# 11

\*\*CHAPTER START\*\*  
  
<h1>Solo Leveling - Chapter 11</h1>  
  
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<p>As soon as the words left his mouth, his entire body was enveloped in a faint blue aura.</p>  
  
<p>'Huh... What is this feeling?'</p>  
  
<p>Immediately, Joo-Hee’s face came to mind.</p>  
  
<p>Whenever he was injured and healed by magic, he often felt a similar sensation.</p>  
  
<p>If he had to describe it, it was like fresh air entering and leaving his lungs.</p>  
  
<p>\*Whoosh—\*</p>  
  
<p>The blue aura gradually faded away.</p>  
  
<p>For some reason, he felt a sense of regret.</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo stood up, jumped a few times, and stretched his body in various directions.</p>  
  
<p>"This can’t be!"</p>  
  
<p>His heart, which had been pounding as if it would burst, calmed down, and his rough breathing stabilized.</p>  
  
<p>He felt no fatigue at all. His body, which had felt like it was about to collapse, now felt as refreshed as if he had just woken up from a good sleep.</p>  
  
<p>The effect was perfect.</p>  
  
<p>'This is amazing.'</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo’s eyes widened.</p>  
  
<p>He didn’t know if it was magic or something else, but this phenomenon could have a powerful impact on him.</p>  
  
<p>Then, what about these Stat Points?</p>  
  
<p>As Jin-Woo raised his head, he noticed a small box on the bed and the Information Window floating in front of him.</p>  
  
<p>'The Random Box must be that small box...'</p>  
  
<p>But the important thing was the Information Window.</p>  
  
<p>The Information Window briefly displayed information about him.</p>  
  
<p>Name: Sung Jin-Woo</p>  
  
<p>Level: 1</p>  
  
<p>Job: None</p>  
  
<p>Title: None</p>  
  
<p>HP: 100</p>  
  
<p>MP: 10</p>  
  
<p>Fatigue: 0</p>  
  
<p>[Stats]</p>  
  
<p>Strength: 10 Stamina: 10 Agility: 10 Intelligence: 10 Senses: 10</p>  
  
<p>(Available Stat Points: 3)</p>  
  
<p>[Skills]</p>  
  
<p>Passive Skill: (Unknown) Lv.MAX, Tenacity Lv.1</p>  
  
<p>Active Skill: Dash Lv.1</p>  
  
<p>It was similar to the stats of a beginner character he had seen in online games long ago.</p>  
  
<p>'Are these my current stats?'</p>  
  
<p>Currently Level 1.</p>  
  
<p>All stats were at their base values.</p>  
  
<p>Considering his reality as the weakest among E-rank Hunters, it wasn’t surprising.</p>  
  
<p>What caught his eye was the Skills section.</p>  
  
<p>The Passive Skill 'Tenacity' and the Active Skill 'Dash'.</p>  
  
<p>They felt strangely familiar.</p>  
  
<p>"Ah, now that I think about it, yesterday..."</p>  
  
<p>Yesterday, or more accurately, early this morning, when he was being chased by centipedes in the Penalty Zone, he had heard a message containing those words.</p>  
  
<p>Was it after running for about three hours with all his might?</p>  
  
<p>Suddenly, a message appeared.</p>  
  
<p>['Skill: Dash Lv.1' has been learned.]</p>  
  
<p>['Skill: Tenacity Lv.1' has been learned.]</p>  
  
<p>At the time, he was too focused on running to think about what it meant, but now it was different.</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo checked the skill descriptions.</p>  
  
<p>[Skill: Dash Lv.1]</p>  
  
<p>Active Skill.</p>  
  
<p>Required Mana: 5.</p>  
  
<p>Running has strengthened your legs. When activated, movement speed increases by 30%. Mana decreases by 1 per minute while active.</p>  
  
<p>[Skill: Tenacity Lv.1]</p>  
  
<p>Passive Skill.</p>  
  
<p>No Mana required.</p>  
  
<p>You possess an unyielding spirit. When your health drops below 30%, the Tenacity skill activates, reducing damage taken by 50%.</p>  
  
<p>'Was it because I persistently ran that I was able to learn [Dash] and [Tenacity]?'</p>  
  
<p>That seemed to make sense.</p>  
  
<p>In other words, by repeating certain actions and meeting specific conditions, he could learn skills.</p>  
  
<p>"Holy cow!"</p>  
  
<p>This was a huge advantage.</p>  
  
<p>Skills that Hunters could use were usually acquired during their first Awakening or through Runestones that occasionally dropped from A-rank or higher Magic Beasts.</p>  
  
<p>The price of Runestones could range from a few million to billions of won.</p>  
  
<p>The most expensive Runestone recently auctioned was worth about 7 billion won.</p>  
  
<p>It contained a skill that could restore multiple injured people to their original state, and it was purchased anonymously by an S-rank Healer-type Hunter from abroad.</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo’s heart began to race.</p>  
  
<p>A skill that increases movement speed and another that reduces damage taken.</p>  
  
<p>They weren’t comparable to the skills that were traded for billions, but they were still good skills.</p>  
  
<p>And he had learned them for free.</p>  
  
<p>His Mana was low, so it would be difficult to use them effectively, but still, learning them was something.</p>  
  
<p>'Moreover, the Tenacity skill doesn’t require any Mana at all...'</p>  
  
<p>Mana probably referred to Mana Power.</p>  
  
<p>That meant even someone with as little Mana as him could freely use the Tenacity skill.</p>  
  
<p>That alone was a big gain.</p>  
  
<p>"But... what is this 'Unknown'?"</p>  
  
<p>[Skills]</p>  
  
<p>Passive Skill: (Unknown) Lv.MAX</p>  
  
<p>The 'Unknown' that occupied one slot in the Passive Skills.</p>  
  
<p>Since it was a Passive Skill, it would activate automatically, but there was no information about it.</p>  
  
<p>'There’s not even a clue here.'</p>  
  
<p>The information he could gather was too limited.</p>  
  
<p>It didn’t seem like he would find an answer by pondering over it in this state.</p>  
  
<p>So Jin-Woo turned his attention elsewhere.</p>  
  
<p>'Stat Points...'</p>  
  
<p>He still had three undistributed Stat Points from the reward.</p>  
  
<p>[Stats]</p>  
  
<p>Strength: 10 Stamina: 10 Agility: 10 Intelligence: 10 Senses: 10</p>  
  
<p>(Available Stat Points: 3)</p>  
  
<p>'I can increase my stats by 3, right?'</p>  
  
<p>There were five stats in the list.</p>  
  
<p>Since he was Level 1, all the stats were simple.</p>  
  
<p>But considering reality, it wasn’t something he could take lightly.</p>  
  
<p>If a single decision could change his actual abilities, who could make such a decision easily?</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo’s expression became serious.</p>  
  
<p>'Strength is probably power...'</p>  
  
<p>He could roughly guess the meanings of Strength, Stamina, and Agility.</p>  
  
<p>They were common 'stats' found in games.</p>  
  
<p>The problem was the Intelligence and Senses stats at the end. As expected from the system that had been consistently unhelpful, there was no explanation this time either.</p>  
  
<p>Would increasing Intelligence make him smarter?</p>  
  
<p>Would increasing Senses make him more sensitive?</p>  
  
<p>Either way, the Intelligence and Senses stats didn’t seem particularly useful.</p>  
  
<p>He was a Combat-type Hunter.</p>  
  
<p>What he needed was power, speed, or stamina.</p>  
  
<p>'If I had to choose one of the three, it would definitely be Strength.'</p>  
  
<p>Being stronger would be convenient in many ways.</p>  
  
<p>And he wanted to see what kind of changes would occur in his body as the stat values increased.</p>  
  
<p>So he invested all the points into the Strength stat, which seemed like it would show the most noticeable change.</p>  
  
<p>"3 points into Strength."</p>  
  
<p>\*Ding.\*</p>  
  
<p>[Stats]</p>  
  
<p>Strength: 13 Stamina: 10 Agility: 10 Intelligence: 10 Senses: 10</p>  
  
<p>(Available Stat Points: 0)</p>  
  
<p>'Is that it?'</p>  
  
<p>That was all.</p>  
  
<p>The only change was the Strength stat number floating in front of him like a hologram, changing from 10 to 13.</p>  
  
<p>There was no uncontrollable surge of power coursing through his body like in comics or movies.</p>  
  
<p>"Did something change?"</p>  
  
<p>He decided to test his strength.</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo stood next to the bed and tried to lift it. He felt some weight, but it was easier than he expected.</p>  
  
<p>But he couldn’t tell if it was because the bed wasn’t heavy or because his Strength had increased.</p>  
  
<p>'I should have tried lifting it before using the points.'</p>  
  
<p>Since he had already used all the points, it was hard to tell the difference before and after the investment.</p>  
  
<p>'If I had more points...'</p>  
  
<p>As Jin-Woo clicked his tongue, a memory suddenly flashed in his mind.</p>  
  
<p>"The Penalty Quest reward!"</p>  
  
<p>He hadn’t just completed the Daily Quest today.</p>  
  
<p>Although he had died and come back to life, he had definitely completed the Penalty Quest, and a message had appeared saying the reward had been distributed.</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo hurriedly called up the Message Window.</p>  
  
<p>[Penalty Quest completion reward has arrived.]</p>  
  
<p>[Would you like to check the reward?] (Y/N)</p>  
  
<p>"Of course!"</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo clenched his fist.</p>  
  
<p>Obviously, YES!</p>  
  
<p>[The following rewards are prepared.]</p>  
  
<p>Reward 1. Stat Points +3</p>  
  
<p>Reward 2. Random Box x1</p>  
  
<p>[Would you like to accept all?]</p>  
  
<p>Unlike the Daily Quest completion, there was no Status Recovery option, but what he needed were the Stat Points.</p>  
  
<p>Since it was a quest received as a penalty, he had been worried the rewards might be different, but fortunately, he received the same 3 points.</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo cheered.</p>  
  
<p>"Add 3 points to Strength."</p>  
  
<p>\*Ding.\*</p>  
  
<p>[Stats]</p>  
  
<p>Strength: 16 Stamina: 10 Agility: 10 Intelligence: 10 Senses: 10</p>  
  
<p>(Available Stat Points: 0)</p>  
  
<p>His Strength jumped from 13 to 16.</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo stood in front of the bed again and exerted force into his arms.</p>  
  
<p>This time, the bed lifted much more easily than before. Now he could clearly feel the difference.</p>  
  
<p>"It’s true...!"</p>  
  
<p>He had truly become stronger.</p>  
  
<p>In terms of stats alone, it was a 60% increase from the original value of 10, so it was impossible not to feel the difference.</p>  
  
<p>Excited, Jin-Woo caused a commotion by lifting not only the bed but also various items in the hospital room.</p>  
  
<p>Eventually, the head nurse, who happened to be passing by and heard the noise, came in and scolded him, and only then did he stop.</p>  
  
<p>"...Sorry."</p>  
  
<p>After the head nurse left, Jin-Woo let out a sigh of relief.</p>  
  
<p>"Whew."</p>  
  
<p>But his excitement didn’t subside.</p>  
  
<p>His heart was pounding fiercely.</p>  
  
<p>\*Thump thump.\*</p>  
  
<p>It hurt his chest.</p>  
  
<p>Daily Quests and Stat Point rewards!</p>  
  
<p>If this phenomenon didn’t suddenly end, he could live a completely different life than before.</p>  
  
<p>This was a huge opportunity.</p>  
  
<p>And there was the Level displayed in the Information Window.</p>  
  
<p>'Maybe I can even level up?'</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo shook his head.</p>  
  
<p>'Nah... no way.'</p>  
  
<p>It was too much of a dream.</p>  
  
<p>He didn’t even hope for that.</p>  
  
<p>The Quests and rewards were enough.</p>  
  
<p>Using Stat Points to enhance his abilities.</p>  
  
<p>Stronger today than yesterday, stronger tomorrow than today.</p>  
  
<p>Growing stronger every day.</p>  
  
<p>'Me, an E-rank Hunter, known as the weakest weapon, getting stronger?'</p>  
  
<p>He didn’t need to aim for S or A-rank.</p>  
  
<p>Even the C and D-rank Hunters he had worked with would laugh at the idea.</p>  
  
<p>They’d point and laugh, holding their stomachs.</p>  
  
<p>Sung Jin-Woo getting stronger?</p>  
  
<p>The infamous Sung Jin-Woo?</p>  
  
<p>But he didn’t mind being laughed at.</p>  
  
<p>No, he was used to being laughed at.</p>  
  
<p>Just having this opportunity was enough to make him happy.</p>  
  
<p>But suddenly, a question arose in his mind.</p>  
  
<p>'Could this be the process of Awakening after Awakening?'</p>  
  
<p>It wasn’t common, but there were definitely cases where Hunters who had been struggling at the bottom reawakened and became top-tier.</p>  
  
<p>If so, did all Hunters who became stronger through reawakening experience something like this?</p>  
  
<p>'Let’s look it up.'</p>  
  
<p>Curious, Jin-Woo sat down in front of the computer in the corner of the room.</p>  
  
<p>Since it was a VIP room provided by the Association, there were many convenient things, including a computer.</p>  
  
<p>\*Tap tap.\*</p>  
  
<p>Jin-Woo’s fingers moved quickly across the keyboard.</p>  
  
<p>Search, search, and search again.</p>  
  
<p>He went through countless sites.</p>  
  
<p>He even accessed sites that were only available to Hunter License holders.</p>  
  
<p>He paid for information and tirelessly searched through related documents.</p>  
  
<p>But there was nothing similar, let alone the same.</p>  
  
<p>'It’s different...'</p>  
  
<p>It was completely different from typical reawakening.</p>  
  
<p>Most reawakened Hunters gained their power through the same process as when they first became Hunters.</p>  
  
<p>There were no cases like his, where a strange voice was heard just before death, or where stats were visible like in a game, and increasing those stats led to growth in power.</p>  
  
\*\*CHAPTER END\*\*