

The Legendary Moonlight Sculptor

(달빛 조각사)

Volume 19

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Story Description:

The man forsaken by the world, the man a slave to money and the man known as the legendary God of War in the highly popular MMORPG Continent of Magic. With the coming of age, he decides to say goodbye, but the feeble attempt to earn a little something for his time and effort ripples into an effect none could ever have imagined.

Through a series of coincidences, his legendary avatar is sold for 3.1 billion won, bringing great joy to him, only to plunge him into despair at losing almost all of it to vicious loan sharks. With revelation of money through gaming, he rises from the abyss with new found resolve and steps forward into the new age of games led by the first ever Virtual Reality MMORPG, Royal Road.

This is the legend of Lee Hyun on his path to becoming Emperor with only his family loving heart, his boundless desire for money, his unexpected mind, his diligently forged body and the talent of hard work backing him.

Original Story can be found here: [Link](#)

Chapter 1: Captain of the Ghost Ship

Using sculpture transformation Weed was in the appearance of the Lich Pirate Deorol. There were limits to the Lich's magic, health and mana absorption ability, but he was still a high-ranking undead. When Weed spoke, the ghost sailors trembled.

“Please, relieve your anger.”

“I implore you to not throw me into the sea, with a rock tied to my ankle.”

“The waters here are shark infested. Captain, don't use me as shark bait, I'll do anything you command me to do.”

“I only have 2 teeth left... Surely, you won't pull them too? Are you going to make me toothless like the First Mate?”

With the crew in despair, Weed couldn't miss this opportunity. With his shoulders raised proudly he asked.

“Who am I to you?”

“You are the owner of this ship, ruler of the 7 seas, and our Master!”

The ghost sailors, who were symbols of terror, rubbed their hands together and sang his praises. They went to their knees, and bowed down to Weed.

Appearing weak against the strong and strong against the weak was typical of Weed.

“Huhuhu!”

“Kellkellkell!” While Weed's sailors were playing around, Pale's party were surveying on the deck.

“We aren't going any further from the reef, is the ship even moving?”

“It's really slow.”

The Ghost Ship was originally a slow ship.

Weed touched up the ship with his blacksmith skill, but the Ghost Ship

was an old rust bucket. The maximum number of passengers, that was allowed on this medium sized ship, was only 70 people!

Pale's party, plus the Geomchis were on the ship; due to their weight, the ship sunk even lower below the water and could not move. Geomchis were people that could make a 12 people limit elevator, maxed out with only 8 people.

"The waves are really strong; and the wind is blowing in the opposite direction of where we want to go!"

Strong winds, heavy waves, reefs scratching the ship, and seaweed were getting tangled on the rudder. The Ghost Ship that carries misfortune!

****Kuhiiing****

With a frightful noise, where the ghosts of the dead congregate, it was surely a ship of dread. During sailing, all kinds of bad things were happening.

The Ghost Ship was going around in circles and Weed and the ghost sailors were chatting around and, "I am Deorol!" could be heard.

"Fiercest Pirate Deorol! He plunders from the rich then, then without mercy takes everything from the poor, women, and even children!"

"Kuheheheh!" Weed laughed proudly.

Where his left eye should be, there was an eye patch; and he had a red bandana tied around his head. Where his ears should be there was a hole, and around it hung a pair of earrings.

****Palang Palang****

The earrings that were made of a silver coin, and made noise every time the wind blew.

"This is what real pirates should be wearing."

Pirates and a Lich's romanticism! Pale and his party tried to keep their distance from Weed. The outfit even repelled Surka, the youngest of the group.

Twelve days of boring sailing passed.

Due to the speed of the Ghost Ship, the trip was 3-4 times longer than normal; but they finally reached the Neria Sea.

Neria Sea is the Versailles Continent's largest inland sea. From here all kinds of ships such as fishing, explorers and merchant ships go back and forth each day.

The ship was running out of provisions; Weed and Zephyr used their fishing skills to make up for the lack of food. Fishing skill intermediate level 4! It was lower than Weed's other skills, since he could only raise them near a river, lake or sea. In the Neria Sea, morning, noon, and evening was fishing time.

"I got a big catch!", Beside him, Zephyr raised his fishing rod. "Oh ho, it's a clam this time. Wow, it even has a pearl inside." He had caught a pearl oyster.

Weed glimpsed this occurrence, but a not one word left his mouth. Zephyr, with his fishing skills, could fish up a great white shark, small whales and antiques from the sea. Weed could get, cutlass, mackerel, or if he was lucky a red sea bream fish. This hurt Weed's delicate pride. Weed threw his line deep into the sea. Moments later, due to a fish nibbling on the bait the line moved.

'Looks like I'll get a large fish this time'

In the sea, fish with high vitality and strength could be caught. If those fish are eaten, life recovery goes up. Furthermore if it was cooked and eaten, it raises maximum HP by 1. Of course even if the same meal was eaten, the effect is the same; but you could get stronger even while resting, so many users enjoyed food and rest together.

Weed pulled on the fishing rod with all his strength. "Big catch!" The fish with its mouth opened wide caught on the hook. It couldn't really be called a fish, since it was a sea monster with nine legs and an ugly face.

"Kwaaarg!" The monster tried to threaten Weed with its roar. However Weed's appearance was that of a Lich, his eyes were burning bright, and

even his earrings stopped the monster from struggling.

In terms of cruelty, no one could top Weed. “It looks pretty tasty!” Weed cut up the sea monster into pieces, and used it for an ingredient for the seafood soup. It wasn’t a bad catch, especially since he hadn’t prepared bait for fishing in the sea. During that time Zephyr pulled in a large tuna, one that he could barely carry.

‘Now I know what they mean by, “When a cousin buys land, your stomach hurts” (t/n: Korean saying for envy). Weed acted as if he didn’t notice the tuna caught by Zephyr.

“Your fishing skill is unmatched as always.”

“This isn’t much, Brother.”

“It seems you caught many valuables...”

Pottery, old bottles, even fish holding treasure in their bellies, were all caught by Zephyr. If you compare his fishing to hunting, he was making just as much. Zephyr had an advanced skill in fishing, and he used it to the best of his abilities.

The baits that could only be used for fishing in the sea struggled vigorously on the hook. When a fish came close the bait (worm, shrimp, and baby tuna) did their best to dance and tempt the fish. As a big fish, the temptation was too much, it couldn’t resist biting on the hook.

With his advanced level in fishing, Zephyr even had the bait tracking skill. By looking at the surface of the water he could see the hook deep underneath the sea, in a magnified view. He could even manipulate the hook to move, using mana. Using this skill he could survey the sea and find the fish to target.

There are rumors of one player who only fished in Royal Road, and his best find was a shipwreck filled with treasure. A fisher wasn’t a job to be ignored.

Zephyr had a great deal of good food, from fishing; so he used his high strength and health/vitality to participate in battles. When a large mob of monsters grouped together, nimbly sending bait that matched the

monster; and then coaxing them to separate from the group, was a fisherman's specialty.

"Once you get into it, fishing is something that has a lot of depth", said a Zephyr, who hated long explanations.

"It's mostly all luck. My luck stat is over 700, so that's why fishing is so easy for me." Weed had his Art stat as a sculptor, Zephyr as a fisherman had Luck. Leisurely fishing in the river while increasing stamina and vitality; Zephyr who had an incredible amount of luck! Even when hunting, monsters frequently missed, and they also dropped a lot of loot and equipment.

Zephyr was someone who looked like a lazy person but in reality tries really hard to be the best. He was a kind of cheeky character who you can't hate! He cast his line and asked Weed.

"Umm... Hyung-nim, about Yurin..."

"Hmm?"

"I'm just asking, but if Yurin got herself a boyfriend, what kind of guy would suit her? I want to know what you think as her brother."

Zephyr asked Weed for his opinion as if he wasn't really curious.

"Yurin's boyfriend..." Weed thought for a moment then answered.

"He has to be a kind guy, someone who really cherishes my sister."

"That's right isn't it."

Weed gained his knowledge about taking care of a girl, by taking care of his sister. Yurin was still young, but it was an important period in her life, where she could move forward in the world. She could meet a man, or set goals for her life. If she wanted to study abroad, then she should go. Living for a dream, or love; experiencing success, failure, regretting or reminiscing about the past, is what life was about.

"Even if they fight as a couple, a man who uses violence is no good."

"Hahaha, of course of course."

“When they’re dating he can’t even let one drop of water touch her hand.”

“.....”

“If I ever find a mark left from water; that is the day I’ll kill him”

“.....”

It was the heart of the brother who didn’t want his sister to suffer even a bit.

On the sea, Hwaryeong’s friend Bellotte, and other girls, became remarkably close and were chatting together. They bathed in the sunlight and lounged around the deck to share stories.

“I’m sure it must have been frightening, when Weed boarded the Ghost Ship alone.”

Surka imagined the scene in her head. The storm would have been raging, sky covered in darkness, and raining relentlessly. The Ghost Ship would have been covered in seaweed and broken in many places.

“He boarded the ship filled with undead sailors alone! It’s really scary you know.”

Most of the women sympathized with what Surka was saying. It would be like a scene from a horror movie, but probably worse. In the Royal Road forums, there were posts of users saying they saw the Ghost Ship pass by. Other posts talk about the Ghost Ship that passes silently by, undead sailors with no legs or arms, who will bring a scream to your throat if your eyes meet.

To board a Ghost Ship at night, and alone would have taken an amazing amount of courage.

Hwaryeong stuck her tongue out as she said, “Basically, instead of the victim in a horror movie, Weed is” Irian finished the statement.

“More like a horror movie’s monster.”

Weed was frightening in the fact that he had the ability to exploit the Ghost Ship and its crew. At that moment they could hear Weed’s skill

‘Lion’s Roar’.

“It’s time to work!” While on the sea you would think there would be nothing to do but rest, but that would be a huge mistake.

There would only be a moment of free time, as the sun rises from the East. Everyone spread out on the deck to let the undead sailors do their work.

The sailors let down nets from the side of the ship. “You could say the sea is nature’s repository; there is no need to buy food.” For meals, fish needed to be caught. When Weed’s order went out, the undead sailors frantically moved to do their jobs.

When Weed was in command of orcs, dark elf or undead he was a strong and a commander overflowing with charisma. Even dreadful monsters (and Weed) had something they truly feared.

Something that Weed could never forget in his life was the landlord, L-A-N-D-L-O-R-D.

‘Kuhuk!’

When he lived on a monthly rent, his mouth ran dry from anxiousness.

These were the times when he watched out to see if the landlord was in or not. Even if the walls were covered in mold, the boiler was broken, or the lights were out; not one word of protest would be made. The landlord didn’t talk very much.

“Are you going to vacate the house?” For some reason after buying his home, he dreamt up a nightmare that couldn’t come true. In the dream, after buying the house, the old landlord came.

“Since you moved into a better house, pay 20000 won more every month!” Even in the dream Weed instinctively pleaded.

“Just a few more days... There is money coming in, but I haven’t received it yet. I’ll properly pay on time next month.” The one being that could make Weed meek without a doubt was a landlord.

Weed surveyed the indigo sea on the deck.

The islands that could be seen with the eye increased, and merchant ships and other sailing vessels could be seen passing by.

“Anyway, We’ve arrived in Neria!” Even with the Geomchis’ weight, the slow/rickety Ghost Ship, undead sailors who are weak on the sea, and other negative influences; they arrived near their destination, albeit barely.

When a dolphin, which is a symbol of luck, appears even the Ghost Ship became a lot faster. The Ghost Ship was a ship, that even the dolphins out speeded in a moment. The Ghost Ship is called the calamity of the sea, but when ridden it was nothing more than a ridiculously slow ass boat.

“At this rate, if we want to go out into the far reaches of the sea, it will probably take two-No, three months!” After arriving in Neria Sea they realized the seriousness of the problem. Even a ship with one sail could move at a faster speed than the Ghost Ship.

Since the undead sailors don’t eat they’re fine, but to feed all the Geomchis fishing is necessary. If fish can’t be caught for a few days, it would become a situation where everyone would starve. There were times where they landed and explored islands in search of food and water.

Another problem was Weed being new to navigating the seas as a captain. With the blacksmith skill the ship could be repaired and sculptures could be made, but there were no navigational skills. Since Weed couldn’t get a grasp on the direction he should be heading; things such as the Ghost Ship heading in wrong direction, or getting caught in the ocean current, happened in frequent succession.

“Well, since it looks like we’ll arrive at the Island of Ipia in 2-3 hours, I guess I should prepare. Call Death Knight Van Hawk!”

“You called me, master?”

“I have something for you to do. Follow me.” Weed went down into the ship’s storage and got busy with his hands. “Drink, Drink!” The fish that were caught with the fishing skill were coolly stored. Weed was forcefully feeding the fish water.

Gurururuk

Death Knight Van Hawk was now nimble with his hands, and could feed the fish water. The reason was that a fish that was heavier and plump sold better.

The Island of Ipia was a known attraction for vacationing; the beach was crowded with users who enjoyed the waves and the sun.

“Sometimes, you need this kind of rest.”

“This is paradise.” People enjoyed the rest as if they were in heaven.

The Island of Ipia was one of the 8 islands on the Versailles continent known for its beauty, so it was full of tourists all year around. The island's beachside lodges, that looked like they came straight out of a painting (and appealing food) were some of its main points that kept bringing tourists. The shining sun and the cool sea! Take a dip in the sea, bask in the sunlight, have a sand bath, and finally have a bar-be-que party, with beer at night. These activities makes for an enjoyable day, which is why people who are tired from repetitive dungeon grinding visit the Island of Ipia.

Suddenly, large sailing vessels appeared near Island of Ipia! The vessels looked so decrepit and unseaworthy, that it was hard to believe that the fleet of 7 vessels still floated! Most sea vessels have figureheads to avoid storms and disasters at sea; such as a statue of Freya, dolphins, and spirits of the sea. The vessels that just appeared had a statue of a one-eyed, one armed, and one legged pirate.

The fleet of Ghost Ships led by Weed had arrived at the Island of Ipia. The island was located near the edge of the Neria Sea, where it met the wide ocean, so there were many adventurers and merchants. It took a long time for the ships to arrive at the island, after it appeared on the horizon.

****Kuhiiing, Kwazizizick****

The reason was due to the contact with the seaweed and the reef, which slowed the ships down. The Ghost Ship lowered its sails and dropped its anchor then Weed's party rode on a rowboat to shore.

“Selling all kinds of fish. Mackerel pike, cutlass, salmon, and tuna! You

name it, I have it! It's a chance you don't want to miss! They're very fresh, so have a taste! I am also selling shrimp and clam, very cheap!"

It was a business chance that Weed couldn't miss. He caught a lot of fish from the 12 days on the sea, while raising his fishing skill.

"Oppa, is that person a Lich?"

"I think he is... Wow a real Lich.... Even a Lich sells stuff now."

Weed was someone who makes profits, even from using his appearance. There were a lot of good looking people who came to the island, but there weren't any people who brought attention with curiosity. Weed stuck out his skull head with pride.

'I knew this day would come, where I would bring attention with my face. It was because of other people that my appearance didn't stand out.'

Zephyr, who looks attractive, even from a male perspective; and Pale, who had a decent fashion sense. Ever since Weed associated with the Geomchis, he thought he was alienated by women.

In reality, if the girls who hunted with him, were excluded, like Surka, Irene, ones introduced by Mapan/Hwaryeong, and those whose relationship are ambiguous like Seoyoon; he wasn't all that popular with girls.

'Indeed, a man should present himself as he wants. All he needs is confidence.' Weed laughed as he sold fish, the female users' hands went to their weapons.

The people with the priest class saw the undead Lich Weed and thought 'Experience!'

'Will he really drop items?' For those of the priest class, hunting the undead gives a lot more experience, fame and faith; so even the female priestesses flocked around Weed.

Everyone was itching to take out their weapons, but it looked like a human user, and not a monster so they were all hesitating. The reason was that if their name became red, they would be killed without a doubt.

“We only have 2 sardines left.” The fresh, tasty and nutritious sardines were caught from a sea to the Northwest. You can fry it, boil it, bake it, add it to a soup, or eat it raw since it’s that fresh. Special price of only 23 silver each, if you buy both, it’s can be yours for only 44 silver!”

If you buy it, you’ll feel like it was such a bargain, and if you don’t buy it, it feels like you’ll regret it. This was the feeling that Weed brought with his business ability. After selling all the fish, Weed took his steps in stride in the streets.

‘It’s probably the first time a Lich ever came into a town.’ Weed had confidence in his pride of being the first, but the island’s guards gave him looks as if he were a criminal.

People were shocked to see an undead. As those who use forbidden magic, necromancers are shunned in all kingdoms in the continent. A Lich is considered a higher rank of a necromancer, and as such Weed was treated the same. Users whispered among themselves and were amazed.

“He must be a really high leveled magician.”

“Is that a Necromancer’s second job or even a third job?” Weed walked by, keeping silent to maintain his stature as a Lich. The only thing left by Weed, as he passed by, was the stench of rotting flesh and fish.

Pale and the others had visited many vacation spots before. The reason was that they weren’t obsessed with hunting and raising skill levels like Weed was.

“I think this place was one of the best places I’ve visited. I’ve heard that spending the summer in the Island of Ipia was great, and they were right.” Surka said enviously.

How enjoyable would it be to spend a week on the Island of Ipia. The sea was full of coral and the island had a small mountain, that was full of palm like trees; the sight couldn’t be any wonderful.

“So cool.”

Even Romuna was impressed by the view of the Island of Ipia. You could experience many enjoyable things in the game, which you couldn’t see (or

do) in real life; it caused many people to become addicted to Royal Road.

You could have endless peace and quiet, but it could also be dangerous. This is because you can have an adventure, go hunting, become intimate with other people, and be caught in the web of Royal Road's appeal.

Looking at Morata, the amount of users increased, and they were becoming happier. Every time Morata was mentioned Hwaryeong smiles brightly and says,

"I think Weed always respects his people and the beginners; unlike the other lords." The ones who knew Weed's true self such as Mapan and Pale could only stay silent.

'Why is it that we met the same Weed... Yet Hwaryeong's view is so different from ours?'

"That's what I call being 'completely blinded' Once they see his 'good side' it will be hard to convince otherwise."

Bellotte made a suggestion. "How about we have a walk on the beach?"

"Agreed."

"Let's go!" Ipia Island's beach was one of the most popular spots. Coming to Ipia Island and not taking a walking on the beach was unthinkable. There were many users in swimwear, and others had simple leather clothing. People were getting a tan, sand bathing, have a relaxing rest, or even jumping into the sea to enjoy the waters. In such a picturesque sight, a crowd could be seen gathering.

The Geomchis whose muscles were like bodybuilders came and were swimming or lying on the sand. It broke the pride of every male on the beach who were showing off their body.

Weed entered the Maritime/Navigation Guild.

The guild was used by players who owned a ship, merchants, fishermen and those whose livelihood was in the sea. Like other guilds it had an instructor and a training hall to teach essential skills. The guild taught skills such as how to drop an anchor, what to do in a storm, how to control

the sail and other necessary skills.

When Weed came plodding along the instructor wasn't surprised.

"You came here to learn Sailing skills?"

"Yes."

"What do you want to learn?"

"I want to learn everything that helps in quickening a voyage"

"You're pretty greedy. You have the qualifications?"

"Of course." The Sailing skill was mostly learned by working the body hard.

"Then follow me!" The Maritime guild was larger than other guilds.

Weed followed the instructor's teachings on how to row, control the sail, and other skills. To travel fast on the sea, wind had to be used effectively. Therefore, the skill for controlling the sail was essential. All the ghost sailors, and the first mate Nick, didn't know how to control the sails.

The Ghost Ship was a ship that travels slowly towards its target. Since the ship follows disaster, Weed had to learn the skill for using the sail effectively.

"A ship reacts differently depending on the direction of the ocean current. If you want to sail to the far reaches of the sea, you have to use the currents and know when to quickly turn the helm. To avoid sand bars and marine animals it's a necessary skill."

Weed followed his instructions and learned to turn the helm on a small ship. Every time Weed turned the helm the ship slowly turned in the direction Weed wanted it to go.

"You know how to swim? If you fall in the sea and you can't swim you, die there and then." The instructor pushed Weed into the water and he practiced swimming. Weed was a natural dog paddler expert. On the stage called a reservoir, Weed polished his art of dog paddling even in storms.

“It’s a weird form, but quick and effective. Even if you trip and fall into the sea you won’t die from it. With this much I’ll say you are qualified to learn the Navigation skill”

****Trring!****

-You have learned the Sailing skill-

Sailing: travel affiliated skill
General skill to use a ship on the sea or river.
As the skill level goes up the skill in handling ships increases and the ship gets bonus movement speed
Chances of meeting storms or hail decrease.
Long voyages, extraordinary discovery or sailing in ill wind increases the leveling speed of this skill
At intermediate skill level, the sailor’s discontent can be quelled and keep loyalty from dropping so it is useful for long voyages.
Current skill level: Beginner 1
The ship gets a 3% increase in speed.
Decrease of 1.5% chance of meeting storms.

-You have gained 4 Stamina from acquiring this skill!

-You have gained 6 Leadership from acquiring this skill!

-You have gained 3 Agility from acquiring this skill!

-You have gained 9 Luck from acquiring this skill!

Sailing skill was a skill so useful, that it was almost essential for users who started on islands or seaside towns. Even if they didn’t travel the seas often, you could raise several stats with this skill.

“Do you want to also learn the Chart reading skill?”

“It’s necessary to travel the seas, I want to learn it.” Weed learned how to read nautical charts. It was a skill to find a ship’s position from a compass and the ship’s speed by calculating. During a voyage, if a special discovery is found, or affection with marine life forms, an increase in the skill informs the position of their location. Of course the skill level had to be better than beginner for it to be possible. By learning the skill Weed gained 3 stats in Wisdom and Intelligence.

“If you want to learn shipbuilding I will teach you, with your handicraft skill you could learn it anytime you want.”

“I’ll learn it”

By acquiring a skill few stat points and gained. More the merrier was the saying when it came to skills. The shipbuilding skill could be levelled by constructing small boats using wood, since Weed had advanced handicraft and sculpting, it was piece of cake. For ships sailing on the sea the most central thing is functionality. Following that, Weed listened to the instructor recount his experiences of shipbuilding. After acquiring the shipbuilding skill Weed gained 5 Stamina, Strength and Endurance. Even though Weed was pretty much a jack of all trades he didn't have the confidence to raise the shipbuilding skill to the intermediate or advanced level.

'It takes too long to make a ship.' There was also the limitation of only being able to sell and make one near the sea. 'In that regard a sculptor is much better'

Weed found a positive side to sculpting.

Hunting, hunting and more hunting!

Seoyoon killed all the monsters that attacked her and picked up the items. As expected of a berserker the more monsters there are the stronger they get. Seoyoon was the type of person to dive straight into a dungeon no matter how dangerous it was. Seoyoon cleared the Valley of Echoes, Spirit Ridge, and Cactus Gorge all by herself. In the North she was the first person to discover the hunting areas, so she received more fame, experience and items.

In the area full of high level monsters, Seoyoon hunted in the dungeons and completed quests.

-My fawn has run away from home. If you have the time can you find her?

It was the request of a deer Seoyoon met near a stream.

Seoyoon never spoke in Royal Road except for the time she sent a friend request to Weed. From not speaking, she gained a certain skill.

Soul Conversation: Can converse with animals, monsters, spirits and legendary beings. Skill not only affected by skill level but also affected greatly by closeness, Charisma, and Charm.

Seoyoon received quests from monster and animals. Quests for her occurred not in towns, but in far places such as a mountain spring.

Just because of the request by that deer Seoyoon cleared multiple dungeons to find the fawn.

Luckily, the fawn was saved by Seoyoon before it almost became food.

-Did my mother send you? Thank you. Since you were able to save me you must be very skilled.

The fawn gave her valuable information in return for saving her.

-There is a necklace with gems, that humans really like, and it was thrown away in that forest over there. If no one picked it up it probably is still there. I want to see that necklace again and mother would like to as well.

Treasure quest, get! Seoyoon headed in the direction of the forest with the necklace.

The Valley of Death, it wasn't far from the place where Seoyoon and Weed arduously traveled together.

'He was sick...I made him rice porridge. I wonder if it tasted good.' At that time Seoyoon displayed great courage, since it was the first time she cooked for someone and personally feeding them.

She was trembling from nervousness so much, she didn't season the porridge properly; she just concentrated on feeding Weed carefully. The porridge was salty, spicy and bitter! For Seoyoon that moment became a heartwarming memory.

'I was happy that time.' When she had travelled with Weed, she didn't feel lonely, and at times had to she keep herself from laughing.

'There was that sculpture in the cave.' She remembered seeing Weed carving a loving couple that cared for each other in the extreme cold.

Since she could meet Weed in school she didn't miss him.

'I have to be strong enough to support him' She didn't want to see Weed

killed by a monster.

Everyday Seoyoon roamed the hunting grounds. She spent a lot more time hunting monsters. She was invited by the vampire to Todeum. When vampire lord Tori invited Weed at the Valley of Death, Seoyoon was there with him.

“Beautiful lady, you can visit Todeum anytime.” Tori gave a rose to Seoyoon while Weed wasn’t watching and invited her. Vampire Lord Tori was a very simple vampire. Whenever he saw beautiful women he tried to become intimate with them by saying,

“Beautiful lady, have you thought of becoming a vampire by any chance?”

****Triing!****

-Hidden race ‘vampire’ has been unlocked, do you want to become a vampire?
When you switch to a different race that race’s special abilities can be used.
But, the penalty for dying is 3 times the normal rate of experience, and skill.
There are restrictions on equipment that a vampire and equip and use.
The vampire race’s physical abilities are incomparably greater than a warrior’s and have great vitality, battle ability and they can use magic.
As long as you are a vampire you can promote to a Vampire Queen or a Vampire Lord.
But, if you are killed 7 times or a silver nail is embedded into your heart you return to being a human.

Without a doubt Seoyoon refused.

Seoyoon, who was wary of suspicious people, didn’t want her neck bitten by Tori. When she left Todeum the vampire kingdom, Tori followed her.

“Sure enough, you need to find a good master.” She was incomparable to Weed in her treatment of Tori. She didn’t scold or beat him up.

Since Tori was hunting together with the beautiful Seoyoon, there couldn’t be anything that could make him happier. Even the true blood vampires led by Tori hunted with Seoyoon and grew in level.

Chapter 2: Dinner on the island of Ipia

“The sea!”

“Alright! Then first, let’s start by building the foundation!”

Novice sailors starting in Ipia Island exclaimed from ashore. They were chopping wood to make a seaworthy raft. But a warning to all aspiring sailors in Ipia! The production of timber is actually quite costly. First you need to go to the forests in the mountains and chop down the trees yourself. Then you have to drag the lumber down the mountain to build your raft.

“Once you have the fishing skill, you can just eat whatever you catch. Later on I’ll be sailing the far seas.”

But many sailors had a different mentality.

“There’s been pirates on that island. If I find their buried treasure... fufufu.”

“If you’re going to have a large gathering, then of course it has to be by the sea!”

“If you’re going to go take a risk, it has to be in the sea!”

Novice users!

At first many set out in shitty boats made out of logs held together by knotted vines. They use a sheet of cloth for a sail as they begin their adventure!

(T/N: Every pirate’s first boat sucks.)

There were many names engraved on top of the flagpoles.

There were many names engraved on the sides.

Best Ipia Transport.

Shipping Federation of Versailles Continent.

Chateau de Balleroy Ocean Peace Corps.

The ships were just rafts, but their names showed huge aspirations.

Surka sighed wistfully.

“This island is really lively.”

She was sitting in a tavern overlooking the sea while drinking orange juice. Zephyr was sitting near her, searching through the women by swiveling only his eyes. Even if he tried to stop, his eyes would start roaming again subconsciously.

“This is a nice resort... it has a good atmosphere.”

He did not miss a single woman within a 100-meter radius.

‘Hmm, her thighs are a bit thick for her body. She has shoulder length hair. Her posture is that of someone with military training and it looks like she can high-kick. My conclusion is that she is someone who trained hard to overcome her petite body.’

An in-depth analysis of women!

‘It only goes to show that women are lonely.’

For him it was easy to become friends and lovers. Buy a drink for a girl who looked lonely and then... natural instinct would take over. After that it was easy to register them as friends and maybe even take them out to dinner.

Still Zephyr’s butt remained stuck to the chair. He was sick of these quick girlfriends who were so easily seduced by a few words. He wanted a real companion. Many women loved his appearance, academic background, and financial power. His possessions included designer clothes, a foreign car, membership to first class hotels and luxury watches. He was tired of using his assets to gain favor. He felt as if he was a fake, and he was tired of people getting close just because of his possessions.

If the heart was not moved, then it was meaningless.

‘I can heal their loneliness for a brief moment but it would never last.’

Zephyr wanted to meet a woman who he could really love. Could anyone truly be happy in life without sharing it side by side with a loved one? Surely not. However you can not judge a person without knowing them.

‘... What would I like to do....’

Spending time alone on dates would be nice, but going out with others as a group also sounded attractive. Would simply spending time together solve the problem and make them feel closer?

Even amidst these complex thoughts, he was stirring the cinnamon around in his drink while his eyes turned fully back to the women.

“That? She looks fine but her neck is moving by itself... tsk!”

He muttered to himself.

“Because of that it won’t work out.”

Hwaryeong, along with Maylon and Romuna were just watching. Drinking soda from glasses, they were relaxing without a care in the world. Summer vacation on Ipia Island! It was supposedly the most heart-soothing place in all of Royal Road.

*

Weed floated on a boat just off of Ipia Island. He looked at the boats floating around with just a plastic sheet and a flag.

“They sure are putting a lot of faith into those little rafts.”

He felt sympathy for the novice users because the raft he was using was more than just a simple raft! It was a dugout Korean canoe! He felt like he could even kill a Kraken with it! He took the name from a mighty sea creature thingy! This was the first ship he had built with his shipbuilding skills. The ghost ship could be operated properly after advancing the beginner ship sailing skills to level 7. It was too large for his low skill to operate now, so right now if he tried to steer the ship it would just drift in the wrong direction. To raise his skill, he needed a smaller boat, so an one-person dugout canoe was perfect.

Sailing skills proficiency has increased.

Even just floating in the sea increased his skill. Weed had raised his sailing skills to level 3 just by going around the island and looking at the sights and views. As his skill level rose he became better and faster at

getting around while feeling less and less of the waves' impacts. The dugout canoe was easy to handle with low-level skills. He started to head back to one of the many ports on Ipia Island.

Due to sailing for a long time there is a 13% increase of proficiency.

- Sailing skills is now at Beginner Level 4.
- An additional 2% acceleration will be added.
- Probability of being of capsized in rough weather has been reduced by 5%.
- Endurance stat has increase by 15%.

Sailing skills level 4! (T/N It actually said nautical skill level 4 but the word nautical made me laugh too much so I changed it)

“This skill is rising so quickly!”

Weed was quite delighted. It had a very fast growth rate compared to the sculpture and production skills. The skill grew fast during a short period, but Weed was determined to never be a sailor.

“Would the skill go up faster if my ship got damaged? I think it would give proficiency if I sunk the ship....”

He looked at a coral reef nearby and paddled furiously!

When the durability of the ship had reached zero, the repair ship skill was used. Sticks and broken pieces of rope were wound around the tree branch parts. He received food by fishing and fresh water when it rained; after its long journey around Ipia island, the little canoe was ready to fall apart at any moment. Weed returned to the harbor not a moment too soon!

Ship owned by Deoreo has sunk.

- Fame -35.
- 4 loads of seaweed have been lost.

He could just create a new boat. There was no use salvaging it since it was a cheap dugout canoe. Still, it was not your usual beginner's ship.

“Sailing skills at level 4. Now I will be able to control small, high-speed boats.”

It was great fun building up his navigation skills to become a great sailor. Now he could get a high-quality boat, hire a crew, sail some more, and go on an ocean voyage. A real dream!

But Weed's professional career with sailing skills was going to end here. He had only meant to enjoy a quick vacation on the Ipia Island. A few days off that his sister could enjoy!

However the ocean was really, very attractive. Different species of fish could be seen in different colored waters. The water was so clear in some parts that the fish could be seen flitting about. The coral reefs and the fish gave off mysterious and bright light effects. If you sailed around you could even discover uninhabited islands.

Marine trade was a very profitable form of commerce that most users overlooked. Most well-known trade routes could earn a lot of money on a single trip.

They could also earn a lot by providing transportation to people. Going by ship around the continent was so much faster than walking! The Versailles proverb went: "The first on the soil will be the adventurers full of muscle. Then will the merchants."

There was no place in the Versailles continent where merchants did not work. It may not be actual strength, but the power wielded by a merchant who traded vast amounts of goods across the continent could not be ignored. Aspiring merchants who utilized the sea had an advantage when they familiarized themselves with sailing skills.

"It's certain that prestigious guilds would not hold out very long if there were no merchants supporting them."

Instead of going with Weed to the Mariners guild, Hwaryeong and the others went together to the pub where they heard a quest related to Zahab. Quests relating to the remaining Matallost, and quests relating to the Niflheim Empire.

Ipia Island attracted many people with its specialty beers and you would often see parties eating barbecue on the beach. But Weed had another purpose in mind. He would collect information relating to the Niflheim

Imperial quest.

It was said that Ipia Island was just a giant resort, but it was visited by so many people that it could also be called an important port. Every port has taverns and the waitress had the most information. In order to obtain information on sea quests you had to “capture” them. Treatment of the waitresses at the bars was a sensitive competition that often provoked rivalry.

“Getting on the ghost ship would be meaningless if I don’t have any information.”

*

Pirate Island Croix is located near Ipia Island! Small fishing boats which consisted of hunting parties full of warriors and priests floated around, completing quests.

“I hope ye didn’t run into too much trouble”

“Not at all. I enjoyed talking to you.”

“Shank’s, here’s the three gold ye were promised.”

Croix was a very dangerous hunting ground because the first half, it was a pirate base with various defenses that had been built around the fort. And the other half, it was filled with monsters!

Only users of level 340 or higher could enter and come out alive. On a narrow but safe strip of land, users were standing around gathering parties to carefully hunt and explore Croix!

However, seven ships sailing decrepit sailboats with an imposing presence arrived from the sea. It was the ghost fleet of pirate Deoreol. A one eyed, one armed, one-legged pirate held out a money bag in one hand and a great flag in the other.

“Tweeeeet! Pwap pwap pwap pwap. Sha! Invasion of the enemy!”

The pirates of the island promptly responded. Shouts of alarm and the sound of a bull horn cried out a state of emergency. Users attempting to hunt sat down in amazement.

“What should I do?”

“What else, just wait till those idiots die.”

No users were usually crazy enough to attack Croix Island. Croix was the gathering place for some of the most notorious pirate gangs. Even so much to hunt on this island that it would make users feel proud. (T/N It took a lot of guts to hunt there.)

“Foolish bastards.”

The users were laughing as the pirates lined up one after another to protect their waterfront home. The decrepit ship sailed straight on without changing directions. Geomchi3 was sitting in the captain’s seat while the first mate Nickey was steering the ship. Nickey humbly bowed at the waist and said.

“Temporary Captain! At this speed, we will hit the coast. Do you want to slow down?”

Geomchi3 shook his head.

“Go straight at full speed.”

“Aye, sir.”

Going straight ahead without changing direction! Anchored on a sandbar. At Croix Island, raiders carrying scimitars and ropes with hooks were waiting as the ghost ship approached.

"Uwaaah!"

Emerging from a hole leading to the hull of the Ghost Ship, Geomchi came out.

A landing operation on the famous Pirate Island Croix was being carried out.

*

There were over 20 bars in the Ipia Island port. There were also many big name resorts, but for sailors who came back from a long voyage, they wanted to relax and wash away their tiredness with beer at their usual

hangouts. It was classified as a cozy pub near the harbor and beach that allowed casual swimwear. Sailors usually went there for its quiet atmosphere. Hwaryeong had told him to meet at the bar because of its good atmosphere and the bar's name "Girl Waiting at the Harbor".

"Here is your glass of beer and dried seaweed snacks. Please tip over here."

Weed finished ordering and sat down at the bar where gentle music was flowing.

"Not a bad atmosphere. Zephyr and the others haven't arrived yet."

Weed firmly put a piece of seaweed in his rotten teeth with bony fingers. Even after turning into an undead it was still possible to taste the fragrant flavor. Normally a skeleton wouldn't have much of a sense of taste, but thanks to the effects of Sculpture Shapeshifting, he was effectively masking his real body. So he still had some advantages of a human body.

When he learned Sculpture Shapeshifting, it was unknown to him if those masking traits would disappear, but for now taste and aroma were meant to be enjoyed. While drinking beer, Weed listened to the circulating stories.

"I'm glad we came to Ipia Island. I am going to try to come again next year."

"Then invite Oze and all the other guys to come on New Year."

"Palowin's team followed the Berwick fleet into this dungeon. There they revealed they were doing a really big quest, and the fame was amazing."

"You know that you can transport cheese to the kingdom of Brent for big money."

"... Do you really think so?"

"Information was from a minor source, but I think it could be a big draw."

Users with multiple jobs and merchants talked freely and shared stories. You could benefit by listening, and they might receive help too. If there

were no secrets to share, one could listen to the band. It was customary to pay for drinking expenses while gathering information. Weed eavesdropped on many other people's conversations at the heart of the tavern while wearing a heavy robe. After about 10 minutes of spying, he heard.

"But every time I go to Morata, the lord is busy. I would have liked to see his face before I left."

Every ear within the place must have heard and started talking.

"Where do you go to get in on a sculpture quest?"

"God of War Weed, Matallost quest... do you think he is only sharing with the users who helped him rescue the church?"

"I heard that everyone who did the original was included but they don't have exclusive rights, so anyone can join."

"That's nice experience for the combat professions, such easy experience from one quest can't be seen that often in large organizations."

"Hundreds of people cooperating together for a quest... sound like fun."

Weed suddenly stretched his shoulders wide even though they were only narrow bones. Users that completed the Matallost quest were resolved to beat the next request. In Royal Road it was not such an easy thing to take part in a big quest, it would also be a fun experience.

"Morata's Lord's obsession with earning money is certainly unique. He has done a lot more business than most traders."

"Oh, by the way have you heard about this evening's performance of Hairen Benti?"

They had quickly changed topics. When drinking there is no reason to talk too deeply of the lords from other regions.

"Do you mean that show that is going on in the central square?"

"Has it finally arrived at the central square? At this rate there's gonna be a lot of people attending."

“It is a great show.”

Hairen Benti was a female bard. Singing and dancing from Morata, she had gained sensational popularity. Thanks to the ongoing investment in culture, the bards were vigorously working. Many songs with a Morata theme were showing up all over the Versailles continent. Morata was full of fun adventures and included a robust commerce centre.

The fact that stories about Morata had spread into the far northern island of Ipia was an evidence that Morata was growing. Whenever Weed's quests are being broadcast, each bar always blossomed with conversations about it.

“Over here, waitress!”

Weed called out to one of the employees.

“Yes, sir?”

Soon after a waitress with pigtails came running.

"Rather, the bards at that table seem to be calling for me... can I just give you the bill now?"

“No no. Please send me two more strands of seaweed. I'll calculate the bill later.”

“Sheesh! Okay, sir.”

He was ignoring the waitresses bad attitude. This is what happens when you have bad intimacy. Weed was an unknown and a skeleton, not even four drinks were enough protection for Weed.

“Thank you.”

Weed thanked the waitress with the bad attitude when he received seaweed with a gentle wave of his hand. And soon he walked up to the hostess with a swish of his mantle. The stretched lobes immediately crumpled.

“Do you girls like sculptures?”

Working to build intimacy! Weed talked to the female employees under

the watchful eyes of the users. It was a bar by the sea, retaining a friendly relationship with the waitress could lead to the necessary information for a quest. The others sympathized as they kept watch wondering what sort of information the female employees would give out.

“My name is Delia, not “you”, and I hate sculptures!”

A sharp rejection! He didn't even have to put this much effort into carving a masterpiece. If he had to build intimacy like this, it could take a long time to earn the information he needed for his quest. Weed was not going to give up because it was hard, how else was he be able to share the lunch with the instructor, and take away the elder of Morata's precious sweet potatoes with only a resigned look left on the elder's face?

Weed tapped his bony finger on the table and said lightly.

“You are beautiful.”

“Hearing such praise from a skeleton does not make me happy.”

“What kind of man do you like?”

“I like a man with a short head of hair. I hate a man with no hair.”

The sorrow of a skeleton! The one eyed, pierced appearance was met with severe antipathy from Delia.

‘A skeleton is not beautiful?’

It was not cool? How the hell was his outfit not wonderful? He could never understand the taste of women. Okay, the cracked part of the skull naturally gave off the inelegant appearance of a gaping skull. Since his appearance had escaped the Orc Karichwi charming effects with women, Weed decided to switch directions. (T/N Weed has great talent in making hideous ugly things.) Assuming one cannot gain familiarity from talking there was another special way one could gain favors.

‘Gifts.’

The fastest way to buy the favor of the female employees! However, intimacy gained from gifts did not last long. If the gift you give is not up to par, then the intimacy immediately dropped.

‘And then you regret the gift.’

Weed decided to ask directly instead.

“What kind of stories do you like?”

“Hmmm... I’m fond of adventure stories, especially adventure stories from the sea! However I probably wouldn’t have any interest in ones from a skeleton.”

Weed thought of an adventure that went with the sea and the surrounding regions.

“I’ve had many great adventures from around the sea.”

“Okay, I’ll tell you an interesting story.”

“It seems like a waste of time.”

“Once I’ve heard a certain adventurer from the kingdom of Rosenheim....”

The start of an adventure story to buy the female employee’s favor, impress the employees, and make the bar become more jubilant.

Kkiruru!

Just as he was about to unveil the story of the adventurer, a bird made out of gold flew onto his shoulder. The Golden Bird with its eyes made out of sapphire looked at Delia. A cute figure wearing a crown of diamonds. The Golden Bird showed exquisite timing!

The guests of the bar looked in surprise at the Golden Bird. Golden Bird made users stumble because they had never heard of such a thing.

“Oh my! Did you raise this mysterious birdie?”

“Yes.”

Strength of friendship with Delia, employee of the tavern “Girl Waiting in the Harbor”, has increased a little.

“May I touch it?”

“Of course.”

Since it did not cost anything to touch, plenty of touching was allowed. Delia lightly swiped a finger along Golden Bird.

“I did not know there were birds like this. You must be a great adventurer!”

Strength of friendship with Delia, employee of the tavern “Girl Waiting in the Harbor”, has increased significantly.

The tacky skeleton’s treatment rose greatly! If you miss an opportunity to gain a great deal of intimacy, you would surely regret it.

Even though now and then he fell into misfortune in the Versailles continent, he was now living the dream of adventuring at sea.

However now that he was able to own a medium sized sailboat, there was no need to worry about small disasters.... The commandeered ghost ship had no end to small disasters. There was no need to even talk about the habitual water leaks, the awful air filtration, the seaweed that twisted them up at the reef, and the group of dirty sailors and colleagues ready to jump into the mouth of any sea monster at the first word.

The only reason he came to sea was because the Golden Bird had pointed to the location across from it. Weed had been ready to kidnap Golden Bird with his silky voice. Yes, the atmosphere maintained a certain skeletal theme, and had left him with lingering expectations.

“The Golden Bird is pointing somewhere isn’t it? Is it supposed to do that?”

“Unfortunately I don’t know yet. However I am certain there is a connection to the collapse of the Niflheim Empire. Have you ever heard of it?”

“... It is the Niflheim Empire, right? That topic covers names from long ago, but I wouldn’t know anything about them. But if you’re talking about the North Sea then you should talk to Grandpa North T., he often sailed in the north. Wouldn’t it be better to go speak to him then ask me?”

“May I ask where I can meet him?”

“He lives near the island’s eastern Imperial Villa. It’s always easier to meet him in front of his house during broad daylight.”

Weed felt a premonition.

Sometimes the slightest clue could cause the greatest things to occur. There was a possibility that Thira did not know anything about the Niflheim Empire. However it was information that he did not have to pay for, so he accepted it as a gift.

Weed spread his shoulders wide.

“This is all thanks to my luck!”

Kkiruru!

The Golden Bird laughed along with Weed! The sculptures created by a sculpting master like the Emperor were really unique, they had a calming bond.

‘Life Bestowal sculptures like this guy are really uncommon. This guy is so much smarter than the guys I have to beat.’

Weed thought of all the inadequacies of large bird shapes.

‘In regard to shape there are many inefficiencies. Beautiful appearances and eye catching wings, but the feet are inconvenient to write, eat, and carry things with.’

While Weed contemplated the geometry of eating vs. carrying.

“Hyeong-nim, you came first.”

Zephyr appeared carrying a fishing rod.

His colleagues had previously gone their separate ways on Ipia Island, but Zephyr had been spending his time drinking at the bar.

“Welcome back, sir!”

Delia showed a bright figure of hospitality!

“Mister, you are incredible! You’ve caught a pretty big fish!”

One of Zephyr’s packages included a variety of rare fish.

“For a great angler like me, this is child’s play!”

“Oh, I’ve never seen such a big Sunfish.”

The female waitresses flocked around Zephyr!

“Isn’t this a Cinnamon Ganhan? I will personally give you a salted plate if you want to sell this.”

“There are also good seaweed, skin shells, and powdered pearl which might be good for you according to some medical journals.”

“This might be good!”

“Sir angler, come and sit down. Do you have any questions or need anything else?”

Zephyr’s popularity with the waitresses was explosive.

‘This guy... he didn’t even have to ask for seaweed.’

"Did you figure out some kind of secret?"

"Cinnamon."

Meanwhile Yurin was using her picture shift to travel around.

"Oh Yurin, I like to use cinnamon a lot. "

As if to answer his thoughts, Yurin showed up shortly after.

“Uh huh, such a nice system.”

He didn’t ask why she just showed up. Just that suddenly there were dark clouds in the background of Zephyr’s love life; he felt like weeping.

*

A moonlit night party on Ipia Island the companions shared their stories while drinking beer. In the humidity, Hwaryeong shared her stories of how she composed her songs in various countries.

“I first saw the Eiffel Tower when I was 16.”

“The Eiffel Tower... you mean the steel structure in France?”

“Weed, when did you see that?”

“On my summer vacation trip. Do you want to see the photos of it? I have some other travel photos as well.”

France, Italy, the Netherlands, Germany, England! Weed was able to converse with Hwaryeong about all of them.

“The taste of traveling abroad is very different....”

“Hey, I have to travel because of my band. I do my best work when I travel! England’s strip is really small but the most lively, right?”

Hwaryeong had attended mostly only major cities because her performances needed large spaces, so she had not seen much of the countryside. Talking about the band that harmonized with Hwaryeong’s talent left her with tears in her eyes.

"Do you think we have time to go now?"

Bellot's face was flushed bright red.

Mapan's eyes were frantically darting about as if he was waiting for something and then he nodded his head respectfully.

He was holding an exquisitely designed set of playing cards.

Yurin especially was sketching the scene and the playing cards.

Drinking alcohol in a good atmosphere! There was just the perfect amount of people for a great party!

“It’s a bet, 10 gold.”

“It will be a fairly large plate. All bets are final.”

*

Dain was at the beach party under the moonlight escape.

“It looks like you’re doing fine.”

Weed looked happy with all of his companions. It was a picture she had imagined in the hospital.

‘Prior to the surgery I did not know if I would be leaving this world forever... I was afraid, so I didn’t want to admit that I thought of you so

much.'

It was insane. What the mind tells you was not always what the heart wants to accept.

'Ah, Royal Road was not very interesting. I did not know when I could even connect later. From the beginning, my family and friends would just worry. I felt so alone. I just wanted to quietly have the surgery. So I didn't tell you about it until the very end. But at the end, I was given courage because I knew that someone would remember me forever, even without a candid confession. I wanted to remain as that special person without causing you to worry about other inconveniences. Then I was worried about what kind of story to tell you, so I deliberately did not change my cursed appearance.

Sorry.

However, Weed, now you look really happy with your close companions. I'm sorry that I could not properly talk to you. And now it's impossible to ask if you liked me. It was my fate to meet with you again. I had a fantastic illusion. With the memories of us you carved into the earth, I was truly pleased.'

"But all that doesn't matter now. Weed, now that you're doing well, my mind is at ease. It means you can love someone else, right? Probably for the best... but... even if you say that now it's okay isn't it?... to stay by your side."

Tears shimmered gently in Dain's eyes. However, as she walked to another location they slowly were replaced with a vigorous laugh.

"First love.... In the end your first love was me though, right?"

Chapter 3: A Ship's Performance

At sunrise Weed walked east towards the Imperial Villa to meet with North Thira.

Hwaryeong, Bellotte, and Pale followed him along the beach.

Dain had left the party and gone somewhere others could not see her.

Weed turned to face the shimmering cold morning sea air.

"1,190 gold and 690 in prizes winnings went to Hwaryeong. I trailed behind by some because of drawing to the lower yen provocation. As far as I know of the current gold prices and sales market... I lost 810 gold in just a few hours?"

Weed accurately calculated the amount of money that changed hands in the few hours they played Go-Stop. Hwaryeong laughed.

"Hey, we were just playing cards, it can't be that bad? Right?"

"No, that 1190 could have lead to a really good investment. I could have saved that money for the inheritance of my future children!"

The money lost while playing Go-Stop! Weed swallowed his grief and stopped walking east and instead headed west to the detached palace. Fortunately they were able to meet North Thira on the street.

He was standing on a hill, being buffeted by the wind while looking outwards towards the sea. With the nostalgic sea in mind Weed approached in a friendly manner.

"Mr. North Thira, are you busy? Elder, you were a great sailor were you not? You don't have much gold but you must have a great understanding of the ocean. Would you mind teaching this young sailor who dreams of the sea how he can become a great sailor as well?"

Blatantly asking for what you want. Sometimes dancing around the topic and trickily sneaking in the question does not increase your intimacy with NPC's.

"Hue hue, You want to know how to navigate the sea do you?"

“Yes. I heard you mastered sailing the North Sea”

“When we were young our fathers would take us in their boats. We practically grew up sailing the sea. ”

“The Niflheim Empire was once part of the North a long time ago, is it possible that the people there traveled in the northern sea?”

“The Niflheim Empire? That was quite some time ago. They were part of the Imperial Age if that means anything to you.”

North Thira did not know. However, Weed did not give up. Even the smallest clue could be of the greatest help.

“Are the northern isles related to the Niflheim Empire?” Coarse gray hair and thick white sea bones; North T. was filled with knowledge far richer than others!

In Royal Road, no matter how high your intimacy with a NPC was, they could only answer to the limit of their knowledge.

“The small fishing village Mocon in the North Sea is said to be the remain of Niflheim Empire. It may even still be inhabited by the descendants of the first sailors and fishermen...”

“It hasn’t been discovered by the Ipia Island fisherman?”

“Due to the tremendous cold and the monsters that inhabit most of the islands, it is hard to navigate too. Only a person who is familiar with the sea could easily find the islands today. Do you have a chart?”

“Yes.”

“Take it out, I’ll show you the harbor points I know that still remain in the Northern Sea.”

North T. marked out several places on the map, on the land and the sea.

- Position of Port of Twelve Teeth has been recorded.

Ttiring!

- The young sailor learned the basic story navigation. If you hurry the first turn into the cays, then the ship won’t get sucked into the vortex. If you get sucked in you can never

recover.

- Sailing skill proficiency has increased by 25%
- Effective steering level goes up by 1.2% permanently (PR Note: cays are islands, banks and reefs.)

“Ah, there is a task I want you to do. If you happen to port by Mocon village, could you tell the head blacksmith there about me? Tell him that I’m doing well in my hometown. Also tell him that I can’t go out to sea anymore.”

Ttiring!

Contact for Grandfather North T.

Life is running low for North T. While sailing the ocean North T. created a brotherly friendship with the blacksmith from the town of Mocon. Deliver the news of North T. to the blacksmith. It is not a difficult task but the blacksmith of Mocon village will treat it as a great favor.

Difficulty: D

Compensation: Can receive something from the blacksmith of Mocon village

Requirement: Must know the location of the Mocon village.

Weed was really happy, blacksmith related items were the most expensive. Since he had to go to Mocon village it made it all the better.

The difficulty was low but the compensation was high; it was a perfect quest.

“Okay, we will be sure to deliver the news.”

The number of quest limits has been reached. You cannot receive this quest until one of the three current quests has been completed.

North T. shook his in resignation.

“It looks like you’ve already doing lots of work. Hoarding your works leaves no space for new thing, I’ll have to leave this to somebody else”

Bellotte was the first to notice Hwaryeong, who had been quietly watching up till this point. She reached out and grasped North T. hand with the affection of a granddaughter.

“I will do this request in Weed’s place.”

“Sweet lady, you will become a good wife for somebody. I will leave this

request to you.”

Ttiring!

You have accepted the quest Contact for grandfather North T.
Luck stat +4.

Hwaryeong just wanted to complete the Contact for North T. purely as a favor she could clearly see how Weed saw it from his expression.

His skull was horribly stiff! Weed said.

“So you follow the trail of the loser eh. First you take 810 gold now you take my quest!”

This was an unreasonable assumption since Weed couldn't accept the quest anyway. But such excessive stubbornness leads to unreasonable feelings. Hwaryeong said.

“Bellotte, you should take this quest too.”

“Can I?”

“Of course. Even if you don't I will still have to do it so might as well.”

Bellotte accepted the quest with Hwaryeong. Weed mumbled words as they passed by.

“Have you also bought salt that was 200 won more expensive? I bet both of you bought salt as high as a mountain. The luxury of a sinner.”

*

After meeting with North T. Weed went to Linda port in the northern harbor to ‘prepare for departure’.

The ghost crew did not need many supplies since they did not eat.

The problem was the Geomchis.

Though fishing for their food was not an issue, excessive amounts of weight would slow the sailing speed of the boat significantly.

It was possible to double your carrying capacity if you had intermediate sailing but right now Weed was only at beginner level 4. It was impossible

to use the ghost ship as a cruise ship.

Weed went up to Geomchi3 and said, "Sahyung, do you want to remain on Ipia Island?"

"Why?" Suspicion had crept into his voice. He had followed Weed to the island from Morata to help on his quest, why would he want to stay? Weed heartlessly thought.

'You're heavy and you eat a lot. Why can't you understand!'

"Yesterday the beer was really good right."

"Yeah the beer was really delicious."

"I hear there is even finer beers here. I hear they have barbecues all throughout the day and night with tall, pretty girls in bikinis."

"!?!?"

Geomchi3 was concentrating on the story.

For the next five minutes Weed told him all about the benefits of Ipia Island.

"Ipia Island could be called a heaven on Earth, a paradise, you can accomplish anything here. The women are more aggressive after all the drinking with colleagues at the beach parties. And why is this? Because in a resort women are more relaxed. Why hitting on women is a common sight. Even I could get 5 friend registration."

However, any woman Weed called out as a skeleton froze.

Though there were at least 5 women who sought to register friends with Zephyr.

"Uh, the Island of Ipia....."

Geomchi3 awareness drifted as he looked down the fabulous long beach at the 5 supposed women...

Disciplining his body in real life made talking to women a distant dream. However, here in Royal Road there was ample opportunity to party and talk.

Among the Geomchis, 30 of them now had successful romantic relationships; there was a growing frenzy in the dojo.

Weed said in regrettable voice.

“It’s a great opportunity but what a pity. I have to go out to sea and who knows when I might come back to Ipia Island? The voyage might take several months.”

“There’s great courage in self-sacrifice but do you need to miss every opportunity? This island will surely be an exhilarating and thrilling sea adventure ... the possibility of love blossoming under the sun is supposed to be very high! There are even American women out there!”

Geomchi3’s eyes were locked towards where Weed was pointing to.

The primal instincts of a man cannot be denied! Geomchi3 was shaken by the presence of such beauty.

Honestly, who would want to sail at a snails pace. Weed, who could not really show expressions as a skeleton was struggling to appear sincere said.

“Sahyung, in Royal Road you’ve so far only been in battles. Don’t you think it’s time you took a hiatus? Enjoy Ipia Island, go sunbathing or even hunt for crabs.”

“Well, if it’s okay with you Weed.”

“Yes, Geomsachi3-sahyung. If it’s sahyung, then your loyalty can be seen with your words alone. Not just you but the other Geomchis should also share this wondrous opportunity.”

Weed stated seriously. It was a serious scam. Geomchi3 put his strong hand on Weed’s stiff shoulder.

“Thank you!

“You can truly be called youngest.”

The Geomchis were left on Ipia Island as the ghost fleet ran away.

While Weed was dealing with his troublesome colleagues, Mapan was buying enough supplies and trading properties to fill a warehouse.

In the northern port many things were very expensive so mainly focused on collecting local commodities and the necessities.

Departing from Ipia Island Again! The speed of the ghost ship was blown to 4 times faster than before. It cannot be compared to a high speed of course but compared to how slow it was before it was a pleasure to be creating a fast wake.

“Wow, cool.”

Out on the deck Surka took her hat off. The light breeze blew her black hair back. Now there really was a feeling of starting on an ocean voyage.

Golden Bird has taken off from Weed’s shoulder and attracted a gaggle of geese that flew around and around. Birds sitting on the deck of full sails adds an effect!

- Because of seabirds sailing speed is increased by 16%

A small reef rose out of the sea like a trident that marked the first path marker. The passage to the North Islands was not a common path.

*

“Watch out for the reef. Full starboard!” Weed turned into the cay to avoid the reef.

Before it was still too early to completely control the Ghost ship with his deficient skills, so difficult banking and cutting maneuvers could not be used indulgently. (T/N This sailing jargon refers to how the ship maneuvers. Banking refers to few things, pulling along things, sailing in shallow water, literally landing on a bank (thus banking), and turning while slowing down. Cutting refers to turning your ship to go faster. A sailboat usually cuts from one side of the wind to the other to gain more speed. The faster you can cut the more maneuverable your ship is. Also a quick reminder starboard is the right of the ship and port is left.)

However Weed was able to steer much better due to his improved proficiency. Weed sneaked a peek at the passing reef.

On top of the coral reef a charming mermaid waved.

A beautiful naked upper body and lower body covered in mermaid fins, she was something you couldn't normally see in the sea.

It takes great fortune to be able meet a mermaid.

“Aloha!”

“Nice to meet you mermaid.”

Mapan and Pale enthusiastically waved.

You could hunt mermaids but it was hardly ever done. Mermaids are very pretty and are also high level monsters.

Plus once they dove into the sea it very difficult to track; mermaid hunting was practically impossible.

Weed only innocently stared straight ahead.

The monsters were like cut outs from a magazine. To female users, beautiful mermaids were like soul magic and a lofty dream.

- Due to the sea mermaid the luck of the entire ships voyage is raised by 35%
- Sailing speed raises 12%

It turns out mermaids could make the ship go faster.

- Sailing skills proficiency has risen
- Charisma +1.

The faster they sailed the faster the sailing skill proficiency increased.

When Weed's skills hit Beginner level 5 he got a 8% increase in leadership and perseverance.

On the deck Bellotte blew her neatly crafted flute. The power of her playing as bard did not have much effect because beautiful melodies do

not really suit the Ghosts ships' atmosphere.

While the bird chirped, fish jumped out over the sea.

Mermaid had been swimming along side the ghost ship.

It could not really be seen well but water and wind sprits followed along the company in graceful lines.

Wherever a minstrel went there was a good show. Hwaryeong pull out a dress with a flap.

“Do you want to dance a little?”

“Wow! I want to see my Unni's dance.”

Surka was really rejoicing.

The women sat around on the ghost ship having cutthroat chatter.

Chatter might not seem very deadly at first glance but don't be mistaken; They talked about celebrities in recent television dramas, movies, music, politics, economy, society, business, foreign things, and perhaps a guild adventure or two thrown in the mix!

It was no exaggeration to say that there looked to be no end to the chatter.

Understandably Mapan, Pale, and Weed, all sat down by Zephyr to fish.

To top it off, as the girls sat around drinking beer the ghost crew quivered in guilty lust at the sight.

“Well I'll start off with a simple dance.”

Hwaryeong complied and stood on her tiptoes, she started to lightly dance on her tiptoe round and round the deck.

It was a dance of grace and dignity like the nobles of the Middle Ages.

Dress, music and atmosphere seem to naturally suit Hwaryeong.

The music and dance made the atmosphere of the ghost ship lighthearted and jovial.



- Morale of the whole ship is improved by the performance on board.
- Stamina recovery will increase temporarily, the best luck will be granted to the voyage.

The effect of both Bellotte and Hwaryeong performance! In the blink of an eye the quality of the fish Zephyr caught began to differ from those he fished the previous month.

Rare fish that could be caught only every few months were being caught one after another; a line of mermaid and spirits flocked to the side of the ghost ship to listen to the musical performance.

From a distance it looked like a giant whale had come alive from under the sea.

- Received the blessings of the sea spirits. Navigation speed will increase 17%
- Received blessing of the water spirit. Voyage will be less likely to be disturbed by the elements. If an impact with a reef or vortex occurs the effects will be lessened.
- Received blessings of the wind spirit. Able to use the maximum ability of the sails.

Suddenly the ghost ship became as fast as a high speed boat.

It was the power of music, dance, and culture.

“Wow!”

Everyone was thrilled by the effect of Bellotte’s music and Hwaryeong’s dance.

The clear high notes made you think of the nostalgic feeling of playing with your childhood friend.

The flute gave off a light and airy melody that Hwaryeong interpreted with an elegant dance.

The friend who used to play with as lively childrens, became a young lady and a grown man who danced happily in a wedding atmosphere, surrounded by loved ones.

A diamond studded necklace and earring shook lightly; long hair swishes by leaving a deep aroma of flowers being carried by a fall wind.

“Wow! It’s beautiful.”

“The best! Bellotte playing is amazing.”

No one cared about money and applauded away.

A bard can engrave their soul into their song; the music and dance exuded charm.

The presence alone created a unique atmosphere.

No matter how tired or fatigued you were, the girls performance seemed to wash rejuvenate you. Weed seeing the voyage speed had increased with the performance was hyped up.

“Music and dance could do this much then... how much could would it grow if I played the harp while singing.”

Beads of sweat emerged on many foreheads. To keep up the wonderful atmosphere Hwaryeong had created the women had no choice but to say. (PR Note: Remember what happened when Weed tried playing the harp and singing at the jewelry store?)

“Unni, I want to dance.”

“Surka, you want to dance? What degree of difficulty would you like?”

“Degree of difficulty? I want to learn the dance you were dancing right now.”

The atmosphere changed to that of women learning to dance together. Hwaryeong taught the girls the simple dance and said.

“Do you also want to perform with me?”

“Can we?!” Romuna said. “I’m really interested in putting on a show.”

Mapan and Pale continued to look at the girls dancing. It was slightly awkward but cute, and the boys still enjoyed the view. However it was not a show to put on with a just a bard.

“...Instead of just music and dance we should perform the story as a play!”

The audience would be the mermaids, sea creatures, birds, and barely visible spirits.

Before the story was decided Hwaryeong picked her role.

“I want to be the world’s most beautiful and kind princess.”

A role that every woman desires. Nobody in the voyage looked as good as Hwaryeong in a frilly dress so the role was set. Romuna spoke up next on her desired role.

“Well I want to be the continent most powerful wizard. Isn’t that the best role for me to fill?”

“I want to be priest who saves people!”

They were picking roles not much different from their current classes.

It was a good thing since it means they wouldn’t need many special clothes as props. Maylon following along with the idea, said.

“To be a true enemy of injustice like in William Tell’s stories I want to be a ranger.” (PR Note: Swiss crossbow user, famed for his marksmanship. He refused to bow down to a hat, as a show of accepting foreign rule. As punishment he had to hit an apple from his sons head with his crossbow. Later he was bound, escaped and killed the villain with a bolt. That’s the cliffsnotes, feel free to Google him.) She had dreams of the inevitable fairytail fight between hero and villain.

Bellotte was unable to follow along with the atmosphere.

“There's no such thing as a minstrel hero.”

The men jumped at that remark.

“Bullshit!”

But Zephyr scratched his head and replied.

“This show has a lot of memorable roles so I don’t know what I’ll do...”

Pale stated his and Maylon.

“I’m going to be a ranger with Maylon.”

Mapan also had a role he wished for.

“I want the role of the trader with most money in the world.”

Various hopeful roles! Perhaps a play in the middle of the ocean was not quite as romantic a setting as it seemed.

With the last of the roles being picked, all eyes wandered over to Weed.

They were worried about what he would role he would want.

Weed didn't have to think about what role he wanted to play.

“A great scoundrel! The world isn't a nice place. I want to dominate the world as a great devil.”

There was a long standing play by Mr. Otou that was interesting enough.

They hurriedly modified the play to fit all of the roles.

It only took 15 minutes to write the script.

*

The first half of the play began with a sweet performance by Bellotte.

“La la la.”

Hwaryeong was dancing with flowers adorning her hair.

As she laughed the sound of ghost crew laughing was clear! The title of the first part of the show was .

The ghost sailors did a song and dance while drinking and eating meat.

“Om nom nom This is delicious.”

“Say whatever you please but please order something.”

After the awkward dance the ghost sailors brought out a carpet and placed a chair on it.

With a transcendent smiling expression Hwaryeong said.

“I'm going to get married to a great prince.”

Far far away Weed was watching the scene with Death Knight.

“Anti-Australian.” (PR Note: I swear this is what it says.)

“Yes, master.”

“What a beautiful lady.”

“Yeah.”

It was love at first sight!

“Would you be so kind as to escort her to me so I can marry her... gently.”

Death Knight diligently walked towards Hwaryeong.

“The master has ordered me to kidnap you.”

“Oh really? So you’ve come to take me away... I’ll go but don’t fight the crew.”

The ghost crew rushed to protect Hwaryeong.

“Chuckle You think you can take the princess.”

“We will be the ones to bring you down.”

Death Knight only pulled out his sword in silence.

Amongst the undead Death Knight was commander, the princess skeletons were quite inferior.

Poor sluggish ghosts! Death Knight returned to Weed after leaving not one intact. Rather than acting it was actual violence! Weed received a whisper from Pale.

Weed, is this ok?

After the very realistic defeat of the ghost crew Hwaryeong was brought to Weed and said.

“Hic hic. I’m gonna end up married to the devil after all.”

Looking at the skeleton Hwaryeong mourned her fate.

She then got up and began to dance away. A thrilling chase scene right out of a horror film started.

Even as Hwaryeong threw daggers at him Weed refused to give up courting her.

“I’m not that much older and I have a lot of money.”

“...I don't want it. You got that money through violence!”

“Oh!”

The music changed tempo as the skeletal devil eyes moistened. Weed looked at Hwaryeong and said.

“There has been a change in this devil ever since he set eyes on a girl like you. You have not only changed my naughty mind with your body but also my mentality. I will give you all of my accumulated treasures. Though I have many shortcomings, will you please take me?”

“Whatever.”

After the devil caught up and gave his saddened confession, Hwaryeong the Fire Princess decided to marry the devil.

Hwaryeong was donned with all kind of jewelry and accessories.

The beauty and the skeleton began to dance!

It was supposed to be a graceful dance but Hwaryeong had a hard time not laughing as she danced with a pile of bones. The couple did not match at all.

The song that Bellotte play seem much too good for them.

And the allies of justice, Pale and Maylon appeared.

“Satan, our town has sent us to fight against thee.”

“Well.”

Weed only threw apples at them.

Pale and Maylon threw various lightning arrows at the incoming apple barrage.

Weed clapped.

“I admire your skill. You can be exempt from taxes for the next five years.”

“Thank you, Satan.”

The ghost sailors cheered for the righteous archers.

Then Romuna appeared and showed off her skills as a wizard and was recognized as the best wizard.

Surka showed off her martial arts skills and was also recognized by Satan.

All the acquaintances got together prayed for peace.

Then an awkward song and dance about the previous drama started.

Suddenly Zephyr appears.

“The taxes of Satan’s village has been raise up to 7 times.”

Weed replied.

“Well done! Any person who can increase Satan’s money is a good person.”

The faithful henchmen appeared and began to exploit the ghost crew.

By the end of the play Mapan appeared.

“Your Majesty, Satan! I am the worlds’ leading merchant, Mapan. I have created a huge amount of money through many successful business deals. I am here to pay the taxes.”

It was a simple play of of a devils dream to earn large amounts of money through taxing successful traders.

- You have successfully performed “The Ugly Vicious Dream of the Demon King.”
- Audience response: 67.
- Due to the moral propensity the performers of the unethical play will have -5 fame.
- The audience of the sea has not been in contact with the outside and welcomes it warmly.

It was a passing grade from the audience of the sea.

“The human performance was awesome.”

“I think I want to be married to the cruel devil.”

The mermaids had a good impression of the play.

The nature of the play was not appropriate for those who aren’t very mature.

The mermaids gave boost in thanks for the show.

The Ship received maximum elasticity and maximum speed. The soaring bow sluiced through the waves as it moved forward.

“This absolutely cannot be shown on the Royal Road Hall of Fame.”

“Yeah, it’s too embarrassing.”

They decided not to get navigation bonuses through plays from then on.

Chapter 4: Weed Divers

“Hmm, the reef stretches out even further than I thought. I should take care not to get caught in the vortex.”

Weed remained vigilant in the open sea. It looked as if the sea spread all the way to the horizon, but the faster you sail more ground is covered and things pop up surprisingly quick. The ghost ship could easily become damaged due to the seaweed or the coral reefs.

“You can’t let your guard down while sailing.”

Weed, though wary of his surroundings, continued to fish with Zephyr. They threw the rejected fish to the birds. The birds ripped the fish to bits and pieces. An eating flock of birds increases the speed of the ship. Gone were the days of working diligently. Before they had to fish all the time just to feed the Geomchis. Compared to that, throwing an extra fish to the birds was too easy. Weed pulled out the chart with the route.

“Seems like there’s no need to stop at the port on our way, don’t you think.”

Because the ghost sailors don’t eat, and only drink a little liquor, there was an abundance food and drinking water. While docked on Ipia Island they stocked the ghost ship’s supply room with enough water for five days and enough food for two. Even in the worst situation they would be able to hold out for a week if the food was eaten sparingly. To slowly die of starvation was unpleasant; thankfully they could supplement their supplies.

“We can go directly to the destination!”

As miserly as ever, he did not prepare a lot of food on board. They would just have to keep fishing; if the fish was salted and dried then it could last for a month. When it rained the water was collected in the sails so there was enough drinking water to fill their canteens. (PR Note: Before chlorine and whatnot sailors gathered the rainwater in the sails then stored in barrels. Don’t drink seawater, you lose more water than you gain~).

“If a storm is blowing I’ll ride it so we’ll be able to reach Gotoba, the first island in the North Sea, in 6 days.”

In the middle of the long distance voyage, his Sailing Mastery skill reached Intermediate. Rather than short trips back and forth, it was better to perform one long continuous journey.

“Because huge, long distance traveling uses sailing skills quite intensely.”

It was the eighth day of their voyage. Weed was fishing with Zephyr, when a black image appeared under the sea.

- A sea monster legion is chasing you. Sea monster legions are more likely to target ships on long voyages.

“Full speed ahead!”

Weed increased the ships speed to maximum. He wanted to outrun the monsters chasing the ship. The reaction of the ghost sailors was remarkable.

“Quick say something about sailing.”

“Does that mean to lower the anchor?”

“Retract the sails!”

Reckless ghost crew! It seems that their loyalty decreased due to the long voyage while their antipathy with Weed increased. But if the ghost ships speed did not increase then the sea monsters were going be the ones bullying them soon.

“It’s gonna be difficult to shake them off.”

Weed started taking ghost sailors and throwing them into the sea.

“If you’re just going to play around, go and fight!”

“Sir, please spare me!”

The ghost sailor that was thrown into the sea was wildly brandishing his swords but was quickly munched on by a sea monster. Panicked cries

immediately emerged from the deck.

“Sob Captain don’t throw me to the sea monsters, they’ll rip me apart!”

The ghost sailors continued to be thrown to the sea monsters. Weed hoped to lose the pursuit of the sea monsters, and in turn, the ghost soldiers continued to run away from Weed hoping to evade his grasping hand. Both parties, however, were persistent.

“If it’s like this, who can blame me?” How could he bring himself to fight in the sea when he’s never done so before.

In the Versailles continent there were advantages and disadvantages according to the characteristics of each job. But sea fare was largely dependent of the performance of the ship.

However it is generally accepted that the angler was the strongest maritime profession, not the sailor or the pirate.

Holding a harpoon, trying to hook big game while a large number of sea monsters and man-eating sharks circled around the ship, boring holes in the bottom.

It takes tremendous courage and swimming ability, it was the dawn of the underwater dungeon exploration that only adventurous users do!

Weed got ready to set out with three diver girls escorting him. He had read in a previous forum post that taking 3-4 people was essential when diving.

However no one on the ghost ship had even been diving before and were not familiar with sea battles. Weed decided to pick out a quote to raise morale:

“There is no such thing as useless leather, you can savor the meat even if it’s about to expire. Oh, what I would give for japtem!

The Dark Gamers Union forums had a list of possible item drops from sea monsters that would make one tremble.

“Battle formation! Everyone get ready to attack as soon as the battle starts!”

Weed was waiting for the decisive moment for his colleagues to immediately attack.

“Lightning shot!” Pale continuously rained lightning arrows into the sea immediately those under water were struck by a powerful electric shock.

Maylon climbed on top of the mast and fired arrows into the sea. On board there wasn't an opportunity to showcase the agility of Rangers, but if there was ever a need for a ranged attack, it was now.

“Whew. Waaaaaah. Ow!”

Lightning imbued arrows were sticking out of the sea monsters bodies.

Every time a big wave passed the sea monsters would writhe their bodies in pain. Even though they were being attacked with arrows the monsters chased them relentlessly. Due to their large vitality they did not suffer any major damage.

“Keep up the speed!”

The ghost sailors were in charge of controlling the sails, to maintain their speed and avoid slowing down even a little. It was not possible to confirm the exact number of sea monsters, but from Weeds calculation there were roughly 10 or so taking their attacks.

Romuna finished chanting her magic spell.

“Lightning Storm!”

Sea monster will immediately flee if they see you chanting for a long time, because when you gather up a large amount of mana you can create lightning magic! Lightning struck the sea around the ghost ship.

The bodies of the sea monsters convulsed. It was evident that they had been damaged by each lightning strike that hit the water. (PR Note: Just in case, even though the lightning bolts hit randomly, due to water being a conductor, they were still damaged even if they were not hit directly).

Kuttun

The boat had its first big shock as the pursuing sea monsters initiated their attack. People were stumbling and sliding from where they stood and

several ghost sailors fell into the sea. Everybody started clamoring for something to hold on to as the ship was attacked.

- The hull has been damaged, durability decreased by 36.

The ghost ship was too slow against the pursuing sea monsters and they were now attacking directly from below. The ghost ship started to slow down even more as the monster's leg started to wrap around the hull!

(L/N The front of a ship is called the bow, the back is the stern and the hull means everything below the masts and sails, essentially the wooden body)

The speed of the ship was slowed down even further as more monsters stuck to the ship. If the durability of the ship kept dwindling they would sink and die.

“All reserved to the quarter deck!”

After taking one of Surka's heavy punches the giant tentacle began to unwrap itself! The sea monster's appendage was wrapped in flames due to Surka's gloves. The twitching squid tentacles gave off a savory aroma. (PR Note: In DnD Monks can use gauntlets, necklaces and such to get more damage or special effect to their basic attacks).

Irene rapidly casted Blessing to increase the party's defense.

“Rapid Fire!”

Pale and Maylon used their Ranger and Archer skills.

They concentrated their attacks on the sea monster. The head of the sea monster started to appear as it used its' legs to climb up the ghost ship. The ghost sailors started to fight against the appendages of the giant octopus with swords and hatchets. Zephyr simultaneously attacked several sea monsters.

“Maybe the sea monsters are attracted to fresh meat from land.”

The monster of the sea did not want any more fish. Zephyr who was as

knowledgeable as an encyclopedia about baits, hooked his rod with sangyup-sal and cast it into the sea. Monsters hundred meters long were crowding around his line. This made many of the sea monster get tangled around the ghost ship until there were only two attacking. (TLC/N: Sangyup-sal is a type of Korean meat that is often grilled.

“Koooot JAJAJAK.”

The hull was being greatly destroyed by the giant squid. The durability of the ship was decreasing rapidly. After the ship was destroyed it would be quite easy for the monsters to feed. Weed chanted.

“Dismal darkness falls upon the spear. Spear born from the darkness, penetrate the enemy’s heart. Dark Spear!”

A spear as thick as an ogre’s thigh on horseback was launched toward the sea monster’s head. Powerful magic that was used against the Bone Dragon. It was more powerful than it was before as he could now properly use magic as a lich. The climbing sea monster was forced off the deck of the ghost ship. As the Dark Spear exploded and the sea monster fell back into the sea, the hull that had tilted under its weight, tilted back into place.

“He was pushed over the edge, yes!”

An undecipherable scream rose from the sea monster.

“Wow! Magic!”

“Since when has Weed been able to use magic?!”

The party members agreed that the spell was amazing. Most vanguards use melee weapons, so for Weed to have such a strong magic spell was uncommon. Although he could cast high tier spells easily as a lich, it also weakened his physical abilities.

Khaa Boo Boo

- The hull has been damaged, durability decreased by 21.
- The auxiliary sail has been torn.

He had dropped one monster back into the sea but there still another

stuck to the ship. The ghost sailors attacked its legs with knives and swords, Pale and Maylon fired arrows, but the monster hid its head under the bottom of the ship. The vitality of sea monsters was much greater than of the monsters on land.

Zephyr suddenly cried out.

“Hyung, I need help on this side!”

Different lures attract different types of fish. As a result several shark-like sea monsters started to spring to the surface to eat the lure. Sea monsters generally have low intelligence and are a bit on the dull side, but if you use the same move on a party repeatedly even they will stop being fooled after a while.

“No wonder he’s in trouble. Summon Death Knight!”

Van Hawk was summoned.

“You called master.”

“Go fight the sea monsters.”

“All right.”

Death Knight leapt onto the deck with a small ax and sword in hand. Using his shadow skill, Van Hawk was able to cut the sea monster’s leg. The sea monster’s seemingly infinite vitality finally ran out and it fell away, squirming in pain. Its loss left the ghost ship with a significantly smaller burden, but soon a crisis came again. The sea monster that had hidden in the deep sea suddenly jumped onto the deck and started wielding its legs to knock ghost sailors over in rows. Irene and Romuna expanded their defensive magic so that Pale and Maylon who were on top of the sails were protected from the tentacles.

“Dark Spear!”

Weed attacked again with magic he had used so much he could cast it in his sleep. Attacking monsters that were under the sea was like playing a very difficult guessing game. It was easier to stand on the deck and wait for a tentacle to pop up than to fire randomly at the water.

Aaaaaaaaaah, chwaaawo

Tentacles rose from the water and entwined around a delicate set of lich bones. Weed's body started to rise above the deck of the ghost ship.

“Weed!”

“Weed is being pulled in by the monster!”

Hearing this Hwaryeong screamed, Maylon notched a magical arrow on her bow and started to aim, but she was too late and Weed was drawn into the water. The strong body of the sea monster squeezed his body with severe suction. The strength of the monster would exceed even the strength of the Orc Karichwi. Pure superhuman strength!

- Paralyzing poison attack has been cast.
- Poison rendered ineffective due to characteristics of the undead.

(PR Note: All squids and octopuses have a poison sac, usually not harmful to humans but, supersize me?)

The superhuman strength the sea monster was exerting was overwhelming. It was particularly strong in the water. Underwater, Weed was able to look around more broadly. After a brief moment he was able to distinguish the herd of sea monsters that crowded around the bait. There were regular-sized sea monsters, some larger than the ghost ship, and young sea monsters that swarmed around like bees. It was a gruesome sight! He could see the sea monster that he hit with Dark Spear floating next to him. The sea monster that captured Weed was turning a different color as it got a good look at him.

A monsters' mentality is: 'Eat till it can't eat anymore.'

It was worried it would get an upset stomach if it ate Weed, who was meatless. Such was the advantage of being undead.

“Don't worry you won't have to think about that much longer.”

Weed tried to cut the leg wrapped around him with Dark Spear. However the leg was hard as steel and the attack barely made a scratch.

The thickest part of the sea monster was grade A leather; there was no way to easily cut it without damaging it. Even if he were to cut off it off, it was just one of its legs and would only serve to piss it off. Attacking it this way was pointless.

He was aiming for the heart. The heart of a sea monster would probably be in the head. Weed was waiting for an opportunity to present itself.

If Weed was a human he would have long run out of air and died with his lungs full of water, but because he was undead he did not have to worry about that. His vitality was being reduced as monsters leg was slowly squeezed him but still he waited patiently. Finally Weed raised his left hand and said.

“Life Drain, Mana Drain!”

- You've used the powers of the lich.
- You will now absorb the sea monster's health and mana.
- 369 health has been restored.
- 112 has been restored.
- 291 health has been restored...

It was possible for the drain to hit the mob multiple times. Though his movements were impaired due to the water, it didn't mean he was powerless. As it started dying the sea monster did not know what to do and opened its mouth wide. Weed, who had not died by drowning, could not be paralyzed, and would cause an upset stomach would be eaten. Weed waited patiently for the right moment to attack. Just as it was about to chow down he threw his Dark Spear inside of the monster's gaping mouth.

- You have attacked the sea monster Ortes's weak spot.
- You have dealt a fatal blow!

The leg that was holding Weed started to loosen as the sea monster tried to retreat.

“Leave it to freeze.” (PR Note: It doesn't make sense to us either).

In the past Dark Spear consumed half of his mana, but now Dark Spear could be used any number of time with mana left over for other spells as well. The magic he used now was very different from the previous spells he's used.

“Reverse gravity!”

Rather than the sea monster floating downward and away it started to float up toward the sky. Reverse gravity was a spell to make things fly. Then, the sea monster was pushed above the water surface! It hit the barriers created by Romuna and was riddled with arrows by Maylon. It was an easy target since it was such a large sea monster.

- The Ortes sea monster has been killed.
- You've gained experience points.
- Swimming skill proficiency has risen.

It was quite a tough battle, but this was the moment he had been waiting for. A dark red glow nestled in Weed's skeleton. Lich! It was time to demonstrate the real power of the undead wizard. With Balkans tome in one hand and the Staff of the Fallen Saint in the other, Weed began to chant.

“Rise, spirit who cannot rest in peace. Come alive and confront those who murdered you. Dead Rise!”

The water near Weed started to ebb away and in its place a mighty undead carp was summoned. (T/N Hahaha, the BT translation called it a giant Guppy).

Mana flowed out of Weeds' body like low tide. Since the undead sea monster was large, he needed a large amount of mana.

- Due to being a lich, the power of the Necromancy skill increases.

The undead sea monster immediately attacked the sea monsters. The sea monsters were attacked from both the Dark Spear and the undead sea monster. Together it was an immense combo. The sea monsters struggled

to identify which one of them was attacking them and soon enough they started to attack one another indiscriminately. The ghost ship was also indiscriminately attacking any animal that came within its range.

“This time I’ll try a 2nd stage necromancy spell.... Step 1, when alive attack the vulnerable parts with this spell. When it’s weakened begin step two.” (T/N I love how all of the necromancy tome spells read like cookbooks. Add two dead skeletons, one angry spirit, and compress for 10 minutes. When done should be big gruesome killing machine. Enjoy!)

“You’ve come alive, only to be stuck in a place of sorrow. Herbal black rot. Never disappear, engrave onto others the laws of darkness. Undead rise!”

All of the flesh from the bodies of the sea monsters started to separate from their bones. The sea monster did not know how to handle this little fellow. He rushed to one of the sea monsters and used it as a shield while the others attacked. It tried to shake him off but Weed clung to it like a leech.

“Life Drain, Mana Drain.”

Draining life and mana is a vulgar and cowardly action that cannot be expressed without certain words. (!%\$**\$&\$!). A majestic undead lord of darkness and despair using this tactic cannot be found. He adapted to the environment in accordance to Weed’s Save Your Neck Survival Guide.

By endlessly absorbing the mana and vitality of the sea monsters, more undead monsters could be created. Undead with great vitality, undead with water attacks, undead that pulled enemies down into the depths. There were many varieties.

- You’ve gained experience points.
- Ortes sea monster is incapacitated.
- The seven children of this sea monster were destroyed. If Undead Rise is used, mana cost may be halved.
- Has gained 10 sea monster fins.

Sea creatures are very difficult and elusive, but because of his necromancy magic, he was able to easily hunt them down while gaining

fantastic experience, as well as loot. As more and more undead were raised the sea monsters started to retreat.

“Wow!”

The party members on the boat sat down exhausted.

“Really hard.”

“They have tremendous vitality but they were not intelligent.”

Dungeon hunting was difficult but it was nothing compared to fighting on the wildly swaying and tilting boat. You can go back to pick up item in a dungeon, but in the middle of the ocean? That was impossible.

The durability of the hull decreased by a lot. Other boats attacked by the sea legion never escaped.

- You have successfully navigated through the sea monsters' habitat, the Malvinas Mela.
- Sailing Mastery skill has risen.
- Fame increased by 160.

While hunting the sea monster they gained a lot of experience. Some got 3, 6 or even 8 levels of experience. Sea monster give great items. Coming out of the monster's stomach was pearl jewelry, undigested turtle shells, fresh oysters and edible seaweed!

“I would catch ten thousand sea monsters if only the hull didn't take damage.”

Weeds eyes filled with regret as they continued on. It had been a long time since he was not bored when hunting monsters. Sea monster were a challenge. Mana was steadily consumed. Under the ghost ship there were still undead sea monsters. Every time they killed a fish a little experience came back to Weed.

- Necromancy skill proficiency has increased.

It was during the time when he was shapeshifted, but increasing the Dark skills was what Weed wanted. Necromancer was very powerful class.

Throughout the Versailles continent there were tens of thousands of objects that increase the undead wizards' ability. Their power and cursing ability were greater than a normal wizard. But, on the other hand, they had many weaknesses. The skills were hard to level. The more undead creatures you created, the more bodies you needed; to make a strong undead creature you sometimes had to prey on other users.

If you enter a large scale battle you can, do a lot of damage, get a lot of loot, and raise your level by a lot. But, as a result, you tend to be targeted by murderers and assassins. Necromancers have to deal with death and darkness, but because of their power over death, they take even more damage. If you die, it will lead to a decrease in level and a decrease in skill proficiency. If you are unable to be healed by a priest, you are more likely to die during battle.

The job requires a great deal of mana consumption and you need to frequently sit and meditate. Players who play in large scale battles are particularly shunned by the warriors on their side since necromancy uses enemies and ally parts to create undead. The Necromancer is a dangerous and lonely class.

Chapter 5: The Lost Pirate Fleet

After another nine days of sailing, they finally arrived at their destination, the port town of Kruger. Their speed dropped because the ship had encountered the sea monsters' nests 3 more times, and thus they killed an additional 57 more. Their long distance voyage allowed Weed's sailing skill to improve by a level. (T/N I'm not too sure if he improved by a level or became intermediate) "Land ahoy!"

An ecstatic Surka was the first to leave the dock.

Kruger was a small, charming harbor. The houses and shops were built like a picture.

Weed first went to the bar and collected information.

"You say you're looking for people or groups related to the Niflheim Empire? It's been a long time since we've had visitors from the outside so we don't know much. You're the first outsider we've had in awhile. Unless you're an experienced sailor, most people don't know about Kruger Harbor, you see."

They made some money at Port Kruger, selling the necessities of life and then immediately took off. Two days later they arrived in the harbor of Runei. It was a harbor with slightly larger ships than Kruger. Collecting information in the pub was easier if you bought a round of drinks. While sipping cups, the sailor's stories easily flowed out.

"Sailors don't like talking about where they're from. And you don't even know the name, you say? Then finding em would be even more difficult!"

"If you are looking for sailors from Niflheim there'd be a lot amongst the pirates. Many fishermen can't fish around here anymore because of the storm and changed to being pirates. Where we from? That's...hehe, you'd report us if you knew wouldn't you?"

"Storm? I'm not sure why but the seas seemed to start to become like this after the fall of the Niflheim Empire....heard the sea used to be quite calm before that."

There were also many unconfirmed rumors.

“In the northeast sea there’s an island infested with monsters. Don’t even think about landing on an island infested with monster for supplies. You’ll become monster food in an instant.”

“Did you see the fish with red fins? That one’s meat is tender so its great for eating.”

“The area the pirates mainly infest is the Perion Bay.” Sailors who traveled the extensive sea bragged an awful lot. One could only confirm the truth by going for themselves.

Still, even the smallest tidbits could be used for later reference. It happened while Weed was investigating in a very small port called Rejado. As he bought a drink for a very old fisherman, he drank with thanks and said.

“Young man who has the temperament of an Admiral, are you asking about the Armenian Pirates?”

“I didn’t ask anything about pirates.”

“A long time ago, I heard from my Grandfather about that storm hitting the sea. During the fall of the Niflheim Empire, a certain man went through the ritual of the pirates in that sea and took a ship. Later on, it seems he became the head of a pirate crew. Rumor has it, he was a great magician.”

Weed’s head started processing quickly. Rejado port is very close to the stormy seas, but it was found at the back of an island. Weed would have missed it had he not looked closer.

“Are the Armenian Pirates still at large?”

“Their forces practically ran the North sea.”

“What about now?”

“They’ve been missing for a few decades now.”

Weed decided there was no other way but to pursue the Armenian pirates.

“Is there any way to know where they went?”

“If you travel towards the north for a long enough time, there is said to be a beautiful Aurora that spreads across the night sky. It is said that even the very best sailors may or may not experience it once in a lifetime. If you go along the aurora you will arrive in the Northern Region of the continent.”

Morata was also part of the North and so if the old fisherman were basing the Middle continent as the standard, then Lezadra port was also in the North.

When he liberated Morata, it became the center of the north and supply for dry leather. But most of the north past it was opted out.

Then how much more North are you telling me to go. Weed's complexion changed as fast as a flying car. This was because he was reminded of that place.

“No way.”

“There's absolutely no way.....just no way. No matter how bad my luck is, it can't be that.”

The words of the fisherman continued.

“The place that you must break through is in the cold ice, where the land breathes. Rumors has it that the Armenian Pirates went to the Las Phalanx area. I also heard from grandfather that their treasure lies sleeping there.”

You have obtained information on the quest.

Acquiring clues about the quest!

Las Phalanx. Even the name alone sounded ghastly. It was one of the 10 forbidden areas in the continent, for starters it is an area of fierce glacial cold! Volcanoes constantly explode and spew out lava. And the level of monsters that appear are mainly between 500 and 600, so just entering is impossible unless one was prepared for death.

Weed was greatly enlightened.

“There is a map of Las Phalanx which my ancestors went to. Would you be willing to take at least that?”

‘Ah finally, you are trying to kill me, Quest!’

It could be said that he was moments away from reaching his goal by walking on the path of death. The moment his coffin was made, the hole was dug and all that was needed was for his breath to stop.

Weed sharply asked.

“Is it free?”

“ I have no particular use for it now so just take it.”

The fisherman went to his house and left Weed the old leather map.

You have obtained a map for heading towards Las Phalanx.

You obtained Roughly drawn map of Las Phalanx #1. The Las Phalanx area could be said to be the end of the northern part of the Versailles continent.

The moment Weed looked at the map, images started to flow.

A Land of Frozen, Pure White Ice!

Mammoths, large polar bears, and yeti walk leaving massive footprints.

The eerie scene of furry bears laying dead and frozen was incomparable to the cold of the land above the North. If the North was like kids saying they were cold after eating ice cream, then this was just a freezer.

It was a miserable place to call a hunting ground. If you were not there for a quest or for treasure you would never have even ventured near it. Even if he brought 100,000 soldiers, around 90,000 would die of the cold and about 8,000 would die of hunger. The smarter 2,000 would flee before they even got to the glacier.

However, if you went past to Las Phalanx, it was no longer as cold. The ice is barely frozen and you can feel the warm atmosphere waiting to flake away. Red light and steam rise up out of a large crack in the ground.

Aaaannn Kwaaah booom!

The mountains of Las Phalanx frequently spew out lava. Tropical monsters such as; the Borado Warriors of Chaos; Phantom Bolas that crawled on all fours; the winged Deabbedo, which looked like bats and were considered the weakest at around 380 were always being eaten by the other monsters. In the distance, Feyoumu fire giants wriggled in the center of the volcanoes spraying lava. The dangerous volcanoes and the shiny ores around dangerous dungeons stood out. There were a lot of veins of mithrils, gold, silver, and many other precious minerals for jewelry. Las Phalanx also had many rare stones just scattered on the surface. It was definitely a place worth going to for sculptors.

An extremely dangerous land he had never been to before and infested with all-powerful monsters. Even so Weed did not feel like giving up the quest.

“If failure was the first option in mind then fighting the Immortal Legion (I think that's what it's called ie. can't be bothered to check) in the first place was also impossible!”

Whatever the request, you can't succeed without challenging it. Nonetheless, Weed decided to think positively instead of pessimistically.

“I'm not going to die of the cold air, dying by fire is a million times better.”

The durability of armor and weapon becomes significantly lower when scorched by flames. Though they can become wrecked to the degree of restoration being impossible once they melt, with his blacksmithing skills he could repair the damage to a certain degree so it was ok.

“Since it's on the land instead of the unfamiliar sea it'll be easier to endure.”

If it's fighting on land it was also possible to call the sculptures of life pieces. However, it would take a long time to just to go back to get them though.

“For now, I'm a Lich and not a Sculptor so it'll be more advantageous.”

Sculptors are able to increase their force's overall power and contribute greatly to the development of a city. It was a job capable of empowering many other residents and users.

On the other hand, Necromancers could fight with corpses and mana. The sculptures of life had a similar effect, but the benefit of raising reinforced zombies and ghouls even in death was much greater. Combat-wise, the Necromancer is said to be the strongest career known to date. It was not like it had the broadness of a Magician's ranged attacks, nor did it have the might of a swordsman or knight. However, looking at it from the side, it was a profession enabling you to handle legions of undead and becoming a one-man army which is an advantage incomparable to the other occupations.

"It'd be better to not use the Ancient shield"

Even the Ancient shield that accounted for about of 30% of his total defense could not be used.

"Nonetheless, all I can do is endure as much as possible"

All that's left to believe is that his vitality is more persistent than a cockroach's.

(imitation-I don't think he should be proud of that)

*

In the little kingdom Selzium. Mandol, lived in a huge thousand square ft. mansion with his wife.

Some visitors had arrived at the mansion they lived in.

"The sculptures have been made in Morata. It's difficult to move them so we hope you drop by there, that is the message."

On the Versailles continent, There was a company that would give simple messages for others or deliver goods so long as they knew the address. Through them, Weed's message had arrived. Only then had Mandol told his wife about the request he had made.

"You did something useless." "Even if Weed is a famous sculptor how

would he carve my daughter when he's never seen her?"

"Well. . ."

"Alright. If you really insist, then let's go."

Even if it was through traveling, Mandol wanted to regain the happiness he had lost with his wife.

"It's been a while since we've traveled together."

"Let's see many good things and eat lots of tasty dishes"

"Yes"

They made their trip while hunting and making their own food. Looking at Mandol giving his utmost best, his wife, Delfina, sometimes smiled.

"Here's Morata."

Unlike Mandol, who had a bushy beard and looked like a bandit, his wife, Delphi, was a slim and attractive beauty.

"There's been a lot of development since the last time I came. There are a lot of buildings that have been built as well."

Mandol once came to Morata to leave his request with Weed.

'At that time, there weren't this many people and buildings.'

A lot of large and ornate structures have been made too.'

It seemed like even a few days wouldn't be enough to cover looking around all of Morata. Mandol spoke with an uneasy mind.

"Even if the sculpture is disappointing, please don't be mad."

"It's alright. I mean it was great on the way here."

Mandol deliberately approached Morata slowly trying to ease his wife on the way.

1 Copper for a Sculpture! 'He couldn't have made it terribly for being a cheapie, could he?'

Having traveled a long way, the distress would be devastating for his wife much less himself if the sculpture was unsightly.

“I can only leave it to his conscience. But he didn’t look too kind, nor that honest though.”

As they tried to pass through the gate, there was a girl waiting to pick them up.

“Are you perhaps Mandol?”

“Yes, but”

It was a cute and pretty girl.

The girl named Freena had worked in several occupations after being saved by Weed. She sold flowers, helped make clothes, and even assisted with cooking in the cafeteria when the meat of the King Hydra and the Imugi was cooked and served.

At present she’d even been entrusted with the guide mission.

“My lord has urgent work to do elsewhere, so you can not meet him.”

Questions and doubts flew across Mandol’s head.

‘Did he really make a cheapie and run off?’

Freena continued.

“Instead I will guide you there.”

“There?”

“The location of the sculpture.”

Well, he definitely wouldn’t have thrown it just anywhere. Beginners in this city could be seen everywhere; the whole place was vibrant and lively. Drawn to its bright and cheery atmosphere, Mandol just wanted to go exploring the city already. New quests and hunting grounds were being discovered one after another, and there was also the nearby lake and mountain scenery that was out of this world. Delphi and Mandol receiving the guide entered the center area of Morata. There was a jumbo sized building surrounded by gardens and a live fishpond.

Weed’s Art Center.

“This is the place.”

“This is where the sculpture... that I requested of the lord is, you say?”

Mandol was slightly overwhelmed.

The Arts Center building was constructed grander and larger than many of the villas in the central continent.

“Yes, from here on out the architect, Pavo, will personally guide you.”

Pavo was waiting in advance at the entrance.

“I am the architect of this Arts Center, Pavo .”

“I’m Mandol and this is Delphi.”

Mandol politely bowed to Pavo who looked much older than the two

“You seem to be more of an elder than us, so please take it easy on us. But, it’s the middle of the day, so why is the Art Center’s doors closed? ”

“That’s because it hasn’t been opened yet. I’m opening the door now, so please take your time looking around.”

Weed’s Arts Center’s first guests were Mandol and Delphi. The official opening would be after the two come out. The locked doors that had been waiting for them sprang wide open.

*

After obtaining information from Rejado port they finally departed for Lal Phalanx! First, they stopped at Mocon village for the quest of meeting the blacksmith. Everybody had the quest except Weed. Weed did not say much as the others went into Mocon village. He just sighed seven hundred times.

“Sigh, huff, ehfuu, aarhus, shhhiii, wow, whew.”

“ ... ”

“Call Death Knight!”

“You called master? Who must I fight ?”

“It’s me.”

“Huh?”

“Let’s fight.”

There had already been dozens of incidents of beating the innocent death knight in between fishing.

“I’m doing this just to raise my combat skills’ proficiency, so don’t mind me. It’s definitely not like I’m still holding some kind of grudge from Go-stop.”

(T/N Weed...you still hold a grudge huh.)

By the way, the Mocon village blacksmith also issued a quest.

“There’s a lack of Iron ore and I can not make the stuff I need. Heard that near Mordred there were good mines, could you search over there for me? I can’t wait forever so I hope you can get it in at least 4 months.”

A Difficulty level C request.

Of course everyone accepted the quest. It was because they were in a situation where they had to do the Mordred’s great craftsman descendent quest anyway. And so they once again set out from Mocon village with sails spread wide.

“Las Phalanx area, huh. . . .”

The North of Versailles continent was a very polar region. To reach the Northern part of the continent by land, you have to cross large mountains and rivers, as well as pass through a dangerous forest full of demons. Even if it could be said to be far safer to go by sea, it’s a very far distance.

“What’s more is that it’s said that the storms and currents aren’t so great either so the path is tough.”

Looking at Weed’s sailing skills or the state of the ghost ship, it wasn’t looking good. It’s said that going further North from here, encountering glaciers floating around was very likely and avoiding them would be difficult.

“I may sink before I even get to Las Phalanx.”

It was a situation where he had no choice but to freeze to death if he fell into the sea. The ghost ship was not a high speed ship, despite sailing for

five days, they did not go so far in the north. Not only was it because of the influence of the headwind and currents, but also was there the fault of going through every island and port selling necessities and gathering info.

“To go to Las Phalanx that’s one crazy man.”

An aging old woman asked seriously.

“Are you going with a deathwish?”

Two days later Pale said.

“By the way, Weed the time limit on our quest is approaching.”

They originally followed Weed on their way to Modred. They were detained for a while so they had to do their quest too.

“Or should we just cancel our quest? Las Phalanx should be a really dangerous area. You’d need our help.”

Despite Pale’s goodwill Weed could not accept it with ease. Even on the ship, Weed was perpetually raising his skill proficiency as well as Fishing, Carving, Cooking and a variety of others. But the others could only sit around and watch the scenery on the way to Las Phalanx taking God knows how long. In addition, there was no way to guarantee that everyone would arrive safely at Las Phalanx now was there. He could not ask them to go as far as to give up a quest for that.

“No, I’ll go alone. I’ll try finding Lax Phalanx by myself.”

“If we leave, the battles at sea will get harder, won’t they?”

“I just have to bring the Sculptures of Life on board when I let you guys off.”

Getting the comparably lighter Golden Bird aboard was no problem.

Phoenix, Bingryong, and the Wyverns could not go together to as far as Las Phalanx. Hwaryeong and Irene strongly protested but Weed did not accept.

“Please first set out for Mordred’s quest. Even I alone am sufficient for my quest.

There is no need to feel sorry. If I really need help later you can always come to help through Yurins picture shift ability.”

This was when Yurin regrouped with them through the shift ability after painting a picture at Morata. Only after that was Pale’s party convinced. The ghost ship went full speed ahead for sure and docked at the pier.

“Hwaryeong, you have my 1190 gold, so luck be with you. Irene, do not donate that 810 gold, because I’m going to regain it from you later. And Bellote, who won 690 gold, could you remain on the ghost ship separately for a little while longer, because I have a favor I’d like to ask of you.”

“What?”

“It’s nothing grand and I’ll send you over to the others through Yurin”

“That so?”

Bellote agreed and was puzzled but decided to stay for now. Weed was a cheaty, petty man crazy for money. However, it didn’t seem like he would be harboring any dirty or underhanded ambitions. This is Bellotte, who had a considerably sober assessment on Weed that we’re talking about. Seeing her best friend, Hwaryeong have absolutely no worries was also relieving. Bellotte glanced at Weed’s face; a skeleton with a lonely expression having said farewell to his peers.

“Without the rest of us there it’ll just be him and the ghost sailors. It’ll be a lonely voyage.”

“I still feel a bit sorry somehow.”

Weed’s jawbone spread so far from the mouth it looked like it was going to fall off.

“Now I can hog all the treasure!”

And then there were the Sculptures of Life coming aboard the ghost ship.

*

“Mooooo!”

Wyvern, Phoenix, Rover, Geomuni and Bingryong!

“Get on the boat Geumini.”

“Okay, master.”

“Wyverns, for starters try getting on.”

The Wyverns were too heavy to carry on the deck to the valley. If they tried to sit on the mast it would break under their force.

“Wyverns, come down.”

It was when the Wyverns were going to fly off the boat. Walking determinedly Bingryong was five times as big as the ghost ship! Shamelessly Bingryong was trying to get on the ghost ship. It seemed like he was trying to destroy it by stomping on it with his foot.

“Stop, right there.”

Just before Bingryong was about to step on the ship he stopped

“You just can’t get on.”

With those words from Weed, Bingryong, as if somewhat sad, turned away.

*

Lee Hyun connected to the Royal Road website.

“I need skilled sailors.”

If it was near the high-traffic Nelia there wasn’t much worry about getting lost. On the other hand, to get to Las Phalanx, you had to cross a great sea. If you didn’t know where the currents were, in the worst case scenario you could get swept up in the wrong current and it would lead to disaster. A little mistake in the wrong direction could lead to a few days in the wrong direction, which could lead to the loss of several days of wandering around to get on the right path again or going to the wrong place entirely.

“To get to Las Phalanx, a high level navigator is needed.”

Ghost sailors were high-level to a certain degree, but that was just to a

certain degree in battle. When it came to adjusting the sails or handling the keys they were so clumsy that getting to the destination quickly and accurately was impossible.

“Famous Captains or navigators, huh...”

Lee Hyun was searching the website articles.

“Though it’d better to get anyone that does not belong to a guild or group.”

From among them he found a striking article.

Title: Dirty Navigator Bastards! They robbed me of everything in Lanetis Sea.

Timber! You dirty bastards! I was pressed into Eulra on 4teeth.

(T/N Pressed is a old term that was used to reference people who where pressed “kidnapped” into the becoming sailors for the navy [usual an old British reference]) I hired some navigator, but he caused a mutiny with the other crewmen and I lost all of my trading goods and even got my ship stolen.

After I searched up their names, man these guys were famous.

Seems like Hye, Fractal, and Board Mir were friends. Don’t ever hire them.

The name was also posted about in several other articles.

Title Accusing the armed mugger of Planatis sea.

Even while they have high levels they’re jerks who hijack others’ ships. In order to access us they pretend to be goodie two shoes and after hiring them for their talents they stole the ship and I got a total loss. Don’t ever be fooled. They totally lust for women and their personalities are shit. Main base Becky. Let’s all be careful.

Lee Hyun was in a position where he had to use a pirate caught as a slave if he couldn’t get a navigator.

“For starters I just need to get the contract.”

When the sailor contract is fulfilled that person’s status belongs to the ship.

In other words, as long as the ship does not sink, they are revived on the ship. Therefore the right to decide the life and death of the seafarers belongs to the captain. However, it was always possible for the sailors to take control of the ship by rioting and overthrowing the captain. At sea anything can happen!

The Port city Becky! As a port city that was part of a small marine dukedom. Trade and the shipbuilding industry were developed. In order to enter the Neria Sea from the Planatis Sea, it was an island that must essentially be passed by. The Island had many good hunting grounds, and its ocean currents lead all the way to the eastern kingdom of Brenton in just four or five days.

“Hehe, please another bottle of wine here.”

Bellotte was dressed in a neat leather dress and was drinking in the hard drunk pubs. Cute rosy cheeks, clear eyes, and innocent impression; she had attracted all the men’s attention.

“Hmm.”

“A woman drinking alone.... Is she waiting for her colleagues to come?”

Many of the male users were taking a peek at her.

Because this tavern was near the port the ratio of male sailors was overwhelmingly high. As the men were building up courage, watching Bellote sipping a drink, there were three men who stood up first. It was Hye, Fractal, and Board Mir the navigators famous for bad taste. They loved hard liquor, women, and had experience seizing boats by betraying the captain. They had a notorious reputation for going in between as normal users and murderers. They also had the nickname “ Becky’s 3 Mad Sharks.” Now they sat next to Bellotte and spoke in light tones. The one with the job to break the silence was Hye whose appearance was the better of the three.

“Seems like this is your first time in Becky?”

“Yes. My friends asked me to come here recently. Hehe.”

It was important how the opponent accepts the first words. Hye thought it wasn't a bad start. That was because she laughed good-heartedly without any repulsion.

“Where are your friends now?”

“They're waiting in the harbor.”

For Hye there was no need to retire even if there was a friend. If it was a girl with a cutesy innocent impression like Bellotte anyone would want to go out with her.

“Your friends as in men?”

“Their names are Romuna and Surka. Would you like to see a picture?”

“Picture?”

“A little sis I know is a painter. She painted us each a portrait.”

“I would love to see it, by all means.”

Bellotte pulled out the images from her backpack below. The image contained A Sporty girl in a red wizards hat and charming dancer staring wide-eyed. etc Hye, Fractal and Board Mir swallowed their spit and thought:

‘Jackpot.’

Hitting on Bellotte alone was already amazing. But along with her friends it was not an exaggeration to say it was a beauty corp. Hye's smile thickened further.

“By the way why, is there no nautical officer in this picture?”

“Because none of them is a nautical officer.”

“I presume you got here with another's boat or a liner.”

“No, we hitched a ride with a friend who has his very own boat. He's a beginner Captain.”

“Oh my, it must’ve been tough coming here.”

The currents around Becky were extreme, thus unless sailed by a skilled sailor, there was bound to be trouble.

“Actually it was really hard. It took more than four days to get here.”

“Yes it was very difficult. It took us three days longer to get here.”

“My my that so? It would’ve been much better if some skilled navigators helped out...”

Hye peeked a glance at his mates.

As if written on a script Fractal asked the next question

“The sea is really beautiful, right?”

“Yes, it’s really beautiful. The clouds roll across, and the floating stars and clouds.... and watching the jumping fish and dolphins make me really happy.”

Hye gazed gracefully back at Bellotte again at the end of the eloquent words.

“The sea is a really nice place. Are you going to continue your voyage? If so then perhaps we can help out a bit.... Really?”

“All the good views of Becky are in the palm of our hands. We’ve even got some drinks to drink while looking.”

“Actually there’s a place I really want to go....”

Bellotte suddenly tailored a guilty look. If one looked close it seemed like a frozen face doing something one really shouldn’t. But this was interpreted differently by Hye.

‘Is she being sorry for asking me for help? Such a nice lady.’

Going with beauties like Bellote, how much trouble could go over that. Given the chance, wanting to go together were the three men’s hearts.

“What’s the problem? If you’re worried about something like not having enough money there’s no worries.”

“Honestly I came looking for a crew and a navigator, but I couldn’t bear the shame to ask you. Will you really help me?”

“Of course. You should have asked sooner.”

Board Mir suddenly interrupted as well. He was feeling jealous at the other two for being the only ones to talk to Bellotte.

“Then will you make the contract?”

“Do you by any chance have a boat?”

“It’s a friend’s, but it’s an old medium sized sailboat.”

“Oh, is that so.”

Nothing would be better than Bellote or her friends. However, if there was no sign of going well with them they could always steal the boat in the middle of the sea.

An opportunity to Bellote and her friends and obtaining the boat and items.

‘Great.’ ‘A gnarly opportunity.’ The three got hasty and said.

“Let’s first start with the sailor contract.”

”How much would we get a day from the sailing contract?”

All of them were thinking everything was theirs’ so there was no need to ask for a lot.

“We’re good with 5 gold a day. No, the even if we don’t get that much we’re good.”

A trip with beauties and the chance to take over the boat low wages were but a trifle.

“That’s great. I already have the contract as the temporary vice Captain.”

Documents, which had been prepared in advanced, were removed from Bellotte’s bag.

Ding!

Bellotte has proposed a voyage contract for the Maria’s issue, on the

behalf of the captain.

Title: Sailors and Navigators.

Allowance: 1 gold per day.

Contract duration: until arrived at the destination.

The Navigators Guild of Becky's oceans ensures this agreement.

Sailors are disqualified if they deny the ship's captain's command, or conduct an unauthorized withdrawal from the ship.

The allowance was only one gold. Even it was only word of mouth, after saying they would even do service free of charge they would only be stingy men if they started nitpicking. By signing the consent forms Hye, Fractal, and Board Mir happily entered into an unreasonable sailors contract. If the Voyage contract was assured by the Navigation Guild of Becky's oceans, it was impossible to leave the ship. If they deserted the ship without authorization, their licenses would be disqualified by the Navigator's Guild of Becky's oceans, so they couldn't be employed on other ships. Plus, the ships they own would be useless because no harbor would take them making it hard to get any work. The three men twitched like tracking dogs ready for the hunt.

"Then shall we go see the boat?"

"Yes."

With rosy imaginations they followed Bellotte to the harbor. However, when they got there, they were a little confused. Despite the clear signs of being repaired the medium sized boat was still badly damaged. While being dumbfounded Hye asked.

"This is your boat?"

"Yeah. Is there any problem"

"No, nothing. It's just that it didn't seem like it'd go with your style."

Such an old ship doesn't seem like it'd fetch a good price , but oh well, a medium sized ship is a medium sized ship.

"Would you go ahead? I'll catch up later."

“Got it. We’ll be waiting on the ship.”

They climbed up the ladder with pleasure.

“Now it’s our world.” “Pretty girls and a sea adventure, huh”

And the continuing shock, confusion and despair! On the deck three men with deathly white faces could be seen. What they boarded was a ghost ship, and one with ghost sailors walking around at that. They vaguely thought it might not be a trip with all women but they could never imagine a disaster of this proportion.

“Excuse me, this isn’t the boat Maria’s that we got issued to is it? We just got issued to Bellotte’s ship.”

The ghost sailors laughed raucously and willingly answered Hye’s stuttered question.

“KYeekyekeye This is the ship Maria.”

“The curse, the disaster of the ocean, The ghost ship Maria!
Hehehehehe”

“What are you talking abo ... we’ve been cheated?”

As they were in a rush in making the contract there was a lot they didn’t ask.

“Umm, Where is the ship headed?”

“Kihihihhi it’s going to the Las Phalanx region.”

“Las Phalanx? I think I’ve heard that name somewhere before...Oh, you cant be referring to that Las Phalanx?!”

Known to be a place where you have to sacrifice yourself just to get there, one of the 10 classified forbidden areas; Las Phalanx! As navigators, they had heard about it so they knew the name.

“Yes, we’re going to Las Phalanx. Are you scared? You’ll probably die and become like us? Hihhi.”

“Blessing! Blessing! Become a sailor and stay on this ship forever.”

Looking at the ghost crew Hye frowned. Nonetheless, as the voyage

contract stated they could not cancel it until they fulfilled it. If they left without permission they couldn't get any jobs at the harbor so the disadvantages were just too enormous, Fractal gave a small whisper.

“There's no problem. We only need to kill the Captain.”

All they needed to do was kill the captain and grab the contract documents.

Then they would have no problems with the Navigation Guild of Becky's oceans.

“Let's just kill the captain like always and take the ship already.”

“ Though it's an old antique... but we'll still be able to get a so-so price for it.

Hye asked with hope.

“Where is the Captain of this ship?”

“huek huekhue, our Captain , scary Captain, is fishing.”

“Where?”

“Go towards the front.”

The three navigators pulled out their knives and moved with bold fronts. They were planning on slicing the captain and selling the boat straightaway. However, the moment the three men saw the captain their faces turned a ghastly white. With the body of a Lich consisting of a skeleton and skull, Weed was fishing.

Chapter 6: DeRon's Aurora

“For the sake of the quest Weed seems to have moved.”

“He followed the gold.”

In Morata spies were seen reporting to the Lords and the Guilds. In the north, the guilds and lords, as well as Central and Western continents sent spies to watch their movements. It was evident they were fairly conscious about the plans of Weed. Each of the stations also had sources planted in Morata to gain real time information.

“Is this the second part of the S-class quest?”

“It seems to be finally starting.”

Weed had the only S-class quest in progress on the Versailles continent. Even A and B class quest could influence the entire continent. The very difficult S-class is a step above that and a very big change was coming. Even just step one of the quest, devastated one of the Embinyu cults and restarted the secret Matallost cult.

“An S class quest that only be started out in the north, there shouldn't be many cases that impact the Versailles Continent.”

“What if he acquires a rare sword that came out from the history books? A premium magic sword or maybe an outrageously fire resistant armor?”

“Since the north continent doesn't have a nation, there could be a quest about establishing one.”

There were many who speculated what would happen, but if Weed completed the quest he would once again be the center of the worlds attention. If he was successful, he would be the first player to ever fulfill a S-class; with all the glory and prestige that every user yearned for. A fierce competition between broadcasters was going on behind the scenes. The views from the first part of the S-class quest were huge. King Hydra, Imugi, Balkan Lich: monsters that normal users couldn't even find, were part of a fierce and massive battle. Balkan's outstanding performance caused wizards to change to Necromancers in droves. However broadcaster did

not expect for Weed to have a second success. According to Weed, part 1 was utilizing the Matallost relic to the utmost and a lot of luck. As the quest progressed each step would be more and more difficult. But even if the quest was failed, the viewers would still watch so they were preparing to broadcast.

“...seems to have disappeared from the waterfront.”

BardRay was also notified. Like a scalpel the Hermes guild focused on surveillance of Weed and were reporting directly to BardRay. It was a unilateral decision by the core guild members. The fact that the guild watches only the top 50 players in the Versailles continent which included Weed put BardRay in a very bad mood.

-What if it's a sea quest?

BardRay asked in a whisper to his spy. He sent many high level spies to chase after Weed. Of course they ultimately lost Weed, but they were able to follow him to the water because Weed moved in a straight path there.

-There's insufficient information on what the quest is.

-If the trail was lost, did you see if he rode the Wyverns and continued on?

-It seems he went to sea aboard a boat and not on the Wyverns. We've found traces of hunting around here that could be the wyverns but we also found traces of a boat landing on the beach.

-He rode a boat? What was the boat's size?

-It was a small wooden boat but I can't tell if he switched to a larger ship or not.

-He went out to sea without a doubt right?

-Not only the I but other guild's spies are here looking for evidence here. We've found footprints of several hundred people from Morata. If you look at the characteristics of the footprints you can determine the equipment and they all belong to the same class. It appears it was that strong force during the Morata war. (T/N Signs of Geomichis) -Roger

that. Notify me first if there are any changes.

-Yes, sir.

Bardray's forehead wrinkled slightly. That Weed could succeed in an S class quest before him was getting on his nerves.

"Should I just kill him?"

Bardray heart wavered. His equipment and levels were incomparable to anyone on the Versailles continent. And Weeds combat ability that he showed while hunting the dragon was surprising, but the same could be achieved by Bardray easily. Bardray had been hunting monster of similar levels while receiving the assistance of wizards or clerics. It was after his 3rd job change at level 400 he passed the advanced training center. Even in virtual reality he was getting accustomed to fighting. There was no obstacle or monster he couldn't overcome. If you lack movement in some way, then with equipment, skills, and levels the gap could be narrowed. Bardray fought many opponents in the Hermes guild, until he held the highest position in the guild. (T/N In this case there talking about how the BardRay faction holds the most power in the guild not that he is the highest seat, which is guild master.) Even if he only used two or three sword skills, Weed was as good as dead.

"However now's a critical time. Until we win full control of the Kingdom of Haven under the hegemony alliance I can't leave. The time to show you the taste of true despair is not yet."

Revenge would come with subjugating the Versailles Continent and exiling Weed; But Weed's success in the chain quest and his growth annoyed BardRay.

"You probably used the Kallamore Knights for a quest, and they likely can't be used more than a few times. More users are starting in Morata of late. You better savor it now because eventually I will be coming." He hated users that surpassed themselves and rose up in the ranks. That Weed could some could somehow gain the same equipment of the same power level as him was terribly unpleasant."

BardRay sent a whisper

-Navy Admiral Drinfeld.

-Yes?

An Admiral for the Hermes guild! Drinfeld was in charge of the Kingdom's 2nd fleet.

-You've got work to do.

-Just send me an order.

-Take your 2nd fleet to the north. Your goal is Weed.

-You want me to keep assassinating him?

-No, it's only important to kill him once or twice. Just to teach him a lesson.

-Yes, sir.

If Weed had left on a boat then Drinfeld was going to be needed. BardRay rethought about the command.

"It might not be enough. The sea is very broad. It'll be tough for Drinfeld to catch-up to Weed."

BardRay wrote a letter to allied guild master Laffe. It was a proposal to send a transmission to the Griffith pirates who occupy the largest sea area.

"Kill God of War Weed who's out at sea...."

Griffith read the letter from the Hermes guild. The navies from the kingdoms in the continent were powerful, but Griffith's power at sea was enormous. He had more than 400 small and medium Pirate vessels under his immediate control. Pirates also had an indirect sphere of influence. In order for sea merchants to transport shipments by sea, they had to pay a fee to the Griffith pirates. The deputy head of the pirates Colm asked.

"Who did they say to kill that you're hesitating so?"

"It's not a bad deal."

The guild said that if they managed to kill Weed three times they could keep any equipment he dropped. They also could gain one piece of the

equipment broadcasted by BardRay. Any equipment worn by Bardray was extremely powerful.

“It’s a very generous compensation.”

“It’s a fake though. The Hermes guild would not reveal their real equipment on air; its best kept a secret.”

“Then you don’t want to do it?”

“No opportunities like this don’t come very often.”

Griffith grinned. Not only the Hermes guild, but many lords and prestigious guilds of the Central continent had the same request.

*

The sailing speed of the ghost ship was significantly faster now. It was all because of the trained officer adjusting the sails and course. As expected, the anxiety of the three navigators grew with each new point they passed. It was a rare experience to work together with a ghost crew and steer a ghost ship. They now had a lot new tales they could tell at bars. Going to Las Phalanx was like waking up sleeping lion.

“Umm, I know of other hunting grounds.”

“Do you want to go somewhere with a better view?”

Board Mir and Hye proposed to Weed, despite that, he continued to fish! Deoreol was known as the captain of the ghost ship, so they did not know that it was Weed. A Moo sound came from Yellowy. He was lying spread out on the deck along with Geumuni, who was fishing while wearing a straw hat.

“Why on earth did a lich suddenly appear?”

“He should be a high level... shit, we got caught up in this pretty bad. We can’t attack him.”

The Lich is not a class that can be easily killed by a surprise attack. Looking at the undead sea monsters that rose from the seafloor, the group felt exasperated.

“Is it possible to change jobs to Lich?”

“I don’t know. I haven’t heard of any users from the continent switching before. We’re so unlucky to meet the one who did.”

It was then, as Hye, Fractal, and Board Mir were wallowing in their despair, “Large reef discovered on the port side! Turn.”

Fractal, who was monitoring the front, shouted out about the reef.

tsu rurururu chwek

Hye hastily turned the helm to the left. The turn was sharp enough to rock the boat from side to side, as they barely avoided the reef lightly scratching the side of the boat. They’d come quite a long ways from Becky Nin so there were no other boats in the vicinity.

“Whew. This is also a great experience, isn’t it?”

“Yes, my sailing skills have risen a huge amount.”

Hye and Board Mir were surprised. The more they moved along Weed’s route the more experience and skill proficiency piled up. This does not require the presence of the sea. The voyage itself gave off the experience, skill level, and fame of a user who discovered a new dungeon.

“I think it was a good thing to come along with this voyage.”

“I know what you mean, my navigation skills have greatly improved.”

“We can pretend to faithfully follow commands for now . . . but we’re the only ones who can steer the ship.”

“Well, don’t worry about it. We’ll definitely find an opportunity to take control of the ghost ship. We’ll desert them when we anchor on an unknown island. Captain of the ghost ship! Kuhuhuhu.”

The three men held a secret conversation. However Yellowy saw their scheming and could only feel sorry for them.

How daring to make such dirty conspiracies against Weed! Eumumu. ‘You don’t know how cheap, petty, and despicable master is.’

It was like little children trying to pickpocket professional gamblers. On

top of that Weed didn't even let the smallest amount of money slip through his fingers. Due to the north wind in their sails, they traveled quickly. Speaking cautiously, Hye call out to Weed.

“Captain, I have something to tell you.”

“Mmm.”

Weed fished on almost silently. His Fishing skill had risen to Intermediate 5 and 35% and his handicraft stat by 3%. There were millions of skills to improve maximum vitality, but they wouldn't be gained by fishing.

“In about half a days time, we'll be a third of the way to our destination. We can expect to arrive 2 days earlier.”

“MMMM!”

Modest praise from Weed. Even with an accurate map to Las Phalanx, without the three navigator's skills, it would've been a harsh journey. Though their personalities weren't much,, no one could deny their skills. Anyways, Weed was their employer.

“Keep up the good work. You will receive many rewards on our return.”

“Yes sir.”

Hye stepped back after the small conversation. While navigating for this long, they had been paid only a stipend of 1 gold a day, which was too cheap. He was trying to point this out to Weed, but Weed already knew that. Weed thought.

“I guess I will have to pay them 1 gold extra as payment for saving two days time.”

The waves became violently rough for the second half of voyage to Las Phalanx. As 7-meter waves met the ghost ship, it would repeatedly climb and fall.

“Whoooo! i guess I'll have to hold on to something if I don't want to fall”

“Ahhhh! Please let me live!”

The ghost crew that were struck were knocked into the sea. However, they soon reemerged in their assigned spots. If they were real sailors, they would either be dead or it would be very difficult to save them. Even the currents became harsh. They would be sailing calmly when suddenly a giant whirlpool large enough to suck in and shatter a large ship would appear.

“To the right! Turn wide.”

Without the utmost concentration, it was impossible to avoid them. The ghost ship teeter tottered through the stiff currents as they made their way north. After three days, they finally made it out of the whirlpool area. All Weed did was continue fishing. As they headed, north he caught rare purple fish species that raised his skills. On top of that, as the captain, he adjusted sails which raised his navigation skills.

“How much longer do we have?” Exhausted, Board Mir answered Weed’s question.

“We’ve traveled about 60% of the way.”

“We ought to arrive soon.”

“Work hard!”

It was not a short distance, so there was no choice but to adapt to the sea. With only navigation skills and their belief in themselves, they could only unite and weather the harsh sea. Strength, courage, and a challenging mindset were needed to hold out when the sea was this rough.

Fortunately, the wind didn’t blow against them and the waves calmed down and for two days they had a calm journey. Their bodies suddenly felt cold. Instead of rain, thick snowfall came from from the sky.

“Now I’ve really come far into the north.”

Hye, Fractal, and Board Mir, who had never come this far, suddenly felt fear. However, it was too late to turn the ship around, so they ventured forward. The sky was clear during the day, and at night the moon emerged, with countless stars reflecting over the ocean. It was like sailing through Mother Nature itself.

Ding!

- You have entered The DeRon Seaway.
- Sailing skill proficiency increased.
- Due to risk strength, Endurance, wisdom, and charisma stat +6.
- Fame +260.

Navigators who first discover an island or a geographic region will have an increase in fame stats.

“This is great! Normally it only climbs up one or two stat points but six?!. Its even for 4 different types of stats.”

“It’s because we came all the way from the harbor in Becky Nin without rest.”

It was usually the norm to stop one day for every two days of travel. This was to restock on supplies and to reduce the fatigue of the crew. Ghost sailors may not be the best workers, but they didn’t have the usual fatigue and homesickness.

Chuckle “The Human sailors look delicious.”

“Let’s steal their bodies. Let’s steal their bodies. I’m so fed up with roaming the seas eternally. I want to enter a human’s body.”

“Shush. Those guys are the Captain’s prey. I’m sure the Captain will give us a bite to eat after he’s through with them.”

Weed procured food and water, so there was no need to worry about starvation. Plus, since he could repair the ship, was as good as it was in the harbor and there was nothing more needed on the voyage. As they headed north less mermaids were sighted and whales and birds had long stopped following them. After entering into the DeRon seaway, nippy cold air began to bite at them. And then the Aurora finally unfolded! A curtain of light and stars hung above the ghost ship in the middle of the night. It was beautiful enough to enchant the three hardened sailors. The natural light was so amazing that it caused shivers.

- You have found DeRon’s Aurora.

- Due to your amazing discovery Fame + 350.
- Art stat +28.
- All stats +5.
- Due the power of nature all abnormal states are cured.
- 30% increase for five days in strength and heat resistance.
- 13% increase to the maximum value of all stats.
- The maximum speed of the ship, turning ability, and ship's ability to land will increase by 27%.
- Due to the blessing of the aurora, you will be granted additional benefits in naval battle.

The Ghost sailors and the navigators were lost in admiration of the Aurora. Even Weed was mesmerized by the aurora . Like butterflies leaving their cocoons, tears swelled up in traveler's eyes. Most natural beauty would not soften Weeds stout heart, but he softly said.

"I will have to memorize your exact look. Next time I make a light sculpture in Morata it'll be of this sight."

It was like the joy of earning money from recycling empty bottles when he was young. The aurora's one and only role was creating a lifelong memory for the travelers. It paved a twinkling road in the sky.

Weed instructed.

"Let head toward over there."

"Aye, sir."

The officer steered the ship towards the path that the Aurora showed. There were no reefs, currents, or sea monsters that touched them; it was a calm sea. With the exception of the extreme cold, there was very little to be unhappy about.

"Uuugh, cold!"

While adjusting the sail, Board Mir body was shivering as his teeth chattered. They were the signs of catching a cold. Both concentration and stamina fell. Weed felt fine because he had caught a baby whale and had

made a robe out of it in advance.

“Got to take care to not to repeat the same mistakes.”

He had already suffered twice before in northern explorations. After arriving at Las Phalanx, you would probably have to worry about the heat more than the cold. However, until then, you have to keep your body in the best condition possible. He wore the yeti clothes he had previously made with the newly made whale robe. He made hot fish soup out of the fish he caught and this made the cold a bit more bearable. The navigators gathered around Weed and watched him with pleading eyes. Hye, as the representative, said.

“Chatter. Chatter. Captain.”

It was as if a woodpecker suddenly appeared. The men’s teeth clattered in their mouths. They wore short sleeves and shorts because they were easy to move around in and they usually traveled in warmer climates.

“We may freeze to death in this state. Please give us some clothes to wear.”

“Why would I do that?” Weed replied indifferently.

Eating alone next to hungry people, fooling around as everyone else worked, wearing warm clothes as everyone else shivered! Weed did the cheapest things and he did three different kinds at once. Hye gave a frustrated look.

“Then, you want our report to freeze too sir?”

“You should always prepare for your own survival. What ship has their Captain provide clothing as well?”

Weed said that with no remorse. Welfare benefits are nonexistent for the sailors of the ghost ship. ‘The ghost sailors are just fine in the cold’ spoke louder than words.

“Please captain save us.”

“20 gold”

“What?”

“One day rental fee. It’s not like clothes grow out of the ground.”

“But, you obtain your own clothes by fishing and you can collect the scales of the fishes. I saw you do that.”

“If you don’t want it you go find another place.”

A new level of dirty cheapness, to get a rental fee from a person who would freeze to death! You have to pay the rental fee with a cup of tears.

“With a deposit of 500 gold for a week in advance.”

Once the clothes were rented, the officers got together and secretly whispered to one another.

-I’ll put up with it for now.

-Is he planning on us turning into popsicles? There is a contract, but our opportunity will come.

-It’s not like we’ve only killed once or twice, if there would only be a chance

If they seized the ship, they would maroon Weed and leave by themselves. Sailors have shipbuilding skills just in case they needed to build their own, but, for now, they suffered in silence.

-We will make him pay a hundred times over.

-Only a hundred times? No it needs to be a thousand. Tens of thousands of times.

Chapter 7: Adventurer of Las Phalanx

Weed's Arts Center was officially open! The first guests were the Mandol couple who requested the sculpture. And the next day the doors properly opened.

"Weed's sculptures are in here?"

Morata users were quite interested in Weed's sculpture. The effects of the light tower and the The Sculpture of Freya were always benefiting hunting so the users looked forward to the Arts Center's new sculptures.

The admission was 10 gold. For people under level 100 the price was three gold. Prices even applied to mercenary and subordinate NPCs. For groups of 30 or more, they got a 50% discount.. There was signage regarding admission fees starting at the entrance. Student or senior discounts were cold-heartedly denied. However the elderly and students of Royal Road are much more frightening.

"Nothing to do at this old age...Elder Shin what level are you?"

"Around Level 360. Hulhul."

"You've leveled up a lot. Similar to Goo Grannie in the lower town nursing home."

"No no, I'm a difficult to level magician class. You can't compare me to her."

The senior's children don't play with them and their grandchildren have all grown up. But that doesn't mean they should go play all day. From Entertainment to Music, News to Dramas the elderly had experienced it all, but Royal Road was a new world. In reality, their backs would get more crooked and their health would deteriorate however, in Royal Road they could have a new body again.

Because of their overwhelming free time, grandmothers and grandfathers could easily hunt monsters all the time.

"But isn't the entrance fee too expensive?"

“What kind of Arts Center charges 10 gold for?”

Morata users that had waited since the morning were full of complaints. It was because if they paid and there wasn't much to see they would regret it.

“Well if its only 10 gold I guess seeing it once wouldn't be too much of a waste?”

“Well Weed's amazing sculptures helped a lot with hunting so I guess I'll see it as repayment and look inside.”

The users bought their tickets and entered the Arts Center. The 5-story building had 2 underground floors and a large garden. The garden was a comfortable space where one could relax and view the sculptures. Sculptures such as bronze statues confessing their love, monster hunting, and bronze bear statues that children liked.

“Sandwiches and meat for sale.”

“Please try the Art Hall meal set.”

The restaurants also opened their doors. They advertised that families could relax as they ate. There was a stage for bards that was already completed, though it currently wasn't being used.

“Let's view the Art hall then let's go.”

“We should see it fast and go hunting.”

Novices and users crowded past the entrance area. They wanted to skip everything and see Weed's work. From B2 to the second floor was several exhibition space for the other general artists. Well known Morata painters and sculptors now had a place to exhibit their work. Artists up until now had to earn money by selling commissioned works. But with the opening of the Arts Center now it was possible to receive money from admissions. It was an opportunity to show their work to a large audience and artists and sculptors could get their name out.

“Here is my work.”

“Borahum, it's this way. There's a black pig sculpture from the east.”

The Morata's artists at this moment felt a great deal of joy.

“You cannot find another lord that treasures artwork to this extent in all the Versailles continent.”

“Since he himself is a sculptor he probably understands our plight.”

When the Arts Center opened Morata's fame went up by 60. Morata's fame went up with winning the war, and dramatically raised its fame with all the cultural achievements. The affiliated artists from Morata that traveled to show off their work received special treatments and privileges.

“A bard of Morata's production? It must've been a long journey. Would you like to come perform at our village? I'll pay you 20 gold more than your usual rate.”

“If it's a sculpture of Morata, then they are really popular so they sell well. If the original price is 7 gold, I will pay you 5 gold more.”

Although the north was not yet fully realized, artists felt the rewards from it. But the true value of the Arts Center was they could have their work appreciated. An artwork that is properly displayed gives off an additional 20% increase in certain options and price. It would be preserved in perfect condition so even if time passed they wouldn't be damaged. Sculpture and paintings by themselves usually could not have cumulative effects, but it differed in the arts center. One sculpture increased the effect of the other, so when fully appreciated it created better advantages when paired. Featured artists had the opportunity to make new bold artworks. The users were content that they could view an array of artworks in one place and felt that the expensive admission could be justified.

“But there's a lot of empty spaces.”

“Its only the opening so it probably can't be helped.”

“Since there is empty slots, shouldn't they have a discount on the admission fee?”

Morata's artwork couldn't be displayed without any distinguishing. Each artist only volunteered their work so there was only a few works on display.

The visitors went up to the third floor. It was full of Weed's little sculptures from traveling around. Monster of every kind from each providence; there was even miniatures of cities. The city of Serabourg in the Rosenheim Kingdom, the Grava mountain range, The city in the sky Lavias, the free city of Somren, and the trek through the Bar Khu mountains. There was also the Yurokina Mountain range in the plains of despair. It was like a miniature version of the Versailles continent was created. Each piece was created during his travels so they weren't all the same size or quality but each monster, tree, mansion and other works caught the visitors eyes. Since carrying them while traveling was getting harder, they were all put into the Art's Center.

"A tremendous amount of devotion dwells in these works."

"There are so many sculptures"

The visitor eyes were filled with wonder as they saw Weed's sculptures. It was a display of one person's maximum potential. On the fourth floor, one-third of it was a hall made of glass so you could see inside. There. they were able to view dolls. The sculptures of From Birth to Death, was shown inside the glass displays. It was an impeccable sculpture where a stitch wasn't out of place. It was created by a large amount of concentration and focus. It wasn't just about one child's growth. The viewer could experience and connect with this life. Over time, the possibility of human and the potential for happiness shows life is precious. Looking at the dolls of a person's life one had a vivid experience of the creation. Family, tears, pain and joy all naturally emulated within the dolls. Most of the visitors read the description of the work first. To fully understand the work, background was essential. Additionally if you wanted to tell others about the work, it would require information from the description.

- This works display was made by the worthless architect Pavo adjunct with art deputy Gaston. This is the work of a sincere and humble artist who left no name. The hope is that you it will leave warm and worthwhile feelings that you will remember for the rest of your life.

At the end the description there was a paper sign probably from the first

viewer.

‘I am the man who commissioned a sculpture of my unborn daughter. Though I asked the sculptor to make this, truthfully I didn’t have much hope it would be done. I was grasping at straws when I made the request. The commission fee was only 1 copper. The sculptor created this sculpture based on my wife and I. I do not know what everyone will feel as they see this sculpture. But this sculpture has left a moving impression on us. Before seeing this, I felt life could be too cruel and irrational. Thank you for spending this moment in life with me.’

Visitors saw the dolls with reverence. People naturally viewed with appreciation and gratitude.

Ding!

You have seen a mythical sculpture of an unknown name. Flower of art.

The work could only be called phenomenal. The Sculptor who did not reveal his name expressed his prowess by creating this work entitled From Birth to Death.

Looking at this sculpture will show the blessings of life to the viewer. For one day:

Health, mana, and stamina recovery rate will increase by 32%.

Health and mana + 36%.

+24 in all stats.

In addition agility and courage will have increase.

Movement speed will increase by 36%. When traveling long distances this effect is higher

From savoring the joy of life vitality + 500 permanently.

Wisdom and knowledge + 2 permanently.

In order to fully understand this work frequent and careful viewing of this sculpture is needed.

The Arts Center’s first floor, second floor kept flooding visitors to the third floor. On the third floor visitors still kept going, but on the fourth floor no one wanted to leave. There was a line of people waiting for other

people to leave. They looked at the dolls from birth, to school, to marriage, to having children, to death and heading back to the beginning. That cannot be resorted to life, the most precious things is those hours of happiness. Just like bright precious jewels the hours passed staring at the life. Nobody knows who started clapping, but soon the applause was thunderous.

“Darling, do you want to live here?”

Delphi first suggested after looking at the sculptures of her daughter. Even if she did return to the Central continent she had precious memories of the sculptures to cheer her up. Delphi asked concerned.

“Do you like this place?”

“Yes, I can feel the energy from the people. And it’s there’s adventure. The Central continent is under the concessions of the guilds who are endlessly warring. Considering the political stability the northern conflicts are small. The guilds are also new. People have lots of expedition, and exploration quests. The New products and hunting grounds are overflowing, and it’s really is too beautiful. I think I’d like to settle down here and hunt together like we used to do.”

They moved into a two-story stone house on the outskirts of the Morata district. There are many shacks in Morata so tenancy is high. For the first time parties of people could own a house. The first signs of moving people threw moving parties with food for the new tenants. Everybody who carries something gets something to eat. Houses with vistas were shockingly popular. The view was amazing even if the ceiling popped and cracked and leaked when it rained. Owning a poor shack was amazingly romantic. Women would come home from the Arts Center in tears.

*

“Starboard!”

“If these conditions persist than we’ll be hit”

“Slow down!”

Las Phalanx had become bitterly cold. In the harsh cold, large pieces of

ice floating around created a dangerous sea.

“Get your head straight. If the ship is damaged we’ll all fall in the water and freeze to death!”

“Fractal, where’s that glacier?”

“10 second, flowing from the right.”

“Preparing to turn to port. As soon as the glacier is past adjust the sails to the wind.”

The sailors hadn’t yet run into the thousands of glaciers only by the grace of god. The natural wonders were beautiful and dangerous at the same time. It was a dangerous voyage that had never been seen before.

Mooooo!

As the rest watched the incoming icebergs and fell into a complete panic Weed and rover were sitting and fishing comfortably.

“The Arts Center’s numbers of visitors are increasing exponentially.”

According to Pavo’s report the number exceeds 25,000 visitors a day. People are even lining up at dawn to get in.

‘In a sense the Arts Center is money. The construction cost for this time is significantly less. The other painters, sculptors, and performers should also share in the profits. Nevertheless, it is needless to say that there is a huge surplus from this. And the users in the north would all visit at least once because the sculpture of the girl’s life gave permanent stat increases. The 10 gold will be a burden on the novices but they will soon grow. And when they grow up more they will go to Art center before every time they go hunting.’

In the mean time the sewed leather armor needed by the beginners made money for the craftsman in the process. It was a key source of income and tax trade. However, for a piece artwork you could earn BIG money. For the first time in the history of the Versailles continent there was a revenue structure of the land based around art. It was not even an exaggeration to call it a revolution.

”The power of great art.”

The names of great artists stayed in history for 1 or 2 eras. More visitors creates more works, which creates more money. It was beautiful. Nice. Fantastic. Sublime. The sculptor profession was not poison! Weed laughed even as the icebergs raced towards him. (T/N In this they keep calling the icebergs glaciers. But glaciers don't float into ships) “If you have visitors visiting once a month then if you raise the price to 13 gold even more money could be made.”

“HaHaHaHaHaHaHaHa.”

The jawbone was in extreme danger of falling off the crazily laughing skull. Gumeni and Rover seemed normal in comparison, but none of the ghost sailors could approach the bony shoulder.

“A good one sir.”

“The ocean is a grave to no one but you.”

The ghost crew had thoughts of pushing Weed in the sea, even though he would probably think of it as taking a bath.

“Kueh, he brought the Maria all this way, We'll just have to demonstrate our power.”

“The sea is deep. He could just slide out and go missing.”

“The Captain!”

“Captain I now offer you to the sea”

The ghost crew's loyalty after sailing for a long distance! But they would not soon better the far superior lich out of fear. The Left side was hit! An iceberg plunged into the side of the ship and tore a deep gouge. It was not part of the ghost that was underwater, but the state of the ghost ship had steadily worsened as they went along the waterway. Hye checked the condition of the hull and then said.

“Captain, we might have to suspend navigating to the destination. More and more icebergs are floating along; it's inevitable that a big iceberg will hit the ship and we'll immediately sink.”

That an iceberg could hit was intimidating enough. But there was small and large chunks of ice floating in the sea that continued to hit the ship thus accumulating damage. Paradoxically, the seaweed that was stuck to them prevented more damage.

“What should I do then?”

The wide laughing mouth asked. With the admission fee from the Art Center, Weed felt like he was heaven.

‘When the ship sinks we can just walk on the glaciers. This region is one big bowl of water. Of course there’s riding on the undead. This area is much more severe than the ice storm that erupted in Morata.’

(PR: I think that Riding on the Undead means Riding on the Large Sea Monsters that Weed can raise) For tough roads, it is better to think positive thoughts.

“The icebergs are constantly coming from the sea, eventually they will have to stop.”

While laughing he asked.

“Well doesn’t that mean that we’re close to land? If you look at the chart you should see that a large river flows through the land. We’ll be able to get to Las Phalanx through there.”

“Won’t it also be frozen?”

Up north the glaciers are constantly growing. The cold they caught was evidence of the sea freezing. Then of course the rivers would be frozen as well. It would be better to walk than go by boat.

“Wouldn’t be better to walk?”

“I don’t know what the captains thinking.”

“It’s not like you can sail on a frozen river.”

Weed’s quick decision was made with the reasoning that:
‘If you cannot get to Las Pheonix by sea than go by land. Even if you have to skate over the river’

“Go to the river.”

So the ghost ship changed its route, heading for the mainland. They were busy with the increasing amount of icebergs, but eventually they were getting the timing down to avoid the floating blocks of ice. But when they arrived there was no frozen river to be found. Thick, white snow had piled up on the land like mountains, but the river remain unfrozen. The temperature around the ghost ship felt much warmer for some reason. Weed tenderly asked Rover.

“Yellowy, are you thirsty?”

Yellowy waited then nodded. He gave water from the warm flowing river a sniff.

“Thank you, master.”

Rover put his head in the offered bucket and drank.

“Glug,glug,glug,glug... kya, this water taste good.”

The water had a slight yellow color, but the eyes that were cast toward Weed had little resentment.

“This water is safe to drink is it not. Then is it coming from Las Phalanx?”

If one looked carefully at the Las Phalanx it could be seen that it was a volcanic region. The yellow color was run off from the volcanoes.’

“The sulfur taste isn’t too bad.”

“Good, now the boats water supply can be filled.”

After Yellowy’s report Weed started ordering the water barrel to be filled. With the unfreezing river flowing away from Las Phalanx would slow them down, but now there was no need to dodge ice, which was great. The three navigators gathered on the bow.

“He’s a monster coming to this region.”

“What are the levels around this region?”

“I don’t know but nowhere near the beginner levels. From the appearances, nothing is normal.”

Large bodies covered in hair with horns; the monsters were very intimidating. Wild tribes that ran around with axes and ice weapons, crying bloody murder. Users that wanted to land here to hunt would have to be insane. Usually the level of the monsters would be enough to turn one away, but you also had to fight the cold.

“There’s no need to fight recklessly.”

Weed passed by while watching the monsters. The high quality leather obtained would help insulate much better. He could also collect the loot, but it was better to avoid battles where it would be easy to slip on the ice.

“After riding Bingryong I couldn’t fight.”

After riding he caught a cold and was forcefully nursed by Seoyoon. Air combat was out.

“Don’t want to repeat the same mistake.”

Weed focused on fishing the occasional fish and ordered the ghost ship to move on. the closer they got to Las Phalanx , the hotter it got.. Steam puffed out and wrapped around them like a fog. It was like a natural sauna that prevents cold and the like. When the sun shone through rainbows would occur.

“Huh, billions of rainbows!”

“I’m so thirsty.”

The navigators whose strength was lacking from the effect of being frozen for a long time had a violent thirst. They drank water to replenish the sweat that started to flow frequently. Hye was fed up with the matter and said, “I cant take it anymore. I’m exhausted from these symptoms.”

For the three sailors who did not have the advantages of being undead, the heat was unbearable.

“Tsk, deplorable.”

Weed wrinkled his forehead at the pathetic sailors. Because the navigators were at hand, the ghost ship was moving along pretty fast.

“Well, you do enough to let us live, I don’t think you're being a greedy

guy.”

“So we can stop here?”

“Please let us anchor the ship in the river at least once.”

“The symptoms are getting worse and worse. We’re exhausted.”

Weed looked at the three. In the first place their bodies were streaked with sweat, and bony from the days of keeping up with advantaged undead. The three sailors were struggling to beat the heat because of their feeble endurance stat.

“Tsk, weaklings.”

(T/N HAHA one of the Translation said -TSK TSK you suck. XD.) Weeds forehead narrowed further. The three sailors so far had been invaluable since they kept the ship from harm.

“Well, it’s because of you guys that we’ve made it this far. A little selfishness could be indulged. We can anchor here for a little while. And you can get off”

“Then we can go back?”

“Once the ship is docked you can leave and take a look around.”

“I see. Captain!”

The three sailors quickly docked the boat. Weed said,

“You guys docked on the ice so well. Go ahead and get off to cool down.”

“Oh thank you very much”

Hye and Fractal would get off-board, than Board Mir would join them.

‘Once you landed on land we were preparing to escape.’

‘If we left it up to you we would have never been left off’

The three sailors had already made their decision in their hearts. So far they have had numerous bad things committed against them and very few pleasures on the boat. Without them, the ghost ship would have a hard time going anywhere “Go drop dead while looking for us.”

“Let them suffer for it properly afterwards.”

The three sailors stiffly climbed down to the icy glaciers all while praying. Once they were on the ice the Maria sails grew wide and their ties to the land were cast off by Rover biting them. And the ghost ship began to move away! Weed was at the captain's seat turning the helm. On the voyage his sailing skills had advanced 7 levels. Now he was at a level where he could comfortably drive the ghost ship. The normally only fishing Captain unabashedly drove the ghost ship!

“Why is the ship moving?”

“Oh man, Captain!”

The greatly persecuted sailors did not also cry out. They were here with the crew.

‘He can't leave without us.’

“Captain this is the trail. KI hie hihi.”

“Away we go. We can't count the number of times you helped. Thank you.”

Sobbing

More ghost sailors appeared and threw out dirty lines.

“What the heck. Are we going to be abandoned?”

“But what about our lives?”

The three sailors ran as if their feet were on fire. They ran alongside the ghost ship on the glaciers.

“Please save us!”

“Please give us a ride I'll do anything that you say.!”

Shouted the three iron-hard sailors. The perpetrators felt for the first time that they had become the victims.

Weed said towards them.

“Don't worry. We are not going to abandon you. Are you not sailors on

my ship? Deoreol does not leave family behind.”

“Do you really mean that?”

“Thank you, captain!”

But the ship did not stop. In the end, Weed was not such a person to hold up to such pretty words. Particularly not the one-eyed lich pirate Captain who would not hold onto unnecessary numbers.

“Wait here and I will come back here at a later date.”

“But there are too many monsters!”

“It’d be safer to wait on the boat!”

Weed ignored their words lightly. Because he had an ulterior motive.

“When will you return...What!”

“HAHAHA we got you now! We would have tossed you in the water, but it’s entertaining to see that you’ll never be picked up for a ride. Kueh Ha Ha!”

The crew agreement had been revoked. And soon the new vice captain from the ghost crew was bending at the waist to greet him.

“Yes, captain. Ki hihhi I’ll take the helm.”

*

From the foggy area to the rainbow land Las Phalanx could be seen! Mountains sat spewing out smoke and lava.

“We are finally here.”

Weed quickly set out to observe the area's monsters. Just a short boat ride revealed many more monsters than the known kinds. Hairy bears roaming around with frozen white skin, leopard like rock-hard bollards that roared unexpectedly. Chaos Warriors, wielding large axes, waiting in the shadows for their prey. Lava spiked where the flame giants were. Their body consisting of mostly lava fire giants! Out of the land, cracked areas spewed out steam. There, fire salamander-like demons and other monsters subject to the firelights lived.

“I seem to have a general idea. The Armenia pirates may have come up the unfreezing river.”

There was no evidence of Armenia pirates in sight. Weed anchored the ghost ship and went down the rope to check out the monsters. It was at that moment.

Ding!

Adventurers have arrived at Las Phalanx.

Whether the heroic adventurers live or die is a gamble. This Land that has only remained as part of the Versailles history books has been practically forgotten. If you did not visit the goddess of earth you should leave rather than remain in oblivion for a long time.

Benefits:

Fame +800.

During this week 2x experience, and item drop rate. The first monster slain will give the best item.

Blessings of the earth goddess of the mines.

Soft and sacred energy welled up from the ground and engulfed Weed.

Have received the blessings of the goddess of the earth.

Mana recovery rate is 40% faster.

Increase concentration and greatly reduced the probability of magic failure.

38% of the enemies attack damaged can be absorbed by the earth.

Can help reduce the enemies defense.

Has a five day duration, Ten blessing remain.

Because of undead state piety 35 permanently reduced.

The blessing of the goddess of the earth. Usually the goddess blessing are discriminating among certain races, and were considerably weaker. From the prosperity to abundance of crops, it can also help defeat enemy forces. In shows of display Freya is a bit on the downside. But the blessing given by the goddess of the earth had a very long duration.

“It’s extremely helpful for the next five days”

Ding!

A new route to Las Phalanx was found.

Because of pioneering Reputation +360.

All stats +12.

If the adventuring is successful + 3 to all stats.

Sailing skill proficiency has increased.

Title “Unknown Ghost Captain who widens the sea.”

Maximum speed +7 on open ocean stretches.

Even after traveling you did not lose hope. When unearthing new islands, ruins, and lost treasure fame increases even further.

Kings and Nobles support your sails.

+20 charisma and leadership.

Increased probability of good things happening at sea.

Limitations:

Beginner level 5 Sailing skills or above.

Only applicable at sea

Weed, for once, was delighted by the rewards. He quickly moved his body looking among crevices.

“Cave! Need to find a cave.”

Obtaining a safe haven was the core of exploring and hunting.

*

The Black lion guild, Red Mercenaries chiefs, Red dragon guild, The Hammer and Anvil guild, the Pro-Am Mercenary guild union and 89 other large prestigious held a guild meeting.

“Then you all agree to the formation of the hegemonic alliance. Any against?”

It was a meeting of all the important guilds masters! All the other prestigious guilds nodded their heads.

“We approve.”

“...There’s no reason for us to reject.”

Hegemony alliance. All of the Versailles continent’s prestigious guilds trying to hedge under one fence.

“Next month the official proclamation will be stated on the first. The hope is after a week’s time the individual judgments will come forward. I will leave that up to each of you.”

All the guild masters held delighted smiles. Any guild included in the hegemony alliance was primed for supremacy and armed to kill any external threats; it was a secured timeout! The Alliance did not erase all the hostilities between the guilds, but now most of that would be handled behind the scenes. It secured that any guild not included in the alliance would have tough time attacking a guild or a castle. It would be difficult for any group to survive that was not included in the hegemony alliance; to survive once the full-scale territorial expansion began. There were two or three small prestigious guilds capable of attacking and winning over a territory, but they would almost never be able to hold on to it in the Central continent. This alliance was far more favorable for defense, since even if they have the power to take them over individually the result would be different the minute reinforcements arrived. Bardray and the Hermes guild lead this Alliance guild, as the most predominant and most prestigious guild. He became the chairman of the hegemony alliance and was given exclusive rights to the Kingdom of Haven. There were a lot of ordinary users who came for tourism in the Versailles continent. The prestigious guilds were in a position to take care of the exclusive rights of hunting, item trading, and commercial taxes. The raising of glass was heard all around.

“This year belong to the supremacy of the Hegemony Alliance”

The Masters of the prestigious guild raised their glasses a little higher
“For the Versailles continent!”

“For our Alliances supremacy!”

Chapter 8: The Sculpture's Heritage

Weed found a cave to hide in with little difficulty. A cave that was not artificial, but natural. It was a hole that spewed lava when the tectonic plates collided.

If you went deep into the underground territory you could see lava flowing, emitting immense heat. Though there were monsters like dolphins and spearfish jumping out of the lava, Weed didn't look for very long.

"No, who knows if just looking at them could burn me then there's no way I'd want to fight with those guys!"

Golden Bird was confused and wondered why Weed was staring at him so intently.

"If I were as free as a bird, it would be a convenient way to scout. After all, flying would be much easier."

Using Golden Bird as a reference, Weed created a new piece. Covered in volcanic ash; dark as night; a creature that blended with the current environment: he made a crow.

"Sculpture transformation!"

Weed's body suddenly shrunk and doubled over. Feathers sprouted over his body and his mouth transformed into a sharp beak; his beady eyes turned jet black like coal.

- In this form you will not be able to use your current equipment. A small winged creature will suffer a penalty when wearing heavy equipment.
- Wearing heavy equipment has severely impacted your current agility
- If you do not maintain the minimum amount of strength and agility it will be impossible to walk or fly.
- The effect of sculpture transformation has lowered knowledge and wisdom to its lowest point. However, agility has improved for quick flight

His current stats were impacted as it imitated a bird completely, all feathers and no brain.

The crow's bad luck status followed him closely too. The luck stat moved into the negative range, as if it was necessary to spread the misery around. Yes, it was sad, intrinsically the crow was known as a precursor to misery.

Mana, stamina, and vitality -25%.
Valid until transformation is undone.

Weed wanted to test out cawing once.

"It's stuck in the AH Ah Ah Ah AAH."

It was a very irritating, unpleasant noise that frightened golden bird a little, annoyed Rover, and made Geumini wince in resignation.

"Anyways, I'll just scout around for a bit."

A crow is not suited for battle. Even worse, it's beak can't be used for writing, and it is unable to use any kind of equipment.

"Left foot, right foot, left foot, right foot."

Weed did a small series of steps to adapt to his new body. He sat down and stood up again, then folded and unfolded his wings. As a small crow, there were a number of things to adapt to. After staggering around for about 10 minutes in that awkward body, he seemed to get the hang of it.

"Well, I think it's time to try flying."

Weed sped up the vacant lot like a plane taking off.

Da da da da da da da da

Weed lifted off from the ground as he scooped up the empty air under his wings. It was unstable, but he finally left the ground, flying as a crow. It was awkward but successful.

Digging with his wings into the air, he soared higher and higher. From his place in the sky he could pick out firedrakes that circled around. Unfortunately, Weed was too weak to fight them.

He was great in battle, and would have easily prevailed in his human form, but as a crow he would surely die, as his current arsenal only included a beak attack. After one strike of that move, it would all be for naught; as he would instantly receive a counter strike. He would not be able to escape after attacking.

He adjusted his wings and changed direction. His goal was to look at the monsters' formations. Almost every monster here could be called a natural treasure.

The video on the Royal Road homepage called this area a 'really dangerous neighborhood'. Weed did not cry out, he slowly nodded his head back and forth, wary of his surroundings.

Since he changed to a crow, the highest points of Las Phalanx that could not be seen from ground level, came into view. Las Phalanx wasn't an isolated island. The big and wide volcanic region, the unfreezing river, and the other parts of the glaciers were all connected.

Between Las Phalanx and the glaciers there was a buffer zone covered with snow and some hills.

"You're either too hot or too cold."

Both sides of the border had high-level monsters. On the glacier side of the island, monsters were often ready and willing to engage in a fight against the monsters that poured from underground on the other side. It was an area of strife that this half hearted crow wanted to be nowhere near.

"I have to find an Armenian pirate..."

Scouting as a raven in the nearby terrain was difficult. Hot air rose out of the mountain and the fire drake circled the volcanoes. The landscape was a valley full of cracks and coves where lava flows. In one area with several cracks, there was a unique old tower. A stone tower, drawing 20 meters high, was set in an area that was relatively untouched by the volcanoes.

"What's that over there?"

Weed cautiously flew to the tower. There were monsters all around the

tower spires, but they didn't care about a crow so he arrived at the entrance to the tower in safety.

At the entrance to the tower, sculptures of the monsters in Las Phalanx had been vividly created. Since the Emperor's death, the empire had disintegrated. Invasions spread across the continent and the empire was split up falling into chaos, leaving the pieces he made scattered.

With his passion for art and beauty, any person who had a piece was reluctant to give it up. In Las Phalanx, one could easily find all of the precious metals of the Versailles continent. Sculptors can turn those precious metals into living metal statues. So they mostly escaped during the split of the continent.

Before Weed arrived, the only person who knew of this place was the Emperor Geihar Von Arpen. Every sculpture was at a high level. But when they arrived at Las Phalanx even the advantages they had as pieces of life were not enough against the monsters of the natural environment, and they lost their lives. The tower was the legacy created by the pieces who came here. Anyone who creates sculptures would be convinced.

'The Sculptor's guild's head and 13 pieces of life sculptors...'

You have made the great discovery "The History of the Sculptor."

- If you report these findings to the sculptor's guild you can receive great rewards.
- The reward for the Sculptor's Heritage is to pick out a gift made here! A piece on the tower has engraved writing. The name is not known; maybe it is from a very famous sculptor.

(PR Note: Someone tell me what the Sculptor's Heritage is!)

Geihar Von Arpen's pieces of life. Weed had made five Magnum pieces.

'In the Versailles continent, there is still no better sculptor than the emperor.'

The evidence was what he was touching right now. Weed admired the view for a while, then went up the tower.

"Call Death Knight"

The area in front of Weed shimmered and Death Knight appeared in front of the pitch black crow.

“Master, now that is a rare appearance, but it fits nicely.”

“It fits for now.” Weed said in response to Death Knight’s comment.

He sent Death Knight down to the entrance of the tower. The door had been created so that it could only be opened from the outside. There was a dangerous bell in the corner that he could ring, but he was fearful of the monsters it’d attract so he left it alone.

On each floor there were scary looking knight sculptures posed to attack. The sculptures actually seemed like a threat. They were covered in a thick crust because of the years of accumulated dust or perhaps it was the massive earthquakes that made the ceiling give off a fine powder. The number of monster seemed to be huge.

“Perhaps they are monsters that once lived in the past?”

There were insects and sea monsters in large numbers! Each of the kingdom’s soldiers, knights, and nobles looked vividly real. At the top of the tower there was a small comfortable sculpture of a fire. Even after a long time the bronze and gold of the sculpture was still intact, making it forever ablaze.

Numerous carvings depicted historic nobles and the like with a dreary radiance. Instead of legendary pieces, there were numerous fine and masterpieces, while there were only 4 magnums. While staring at the historic sculptures Weed’s art stat increase by a total of 189 points. Sculpture skill had increased by 8%. It was a tremendous reward.

“But the people who left such great pieces might be nearby.”

Unfortunately no matter how much he searched the ruins of the tower he could not find any signs of the ones who created the sculptures inside. However he did find the bodies of 6 big pieces made of metal and crystal displayed in one place. Weed left the tower of the sculptor’s inheritance and started to search around Las Phalanx again.

When he investigated the other parts he found more created sculptures.

However they were badly damaged by the lava and monsters and were far from their original appearance. It was an unimaginable scale. To find the sculptures he had to fly high to remain safe from the monsters but he could still see sculptures all the way in the mountains in the distance.

“But the way of the sculptor seems to follow down the same path... there’s some gold!” (He means the better you get the larger the statue you can make)

Even the smaller sculptures would take a lot of manpower just to lift them. It was necessary of course to get a closer look at the price of the sculptures. It takes a strong attachment to work, for mere pennies. Through the sculptures a rough path could be picked out when they first arrived. This land seems to stretch on forever!

The trail disappeared with the land in the distance. The third largest peak, filled with Drakes and Chaos warriors, came into view as the crow moved through the dangerous mountains. In the mountain’s valley, abandoned mines with unknown entrances supported by really old posts sat undiscovered.

“Think carefully.... Where would a sign of the Armenia Pirates be.”

He had to find a sign of the Armenian Pirates. If he only thought about where they sailed he couldn’t find them, but it could narrow down the scope of the search.

“Maybe they did not come up the unfreezing river and instead walked over by landing in the glacier region.”

Reconnaissance of the glacial boundary! Because it was so cold, frost formed on his beak and wings, but he keep up his meticulous reconnaissance. Thanks to this he was able to distinguish traces of human remains near the glacial area.

The place where the remains were, was barely visible thanks to the monsters that walked over them and covered them in snow. However the places that had many footprints clearly revealed evidence of frozen pirates!

The Armenia pirates had gone through over there. The pirates' trail was hard to differentiate from the land but it was clear they moved from the snow filled region.

Several skeletons were shown where the snow filled skeletons left off into Las Phalanx. Where the Armenia skeleton bones were found there were also their last belongings. The pirates that headed over the seventh highest peak of Las Phalanx seemed to be mostly dead. They moved toward where the monsters mostly stayed.

“Straight from the glaciers to the monster's dens. They must have tried to reach a place somewhere nearby.”

It was a very rough scout, but Weed deemed it was impossible to approach any further. The monsters would have shot him down. Weed flew back to the place where Geumini and Rover were. He undid the sculpture transformation and turned back into an undead skeleton.

“Geumini.”

“Gologologol, what did you need me for this week? You must know I believe in you the most, right?”

“So what?”

Even though he abandoned the sculptures for a long time intimacy had increased. Absence does make the heart grow fonder.

“Get ready for battle. Call Death Knight!”

“Master, I'm ready to fight anytime.”

Death Knight was also summoned. Geumini riding Rover escorted by Death Knight were equipped with a wide assortment of basic equipment.

“Skill check”

Undead summoning intermediate 7(65%)You can make use of the undead. The amount of undead and their skill levels is dependant on the users body.

- Step 1 of Undead Summoning : Understanding 1,187
- Step 2 of Undead Summoning : Understanding 450
- Step 3 of Undead Summoning : Understanding 11

Corpse explosion intermediate 3(41%):Able to destroy a corpses body in a explosion. Very powerful magic

- You are currently under the effect of Transfiguration.
- Your skill and stats are affected by the current transformation. Based on that a penalty will be granted.

Sculptural Understanding Advance level 3 had considerable advantages. Besides various curse magic and escort golems, production of every undead went up as well.

“Okay, Undead Summoning is Intermediate level 7.”

Alcohol was useless in his transformed state so this was as far as he could get for benefits. Thanks to the sculpture transformation the majority of his skill of raising undead had improved, while his main attack skills had greatly reduced.

“I think its time to start hunting.”

Weed looked at the rest of his set up before turning to Van Hawk.

“I have no brother more reliable than you brother Hawk, you go first.”

“I get it master.”

Death Knight did not say a word as he walked toward the front. Weed’s hunting laws are usually different when Death Knight comes to the forefront to fight.

“Leaving everything to death knight in the front and fighting behind his back, I’m not use to this fighting style Well, it’s no big deal.”

One of the top thing’s to revitalize was the attributes of the job.
Producing curses from the back!

“Dark Speculation!”

Around Death Knight’s body distinctive shadows jumped out of hiding places. Access a Weapon! Diet and Exercise! (T/N -.- he’s testing out his skills on Death Knight but I have no idea why the author insist on using these weird references)(PR: I don’t get it TT^T)

The shades that jumped out of the shadows started to attack Death Knight. Deer and chubby bats that were level 300 started to come out at the sound of the battle. Then 6 horses and 5 dogs and a whopping 23 cats came out.

“Master, your command.”

“The darkness descends, corpse soldiers attack!”

Death Knight swung his sword all over the place to prevent their approach and attack, hurling away the ones who came close away as they railed at him. However among the common monsters there were several uncommon:

Tairbeth

(T/N In volume twenty these creatures were called TairBeth's but in translating I've found that their called Tair Badgers, which I think is the correct name since they never give an explanation of what it's body looks like. I think it's a flying badger type creature. Since they use their teeth and claws to attack and can spit.) (PR I'm just gonna leave this word there as a reminder then)

The TairBadger quickly glued their body to Death Knight. Their saliva had a sticky mucus like quality that stuck to death knight like a kid playing with glue. It was toxic, and strong enough it melt the bones off your flesh, but the potent poison was of no avail to death night.

‘I think their physical attack power is weak compared with their level. Their saliva can suppress Death Knight's movements. Then they attack him with attacks too fast for him to avoid. Considering Death Knight's defenses (armor) he can hold out for a while.’

The TairBadger attacks were quick enough that it made it difficult to dodge, along with the movement sealing mucus, it was too much of a burden to deal with all at once. Assassin, adventurers and explorers have navigation skills. But no matter how much you scout you can't find out everything hidden. For example, the hostilities of TairBadgers. It was better to throw Death Knight out there as bait instead of charging in like a fool. Weed pulled out the Fallen Saints staff and started summoning.

“Your flesh will be made undead. Ye shall be forever stuck in my hand. Necromancer’s Declaration.”

You have used Necromancer’s Declaration.

- When you create undead the effect is increased by 15%
- The target’s physical ability will be decreased 10%
- The target’s mental suffering will be increased by 10%
- The target’s hit by Necromancer will have greater hostility towards you

Necromancer’s declaration. Before a full-scale fight, use the top tier spells to increase your powers. If your magical proficiency is high enough, then it can even increase the effect of unique techniques. Some TairBadgers turned and attacked Weed, even when they were near death or severely weakened. The 10 TairBadgers attacked his body with spit shots, scratches and bites. Weed’s bones made sounds as they absorbed the attacks.

“The fateful bitterness doesn’t feel. A narrow sight! The confusion and suffering is endless. No end to the pain! Even at dawn, just do as they do and fall in a deep tired sleep. With deep stinging in his eyes and yawning come forth. Increase in Fatigue!”

“Every inch of the body is tickled. The disease of the blood occurs! The body is rotting away from the corrupt air, spreading to anyone who drinks it in. Summon Poison mist”

A huge number of subsequent curse magics were summoned continuously. Weed had summoned up to 4 instantaneous curses a minute. In order to prepare a magic curse he has to constantly recite the exact summoning spell. But Weeds cursing did not falter for even one second.

During the battle he placed curses on the creature that attacked him and the sculptures of life fighting. There was a delay when using curse magic. The effect of using many curses in a row lead to considerable drop in magic concentration.

When the magic concentration drops the spell is more likely to fail, and the spells get considerable weaker. But all the blessings and curses were

still recited properly so they worked.

Due to the curses, the TairBadgers were noticeable weakened. Weed drew a long breath as one of the TairBadgers stuck to Death Knight and died. He immediately ordered.

“Corpse Explosion!”

Cracks appeared all over the dead TairBadger’s body then exploded in great flash of light! Part’s of the Tair Badgers body bounced all over the place. The strongest skill of the magical skills, at the top of the necromancer class; the Corpse Explosion. The explosion happened right next to Death Knight, but he was saved from the blast by the Tair Badgers which were stuck to his body, thus mitigating most of the damage.

Due to continuous use magic concentration has severally dropped.

The front of Weed’s eyes suddenly grew cloudy, like cataracts in adults. Even if his wisdom and knowledge was very high for the moment he had still used too many high level spells.

“Chek, chek, chek!”

The TairBadgers now had a new enemy for their animosity. There were only two left on Death Knight. The other TairBadgers flew off as they joined up and came to attack Death Knight/Weed. Due to the effects of the curse they were noticeably slower. They bumped into each other as they flew up and down in the air.

“Geumini, bow and arrows!”

“GoloGoloGol!”

Geumini shot a bunch of arrows from the high elf bow that went straight for the target! For example (T/N I hate when I see these words!) an African bow. The arrows are made from blessed stones and sprinkled with holy water to produce the best results when they are released. The spirits in action are a very beautiful sight, but the Tair Badgers had very little resistance, being just six meters from fight.

“Golden Bird, you go ahead and fight too!”

But the Golden bird only sat and preened its feathers. Weed had not been recognized with a measure of acceptable intimacy so it did not help with the battle. There was a bit of golden light shining up from the ground.

“Gologol, from the earth sparks will rise.”

Pillars of fire suddenly erupted from the ground. Only Guemuni who had a 100% fire resistance could exert his full potential in the battlefield now.

However in the extreme heat a little bit of gold was melted away. Geumini, who was fully intent on saving his lord, started to advance through the fire. But as he moved forward, the TairBadgers pierced through the fire. The monsters in Las Pheonix have very strong fire resistance.

The TairBadgers that had been hit by the initial explosion fell to the ground wrapped in flames, but then they casually flicked off the flames like they were annoying flies, and nonchalantly kept flying.

More than 15 of them pierced the air, flying toward their enemies. At the moment the TairBadgers arrived, Weed pushed Geumini to the side as a diversion.

Weed sword's was quite accurate, but with the excess use of magic his eyes were clouded making the enemies hard to hit. Also most of his fencing skills had been turned into curse skills or skill to summon the undead. The liches' strength and speed in battle was considerably lower.

The TairBadgers came back! They threw their steaming gummy spit all over.

Actions are blocked.

- Up to -80% movement speed.
- A 95% percent increase strength is required to move.

The TairBadgers attacked when it was physically hard to resist! They attacked vulnerable spots like the neck; it was the worst situation. The

TairBadgers spit dozens of red seeds toward Weed.

The seeds of the Dymond flower have been planted.

- It would best to get rid of them as soon as possible.
- The Dymond's flower plants have infected and spread throughout your body.
- The Dymond's flower plants...

Dozens of red seed started to attach to Weeds body. Weed examined the attack of the TairBadgers and didn't know how to respond.

The Dymond flowers have started to grow.

In Las Phlanax some special plants have organic attributes and are able to absorb nutrients very quickly. Weed quickly tried to pull them off his clothes with his fingers but they stuck to his bones. The flower seed grew in a matter of 5 or six seconds. They were sucking up Weeds life force and using it to joyously bloom and grow roots. They were beautiful colorful flowers.

The Dymond flowers that the TairBadgers have sown have started to bloom.

Each one of the seeds turned to different colors as they bloomed; yellow, pink, blue... The petals, long and sugary, gave off a sweet refreshing scent as they spread. Packed in a small space, they emitted light, and soon after came an explosion!

Weed's vitality decreased. Here in Las Phalanx even if the monsters had a weak body they had a devastating fighting style. Though the TairBadgers had weak physical attacks, they exploited the weak points. But they did not expect the advantages of being a liche. If one exploits the advantages of being undead then they can be number 1 even in Las Phalanx.

*

The Kingdom of Haven's captain of the second fleet Drinfield! The Hermes Guild's admiral headed toward the starting areas in the port.

"On Ipia Island a ghost fleet was spotted with a Lich aboard as the

captain. Chances are high that it's him....”

Drinfield, the naval admiral, was covered in black with a sleek hip outfit and a feather in his hat. He gave a sharp click with his tongue.

“What kind of quest can't be done by this military, Earl!”

Drinfield thought as he stroked his mustache.

He had heard about the old rumors of Weed from CoM. Nevertheless, Weeds exploits in Royal Road made the blood boil.

“But he is not a true man from the sea. From sea to sea, no matter how big, he is just another fish to fry.”

No matter what kind of quest he was doing it didn't matter, Drinfield would proceed. Out of the Brent kingdom the second fleet sailed with 37 large sailing ships to demonstrate their gall.

“In Royal Road the first one to catch Weed will be me.”

The column of users that followed Drinfield was about 1,200 people! The navy command was focused on ability and growth so all the people were strong in one-to one duels as well. Every one of them were undisputed powerhouses.

*

“Golo golo golo.”

Gumuni was deliberately pushed, but this just recovered any fallen intimacy.

‘Master cares if I live or die. He doesn't just abuse us. He would even turn into a mangled tree for me!’

Weeds thought process was that the value of Gold was more valuable than the materials and ingredients on Bingryong. (T/N so THAT”s where bingyrongs been the entire time. Ingredient freezer) With that in mind he chose to save Gumuni the moment the enemies revived.

“Master hang in there! Gol golo golo.”

Gumuni rushed the TairBadgers in order to save Weed.

With Death Knight there, two more Tair Badgers died. Death Knights level was much higher, but the TairBadgers moved fast; whirling from side to side to avoid their attacks was not easy.

Most of the TairBadgers intensely attacked Weed. When he used the move corpse explosion he attracted the most aggro. They would have continued to spit Dymond flower seeds at him, but Weed rolled on the ground.

The fire might have doubled the TairBadgers attack but with the Goddess of the Earth blessing still active, it did not do much damage.

After being barely scratched Weed came up brandishing his staff. The TairBadgers attacked the bones of his shoulders and neck with viscous bites.

But Weed activated the exquisite defense skill "Stone Skin". The skills that were gained and considerable strengthened during the Hero's tower. Double hard!! Bones that can cut nails. What about their teeth? (T/N Had to double check this line)

The Tair Badgers continued to chew on the solid stone bones. The other two also locked their teeth in Weed. Noticing this Weed said,

"I'm rather lucky."

Biting meant they wouldn't be shooting more flower seeds at him. Weed put his left hand on his torso where he felt the pain.

"Life drain, Mana drain."

He aimed at the fiercely biting TairBadgers. Weed raised his arms at the same time. He sucked in both the mana and the life force from his attackers. The attack severely damages the attackers leaving them too weak to attack properly. Even when losing so much of its health and strength, the TairBadger didn't stop chewing. Its eyes slowly lowered as more of its life was drained by the moment.

"I failed to pick up the item during the corpse explosion. But the power of death can be used like this too." (PR Note: I think this says that the power of the death aka corpse explosion was useful? Not too sure but then

again I'm just a lowly Pr... TTAT)

The Tair Badgers refused to give up chewing to avenge their fallen comrades.

EM Mo moo moo moo moo

Suddenly Rover roared and rushed over. Weed watched as the TairBadgers received the attack en masse. Due to the attack by Rover, several TairBadgers' attacks could be avoided for a while. Weed was grasping at them with both hands and continuing to absorb their health and mana. And also many of them had been struck by Rover. Indeed many of them were rolling on the ground now shortly before death!

“Master.”

Geumini took out a blue sapphire he had been carrying.

“Gem Destruction!”

The gem shattered and blew out a magical wind.

“Sapphire Dust!”

The fine chipped sapphire dust started to blow around. The light blue wind started to attack the TairBadgers!

“Pretty solution.”

Weed, Rover, and Death Knight were also swept up in the sapphire pieces. First it reflects its master's actions, so its behavior resembled Geumini's.

Freezing.

- Vitality is reduced by 190 every second.
- This rapidly reduces stamina, but has no effect if you are in undead state.
- It is impossible to move!
- It is impossible to use magic!
- You will not be able to use weapons.

The Geumini's magic dealt a severe blow to the TairBadgers. The TairBadgers were frozen and could not fly and were lying on the ground! The TairBadgers had some magical resistance living in Las Phalanx but

none against ice magic. But the TairBadgers chewing on Weeds body persisted; they did not know how to fall. Weed was also stuck under this ban.

“I am this judge. If you want to participate in this battle then....”

He started to grab at the clinging TairBadgers in their frozen state.

“Life drain, Mana Drain!”

Crazy biting! The Vitality of the Tair Badgers was on the weak side but they had high defense and tremendous endurance. The attack from the TairBadgers persisted until they died. If not for the stone skin absorbing most of the damage, he would have dropped a long time ago.

Even with the Stone Skin skill, it was barely tolerable to Weed; a warrior without high defenses would never be able to endure!

Meanwhile the much weakened TairBadgers were being split between Death Knight and Geumeni. Rover took 4 frozen ones and started kicking. The vitality of the frozen were reduced to 2 from the constant harassment.

Due to enduring many blows, Strength and Vitality goes up by 1.

Weed's life force increased about 5%; there was an increase to a stat! In order to get this increase you had to risk your life. Death Knight, Rover, and Geumeni got rid of the remaining 8 enemies. Weed's health was 5% and mana 8%; he had been hit all over.

Because the Las Phlanx was too hot the freezing restriction was quickly released and then his concentration and recovery rate went back to normal. It was a difficult first fight but it was difficult pleasure. With a sweaty smile Weed started to perform some magic.

“May you live and come back to this land. Come back to this place, a dark and corrupt land. Do not disappear. In the law of darkness engraved to you. Undead rise!”

From the ground, dead TairBadgers rose and soared. The wings were Broken and its' necks were at a strange angle but the TairBadgers were

alive (well undead). They had half of their original vitality and 1/3 of their original attack and defense power. Weed wearily went by the TairBadgers with Death Knight and turned them into undead too. By the end of the fight he had gain a whopping 25 TairBadgers. He made 3 air columns out of the undead TairBadgers.

“Your sovereign prince. I gave blood and flesh so these might never die without my permission, So they forever obey. Soul Submission!”

+15% to maximum health of the undead.

They will be a little more nimble now and will obey commands with absolute certainty . Using curse magic on the undead gave blessings. Now the real battle of the Necromancer could begin.

Weed, and Death Knight went back to the place where the Tair Badgers first pounced on them on the shadows. And were attacked by 15 more of them. But this time the situations had changed drastically.

“Fight! The enemy is upon you!”

Weed fell straight back into battle. While watching the battle he poured out curses and several magical attacks. Undead summoning casts wherever they fall, the sides are silently flipped. Death Knight was much freer, dealing destructive power with his strong sword skills as he tears up the TairBadgers. Geumeni was able to properly support from the ground by shooting arrows. The 25 undead Tair Badgers fell once or twice in battle, but they produced corpses and were quickly able to be resummoned. Infinite recovery and reproducible goods! This really did seems to be one of the top jobs. Weed fought five more groups and gained 89 undead TairBadgers. Indirect hunting gets far less experience. But the Speed is different. Driving two groups, he was able to split any incoming forces and hunt and track them using organization.

“I dedicate you to our glory. Form your sword with black.”

After collecting some bodies He summoned several Skeleton Mages and a few skeleton knights. Now you could say he leading an undead legion.

“No time to summon the zombies as well.”

After the following battle he collect the TairBadgers bodies and baked them together after a little rain. The Zombies turned out like the cheesy kind that walked slowly, but they had acidic venom and high defense.

Using the correct undead is very important. Their bodies were even intact because they had been made out of the best looking TairBadgers with the highest efficiency. In one night of continuous hunting, Weed had an enormous increase in his undead army.

He had 89 TairBadgers, 55 Skeleton Mages, 20 skeleton Knights, 40 baked zombies, and 5 horses. It took a certain amount of work to maintain all that undead, but the skeleton knight, mages and zombies were a bit easier than others because they were cheap. A Mana recovery + 10% speed ring, plus a 55% Mana mantle (T/N I don't know what this word is. It said garage :/), plus a 20% recovery rate increase from the bracelets; the treasure of the Nifleheim kingdom. All were worn. Plus he had the Critical blessing from the Goddess of the Earth which added an additional 40% to his Mana. IT was definitely powerful enough to keep up with the undead legion.

In the first day of the hunt he gained 27% experience. The next day he gained 29%. The Undead summoning skill and the Skeletons origins were being perfectly displayed and adapted for fighting for the first time. But in distinction Golden Bird stay far away circling from atop. The only thing that could be seen was Weed's moving forces.

(T/N I had so much trouble with this chapter Q.Q. Its so awful. I'm sorry sobs)

Chapter 9: Seoyoon's Arrival

“The undead army legion has now increased 3 times in size. Now, I don't need to go out with nearly as many skeletons, nor do I need as many troops.”

With Weed's Lich skills, he can take advantage of every battle and create flying undead! But too much greed could be hazardous in hunting, so he did not increase the number of his undead, even though they were cheap. Because, increasing the number of undead would not necessarily increase the hunting speed and their numbers were definitely not infinite. To keep a steady pace, they needed constant maintenance and the hunting grounds needed to be navigated; wasting more time. Once the undead fell, it was time to attack with curse magic.

“Utilization of the Meiji era skeletons should increase.”

By hunting day and night, Weed had gained one level. However, the monsters also got stronger. The monsters gained a 30% stat increase at night. Since he was transfigured, the benefits of moonlight sculptor did not apply. However, the lich's magical curses and black magic had a large area effect at night, so it wasn't that bad.

“Finally level 370.”

The quests and giving life to sculptures had left his level rather lacking compared to his stats. Now he could raise his level through hunting as it was the optimal solution. But the monsters' levels were very high, and it was very hard to sneak around in the sculpture heritage since it was so bare. In Las Phalanx massive earthquakes happened often.

“Again?”

Whenever there was a big quake, Weed would quickly duck into a relatively safe spot.

‘THakur ruka ruka ruk’

The volcanic ground shook, shaking everything off balance. TairBadgers, Bollards, and Chaos Warriors' rushed out of their hiding places. Drakes

flew all over the place avoiding the blow out from the nearby earthquake. Aerial and ground creatures all in unison ran around. It was a great and terrible sight. A great mole-like creature popped its head out of the ground, froze, then ran away. The creatures were quickly falling into a deeper panic. The tension was rising.

Geuminyi said,

“Gol gol go, the heat is rising. The origin is hot.”

“That’s not it.”

The lava was being excavated from under the mountains.

“That is surely.....The lava welling up in reverse and the black smoke pouring out of the nearby north mountain range....Kuah. No way.”

“Volcanic Eruptions!”

The Versailles continent pageantry! After the icy storm comes volcanic explosions! The fireballs fell down here and there. Large rocks melting, crushing and burning monsters.

“Stand down! Scatter!”

Giving orders, Weed lead the undead legion towards the river. As the volcanoes erupted, they sent tons of flaming rocks, that felt like comets, to destroy the area around them. It looked like the end of the world and it was such a lovely sight to see.

The volcanic lava mightily soared in upside down streams in the air. Massive rocks matching the top area of the volcanoes collapsed in ghastly balls of summer flames. It was a scary sight, enough to make one dizzy. Jets of steam came out of the ground and split the stiff land. From the cracks, streams of lava flowed. Weed and the undead hastily ran to the river.

“More than anything, dying by a fireball would just be too unfair. I can’t let that happen. Seeing this from afar though, I think I should eat some roasted sweet potatoes.”

He watched the volcanic eruptions while thinking about baked sweet potatoes. For 2 hours the earthquakes and volcanoes continued its blast

and spurt. He could not escape quick enough and several zombies and undead got destroyed reaching a total number of 65 survivors. After the earth's movement was stable and the lava flowing on the ground had become black and hard, Weed felt safe enough to venture out from behind the rocks he had been hiding behind by the river. The undead, Geuminyi, and Rover were all looking very shabby, due to the volcanic eruption and being covered in soot.

“Seeing such a display on the Versailles Continent, I have no luck.”

Picking a place that had such famous scenery and seeing a once in a lifetime spectacle, is being blamed on bad luck! Weed dragged out 800 objects that might be undead. By listening to the log system, he knew that several undead were completely destroyed even with the certain amount of pre-inserted mana he injected. Under a shadow, or hidden in a coffin or in a grave his undead were waiting. Due to the maintenance of the undead, a third of his mana was consumed.

“The blessing period lasts twelve more days. If I can gain three more levels than it should be more than enough to increase the undead armies efficiency.”

That day, the hunting speed doubled and he filled his experience bar by an additional 39%. Because of the blessing of the Goddess of the Earth, he begrudged eating and sleeping preferring to hunt instead. TairBadgers had a salty taste when unprepared. Groups with level 300 lurked in the shadows that could be hunted in large quantities. When TairBadgers died, they gave gems and rare magic items. When he got a bunch of little gems he could make a piece of jewelry that many people would pay lots of money for.

“I wonder what I can pick up from Bollards.”

He greedily thought about hunting high level Bollards while calculating the risk. If he were to die he may be denied the option to revive since he was already undead and he would lose the blessing of the earth.

“TairBadgers are lower on the food chain. The next step would be Bollards.”

Yet there were many high level monsters in Las Phalanx that he had not attacked yet. In addition to the creatures needing high level attacks, the terrain was also difficult to hunt in. Considering that the bottom of the food chain was the Bollards, it was gonna get tough soon. But Weed had enough confidence that using the TairBadgers would be enough to hunt them. Weed temporarily increased the undead army legion by 40%. Due to this, he was using too much mana and Weed couldn't sustain it for extended periods of time but it was great for dealing a great deal of damage.

“Ah, I'm so proud of my undead army legion. Let's go look for Bollards to hunt. Trample them when you see them. I will make more colleagues for us. ATTACK!”

Hiding behind a rock he gave instructions. The undead stampeded toward the Bollards. The Panther like creatures nimbly ran past huge flame columns. Changed to undead, the TairBadgers had a much lower fire resistance but they still easily clung to the Bollards. Weed looked as the Bollard jumped about and shook the zombies into the flames leaving burned chunks of meat.

“This fight right now. The Bollards are just addicted to burning the zombies.”

“This shield!”

“This arrow.”

“Air Blaster.”

(The translation literally say this. Guessing that this is the actual translation and not some cool buff name)

More than 100 skeleton mages cast their magic spells at once adding various buffs. The TairBadgers clung to the Bollards for all they're worth. Thanks to that, the skeleton knights with swords could attack.

Weed used his Lions Roar.

“Fight! You are undead! Prove that you are the definition of loss to this land! Show your full power to the armed forces of this world. Attack those weak bastards!”

Bollards are strong and fast. However the skeleton mages had infinite magic attacks! More than enough, strength and power. Even more so than Weeds 480 skeleton knights and others; 900 in all. The Bollards that they killed were made into undead. Compared to when they were alive their balance was much worse and four died right off the bat in the next fight.

You have learned valuable experience

(funny alternate TL lines again-are you trying to earn experience points?. -Gain and take of experience points is an understanding. – you are the experience gaining master)

Skill proficiency of Necromancer has improved

You have obtained grade 1 sewing material leather.

“I lost quite a number of my undead army. But I gained 1.6% exp. And Bollard leather!”

Continuous Bollard hunting was difficult. Weed increased the number of dead while the rest were out tracking them. When they found some Bollards, they took them down. The undead level of a Bollard’s corpse had a much better quality. They had higher vitality and strength stats. After turning undead only the fire attribute was lacking.

Undead summoning skills Intermediate level 8

The ability to summon corpses has increased. You are now able to handle higher quality bodies.

Step 1 Understanding Undead Summoning 1,219.

Step 2 Understanding Undead Summoning 461

Step 3 Understanding Undead Summoning 17

Step 4 Understanding Undead Summoning 6

Undead’s maximum health and damage increases.

The amount of Mana consumed in maintaining the undead is slightly reduced.

The effect of increasing Understanding Undead summoning was acquiring a number of new skills.

Step 4 undead Summoning spells were deadly! Producing the haunting bodies of souls of warriors. They should bring excellent fighting skills and at the same time create fear. They were even scary to summon with the strength cap of the undead completely removed. The top skills of the Necromancer were much more difficult to perform than other magic related skills such as purification.

Black magic and curse magic, undead summoning aside, only increase in small increments, hardly gaining anything.

“The top 4 skills of Undead Summoning are the same. Perhaps when I turn back into a human they will increase in strength?”

To a certain degree, there must have been some penalties but the level up was not too bad. However, he would lose the undead advantage of having unlimited stamina.

“Fight! Kill! Dispose of everything at once!”

The undead had increased and now included TairBadgers, undead horsemen and Bollards all occupying the same space! The blessing of the Goddess of the Earth made it possible to hunt to level 373. Having the blessing for such a long time, there was no time to rest even for 1 or 2 days. He only concentrated on hunting. Weed took a break to compare his results and focus on the new tracking positions.

“This is a rare hunting ground.”

In Las Phalanx the region around the river had many experience and items but it was only skin deep. By networking he could work with maximum efficiency.

“Orders from the master. Annihilate your enemies.”

Death Knight Van Hawk was conducting a group of 30 Bollards! Because of a lack of the right magical ingredients a significantly massive Golem could not be created.



Raw black ore obtained
Fix obtained
Acquired 10 leather TairBadgers wings
Obtained the floral brush, Ripper
Acquired 10 dwarf Bollard leather pants

Obtaining several rare items.

“Identify!”

Dwarf Bollard leather pants:Durability 65/70Defense power 58
Somebody who came to Las Phalanx and hunted Bollards decided to make leather pants. Made by dwarf's meticulous hands.
Options: 28% fire resistance.
Increase in hostility of Bollards

While exploring the area he occasional discovered the traces of carvings.

“Identify!”

Broken sculpture:Durability 3/25Lava has melted down part of this sculpture. However some of Las Phalanx was made in the process. Knowing the original shape of the piece is impossible. A very small part is still intact but even the roughest guess can not pinpoint who created it.
Artistic value : 2
Special options: recovery is impossible

There were many sculptures around Las Phlanax that were impossible to pick up and were too damaged. But still they were created with someone's heart and soul!

“This can't even be sold as japtem!”

Weed left the broken sculpture just as he saw them.

*

Seoyoon listened to the animal and like clients they gave her problems to solve.

“...and this is required. Also can you get a little herbs? I have an appointment to keep with some friends but I should be able to get you some red flower. The red flowers help with child prevention right? I'll have to wander around a bit, but once I smell it I'm sure I can't miss it.

Every night she hears a strange wind. Please check out the reason.

The small and cute animals asked for resources.

“In exchange, I will tell you the location of the flowers. You will have the location of flowers that humans crave.

“I would like help in recovering of a wound.”

“Is there a water drinking fountain for cats?”

The animals were very informed.

“Keep in mind that several polar fleece foxes have passed this way. I’ll let you know of a safer forest.”

The forest jobs were much easier to take great strides when the proper knowledge was used. The quest rewards were also quite good as well. Animals who live in the forest and mountain were familiar with those areas as well. They also knew the locations of mines, monsters, rare habitats, and hidden treasures that were not directly available. Although Seoyoon did not talk back directly they understood her meaning and they had conversations. She increased the intimacy with the animals by stroking them. The Quest rewards of the fox furs and the cat fountain were led to something very curious.

-And beyond at the end of mothers’ territory. There is a dungeon that has a door, which was created by the fairies, that crosses dimension.

-Could you really go anywhere you wish just by passing through the entrance way? This fairy door was very astonishing.

It can only be used in a two month period. Mother knows that this is fact, if you’re curious. Is this a good reward? I heard that man always wanted that type of thing. Money is usually what humans are rewarded with.

-That’s not always necessary, what you gave me will come in handy.

Seoyoon decided to go to the dungeon.

“This smells dangerous but I think I’ll be okay.”

With the help of Tori, Seoyoon found the fairy door. The door that was opened for just two months was reached with success! While the door was opening, Seoyoon recalled where she wanted to go,

“Weed, I want to go to where Weed’s place is.....”

“Kill everything! All the successful people in the world are bad guys. TairBadgers! Sweep them away!”

Weed lead the undead legion, dedicated to hunting. Weed was restricted to fighting what was next on the food chain ladder, but he had TairBadgers and Bollards so he had no complaints. By using a connecting network for continuous tracking, his skill proficiency and experience were rising. Geuminyi, Rover, and Death Knight Van Hawk were hunting and tracking while trying to avoid the earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

“Although it’s difficult., it’s worth the risk.”

For now, this was the optimal time for hunting on the present hunting ground because of the Goddess of the Earth’s blessing made traveling through the hunting grounds easier.

“Unfortunately sculpturing, cooking, blacksmithing, and sewing are too difficult to advance at this point.”

The undead don’t eat food and sculpture effects aren’t applied. You must buy a good weapon for a zombie to upgrade it.”

He used the cheapest undead magic with the highest volume. He couldn’t worry about a low level soldier losing weapons.

“I cannot create clothes that has flame resistance, it’ll just be filled with holes.”

The materials from Las Phalanx were piling up, but he could not access them yet. Weed’s assets are his high stats and various productions skill. Yes, the Necromancer stood at the top of the magic class. You can play with undead and make military colleagues, but you can’t take advantage of the materials! It did not help that he didn’t even have the dexterity to use a hunting bow to command the battle. In addition to commanding the battle it is s important to know the additional effects. Weed pondered new methods to have better efficiency.

“Sculpture! A sculpture that won't be lost to the lava....”

Light sculptures were made in the air and were sculptures.

“But if other creatures are curious about it they might come up and destroy it.”

A gathering of monsters! He did not want that. Then he would make a sculpture that he could transform himself into. Weed enjoyed the sculpture’s makeover effect skills! Leveraging the synergetic effect of the sculpture he could take on even more advantages.

“The materials....”

What was around here? No trees or stone. The ground was full of holes and is open for bone cancer with the rocks hence they would have low vitality.”

Las Phalanx had many materials, that fell to the ground, that could be used for modification.

“Identify!”

“Identify!”

Little rock crystal : Hardness 15/15

Picked up on a Las Phalanx mountain.

A little transparent. A kind of jewel that fetches a high price but is not that expensive. Several types of magic weapons, accessories or sculptures can be processed with it. Can amplify mana boosts effect

Material grade: 2

Options: low grade enchantments can be sealed in for a day.

“It’s too difficult to give up the liche race so I’ll just make a new skeleton”

Whole body modifications with the material.

“This material is almost invisible....”

Even it was only a little dark ,which was good, it could catch the light and refract it making it hard for monster to find him.. It would be hard to pinpoint the curse and attack magic and make it so the hostilities were not increased toward him. This was very valuable for necromancers since they are extremely weak at close combat.

“Now I can add many magical modifications. Now’s the time to take advantage of the strength and stamina of the undead and provide this skull with lots of concentrated magic.”

He made over 450 modifications. Because it was impossible to create the piece all at once he carved each bone and put them together. He created an assembly of bones.

“Quite a tricky thing, but that’s okay when I have the extra mana for hunting by using intermediate carving.”

He seemed to find other utilizations for the crystal.

“From the blacksmithing and sewing production perspective there are many uses.”

Created in a blacksmith shop, weapons would have high defense or other desirable options. There was also many other production of technologies that could be developed for the crystal

“If you change the characteristics in the blacksmith shop it could be made to be used as an instrument.”

Due to Weed’s high sculpting art stat he could make use of an instrument. Although his songs were the worst his harp performance was considerable. He looked at the trees and listened to the metal, looking for things to create an instrument with. The tendons of the monsters used for strings. For battle purposes you only need high defensive and offensive things so creating a weapons with this in mind is mainly a blacksmith’s job. But with the revolution of musical instruments, anything was possible. As a high level blacksmith himself, once a senior competitor appeared among the competition, his eyesight became narrowed. But Weeds art stat was too low, practically absent, alas Weeds life was too difficult.

“Getting the materials would be a waste, but looking at the long term, it’s more sensible to increase my drawing and sewing skills while I still can later.”

Weed’s herbology and bandage skill were in the advance stage along

with his cooking which was at advance level 2. The right plants and herbs could be used as things to write on and dyes for clothes. It could even increase the characteristics. Fortunately, the Versailles continent has lots of plant materials that could come in handy later. Almost nothing was useless as plants could be dried and sold later for money, but that is not the reason they should be kept.

“No matter where you go or what you do, while searching for materials on the Versailles continent there are endless possibilities.”

Weed was modifying the bones with the hunt in mind. If you look at the bones, it was not hard to create them one by one. In the meantime the lichens foundation came forth. A ghostly skeleton dismembered and separate came to life.

“Fixing them so they fit exactly to the size and proportion, can be a little tricky.”

Looking at the body modifications he measured the bones to himself.

“Perhaps a few more centimeters is key? No. The key is to look bigger and more fit, not be taller. I have to stick to the current body state and make as much amends as possible.”

While creating, one has to have a nice head for knowledge and wisdom stat.

“Should I experiment more with the sculpture shapeshifter skill? A ten times bigger head is not likely to be as good as a vaguely smart looking skull.”

Having a very large head, for more knowledge. A favorite!

“A supersized head skeleton and frame modifications.”

Unfortunately the biggest Weed could make the modifications to was only 1.5 times larger than the current one. Considering the proportions of the human body, it could easily be quite large.

“An 8 foot tall man wouldn't necessarily be smarter... Guess I'll have to do without.”

The big headed skull was sculpted without a hitch. The hands that now sweeps away the shavings now has much experience with the material. Conversion and conception of imagination was essential to the creation of culture and art.

Go and play!

Adapting and sculpting the bones in the ribs, spines, pelvis, torso, arms, shoulder, and head. The teeth also had to be revised. The molars for the head had to be 1.5 times bigger.

Ttring!

The name of the sculpture is.....

“Modified liche!”

Is this what you want to name the sculpture?

“Yes”

-A Masterpiece! The Modified liche is complete!!

The modification and clean workmanship are rare manifestations in sculptures. The first of this kind can be added to his Art Center. With driving experience from his heroic efforts he has created a modified liche. However the process isn't just amazing. To adventurers, there is a lot of unique artistic feeling. There were similar liches made in the past but they were prone to failure. Since it is an uncomfortable appearance to reach, having not a lot of beauty and luxurious appearance, it is hard to make! However the artistic sensitivity is still low, because there is already a shape of this sculpture made. There should be no more of this made in the world.

Artistic value: 219

Special options: Increases vitality and mana recovery rate by 16% for those who see it during the day.

+ 42 wisdom

+10 agility

Decrease of attack by 130

Magic chanting is + 8% faster

Undead advantage + 4%

Does not overlap with other sculptors
Number of masterpieces completed: 87

Handicraft skill proficiency is improved
+15 fame
+1 Wisdom

The head had different proportions. The rest of the piece looked very similar to Weed's one eyed liche pieces but the sculpture skill did not match. The one eyed liche was making an artistic sculpture and also had

daytime states.

“The level of proficiency of the skill of dexterity only rose a little.”

But Weed was prepared.

“Sculpture Shapeshift.”

Body turns into the piece

Weed's bones became transparent. And his head was rapidly growing larger in the process. The bones gave off a pale violet clear colored hue. On the other side it appeared transparent, but the shape of a mysterious skeleton remains.

The effects of knowledge and wisdom have increased slightly due to the effect of transfiguration.
+15% health and mana
Understanding of advance sculpture is at level 3 so you are not fully transformed into a liche.
Mana and life drain absorption and efficiency rate went up by 10%
Understanding of sculptures has been increased due to engraving a bigger sculpture and transforming.

“Hueg hueg hue”

With the revision of the crystal skull created, Weed smiled in satisfaction. On the hilly terrain he could now drive a drove of undead! The one eyed liches proficiency, could only handle three legions at the same time, but now more could be summoned.

“Death knight!”

Zombies, that burn a huge amount of mana can now be sent to the forefront. The TairBadgers and Bollards hunting speed went up.

Shuffling through the door made by the fairies, Seoyoon arrived at her selected location Las Phalanx.

“Hot. And thirsty.”

Spilling lava came from the top of the mountain. Scattered all around were broken sculptures like a cemetery.

“Where am I?”

Seoyoon look around for Weed but he couldn't be found anywhere in the nearby vicinity. A nasty trick by the elves, she was dropped close to her target and she was still considerably far away.

"It's hot and there's a strong smell of blood in this country."

Tori picked his way forward.

"There's a monster hiding here, I am going to take the initiative."

He headed toward the dark shadows cast by several rocks. Tori of the vampire clan can smell the enemy blood. Hiding is useless! Tori and his rebuilt vampire clan forced a fight.

"The taste is not much!"

Tori and the vampires fought the shade with high defenses. With support of the magic fire items, Seoyoon pulled out her sword and began to hunt the monsters. Monster with strong blood when drunk tasted like snake fish pie! Tori, Seoyoon, and the vampire clan were at their max potential for growth. So with all of them there, hunting a Bollard came off without a hitch! Seoyoon with her high level damage, was able to beat it down with Tori.

"This is dangerous."

Without the help of the clan to help heal, Seoyoon wouldn't go after anything that came up. But Seoyoon wanted to immediately search for Weed. A fragile existence like Weed definitely would be troubled to reach his goal in Las Phalanx.

Chapter 10: Limits of the Necromancer

Lee-Hyun thought as he prepared breakfast and cleaned the house, ‘What’s the value of a university graduation certificate? People wanted a graduation certificate as if it was absolutely necessary in order to get a job.’

The life of getting a job at a huge company, getting paid every month, getting bonus every holiday, and getting an end-of-year bonus! Is this not the life of a businessman Lee-Hyun cries for?!

‘Dating, buying a car under monthly installment payments, going on a trip over summer vacation through the crowded highway too.’

The value of a university graduation certificate was limitless. However, not everyone who gets a good job at a good company has it because they have the certificate.

‘I have to have a high grade and be good at foreign languages. I also have to have a few licenses in order to be in a more advantageous position than others. I’ll have to run some internship too!’ He could only sigh more as he continued to think.

He was older than others, and to add on, he dropped high school and took Gum-Jung-Go-Si, so he can’t expect to live in normal ways like others.

“To think attending a university would be this painful.”

The certificate was more likely to become useless than helpful, besides being a nice wall decoration.

It was when Lee-Hyun picked up a camcorder, a few necessary notes and headed out.

He saw Seo-Yoon standing in front of the door.

Because summer vacation just ended, the weather was still hot.

She who wore casually with jeans and white T-shirts, felt strange. Compared to her blinding beauty, the clothes she wore were absolutely

normal, and she looked even more innocent and beautiful.

When wearing a party dress she as pretty as a goddess, and even when wearing casual clothes, she still attracts attention.

Her beauty was on the level of shining even when wearing any type of clothes! Lee-Hyun brusquely talked to her.

“Going to walk to university with me?”

Seo-Yoon lightly nodded.

She put in a bit of effort by going to Lee-Hyun’s house solely for the reason that she wanted to go to the university with him.

Lee-Hyun replied bitterly.

“Fine, do whatever you want.”

He bloomed his imagination of having a snail bride.

(TN: There's a Korean folk story where a snail transforms into a human at nights and do all house chores for the farmer who treated it/her nicely.)

A innocent and kind girl who cooks for Lee-Hyun in secret out of love! But, when he looks at Seo-Yoon, he couldn’t help but have his dream be shattered.

‘She must’ve cooked for me without much meaning.

I cooked for her at times, so she must be doing this to pay back for what she received.’

Lee-Hyun could’ve waited for the bus at the bus station with Seo-Yoon and walked to the university, but after he started to hunt at Las Phalanx, he decided to ride on the bus to save time. The undead who have their mana supply cut from their necromancers weaken and turn back into a corpse or crumble away.

To hunt longer and save at least one more undead, riding the bus was necessary.

“L-Loo-Look at that girl!”

“So beautiful. I’ve never seen a girl as beautiful as her.”

When he was with Seo-Yoon, people who came to watch, crowded so much to the point that the road gets blocked.

Lee-Hyun got used to such attention, so he only felt uncomfortable.

“There’re too many shortcomings going to university with you. Too many people come to watch you.”

Upon hearing that, Seo-Yoon wore a cap and a mask. After that, people let out disappointing sighs and went about their ways.

Soon, the bus they were waiting for arrived.

Lee-Hyun used his bus card and moved to go to an empty seat, but Seo-Yoon only stood still.

“What? Don’t you have a transportation card?” Seo-Yoon nodded.

When would she ever get another chance to ride a bus? Since it was her first time riding a bus, she didn’t have a transportation card. She only now learned that she needed to use the card to ride the bus.

Seo-Yoon wrote on a paper and showed it to him.

It’s my first time riding a bus, you see...

Lee-Hyun paid for hers as well and they sat together at empty seats.

“Erm.....”

“Next time, you have to carry around a transportation card, ok? If you have it, you can ride on a bus and you can ride on subways too.”

Lee-Hyun sincerely advised her.

Upon hearing that, Seo-Yoon opened up her wallet thinking, maybe.

An unbelievable amount of cash and three credit cards. Black premium, diamond, and platinum cards! Annual fee alone is over 1000000 won for the cards, so of course they had a transportation card option amongst their many benefits that they had.

When Seo-yoon showed him those cards, Lee Hyun shook out of rage.

‘I got done in.’ Her cruelty of making him pay for the bus and showing

him her transportation cards afterward! No one but Seo-Yoon could do such a dreadful thing.

It was about when they arrived at the university and Lee Hyun was headed to the lecture room to take his first class. Seo-Yoon followed him.

“What? Did you sign up for capsule engineering?” Seo-Yoon only nodded twice. They took a 3 hours long lecture together, and shared a lunch box together in a grassy quad under warm sunlight.

Seo-Yoon followed him when he headed to listen to his next lecture.

“By any chance, did you also sign up for social structure theory in virtual reality?” She nodded again. Seo-Yoon picked out the lectures Lee Hyun took and signed up for them only.

“Hyung, it’s been long.”

“Hello Oppa!” Back Soon-Jo, Lee Yoo-Jung, Min So-Ra, and Choi Sang-Joon also signed up for social class theory in virtual reality, so they could meet in the lecture room.

After the lecture was over, all students gathered in the great lecture room.

“As I have promised, we will check your assignments today.”

Lee-Hyun sat at the front line in the lecture room with over 300 students.

‘It’s hard to give an F to a student who always sits at a front seat.’ The seat to get the professor’s favor! Lee-Hyun, Seo-Yoon and 12 other students sat at the very front.

“Then, please come up one by one starting from the left.”

Professor Joo Jong-Hoon played the students’ camcorders in order.

The camcorder played a scene with a sunny sky and blue sea with parents and nieces laughing.

“Family trip at a resort..... Must’ve been fun.”

The professor gave short comments as he checked the videos.

“You worked hard at voluntary works. Must’ve felt proud.”

“Watching a play at a theatre..... Good for cultural experience.”

It seems like the students spent their vacation very fulfillingly. Well, at least for recording. And, it was Seo-Yoon’s turn.

When it showed Seo-Yoon’s vacation life, the students’ ability to focus boosted up more than ever.

Bright sunlight came through the window.

Seo-Yoon was sleeping on a bed with a quilt on, but soon raised, rubbing her eyes.

She did not have her make-up on, but with her perfect beauty, not even a hint of sleep layed on her face.

“Woof woff!” a dog that barked with enthusiasm, ran to her arms. The scene of Seo-Yoon patting the dog while holding it in her arms played on the screen.

Perked ears, quick legs, and a frivolously shaking tail. The dog seemed familiar.

It was Momn Boshin, the one Lee Hyun gave her.

Seo-Yoon held a towel on one hand and went into the bathroom. She just took a moment to wash her face, but her face shone as if a halo was behind her! Since nothing special happened over the vacation, she decided to just record her daily life and asked her nurse to film for her.

Seo-Yoon got up in the morning to cook. She took out ingredients to make omelet rice and chicken salad. She brushed her soft hair that came down onto her beautiful shoulders aside and started to cut ingredients.

All scenes were like CF.

The food displaced on the dishes were decorated beautifully like the ones from a very high-class restaurants.

Omelet rice, salad, and an orange juice that were placed very neatly on the white table! She ate with the nurse who was filming for her.

Lee Hyun thought,

‘Why do you cook so tiresomely so early in the morning? Just how much more delicious did you want to eat?’ If it wasn’t for his sister, he just ate simply.

Seo-Yoon’s cooking got better as she made lunches for Lee Hyun, but no one noticed it.

Boshin also ate below the table, and she started to wash dishes after finishing her meal.

Someone amongst the students let out an exclamation of “Wow!” as he watched her wipe a drop of water that splashed onto her forehead as she washed dishes.

It wouldn’t be a waste to make a movie from Seo-Yoon waking up, washing her face, cooking, and eating meals. But, Lee Hyun thought differently.

‘She only needed half of the detergent that she used..... She splashes too much water as she washes her dishes.’ After finishing washing the dishes, she sat on a rocking chair and opened a book.

The title of the book she was reading was “Art Museum Envoy Diary”.

It’s a book that lets you study about art pieces and artists as you take a glimpse at art museums all over the world.

While the other students thought ‘as expected from Seo-Yoon’, Lee Hyun, again thought differently.

‘It’s all just faking.’ He thought she was overacting with a camera in front of her! After reading a book, she got into a capsule, played Royal Road, took a walk in a garden, showered, and headed to the bed.

As she lied on her bed, covering herself with a quilt, with the light turned off, the video ended after giving a bit of silent space at the end.

The professor said,

“It was a brilliant art piece that described your daily life in a beautiful way.”

That was something that gave Lee Hyun great shock.

He went through hell of going to Africa and Europe to record, but to think Seo-Yoon would be praised for just filming her normal daily life!

“Next.”

Lee Hyun handed the assistant his video camera with a disappointed face.

They just saw Seo-Yoon’s so no one really looked forward to seeing Lee Hyun’s video.

Actually, it’s not an overstatement to say that most students only wanted to see Seo-Yoon’s.

The travel across Egypt, Africa, and Europe!

Crossing the desert on a four-wheel drive jeep, skydiving on an airplane and a hotel, an autobike, a motor boat, deep sea adventure, and even extreme sports! The Professor commented long after finishing the video.

“As professors give out assignments, there is a range to the expectation. But, I never thought there would be a student who would experience such a special vacation!

If I had not given out such an assignment, we would not know about this student, would we? Please give a round of applause to Lee Hyun who experienced such a special travel that no one else could’ve done!” Some students even trembled.

“As expected from Princess Knight.”

“He was amazing at the MT too, you know.”

Lee Hyun was not happy as he got the applause.

Because he would’ve been happier if he could have a normal life like quietly eating at home, feeding animals he raises at the backyard, training at the DoJang, and going into the capsule to hunt.

Seo-Yoon was looking at him with eyes of envy and amazement.

Lee Hyun wasn’t so happy to be envied by her. ‘I’ll spend my winter

vacation at home at any cost. There's no way another assignment like this will be given, and if there is, I'll just make a snowman. If I need more things to film, I guess I can just have a snow fight with the neighbor's kids.' Lee Hyun was promising himself to spend his winter vacation only at home.

Other student's recordings were mostly simple and uninteresting, so Lee Hyun nodded off and ended up sleeping.

Seo-Yoon also was thinking rather than watching. She wanted to travel afar over the winter vacation.

If she could go on a trip with a friend she can trust and rely on, she thought it would be very nice.

*

"Ghost ships? If you're asking about the ship a skeletal captain directs, I am not sure. I think it was going Northeast..."

"He bought a lot of dried fishes from here."

"He also bought lot of dried apples at a very cheap price. He haggled over prices with amazing skill."

The 2nd warship of Kingdom Haven that arrived at Iiffia Island had sent out trackers to gather information.

Since the ship carried over 230 users alone, gathering information did not take long.

"There're not many places he can go to, northeast from here..... If he heads northeast after coming out from Neria Sea, he'll be headed into a far sea."

He can go to the southern place after going around the east of Versa Continue, but if that were the case, it would be better to just go through Neria Sea canal.

"Is he trying to hunt for monsters after arriving at the island? Or is he just doing a quest related to sea travel?" He did not understand his intent, but Drinfeld decided to chase after the ghost ship for now.

After going off into the Northeastern Sea, he himself asked sea creatures and birds for the direction the ghost ship went.

And, they arrived at the Planetis Port after chasing after the trace of the ghost ship.

“A hidden port at such a place..... as expected of Weed. All ships, full speed towards the north!” The warships of Haven Kingdom all set sail.

It was a grand view to see each ships set 16 sails.

Colossal war ships headed out to sea, riding on the wind.

Trace the ghost ship! They followed the trace of the ghost ship and headed north of the sea.

The most famous pirate on the sea, Griffith! Over 50 mid-sized sailboats and galleons that he directed were gathered on the Platis Sea.

Pirates must have enough bravery to fight until death even when armies come, and information gathering must be done fast.

They tracked the ships of Haven Kingdom the moment they left their area. “So, the admiral of the Haven Kingdom navy has come out himself, huh.”

Griffith and his pirates only needed to follow after the Haven Kingdom’s ships without much effort.

“So, they looked for even us to hunt down Weed, unsatisfied with only Haven Kingdom’s navy, huh? Now, now. I cannot let them have our prey with our pride as pirates on the line. Let’s go, to hunt the legend of this continent!” Upon hearing Griffith’s words, the pirates yelled loudly.

Pirates fell behind compared to the navy in supplies and equipments. However, they could cover for their lacking power with their numbers.

Through pirates’ secretive information exchange, the man of sea on the Neria Sea gathered under Griffith’s order.

This was a huge gathering for pirates that may happen only once or twice in a year.

Weed hunted at an amazing place commanding undead armies, but there were limits to mobilizing for the quest.

Because undead armies are basically cheap and weak, lots of sacrifices were required whenever fighting against Bollards.

“Not easy to explore.”

Undead armies unconditionally get hostile reactions from monsters.

Because of that, he had to fight without rest.

Now, he even summoned 40 Death Knights.

It was the biggest undead army Weed could make with his level, mana recovery rate, and necromancer skill.

Even so, 30 to 50 undead died whenever fighting against Bollards.

“For now, we have to head to the 7th peak where the Armenia pirates headed to. But, we’ll have to fight at least 20 times against Bollards..... “
Whenever fighting against Bollards, the number of undead reduces tremendously.

Mostly low-level undead dies, but if the number of low-level undead get too low, even Death Knights will die.

“Can’t help, but to keep on moving as we fight against Tairbeth.”

At where 4 Bollards are gathered, AOE curse magic is casted, Death Knights attack, and skeleton mages shootout magic.

A bunch of ghouls and zombies charged forward, and Deer that was undead-ized to the Bollards! Due to huge attack by undead army, battles were lead to victories, but 23 undead crumbled from burning, never to be summoned again.

Because they fought against Bollard after Bollard, at least 100 undead were unable to be re-summoned.

“At this rate, it’ll be troublesome.”

Weed moved to hunt Tairbeths, but the closer he went to the 7th peak,

the number of Bollards increased and now, at least 5 or 6 of them roamed around together.

To add on, based on what he observed when he turned into a crow, even if he passes through Bollards, Warriors of Chaos will appear.

“Can’t be helped. I’ll think about it later, and use all that I can for now.”

Weed took out his last card, Mirror of Eternal Rest.

It’s an item related to the Matallost religion; it allows an undead to possess high vitality, mana, and strength.

“There’s only 3 left for the durability, so..... I’ll have to use it really carefully and give it back before it breaks.”

As soon as he took out the Mirror of Eternal Rest, black and blue energy flowed through Weed.

Ding!

- A hideous Lich uses the Mirror of Eternal Rest

The raised undead’s vitality increases by 25%.

Mobility increases by 38%.

They’ll use various methods to move. For example, crawling on four feet or jumping off of a wall.

They’ll possess deadly poisons.

Resistance increases.

Instinct becomes sharpened.

The undead that dug and hid inside the earth will be able to endure for longer period of time even without necromancer's mana supply.

You can use level 5 undead summoning skill.

You can summon a group of witches that will obey a necromancer.

Necromancer skill effect increases by 55%.

Able to use special skills.

Grim grave, Ghost Cry in Mid of Night, Acid Breath, Self Destruction of Anguish, Vitality Transfer.

- Not much of the durability of the Mirror of Eternal Rest is left.

Weed's vitality, mana, and wisdom also increased by a lot. His intelligence and wisdom alone increased by 300, and his maximum mana doubled.

“For now, rest everyone.”

Weed stopped all mana supplies to the undead, and disabled undead summon magic.

Then, zombies, ghouls, skeleton, and Death Knights all collapsed onto the ground.

The only ones left were Death Knight Van Hawk and Geuminyi

“Rise again. I will save you from the tortures at the bottom of the hell. I will give you power, enough to rule the world. Summon Death Knight!”

He raised at least 50 Death Knights using the skeletons that turned back into corpses.

Originally, real Death Knights should only be raised using a knight's corpse.

The effect is bigger if a corrupt, greedy, and unjust knight's corpse is used to summon a Death Knight.

A penalty was put on to the Death Knights as they were raised using the bones that were originally of beasts.

Still, the magenta aura that flows on their bodies!

- With necromancer's skill strengthened, the Death Knights' strength and vitality also increased.

“At least level 270.”

Weed was very satisfied even with this much.

If their levels were 270, then they were stronger than most Death Knights.

Currently, necromancers are praised by majority, but it is not invincible. While you can bring around undead armies, the quality of each individual units sucked.

It is most suited for fast leveling up, mass production, and mass consumption.

“We want to know if you have the right to order us.”

The summoned Death Knights asked him.

To obtain their loyalty, he must prove his power and leadership.

Instead of inconveniently talking lots, he took out the Royal Seal of Arpen Kingdom.

“Authority of the Emperor.”

Luminosity that gently shone from the crystal skull!

- You have used the Authority of the Emperor.

When a lord or a king uses it, your diplomacy skill will temporarily increase.

You can suppress a citizen's objection with your authority.

Knights and nobles will follow any orders.

Increases loyalty of commoners.

Leadership increased by 150%.

Charisma increased by 150%.

Stats irrelevant to battle will temporarily increase by 40.

Until you directly get involved in a battle, the Authority of the Emperor will be maintained.

If you battle without cancelling the skill, the effect of the Authority of the Emperor will continually decrease until its owner gets changed.

An emperor does not fight in front of the army!

The Death Knights, as the necessary condition to make full use of the Authority of Emperor was fulfilled, kneeled.

“We will follow your order.”

For now, he got the promise of loyalty, so they won't betray him easily. Plus, since he, the lord of undead, raised them himself, the basic process was already done.

Weed showed a satisfied smile and cancelled the skill.

“Cancel the Authority of the Emperor!” The aura that decorated the crystal skull slowly disappeared.

“If I walk around the town under that state, it will be pretty useful.”

Weed raised more types of undead using Undead Rise. Undead were now a lot stronger and had their levels raised from 30% to 40% compared to before.

“Let’s go!” Weed ordered the undead to go toward the Bollards.

“Death Knights, mark one for each. Undead, focus on supporting them!” Ghouls and zombies got the mission of staying by Weed.

Skeleton mages used magic attacks, and Geuminyi shot arrows.

With Death Knights becoming the main forces, 5 Bollards could be caught with only minor damage.

There were times when Death Knights were in danger, but Weed gave them his vitality at the last moment.

“Now this is more like hunting!” Weed used Bollards’ corpses to summon horses.

The horse of terror that Death Knights can ride on!

After hunting Tairbeths, he summoned low-level undead to slow down monsters for a bit, and after hunting Bollards, he increased the number of Death Knights and witches.

He was on the stage where he must mind not only the quantity, but quality as well. As Derald’s witches were summoned, the magic used in battle varied more, and its power increased as well. The overall strength of Weed’s undead army was much higher than before.

“Charge!” Weed marched on saving as much time as possible before the durability of the Mirror of Eternal Rest ran out.

As he hunted Bollards, the overall number of undead did not decrease by much. As there were more corpses raised using Bollards, there weren’t

much losses.

“Let bones grow and cover the body. Bone Armor!” With enough supplies of corpses, he made bone armors with magic for Death Knights.

They didn't have much resistance or defence, but Death Knights could fight more easily with that poor armor.

“Corpses stacking and stacking, there is no lifeform existing here. Only the tombs of corpses made by time exists. Tomb of Deceased!” Tombstones raised where Weed battled.

It was a support magic that increases necromancer skills at a limited area and undead' recovery rate.

Finally, he broke through the defense line of Bollards and arrived at where the Legacy of Sculptors were which could only be viewed when Weed transformed into a crow.

The cracked earth showed even 300 meters below, and lava flowed there. “Walk with caution.”

Weed fought monsters, avoiding the cracks.

Las Phalanx's Evil Spirit, Daebans' spirit, and lost angry barbarians! “It seems it's better to avoid evil spirits as much as possible.”

They were weaker than Tairbeths, but it's important for necromancers to leave corpses behind after battles. He avoided Las Phalanx's Evil Spirit or Daeban's Spirit and fought with barbarians.

The barbarians fought against Death Knights with equal strength, but they could not fight equally with Weed's curses and witches attacks.

If you haven't hunted monsters with overwhelming numbers, you won't understand the feeling. He meditated at the Tower of Ruins for a moment to recover his mana to the max.

Now came the most difficult barrier, the Warriors of Chaos.

The Warriors of Chaos that hunts Bollards with a snort. If he can't pass through them, he won't be able to arrive at where the Armenia pirates are. “Kill them!” The undead army poured toward the Warriors of Chaos.

There were 8 Warriors of Chaos! Their levels are unknown.

“Rotten corpses, be cleansed with pure fire.”

The Warriors of Chaos swung their axe and whips toward the undead army. At the moment when the whip touched them, weak ones like zombie, ghoul, and skeleton melted from the high temperature fire.

It was a terrifying attack.

Even Van Hawk resisted against the joint attacks of three Warriors of Chaos for about 2 minutes and was finally called back. Even Death Knights were cruelly crushed to powders by the Warriors of Chaos.

Anyway, it was when Weed tried to cast a curse magic upon seeing undead get swept away. Whether they had to run or fight, cursing the opponent is very advantageous.

“Blink.”

The Warriors of Chaos flashed here and there. As they used short distance teleportation, they were massacring witches and Death Knights.

They were fast to the point where Weed could not dare to cast AOE curse magic. While he hesitated for a moment, the number of undead rapidly reduced.

“Moooo!” Yellowy hurriedly cried and ran.

“Let’s run, master.” Weed agreed very much.

“Geuminyi run!”

At times like this, the fast Geuminyi even let out Wings of Light to run! When he counted the units later, only about 7 zombies that looks like they’re about time to be buried, 2 Death Knights, and 10 skeleton were all that were left.

Even if the undead fought in however way they wanted without the necromancer’s order after Weed ran away, this was horrible.

Compared to that, the 8 Warriors of Chaos who were chewing on Daebet’s meat on the horizon looked fine.

“This won’t do.”

Weed had to increase the number of undead again.

At where the Legacy of Sculptures was, he hunted Tairbeths and Bollards. And when there were more undead, he tried again.

“We’ve come for revenge. Kill them all!”

He gathered undead and tried two more times against the Warriors of Chaos, but he could only hunt 1 with overly focused attacks. Overall, it was a failure! Even when he hunted down 1 Warrior of Chaos, Weed used Undead Rise.

When he did that, other Warriors of Chaos went berserk too much, so even his life was on the line. He couldn’t help but retreat.

“There’s too much gap in the levels, so even if I get reborn, it’s almost impossible.”

Even if Weed is resurrected with the Power to Resist Death, it will only increase the number of deaths to the count. It will also cause a huge drop to the skill mastery, but he can’t stop fighting either.

Weed gathered as many of his undead army as possible.

“If I just kill 3 more and curse them, there’s a chance of winning.”

However, they moved too fast to cast curse on them.

With the undead army rapidly decreasing, he again retreated! At the fourth battle, he had to return once again, only after losing his undead army.

If he did not have the undead army as a necromancer, Weed, Yellowy, or Geuminyi would’ve died.

It’s the necromancer that’s praised as the best jobs ever existing..... Plus, since a necromancer can order around an undead army by himself, necromancers are by far the best fighters as an individuals.

Of course, they’d buy mercenaries with lot of money, but when looking

at only levels and skills, the best battle job is necromancer.

It's just it could be different if the level became very high and skill mastery almost at the master level.

Necromancers mostly used cheap undead.

There are high-level undead you can make like the bone dragon through specific methods, but even those undead are not invincible.

Swordmasters who have high attack and defence will beat up those undead, and if they are equipped well, they won't die easily either.

High-level magic of magicians whose skill masteries are hard to raise is thought to have tremendous power.

Anyway, even the necromancer, so-far called best job, could not roam around freely on Las Phalanx.

Rather than fighting against the Warrior of Chaos, Weed decided to focus on hunting with the undead army.

For the next 10 days, he leveled up 5 times.

- Durability of the Mirror of Eternal Rest became 1.

In the end, the durability of the Mirror of Eternal Rest reached its limit, so he put it into his backpack before it broke.

- Effects of the Mirror of the Eternal Rest disappears.

The undead and their stats changed back. Their max mana and recovery rate dropped as well.

Some undead that do not get controlled by the necromancer roams around however they like and get destroyed by falling into the crevices or by monsters.

He cannot use level 5 undead summon skill anymore, but he could maintain the witches he previously summoned.

"I'll have to hunt for Tairbeths or Bollards again."

Weed fell in deep thoughts.

Necromancer had his leadership and charisma raised at all times. Still, it would be better to turn back into sculptor to raise various skill masteries, endurance, and patience.

If he makes at least 10 sculptures and give them life, it wouldn't be so bad to hunt Daebit even if it wouldn't be quite like now. While Weed was troubled, someone approached from afar.

"I'm pretty sure monsters don't come here."

Over the horizon, a man with a pale face and black cape, and an unbelievably beautiful girl was walking toward him.

The abandoned land, Las Phalanx. The two who walked towards the place where the undead were.

"Were there other users who were exploring this region? That girl sure is pretty like Seo-Yoon."

Weed couldn't understand that there could be a girl as pretty as Seo-Yoon. If there were at least 5 of such beauties, he felt like suicide rates all over the the world would decrease tremendously.

"Men especially won't suicide."

Looking at her from afar will make them burn with happiness of being alive and fill them with the motivation to live after all.

Savior from despair. Even the neets who do not step out from their room will run outside if they see Seo-Yoon through the window.

Death Knight Hawk also commented from the side.

"The black clothes, tall height, and pale face is just like Tori, Master."

"Yeah, he sure looks like him."

As Weed watched them with the undead army, the two walked toward them.

It's been long since they last saw each other after fighting against the bone dragon and because their equipments changed, they didn't recognized them easily. But, when their face came closer to the point they

could see their face clearly, they were, in fact, Seo-Yoon and Torido.

The navy of Haven Kingdom Drinfeld followed exactly how the ghost ship sailed.

Using what sea creatures they witnessed, he arrived at the Deron Sea.

“Amazing. I heard he doesn’t know much about the sea, so how did he travel so far?”

Unlike what he expected, seeing Weed travel such a long distance, Drinfeld adjusted his opinion of Weed.

Weed came even to the Area of Aurora and Glacier of Deron Sea.

“Just where is the destination for the quest to make him travel so far?” The warships had to stop several times to resupply for food and rest.

Aside from Drinfeld, users of Haven Kingdom learned fishing skills previously. You can say it’s a must-have skill for a man of sea, but it wasn’t enough to feed the whole fleet.

“Captain, it’s cold!” As they sailed through glacier areas, many unprepared sailors caught the flu.

“I never thought he’d really come to the Deron Sea. The damage to the crewman will be huge.”

Drinpelt did not expect to travel such a long distance leading the navy of Haven Kingdom. If there was to be any damage to the ships or crewmen of the Haven Kingdom, he would have to take all the responsibility for them.

He needed periodic results to keep his authority, but if he doesn’t act carefully, he’ll be blamed for everything.

The vice captain opened his mouth worriedly.

“We can turn back now. Should we give up on tracking down Weed and return?” Drinfeld shook his head. “No, it is too late to turn back when we are already all the way here. Proceed through.”

Harben Kingdom navy passed through the glacier area. During the

process, 273 of the crewmen had died.

It was mostly the crew members who had light clothing to adjust the sail and observe the stars.

If he had not changed their direction upon hearing that the path the ghost ship took changed because of the sea creatures, the damage would have tremendously increased.

‘Just where is he heading.....’ Various conjectures and suspicion arose amongst the users of Haven Kingdom and Drinfeld.

“Did he find some treasure island? Like, some place covered with gold all over the place with high graded weapons.”

“That treasure that all users of sea dream of?”

“I think he’s looking for a sunken ship full of gems rather than a treasure island.”

“It’s Weed we’re talking about, so maybe he’s chasing after some legend of Deron Sea. Something priceless like legendary weapons or a crown covered with gems.”

“Let’s head anywhere!” Their enthusiasm ran high. The more they chased after Weed, the harsher their path became, and they believed that a worthy price was waiting for them.

The 2nd division warships that were full of simplified ships, for profit of the kingdom were often attacked when meeting ships of other kingdoms.

They were chasing after Weed, full of desire to take his equipment and even his quest.

The merchants of central continent who visited Morata had many complaints.

“The transit duty was only 3% before, so why was it raised to 5%?”

“Can he really just raise taxes like this just because he’s the lord?” The merchants gathered and sent in complaints, but they couldn’t get any positive support from Morata’s users.

5% for transit tax was rather cheap. In the Central Continent, 15%, 20%, and even 35% for the transit tax were often the case.

Plus, the transit tax was not for Morata merchants, but only for the merchants of other districts to pay. It was something for Morata merchants to welcome, so they did not support them.

“I can’t understand how he can raise taxes like this.”

“There’s limit to looking down on us. Does the lord of Morata not know who’s behind us? It’s the Merchant Union!” The merchants gathered and caused an uproar. Then, someone shouted.

“We shouldn’t talk amongst ourselves like this. Let’s go to the lord’s castle.”

“Let’s go and talk to him!” The merchants crowded to the lord’s castle. Of course, they were doing this while knowing fully well that the lord of Morata, Weed, was absent.

They complained to the guards.

“To suddenly raise transit tax like this. How could you do this?!”

“We came to meet the one responsible for this.”

The fame and authority of the Central Continent merchants were outrageous.

The guards politely brought them to the department that was in charge of the commerce inside the lord’s castle.

“This is the Department of Commerce where they look out for the merchants staying at Morata.”

Merchants bashed in. But, the floor was covered with straws, and female cows were looking after calves.

“Who the hell decorated the Department of Commerce like this?! Where’s the person in charge?!”

Next to the feeder in the Department of Commerce, there was a nameplate.

Representative of Morata Commerce - Yellowy

Yellowy was currently absent.

“We shouldn’t stand here like this. Don’t we have to complain to the person in charge of transit tax?”

“That would be the one to talk to.”

The merchants came out again and looked for the Department of Finance, but Geuminyi wasn’t present either. And, Wyverns were the ones who had the seat of the 1st deputy head of taxing! Wyverns sat at the top of the towers and sometimes revisited Morata.

Because of that, it was hard to meet Wyverns either.

The merchants tried to use their fame and conversational skill to persuade, but there was no one to persuade. Of course, it was a wonder if Wyverns would actually be patient enough to listen to humans talk.

“To think that all of the people in charge are absent... then how about meeting other directors of Morata? We’ll be able to sway them a bit about Morata’s government.”

“I agree.”

The representative of the merchants came out from the Department of Finance and went to the Department of Military.

Due to repairing and improving the lord’s castle, new departments formed, and there were directors for each of them.

The director of the Department of Military - Bingryong, Phoenix - hunting

Weed gave the seats to the sculpture lifeforms to gain practical dictatorship. Because of that, it was impossible for the merchants to lobby or persuade to pressure the government to change.

This was the true dictatorship! Later, the knights or merchants who stacked up contribution may be promoted into higher places, but currently, Weed ruled with absolute power.

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