

## Unlimited Power - The Arcane Path (COMPLETED)

### 142 Chapter 141

'For some odd reason

Makoto little by little started to make noise in the tavern. He said something in a loud tone

and then suddenly

a big bald Russian approached and sat on the table where Leon and Makoto were. The bartender also bought several glasses of beer. Makoto and the Russian guy shook each other's hands.'

"I guess this is a contest... what Makoto is planning?"

'One at a time

Leon and the big Russian drunk a glass of beer. On the fifteenth glass

the baldie collapsed

while Leon's stomach was slightly full. Things got a bit noisier when Makoto said something

and then the bartender gave a free cup of beer to everyone inside.'

"I get it... he was trying to make everyone get drunk and make them speak what he wants. It's a good plan

but I wonder if I will last long enough."

'Leon recalled his days on the island; there were days that he ate a lot to recover the weight he always lost after recovering from big wounds. However

only a few times

he felt full. One of those times was when he ate dozens of kilograms of blue angel leaves.'

"I guess now that our bodies can use mana

we use and store energy more efficiently."

'That night

Leon went to the toilet several times

but even after drinking 75 glasses of beer

he didn't feel drunk at all. At that point in time

he was being looked by eyes full of wonder and fear among the drinkers of that bar. Regardless

things got noisy

so Makoto decided to stop there.'

'Since Makoto paid five rounds of drinks to everyone

all the people inside the bar were looking at him as if they were best buddies. But for some reason

no one tried to talk with Leon. However

that was fine with him; he didn't know Russian anyway. Leon and Makoto only left the tavern at midnight

and Leon wondered how they would find a hotel so late. However

much to his surprise

Makoto had other plans.'

"Let's leave the city by the air

" Makoto whispered. "Seiji and his soldiers stayed here two days ago. We don't have time to waste

and I discovered the route they are using."

'Leon nodded

then they walked toward a dark alley and flew toward the sky until they became almost invisible in the darkness of the night before they headed to North-East. It would be hard for the Russians to see them at night

it was almost impossible

but Leon decided to be cautious and created an ice platform. However

Leon made the platform also to protect them from the satellites. He even disguised the top of the platform by covering with sand to make it look more or less like a rain cloud.'

'At dawn

Leon destroyed the ice platform and then created an underground shelter for them to rest for a few hours. They were in a hurry

but they also couldn't afford to make any mistakes

and they needed to be well-rested in case they find the group who kidnapped Yuki.'

"What did you hear at the tavern?" Leon asked.'

"That a pretty big group of outsiders being escorted by a bunch of shady Russians stayed in that city for a night

" Makoto answered. "Although the path is harsh and climate is severe

they are heading toward the nearest train station. The Russians created a railway that crossed their entire territory in order to transport the resources they gather from the dungeons to Moscow. They intend to use that railway to reach Moscow as fast as possible."

"I see... by the way

do you know why no one tried to talk with me?" Leon asked.'

"I told them that you were a heavy-drinker

" Makoto answered. "But I also told them that you were born deaf and dumb."

"...Anyway

If we know where they are going

shouldn't we ambush them?" Leon frowned.'

"At first

that was my plan

" Makoto said. "However

Seiji used an item to escape from Tokyo. Items that can be used to move between big distances are consumables and expensive. But

the chances of Seiji having a few spares are high

to use it in the case of an emergency. If we try to ambush them and fail

things will become more difficult. If they notice that I'm here

they will send their men to hunt us."

"That makes sense

so

what's the plan?" Leon asked.'

"We will plant an espionage device on the train to hear their conversations and follow them from a safe distance

" Makoto explained. "With your skills

it shouldn't be difficult to infiltrate Moscow. Once we know as much as we can about their plans and the place they intend to keep Yuki

we will attack."

'Leon nodded

even though that kind of plan would make Makoto stay away from Japan for more than a few days

it was the best chance they had in order not to fail. For someone who could become so hot-blooded when his daughter was part of the equation

Makoto sure could be cold-blooded.'

"How will we plant the espionage device?" Leon asked.'

"I will do that

" Makoto said. "However

I can't approach the train while Seiji and his men are cautious of attacks. So

you will cause a diversion and force the train to stop. Once the soldiers try to deal with the diversion

I'll install the device."

'Leon wondered if choosing such a roundabout way was fine. However

considering that Makoto had far more knowledge about Seiji and the Russians

he soon understood he had a reason for that. Anyway

considering that Seiji and his men would probably reach the train station that day

they would have to move a lot later to prepare such diversion. So

Leon decided to rest as much as he could.'

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'At noon

Leon and Makoto resumed the journey

and when night came

they flew toward the point where they would set the diversion. Although the train rails crossed the entire country

there wasn't enough room for more than one train to work at the same time. Thanks to that

Leon and Makoto arrived on the valley covered in snow

where they would set the diversion and hide the espionage device several hours early than Seiji.'

"According to the information I have

the train left the east side of the Russian territory yesterday." Makoto grabbed the map and showed Leon the stations where the train always stopped to receive the resources. "The train right now is probably here in Neryungri picking up Seiji and my daughter. They probably won't stop to receive the resources since they imagine that I sent troops to rescue Yuki. So

we have a little more than five hours to prepare the diversion."

"I guess this is more than enough

" Leon said. "To make your job easier

I will make an underground tunnel."

"Thank you

" Makoto said.'

'Although Makoto had a clear plan of action

Leon could visibly see in his eyes his uneasiness. To avoid big problems

it was better to chase them from afar while obtaining information

but it was clear that Makoto wanted to rescue Yuki in that valley if he could.'

"If I had some means to cancel magic and magic items

we wouldn't have to be so cautious. But I guess something like that is even difficult to learn than learn how to heal wounds. Besides

if I learn how to create a zone where magic items don't work

I won't be able to use my magic either..."

'There was no point in dwelling in something that he couldn't do

so Leon started to make the underground tunnel. Seiji and Yuki would be most likely in the first wagon

so he created the end of the tunnel where he imagined they would stop. However

that was difficult. So

he ended up putting the bodies of some monsters above the train rails. That was also a bit suspicious

so he ended up spreading around the corpses of the monsters around in order to make that the monsters killed themselves. Since the monsters could only use ice magic

he killed them with Ice Arrows to make things look more convincing.'

"That's why I hate roundabout methods... I have to consider every single small detail..."

'Leon spent a lot of time making the tunnel and spreading those corpses. Fortunately

his skeletons lured the nearby monsters and were holding them back until the train comes.'

'Just like Makoto predicted

the train appeared after five hours. In order not to derail the vehicle

Seiji gave the order to stop. Even from far away

Leon and Makoto could see Seiji and Yuki sitting on the same wagon. Again

just like Makoto had expected

Seiji used handcuffs to prevent any attempts of rescue or escape.'

"I knew it... by doing that

Seiji can teleport both of them at the same time if something happens." Makoto clenched his teeth. "... I'm going; you can deactivate your skeletons."

'Leon nodded

and Makoto entered the tunnel. Fortunately

the end of the tunnel was right below the wagon where Seiji and Yuki were

and since Seiji's men and their escorts were too busy with the corpses

they wouldn't notice the hole under the train rails. To avoid surprises

Leon reinforced the walls of the tunnel with steel. So

it was safe

probably.'

'Regardless

Leon made his skeletons disappear. So

the monsters who had already noticed the sound of the train started to run toward it. The escorts and Seiji lackeys armed themselves for the battle... that being said

the confusion didn't last even thirty seconds. Those creatures were small fries

after all. However

Makoto had time to install the espionage device in the lower part of the train. When he returned

the train started to move again.'

""It's done

" Makoto said. "However

I can only hear their conversation as long as we are five hundred meters away from them."

""Don't worry; we have plenty of snow here

" Leon said. "We can move without being noticed by satellites."

'Leon created an earth box and covered all sides with snow. Things got a bit too cold

but by using his own ice magic

he made the ice around the box harder and unable to melt... at least for a few hours. Then



flying close to the snow

they started to chase the train. Makoto took a radio out of his magic bag and then adjusted the frequency. When Leon finally could see the train

the radio also started to work. Despite the fact that the device was below the train

the sound was quite good. Leon couldn't understand what they were talking about

but Makoto translated their conversation.'

"Lady Yuki

you should eat

" Seiji said. "I cannot let you die of hunger or thirst."

"Go to hell

" Yuki said.'

'Despite the situation

Yuki seemed like always. Makoto even chuckled when he heard that

he was aware that Yuki was... quite a harsh woman.'

"Listen to a piece of advice of someone who once served your family loyally

" Seiji said. "You won't get anywhere with that kind of attitude. Even if you try

you won't die of hunger and thirst. If you try suicide

we have a lot of potions to prevent that."

"Well

the same thing won't happen to you

" Yuki said. "Traitors don't live long lives

you know."

"Who can live a long life with the world in this state?" Seiji asked. "Anyway with your harsh attitude and stubbornness you'll only have a difficult life ahead. I'm treating you well while I can but the man who will look after you won't be as kind as I'm. He'll mistreat you in unimaginable ways until you show nothing but completely obedience toward him and don't be mistaken the more trouble you cause the more he will enjoy the process of 'taming' you."

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'When Makoto heard that he lost his temper and punched the earth box. Since he was strong he ended up cracking the box. That being said since Leon made it sturdier to carry two full-grown men Makoto ended up injuring his hand.'

"Sorry..." Makoto sighed to calm down.'

'In the end Leon could only shrug. If he were in Makoto's position he wouldn't be able to think straight; he would cause a massacre. However Makoto was older and he was wise enough to understand that acting purely based on his emotions would only lead to more problems.'

"Really I can't wait to see him." Yuki laughed. "He trained you the same way? Because I can see that you are his dog."

"... Princess

you already twenty." Seiji sighed. "You can't keep speaking like a teenager. Don't be mistaken

I'm working for them

for the sake of Japan."

"I knew that you are all muscles and no-brain

" Yuki frowned. "But to think that you were stupid to this extent... I'm impressed."

"It doesn't surprise me that you can't understand what I'm doing

" Seiji said. "You are one of the lots that blindly believes in Makoto

after all. People like you don't say a word even when he is clearly destroying our prideful country."

"You also have a bad memory..." Yuki said. "Did you already forget that my father and my brother were the ones who lead the people of the country four years ago? Thanks to them

hundreds of thousands survived. Thanks to them

we rebuilt several cities... where in the hell you can see him destroying anything?"

"Everything started after the death of your brother..." Seiji glared at Yuki. "Foreigner dogs killed him

and what did your father do? Nothing

he did absolutely nothing! He did nothing when we lost the future of our country!"

"... Father wanted to do something. He wanted to have his revenge

" Yuki said. "But he chose to prioritize our country. How many people would die if war was waged against the Allied Forces of North-America? They have more survivors and soldiers; they even have the technology to build choppers that can become invisible. Only someone stupid would start a war."

"Only a coward wouldn't avenge his son's death

" Seiji said. "Your mother died four years ago

and Makoto doesn't intend to marry again. So

you are the only one left. Please don't take offense in my words

but you will never be able to lead our country. Only someone who fights in the front-lines like your father can inspire the people. Makoto can do that

but he won't live forever..."

'It looks like Seiji was thinking about the future of Japan in his own stupid way. Since he couldn't see the future of his country

he decided to destroy the stability that they currently have... it was foolish.'

"Again and again

your father refused my plans to retaliate for the death of his son..." Seiji sighed.  
"Still

I obeyed him

and I still could imagine a good future for our country. However

I lost all hope when Makoto decided to let that kid do whatever he wants. First

he cleared the dungeons

and after that

he was entrusted with the task to bring those who caused the prince's death. That wasn't a job for an American! It wasn't something a Japanese soldier should have done!"

"You are so noisy..." Yuki looked away. "Can't you use your head for a change? If my father had a soldier that could have done that

he would have sent such a soldier

but he didn't have. You and your lackeys couldn't even clear all the dungeons of our country

and you still think that you could have done what he did? I don't like that guy either

but I must respect his power. Besides

he isn't greedy for recognition and stupid like you

so I can see why father trusted him the task for bring those who killed my brother."

"He did bring all the criminals

but not all were punished

" Seiji said. "He even had the nerve to ask Makoto to forgive the leader of the team who stole our resources

and Makoto readily said yes. He has no right to be the emperor of our country..."

"You are so stupid that you make me feel embarrassed..." Yuki sighed. "You were my father's right-hand man

do you know why he became the most influential person in our country? It wasn't because of his title; it was because he saved lives

and he didn't prioritize honor or his image above all else. Since you can't see far ahead like my father

you didn't become the new leader. That is so true that you probably don't even know what to do after this."

"You couldn't be more wrong..." Seiji said. "It's true

I will work for the Russians

but in exchange for that

I will become the new emperor of Japan and lead our country to a new age of prosperity!"

"Yeah

yeah... I'm sure you will." Yuki looked away. "I bet you already have dozen of ideas of how to do that."

'Putting Yuki's sarcastic remarks aside

Leon confirmed his suspicions. In the end

Seiji wanted to become Japan's new leader. That being said

he wondered how just Yuki would be enough for Seiji to buy the Russians backing. He would have a better chance of obtaining that by offering Makoto's head. Since Makoto himself never imagined that Seiji would someday betray him

they probably had a lot of chances of killing him.'

"I wonder why you kept such idiot as your advisor for so long..." Leon said.'

"... I never seen this side of him." Makoto sighed. "Although I can see now that he is a fool

his troops are one of the best that my country has

and he also has a lot of combat knowledge be against monsters of against humans."

"I can't imagine that." Leon frowned.'

## **145 Chapter 144**

'For a while

Leon and Makoto didn't hear anything interesting. They could have heard a lot more

but since Yuki wasn't all that friendly toward her kidnappers

the conversations were short. However

that was understandable.'

"Do you know who is currently controlling Russia?" Leon asked.'

"Yes

his name is Alexei

and he was an influential politician before the monsters appeared

" Makoto explained. " He survived and used his knowledge to secure certain Russian facilities; the organization that controlled their satellites was one of them. With so much knowledge and power

he quickly became the most influential Russian figure. Then he built an army and started to conquer the North-Europe. If the Chinese and the Indians hadn't caused him so much trouble

he could have conquered the whole Europe one year ago."

'If he was a politician

then he knew how to work behind the scenes while making that none of his citizens discovers his dirty work. However

by the look of things

he didn't seem to be a mighty soldier. He had a powerful army

but he wasn't all that powerful. Still

Leon couldn't underestimate him. He was a man who decided to store the Angelic Bow in a chapel in the City of Vatican

after all. If he had the leisure to store such powerful weapons and make it work as a symbol to the people of Italy

he surely has a few cards hidden up his sleeve.'

"I also think that Alexei himself pretends to back Seiji." Makoto clenched his fists.'

"Why do you think that?" Leon asked.'

"I heard that Alexei likes Asian women quite a lot..." Makoto showed a face as if he was chewing something very unpleasant. "Seiji intends to gain favor directly from him. By offering Yuki to him

he won't just damage our country's pride and also will seal our future

since I don't intend to have any more kids."

"I see..." Leon said.'

'It was hitting two birds with a single stone

with that in mind

it wasn't a good idea to let Yuki stay with that guy for long. If they don't think of a way to rescue Yuki sooner

Makoto was bound to do something reckless. He was a powerful

hot-blooded parent

so it wouldn't surprise Leon if

at some moment

Makoto decides to attack Moscow head-on.'

"Hah... your father is really a fool

princess Yuki." Seiji said. "I left a few men in Tokyo

and I heard some crazy things."

'Before Leon could make any plan

they heard Seiji striking a conversation.'

"What is it?" Yuki showed a bored expression. "Did the citizens of Japan already declared you the new emperor?"

"No

but it is only a matter of time before that happens

" Seiji said. "I heard that Makoto didn't mobilize a single soldier to rescue. Instead

he called that kid

and the next day

both of them disappeared. It looks like your father is coming to rescue you

and that kid is helping."



"Is that so?" Yuki asked. "Are you ready to have your ass kicked? You can't defeat my father

and that guy can easily defeat your lackeys."

"Well

yeah

but they will never catch you and me

" Seiji smirked. "The moment they approach

I will use this

and then we will appear in Moscow."

"Why don't you use it now?" Yuki asked.'

"Because I have to see with my own eyes they are destroying the train

" Seiji answered. "Once I report that and they confirm my report

they will hunt down Makoto and the kid. They won't have an easy time defeating the soldiers here in their own territory."

"Is that so?" Yuki asked. "Your foolishness has no limits... if you think you know that guy's full power

you are dead wrong. Like I said

he is not greedy

but he is not a fool either. He has a few cards hidden up his sleeve

and he is always trying to obtain more cards."

'Leon feels itchy when he heard that

it was quite uncomfortable spying someone and get praised like that. It looked like Makoto thought he had a good idea of how strong Leon was

but he changed his mind when Yuki said that because she was quite skillful in analyzing someone's strength. Makoto looked at Leon

hoping that he would confirm his daughter's words

but Leon just shrugged.'

"Well

even if that is the case

it doesn't matter

" Seiji said. "Do you think that kid is the only mage in the world? My new friends also found a talented mage

and they trained him accordingly to fight against that kid when they heard about him. Not only that

just like that kid is training the Americans to use magic

the Russians are also doing the same."

'Leon looked at Makoto

and this time he was the one who shrugged. He didn't receive that information... so Seiji has been choosing for a long time what Makoto would hear about Alexei's actions. Still... Leon started to get a little nervous; the only mage he fought was Arthur. Although he was very good

it looked like he had learned earth magic when he obtained a tome. In the end

Leon had no idea how well he would fight against an equally powerful mage.'

"If they started to teach magic

then they probably discovered how I learned how to use mana by observing that mage... Well

it's not like this is a problem

but the problem is that they are planning to use their new mages to wage war and conquer the world. Still... to think that they trained a mage to fight against me... this is kind of exciting."

'Leon couldn't help but smile; the feeling of knowing that a big country was training mage just to defeat him made him feel thrilled. He finally found a new big challenge after leaving the island. That being said

he couldn't forget his goal... to rescue Yuki and keep Makoto alive.'

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'Time passed

and even though Leon and Makoto stayed on the range where they could hear the conversations between Seiji and Yuki

they didn't hear anything useful. Makoto was getting impatient; soon

they would leave the areas where they could chase the train without being noticed

and it would be even harder to collect any information.'

"We could always fly above the train

but even if we try to camouflage ourselves

we are bound to be found. I don't have enough mana to chase them under the earth either..."

'Although Leon was resourceful

he wasn't omnipotent. There was a limit of the things he could do with the magic he knew and with the amount of mana he had.'

"We have to change our plans..." Makoto said. "It looks like Seiji is worried that someone is spying him

that's probably why he isn't telling anything useful."

"So

what are we going to do?" Leon asked.'

"I don't want to let anything happen to my daughter..." Makoto said. "But I can't let innocent people lose their lives. We have to do things the hard way."

"I imagined you would say that..." Leon frowned.'

"Even if we infiltrate Moscow by the air at night

we are bound to be noticed by citizens of that city

" Makoto said. "The only way to avoid being detected is if we cause a diversion.  
Leon

I want you to cause dungeon breaks."

'It looked like Makoto finally decided to take some drastic measures

even though he said he didn't want to cause the death of innocents. Either way

that much was fine by Leon. If the leader of a nation was causing problems  
and the people of the said nation don't rebel

they were also part of the problem. Still

Leon wouldn't cause a massacre

and he would give everyone a chance as he did before. However

the price would be needed to be paid.'

"I will infiltrate Moscow in the middle of the confusion to gather as much  
information as possible

" Makoto added. "There are eight dungeons around Moscow; you should  
cause dungeon breaks in half of them. Then you will watch how the soldiers of  
the city will handle the problem; if they are having a hard time

you should help them without letting them notice you. If they are having an  
easy time

you will cause more dungeon breaks."

'After hearing that

Leon couldn't help but facepalm. Makoto not only wanted to make him do  
something that would make him become an enemy for the Russians

but he also wanted to work alone. That was the worst possible thing that could  
happen to Leon

if something happens to Makoto

even if he doesn't die and just becomes a prisoner

he would have a very hard time completing the mission.'

"...Makoto

I thought we were friends..." Leon sighed. "To think that you would put me in such bad position..."

"Hahaha

of course

we are friends." Makoto laughed. "I'm sorry that I'm making you do something so dangerous and cowardly

but you are the only one of us who has the skills to knock down the soldiers protecting the dungeons without killing them. We heard before

Seiji left spies behind

and with my mind in such state

I'm not able to identify them. You are the only one who can help me

Leon. You worked hard to reunite with your family. So

I'm sure you can understand."

"Yes

I can understand

" Leon said. "It is not like I have a better idea. I'm just worried that this incident might cause problems for my country."

"Don't worry

I will take full responsibility for whatever happens

" Makoto said. "You have my word."

'Leon nodded

in the end

he could only help the man who was worried about the only family member he had that was still alive. He could understand his position and feelings

so the only thing Leon could do was to work hard to avoid deaths while he causes one hell of a diversion.'

'When night came

Leon and Makoto separated. Makoto would chase the train by running

and Leon would head to Moscow in a straight line. His job would be to cause the dungeon breaks around before the train arrives in Moscow. In the middle of the confusion

no one will notice a Japanese man entering the city soon after the arrival of the train. At least that was what Makoto was hoping for.'

'The train would arrive in Moscow in two days

so Leon had to arrive a day early in order to cause the dungeon breaks in so many places. Leon had no time to waste

and due to the fact that Moscow was twenty-four hundred kilometers ahead of him

he used wind magic to speed up his flying speed. By doing so

Leon managed to fly at one hundred meters per second at some moments. Unfortunately

even after doing that

he only managed to cross two thousand kilometers

and when morning came

he decided to stop and rest.'

"Hah... why did I accept this mission? If I knew beforehand that Makoto was this insane

I would have brought at least Betty with me to keep an eye on him."

'What was done was done. There was no point in regretting or complaining

so Leon started to do the only thing he could: train. He wouldn't be able to sleep anyway now that he left the emperor of Japan alone in the middle of the territory of a lunatic that captured his daughter.'

'Little by little he got better and fast at healing wounds. Still

even to heal a scratch

he had to concentrate for several seconds. He wasn't skillful enough to learn the spell... despite that

Leon practiced non-stop until it got dark again. Because now more than ever

he was sure that he would need that skill in order to keep Makoto and Yuki alive.'

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'When Leon arrived in Moscow

it was 09:00 PM. From above

he could see that the city had recovered a lot more than New York. Based on the number of houses

he concluded that Moscow had at least three hundred thousand survivors. That was three times more than New York.'

'Confirming what Seiji said

there was a wall made of steel being constructed around the city. Leon thought of doing similar in Las Vegas

but it would take a few months before he could do so. The size

weight

and durability of those steel plates have to be decent. Otherwise

there was no point in using them to create a wall. Anyway

the survivors of Las Vegas would have to meditate for four hours every day for three months before any of them have enough mana and intelligence to make a steel plate.'

'Although the steel plates were being slowly built

it looked like Alexei already made a few survivors learn how to make bricks. Every house was made of brick

and Leon saw some huge deposits of the brick exposed around the city. However

there was one particular building that wasn't made of brick

and Leon was sure that Alexei lived and worked there. As if it was a joke

a one hundred meters tall building had a shining V near the top. The place was tall and made Leon recall the \*v\*ng\*rs tower.'

""It looks like someone invested a lot of resources to build their own high-tech castle... it would be a pity to knock down such a building. Although Alexei ordered the construction

a lot of common citizens must have helped...""

'Since Makoto couldn't risk being discovered

he left the magic box and the map with Leon. However

he had a phone with him that they would use it if necessary. Without wasting time

he headed to one of the eight dungeons

which was most far away from Moscow. It was the Vampiric Harpies dungeon.'

""According to Makoto

the train will arrive around 08:00 AM. In order to make things chaotic as possible

I have to select carefully the dungeons that I will attack... I have to make all the monsters attack Moscow at the same time.""

'It would be hard to make such calculations since there slow monsters like frost slimes and fast ones like the vampiric harpies. But in the end

all of them would attack Moscow. Thanks to the steel walls



the number of casualties would low

so that made Leon feel a little less guilty.'

'After flying for an hour

Leon reached the dungeon. There he saw a campfire with six soldiers around. There were also six tents nearby

so Leon concluded that he only had to deal with those six. Fortunately

it was an exact number of objects he could control. Without wasting time

Leon created six steel punches and made them hit the faces of those soldiers. He didn't want to kill them

but he couldn't give them the chance to contact Moscow

so he ended up holding back a little. Fortunately

after seeing the blue bruise on their faces

he sighed in relief that he had succeeded. After that

Leon hid them behind a hill. They probably would wake up once they hear the sound of monsters

so they would have the chance to escape.'

"I don't know if Makoto is naïve or a nice person... but now that I think about it

killing those guys would be our best choice... No

there is also the chance that they might notice that we did this and that we are nearby..."

'In the end

there were too many ifs... so

it was impossible to conclude if killing them was the best option. Just to make sure that their boss would think that they just slept instead of being attacked by the enemy

Leon used a potion to heal their wounds. After that

Leon looked at the purple crystal while slaughtering the vampiric harpies that tried to block his path. Thanks to his flying speed

he found the crystal rather quickly and then attacked.'

'The whole dungeon started to tremble; it made Leon recall the earthquake he felt when he was on that island. After the quake

twenty Ancient Vampiric Harpies appeared

and then an army of ordinary harpies also started to be summoned by the crystal. Leon didn't wait to see how many would leave the place

and he flew toward the exit.'

'When he left the dungeon

Leon didn't see any weird movement in the surroundings. His job there was done

so he headed toward the next dungeon.'

'When it dawned

Leon could see an army of twenty thousand monsters marching to Moscow. He didn't know if the guards he knocked down didn't get found or if they woke up when the earthquake happened. But at some point

Leon stopped caring. The tension of the mission tired him out faster than he imagined. In the end

he couldn't always wait for the best outcome

he could only do his best to accomplish

and his current mission was to rescue Yuki and keep Makoto alive. The casualties were beyond his control... it was a bit irresponsible

but he decided to let Makoto deal with the aftermath of the problems.'

'Anyway

Leon did his part

and now he just had to observe the battle and see how the Russians would fight. Much to Leon's surprise

suddenly

dozen of monsters froze to death. Leon frowned he saw a mist in the distance covering those creatures and turning them into ice statues. Those creatures used ice magic

and they were supposed to be quite resistant against ice attacks... but then Leon understood who was behind that.'

"I guess the mage who they trained to defeat me finally appeared..."

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'Although the mage who worked for Alexei couldn't use that mist a lot

he certainly decreased the difficulty of the battle. Thanks to the steel walls

the monsters didn't invade the city. The only real troublesome monsters were the vampiric harpies since they could make rain magic over the soldiers and drink their blood to heal their wounds and recover mana.'

"I guess their mage is specialized in Area of Effect spells... That's one of the things I need to learn. I wonder if I can copy him just by observing..."

'Unlike Yuki's skills

that guy used his mana to attack

so it wasn't all that different from what Leon used to do. That being said

Leon didn't feel the need to learn an Area of Effect spell now that he had the ring of gravity. Although he still would rather use a skill than rely on an item forever...'

'Twenty thousand monsters got slaughtered before noon

no wonder the Russians managed to conquer the entire North-Europe

they didn't have only the numbers and access to resources to the technology of the old world

they also had the power and experience.'

"It isn't a good idea to move during the day

but four dungeon breaks didn't even work as a distraction... Makoto should have been inside the city at his point

but he probably didn't manage to collect all that much information. He will only contact me when he has a solid idea of Alexei's plans... I must keep causing dungeon breaks to buy us time."

'It wasn't one of the best ideas

but Leon decided to use a corpse of a Frozen Dire Wolf. The thing was massive

so Leon would have to use a lot of mana

but at least if the satellites spot him

they won't be able to identify him.'

'Since all the soldiers retreated to protect the city

once again

Leon had an easy time causing dungeon breaks. Even the soldiers who were guarding other dungeons had no choice but to retreat

so Leon attacked the crystals of six dungeons.'

"This should keep them occupied for a while... to avoid any surprises

I guess I will build an army of skeletons and train my healing skills while I wait for Makoto's contact."

'There wasn't much place to keep the skeletons hidden

so Leon decided to hide them under the snow. It was a pity that he could only make them in the open at night

but at least they would have time to absorb mana and get a little stronger.'

'The second wave of monsters reached Moscow around midnight; this time

things got a little bit complicated for the soldiers. The number of monsters  
the darkness of the night  
worked against them  
and they were also tired from earlier. Thanks to that  
they were forced to fight until 09:00 AM. When the battle ended  
Makoto finally contacted Leon.'

"Leon

you are doing a great job. I successfully infiltrated the city

and I'm obtaining information while I also help the soldiers. Alexei is working  
organizing the soldiers

so for the time being

Yuki is fine. However

we can't stop now. I still need to discover where she is

and when I do

we will rescue her."

"All right... are you sure things are fine on your end?" Leon asked. "If you are  
fighting with them

the chances of you being discovered increase by manifold."

"Don't worry; everyone is busy dealing with the monsters that they don't have  
time to check the faces of who is nearby. Besides

this is closer than I can get to Alexei and his men without causing a commotion.  
They are tired

and their guard is low; just by staying nearby

little by little

"I'm obtaining the information we need."

'Leon nodded and then returned to the dungeons. After attacking the crystal of four dungeons

Leon finally found a problem. A party from Moscow came to investigate the dungeons

and Leon found Alexei's secret weapon to deal with Leon... a blond green-eyed teenager created the mist and made it fly toward Leon.'

"Hey... Alexei's secret weapon is a kid?"

'He wasn't supposed to be older than fifteen

so Leon couldn't help but frown. However

Leon's mana wasn't full since he was flying carrying the body of a Frozen Dire Wolf. Although the kid was also tired

he wasn't alone. Leon saw five soldiers with him

and their weapons looked powerful. There were probably stronger than Betty's team...'

'Leon created a fireball to counter the mist. Although he succeeded in preventing himself from becoming ice-cream

the mist was more powerful than his fireball. Slowly but surely

he was losing the battle of attrition.'

"I don't have time for this..."

'As much as Leon wanted to face a powerful mage

the monsters were approaching behind him

and he couldn't waste time. The more the soldiers have time to rest

the more chances the soldiers working for Alexei will have to notice Makoto.'

'Leon created another huge fireball and shot it toward the kid and the soldiers who were there to assist him. Without any other choice

the boy used the mist to protect himself and his allies

and that gave Leon enough time to fly upward until they couldn't see him.'

"I guess he can't fly... or perhaps he doesn't have all that much mana..."

'Leon didn't get chased

so

without wasting time

he headed toward the next dungeon. Since there was no point in keeping himself hidden

he threw away the wolf's body in order to recover his mana faster

unfortunately

after causing another dungeon break. Leon left the dungeon and found those guys again.'

"The satellite is informing my position to them... I guess it can't be helped. It is time to fight for real."

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'Leon didn't have time to create his steel spears

so he used the steel fists he kept with himself just in case. The kid's mist was fast

but it was an Area of Effect magic

it wasn't fast enough to chase Leon while he was flying. So

Leon just flew in circles around that party while attacking them with the steel fists. Making sure to hit their faces as much as possible

Leon made them focus too much on his direct actions that they didn't notice Leon's indirect actions. While they were busy trying to block and evade the steel fists

Leon slowly covered their bodies with earth.'

'Leon's plan worked well

almost... the kid noticed Leon's actions and made him lose control over the earth that covered his body by freezing it. Although the ice was very powerful

the kid didn't feel anything.'

"I guess he increased his Ice Resistance while he practiced his skills..."

'Leon had one minute to deal with him

in one minute

he would lose control over the earth that stopped his friends

and then he would have to start from the beginning again... Although Leon wanted to test his skills against him

he didn't want to risk killing a teenager. So

Leon shot several Fire Arrows

hoping that one of them would wound him. However

the mist dissolved the flames pretty easily.'

'Leon tried Earth Arrows

but then again

the earth arrows lost its power and speed after covered in ice. He tried to damage him with his weak spells

but nothing worked.'

"This is a pain..."

'Leon gave up on the idea of fighting fair and square



Yuki and Makoto's lives were more important than testing his skills. So

he used Gravity and Telekinesis to mess with the kid's balance. The kid got dizzy after Leon made him spin in midair

and then made him fall hitting his face against the ground. Just as Leon had expected

he wasn't good at receiving damage either...'

'Without wasting time

Leon covered the kid and his friend's body in steel. The chances of them escaping that prison were close to none

but Leon decided to transport them to another location since he could hear the monsters' footsteps approaching.'

"I didn't want to make prisoners because I don't have time to deal with them... I don't have time to give them water or feed them... now what?"

'Leon could only hope that that situation would be solved before he has to save those six from dying of hunger or thirst. Anyway

Leon caused the six dungeons to break and then stopped. This time the soldiers protecting Moscow would have a hard time fighting

they were close to exhaustion

and now they lost their trump card and the five soldiers who were supposed to back him up.'

'After hiding the mage and his friends in an igloo

Leon decided to practice his healing skills while the army of monsters marched to Moscow. The beasts reached Moscow at sunset

and this time

things got pretty chaotic. Although Leon was also pretty tired

he was used to fighting like that

but he noticed that soldiers weren't.'

'The second night battle in a row was disastrous

the citizens had time to evacuate

but several buildings

mostly ordinary houses got destroyed. Thanks to that

Leon was feeling guilty again. He could only hope that the soldiers would do their jobs and protect the citizens... even though he had no right to hope for that since he caused such a situation.'

'Still

as if he was madman

he started to make the skeletons and hid them under the snow. It was better to be safe than sorry. Leon also had a feeling that things wouldn't go so smoothly

like the time he convinced those guys on the island not to get in his way. He needed to have insurance for the worst-case scenario

after all.'

'The battle extended throughout the night and only ended at the sunset of the next day. A good part of Moscow got destroyed

but Leon couldn't confirm the damage from far away. Rather than that

he was more worried about Makoto. He should have contacted him

but he didn't. Something must have happened

but Leon couldn't just go and check. It wouldn't be weird if the soldiers of Moscow already knew his face. Although he concluded that the satellites gave away his position

there was a chance that some who is good at hiding was observing and took his photograph.'

'Leon was totally in the dark in that situation

but now he couldn't do anything but wait. If he causes other dungeon breaks without hearing from Makoto first

he could create a disaster. Leon didn't want that

even though he stole the Angelic Bow from them

Leon also wanted to make Russians his allies. If he causes the deaths of soldiers

then it was inevitable since Alexei kidnapped the daughter of his ally. There was still a chance that they could become his allies. However

things would be different; he causes the death of a dozen civilians.'

'Anyway

while Leon was creating skeletons and trying to figure out what had happened

he received a call from Makoto

but Leon frowned when he didn't recognize the voice on the other side of the line.'

"Hello? Can I talk with the American dog named Leon?"

"... I presume you are Alexei." Leon said. "Let's not waste time calling each other names. What do you want

Alexei?"

"What I want? I want your head in front of me so that I can smash it with kicks! Until now

I decided to ignore your country

there is an ocean between us

after all. But after conquering England

I will attack the Allied Forces of North-America

and I won't waste time trying to conquer your damn nation

I will just turn everything into rubble!"

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"I guess I overdid it..."

'Alexei was so pissed that Leon could feel his bloodlust through the call. Still

it was quite troublesome that he was acting as if he hadn't done anything wrong. For someone who managed to conquer almost the whole Europe

he was quite stupid

or perhaps he had a massive ego.'

"Sorry for the problems I caused

but you see

you caused a lot of problems to a friend of mine

" Leon said.'

"Ah

your friend is here. No wonder Seiji betrayed him

I've never seen someone so stupid. I knew that he was nearby the moment you caused the dungeon breaks

so I prepared a trap

and he fell for it. I just had to show his daughter for a few seconds... can you believe how someone can be so stupid?"

"... He is a father worried about his daughter

I'm not a father

but I can understand his actions." Leon said. "Anyway

Alexei. Let's not cause more problems for each other

all right? Surely

someone of your influence can have as many women as you want without having to kidnap them. You probably tortured Makoto

but I'm sure that he is willing to forget this incident if you didn't touch her. I'm the same because even though you are a bit shrewd

I want you to become an ally."

"You are certainly overestimating yourself... do you really think that you can defeat me? Do you really think you can make me your ally after you have done to my city and my soldiers?"

"I think I can; as a token of my sincerity

I will even give you the gloves that were with Makoto

" Leon said. "If you let Yuki and Makoto leave today

I will even give you a shield that can decrease the damage of physical and magic attacks. If you do that

I will also return the kid and his friends

and you will be able to prevent them from dying of hunger and thirst."

"... You didn't kill them?"

"No

as I said

I want us to become allies

" Leon said. "Besides

the kid has potential. I only defeated him with ease because I have some stupid powerful items."

"... Stupid brat... after I spent so many resources on him..."

"He is just a kid

Alexei. He will become an important soldier for the world in the future

but he still needs training." Leon said.'

"It doesn't matter; I won't need him once I kill you and obtain your items."

"... Don't do this

Alexei." Leon sighed. "You must know that greedy people don't live long lives. Don't make me fight you. I'm serious; I want an ally like you."

"I don't need you

I will rule this world on my own

and every single person who dares to defy me will die."

"Please

Alexei. Don't make me destroy your city

don't make me kill your people." Leon said.'

"Don't worry; you won't kill anyone and destroy anything. You won't have the chance."

'The call ended

and Leon sighed

in the end

the worst-case scenario happened. Thankfully

he predicted such a situation. However

he still needed sometime before he could have enough power to defeat Alexei.'

"I wonder what he is plotting... he said that I wouldn't have the chance to kill or destroy anything..."

'Soon

Leon understood the meaning behind Alexei's words. Several missiles were launched from somewhere in Moscow

and they flew toward where Leon was. Leon probably could stop them with telekinesis

but he didn't know if he had enough mana to stop ten missiles. In the end

he did the only thing he could

Leon made his skeleton wizards and archers get up and attack the missiles.'

'Those missiles were fast

but they didn't dodge the attacks of five thousand skeleton archers and wizards. They exploded in midair

and Leon felt the air vibrating for several seconds.'

""To think that he would use that against me..."

'Leon felt the urge to call him and threaten the bastard

but Leon endured it. The last thing he wanted was to make him angry while he had Yuki and Makoto. The confrontation was unavoidable. Still

Leon didn't want to kill more than the necessary.'

""I guess I will use them.""

'Leon took the kid and his friends to where he was building the skeleton army and destroyed the steel that covered their faces. As expected

they were pale and trembling in fear since they couldn't see or move a muscle. Even though Leon only used the steel to stop them

that method also worked as psychological torture.'

'Leon and those six arrived on time to see the second wave of missiles being shot. However

once again

the skeletons destroyed them. Even though it was night

those six could clearly see the army that Leon was building

and his intentions were obvious.'

""Hey

does anyone here speak English?" Leon asked.'

"I... do." The kid said.'

"That's fortunate..." Leon sighed to calm his nerves. "What's your name kid?"

"... Lennart." Lennart said while trembling.'

'When Leon approached

he felt like Lennart was quite familiar. He was a pretty boy

but he wasn't American

so he probably saw him on TV or in some magazine.'

"As you can see

Lennart

your boss wants to kill me

" Leon said. " He is even using missiles that can destroy whole buildings to do that. Eventually

he will increase the number of missiles

hoping that my skeletons will run out of mana

but they won't. I will also keep increasing my skeleton army until I have enough power to rescue the emperor and the princess of Japan. However

Alexei won't let me do that. So

he will use his soldiers to stop me. You know what comes after that

right?" Leon asked.'

"... Yes." Lennart answered

still trembling.'

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"You are smart

Lennart

" Leon said. "We will have a war. Certainly

I won't be able to defeat all the soldiers

I bet there almost one hundred thousand soldiers there

but I won't stop until I rescue my friends and to do that... I will have to kill a lot of innocent people... I also don't want to do that. So

I want you to help to stop this madness. You have two options

Lennart. Watch me kill thousands of innocent soldiers or convince them to get out of my way. What will you do?"

'Before answering

Lennart said something to his friends. However

all of them nodded and gave him their approval.'

"I will convince them..." Lennart said. "But

I don't think I can do that alone... If you let my friends go with me

people will understand that you are serious."

"Very well... I will free them too." Leon said. "However

I'm the type of person who holds grudges... if you are trying to fool me. I will make sure that you will wish to die..."

'Leon didn't feel good threatening a kid

but it was necessary

and he was telling the truth. Nothing good would come if he tries to be merciful every single time; he could only give others a single a chance to choose to live for themselves or die for an asshole.'

"You guys just have to say that I will give just one chance to everyone who tries to kill me

" Leon said. "Just one chance

I will do the rest of the job. Go."

'Lennart and his friends nodded

and then he and his friends walked toward Moscow. Since they didn't have any other choice

they had to pass the skeletons

and they trembled like leaves passing by so many creatures that could stop those tactical missiles. The only way to stop Leon from a distance and ignoring the skeletons would be by using a railgun or a nuke

but Leon doubted that they had one.'

'Anyway

Leon resumed his tasks of creating skeletons. Despite having been caught

Makoto was a cautious man

he put thousands of mana potions inside the magic box

and Leon knew why he did that. Using those potions

Leon increased the number of skeleton archers and wizards at an astonishing pace.'

'Just like Leon had imagined

Alexei shot several missiles again and increased their numbers. He was quite loose with money

or perhaps he was using them since he only obtained and didn't create them. Anyway

Alexei used more than one hundred missiles to kill Leon. In his last attack

he shot forty

and when Leon saw those

he couldn't help but break into a cold sweat

but fortunately

his skeletons destroyed them on time.'

'When it dawned

Leon had fifteen thousand skeletons

archers

and wizards. Although he used all the potions Makoto brought

it had been a good investment. That being said

Leon didn't stop. Perhaps not all of the one hundred thousand soldiers in Moscow had the power to defeat a skeleton

but Leon knew that he had more soldiers all over Europe. He could have sent a message to make them return in order to attack Leon from all sides. So

despite all the fatigue

Leon meditated and summoned more and more skeletons.'

'''Perhaps

I should have made the kid and his friends buy potions before letting them go to Moscow... too late to think of that now.'''

'Leon thought that Alexei would send his soldiers to attack him at some point during the day

but nothing happened. He could see some soldiers observing him in the distance

but not a single one of them felt like approaching the army of skeletons.'

'Surprisingly

after sunset

Leon received a call

it was Alexei once again.'

"Hello again

Leon."

"I'm thankful for the fact that you didn't call me a dog this time

" Leon said. "Is there something I can do for you

Alexei?"

"No

I'm just bored. Anyway

I guess I underestimated you... I called Makoto a fool yesterday

but I guess I was also a fool in listening to Seiji. He described to me the things you can do

but he didn't say that you can create skeletons."

"I'm quite secretive

after all

" Leon said. "Besides

he didn't know

the only ones who knew were Makoto and his spies who worked in America. I'm quite relieved in hearing that

it would be troublesome if one of Seiji's spies were there."

"Anyway

I confirmed the fact that you didn't kill Lennart and his team. You are a bit naïve

don't you think? You repelled my missiles

but you think you can defeat my one hundred thousand soldiers?"

"That's not my intention; I only want to rescue my friends

" Leon said. "If you don't want to become our ally

you don't have to. But I can't ignore the fact that you imprisoned them."

"So

self-righteous... you are powerful

Leon. You are a fool for making an enemy out of me

but you are powerful nonetheless. How didn't you learn until now that the powerful can do everything they want now?"

"Please

let me correct you

" Leon said. "Everyone can do whatever the hell they want. However

there are certain things called consequences... It doesn't matter how much power you have; you have to deal with the consequences. Soon

you will understand that."

"No... I think you will be the one who will soon understand that. You will understand through the most painful way possible."

'The call ended

and Leon sighed because he only made Alexei mad. However

it couldn't be helped

at that point in time

everything that goes against Alexei

even the most obvious things would annoy him. Anyway

it didn't look like he intended to surrender

and that was proof enough to make Leon understand that he was a fool. He couldn't leave the city by normal means even if he does; he will lose control over everything he obtained over the last four years. He couldn't see that he had no chance against Leon that was building an army of skeletons and could even cause eight dungeon breaks.'