

《Spirit King》

Chapter 6 - Trial

Niko had a very complex look on his face. He had been walking for awhile and no traps were seen or activated. The orb had said that there would be traps everywhere, however, not a single sign of traps in this whole place.

The rusty gate led to another rocky tunnel that looked endless. The tunnel was glossy gray with lumps of stone through the walls and ceiling. Even though it didn't seem to be a light source anywhere, the tunnel wasn't too dark as if there was something making this tunnel less dark.

Niko had checked the time on his status which said that there were 20 hours and 09 minutes left. Niko was extremely pleased that he had already acquired a skill, in such a short amount of time, however. The skill wouldn't aid him in combat whatsoever, therefore, he was in need of something that would allow him to defend or protect himself.

“Swosh!”

Suddenly, a powerful gust of cold wind blew past him. The wind was making his whole body shiver as it took him by surprise.

Niko paused.

“Damn! How can there be such cold gust of wind inside of this cave? Can it be that the exit is just ahead?” Niko asked himself as he continued walking. His black clothes flapped as the wind blew past, like flags raised high above the ground on poles.

Niko continued to walk forward, however, as he walked further and further, his steps were getting slower and slower and an ugly expression was evident on his face.

“Swoosh! Swoosh!”

The wind was becoming much more violent the further he went in. The wind was also getting colder and colder as if at the end of the tunnel was a snow storm..

Niko gritted his teeth as he raised his arm in front of his face. The violent wind was bombarding his body, and his face was taking a beating from it. He was shivering violently while at the same time struggling to move forward.

"I need... To do... This... For my sister!" Niko told himself. As he thought about his sister and how power could mean finding her again, because of that he was able to find an extra bit of strength that helped him move forward. He had looked for her long enough. This was his chance to find her.

After thirteen hard steps, Niko's eyes widened. There was a silver gate just ahead of him. The gate shined in a silver light as if it was brand new. The gate looked extremely clean and well preserved, however, the most peculiar thing about it was the faint green aura around it.

"The wind... Seems to be coming from there... I need to get to that gate..." Niko struggled to move forward. Moving his body felt like going against waves of water that tried to push him back at every second.

"Arghh!!!"

Niko pushed. He pushed not only for his sake but for his sister. He pushed for power. He pushed for whatever was on the other side of that gate. He pushed to survive.

Step.

The freezing cold became much colder as the wind became much more ferocious.

Step.

The Wind began to cut through his clothes, leaving small cut marks on his body.

Step.

The blood from the small cuts began to freeze as his body moved forward with persistence. Niko began to hear low whispers near his ears, however, these things didn't stop him from moving forward.

The cold seemed to have reached a limit as if continued to cut through his clothes, however, the persistent Niko continued.

Step.

The whispers turned to screams as he could hear mourning all around him. From children to women, screams were heard all around. Outlines of faces could also be seen coming from the aura that surrounded the gate. To anyone, this would've scared them senseless and ultimately made them lose the courage to step forward. However, this was Niko. Not only his life but the life of his sister, his only remaining family member relied on this.

He was one step away from the silver gate.

“Come on!!!” He screamed.

Niko began to extend his hand towards the gate. His arms were trembling and as he got closer, the wind began to cut through the sleeves of his shirt and forming light cuts in his arms. Niko continued, until ultimately.

“Swosh!”

The ferocious wind suddenly stopped blowing and the gate slowly began to open. The screams disappeared as silence filled the cave. Everything that had just happened felt like an illusion. Niko then fell to the floor. He was weak and to his surprise, the light that surrounded the gate began to move and surround his body.

His body felt a warm sensation as the cuts on his body began to heal. He felt comfortable and extremely calm.

“This trial surely must have rewards!” His face grinned as though about becoming more powerful.

“Ding!” In his mind, a message appeared.

[For passing the Spirit Kings trial, you have been awarded.]

[Unique Title Awarded: One Surrounded by Spirits]

Niko's eyes lit up as he looked at the message.

“Status!”

[Name: Niko Lazar]

Level: 1

Exp: 0%

Strength: 1

Constitution: 1(+2)

Agility: 1

Intelligence: 1

Mana: 1

Mana Power: 3/3

[Unique Titles]

One Surrounded by Spirits(Passive)

+2 Constitution

Detail: This unique title allows the user to surround himself in the aura of spirits, ultimately making those who are lower level than the user receive side effects, depending on the affiliation with the user.

The effect depends on the user's mood.

[Skills]

Celestial Probe I

"This..." Niko murmured in disbelief. This was something extremely useful. Sadly his level was currently too low, however, this could come extremely useful in the future.

Unique titles were almost like skills, but you weren't able to activate them as you pleased, as they were activated at all times or at special situations. They were useful boosts on status, while some even possessed other effects like this one.

If skill gems were rare, then unique titles were even rarer. These required one person to go through much more hardships to achieve. There was an extremely low chance of receiving one and Niko had gotten extremely lucky here.

Even though the title only gave two constitutions, those two points in constitution could save his life. These support points will play a huge role in the future. The base points would be normal points received through killing monsters, while support

points comes from skills, items, and titles.

Niko was glad that he stayed behind to read the small booklet. Even though the booklet was small, the amount of information within it was extremely valuable and helpful, especially for beginners. He understood a lot about the world now.

Niko felt energetic again as his body had been healed and stood up from the ground.

He looked forward to finding a silver door. The door looked ordinary as if it was just another common door, however, the carvings of ghosts around it made it stand out.

“This is the end of the cave...” Niko said as he approached the door and opened it.

“Creeeak!”

As he opened the door white mist began to escape from the other side of the door completely covering his legs. Niko's eyes widened as a library stood in front of him.