

Warlord 251

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Chapter 251 Hard Work

A few days passed since the incident with the Soldiers of the Blue Star camp, and the situation within Dilan's camp was better than ever before.

Many new Ascenders had advanced to Tier-1 and were choosing [Rare] occupations as the lowest they wanted to pick to advance further.

This elevated the strength of each Tier-1 Ascender and his entire group drastically. After nearly a week had passed, Dilan had been out hunting for more than 16 hours, every single day.

His strength increased a lot, and he defeated all the different types of Clawed Bears within the Mountain Ring of the Elements.

There were a total of five types of Clawed Bears, and all of them were powerful. They possessed Gold Essence crystals with platinum-colored strands in them.

From their appearance and potency, they seemed to be the best Essence crystals Dilan had ever absorbed.

And by killing and absorbing the Essence crystals of each Clawed Bear type four times in total, Dilan's stats rose quite a bit as well.

However, that was not the only time his stats increased because he, Ailee, and Oliver went out hunting together for two days straight. They had hunted various different monsters, of which Dilan hadn't encountered many before.

This was quite helpful because his stats kept increasing.

After he went out with Ailee and Oliver one time, Dilan changed his focus to nurture the others as well.

He brought Xenia and Williams with him next to venture to the other Gates to search through them. Like before, they focused on hunting various types of monsters, searching for more natural resources that could be found only in the Gates, and much more.

In the five days that had passed in total, Dilan improved a lot. Not only his stats had increased, and his level rose by two, but his overall control over his strength had increased by leaps and bounds as well.

The Claws of the Clawed Bears were much stronger than the Blazing Serpentine Blade, but the Serpentine Blade's efficiency to slaughter weak monsters in one go was simply superior.

While Dilan focused on the increase of his own strength and supported Ailee, Oliver, Williams, and Xenia, the others didn't stay idle either.

Old Jeff was fully focused on improving his knowledge about forging. There were various new things he learned every single day, and it looked like it wouldn't take much longer before it was possible for him to create his first wand.

The wand wouldn't be perfect in the first attempt, and Dilan knew that it would be faulty in certain ways, but Old Jeff continued to work hard, to improve, and to make everything he wanted to achieve possible.

Creating wands was not his final goal, it was just one of the many steps he needed to master in order to become a real blacksmith in the age after the Primordial Ascension.

He had more than enough blueprints to study thanks to the hard work of everyone who collected Essence crystals to exchange them with treasures.

But that was also what pressured Old Jeff a lot.

'If my forged goods are not better than Bronze Tier-1 treasures, it won't be of any use for anyone. Bronze Tier-1 treasures have even additional stats...everyone will likely receive a Bronze Tier-1 weapon, and a few pieces of armor as long as they exchanged enough treasures at the correct Gate...'

This was Old Jeff's biggest trouble. What was the use of a blacksmith if nobody were to use his goods? Only the Serpentine Blade was still somewhat demanded. Not many wanted it, but there were a few Ascenders, who had seen its might when Dilan wielded it.

Thus, they wanted to try using it on their own. Some would continue to use it, while others would be too scared to injure themselves or their colleagues accidentally.

However, Old Jeff was not the only one, who was concerned about the future of his occupation.

Sarah might be in huge demand and everybody lined up in front of her for potions, but they didn't have many Lumina crystals left. She couldn't concoct enough mana replenishment potions to meet everyone's demand.

This was simply impossible, whether it was due to the lack of resources, or the lack of helping hands.

Not many Survivors had the necessary dexterity and patience to become an Alchemist. Even Sarah might not be able to pull it off without her passive ability [Multitasking].

The ability helped her a lot, and it allowed her to do many things others were not good at. Multitasking was not easy, after all.

However, the biggest problem for Sarah was not the concoction of the mana replenishment potion. Instead, it was the Potion of Enhancement <Swiftness>.

Kathrine and Yvonne had conquered the Pagoda of Time up to the 11th floor more than 10 times in the last five days.

This was a remarkable achievement, even more so due to the difference in time within and outside the Pagoda of Time.

There were tens of thousands of Essence crystals Sarah had received stored inside a single Penta-Item pouch.

It was great that they had treasures to store stuff inside. However, that didn't make things easier for Sarah because it was far from easy for her to concoct the Potion of Enhancement.

The concoction process was over ten times more arduous, and complex. As a result, the pressure weighing on Sarah was terrifying.

With every failed attempt, close to 1500 Essence crystals were destroyed and turned useless.

Sarah was stingy and not someone who would dare to spend that many Essence crystals on the creation of a single potion.

But the sisters gave her indisputable reasons that made clear how important the Potion of Enhancement <Swiftness> was.

In the end, Sarah had to agree that the sisters were right. However, this didn't mean that her heart didn't ache whenever she failed in concocting the potion.

It was simply too difficult to switch from the Mana replenishment potion to the Potion of Enhancement <Swiftness>.

Only after a total of 10 attempts was it possible for Sarah to create the first Potion of Enhancement <Swiftness>. Sarah had been absolutely devastated afterward and had been inclined to give up becoming an Alchemist altogether.

However, Kathrine and Yvonne's bright faces upon seeing the Potion of Enhancement <Swiftness> was more than enough for her to continue with renewed vigor.

The sisters had been overjoyed upon hearing that it was possible for Sarah to actually concoct the potion.

They had been a little bit worried that it might be too complex for Sarah because her experience in concocting other potions was simply too low.

Both potions she had learned to concoct were rather simple and didn't need a mastermind to comprehend them first.

The more experience Sarah gained, the easier it was for her to concoct a Potion of Enhancement <Swiftness>. This was even more so the case after her first success.

She recalled every single step she had taken in her first successful attempt, repeated it, and became better and better while negating her flaws.

In the end, after all the resources Sarah had been provided with were used up, a total of 4 Potions of Enhancement <Swiftness> had been created.

With the creation of 4 Potions of Enhancement <Swiftness>, it was possible to give an Ascender three potions to make full use of them, or to give one potion to one Ascender each.

However, the latter was not something the sisters bothered about. They knew that Dilan had the hardest time increasing his stats after he secretly shared with them the meaning of his Cursed Blessings.

Thus, Dilan was given three Potions of Enhancement <Swiftness> the moment they had been created.

That was their way of showing Dilan how important he was to them, and that it was necessary for him to be the strongest, and to continue leading them.

It was only because of Kathrine and Yvonne's care for him that Dilan's stats increased even further, that they slowly approached the threshold he was eager to reach.

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Strength= [54.9+5.4] (+5)

Health= [98+9.8](+10)

Stamina=[47.3+4.7]

Agility=[71.1+7.1](+10)

Mana=[65.1+6.5]

Status Points to allocate→4.3

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Chapter 252 Nothing?

"There is still no news from the Blue Star camp?" Dilan asked the sister after he eyed his stats with a slight trace of satisfaction.

His Agility was his highest stat if one ignored the amplification Dilan received from his Origin ability.

It was the stats that were likely to reach the limits of a Tier-1 existence, even if Dilan was in possession of the Cursed Blessing [Will of the Primordial].

As long as Dilan's Agility increased close to 40 additional Units, he would have reached his limit.

But until that happened, a long time would have to pass.

'I will never reach Tier-3 or Tier-4 if it takes that long for me to cross a single level, or to increase my stats just a little bit.' Dilan thought for a moment before averting his attention back to the more important factor; the current and pressing issue, if one could label it such.

"There is not a single report about the Blue Star camp, let alone news of some soldiers or armies preparing themselves to come over to destroy our base," Yvonne answered him.

"I mean it's great that it doesn't look like we will get attacked by the Blue Star camp, but even our Scouts can't find them. This includes the scouts, who dared to venture further away from Shiron, in the direction where Felia and the others drove to when leaving our base." Kathrine added, feeling that the situation was too suspicious.

Dilan nodded his head while thinking of a way to figure out what exactly happened to the Blue Star camp. From the way he looked at the situation, the military wouldn't allow anyone to form their own group, and kill their soldiers.

They would have long since tried to save their face by either destroying Dilan's base or by teaching him a lesson..

In the end, the military didn't like people who did whatever they wanted to and let them roam free. They would look at Dilan as a terrorist, whether he had a good reason to kill one of their people or not.

'Everyone who disobeys them will be their enemy. This is even more so for groups that were created without their permission, and for those, who act however they please...aka me.' Dilan thought, feeling bothered about not having gotten any news or updates about the Blue Star camp yet.

Something was definitely wrong, and the only issue was that he had no idea how to find out what exactly was wrong with the Blue Star camp.

"In which direction did Felia and her soldiers drive?" Dilan suddenly asked, turning his head straight to Xenia, who had just entered the room as per his orders.

He had heard her footsteps when she was still further away which was why Xenia was a little bit baffled when Dilan asked her a question the moment she opened the door.

"Eh...Felia and her soldiers drove in the north-eastern direction." She instinctively answered, just to see that Dilan lifted his right eyebrow as if he wanted to say 'And how the hell am I supposed to know where north-east is?'

"The exact opposite direction of the Pagoda of Time..."

Xenia was still not sure what the reason was for her to have been ordered to come to Sarah's workshop, but upon seeing Dilan's faint smile, chills ran down her spine, and she wanted to leave as quickly as possible.

"Alright, I will take my leave then, I will leave Shiron for a few days. Take care of everything, little Fallen Angel." Dilan said in a caring tone while looking over to Yvonne before he took their leave.

He ignored the confused gazes on the sisters and Xenia's faces and left the workshop along with the base to make a short trip.

"Is he doing what I think he is doing?" Xenia asked, not actually expecting anyone to answer her as her gaze followed Dilan and observed the nonchalant way he walked out of the base.

"I think he is doing exactly what you think he is doing..." Kathrine commented as her lips twitched. 'He doesn't even think of asking anyone to help him, does he??'

"Yep, he'll definitely go and take a look at the Blue Star camp. All by himself, like always..." Yvonne reaffirmed, feeling slightly dejected.

Everyone was working so hard to improve and to become as strong as Dilan was. However, he still didn't share his visions and ideas with them.

It could be considered progress that he hinted to them where he was going, and that he would be away for a few days.

This was not something they were used to if they considered Dilan's personality.

Yvonne's sour mood improved a bit at this thought, but she was still feeling a little bit frustrated.

"We are still too weak for him..." She mumbled, only for Xenia and Kathrine to nod their heads as a heavy sigh escaped their mouths.

“He will be fine, right?” Kathrine asked suddenly. Even if the Blue Star camp didn’t really matter to her, it was really weird for the Blue Star camp to do nothing about them.

Everyone expected that something big was about to happen. However, nothing had happened until now, and everyone was fully prepared for an all-out war and waiting anxiously.

It was obvious that Dilan wanted to prevent an all-out war, but it was not as if he would hide away from it.

If necessary, Dilan would fight against other humans with his life on the line!

But Dilan didn’t think that it would be necessary to fight the Blue Star camp. Rather, he was pretty sure that something big had already happened.

That was also why he went on his own, leaving behind everyone else. He trusted Yvonne, Kathrine, and the others more than enough to look after the base while he was away.

There was no need to be worried about the base, at least, not as long as the situation at the Blue Star camp was not as dangerous as he presumed it to be.

With his Agility, crossing a distance of 500 kilometers was nothing. Lightly jogging, without bothering about the monsters around him, Dilan reached an extremely high speed.

In a matter of a few hours and a few short breaks, Dilan encountered the first signs of human life.

A few soldiers, whom Dilan presumed to be scouts, were running through the surroundings. It looked like they were searching for something or someone.

They didn’t even notice Dilan at first. However, the moment they saw him, their eyes were filled with fear. Without a second of hesitation, they activated an acceleration-ability with which they dashed off and away from him.

To their misfortune, Dilan’s base Agility was still higher, even after the Scouts had used their acceleration-ability.

There was not even the use for him to use [Thunder Step], and he merely dashed ahead while making use of his high Agility.

A second later, using his entire speed, he appeared next to the Soldiers, before slowing down.

“Hey guys, why are we running away?” Dilan asked rather nonchalantly.

“Are you an idiot? We are running away from that bloodthirsty Ascender?!?” One of the Soldiers shouted in the answer without turning his head.

He didn’t even realize that he was speaking to the same bloodthirsty Ascender they were running away from.

“What do you mean bloodthirsty Ascender? Maybe he is a good guy?” Dilan asked, pretty sure that the Soldiers didn’t know him well.

They were Scouts, Tier-1 Ascenders, and they weren’t supposed to know him at all.

“Are you still drunk from yesterday?! Every Ascender, who doesn’t belong to our group, is bloodthirsty. They want our life, all of them!! Don’t tell me you hit your head and forgot what happened a few days ago?” Another soldier shouted, visibly enraged.

They had yet to realize that Dilan was not one of their fellow colleagues, but the very person they were desperately trying to run away from.

“But I’m a good guy...most of the time, at least...maybe...well, sometimes...”

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Chapter 253 Every Tom, Dick, and Harry

“But I’m a good guy...most of the time, at least...maybe...well, sometimes...” Dilan teased while smiling faintly.

Only when Dilan said this, did the first Soldier understand that Dilan was not one of their colleagues. Fear spread through the young man’s entire body, but he unsheathed his longsword nonetheless.

His eyes were overflowing with the fear of dying, yet, he was still ready to fight with his life on the line.

‘Not bad. Looks like the Blue Star camp has a few sensible people.’ Dilan concluded before his body leaned forward.

A moment later, he disappeared from the sight of the young Soldier. The young man’s hand suddenly shook, and a second later, he saw that Dilan had reappeared...holding his sword!

“Don’t play around with that weapon. You might hurt someone accidentally.” Dilan cautioned in a light voice as if he was not the slightest bit afraid of getting attacked, let alone killed by the soldiers around him.

All of them had unsheathed their weapons, but none of them dared to make the first move.

They were still running in the same direction as before. However, contrary to before, it was not to flee from him. It was because Dilan didn’t stop running in that particular direction...?

“Where are we headed to?” Dilan asked while taking a look at the weapon in his hand.

“Jikma longsword, a Bronze Tier-1 treasure that amplifies your Strength stat by 10 Units. Not half bad.” Dilan didn’t even wait to receive an answer.

He threw the weapon back to the Soldier, who had reacted first when he found out about Dilan’s ‘true identity’.

The Soldier caught the weapon clumsily before Dilan repeated his question for the second time.

“Where are we headed to? Is that the direction of the Blue Star camp?” He added the second question to make sure that they were running in the correct direction.

Some Soldiers flinched upon hearing Dilan’s voice that sounded aloof as well as commanded their respect and attention, just like their seniors who didn’t allow anyone to ignore them.

However, there were also a few Soldiers, who felt that the situation was a little bit odd.

“You...are not one of the bloodthirsty Ascenders, who attacked us, right?” A rather young woman asked. Dilan smiled at her question, feeling like rejoicing. “Finally, a smart one.”

If Dilan was one of the bloodthirsty Ascenders, he would know where the Blue Star camp was located. But that was obviously not the case, otherwise, he would have killed the scouts by now before entering the Blue Star camp on his own.

“Is the Blue Star camp destroyed?” Dilan bluntly asked, causing many Soldiers to flinch. He didn’t show any consideration toward their situation and it was as if he couldn’t care less about the Blue Star camp’s condition.

‘Is he really not one of the bloodthirsty Ascenders,’ one of the younger soldiers asked himself, goosebumps covering his entire body when he looked at Dilan.

“Such a terrifying presence...Just how many monsters did he kill...” The same young Soldier mumbled, without realizing that he was wondering out loud.

However, Dilan’s smile just widened as he turned his head to the young soldier before he said two simple words,

“A lot.”

The young soldier’s hand began to tremble at the sight of Dilan’s sky blue eyes. These sky blue eyes told a tale that was worth thousands of words and revealed the pain and the deaths they had felt and witnessed.

And this was more than enough to tell the young Soldier that Dilan was not someone he should take lightly, not if he wanted to stay alive.

“I guess the camp is not destroyed, but you got attacked by some Evil Ascenders. Were they more powerful than I am?” Dilan enquired, answering his earlier question by himself.

“If you mean other humans, who mercilessly slaughtered everyone irrespective of the fact whether they were old, ill, children, women, or crippled, with ‘Evil Ascenders’, yeah, then we were attacked by Evil Ascenders...” The same female Soldier from before answered.

She couldn’t say whether they were stronger than Dilan or not, but the feeling she got from Dilan was completely different from the Evil Ascenders, who had attacked them.

Dilan was still able to control himself, and he didn’t seem like he would kill them, not without reason, at least.

Meanwhile, the Evil Ascenders had killed everyone and everything in their way. They were bloodthirsty and unreasonable and it was impossible to talk to them.

They were out for the blood of humans, that was their ultimate goal.

“And you don’t know if I’m stronger than them, or if they were stronger, alright,” Dilan answered himself once again. It was quite difficult to talk to the Soldiers and make them answer him, but that was something he could roughly understand.

With the attack of the bloodthirsty Ascenders, everything made sense. It was logical why there had been no news of the Blue Star camp back in Shiron, and why the long-awaited attack had yet to happen.

“Looks like they have too much trouble with that one group to even think about teaching me a lesson. To think that I took them seriously...what a big joke.” Dilan just shook his head, ignoring the disdainful gazes the others threw at him.

It didn't take long before he spotted something ahead of them. There was a huge military base that was surrounded by electric fences. Signs of human life entered his view at this moment, but Dilan could also see puddles of dried blood, and signs of destruction all around the place he presumed to be the once thriving and flourishing Blue Star camp.

“Looks like nobody had time to clean up. The moral of the Survivors should be close to non-existent.” Dilan continued to speak, mostly to himself.

He couldn't care less about the people around him as he made his own assumptions about the situation in the Blue Star camp.

The fact that they didn't even bother removing the blood said more than enough about the fact that the leaders believed that the Evil Ascenders would return soon.

In their opinion, it could be a waste of time to clean the base if everything would get bloodied soon, either way. That was one possible reason why nobody removed the blood.

Another one was that nobody except Tier-1 Ascenders dared to go outside the military base. It was possible that everyone was scared to death, and that most Survivors didn't dare to do anything but to cower in the place they presumed to be the safest.

“The Evil Ascenders are probably giddy with euphoria after seeing the state of the Blue Star camp. Your leaders are truly weird. To think that they were higher authorities of the government and the military before the Primordial Ascension.

p-?-?-?-? ?-0-?-?-?、?(?) Looks like every Tom, Dick, and Harry, could just climb the social ladder through connections and make a name for themselves before the Primordial Ascension happened. This is more than just a little bit disappointing...” Dilan commented, not even trying to lower his voice.

Everyone gritted their teeth at this comment, but nobody dared to say something. It was humiliating and an embarrassment, but it was also a fact that they were in a dire situation.

Their leaders hadn't been able to protect them, and the morale of the Survivors, and even more so, Soldiers was even lower than it had been when the Primordial Ascension had happened.

Every single word Dilan had said until now was nothing but the bitter truth.

“What is that?!” Dilan suddenly asked upon spotting something to his left. Turning their heads in unison, the Soldiers frowned before their faces turned paper-white.

“That cannot be... how?...why?...why now???”

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Chapter 254 Tide

“That cannot be... how?...Why?...why now???” The same female Soldier, who had spoken to Dilan before shouted incoherently. Her eyes turned watery and were full of fright at the sight of the terror toward her left.

‘That feels like a Deja-vú...’ Dilan thought the moment he spotted a bunch of humans running in the direction of the Blue Star camp, followed by thousands of monsters chasing them.

The humans were Tier-1 Ascenders, quite powerful ones, at that.

However, it was quite obvious that they were not on the same side as the people of the Blue Star camp.

“So those are the bloodthirsty Ascenders you guys talked about earlier? Their strength is really not that bad. But to think that they want to torture the Blue star camp members by letting loose a tide of monsters... looks like they have a weird kink.”

Dilan’s voice was calm despite the danger that unfolded right in front of him. There were numerous powerful monsters of varying sizes; skinny, chubby, tall, and small.

There were even socializing races like Kobolds, Gnomes, and Lamia in the tide of monsters that were pursuing the bloodthirsty Ascenders, who were smiling in a way that caused even the Ascenders with the strongest willpower to feel chills running down their spine.

Meanwhile, Dilan just observed them intently as his eyes gleamed with interest.

“Prey and predator are right next to each other, but they are ignoring their existence and pursuing the human Ascender, why is that the case?”

Even if humans were a great resource to become stronger, most monsters had an inbuilt mechanism to hunt their prey first. As such, they weren’t supposed to possess enough intelligence to suppress their wild instincts. This was not supposed to be the case, not in such a large-scale of monsters gathering together...?

‘They are simply pursuing the human Ascenders...are they in possession of a bait or something that makes all monsters obsessed with catching them, and making them forget that they ought to be the nemesis of the monsters they are running alongside?’

Dilan squinted his eyes while trying to process more information from the distance.

However, there was not much more for him to figure out about the tide of monsters. It was obvious that the bloodthirsty Ascenders did something to lure the monsters to follow them, and it looked like they wanted to turn the entire Blue Star camp upside down.

The situation looked quite severe, and it didn’t get much better when Dilan turned his head to the Blue Star camp, where close to 200 Tier-1 Ascenders had emerged from the military base.

All of them seemed quite powerful, but they were nothing in comparison to the strength Yvonne, Kathrine, Oliver, and Ailee had attained in the last few days.

‘Maybe their strength is comparable to my older Tier-1 Ascenders with [Rare] occupations?’ He thought, clearly understanding that each of the 200 Ascenders was merely able to defeat a Silver Tier-1 monster on their own. And even that was already a generous deduction from Dilan.

The Tier-1 monsters in the tide didn't seem to have a high level, not many, at least.

"If that's the entire strength your Blue Star camp has left, it will be turned into nothing but piles of scrap in the next half an hour." Dilan opined in a rather blunt tone, not intending to hide what he thought.

The Soldiers around him grit their teeth. At this moment, they hated Dilan to the core because he was a stranger who had no rights to judge them and their strength.

It was fine if he didn't encourage them, or didn't give them any hope. However, his words were simply brutal.

Everyone could tell that Dilan was extremely powerful. Even after he concealed his presence, and slowed down his speed, he exuded a calm that made the soldiers stare at him in amazement. Every single move of his was smooth, there were no lines of frustration on his forehead despite the encroaching threat such as the tide of monsters.

They had seen how fast Dilan had been before and knew that he could change the tide of the battle that had yet to even begin, but the problem was that Dilan was also aware of his presence on the battlefield, more than anyone else!

'Where are their strong forces? I doubt Felia bluffed when she spoke about the Blue Star camp's strength. They shouldn't have died when the bloodthirsty Ascenders attacked, not all of them!

Dilan was waiting for the really important people to appear. He wanted to see their strength, nothing else.

There was no need for him to intervene, in his opinion, after all.

'Reveal your strength, guys!! Don't let your people die.' He thought, and it was mere seconds later that he perceived some movement from within the military base.

A two-meter tall man, whose bulky chest was revealed for everyone to see, entered Dilan's view.

The tall man was followed by five Ascenders all of whom were extremely powerful.

This group of 6 Ascenders attracted Dilan's attention. However, they were not the entire Elite force of the Blue Star camp.

On the contrary, they were merely a portion of the strongest Ascenders within the Blue Star camp.

Two small groups of eight and five people emerged from other exits of the military base, similarly attracting Dilan's attention.

"The female Archer, the bulky and half-naked man, and the skinny man, who is in control of the Wolf, are the leaders of the Blue Star camp, I presume?" Dilan asked quietly without turning his head in the direction of the soldiers, who had yet to move a muscle.

Dilan and the soldiers around him were the closest to the tide of monsters, so there was no need for the soldiers to rush at the monsters. They would come for them before they would reach the camp.

"Sheriff Jenny, Mayor Clerens, and Hunter Jared are our leaders, yes. Their strength is unparalleled and only because of their help could we survive the attack of the bloodthirsty Ascenders.

“?O? They were strong enough to kill many bloodthirsty Ascenders, and to push back the rest!” The young woman sounded extremely prideful while speaking about the three leaders.

It was almost as if she fought back the bloodthirsty Ascenders, and as if it had been her achievement, and not of the three leaders.

Dilan refrained from commenting on that and simply nodded his head. The constellation of the three leader’s occupations was quite interesting.

It was not necessary to be a genius to understand what kind of occupation they had chosen while advancing to Tier-1, after all.

“Ranger, Pugilist, and Tamer, not a bad combination. I just don’t see anyone, who might be responsible to heal, or support everyone.

I guess the Blue Star camp focuses on direct combat instead of creating a balanced group?” Dilan mumbled.

He did not intend to talk bad about the Blue Star camp, and couldn’t care less whether the Blue Star camp’s soldiers stood around him or not.

However, he and his people had also noticed that focusing on a few occupations might not be the best way to create a properly working group.

As long as they were able to overpower their opponents, there was no need for any Ascenders with healing or supporting abilities.

But the ‘ordinary’ Tier-1 Ascenders in Dilan’s group, who didn’t have an overwhelming talent in combat despite having advanced by choosing rare graded occupations, were currently working on creating a combination of occupations to use so that even six Tier-1 Ascenders with [Rare] occupations and an average inborn combat talent could defeat groups of Silver Tier-1 monsters.

As long as they improved their teamwork, it shouldn’t be impossible for them to defeat Gold Tier-1 monsters provided they weren’t as dangerous as the Clawed Bears in the Gate that led to the Mountain Ring of the Elements.

‘This son of a bitch!! How dare he insult us, our entire camp, and now even our leaders! He is so arrogant...I want to beat him into a pulp!!’ That and other similar thoughts flashed through the minds of the soldiers around Dilan.

They didn’t fear him anymore because they could tell that he wouldn’t kill them. After all, he could have already done so if he wanted to.

However, not fearing Dilan didn’t mean that they would let go of a chance to beat him up thoroughly.

But that was just what some of them thought because their strength was obviously not high enough to go up against Dilan.

“Now show me something great. Don’t disappoint me, little camp leaders!” Dilan said in a mocking tone while continuing to provoke the soldiers around him.

He found it funny though most believed that he was a pain in the ass.

'Fight, fight with your life on the line!!!'

Undying Warlord

Chapter 255 Deja-vú

For now, Dilan didn't intend to join the fight between the bloodthirsty Ascenders, the tide of monsters behind them, and the Blue Star camp.

He could tell that Sheriff Jenny, Mayor Clerens, and Hunter Jared were quite powerful. As long as they fought properly, there shouldn't be much of an issue.

'Will they focus on a tactical fight or use brute force?' Dilan wondered, only to find out the answer a second later.

A single arrow shot through the air, and not many realized it.

At first, Dilan didn't think much about that arrow either. However, his interest was piqued when he perceived that the arrow was not normal.

It was created from Mana, and one ability to be precise. His head turned over to the arrow that flew in a beautiful arc straight at the tide of monsters.

All of a sudden, and without any warning, the arrow began to glow brightly as it multiplied.

One arrow turned into twenty, and twenty arrows turned into more than a hundred. The sudden change astonished even Dilan, who was quite good at keeping his thoughts to himself.

His eyes gleamed in fascination as he saw how the volley of 100 arrows wreaked havoc on the horde of the crowded monsters.

It was impossible to evade the arrows because there was no path of escape, and the volley of 100 arrows hit a total of 100 targets.

Some monsters died immediately and collapsed to the ground because the arrow had pierced through their skulls. Meanwhile, others were either mildly injured, or had deflected some of the arrows.

"Not a very strong lethal force, but if she can repeat this type of attack several times, it can become a nuisance," Dilan mumbled, imagining how several batches of 100 arrows would annihilate his group.

The thought was quite frightening because the human skin was fairly fragile and had much less endurance than the hide of some monsters. Even Dilan's high Health stat and his Stone skin trait might not be enough to be on par with the defensive power of the hide of a fully defensive-oriented monster at the peak of Tier-1!

But even if Dilan's thought was quite frightening, Sheriff Jenny, the archer, who had fired the arrow didn't repeat the same attack.

Instead, she began to use the arrows in her quiver to specifically aim and kill a monster every second or two. Her accuracy was phenomenal, while her shooting speed was quite fast.

She didn't use an ability such as [Rapid Shooting] but that was only for her good. There were thousands of monsters, who were charging at the Blue Star camp. If she were to waste her arrows or stamina for a few more kills, it wouldn't do her any good.

Jenny's aim was merely to take out the strongest monsters, her bow and arrow were capable of killing.

As for the rest, there were still more than a hundred Tier-1 Ascenders, her own Elite group, Mayor Clerens' elite group, and Hunter Jared's.

Mayor Clerens' body seemed to have enlarged the closer the tide of monsters came. His strength had increased as the number of foes increased. Dilan noticed this, which was why his head turned to Mayor Clerens.

'I expected him to be some sort of geek, or a coward the way Felia spoke about him. I didn't imagine him to be a fighter, who uses gloves as his weapons.' Dilan was honest with himself. He didn't expect Mayor Clerens to be anywhere close to the muscular man, whose body kept expanding the closer he stepped to the tide of monsters.

His eyes were gleaming in wrath, and he didn't require much motivation to charge straight toward the tide of monsters and the bloodthirsty Ascenders to obliterate them.

He wanted to tear apart the Ascenders first, but they could tell that it was time to leave. Their hands reached out to a small pouch that had been fastened to their belts.

They threw it straight over the fence that surrounded the military base where the Blue Star camp was located.

Afterward, they changed their trajectory in the attempt to leave the Blue Star camp alive.

But even before they could leave behind the tide of monsters, a white wolf emerged in front of one Ascender, blocking his path.

The Wolf had appeared out of nowhere, and upon seeing the monster, Dilan recalled where he had seen it.

pa??? ?<O>??? "Hunter Jared's tamed monster." He mumbled in a low voice while his head turned in the direction of the middle-aged man.

The wolf's strength had been increased by the use of various supporting abilities Hunter Jared had learned from his occupation.

That was also why the tamed wolf's strength rivaled a Gold Tier-1 monster right now.

It pounced at the bloodthirsty Ascender, who had unsheathed his weapon.

Yet, even before the bloodthirsty Ascender could do something, the wolf had momentarily disappeared from his vision.

'Illusion?' Dilan thought the moment he perceived that something about the wolf had changed. However, he quickly changed his opinion about what he had seen.

'That's not an illusion, it's a trick that can be used to make the opponent believe that their opposite disappeared!'

Dilan had once heard about weird techniques that could be used to trick the eyes and the brain of their opponent. This was before the Primordial Ascension had occurred, and Dilan had never actually seen anyone who could use this 'Illusionary Step'.

It was not an ability but a movement technique, if one wanted to put it like that.

But instead of seeing a human being make use of it, he saw a wolf use it to make it seem as if it had disappeared in front of the bloodthirsty Ascender.

Just a moment later, the wolf had 'reappeared' by the side of the bloodthirsty Ascenders, slashing out with its huge claws.

The Ascender's chest was cut open before he could even scream out, and a painful squeal escaped his mouth as blood gushed out of him.

His organs were clearly visible to everyone but nobody paid attention to the bloodthirsty Ascender's corpse. On the contrary, the tide of monsters trampled over the body of the dying Ascender as they charged in the direction of the pouches the bloodthirsty Ascenders had thrown over the fence of the military base.

Meanwhile, the tamed wolf had long since disappeared. The monster had dealt a lethal blow to the bloodthirsty Ascender and disappeared a moment later to attack its next victim.

On the other hand, Dilan stretched his body a bit. He was being very slow and was showing off how the fight didn't worry him in the slightest. It was quite funny to see the reaction of the soldiers around him.

They were clearly annoyed about his entire existence. However, at the same time, they couldn't keep a straight face as their expression lit up when they noticed that Dilan would finally move.

It was not that they didn't trust the strength of their leaders, but from the beginning, they could tell that Dilan was much faster than their leaders.

'If his Agility is already that high, his other stats must be pretty insane as well, right?' They thought, and it was just a moment later, that a strong gust of wind blew in their faces.

A thunderous sound originated from amidst them, electricity currents emerged out of nowhere, and the ground under Dilan's feet was replaced by a small crater. His footprints left a deep imprint on the ground, and charred grass.

Meanwhile, Dilan had blasted in the direction of the bloodthirsty Ascenders.

'That is definitely a Deja-vù moment,' Dilan mumbled as a faint smile appeared on his face while he prepared himself to catch the bloodthirsty Ascenders.

After all, someone had to catch them to ask a few questions to make sure that he could beat up the rest of the bloodthirsty Ascenders later, once he felt like it.

With that thought, Dilan turned into a purple flash as he bulldozed his way through whatever obstacle came in front of him to get his hand on the bloodthirsty Ascenders that were still alive.

“Gotcha!”

[Undying Warlord](#)

Chapter 256 Brute Force

Nobody except the soldiers, who Dilan had joined temporarily had noticed him before.

However, the sudden appearance of someone, whose Agility easily exceeded 100 Units was not something anyone was able to ignore.

The presence Dilan radiated was impossible to ignore as well.

His eyes were overflowing with bloodlust and he was ready to fight, and kill all the monsters around him.

But even if he felt like fighting, Dilan held back.

His plan was not to steal the prey of the Blue Star camp. He merely wanted to make sure that the bloodthirsty Ascenders would be left alive.

‘I hope the soldiers were right.’ Dilan just thought, clearly recalling them saying that the bloodthirsty Ascenders he saw were merely pawns, and much weaker than their leaders.

The comment had excited Dilan, and it had changed his previous opinion of the situation.

‘Even if I don’t care much about the Blue Star camp, the bloodthirsty Ascenders can become dangerous to my people very quickly!’

His deduction was only obvious but that was not the biggest reason for him to feel like fighting the group of the bloodthirsty Ascenders.

Of course, it was important but Dilan’s heart was beating wildly at the thought of fighting powerful Ascenders. He was feeling excited and looking forward to the fight for the first time in the last few days.

Dilan wanted to treasure that feeling and to make sure that nothing untoward would happen.

Thus, he got his hand on the remaining bloodthirsty Survivors.

Using [Thunder Step] was more than enough to get his hands on everyone. Dilan knocked them out with a simple punch against their temples, just to drag them back to the Soldiers, and throw the survivors right in front of them.

“If you guys kill them, I will kill all of you as well. Take care of them until I am done questioning them. What you guys do with them afterward is not my problem.”

The moment Dilan finished saying what had to be said, he disappeared once again, leaving the stupefied soldiers alone.

“We..wanted to join the fight as well...does he want us to play babysitter now?!” One of the soldiers asked, feeling as if Dilan didn’t take them seriously.

“Well, you can fight if you want, but I will make sure that these sons of pigs will stay alive. I hold my life dear....” The female soldier suddenly stated. She was pretty sure that Dilan’s warning was nothing but the truth.

Based on her understanding of Dilan, he didn’t make empty promises, and he would do everything he said.

This was not something she wanted to take lightly. A few other soldiers agreed to what she said, while others could only shake their heads.

They wanted to help their people, and their leaders and also wanted the entire Blue Star camp to survive.

In their opinion, they would be traitors by staying behind and doing nothing. After all, their reason to become powerful Ascenders had been to protect everyone!

At least, that was their opinion.

In the end, there was more than one reason to become strong. Some wanted to protect their loved ones, while others only desired to survive. There were also more than enough people, who wanted to become stronger to follow other desires, such as becoming the king of a kingdom, creating an empire, and so on.

Everyone had their own wishes, and all of these wishes could be fulfilled as long as they kept ascending, and as long as they gave their utmost to become stronger!

Thus some left the unconscious bloodthirsty Ascenders, while others stayed behind. Meanwhile, in a matter of one minute, Dilan had brought back all the remaining bloodthirsty Ascenders that were still alive.

He had noticed that some Soldiers had left to join the battle against the tide of monsters but that was not something he truly cared about.

‘As long as the bloodthirsty Ascenders stay alive, you guys can do whatever the fuck you want!’ That was his opinion about their choices, nothing more or less.

After catching all the bloodthirsty Ascenders, Dilan chose to observe the Blue Star camp’s way of tackling and defeating the tide of monsters. The monsters weren’t even focused on the human Ascenders in the beginning.

Only when they launched a slaughter fest did their focus avert to them. Dilan realized this quickly but he didn’t join the battle.

The monster tide was not even that powerful in his opinion, and Mayor Clerens’ strength seemed to be more than capable of eliminating the entire monster tide on his own.

His body had enlarged to 2.3 meters, and his entire body looked like it was packed with muscles. It looked a bit odd at first, but when Dilan realized that his muscles were undergoing a transformation and moving as if they were alive, goosebumps sprang all over him.

The muscles had grown out of nowhere, and Mayor Clerens' body had yet to move a majority of them to the correct location.

This realization was even weirder than anything else he had witnessed today. Dilan frowned in disgust at this sight, but he was unable to look away.

Mayor Clerens used his brute strength to tear apart all the monsters around him. His speed was not exceptional, but the moment he got hold of a monster, it was bound to die.

'Strength of 100 Units or more?' Dilan wondered, trying to gauge the current strength of the pugilist in front of him.

Mayor Clerens had used up quite a bit of mana by now but Dilan was actually not sure what the Mayor's mana had been used for.

'Is he using his mana to grow his muscles to become stronger? Or is that some sort of Origin ability that allows him to become stronger the more foes are around him?' Dilan clearly remembered that Mayor Clerens continued to grow in size the closer the tide of monsters came.

Thus, Dilan reached his own conclusions which were completely useless because he wouldn't be able to figure out the whole truth without enquiring further.

He understood this after a few moments when he saw how Mayor Clerens changed his way of fighting. He used his brute force to brutally punch his enemies.

His power-packed punches either hit their bones that broke into thousands of pieces, burst open their internal organs, or their entire body simply exploded as it was unable to cope with the impact of the Mayor's assault.

Even Dilan had to agree that it was somewhat frightening.

The Minotaur Leader had already been terrifying, but it looked like Mayor Clerens had special passive abilities that increased the lethality of his blows, or that he could deal more damage by using specific tactics.

Nonetheless, Dilan was not exactly scared of the Mayor because it was easy to understand that the Pugilist's disadvantage was that his flexibility and speed suffered the more his strength increased on account of his growing muscles.

There was no rhyme or reason behind the disgustingly growing muscles that continued to bulge. They were completely out of symmetry and made the mayor look hideous.

Not an ounce of beauty could be seen in the current appearance of the former Mayor, and even Dilan, who had seen lots of things in the short time that had passed since the Primordial Ascension, felt a little bit disgusted at the sight of Mayor Clerens.

And that meant quite a lot if even Dilan thought that!

However, appearance didn't matter in the face of strength. Currently, Mayor Clerens was extremely powerful, and as long as an opponent was caught by him, it was bound to die and be torn into two.

This left a solid impression on Dilan, whose eyes began to gleam as well.

“Well, fuck it.” He merely mumbled, abandoning his thought of leaving the Blue Star camp on its own.

The Blazing Serpentine Blade appeared in his hand, and with a wave of his hand, it enlarged to its full form of 20 meters.

Blazing flames engulfed the Blazing Serpentine Blade, attracting the attention of many Tier-1 Ascenders, who were fighting a bit further away.

Other Ascenders, who had just killed the monster that had been the closest to them, couldn't help but look up at him as well.

But that was only obvious. After all, the terrifying sensation of death and the thirst of blood had emerged all of a sudden.

Upon looking over, an unknown human entered their sight, causing everyone to flinch.

'Is that one of their leaders?! Or someone from another group of killers???' They thought as a seed of fear rooted itself in their mind.

They were barely able to cope with the dangers of the tide of monsters. In fact, even that threat was already too much for many to handle.

What were they going to do, now that a new threat had appeared in the form of a single individual that was far more dangerous than the whole tide of monsters?!

Were they going to die, or would they survive?

“Y'all are way too tense. Have some fun, and swing your butt to whoop the monster's asses!”

[Undying Warlord](#)

Chapter 257 Lazy-heads

“Y'all are way too tense. Have some fun, and swing your butt to whoop the monster's asses!” Dilan calmly suggested.

He didn't plan to kill the Ascenders of the Blue Star camp. It would be way too annoying to attack Mayor Clerens, Sheriff Jennie, and Hunter Jared head-on.

It was not impossible for him to kill them, and Dilan was confident of defeating them if he would be honest with himself. However, it wouldn't prove any benefits to him.

The Blue Star camp could be said to be an additional defensive layer against groups of evil Ascenders. The fact that the group the bloodthirsty Ascenders belonged to openly attacked the Blue Star camp was a great precursor for Dilan's behavior.

Nonetheless, the fight against the monster tide was way too long and drawn out, and Dilan worried that the unconscious bloodthirsty Ascenders would get hit by an astray attack, or bulldozed the moment the monsters of the tide were to be able to push a few Ascenders of the Blue Star camp away.

Their numbers weren't many, and Dilan's help was something they desperately required to minimize their casualties.

However, what nobody expected upon seeing him first was that Dilan was not only on their side but that he would attack the monsters without actually killing them.

While his [Thunder Step] ability was activated at will, the sound of the ability's activation reverberated through the entire plains.

Everyone heard the sound, but nobody was capable of fighting against the monstrous existence, who had decided to join the battle.

Dilan's brightly ignited Blazing Serpentine Blade whizzed and crackled through the surroundings. With every wave of his hand, Dilan cut off the body parts of several monsters. Numerous monsters were crippled within a moment, and the fire continued to burn brightly through their bodies or whatever was left of it, even after the blazing blade had long since left them.

The Blazing Serpentine Blade turned into a tornado of fire. Dilan didn't allow a single monster to escape unscathed. Yet, the Ascenders, who were also caught in his storm of fire, and sparking blades, were totally unscathed.

Not even the blazing flames scorched their hair, let alone touch the armors they were wearing.

Only when the Ascenders began to realize that Dilan was on their side and that he wouldn't kill them mercilessly after he defeated the tide of monsters, were they able to sigh in relief.

"You lazy-heads. How about you finish off these monsters? Otherwise, I will take them." Dilan shouted in annoyance after realizing that the Ascenders were content with watching the 'entertainment' show he created with the use of the Blazing Serpentine blade than killing the monsters he had injured and especially left for them to kill.

He might not like Felia's soldiers, but that didn't mean the Blue Star camp was bad. Others might not feel like this but in Dilan's opinion, the Blue Star camp could become an ideal pawn for him to make use of.

'If they can become my defensive line from the north-eastern direction, that will be perfect.' Dilan had initially thought when deciding to 'gift' the Blue Star camp's Ascenders the crippled and half-dead monsters to allow them to deliver the killing blow easily.

Their value would decrease rapidly because Dilan contributed the most but that was not important. With that gift, he only wanted to make it clear that he didn't plan on taking everything from the Blue Star camp that didn't belong to him, and that he was on their side.

It was actually questionable if Dilan and the Blue Star camp were on the same side.

At least, when it came to the bloodthirsty Ascenders' threat, Dilan and the Blue Star camp had one common goal.

Both wanted to annihilate this group of human beings, who walked down the wrong path. Both agreed that the path of sacrificing their own race to gain more benefits from the Primordial Ascension was wrong!

With time passing, Dilan merely had to pay attention not to kill Hunter Jared's tamed wolf, to accidentally cut Mayor Clerens in thousands of pieces, and to evade the hail of arrows shot by Sheriff Jennie.

As for the remaining Ascenders, they didn't even dare to come close to him after a few minutes had passed.

Dilan was in the middle of the battlefield, sending every monster to its death that entered his view.

His entire body was covered in blood, brain mass, and bone fragments. However, he was still smiling and ignoring the slippery ground before he realized one big mistake.

"Are they really that lazy? I have literally injured the monsters to the extent where they cannot fight back..." He murmured, feeling that the Blue Star camp's Ascenders were cowards and useless.

When compared to them, the Ascenders of Dilan's group were much better. They were already accustomed to Dilan's brutal fighting style and didn't avoid him. For the Ascenders, who fought under Dilan, it was obvious that he would never injure them, not even accidentally.

As long as they followed Dilan's commands and the orders of his people, everything would be fine, and they would survive.

However, the same couldn't be said for these Ascenders. Dilan was just a stranger to them, a powerful one though.

"Just kill them. My people fight together at the frontlines. Their forte is to defend. Not many are able to enter the center of the battlefield without feeling a trace of fear." Mayor Clerens, who had appeared next to him, suggested all of a sudden.

The only person who was similar to Dilan with regard to his madness was Mayor Clerens. The man was in his 30s, he had a short brown beard and short brown hair. His muscle-packed body looked much better now that everything seemed to have been 'configured' and 'adjusted' if one could call his appearance like that.

? Mayor Clerens was still sane, but his way of fighting was drastically influenced by his Origin ability [Lone Wolf]. As long as he roamed through the center of his opponents, alone, or with only a few comrades, his strength would increase the more opponents he would face.

The occupation he chose was also focused on fighting brutally, which made things much easier for Mayor Clerens. He was far from being a madman...it were just his abilities that forced him to become like this. At least, that was what he told himself.

Dilan knew a madman when he saw one. After all, he was one too so when he spotted someone who was just like him, he could immediately single him out. And right now he could tell that Mayor Clerens was still far from being comparable to him. However, there was...potential!

"Alright, I won't reject that feast then. By the way, the bloodthirsty Ascenders are not dead. Do you guys have someone who can make them speak?" While speaking to Mayor Clerens, Dilan changed his battle strategy.

Instead of wasting his precious movements and time to cripple the monsters around him, he killed them easily.

Their head was cut off, their arteries severed, and their brains pierced. Killing was much easier for Dilan than being careful of only injuring and not finishing off any monsters.

“Make someone speak? Yeah, we have someone like this. But it’s useless, we’ve already gotten all the necessary information these henchmen can provide.” He said in a calm voice, clearing all possible doubts

“By the way, who are you, and why are you helping us? There should be a reason for you to intervene all of a sudden.” Mayor Clerens added before jumping toward the side and pulling his arm back. He punched out all of a sudden, causing the ground to tremor while the chest of the Gorilla he had just attacked burst open.

‘Yeah, he is definitely on par with the Minotaur’s strength. However, his speed is much slower. Well, whatever.’ Dilan thought before he answered Mayor Clerens’ question without intending to hide anything.

“Captain Felia should have told you about me. I’m Dilan, the leader of the group in Shiron.” He introduced himself while waiting for Mayor Clerens’ reaction.

He had expected something grand, but Dilan was astonished to see that Mayor Clerens showed only mild signs of astonishment in his face. It was almost as if he was not actually interested in the truth, or there was something else.

‘Did he guess that already?’ Dilan wondered.

“So you are the one who killed my Soldiers?” Mayor Clerens asked all of a sudden.

Dilan had expected that question, but he didn’t mind it. After all, his answer would always be the same, whether he would be asked this question on the battlefield or while having some tea.

“Yep, and I would do it again. Not even Gods are allowed to reach out their filthy hands on my people, even less if they’re unwilling and helpless!”

[Undying Warlord](#)

Chapter 258 Blood-Legion

Mayor Clerens didn’t say anything about it at first.

However, he sighed deeply after crushing the skull of a Lamia that had appeared in front of him all of a sudden.

“Felia gave me a detailed report about everything that happened in Shiron. I didn’t expect you to actually kill them for attempting to **** one of your women. It should be impossible for me to do the same here. The Survivors in our group expect us to live in a civilized way, exactly as it had been before the Primordial Ascension...They don’t know how frightening Ascenders can be...” Mayor Clerens replied, sighing deeply after killing a few more monsters.

He looked over to Dilan, whose eyes were gleaming brightly. It didn't look like he was holding back his desires and urges. This was something Mayor Clerens was actually jealous about.

For Ascenders, it was hard to control their emotions. Their emotions were intensified, which only grew worse the more their level and strength increased.

The more pure Essence they absorbed, the harder it was to conceal their true desires, emotions, and intentions.

For some this was problematic, but for others, this was not the case. There were many troublesome men in the Blue Star camp, and keeping them under check was actually quite difficult.

Fortunately, some women with nymphomaniac tendencies were in the Blue Star camp. These women's true desires were helpful for the Blue Star camp because they could satisfy the troublesome men, who were unable to control themselves much.

And they even had abilities and chose occupations through which these women could gain a lot by pleasing more men.

At first, many had frowned upon this, but Mayor Clerens couldn't care less about that. It was more important to calm down the problematic cases of his Ascenders than morality.

'Dilan solved this by killing everyone, who was unable to control their urges. If they dare to do something stupid, they will end up like my Soldiers. They were a pain in the ass, either way, but that is not something I can tell others.

Jared and Jennie planned to eradicate Dilan's group, but it looks like we were 'lucky' with the Blood Legion's attack..' Mayor Clerens summed up the current situation.

It was obvious that them being 'lucky' was not great, but it was better to be alive than to die at Dilan's hand. And the way he was able to kill dozens of monsters in a fraction of a second clearly showed that he was accustomed to killing monsters as if he needed to spill blood to stay alive.

There were even some Silver Tier-1 monsters which he killed as if they were cattle, and not powerful existences that were feared by all Survivors, and even many Tier-1 Ascenders of the Blue Star camp.

Thus, Mayor Clerens picked the easiest way; he chose to accept Dilan's existence for the time being and to improve his image in the eyes of his group first. At the right time, he would reveal that Dilan was the man, who killed five Soldiers for trying to **** a woman of his group.

"She is not my woman, but a woman of my group. I don't even know her, to be honest. But my rules are absolute. I would even try to kill Gods for trying to be naughty with my people if they don't consent."

Dilan repeated himself, and Mayor Clerens understood that the young man was serious. 'Well, as long as they're willing, there won't be a problem, that's obvious though.' He just thought before clearing his throat.

"Back to the topic. I have someone to question the bloodthirsty Ascenders you knocked out, but that's not necessary. We already know everything about their group. In fact, we know that they've destroyed quite a few large groups of Ascenders.

If I remember correctly, they have destroyed five camps by now, and killed more than 50,000 humans .” Mayor Clerens fumed in anger. He was more than just a little bit enraged at the behavior of the humans, who had turned their backs on whatever made them ‘human’.

They were now a wolf in sheep skin, monsters roaming in the skin of humans, and one could consider them even worse than ordinary monsters. It was easy to fight ordinary monsters because one would notice them early enough.

The noises they created, their bloodlust, and many other indicators such as their easily perceivable strength were more than enough to face monsters or to run away from them.

However, humans were cunning and many of them were smart enough to trap their brethren. By allowing more Survivors to join their rows, it was impossible to know whether the Ascenders, who joined them, were spies, potential evil Ascenders, or troublemakers in other ways.

Too many incidents could occur by expanding their base, which was exactly what had happened to the Blue Star camp, and many other camps.

Everyone wanted to become stronger, to make their defenses against monsters sturdy, and to defend against them by all means.

They wanted to fight and take back everything that had wrongfully been snatched away from them. The Primordial Ascension was like a curse to them, and the only advantage was that it was not impossible to retaliate, to fight back as long as the entire human race worked towards achieving one goal.

But that was not the case, and many innocent Survivors died at the hands of the Blood Legion that had infiltrated various camps, acting as if they were good people before their true desires were revealed.

Their actions dyed the ground bloody-red, while death accompanied them at every step like a good, old acquaintance.

“Tell me about it then. That is if you need my help.” Dilan offered, not hiding his interest in the information he could get about the bloodthirsty Ascenders’ group.

Mayor Clerens knew that Dilan wouldn’t help them for the sake of being nice. It was not that simple. Rather, the simplest reason for Dilan to act was to protect his own people from dangers even before they would cast their evil shadow on Shiron.

This was admirable, clearly showing how important it was for Dilan to protect his people.

However, it was also a tiny bit disappointing because Dilan didn’t act like a saint, who would save everyone, just because they were humans.

But that was not something Mayor Clerens expected from Dilan, to begin with.

As such, he took the opportunity at hand and hoped that Dilan would help them for the sake of his people, not someone else’s.

“It’s like that...”

Mayor Clerens began to speak and explain things without feeling the need to hide anything. The more information Dolan would get, the fewer doubts he would have about what next steps he was going to take.

There was no risk in revealing the information either. If Dilan would help them, it was great and many things were bound to get easier.

However, even if Dolan would be scared after hearing the information Mayor Clerens had to share, the Blue Star camp could fight on their own.

It would just become a little bit more complicated.

But Mayor Clerens was not actually worried about Dilan being a scaredy-cat.

Rather, he could gauge that Dilan was of a reckless nature, that he was yearning for challenges, and that he might even die the moment he was to do something due to lack of information.

The Intel provided by Mayor Clerens prevented this, which was something Dilan noticed.

'He is really trying hard to help me, to help him to defeat the Blood Legion.' Dilan thought, while secretly acknowledging that the name Blood Legion was amazing.

'My group doesn't even have a name yet. I wonder how the others introduce our group when they meet other people.'

[Dilan's Group] sounded boring.

That was only obvious. Thus, Dilan hoped for the best, and that he had some creative minds to think of a great name that represented the entire group perfectly.

'I will have to mention this at our next gathering.' Dilan thought, smiling faintly while cutting open the head of a nearby monster.

'Yeah, he definitely isn't a scaredy-cat.'

[Undying Warlord](#)

Chapter 259 Kind Death

While Dilan got to know a lot about the Blood Legion, and their doings, the tide of monsters was quickly taken care of.

Dilan didn't even know how many monsters he had killed, but when Mayor Clerens was done speaking to him, it looked like there weren't many monsters left for him to kill.

A moment later a hail of arrows rained down on the said monsters, eliminating them in an instant.

'She is probably stronger than Ailee.' Dilan thought while looking over to Sheriff Jennie. It didn't matter much to him, so he turned his head back to Mayor Clerens.

"Thank you for sharing all the pieces of information with me. It was very helpful, I guess." He felt like saying more but Dilan chose to shut up. There was something else he had to do, something that had to do with his people, and the fact that they had never fought against other human Ascenders.

They had yet to gain experience fighting against evil Ascenders, and that was exactly what Dilan had to change.

‘If they don’t learn to fight humans when they have the opportunity, they might mess up, and hesitate. And, by the time they let go of their hesitation, it will be too late to learn.’ Dilan thought. His mindset was quite simple.

By allowing his Ascenders to fight the Blood Legion, he wanted to give them the opportunity to learn how to kill other humans, and other Ascenders, who may even be stronger than them.

Dilan knew that he would face bloody Ascenders, who were stronger than him. This was only logical because these bloodthirsty Ascenders would focus on increasing their stats by absorbing human Essence crystals.

However, that was not the biggest problem. Rather, it was the fact that many of his Ascenders had only seen him, Kathrine, and Williams killing other humans. Most of the time, those killings had been executions that were more like punishments when they had beheaded the humans, who broke their group’s rules.

It was entirely different to be the one wielding the sword and to kill a human, while fighting with them using all your strength, in comparison to looking at someone beheading someone else, who was much weaker.

Dilan knew that his Ascenders needed to become mentally strong to survive in the world Milarn had turned to. This was a basic necessity, and he could tell that it was of utmost importance because Milarn would change quickly. The world he knew right now would not stay the same after all.

The Primordial Ascension had merely initiated the awakening of the planet’s mana. However, the changes that were occurring to Milarn wouldn’t stop at that. The planet had just entered its Infant phase, and it would take a while for the mana around them to grow.

Milarn would become more interesting for more races, and with the planet becoming more hospitable, it would only be a matter of time before stronger monsters would emerge on it.

In fact, Dilan wouldn’t even be surprised if Tier-2 monsters would emerge on Milarn soon. Simultaneously, it was only a matter of time before the first Tier-2 Ascenders would appear, and Dilan’s only worry was that it would be an evil Ascender who would become the first human to advance to Tier-2.

“Now that the tide of monsters has been taken care of, can I go back to my people and bring some of them to take care of the Blood Legion?” Dilan asked in a nonchalant manner. He knew that seeking Mayor Cleren’s permission was not necessary because he could do everything he wanted to.

Nonetheless, Dilan asked, his eyes clearly showing that he enjoyed what he was doing just now.

“It’s not like I can stop you, either way. Just do what you want...I guess...” Mayor Clerens replied, bothered about the fact that Dilan was aware of the advantage he had.

They had not known each other for a long time, but Mayor Clerens could tell that Dilan was stronger than him, and the others under him.

'Even if we work together, I cannot tell for sure whether we will win or not. In fact, if we win, we might not be able to kill him, while our casualties would be terrifyingly high...' This conclusion was something Mayor Clerens reached at in the short time he fought next to Dilan.

Dilan was a battle maniac, he loved challenges, and if something was too boring, he would kill his opponents off without hesitation.

'His tense expression has eased up, and his eyes don't twinkle in excitement while collecting the monster's Essence crystals, almost as if the task is nothing but a big burden to him... However, his eyes are full of life, overflowing with Lifeforce, and his desires are clear in everyone's eyes. He is not hiding anything...' Mayor Clerens thought, feeling conflicted.

It may be easy to conclude what kind of monster Dilan was, but this was actually a problem for many people. His group was still somewhat old-fashioned, considering that the Primordial Ascension had initiated the start of a new Era.

Thus, Dilan's true desires and his way of being honest and true to himself would be quite hard to get accepted by many.

'Is Dilan even willing to get accepted as a 'normal' human being?' He wondered all of a sudden. Dilan had taken the longest to collect all Essence crystals of the monsters he killed. There were probably 400 or more monsters he killed in a matter of 10 to 15 minutes.

That was fast, to put it simply, which was also why collecting crystals from every single monster took so much longer, to the extent that Dilan got frustrated.

'I hope there are devices with which one can collect Essence crystals faster...' He could only hope before his head turned in the direction of the few Soldiers, who had taken care of his prey, the unconscious bloodthirsty Ascenders.

His expression changed and he shot in their direction before looking down at the unconscious humans, who had betrayed their own race. They had killed their own brethren for the sake of strength which was why Dilan didn't feel any pity while looking at them.

'I don't know if it's lucky or unlucky for you guys that I got to know everything I needed to know about your group.' He merely thought as his sky blue eyes looked at the unconscious Ascenders coldly.

The soldiers noticed his gaze but it was not as if they couldn't feel what Dilan already felt. In fact, their emotions were of much more hatred toward the Blood Legion, and each of their members.

They wanted to beat up the bloodthirsty Ascenders, and even torture them a little bit. At least, that was what they imagined to do to them in their mind.

Only the young female Soldier was able to maintain a calm composure as she started to speak to Dilan.

"We took care of them. None of them has been injured and they're perfectly fine. Sir, you can ta--."

However, even before the young female Soldier could finish speaking, Dilan's flat hand lashed out into the air. Blood spurted through the surrounding, and a shocked expression appeared on the young female Soldier's face as droplets of blood splattered on her.

His flat hand had reached for and pierced straight through the throat of the closest bloodthirsty Ascender. The body of the Ascender flinched once but he had still been unconscious, which was why he died without even realizing what had actually happened.

It was a peaceful death, something the bloodthirsty Ascenders didn't actually deserve.

However, Dilan couldn't care less about this, right now. The bloodthirsty Ascenders were of no use to him anymore, so he simply killed them.

It was that simple, yet the gazes he received were filled with horror and utter dumbfounded.

'If he had planned to kill them, right from the beginning...why did we even stay here and watch them for so long?!?'

[Undying Warlord](#)

Chapter 260 Short Call

[343 <Ordinary>, 148 <Bronze>, 41 <Silver>, and 7 <Human> Essences have been absorbed → +0.7 Strength, +1.1 Health, +0.7 Stamina, +0.5 Agility, +0.9 Mana]

'Oh? Something changed about the notification...<Human> Essence is now a special type of Essence of its own.' Dilan realized when he finished absorbing all Essence crystals.

He received only one notification, which was exactly what he wanted. It would be annoying to get hundreds of notifications, after all.

However, he was still astonished about the new type of Essence. It was not that it was a different type of quality, but more of the fact that the Human Essence was special.

But that was something Dilan was well aware of. The system seemed to have noticed this as well, and it adapted to the changes which was the thing that astonished Dilan.

He was eyed weirdly, with disgust, anger, and frustration, but also curiosity. Yet, Dilan didn't actually care about that.

His disgust toward the bloodthirsty Ascenders disappeared the moment they were killed. It had been a weird situation.

Earlier, Dilan's body had cramped the moment he got close to the bloodthirsty Ascenders. He wanted to kill them from the beginning to make the disgust he felt disappear. And now that they were dead, and their Essences devoured by Dilan, he felt much better.

'I feel disgusted about Ascenders, who devoured other humans' Essences, but I don't feel like anything is off when I do it on my own. That's weird.' Dilan was not sure what was wrong with his body.

However, there was certainly something going on with him, and he didn't understand it, at all.

'Either way, back to the more important topic.' Dilan reminded himself. He straightened his back and took a look around himself.

"Looks like I'm more popular than expected." He said the moment he noticed that close to a hundred pairs of eyes were staring at him.

However, he was not 'popular' by any means. Nobody knew him and he had just mercilessly killed fellow human beings, who were not even able to defend themselves.

They might have been the bloodthirsty Ascenders, who killed other human beings to become stronger but the Blue Star camp was known for following the rules of the old world governing mankind before the Primordial Ascension had happened.

Murderers would be imprisoned and tried at the 'court' by the 'judges'. There was no courtroom in the military base after the Primordial Ascension and neither a judge. However, that was not the important point.

After all, revenge murder was also just that- murder! Thus, the Soldiers would usually sneak up to the perpetrator, catch him and imprison him before charging him with his crime.

But not a single Soldier moved, including the few Soldiers, who stood close to Dilan. They were too afraid to die and think about doing something that might endanger their life. They were not suicidal, after all.

"Weird, did I do something wrong?" Dilan mumbled while holding his head with his blood-smeared hand, entering a stance that made it seem like he was thinking very hard.

However, the blood all over his body, and his face turned this 'thinking-stance' into something that looked far more frightening and terrifying than Dilan intended to make it look like.

'Is he doing this intentionally?' Mayo Clerens wondered while looking at Dilan from further away. His body had now returned to its original size, and the muscles all over his body returned to their usual state as well.

He looked like any other well-trained young man, who had trained and tempered his body for more than 10 years, consistently and without a break.

'Looks like this dude is really screaming <I am a troublemaker>...' He could only think and shook his head before turning his attention to the actions of Sheriff Jennie and Hunter Jared.

'Why are they not doing anything?' Mayor Clerens noticed, which led him to approach them.

"Don't you guys want to catch him for killing fellow humans?" He asked in a voice loud enough for everyone around him to hear his question clearly.

The Ascender's ears pricked up, but they didn't dare to turn around in fear that Dilan would do something to them.

The killing intent he released subconsciously was suffocating and his presence weighed them down, preventing them from doing anything.

"Catch who?" Sheriff Jennie deadpanned while looking at Mayor Clerens. She didn't intend to say anything else. However, Hunter Jared, joined Sheriff Jennie's commentary as he asked,

"Killing fellow humans? I just saw someone end the life of a few more monsters. I don't know what you mean, Clerens." He was also dead serious with his answer.

Usually, Hunter Jared wouldn't agree to anything Sheriff Jennie did. He just could not stand her, not even a tiny bit. There were reasons for him to loath Sheriff Jennie, but to Mayor Clerens' astonishment, they were on one side right now.

"Alright, I understand." Mayor Clerens merely said before turning in Dilan's direction and waving his hand.

"You talked with him earlier, quite a lot at that. I guess he wants the Blood Legion for himself, am I right?" Sheriff Jennie asked Mayor Clerens in a straightforward manner.

She didn't try to hide anything from the people around her. Her voice was loud enough for everyone to hear.

There were a few Ascenders, who didn't seem to like the fact that all three leaders ignored the crime Dilan had committed, but it was not as if they would start complaining all of a sudden. They held their lives dearly, after all.

'Are our leaders also afraid of dying at his hands? Is that why they are hesitating to say something about this mysterious man's murder?' A few Ascenders wondered.

However, others were of a completely different opinion. They could think of a few steps ahead into the future and understood that the Blue Star camp could gain a lot from Dilan.

After all, it looked like he wouldn't hesitate to kill others, even the bloodthirsty Ascenders if the need arises.

By killing the few bloodthirsty Ascenders he had caught beforehand, he had already offended the Blood Legion. Dilan destroyed their entire plan of using the time of monsters to destroy the Blue Star camp.

He had become the number one opponent of the Blood Legion because of everything he had done in the last half an hour.

Yet, Dilan looked completely unruffled as if nothing could shake him, not even if the ground below him would split open all of a sudden, and reveal the pits of hell below.

'Are they planning to use him to tackle the Blood Legion? Our Leaders are so scheming hehehehe!!'

Yet, while some Ascenders believed their leaders to be geniuses and tricksters, the killing intent around Dilan intensified.

He knew that the Blood Legion was not something he could defeat easily. However, that was not necessary, to begin with.

After all, he was not alone, and he knew that his people were eager to fight as well.

"Well, they might have planned to fight and annihilate the Blue Star camp the moment they dared to attack us, but the Blood Legion is an even better opponent, I guess." Dilan thought for a moment, not realizing that he was speaking out loud.

Sheriff Jennie and Hunter Jared, both of whom had heard him, couldn't help but frown deeply. They began to wonder who Dilan was, and what the hell he was talking about.

'We didn't offend him in any way, right?' They thought worriedly, only for Mayor Clerens to sigh deeply.

'He is really not someone who knows how to act low profile...' He thought.

And as if Dilan wanted to make sure that everyone knew he was not someone who knew how to keep a low profile, he took a weird device out of his storage ring.

"I need to make a quick call. Please wait a moment."

Call someone? Who, and with what? Everyone was confused, but Dilan didn't even think of answering. Instead, he inserted mana in the device he was holding before holding it close to his ear.

A few seconds of silence passed before the three leaders, whom Dilan had approached earlier, could hear a voice from that device.

"Dilan? Is everything fine with you? Did something happen? Don't tell me you got into trouble...We won't have to move, right?" The voice of a young female could be heard, and everyone understood that Dilan was actually making a phone call to someone else.

'But...phones don't work anymore...'

"Hey, yeah everything is fine. I'm just too lazy to run back and forth. Send over Yvonne, Kathrine, and everyone else, who is willing to fight a few evil Ascenders."