**Chapter 200: 16th Floor (7)**

With a sharp startup sound, a massive axe containing radiant light was swung violently.

-Pak!

"Kieeeeek!!"

As the light axe struck down on that grotesque hand protruding from the boss room doorway, the relic warehouse shook with a terrible scream.

As I tried to maintain balance on the ground that shook as if an earthquake had struck, three additional hands similar to the one I had just struck down extended out.

These hands were both similar and different from each other. They only shared the commonality of being hands, but their appearances were completely different.

One hand was full of calluses like a trained human's, while another was sharp like a wyvern's leg. There was also a hand with skin as hard as a golem's.

Though an eerie and spine-chilling sensation rose up, there was no time to pay attention to it.

Unlike the first hand that had targeted the red-haired full plate armor woman, the three hands that emerged afterward stretched out targeting me.

-Pueok!

I kicked the full plate armor woman away from the door, and swung the axe again as calmly as possible.

-Seogek!

Lifting the massive axe upward, I cut off one hand that had extended right up to my nose. Though it was a human hand, the blood was black.

-Kaang!

With the artifact hand axe in my opposite hand, I shattered and deflected the hand made of wyvern scales.

Just as I was about to deal with the third and final hand.

-Kudeudeuk!!

The remaining golem hand grabbed my wrist.

I ended up dropping the artifact hand axe due to the unexpected grip strength.

-Huuung!

With the sound of wind, my field of vision changed instantly.

The massive stone slab door of the boss room that had been quite far away just moments ago was now right in front of my nose.

The golem's hand had pulled my arm with tremendous grip strength.

A grip strength strong enough to lift and pull a body full of muscles into the air.

-Kuung!

"Keuph...!"

Though an impact like ramming full force into the boss room door struck my left arm and leg, there was no time to writhe in pain.

As I engaged in a test of strength, planting my feet against the door to avoid being dragged into the boss room, I could roughly gauge the opponent's capabilities.

'Strength is equal. Agility is just slightly lacking.'

Unfortunately, on my part.

It had been a while since I'd encountered someone who could match me in pure physical ability.

-Tteud- Tteudeuk-

The muscles around my shoulder screamed due to the monster's hand that kept pulling my arm like in a tug of war.

-Ttudeudeuk!

"Kieeeeek!"

But it seemed the one inside the boss room wasn't much different.

As much as it was pulling me, I was also pouring all my grip strength into trying to tear off the monster's arm.

The creature's scream that spread through the relic warehouse once again caused an earthquake.

It was an opportunity. I immediately raised holy light in my hand.

-Kiiiiiing!

As the dazzling divine power that began to spread in all directions with a sharp startup sound settled in my hand.

"Kieeeeeeeek!!"

The monster inside the boss room howled much louder than before. The demonic energy attached around its hand began to writhe and suffer.

-Ttudududududuk!

Simultaneously, the sound of something being completely torn off was heard. I felt it. Like pulling in a great catch at the seaside.

I immediately swung my arm upward.

-Chwaaaaaaak!

With the sound of something pouring down, my body that had been planted against the boss room door fell backward due to the rebound.

As I fell, I saw the great catch I had pulled up along with spraying streams of blood in the air.

It was a massive arm clumped with demonic energy.

While it was one arm in the broad sense, it was also four arms at the same time.

Arms of monsters and humans that had branched out, no, had become attached like branches around a central arm as large as a wyvern's wing.

At that moment, I could understand why the red-haired woman in full plate armor had continued to retch while recalling what had happened in the boss room.

It wasn't guilt or the pain of losing her party. It was purely that her stomach couldn't handle it.

'Anyone would be like that seeing something like this.'

This wasn't something humans could bear to see. It was unspeakably disgusting and horrific.

Perhaps because I had witnessed such a horrific monstrosity, I let my guard down for a moment.

Immediately, I felt a grip strength grabbing my right ankle.

Looking down, an arm identical to the one I had just torn off was grabbing my ankle.

Right. Since I tore off one arm. There would be another pai-

-Kuuuung!

The thought didn't complete.

The arm that immediately pulled me into the boss room threw me against the boss room wall.

-Kwang!

"Keheuk...!"

As my back hit the wall, I let out an empty breath.

It felt like all the air in my body was being expelled.

Perhaps because the impact transferred to my head as well, everything looked red.

Through my reddened and blurred vision, I could see the scene of the boss room.

The boss room was smaller than the central area of the relic warehouse where I had just been.

It felt like an empty warehouse.

There were no objects or structures to hide behind, and only the being proudly revealing itself there caught my eye.

My eyes instinctively narrowed.

If I had to summarize my impression upon facing that being in one word, it would be disgusting.

A grotesque life form large enough to have a good match with a wyvern.

A body that writhed like black slime, constantly changing its form moment by moment.

Traces of monsters and humans scattered above it.

They were wyvern scales, bone fragments of what seemed to be a jaguar, and pieces of someone's unknown skin.

An appearance like a chimera made by combining all sorts of monsters and humans.

"Sa, greu, ju, se..."

A broken voice was heard from what appeared to be human lips around the chimera's mouth.

Those lips seemed oddly familiar.

The magician who had been a member of the red-haired full plate armor woman's party seemed to have had such lips.

From those lips attached to the chimera came words like radio static that the magician might have shouted before dying.

Perhaps the voice I had heard above the relic warehouse was this voice.

"Kieeeeek!"

A harsh cry of a completely different voice was spewed from the monster's mouth next to those lips.

-Buluk. Buluk.

The left arm I had torn off earlier began to slowly recover, creating black bubbles. Though the speed was slow, did it even have regenerative abilities? Crazy bastard.

Before I could even let out a hollow laugh at the absurdity, I saw the right arm that had thrown me here coming at me again.

It was not one tightly clenched fist filled with killing intent, but simultaneously four.

The other arms attached throughout - the wyvern's claws and golem's fists - also flew at me with tightly clenched fists.

Sticky demonic energy rippled at the end of the fists.

The demonic energy, which had become even fiercer after being illuminated by the holy blessing, seemed determined to put all its effort into annihilating the target before it.

'Can't dodge it.'

I could instinctively be certain. No matter what I did now, I couldn't dodge this attack.

Did I have to dodge it?

No. I shook my head at the thought that suddenly occurred to me.

I had already gotten the hint. I could endure without dodging.

The only question was whether I could do it.

Whether I could replicate that technique Idelbert had demonstrated.

'I have to.'

I must. If I fail, I'll be crushed by those fists and turned into a rag.

With trembling hands, I reached into my pocket and took out the small grain that was sitting there.

A blue grain shaped like a pea.

It was the one-time potion that was supposed to amplify the mana within the body, which I had received after saving Fusilini and Aldente.

-Crunch!

As I chewed and swallowed it, my eyes immediately widened.

But it didn't stop there.

[Blessing of the Time of Judgment]

- Once a day, take the time of judgment.

- Activates unconsciously when unrecognized mortal danger approaches.

- Wisdom +3, +10 when conditions are maximally satisfied

Condition: Enter the time of judgment.

As I activated the blessing of the time of judgment, time immediately began to flow slowly.

The third sentence attached to that blessing: when conditions are maximally satisfied, Wisdom +10.

Until now, I hadn't felt any special effect, but at this moment, I instinctively knew that my mana control ability had reached its peak in my life.

[Wisdom: (6+28-5)]

Wisdom stat total 29.

An incredible number that differed by only 1 from my highest stat, Stamina 30.

Though it was a number that had temporarily spiked thanks to the potion, its effect was certain.

An unfamiliar and alien sensation different from usual tickled my entire body.

The world looked different.

Instead of normal vision, a world full of blue particles greeted me.

I saw a world full of mana. Is this how magicians view the world?

I could also feel the flow of mana within my body.

Mana spreading from my heart circulated throughout my entire body.

After completing one rotation and being filtered, I looked at the mana gathered at my fingertips.

Blue mana, transparent like ice, filled with cold energy.

That mana, cleaner and purer than any I had cultivated while training with Idelbert, enveloped my entire body.

And at that moment, the world regained its original speed.

-Jjeoeoeoeoeok!!!

Finally, the chimera's fist made contact.

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Idelbert watched her disciple with bated breath.

At this moment her disciple had stepped into a new realm.