughed. It was like looking at pure children when he saw Grid and Yura, so it was fun. Of course, he also felt frustrated. For reference, Peak Sword had also been solo since his mother's womb. While Yura and Grid's love affair (?) was causing an uproar, Chairman Lim Cheolho of the S.A. Group climbed onto the stage.

He looked at Grid with an unknown meaning and spoke to the camera.

"Hello? I am the developer and operator of Satisfy, Lim Cheolho. I would like to thank all the staff and players who have worked hard for this competition... Now, I will deliver happy news to all the people watching on their TVs."

The good news delivered by Lim Cheolho was as followed:

First of all, to commemorate the National Competition, every player in Satisfy would receive a 10% experience buff. Secondly, additional buffs would be awarded to players who had entered the National Competition. The buffs would depend on their country's ranking.

Some people shouted that it was unfair. Too much benefit was given to the players who won medals in the National Competition. But the purpose of the S.A. Group was to increase the influence of the National Competition. It was reasonable to provide proper compensation so that the 3rd and 4th National Competitions would become bigger.

In any case, the Korean players could look forward to a buff that increased their experience and item acquisition rate by 27% for the next fortnight. As a result, Grid became a true national hero. The Korean players got a chance to grow rapidly thanks to Grid.

Grid won four gold medals and one silver medal, so he obtained four adamantium and one bloodstone as the blacksmith's reward. In addition, a huge sum of 20 billion won was added to his bankbook. It was the advertising fee that the Comet Group deposited.

Once autumn passed. Grid realized that he would be hit with another 38% tax bomb in next year's comprehensive income tax report and shed tears of blood. He tried to comfort himself that the taxes he paid would be used for the country's development, but the billions of won lost in taxes was still too much of a burden. Would he get hair loss again?

After the closing ceremony. Lael approached the worried Grid.

"I have something to say to you."

"...?"

"Hee~~ This is the kingdom of the Water Clan that I heard about. A pretty place? It makes me furious."

"Hihit! Yihihit!"

The Water Clan kingdom, Siren.

Uninvited guests came to the place where Duplicator Euphemina had been staying for several months already. It happened much sooner than Euphemina expected.

Chapter 464

"What did you want to talk to me about?"

After the closing ceremony.

The Overgeared members gathered at a restaurant near the Eiffel Tower. As a multinational guild, everyone's skin and eye colors were different, but there was no sense of incongruity when they were together. They looked at each other with trust and affection, seeming like a family.

"Baldy."

"Shut up! I'm not bald, I shaved!"

Of course, there were exceptions such as Pon and Vantner.

"I have brought Kraugel into Overgeared."

Lauel spoke amazed words in the midst of the turmoil. Some of the members were agitated.

"The sky above the sky will join Overgeared?"

"How?"

Pon and Regas asked. Unlike the other Overgeared members, they didn't know about the plan to recruit Kraugel. Of course, Grid was the same. Lauel started to explain the story to those who don't know.

"...That is what happened. Thus, we have the right to recruit Kraugel."

"..."

Lauel told the whole story without any exaggeration. His expression was dignified. Lauel believed that Grid and the Overgeared members would be delighted by the Kraugel recruitment project. However, Grid's expression wasn't good. Grid thought for a moment as he emptied his glass of beer before giving a shocking reaction.

"Don't recruit Kraugel."

"...Huh?"

It was unexpected. Why not recruit the best power? Lauel and most of the Overgeared members were puzzled.

"We must recruit Kraugel! Kraugel's blood will flow through the arteries of Overgeared! The Overgeared Guild will be stronger than ever...!"

Lauel started to talk about Kraugel's value, but Grid interrupted.

"Can you force someone to become our colleague?"

Pon added.

"Kraugel is the type of person who has always played the game by himself. Doesn't everyone know that he hates belonging to a group? Can we obtain his true heart if we recruit him like this? There might be a crack in the relationship, which could be dangerous one day."

Lauel countered.

"People change. Look at us now. The reason we became colleagues wasn't pure. We joined because there was something we wanted. In the course of fulfilling it, our hearts opened and we became true co-workers. The same is true for Kraugel. He might rebel right now, but someday..."

"No, it's okay." Grid was adamant. "Not only is he an existence that shouldn't be caged, we aren't weak enough that we should be obsessed with him."

Since he started Satisfy, Kraugel had been a solo player and this allowed him to reach the peak. His way of playing was appropriate for him. If he was locked into the framework of a group and changed the way he played, he would no longer be Kraugel. Weren't there many cases of that in CD games? The enemy would become weak after joining their party!

"Those are just assumptions!"

It was Lauel who reacted to the end. Most of the members of Overgeared understood his feelings. This was the opportunity to recruit the strongest power, but it might be missed due to internal opposition. How annoyed would Lauel be? Grid saw Lauel's heart and spoke openly without hiding anything.

"Lauel, I lost to Kraugel."

Kraugel was Grid's goal. He was the sky that Grid wanted to reach. In the end, he failed to reach it.

"Some people might laugh, but I think of myself as Kraugel's rival. I want to continue competing until I someday surpass him."

"...Ah."

Lauel realized.

'... I can never fathom Grid's mind!'

It was very uncomfortable and damaging to the pride to have someone he couldn't defeat under him. Lauel understood Grid's position and nodded.

"I understand... I won't make the deal with Kraugel."

Grid asked like he didn't understand.

"Why not?"

"...Didn't you say not to recruit him?"

Grid smiled wickedly at Lauel.

"Not recruiting him doesn't mean we can't make a deal."

After the closing ceremony, people's interest in the National Competition started to disperse as other topics became popular in the various media. Kraugel's name disappearing from the list of rankers' shocked the world. Therefore, Kraugel was forced to take refuge in the Russian players' jet after being chased by reporters.

'Lauel said he would contact me in 30 minutes.'

He would connect to Satisfy for a while. Kraugel connected to Satisfy using the capsule installed in the plane. Then he opened his status window.

Name: Kraugel

Level: 1

Class: Sword Saint

* Sword type weapons can be used without restrictions.

* You will bring out the hidden functions of sword type weapons when they are equipped.

* You can create new sword techniques. The number of times it can be created will increase every time the level of 'Complete Sword Mastery' increases.

Title: One who Became a Legend

Title: East Continent's Pioneer

Title: Troll King's...

Title: ...

...

...

Health: 1,485/1,485

Mana: 100/100

Strength: 50 (+120) Stamina:15 (+50)

Agility: 30 (+60) Intelligence: 10 (+10)

Composure: 10 Indomitable: 10

Dignity: 10 Insight: 10 (+40)

Regeneration: 30

Super Sensitivity: 0.1

'It's beyond imagination...'

Kraugel was shocked by the Sword Saint class. His level had fallen to 1 and the skills and stats he worked hard to train had been reset to the beginning. Fortunately, his titles remained and the basic skills and abilities of the Sword Saint were amazing. Russia received a 30% experience buff thanks to being 1st in the overall rankings, so it wouldn't be difficult to recover his level. In particular, Kraugel's passive skill Keen Senses disappeared and the originally active Super Sensitivity was changed to a stat.

'The Super Sensitivity passive...'

It could be considered a passive that could be trained without any limits. In the short term, the performance was weaker compared to the old Super Sensitivity. However, that would change later. If he developed the stat properly, Kraugel would become an absolute person who was always in the Super Sensitivity state. Of course, it was likely that the performance would fall compared to the initial Super Sensitivity when it was an active skill.

-Kraugel!Can you come out for a while?

A voice came from outside the capsule when Kraugel was connected to the game. Alexander. The skinhead Alexander. As an extreme nationalist, he originally disregarded Kraugel and showed resentment. Now he was acting as Kraugel's loyal dog. It was because he had infinite respect for Kraugel, who made Russia the first ranked country.

-What?

Alexander explained to Kraugel.

-That monkey...No, a Korean person said he wanted to meet you.

-Who?

-G-Grid.Why did he come after losing to you in PvP?What should I do?Should I send him back?

-No, wait.

Kraugel immediately logged out. He knew why Grid had come to see him.

'Lael told him the story.'

Now Grid had learned the truth. He came to receive the vow of allegiance. Originally, a group always had a hierarchy. Kraugel smiled bitterly as he emerged from the capsule. Then he witnessed an amazing sight.

"Ugh...!"

"Hnng~~"

At the airplane's entrance. The Russia players with big physiques were falling helplessly. The reason wasn't clear. He didn't know why, but this phenomenon was caused every time Grid's fingers touched their bodies.

"H-Huaaat~~!"

Another Russia player let out a strange moan when touched by Grid. At the same time, he blushed and looked down slowly...

Omitted.

"W-What the hell is he doing?"

Alexander was terrified and hid his big body behind Kraugel. He was afraid of Grid, who offered ecstasy to his colleagues with just one finger.

"Hello?"

Grid discovered Kraugel and greeted him. Kraugel took off the translator and responded in Korean.

"It's good to see you. It's only been two hours."

"Isn't your Korean quite good?"

"I can't be poor at my native language."

"Hrmm..."

Grid took off the useless translator and glanced doubtfully at Kraugel. The outline of the body was correct, but Kraugel looked too much like a woman. It was also a pretty woman. Grid looked at the long eyelashes and came to a conclusion.

"Friends."

"...What?"

Kraugel expected Grid to ask him to join Overgeared, so he was baffled by the words. Grid approached him and reached out a hand.

"Let's help each other when it's difficult. In the future, you don't have to fight alone like this."

Grid knew. There were limitations to being alone. Grid anticipated that one day, Kraugel would need his power.

"I'm not inviting you to join the guild. We'll just help each other when it's needed."

"...Why?" Kraugel couldn't believe it. "Why are you treating me so good?"

Why didn't Grid forcefully make him join the guild? It was possible in his position. Why do such a big favor?

Grid replied simply to Kraugel.

"I need a competitor in the future. I want your development. If I fight against you as you become stronger, I will also develop. In the first place, I'm already satisfied with having Piaro in the guild."

"..."

The present Grid was completely different than the one Kraugel met in Reidan. There were no shadows on his face and his eyes were dignified. He had a dependable atmosphere around him. Kraugel felt thrilled and grabbed Grid's big and rough hand.

"I'm glad."

'I will run whenever you call me. And thank you.'

Kraugel swallowed down those words. He thought that Grid would know even if he didn't say it. And Grid also knew.

"Thanking me? Promise me one thing. Every time I call, run over. You are able to treat your mother's illness thanks to Lauel. Shouldn't you return the favor?"

"...I understand."

What was the concept of friends that Grid was talking about? Kraugel felt seriously concerned as Grid patted his shoulders.

"Once your mother recovers, come to South Korea to play. I'll show you around."

"...Yes."

Thank you. Kraugel gave a rare smile, looking more beautiful than ever. Kraugel longed for the health and well-being of all mothers in the world.

On this day. The players who participated in the National Competition left for their home countries. A new adventure was waiting for them.

Chapter 467

Grid had many challenges left for him to overcome: Aslan, with the Saharan Empire behind him, the man who kept Reidan in check and also falsely accused him of killing Prince Ren. There was also the vampire cities that he needed to fully capture before the war began.

In addition, he had to figure out what the 3rd prince of the Saharan Empire was planning and figure out a way to capture the Behen Archipelago. The whole process was likely to be linked to hell, so he planned to arrange sufficient preparations such as putting effort into raising Yura.

Prior to that, Grid had something to do personally.

‘Smelt the adamantium and bloodstone.’

The moment of making his 15th legendary item was approaching. He would experience further growth with the third special event. According to Lauel, Kraugel had obtained the strongest combat class. However, Grid didn’t think he was lagging behind.

He was able to find a better use of items through this National Competition.

‘Kraugel, the stronger you are, the stronger I will become.’

But before that!

‘First of all, I will move!’

The building that costed him both 10 billion won and 13 months of construction was finally completed. Thanks to the recognition that he developed during the National Competition, inquiries about moving in didn’t cease and the surrounding commercial area began to develop. He heard that the value of the 10 billion won building had actually soared to 15 billion!

‘I am now a top landlord!’

He would receive monthly rent and not have to worry about starving to death for the rest of his life! The throne that nobody could dream about, Grid felt like he was on top of the whole world!

“Father, Mother! In the future, I will protect both of you as well as Sehee!”

Grid confidently swore in front of his family members, who embraced him with tearful eyes. They finally realized that this was the end of hardships and the beginning of happiness. Grid and his family were busy for a while as they moved away from the old house they had been living in for around 30 years.

“Eh~~? Kraugel disappeared from the rankings?”

The Belto Kingdom was a very poor kingdom that offered huge tributes to the Saharan Empire every year.

Few of the two billion players used the Belto Kingdom as their starting point, as it was classified as a remote area due to its geographical distance from the center of the continent and its underdeveloped nature. It was natural for there to be a small number of players.

However, this place recently started to change as it gradually grew stronger by absorbing the weak kingdoms around it. How was this possible when the Belto Kingdom had no funds to train the army? It was the result of the unofficial ranker Ares and his soldiers.

“He finally got a hidden class?”

Ares, who had been organizing the supplies from the enemies, responded to Luck’s cry. Luck made a frustrated expression.

“Ah~~ that person has become stronger, and this is your only reaction? You should be more nervous, more nervous!”

“Why should I be nervous about someone who almost lost to a blacksmith? He was never my opponent in the first place.”

"Hyuu~ isn't your memory really bad? Didn't you lose to him?"

“At that time, I was weakened. I would’ve won if my condition was perfect.’

"Hmmm~~ anyway, it is true that he is a tough guy.”

“So what? Should I be shaking with fear?”

"Hyu~~ No, you should keep Kraugel in check. Won't it be scary if he becomes stronger?"

“Aish, making me care about something like this. Release the kids and take care of it.”

"Ye~~~s!"

The number ‘two billion’ was too big to easily estimate the scale. The best rankers who represented their country in the National Competition? They would be weak against the countless reclusive users scattered across Satisfy.

These hermits all had one goal in common: to become a master. Ares was one of said hermits, and his goal was to become the ruler of the continent! He dreamt of building his own country and someday taking over the Saharan Empire.

The Water Clan kingdom, Siren.

The size of this mysterious kingdom under the sea was quite small. Its population was only 100,000 strong, and the land was similar in size to Reidan. There were few hunting grounds and quests, so the number of players became scarce.

However, this place was heaven for Siren’s first discoverer, Euphemina. Thanks to the title ‘Friend of the Water Clan,’ she easily accumulated affinity with the water clan, and was able to experience many hidden episodes. Four months ago, she received a hidden quest.

[Upcoming Destruction]

★ Hidden Quest ★

The heart of the water clan contains enormous magic power.

The prophet 'Miong' has prophesied that evil humans will invade Siren for this purpose.

You have a connection with the water clan through the disciple of a great magician, Mumud.

Defend Siren against the unknown enemies!

Quest Clear Condition: Protect Siren from enemy invasion.

Quest Failure Condition: More than 70% of Siren is destroyed or Siren's population is reduced by more than 40%.

Quest Clear Reward: Acquire the title 'Defender of Siren.' Acquire Mumud's Spellbook. MAX affinity with the water clan's royal family.

While Euphemina didn't know what effect the title 'Defender of Siren' had, since it was a title obtained from saving a kingdom, its effects certainly wouldn't be low. Euphemina judged that it would show off a tremendous performance. More than that, Euphemina was expecting a lot from Mumud's Spellbook.

Mumud, the disciple to the legendary magician Braham. Several documents testified that Mumud might've been a better magician than Braham. It was natural that Euphemina was expecting a lot from Mumud's Spellbook.

'Finally, maximum affinity with the royal family.'

Over the years, Euphemina had been steadily building up affinity with the water clan's king, Maxong. She needed to be friendly with Maxong in order to obtain his tears, and the result was successful. But the other princes were a problem. The conservative princes were unfriendly towards humans and many clashes occurred.

What if she defended Siren and the affinity reached the peak? All of the princes would show a favorable attitude to Euphemina and it could be an opportunity to establish an alliance with Overgeared and Reidan.

'I must keep watch.'

Two months before the National Competition, Euphemina reported the quest to Grid and he promised to actively help her. It was the day when Euphemina sent a whisper to Grid and he made a meaningful smile. But there was a problem.

'The invasion is faster than expected!'

The invasion happened one month earlier than the prophesied date, meaning Grid's support would be delayed.

'Grid said that he would send troops three weeks later...!'

She needed to hurry. Euphemina hurriedly sent a whisper to Grid.

-Grid!

[The target isn't connected.]

“What?”

Originally, Grid was someone who always connected to the game except when he was sleeping. Now was the time when Grid should be awake. Then why wasn't he connected? The confused Euphemina sent another whisper, but the result was the same.

‘Did something happen?’

It was a desperate situation. Euphemina felt worry instead of resentment towards Grid, who was currently absent. As a member of Overgeared, she had much respect and adoration for Grid.

-Lauel!

Euphemina hurriedly sent a whisper to Lauel. Was he carrying out a heavy workload again as soon as the National Competition was over? Lauel replied in a powerless voice,

-Yes...Tell me, our hidden gem, Euphemina.

Euphemina shouted urgently,

-Send support to Siren...!

Lick!

“Kyak?!”

Something rough, soft, and sticky licked Euphemina's white cheeks. Euphemina screamed in horror at the uncomfortable feeling.

“Hihit! Yihihit!”

An unidentified woman with round eyes like a frog placed her face close to Euphemina.

“You! Did you lick my cheek just now?”

Euphemina stared at the woman with a long tongue with a disbelieving expression.

“Hiit! Hihit! Soft!”

“I feel bad.”

Euphemina frowned and immediately used magic. Judging by the current situation, it was normal to attack without asking any questions.

"Aqua Throne!"

It was the spell of the water clan's 1st Prince Paong, who had excellent magical talent. The S-class magic was the strongest magic to use against a single enemy. However...

“Hiit! Yihihit!”

Peeng!

The woman with round eyes smiled strangely and floated. The user with an ID of 'Black' faced Aqua Throne head on and wielded sharp claws at Euphemina.

“Bah!”

Euphemina was the first of two billion users to earn an epic hidden class because of her experience, skills, and effort. In particular, since becoming a Duplicator, she had seen many great battles in the pursuit of high rankers. It meant she wasn't someone who easily allowed an enemy's frontal attacks. She avoided the attack of the woman and decided to take the situation seriously.

'Perhaps she is wearing armor and artifacts with high resistance to the water attribute?'

It was a testament to the fact that the enemies were fully prepared when invading Siren.

-Send assistance to Siren...!

Euphemina once again sent a whisper to Lauel, only to see a terrible notification window.

[You have failed to send a whisper!]

[The 'Chaos Field' is blocking contact with the outside world!]

"Ha, you are really prepared."

They prepared many things in order to carry out the surprise attack. Euphemina pulled out a new duplicated skill as she stared at the black pendant hanging between Black's curves.

“Brother! Evil humans have broken through the outer wall and entered the city! They are trampling on our homes and the people!”

1st Prince Paong was outraged by the words of 3rd Prince Gulong.

“This is all due to that human female called Euphemina!”

That cursed human found Siren, making it the target of greedy humans. He cursed with resentment as he ordered the army to take out their spears and orbs.

“Go and fight! Defend our kingdom and its people against the enemy!”

"Ohhhh!"

Since the loss of the princess years ago, King Maxong had locked himself away. Therefore, it was up to Paong to raise the morale of the soldiers. But war wasn't something that could be won just by enthusiasm. The human army that invaded Siren was very strong. The soldiers weren't able to oppose them.

In particular, the white-haired woman who was like a ghost. Even Paong, who was capable of both magic and using the spear, wasn't her opponent.

"The god of the waves has abandoned us...!"

Why did he allow the invasion of the enemies? The terrible screams and the sight of their family and colleagues dying in front of their eyes...

“It’s good that we were chosen as the vanguard. It is true that Lauel’s eyes are excellent. He plays an active role in the lord’s absence.”

“Hey! Stop talking nonsense and lie down! The wyvern can’t maintain its balance!”

“Wow... This is almost a Vantner-level troll.”

Five people rode on Huroi’s wyvern and were crossing the endless ocean. Huroi, Peak Sword, Pon, and Regas. In addition, Blood Warrior Katz.

At the same time.

“Ha... It is hard.”

Grid was busy moving. He didn’t hear the ringtone of the phone that he had placed in the corner. In the center of Grid’s new room, the diamond capsule from the Comet Group flashed and stood out.

Chapter 466

Empress Marie.

The mother of the 4th prince, she had the ambition to place her son on the imperial throne. After Empress Aria’s death and captivating the emperor’s heart, she built up a strong relationship with the nobles and reorganized the Red Knights into her own limbs.

At one time, the Red Knights were judged to be weaker than the Red Knights of the previous generations. But now? Quite the opposite. The current knights receive the instructions of the enlightened Sword Duke Limit and had the power of a great swordsman. It was no surprise that the Red Knights of the modern world were judged to be much better than the past knights.

Thanks to that, Marie’s position increased further. Whatever her intentions, she brilliantly trained the Red Knights, making the emperor more favorable towards her.

Originally, Marie should’ve been happy. However, it was actually a headache. Ever since the Five Pillars were obtained, the emperor recognized the Red Knights as ‘usable tiles’ again. The number of tasks the Red Knights received from the emperor gradually increased, causing frequent gaps in Marie’s armed forces.

‘Juander... I know that you love me, but it’s impossible for me to control you.’

He wasn’t the emperor of an empire for nothing. It wasn’t easy for him to be deceived by his heart. No matter how hard she tried, she couldn’t completely get him under her thumb. She felt a sense of crisis since Asmophel was kidnapped by someone, and created a new group as a defensive instinct.

She would use dogs that were only loyal to herself, out of reach of the emperor and other nobles.

Once every four months, two full moons would overlap in one night. When the coastal waters of Brinichi experienced a low tide, a secret path would be revealed. A purple road leading into the deep abyss of the sea. It headed towards Siren. That’s right. Originally, Siren was a place that could only be entered once every four months.

However, since it was released by Euphemina, numerous players visited there and succeeded in finding several new paths. Now Siren became a place that could be visited at any time.

“Is it really there?”

Rab. Based on the speed of the wyvern, it was a place that could be reached by flying for two hours from Reidan’s desert. Katz gulped as he confirmed the gigantic whirlpool swirling in the centre. They had to fly into that whirlpool to enter Siren? Katz couldn’t understand it.

“If we fall down there, won’t we 100% die?”

Surely these guys weren’t trying to kill him because they disliked him? Katz didn’t trust his colleagues because he had just joined the team. He couldn’t believe people due to the environment that he grew up in. He fought against his blood brothers and sisters over who would become the successor.

For Katz, trusting humans wasn’t easy.

“I don’t know why you’re so timid.”

As a descendant of an independent fighter, Peak Sword hated Japanese people who made racist remarks like Alexander of Russia. Fortunately, Katz didn’t mind his tone. He didn’t forget his mistake of ignoring and criticizing the Korean people in the past. Katz might have a selfish personality, but he wasn’t the type to deny his mistakes.

"I understand why you hate me. I want to apologize for my attitude and remarks in the past."

“...Eh?”

Peak Sword was embarrassed by Katz’ unexpected reaction. The Katz that he knew was a bastard. He didn’t show such a mild attitude in the past.

‘Isn’t he a bad guy?’

How should he respond? Katz kicked the butt of the worried Peak Sword.

“Why aren’t you apologizing?”

"Ah, this X!"

Peak Sword fell into the whirlpool that was the entrance and Katz checked to see if he had died or not. Pon and Regas laughed like they found it funny. Huroi watched the four crazy people and realized again.

‘Normal people are rare in Overgeared. I should stay alert so that Grid isn’t damaged.’

Huroi was someone whose specialty was talking about parents. Looking at it objectively, he was the most garbage person in Overgeared.

Water clan. Their physical characteristics were very similar to humans. They looked like humans apart from the gills on their shoulders and arms, as well as the sparkling scales on their thighs. It was easy to think of them as humans who could live in water.

However, their strength and magic power were several times higher than normal humans and the possibility of development was high. If they didn't have the fatal weakness of low fertility and not being able to live long on land, they would've built a civilization that would've surpassed humanity.

"I found a means of harnessing the magic power accumulated in their hearts. Go to Siren right now and obtain as many hearts as possible... No, take them all."

White was one of the best users of Blood Carnival. Half a year ago, she joined the Rose Knights who served Empress Marie and had been loyal to Marie ever since. Marie was one of the few people who could satisfy her desires.

"It's bad luck not being pretty."

White reminisced about Marie's explanation and command while looking around Siren. She noticed a sand castle rising in the center of the beautiful underwater kingdom.

Escente laughed at the sight of the water clan being killed as they fled.

"It's rare to have beauty. Do you think the water clan are stupid because they're fish? Why build a castle with sand?"

Escente was a member of Blood Carnival like White. But he had nothing to do with Marie or the Rose Knights. He could participate in this expedition because White shared the quest with him.

"One heart is 80 gold... 100 hearts can be converted into 7,000 dollars."

"It's 70,000 dollars if it is 1,000 hearts! Kukuk! This isn't a triple S quest! It's a very lucrative quest!"

In addition to Escente, many Blood Carnival players participated in this expedition. As many as 30 people. Around one third of Blood Carnival was gathered in Siren. Blood Carnival was a group specializing in combat and slaughter, so the capabilities of 30 of them gathered at once was beyond the imagination.

They'd also hired mercenaries or gathered colleagues, so there were close to 1,000 people. The average level was 233! The seven guilds? Overgeared? Those groups of people couldn't even give them business cards. The Blood Carnival people were proud and strong.

The water clan soldiers who weren't used to war were just prey in front of them.

Seokeok!

Siren City.

After killing an elderly man shivering on one side, Escente laughed as he defeated two soldiers who ran over aggressively in succession.

"Easy, easy! Really easy! Their levels are too low! Instead of 1,000, I will catch one million!"

The average level of the thousands of citizens were around 100, while the soldiers had an average level of 180. One variable was being able to use water attribute magic, but that had already been expected. It wasn't much of a threat since they wore items to increase resistance to the water attribute as much as possible.

Water clan. They were weak and easy prey worth 80 gold each.

Blood Carnival and their army were filled with excitement as they started the slaughter. The Siren Kingdom's beautifully made city of water and sand became tinged with blood instantly.

3rd Prince Gulong arrived at the battlefield late and cried out.

"Wicked humans...!"

The water clan weren't aggressive. They knew satisfaction and didn't easily covet things. For them, the human race who didn't care about deceiving, stealing, or killing others was a target of disgust.

"Why? Why do you come into the depths of the ocean to invade and slaughter us? Even the women and children who can't resist...!?"

Gulong swung a scimitar at Escente. Escente was surprised as he blocked the attack. It was because after the sword exchange, Gulong leaned forward and knocked against Escent with his rock-hard shoulder. He wasn't merely a fighter, but a warrior capable of tactics.

"Ugh."

Escent was hit in the chest and flew far away, but got up immediately. His mouth twisted in an ugly manner.

"Does it really mean anything to catch a fish? This damn fish!"

"Disgraceful person!"

Gulong's movements became more aggressive as he was provoked. It was stronger and quicker due to maximizing the effects of fast swordsmanship, but it also left gaps. Escente counterattacked with a shield and struck Gulong's jaw.

"Aha! It is easy to go against a stupid bastard!"

Gulong was a named NPC. If Escente could catch this NPC, wouldn't he receive at least 100,000 gold? The greedy Escente started to push at Gulong. However, Gulong was stronger than he thought. The third advancement Escente couldn't knock him down and was eventually driven to the defensive.

"Somebody help!"

Escente belatedly realized and shouted urgently, but there was no one to help him. The Blood Carnival was merely a group created to share information that was beneficial to one another. There was no desire to help each other. If there wasn't the minimum of rules, they would've already stabbed each other in the back.

"Block with your shield before you die! That's what you get for being too greedy!"

"Kyakyak! Look at that unseemly form! Pathetic!"

Escente's companions mocked rather than help him.

"Son of a bitch...!"

After passing through this crisis, Escente wanted to pass on the aggro to the others. But this damn Gulong showed no gaps. At least three third advancement classes working together would be needed to raid him.

'Why am I facing this monster...?'

He had only collected 27 hearts. He only got 2,160 gold and the loss would be too big if he died.

'I'm ruined!'

The moment Escente was feeling frustration.

"Kyaack!"

"Aah! Mother! Father!"

Blood Carnival and their army started to increase the pace of their slaughter. They entered the locked houses and killed the people hiding inside, irrespective of gender or age. Screaming women and crying children. They didn't care about the pain and sadness. They wouldn't have joined Blood Carnival or accepted this quest if they worried about such things in the first place.

"Stop! Stop right now!"

Gulong couldn't bear to see the innocent people being cruelly murdered. Escente stabbed a sword in Gulong's side and shouted.

"Hahat! Looking away during a battle!"

"Ugh!"

Gulong realized that the situation was desperate. The number of his soldiers was ten times more than the number of humans, but numbers had no meaning, considering the strength of the humans. One of the strongest warriors of the water clan couldn't help because he was tied up by one human.

'Brother...!'

1st Prince Paong was isolated among humans and seemed to be in a crisis. As the prophet Miong said, was god abandoning them? The moment that Gulong closed his eyes, waiting for the human to hurt him...

Kwajajak!

A flash fell from the sky like a lightning bolt and struck Escente's head. It was an unexpected blow. The skill ignored defense, and Escente, who fell into a stunned state, turned his eyes in the direction it came from. Then he saw a man.

"A beautiful river of blood."

Ssik.

The ID of the laughing man was Katz. His smile was tinged with insanity. Compared to Escente and other members of Blood Carnival, he seemed the most insane.

“Blood Warrior...?”

Kuoooooh!

The blood of the water clan on the battlefield slowly rose into the sky, a strange, cruel, and beautiful sight that enchanted people.

Chapter 467

A transparent outer wall surrounded all of Siren. Beyond that, the deep sea views inspired awe in the viewers. However, Katz' present appearance was more surprising than the scenery.

“Blood Warrior...! What are you doing here?”

Escente overcame the stunned state in just one second and shouted while taking a potion.

Katz snorted.

“A worthless person like you is pretending to be a landlord. Why should I tell you my reason for coming here? Who are you in the first place?”

“This crazy guy! Why are you attacking someone you don't know?”

Escente felt resentful of Katz' attitude before suddenly realizing.

"Aha! That's right! You're trying to make money here!"

Siren was a kingdom lacking hunting grounds and quests. There was only one reason why Katz, a high ranker, would come to this place where even level 100 users were reluctant to visit. Escente was sure of it.

“Yes...! You received the quest from White too! You came here to hunt the water clan people!”

Strictly speaking, they were on the same side. So why was he hit?

“You lousy bastard! You want to obtain the money from the water clan on your own!”

Escente was confident of his plausible reasoning. Katz thought it was cute.

“I'm moving for money? Kukuk! That's a fresh idea.”

'Ah!'

Wasn't he someone with money? Katz reminded them that he was the son of Japan's leading conglomerate.

“If that's the case... Then you came here because...!?”

"That's right. I came here on the side of the water clan. As Grid's servant.”

“...Servant?” (Raws is a slang word)

What? It was a unique Japanese term that Escente couldn't understand. However, he could infer it from the current context.

'Katz has joined Overgeared? Then the Overgeared Guild came to save Siren?'

How did this happen? Did White know about this? But he couldn't afford to think too deeply.

Kwa kwa kwa kwa kwa!

The shed blood from the brutally murdered water clan. It became a stream of blood that flew around Katz as a living snake. It was a very quick attack that made Escente feel surprised and desperate. As a result, he easily avoided it. The trajectory of the blood flow wasn't complicated, so he could adapt quickly.

Kwa kwak!

Kwa kwa kwa kwa kwak!

Straight, right angle, and straight line. The blood flow moved simply compared to the terrible momentum behind it. The targets weren't hit and only the ground was broken. In the course of avoiding the bloodstream, Escente was brought to the side of his colleagues.

'Bah! This is nothing... Wait?'

Wasn't this too easy? Soul Predator Seuron, Ruler of the Battlefield Ares, and Blood Warrior Katz. These three were considered dangerous people who should never be met on a battlefield. On a battlefield where an enormous amount of blood was shed, Katz' skills were enormous.

Escente predicted the worst outcome.

'Don't tell me...!'

Maybe moving near his colleagues while avoiding the bloodstream was Katz' intentions? The moment that ominous thought occurred.

Pepeng!

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

The bloodstream suddenly exploded, swallowing up Escente and his colleagues.

"Kukuk! Small fries!"

A dark smile appeared on Katz' face. As the Blood Carnival members and their army were screaming from the pain, Katz hummed happily like a psychopath. He pulled out a sword and moved among the enemy.

"Thank you for your help, but... What is with your happy expression while killing? Do you enjoy slaughtering humans?"

"..."

Originally, Katz' personality meant he would've ignored the question from a NPC. But now he was a member of Overgeared and he knew that Grid respected NPCs. Grid was a person who even married a NPC!

“...Hrmm.”

Katz had to consider Grid’s position and the image of the guild. He kindly answered Gulong’s question.

"That’s right. Is there anything in the world as entertaining as fighting and killing?"

“Wow...”

The faces of Gulong and the water clan soldiers turned white. It was the moment when the water clan people became more prejudiced and distrustful towards humans. It was a misfortune caused by Katz’ unnecessary kindness.

Euphemina. She had an appearance like a cute girl and was called the hidden gem of Overgeared. She was almost obscure because she didn’t have any outside activities, but she was actually one of the best powers in the team. She was active in various fields due to duplicating skills, and she always had the greatest combat power. Therefore she was considered a guardian angel of Overgeared.

Of course, this was on the premise that ‘top level skills were duplicated in large quantities.’ In this complete state, even Grid called her OP and was afraid of her. In fact, she had the power to smash Faker in the past. She even managed to fight with Piaro.

The current Euphemina was in top shape. It was possible because she had received the hidden quest from the prophet Miong for the last half a year. In the meantime, Euphemina had duplicated the skills of high ranking players. She didn’t doubt that she was the strongest.

But this battle was difficult.

Black.

The woman, who had a mature body that Grid was partial to, was extraordinarily agile. It was so fast that she couldn’t follow Black with her eyes. It was impossible to hit her without targeted skills. Euphemina invoked one of the S-grade spells that she had saved, Giant’s Embrace, and blocked the sword coming towards her.

"Fire Hell!"

Hwaruruk!

Tall pillars of fire appeared in an 8 meter area around Euphemina. It was wide area magic. There was no better means to neutralize an enemy’s swiftness than wide area magic. In the end, Black was burned. She tried to retreat from the range of the Fire Hell, but it was already too late. Euphemina completed the chant for Storm Gravity Field immediately after Fire Hell.

Kududuk!Kwaduk!

There was a strange sound and Black’s body plummeted to the ground. She was crushed by the gravity field that had increased by dozens, hundreds of times.

“Hihit!”

Was it desperation after sensing defeat? Black burst into laughter. Her body was swallowed up by a storm and Euphemina fired several more fire arrows at her. Then Black turned to grey as she died.

'5 minutes and 31 seconds...'

Euphemina was tied up by Black for that long. In this process, eight skills had been consumed. Euphemina couldn't help puffing up both cheeks like a squirrel.

"Really strong."

Black wasn't inferior to the strongest people in Overgeared. Where was this strong person hiding in the meantime? Euphemina questioned as she prepared to move to the center of the battlefield, only to look like she saw a ghost.

"Hiit! Yihihit! How is a cute little girl like you not known to the world? I will ask my sister!"

"...?"

Black. The person who turned grey had once again appeared in front of Euphemina. It was without a single injury!

"Twins?"

It couldn't be, because the ID was exactly the same! Euphemina's beautiful red eyes shook. It was just like the first time she met Grid!

Peng!

Pepepeng!

Siren, which had been peaceful for thousands of years, had turned into a battlefield in only 15 minutes. The city was already being devastated. There were continuous explosions as humans destroyed the civilization built in Siren and indiscriminately massacred the people.

"Stop...! Please! Please stop!"

1st Prince Paong. He was one of the strongest warriors of the water clan and was desperately resisting. He tried to beg. But it was wishful thinking. The overall power gap was so severe that the human atrocities were beyond imagination.

"P-Prince..."

"Yaong! Myoong!"

The young knights who grew up with him since childhood, as well as the middle-aged knights and magicians who were his teachers. They died one by one to the humans.

"Despicable...! Wicked humans!"

Shielding the people! Some might think he was foolish and laugh. But the water clan couldn't allow their own people to be hurt. By defending the ordinary residents against the enemies, the soldiers were attacked one-sidedly and easily collapsed.

White found it funny.

"Fools."

"You are the devil!"

The furious Paong rushed towards White. He first needed to get rid of the human female holding up him. But White was too strong. Even Paong, one of the strongest warriors of the water clan, couldn't go against her.

Teong!

She blocked his spear with her bloated belly.

Peeok!

Her forearm hit Paong in the face. She had a weight of 2 tons and was a master of fighting, knowing how to use her physical characteristics properly.

"T-This...!"

"I will praise you for not comparing me to a pig."

White smiled and blew a kiss at Paong in a creepy manner. Paong stiffened and White frowned.

"What is with that look? Do you also not like me for being fat and ugly?"

Peeok!

The angry White's gigantic fist struck Paong's face once more. Paong couldn't believe it. How could a human without a weapon be so strong? He was feeling confused when he heard somebody's voice.

"A martial artist who knows how to properly distribute their weight."

A clear and clear voice. The owner of the voice without any darkness sounded convinced.

"What are you?"

Paong expressed hostility as a human male approached and held out his hand. His distrust and hatred for humans had reached the peak. Paong pointed his spear at the human male, Regas, who held out his hand with a sad expression to the end.

"Why..." The sadness in the clear eyes turned to anger. "Why do they have to taste this pain and sadness?"

Regas' always laughing eyes turned fierce. He glared at the white haired White.

"Don't look at me like that...! It isn't a sin to be fat! I'm someone who will be fat even if I only drink water!"

Peeng!

White talked nonsense as she struck Regas' fist. At this moment, Regas realized.

'I'm not her opponent...!'

"I have a question."

Beast human Toon paid a monthly rent and moved to the 5th floor of Grid's building. He was helping Grid move in return for moving in without a deposit.

"Why don't you hire a moving company to carry your things?"

Grid replied while carrying a box.

"Save money. Don't you know how expensive labor costs are these days?"

"Wouldn't it be much better for you to play the game during the time it would take for you to move everything?"

Grid's value was astronomical. The revenue he could earn from playing the game for one hour was beyond the imagination of the general public. No, his name recognition was so great that he could make money just from saying 'Comet Group' on the Internet.

"Ah...!" Grid was frustrated. "Dammit...! I have been living as a poor man for so long that my sense of economics is strange!"

He was having trouble adjusting properly. Toon handed a small booklet to the tearful Grid. It was the instructions for the diamond class capsule given to Grid by the Comet Group.

"Leave the finishing up to me and go play."

"Y-Yes... Thank you."

Grid rushed to his room. There was anticipation in Toon's eyes.

"How much stronger will you become?"

Toon was astounded when he discovered the capsule that Grid had been using during the moving process. The capsule used by Grid was released in the early days and was the infamous lowest priced entry-level capsule that had the 'worst assimilation rate.'

Meanwhile, the diamond capsule was a top rated model. It was 150 times more expensive than the capsule Grid used, and its performance was overwhelming. It was incomparable to the intermediate capsules supplied to players in the National Competition.

"Don't forget that life is about items."

Toon laughed and called the moving center.

Chapter 468

“Wow... Isn’t this completely different from what I expected?”

"Yes, this is serious."

Huroi, Peak Sword, and Pon entered Siren. They climbed onto the walls of sand and frowned as they looked at the battlefield. The level of the players who invaded Siren was so high that it exceeded the range assumed.

“There are 1,000 of them. The average level is in the mid 200s.”

"Of those, around 30 are third advancement classes. This isn’t at the level of rabble. They’re specialized in combat."

The words were surprisingly casual. No, they weren’t enjoying it as the players slaughtered the people and soldiers of Siren. The eyes of the three people were observing the movements, equipment, and skills of the enemies when they noticed something in the center of the battlefield.

"Eh?"

"Regas is being pushed?"

"White? Who’s that?"

Regas had entered the battlefield first with Katz. Pon and the others weren’t concerned about him. Who was Regas? He was a talented person who fought against Damian in PvP. If Kraugel and Grid were classified as SSS-grade, Regas was SS-grade. In other words, he was strong. He could dance naked on the battlefield and it was still unlikely he would die from an enemy.

Thus, Pon’s group weren’t worried about him. But what was this?

White. A fat woman with an unfamiliar ID was completely overwhelming Regas. She was better than Regas in stats, skills, and control, forcing Regas on the defensive. It was a level where he was being beaten. In other words, White was a monster on the level of Kraugel.

“Where has a woman like that been hiding?”

The first time Kraugel became known to the world. People were shocked at how strong a player could be. They thought Kraugel was an NPC. Now there was White. She showed a shocking presence the first time she appeared in the world, just like Kraugel.

“...The world is wide.”

Shake shake.

Pon’s body trembled. Was it from fear and tension? Of course, he felt such emotions. But he was feeling more jubilant. Pon was pursuing the peak. In order to become stronger, he had a tendency to crave fighting the strong. Just like Regas, who was laughing as he fought White. For them, White was a new challenge and a platform for growth.

“I will join Regas. You should take care of the rest.”

"There are no small fries here." Peak Sword grabbed Pon's shoulder, reminding him that the enemies were strong. "I understand your heart, but please put up with it. What we have to do now is reduce the number of enemies as much as possible while Regas is tying up that monster's feet."

"Peak Sword is right. It's our job to keep the damage to the water clan as minimal as possible until the reinforcements arrive. Forget your personal matters."

"Cough..."

Pon recovered his cool thanks to Peak Sword and Huroi, pulling out a spear. He regretted his greed and used Rail Spear.

"Isn't it okay to throw this to help Regas?"

The muscles of Pon's right arm swelled and made a strange sound. Peak Sword and Huroi held their tongues as they saw Pon's arm twisted at an angle that seemed impossible.

'That looks terrible.'

There were skills that caused pain in exchange for their use. There were also skills that caused a loss of health and physical defects. Among them was Pon's Rail Spear. Pon had to pay a heavy penalty in exchange for using Rail Spear. Instead, the effect was amazing.

Peeeeeeong!

Huroi and Peak Sword gulped a few times as they watched. Pon's Rail Spear flew towards White, who was 300 meters away. It was a skill that was impossible to avoid, causing White to let out a scream of pain as her back was pierced. Thanks to this, Regas was able to breathe and he raised a thumb in thanks.

"Wow. That idiot about fighting thanked you for helping him."

"Yes. I thought he would be mad about the interference."

"That girl is really strong."

Tension started to appear on the faces of the three men. They finally faced the seriousness of the situation. Some of the Blood Carnival members slaughtering the water clan turned to look at them.

"Pon!"

"Peak Sword!"

"Why are these Overgeared people...?"

"They're trying to interfere with us!"

Their position was exposed in exchange for helping Regas and they missed the chance of a surprise attack. The three people exchanged looks as they were targeted by the enemy and then started their own actions.

"Our future missus Yura is prettier!"

The orator Huroi boosted morale with sweet words.

“Draw Sword.”

Piing.

The Ideal Longsword emitted a white light inside the sheath made by Grid.

"Sudden."

Kwa kwa kwa kwang!

Most of the players heading over here, except the third advancement users, died from the blow.

“Phew.”

Pon was impressed by Peak Sword’s strike and rode a white horse. His spear reached the bottom of the cliff in an instant, and every time he moved in a straight line, two or three enemies died. The water clan people who were saved thanked the group with tears of appreciation. Pon’s eyes sharpened as he saw a young child who wouldn’t leave the body of his dead mother.

"Fall into misery."

“Crazy...! Stop him!"

As everyone knew, strength was relative. Just as Pon saw White as a monster, the Blood Carnival users and their army saw Pon as a monster.

“I’ve seen an immortal skill, but this is the first time I’ve seen a resurrection skill. Is it a class trait? Or the effect of an item or title? I very much covet it.”

“Hiit! Yihihit!

The first fight took 4 minutes and 31 seconds, while the second fight took 5 minutes and 20 seconds. Euphemina barely managed to overpower Black and placed a hand on Black’s head. It was a small and soft hand. There was a good scent. But Black could feel it. The stench of death was covered by this sweet fragrance.

Peeok!

[Retribution]

A C-grade spell. Unusually, the power of this spell varied according to the distance at which it was used. It had the strength of a B-grade spell when used in close range. Euphemina identified that Black’s head was smashed and that she’d died, before taking a deep breath.

"Resurrecting twice is impossible."

She received a whisper from Huroi that he arrived in Siren. Euphemina wanted to quickly join her colleagues and minimize the damage to the water clan. However...

“Hiit! Yihihit! You, are you getting weaker?"

“...Eh.”

Black, whose head had been blown away, appeared in front of Euphemina in a perfect state. Perhaps it wasn't a simple resurrection skill, but a higher level technique.

"You're just like a cockroach."

Euphemina cried out as she once again attacked Black with magic. At the same time, an explosion occurred that sent shock waves in every direction, destroying a building. Euphemina's quest wasn't just to protect the people of Siren, but the facilities as well.

Euphemina started to feel nervous. Her skills, mana, and stamina were being rapidly consumed, causing her to think about Grid. Euphemina blushed and shook her head.

'This isn't about any feelings. I was just reminded of that guy.'

"Hiit? Uhit?"

Euphemina was blushing alone in the midst of battle. Black looked at her strangely. She was being treated as strange by a crazy person. Euphemina's battle concentration rose because of the unpleasant feeling.

"30 unofficial rankers...? And sun-grade users?" Lael analyzed the information arriving from the advance team and was convinced. 'Blood Carnival.'

A force superior to the seven guilds. No, maybe they were comparable to Overgeared. The group that invaded Siren this time held a large number of unofficial rankers.

'I didn't want to be hostile to such a group.'

Blood Carnival was a group that only pursued money and fun, not knowing common sense or morality. It was obvious that becoming hostile to them would be tiring in many ways. Jishuka saw Lael's troubled expression and gave an alluring smile.

"Don't worry. If we handle this perfectly, they'll be so afraid of us that they won't bother us again."

Lael laughed heartily. "That's correct. We have to smash them so that they won't become hostile to us anymore."

Unlike his words, Lael was feeling uncomfortable. White was at the level of a sun.

'It would've been nice if I brought Faker.'

To be honest, Lael judged that him and the first team could save Siren with Euphemina. Therefore, he only brought eight members with him. The reason he thought it would be easy? It was because the force invading Siren were 'players.' He considered them to be at the level of an average player.

However, he was mistaken. It was unexpected that the worst group out of two billion users, Blood Carnival, would be involved.

'It will be hard. If only Grid was here...'

Why didn't he pick up his phone? Lael was sighing when a guild notification window popped up.

[Master 'Grid' is connected.]

The structure of a virtual reality game was very simple. The player transmitted brain waves to the server and the server implemented the movements of the player based on the brain waves. The reaction in Satisfy was slightly slower than it was in reality.

Let's say it was 0.1 second. But the worst and cheapest capsule that Grid had been using for over two years was 0.3 seconds late. It was an early model and had technical limitations. Grid had never shown interest in the capsule itself and didn't consider it important. He didn't think about the 0.3 second delayed reaction time and used the existing capsule.

Then he felt something in the 2nd National Competition. Fast reactions. As soon as he thought about stretching out his hand, it moved. When he tried to say something, it instantly popped out. It was a subtle difference, but it was hard to adapt to for a while.

And today.

"Heok."

Grid experienced a new world. His body moved like it did in reality. There wasn't the slightest disparity between thinking and speaking. He was connected to Satisfy, but why did he feel like it was reality?

"T-This...!" Grid was filled with joy as he recalled the 'best sync rate' that was stated in the instructions of the diamond capsule. "I can please Irene even more!"

He could move his waist more quickly and...

Omitted.

"What?"

Lululala~

Grid was humming as he headed to Irene's room when he suddenly stopped. A whisper arrived from Lael.

Chapter 469

-Grid, come to Siren right now.

-Why Siren?

He wanted to please Irene! Was there another husband in the world who thought so much about his wife? Grid was rushing forward when he stopped in place.

Lael explained.

-The enemy has invaded. There are approximately 1,000 of them. Of those, 30 are third advancement users and one is a sun-grade. In other words, a person who is on a similar level to you.

'Sun-grade?'

Lauel's words were tremendous. Grid smiled, but his eyes were pained.

-The invasion is a month earlier than scheduled. Okay, I'll go right now.

He wanted to enjoy the reunion with Irene and Lord, but it was something he could do anytime. He could postpone it. Grid was worried about his colleagues being harmed and immediately wore Braham's Boots. He paid attention to Lauel.

-Currently, whispering seems to be restricted within Siren. Communication with the advance team is intermittently interrupted. If you can't whisper me on the way, don't panic and go straight to Siren. I will go ahead and clean the path for you to step on.

-Uh, yes... Please protect as many of the water clan as possible.

-Your wish will become reality...

Grid's hands and feet curled and he felt the desire to block Lauel's whisper. Why were Grid and Overgeared actively helping in Euphemina's personal quest? Was it to thank Euphemina, who always did her best for Overgeared? Of course, that was one reason.

However, there was another reason why Grid and Overgeared decided to support Euphemina. By establishing an alliance with the water clan, they had another framework to expand their forces, as well as obtain the tears of the water clan's king. They were the true motives behind the Overgeared Guild. In order to enter the alliance in the best possible position, it was necessary to minimize the damage to Siren and be a great benefactor.

Grid was hurriedly flying when he heard a longing voice.

"Father!"

It was Lord. The baby growing up in Satisfy, where time flowed was several times faster than reality, was becoming a child in a flash.

"Lord...!"

Time was tight, but how could he ignore his son? Grid descended to the ground and held Lord. It was very fresh. Lord might be a virtual existence, but he was Grid's child born from a woman he loved. Lord was pretty and lovely.

"Where are you going? Father is busy every day and Lord and Mother are worried!" From Lord's position, it had been a few months since he saw his father. As a continent-level genius, he learned quickly and was a mature child.. "I want to play with Father! I can make a knife like Father!!"

"Haha, is that so? I am looking forward to it." Lord had been trying hard all alone. He was truly very admirable. Grid stroked Lord's black hair. "I will finish this quickly so that I can see my son's work. Until then, listen to what your mother says."

"...Yes."

Lord had learned all types of things from studying with Sage Sticks. He was well aware of his father's position as a duke. He knew that his father was busy. Lord tried not to feel sad, but tears couldn't help forming in his big eyes. Grid was stroking his cheeks when he suddenly felt surprised.

'What?'

There were dozens of beautiful girls standing behind Lord with shy faces. They were the Rebecca's Daughters candidates that Damian had brought here.

'They should be working in the fields with Piaro. Why are they following Lord?'

Grid questioned it. Lord read his expression and gleefully explained. He pointed at the girl standing closest to him. "This sister is Epona. My first lover."

"First?"

Then there was a second? It was real. Lord's tears completely disappeared as he pointed to another girl.

"This sister is Arna... My second lover."

"..."

This wasn't the end. Lord had over 20 lovers!

"Heok..."

A baby who wasn't even two years old had over 20 lovers? Grid had married Irene at the age of 30 without having a single lover. It was impossible for him to understand Lord's position.

'Is he confusing the words 'friend' and 'lover'?'

The problem was that Lord was a genius, so it wasn't possible. The girl called Epona explained to Grid.

"Duke Grid, you told us to look after Lord well..."

'Ah right.'

As soon as he heard the blushing girl's shy words, Grid recalled the words he said the first time he met the candidates. Yes, Grid had spoken like this on the fields.

"Please grow up healthy and pretty, and look after my son Lord."

Grid clicked his tongue.

'My words at that time gave Lord a harem?'

Grid recalled that there were 200 Rebecca's Daughters candidates and felt resentment towards his own father.

'Ah...! Father! Why weren't you like me...?'

Introduce a girl to your son!

"Father?" Lord was worried about the frustrated Grid. The barely sane Grid grasped Lord's hand.

"Yes, it is better to be a playboy than a lifelong solo like me. Just look at Peak Sword. It's wonderful, Lord. But please take care of yourself. Your essential parts can be ruined if you aren't careful."

"Huh? Essential parts? What's that?"

"That... I don't know because I haven't experienced it."

But Lord would come to know through experience. He felt really envious of his son. He was truly the best golden spoon. Grid tearfully gave Lord one last hug and flew off.

After a while.

Kasim let out a breath from where he had been observing Grid in Lord's shadow.

'Duke Grid... He's completely different from a few months ago.'

His expression and tone had become gentle compared to the past, but he was sharper than before. The moment he gazed into those laughing eyes, he felt a sense of crisis and stopped breathing for a few minutes.

'Doran, now I can see why you gave your ring to Duke Grid.'

Since the past, Doran had excellent discerning eyes. Perhaps from the beginning, Doran had recognized that Grid was a great person.

'Duke Grid, I will punish all the enemies who threaten your precious people. Please rest assured and continue to grow. Then destroy the empire with your own hands and pay back my clan's grudge.'

"I don't know if I'm a farmer or not."

"Me too... But who cares as long as I get stronger?"

"That's true. But I don't want to fight with farming equipment in a war. I'm tired of rainbow potatoes..."

"Heok. Don't say that when Bland is right in front of you. The potato addict will definitely be angry if he hears it."

The knights and soldiers completed the morning training at the training grounds and moved to the fields under Asmophel's guidance. It was because they had to farm under the name of 'afternoon training.' Asmophel sent those who were confused about their identity a look of sympathy and stood face to face with Piaro after a while. Worker... No, Piaro smiled as he waited for the soldiers and knights to train.

"You've gone through a lot of trouble since dawn, Captain of the Overgeared Magic Knights."

"Now you will suffer, Captain of the Overgeared Knights."

Their best friend. The two men had once fallen into the trap of a wicked woman and regarded each other as enemies. After going through many trials, their relationship was now stronger than before. It was all thanks to Duke Grid. Piaro and Asmophel. The two who were once called the 'Pillars of Saharan' now respected and followed Grid. It was with loyalty from their hearts.

What was their lord doing now? The moment that both of them missed Grid.

“Piaro!”

A voice was heard from above. It was a low and not very frivolous voice. There was a definitely sense of weight about it. The one who spoke was Grid.

“My Lord!”

Was he looking for Piaro? Asmophel was glad to see Grid after a long time, but he also felt sad.

“Hello? Asmophel, it has been a long time. Your efforts are always appreciated.”

Grid descended from the sky and stood beside the two people. At that moment, the thousands of soldiers and the knights kneeled down.

“Eternal’s savior! Reidan’s sun! We greet the great Duke Grid!”

The people who had been steadily growing since becoming Reidan’s lord. It felt good to hear this. His heart was full. It wasn’t just Reidan’s residents, but many people around the world calling him a sun. Grid was reminded of this as he looked around at his army.

Now there were 4,000 soldiers. In addition, there were 8 knights. He expected a lot from the knights, since they were selected and trained by Piaro.

‘I am really happy.’

The once pathetic person was now lord of tens of thousands of people and thousands of soldiers... It was a marvelous story that wouldn’t be believed if he went back three years ago, or even 10 months.

‘Should I write an autobiography later on?’

The title would be the ‘Myth of Overgeared.’ The problem was that at least 50 volumes were expected.

“My Lord, are you going to join Earl Lauel’s army?”

Piaro was concerned about his lord not getting any rest. Grid nodded while holding the Great Lord’s Sword and summoning Noe.

"That’s right. I need to borrow some of your stats because I’m in a hurry."

Grid planned to boost his stamina stat by taking some away from Piaro. Grid was pleased when he used Character Observation and saw how Piaro had grown. Then he saw Asmophel’s status window.

“...Huge?”

Magnificent Sword Asmophel, he was once the only person who could match Piaro. It wasn’t until two years after coming to Reidan that he regained his former condition and was finally recognized by Grid.

“Asmophel! You’re a great person!”

“My Lord...!”

His worth was finally seen! Asmophel was feeling thrilled.

"It is you, nyong!" Noe, who was sitting quietly on Grid's shoulder, suddenly opened his mouth and swallowed Asmophel.

"High agility is complete! Okay! Thank you! I will be able to arrive much faster thanks to you!"

"M-My Lord...?"

Asmophel, who was covered in Noe's saliva, stared blankly after Grid who had already disappeared. Once again, Asmophel was one of the strongest in the Saharan Empire. Asmophel missed the glory of the past and became determined.

"Piaro... I can't forgive myself for using the pretense of a drug addiction and broken heart to be lazy. Please help me. Train me starting from today!"

Piaro's face turned rosy.

"Good! First, the hoe!"

"...Me too?"

Once again, Asmophel had been the most powerful person in the empire. He was also a prestigious noble.

Chapter 470

Before entering Siren. Lauel cast Wind Dragon's Breath the moment that the group entered Siren. The arrows and magic flying towards the eight members of Overgeared, including Lauel, were scattered by his wind. Lauel frowned as he verified the destroyed buildings.

"This is a tremendous welcome. Let's not make too much of a disturbance in the area."

"What? Did you plant a mole among us? How did you know about our surprise attack in advance?"

The Overgeared members actually came to support Euphemina, who had been active in the guild since the Reinhardt golem invasion. As a matter of fact, Overgeared had no idea that Blood Carnival was involved in this quest. Blood Carnival felt the need to shut out reinforcements from Overgeared and positioned troops at the entrance to Siren. Then they killed anybody who entered.

However, only innocent people died. The reinforcements from Overgeared blocked the surprise attack.

Lauel snorted at the Blood Carnival members. "I wouldn't be chief of staff of Overgeared if I couldn't read your thoughts."

Lauel smiled and swept back his hair. He was looking at the pendants around the necks of the third advancement users from Blood Carnival.

'Chaos Field.'

An item that blocked the whispers of all players within 10 meters of the wearer. It was less useful because it didn't distinguish between friends or enemies, but it was relatively cheap and easy to obtain. It was the favorite item of assassin or guerrilla units.

'Indeed, this was why communications with Euphemina and the first team was disconnected.'

The price was relatively cheap compared to the 'Complete Chaos Field.' The price of the Chaos Field was 500 million won. It couldn't be distributed to all 1,000 people, so it was likely only the 30 third advancement members of Blood Carnival had it. In other words, it meant that Euphemina and the advance team were facing members of Blood Carnival.

"Hurry."

There was a chance that Euphemina and the advance team could lose their lives. In particular, he was worried about Euphemina, who became vulnerable as more time passed. An arrow flashed over the nervous Lauel's shoulder.

'Godly archer...!'

The Blood Carnival members stiffened and took a defensive posture. But it was useless.

Pepeng!Peng!

Jishuka's arrows changed their orbits freely in the air and plugged into the enemies' gaps. The rising blood was the signal. Toban, Ibellin, and the other members of Overgeared started attacking Blood Carnival.

"Pant... Pant... This isn't easy."

"I agree."

Regas was tying up White's feet. Pon's party tried to join Euphemina while wiping out as many enemies as possible. But it was difficult. It was impossible to locate Euphemina and there were too many enemies. After killing five or six enemies at a time, others immediately came forward. In particular, the rear archers and magicians were annoying. It was hard for them to fight and protect the water clan.

"There's no end to it. My stamina is falling."

"Regas won't last long..."

"I'm frustrated because I can't send a whisper."

"Kuoong..."

In the midst of this confusion, Pon's group became surrounded by new enemies. The average level of the enemies was in the mid 200s. They could handle the enemies in seconds if it was a one-on-one match. But it was different when dealing with large numbers. Their skills, stamina, and concentration were quickly consumed. It wasn't possible to neutralize all attacks coming from various directions unless they were Kraugel, so their health was constantly decreasing.

But the biggest problem were the contents of the mission. If it was simply a mission about destroying the enemies, it might be possible to kill the enemies without worrying about the future. However, the party had an obligation to protect the water clan and join Euphemina. They couldn't fight blindly.

"We need to find the right facility to protect the water clan."

Peak Sword was the master of the Silver Knights Guild and his ability to grasp the battlefield was high. Lael appointed him as leader of the vanguard for a reason. He identified a relatively safe area and instructed Pon and Huroi to move the water clan there. Then he blocked the route of the enemies.

"Draw Sword, Annihilate."

"Kyak!"

"Aack!"

Indeed, the power of Peak Sword was enormous. However, the mana consumption was large and the cooldown time was long.

Puok!

"Ugh...!"

A scimitar accurately aimed for the moment when Peak Sword's sword was returning to its sheath. Peak Sword was wounded and fell down. It was a huge attack power. Peak Sword glared at the person who caused him such damage.

"Damn bastard using a dirty trick...!"

"Blame your incompetence for not looking around the battlefield."

"W-What?"

Incompetence! It was a reminder of the nickname Peak Sword got during the 2nd National Competition. Peak Sword had no choice but to respond in a sensitive manner.

"Dammit! I will show you who is incompetent!"

Peak Sword immediately attacked the owner of the scimitar. The opponent's ID was Matdashi. It was Korean. A person from the same country! Peak Sword was amazed while attacking.

"A third advancement class? There was a third advancement user in South Korea?"

Matdashi shrugged and replied, "Aren't there a lot? Unlike Grid, we don't do anything prominent. I don't want everyone in the world to like me, unlike you."

"You traitor...!" Peak Sword wielded his sword with a red face. "You have strength, but you're living as a hermit! You should participate in the National Competition and increase the status of our country!"

"I live in a democratic country. It's my freedom to decide what to do."

Matdashi easily struck Peak Sword one more time. Peak Sword was a quick draw swordsman, not a normal one. His Sword Mastery skill was different from that of general swordsman, so it was very weak. Without a sheath, Peak Sword had no attack skills. He was vulnerable in a one-on-one match, which was why he didn't participate in PvP at the National Competition.

Peak Sword needed someone's help to demonstrate his full strength. However, Peak Sword was currently alone. Pon and Huroi were desperately protecting the water clan from the enemies.

'Shit!' Peak Sword trembled as he started to allow attacks. 'Receiving a surprise attack when Draw Sword is on cooldown...!'

In a perfect situation, he wouldn't have gone one-on-one with this guy. The moment that Peak Sword was feeling dejected.

"Hat, how weak."

Someone's mocking words were heard.

Kurururung!

Then a pillar of blood swept over Matdashi.

[You have suffered 21,500 damage.]

[The terrible smell of blood has caused dizziness. Skill casting time is increased by 20% and resistance is decreased by 20%.]

[Sticky blood has crept into the gaps in your armor. Your armor won't move properly. Your defense is reduced by 10% and your movement speed has slowed.]

[Your sword is covered in specks of blood. The blade is weakened and attack power is reduced by 10%.]

'What...?'

It was basic common sense that debuffs had weak attack power. However, the pillar of blood that swallowed Matdashi was as powerful as the ultimate attack from a high levelled player. The contents of the debuffs were fatal. Matdashi was appalled.

'Monster...!'

Surely a named boss monster hadn't appeared? Matdashi turned his gaze and witnessed an unexpected person.

"Blood Warrior?"

Why was someone unrelated to Overgeared here?

"Don't call me Blood Warrior anymore. I feel like my level is being dragged down because it's similar to your organization's name."

Katz joined the guild because he wanted items. He had a duty to look good to Grid. Thus, he told Peak Sword, "In the future, call me Grid's servant."

"Servant...!"

It was a familiar term for Koreans.

'I don't know what's happening.'

Either way, it became clear that Katz belonged to Overgeared. Matdashi immediately took action. It was a retreat. He couldn't beat the Blood Warrior on a battlefield filled with blood!

“Running away? It’s inevitable. Pride is useless for people like you.”

This person was claiming to be Grid’s servant? Peak Sword felt doubts.

"Blood of One Thousand People. This will hurt a lot."

Katz aimed the pillar of blood at the running Matdashi. The more blood there was, the more that the specialized skills of a Blood Warrior were strengthened. Matdashi couldn’t escape and died.

“Wow...”

Katz cut down a third advancement user in an instant, thrilling Peak Sword. Perhaps at this moment, Katz was stronger than Kraugel and Grid? Katz whispered to the dumbfounded Peak Sword.

"Please tell Grid what just happened."

"..."

Blonde hair became wet as sweat flowed down the white cheeks.

“Hah... Hah...”

Every time she breathed out, her chest shook tremendously. Duplicator Euphemina. She was already exhausted. It was because her stamina was drained during the fight with the third resurrected Black. Euphemina didn’t have a high stamina stat, so her stamina was weak. It was now all used up.

“Hiit! Yihihit!

On the other hand, Black was fine. Her big breasts shook as she laughed and licked her lips.

“Did I win? Hithit!”

“You’re a complete scam.”

How did she keep being resurrected? Skill Observation couldn’t measure the ability of the opponent, so Euphemina had no clue.

‘I can’t endure anymore.’

This quest was a failure. Her reason for staying in Siren for over eight months was completely gone. It was unfortunate that all her hard work during that time was in vain. But Euphemina felt more sorry for her colleagues.

‘I can’t give back anything to those who came to help me. I hate owing people.’

Euphemina was feeling disappointed as Black approached her.

“Hiit! Hihit! My~ turn~ to ~ kill~?”

“...Hah.”

The skills Euphemina had copied were still there. But they were of no value if she couldn’t use them. In the end, Euphemina closed her eyes and cried out.

“Kill me quickly.”

It was someone else’s voice who responded, not Black.

“You shouldn’t give up.”

“...Hiit?”

Black stepped back as she was about to deal the final blow to Euphemina. It was because an unknown energy constrained her behavior. Euphemina knew this energy.

‘Restraint...!’

Then Kill struck Black.