

## Another World 1131

### Chapter 1131: Kill Ruthlessly For Fame!

Desbarres completely understood Thunder's character. The reason why he told Thunder about Zhao Hai's Liquid Silver was because he knew that as long as Zhao Hai strives for the Ashley Family, then Thunder wouldn't take Liquid Silver back. Conversely, if he didn't tell Thunder about this matter, then once Thunder found out about it, the situation would become complicated. Not only would Zhao Hai not be spared, even the Bone Symbol Camp might experience bad luck.

At the same time, he also proposed the plan for Margaret. Since Thunder doesn't want to have any conflict with Margaret, then he wouldn't make a move on Zhao Hai.

It was strange to say that even if Thunder was very overbearing, he had an unusual preference for Margaret. Thunder would pay attention to any matter that involved his daughter. Because of this, Desbarres wished Margaret to be with Zhao Hai. This way, Thunder would never become Zhao Hai's enemy.

.....

Desbarres's mood wasn't very good when he returned to the Bone Symbol Camp. He was very exhausted. In the past, although Thunder's temperament wasn't good and was sometimes overbearing, he still loosened up when it came to Desbarres and Cadjo. There were even times where they would joke around.

But recently it was different. Thunder was becoming more and more moody. Desbarres found himself watching his words more. And even if he made a joke, it was deliberately thought through.

This feeling caused Desbarres to become exhausted. It was because of this exhaustion that he meddled in the family's matter less and less. Instead, he focused more on the Bone Symbol Camp.

Although the External Hall was something that the family needed, this requirement didn't mean that it was crucial. In the eyes of a great family like the Ashley Family, the function of External Halls was to work for the family's benefits. It can be said that ships and mechs were the family's core power. Mages and Warriors weren't included in this list.

Desbarres was clear about this point. Because of this, he made sure that nobody would look at the External Hall. And also to not incur Thunder's doubt.

Upon returning to the camp, Desbarres directly went to Zhao Hai's villa. He was aware that Zhao Hai was currently in a bottleneck on his cultivation. Becoming stronger in a short time was impossible. Therefore, Zhao Hai wasn't closing up like before.

When he arrived outside Zhao Hai's villa, Desbarres heard voices coming from inside. In addition to Zhao Hai's voice, Tao Wang and Tie Sheng's voices were heard.

Upon hearing the voices of these three, Desbarres couldn't help but smile. Tie Sheng and Tao Wang were people loyal to him. Moreover, their abilities were very good. And there was no need to say about Zhao Hai's talent. Because of this, Desbarres favored him. It can be said that these people had become important for Desbarres.

Desbarres pushed the door open and saw the three already in the dining room and drinking. Upon entering the room, Desbarres loudly said, "Good, good. It seems like you didn't wait for me before you start drinking."

The three immediately turned to look at Desbarres. Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "Camp Lord, if you came back later, then we might have to drink until late at night."

Desbarres ignored the three's greetings as he sat on the table and poured himself a drink. After taking a sip and savoring the fragrance of the alcohol, he said, "Little Hai, you've performed magnificently today. You don't know this, but I made a ten million coin bet with Camp Lord Dia of the Ghost Symbol Camp. If you don't get first place in the family competition, then I will have to pay him ten million coins. So make sure that you don't lose."

Tao Wang stared, then he said, "Ten million machine coins? Camp Lord, where did you get that much money? Don't tell me you've been embezzling family funds?"

Desbarres slapped Tao Wang's side and said, "What nonsense. You think you know more than me about the camp's finances? Why do I need to embezzle funds? From what I can see, you're the one cheating us money. Tie Sheng, don't come here tomorrow. Instead, let's go to Tao Wang's. Let's freeload off of him for one month for speaking nonsense."

Tie Sheng looked at Tao Wang and smiled, "Good. I wanted to do this for so long, Camp Lord. However, this fellow doesn't treat anyone. This is a good opportunity to freeload."

Tao Wang looked pitiful as he answered, "Camp Lord, you can't do this to me. I'm really poor. I even need to eat Little Hai's food because I can't buy for myself. How about we wait for Little Hai to win the competition and then we have a meal with your winnings from the bet."

Almost at the same time, Desbarres and Tie Sheng gave Tao Wang a despising look. This fellow Tao Wang was a good person, but he was extremely stingy. However, nobody really took this banter seriously. Everyone present weren't short of money, they were just teasing Tao Wang.

After joking around, Desbarres's face turned serious as he said, "Alright, let's talk about proper business. Little Hai, I've informed the Patriarch about Little Silver. He didn't say anything about it and just hoped that you can gain good achievements. The Patriarch has become more and more obstinate in the past few years. He doesn't listen to any criticism. If you don't give good results, then he definitely won't let you off."

Zhao Hai nodded and said, "Camp Lord, rest assured. I know what to do."

Desbarres nodded, then he sighed and said, "Little Hai, I hope you don't blame me for revealing this matter to the Patriarch."

Zhao Hai shook his head and said, "I won't. I know that Camp Lord might feel embarrassed about this. However, it's impossible to hide this matter from the Patriarch. If the Patriarch is late in finding out about this matter, then he might suspect that something is going on."

Desbarres sighed once more, then he said, "The Patriarch might be unaware of this, but his temperament has become more and more erratic. Even someone like me who grew up with him has to be more careful when in his audience."

Desbarres was currently trusting Zhao Hai because he saw that his origins were very clean. Zhao Hai hardly interacted with other people. And although Zhao Hai had killed a lot of people in the lower realms, he was good to people around him, which was similar to Desbarres's manner. Because of this, Desbarres's impression of Zhao Hai was very good.

Tie Sheng and Tao Wang didn't say anything. Their situations were also similar to Zhao Hai. After being chosen by Desbarres and introduced into the Bone Symbol Camp, they were trained and gained his absolute trust. This was also the reason why Desbarres was able to say these words to the three of them.

Zhao Hai was silent like the two. But Tie Sheng and Tao Wang's expressions were somewhat difficult. The two of them knew that the only reason why the Bone Symbol Camp can still make their money was Desbarres. If Desbarres was gone, then the Bone Symbol Camp would find it hard to keep their businesses.

Outsiders might be clueless, but the others in the External Halls weren't. They could see that the members of the Bone Symbol Camp were living more comfortable lives than them. Because of this, all of them cast envious eyes towards the camp. But because of Desbarres, nobody dared to make a move.

However, it was impossible for Desbarres to protect the Bone Symbol Camp his entire life. And without Desbarres, what would the Bone Symbol Camp do? Because of this, Desbarres settled on Zhao Hai. He was hoping that Zhao Hai could become a powerful expert as soon as possible so that he could protect the Camp. With his presence, other people would think twice before making a move on the camp.

Desbarres took his glass and drank the liquor in one go. Then he turned to look at Zhao Hai and said, "Little Hai, do you have a wife in the lower realms? What do you think about Margaret?"

Zhao Hai smiled bitterly. He wasn't a beginner that he was completely clueless about what was going on. However, he already had Laura and the others. And he didn't want to get a new wife soon.

Desbarres looked at Zhao Hai's reaction and sighed, "I really feel pity for Miss Margaret. Her relationship with the family isn't very good because of her mother's death. Actually, the family really cared about Miss Margaret, but she didn't want to be cared for by the family. And there was also her marriage with the Fire Temple, making her unhappy. I told the Patriarch that Miss Margaret seems to be interested in you. The Patriarch didn't oppose and he even hoped that Miss Margaret would be associated with you. Little Hai, this is your opportunity to join the Ashley Family. Only by becoming a member of the Ashley Family would the Patriarch let you keep Liquid Silver. Otherwise, the family might want to reclaim it in the future. When the time comes, your situation will be complicated."

Zhao Hai's expression changed. Desbarres drank another glass before continuing, "I handed Liquid Silver over to you because I didn't expect that you would actually complete it. Now that you have completed it, Liquid Silver has recognized you as its owner. If one wanted to get Liquid Silver, then they would have to kill you. Liquid Silver's power has never been seen before. Ever since it has been passed down, there were a lot of people in the Machine Field that were looking at its progress. Once people know that you have completed Liquid Silver, your well-being will be placed in chaos. Trouble will constantly chase you."

Zhao Hai's eyes narrowed. To be honest, he hadn't thought through this point. In his mind, although Liquid Silver was very good, it was still on level with artifacts in the Cultivation Realm. However, he failed to think about the Machine Field.

A weapon like Liquid Silver had never appeared in the realm before. For powerful experts in the Machine Field, the allure of Liquid Silver would be difficult to suppress. Liquid Silver was basically the ultimate weapon for Magic Theory. It was the realm's first divine weapon. Everyone would want to obtain it.

In the past, nobody was able to complete Liquid Silver, so nobody really cared about it. But now that it has been formed, people would desperately fight for it!

The worth of owning formidable weapons depended on its user. In the hands of powerful experts, only a few people would want to steal it. This was because a lot of people were afraid of offending a huge power. But if it was in the hands of a person with no identity, then the weapon would be a curse!

Although Zhao Hai was regarded as important by Desbarres, his present status was only a member of the Ashley Family's External Hall. Such status would without a doubt be seen as unworthy of Liquid Silver. People would certainly chase him to steal the weapon.

But if Zhao Hai married Margaret, he would become a member of the Ashley Family. At that time, people would have to think hard if they wanted to steal Liquid Silver.

Naturally, Zhao Hai wasn't afraid of being chased down. However, this matter would still bring him endless troubles. Zhao Hai hated trouble, but he hated relying on women even more.

Desbarres looked at Zhao Hai's appearance and sighed, "Little Hai, I want you to associate with Miss Margaret for three reasons. First, it would benefit you. Second, it would be good for Miss Margaret. And

third, it would be good for the Bone Symbol Camp. In the past few years, my involvement with family matters decreased. Although I still have some influence in the family, my power is becoming smaller and smaller. At this time, I can still support the Bone Symbol Camp. But what if an accident happens one day? Who would support the Bone Symbol Camp? Once you become a powerful expert, you will have to become the camp's leader. But before you become strong, you would need an identity to support the camp. This way, the Bone Symbol Camp wouldn't be touched by the other camps. Do you understand what I mean?"

Zhao Hai nodded and said, "I understand. Camp Lord, I will consider what you said. To be honest, until now, I only have a sense of belonging to the Bone Symbol Camp. As for the Ashley Family, I still feel a distance between us. Also, I don't want to bring Miss Margaret into his matter. It would be disrespectful to her. In the meantime, I'll just make sure that people don't find out about Liquid Silver."

Desbarres looked at Zhao Hai, then he suddenly laughed and said, "Alright, good. Little Hai, I haven't misread you. I can see your virtue by hearing your words. It seems like Miss Margaret's eyes are also good. Alright, I won't barge into this matter anymore. But when the time comes, I hope that you won't reject Miss Margaret outright. Try to know her a bit more.'

Zhao Hai nodded and didn't speak anymore. Desbarres poured himself another glass of liquor. Tie Sheng and Tao Wang did the same. Then Desbarres lifted his glass and said, "Let's celebrate Little Hai's win today with this glass. Little Hai, always remember, in the Six Realm Beginner Competition, there's no need to hold back. Kill ruthlessly to gain reputation. You should know that other participants aren't saints either. Only by being ruthless would you be safe. Understood?"

Zhao Hai nodded, then he said, "Camp Lord, rest assured. I have never been lenient towards my enemy."

Desbarres laughed and said, "Alright. Hahaha. Let's drink!"

## Chapter 1132: A Positive Worry

The day after Zhao Hai's first battle, Margaret went to visit Zhao Hai. To be honest, Zhao Hai was currently feeling a headache.

After Desbarres and the others left yesterday, Zhao Hai returned to the Space. Laura and the others then discussed with him about the current matter. Zhao Hai didn't know whether to laugh or cry after hearing the result. Laura and the others actually encouraged him to pursue Margaret.

If other men came across this matter, then they might feel heavenly. However, Zhao Hai was different. He already has Laura and the others. He still can't believe that they urged him to pursue another woman.

And now, Margaret actually came looking for him. Zhao Hai sighed before opening the door and inviting Margaret in. After Margaret sat down, a robot immediately offered her tea. Then Zhao Hai opened his mouth and asked, "Instructor, do you need me for anything?"

Hearing Zhao Hai call her by her title, Margaret couldn't help but feel slightly disappointed. She let out a long breath and said, "Camp Lord allowed you to join the qualifiers, it seems like he's confident in your strength. However, you still need to be careful against those from the Ghost Symbol Camp. Camp Lord Dia doesn't have a good relationship with our Camp Lord. Moreover, I heard about the 10 million coin bet. That isn't a small number. Although Camp Lord Dia still had good income, 10 million will certainly cut through his wallet. And with the strength you showed yesterday, Camp Lord Dia will surely be vigilant. He will certainly arrange something."

Zhao Hai nodded and said, "I thought the same. The Camp Lord already reminded me of this yesterday. There's no need to worry. I will certainly win."

Margaret smiled faintly and said, "I don't doubt your strength. But I think you should still make preparations. And I think you shouldn't use your Undead on the stage. It will only reveal your cards. When the realm qualifiers start, others would know about your ability."

Zhao Hai nodded. He could hear that Margaret cared about him. But he let out a sigh and said, "Instructor, feel relieved, I'll be careful."

Margaret nodded, then she stood up and said, "Alright, then I'll believe you. Dins and the others will be safe in the academy. I will look after them." Zhao Hai nodded and said, "Thank you, Instructor." Margaret gave a nod, then she turned around and left.

After escorting Margaret to the door, Zhao Hai returned to his room. Then he heard Laura and the others complaining about how he called Margaret by her title. They were telling him about how big of an idiot he was.

Zhao Hai couldn't help but smile bitterly. Other's wives would scold their husbands if they were to see other women outside. On the other hand, his wives were offering him advice to pursue another woman.

While thinking about this, Zhao Hai's body flashed and entered the Space. Seeing Zhao Hai arrive, Laura and the others immediately surrounded him. Laura looked at Zhao Hai and said, "Brother Hai, why did you call Margaret by her title? I can't believe you. You could clearly see that she is interested in you."

Zhao Hai bitterly smiled and asked, "Laura, aren't you jealous? Actually, I don't have to do anything since I'm already strong. As long as I reveal my true strength, I don't believe the Ashley Family would dare to do anything to me."

Laura looked at Zhao Hai and said, "Brother Hai, you're too relaxed. The Ashley Family might not dare to touch you if you reveal your strength, but the family is just a medium-ranked power in the Machine Field. Not to say the Machine Field, if you reveal your strength, the World of Cultivation would get word of it. When that time comes, you won't be able to seek shelter."

Lizzy nodded and added, "Big Brother Hai, you should also know about Margaret's situation. She's engaged to the Zhang Family. However, the Zhang Family actually wanted to kill her. If she marries into the Zhang Family, then her situation certainly wouldn't be good. Are you that cruel to leave her alone? After your last meeting, it is clear that Margaret has some feelings towards you. You should pursue her. There's no need to worry about us, Big Brother. I know you love us, we love you as well. And for our family, we wouldn't oppose you pursuing Margaret."

Meg smiled and said, "Young Master, don't forget your duty. You need to make the Buda Clan grow and expand."

Zhao Hai forced a smile and said, "Alright. I'm just worried about all of you, so I didn't want to pursue Margaret."



Lizzy and the others spat out their tongues and didn't talk about the topic anymore. Zhao Hai inwardly sighed. This was because he wasn't sure if this was really what Laura and the others wanted or if they were influenced by the Space. This was also the most annoying aspect about the Space.

Zhao Hai had no worries about using the Space to subdue his enemies. However, the Space seems to be influencing Laura and the others as well. This wasn't something that Zhao Hai wanted to happen. However, he has no ability to stop it right now. This was the reason why he could only sigh.

Zhao Hai clearly knew that the Space would always place his benefits first. Therefore, the current program was inevitable.

Whether it was influenced by the Space or not, Laura and the others wanted him to pursue Margaret. In this case, Zhao Hai didn't want to betray their expectations.

After sighing once more, Zhao Hai finally allowed nature to take its course. Actually, he really didn't have such thoughts about Margaret. But now that Laura and the others said it, Zhao Hai began to think about the situation. It seems like Laura and the others had already weighed the pros and cons of this action.

Zhao Hai returned to his room and started to study magic runes. Since there were a lot of magic runes present, Zhao Hai's research started very slow.

Fortunately, after multiple breakthroughs, Zhao Hai's spiritual force had become more formidable, allowing him things like an eidetic memory. Naturally, this eased his progress.

The day unconsciously passed by. Zhao Hai went out of the Space and returned to the villa. Then he sat down and prepared for the competition.

Desbarres and Tao Wang came in the morning along with Tie Sheng. Tie Sheng had already finished his tasks and had some free time. Naturally, he wanted to see Zhao Hai's battle.

When Zhao Hai and the others arrived at the life and death stage, the place was already filled with people. Zhao Hai went to his seat and then closed his eyes.

The other contestants also arrived. The other 35 looked at Zhao Hai with difficult expressions. They saw how formidable Zhao Hai's strength was. Among them, the strongest was only able to instacast five-layer formations. Moreover, after doing so, their spiritual force would be used up. But last time, not only did Zhao Hai instacast a 5-layer formation, he also followed up with two 10-layer formations. Such strength was terrifying for the other contestants.

Zhao Hai was aware that the others were looking at him, but he didn't care. His attention was on the Ghost Symbol Camp's participants. It must be said that the Ghost Symbol Camp was quite good. Of the 36 contestants left, 8 of them were from the camp. Besides Luo Zhi who Zhao Hai killed, only one other person was eliminated.

Moreover, Zhao Hai also discovered that their equipment seem to be different from before. Their armors and staffs were exchanged.

The eight looked at Zhao Hai with bad expressions. Naturally, Camp Lord Dia had already talked to them.

Zhao Hai smiled faintly and didn't care about them anymore. No matter how strong the equipment they were given, everything still depended on the user. Strong weapons could only be strong in the hands of the powerful.

At this time, Cadjo announced the beginning of the competition. The computer then began to cycle through the participants. The first battle of the day would be between a Mage of the Ghost Symbol Camp and a Mage from the Upright Symbol Camp.

The Mage of the Ghost Symbol Camp went on to the stage and completely crushed his opponent. The equipment of the enemy simply couldn't catch up.

The staff used by the Mage from the Ghost Symbol Camp was a high-level item. It had a ten-layer formation inside. Even before the battle started, Zhao Hai knew that the Mage's staff wasn't inferior to the high-level goods he had in his hand.

After clashing for two rounds, the Mage from the Upright Symbol Camp finally admitted defeat. The Mage from the Ghost Symbol Camp proudly smiled before turning his head and glared at Zhao Hai. The provocation could be clearly seen. However, Zhao Hai was just sitting there with his eyes closed, as though he was asleep.

Desbarres had an ugly face on. After the battle, he turned to Dia and said, "Dia, it seems like you really went all out. You even took out some new weapons. What? Afraid to lose 10 million?"

Dia snorted and said, "Of course I can afford to lose 10 million. I just don't want to lose to you. I don't believe Zhao Hai doesn't have a special item on him. If he doesn't have anything, he wouldn't have been this strong just four months after ascending. Even if you deny it, nobody would believe you."

Desbarres coldly snorted and said, "Don't think that changing equipment will make you win. Let me tell you, Zhao Hai being first is already set in stone."

At this time, the Upright Symbol Camp's Camp Lord grunted, "Although your bet has nothing to do with us, we still got affected. At least our contestants relied on their own means." Naturally, he was reluctant to accept the Ghost Symbol Camp's win by having superior equipment.

In fact, it wasn't only the Upright Symbol Camp, the other Camp Lords were also having difficult expression on their faces. Dia just gave his contestants an unfair advantage, causing their members to lose.

### Chapter 1133: Testing Margaret

A light sigh was heard, making the VIP room quiet. Everyone who heard it couldn't help but lightly cough. It was the Patriarch, it was clear that he wasn't amused at what happened.

Thunder looked at those present and said, "What is going on with all of you? This is a place to fight for the family's honor. Naturally, you need to use whatever means you could. Alright, we'll postpone today's battle. All of you have one day to prepare. Today's first battle will not be counted. Now, go." After he said that, he stood up and left.

Desbarres and the others stood up and gave him a bow. They all knew that Thunder was dissatisfied with the squabble. However, they were also dissatisfied with the situation. Therefore, they agreed to the postponing of the competition.

After Thunder left, Desbares turned to Dia and said, "You fool. Then next time you want to die, don't pull us over."

The others were also looking at Dia in contempt. Dia knew that he was in the wrong, but he still snorted and said, "Fatty, if it weren't for your bet, I wouldn't have done this. Don't you want to flaunt that you are a rich old man?"

Desbarres smiled bitterly, then he looked at Dia and said, "Alright, I'll let you off this time. However, everyone needs to go all out now. Let's also dissolve the bet. If you weren't willing to show-off that time, then I wouldn't have proposed it. But whatever you do, Little Hai's strength would still flatten you. Lister properly, make sure to tell your people to rein in their murderous intent. Or else, Little Hai might not show mercy." After he said that, Desbarres turned and left.

Dia looked at the departing Desbarres and said, "Bah, what dogsh\*t luck did this fatty have to find an expert like that."

The other Camp Lords were also giving dark sighs. Not to mention being the External Hall manager, the fatty also had a good position in the family. On the other hand, even if they lorded over the camps, the family's main strength lied on the battleship fleet. Desbarres grew up together with the Patriarch. Therefore, he had the Patriarch's deep trust. Desbarres's privilege of going out with ten ships without authorization was something that they didn't have.

Because of this, the Camp Lord attached great importance to the Camps they were assigned to. They weren't like Desbarres who grew up with the Patriarch. Desbarres took care of the Bone Symbol Camp because he held sentiment to the camp. Because of this, he protected the camp, not allowing any danger befall it. And because of his unique situation, Desbarres could afford to not care about the camp's standing. Even if the Bone Symbol Camp did badly, the family won't care about it.

But as for the other camps, the Patriarch always monitored the way they operate. If they cannot come up with results that can satisfy the family, then the Patriarch would not let them off easily.

It was also for this reason that the other camps employed brutal selection methods. It was only through this way that they could provide good results.

Although the other Camp Lords were in a dark mood, they quickly calmed themselves down. Then all of them left the stage in order to switch the equipment of their participants.

When the others heard that the competition was postponed, they obediently left, even those who were feeling vengeful.

Zhao Hai returned to the Bone Symbol Camp with Desbarres. Then the group went to Zhao Hai's villa. After they sat down, Zhao Hai asked, "Camp Lord, why was the competition postponed?"

Desbarres smiled bitterly and explained the situation. Zhao Hai began to understand what was wrong. But then he smiled and said, "So all of them want to make more preparations. Hehe. In any case, the end result would still be the same."

When he saw Zhao Hai's reaction, Desbarres couldn't help but remind him, "Little Hai, you can't be negligent. Now that those fellows were given time to prepare, they would certainly arrange powerful items to support their participants. You can't be so relaxed in your next battles.'

Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "Camp Lord, you can rest assured. Even if I don't use Liquid Silver and my Undead, they are still not a match against me."

Desbarres's two eyes shone as he said, "You're really that confident?"

Zhao Hai smiled and said, "Camp Lord, don't underestimate my fighting strength. If I use Liquid Silver, even you are not my match."

Desbarres nodded and said, "Alright, but things have changed. Make sure to have killing be the least priority. The Camp Lords have made an agreement. As long as their participants aren't murderous, then don't kill them. After all, nobody will benefit if people die. Also, the ten million bet has been cancelled."

"What? How can this be? That 10 million is enough for me to eat in Little Hai's until I die!" Without even waiting for Zhao Hai to comment, Tao Wang interjected.

Desbarres slapped Tao Wang before he turned to Zhao Hai and said, "The External Hall's eight camps might be in a competitive relationship, but we are also interdependent on each other. The eight camps aren't treated as very important by the family. So if we always fight, then we would be finished. The Patriarch also knows this, so he allowed us to compete with each other. This way, the External Hall wouldn't unite and become a threat to the family. Naturally, the Camp Lords also understand this. So even if there was fighting, nobody would go all out. At the same time, we make sure that we don't show any sign of unity. This way, the Patriarch wouldn't feel pressured. Everybody is in agreement with this aspect. Of course, if someone dared to resort to extreme methods, there's no need to be polite."

Zhao Hai nodded. He didn't expect this competition to have this much strings connected to it. However, he decided to place it in the back of his mind. Then he ordered his two robots to prepare meals before asking Desbarres and the others to share a meal with him.

While everyone was happily eating, Margaret unexpectedly came. Everyone in the villa stared. Then Desbarres and the others gave a strange smile before quickly leaving the area. This caused Margaret's face to turn red.

Seeing Margaret arrive, Zhao Hai couldn't help but sigh. Even blind people could see that Margaret was interested in him. Zhao Hai asked Margaret to sit down and then poured her some tea before saying, "Instructor, is there anything I can do for you?"

Margaret looked at Zhao Hai and said, "I heard that the competition was cancelled so that the other camps could return and exchange their equipment. I expected Uncle to give you some equipment, but I think that all of you would be drinking here. Sigh, Zhao Hai, don't treat this competition lightly. It's possible for you to die here."

Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "Instructor, you can rest assured. I have this matter completely in control. Moreover, the Camp Lords have already reached an agreement. As long as nobody goes to extreme methods to deal with me, then I cannot kill them. I'm not in any danger."

Margaret frowned, then she said, "That's no good. It's too dangerous. This, take this. I'll tell Uncle Des to prepare you a set of defensive equipment." After she said that, Margaret took out a Mage Staff from her spatial equipment.

Zhao Hai looked at the staff and couldn't help but gawk. This staff was very high-level. It was unexpectedly engraved with a 100-layer formation set. It was suited for level 4 Mages to use. He didn't expect Margaret to lend him this staff.

Zhao Hai didn't take the staff, instead he shook his head and said, "I can't use that. And the Camp Lord has already given me something. It's the best weapon in the Machine Field."

Margaret couldn't help but be curious, "Strongest weapon in the Machine Field?"

Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "You don't know? It's the failed item Leng Wuyeng left behind. It's now mine, I call him Liquid Silver." Then he waved his hand, making Liquid Silver appear.

After thinking about it, Zhao Hai decided to tell Margaret about Liquid Silver. Margaret had been good to him, so he couldn't be indifferent to her. He also wanted to see her reaction upon seeing it.

Zhao Hai had too many secrets. Therefore, he would need to choose a woman who was virtuous. Laura and the others were also accepted by Zhao Hai with this method. Now, it was Margaret's turn to be tested.

To be honest, if Margaret didn't come and remind him today, then it might be hard for Zhao Hai to accept her. Now, Margaret's worry touched Zhao Hai. Because of this, he decided to give her a chance.

Margaret knew about Leng Wuyeng's failed weapon. Seeing Zhao Hai wave Leng Wuyeng's weapon caused her to be shocked. She stared at the staff in Zhao Hai's hand for a long time. She didn't know what to say.

Zhao Hai looked at Margaret's expression and couldn't help but smile. Then waved his hand, causing the staff to turn into liquid and then bind into his body, turning itself into a full body armor.

Margaret finally believed Zhao Hai's words. She excitedly stood up and said, "This is fantastic. I didn't expect you to complete the item left behind by Grandmaster Leng Wuyeng. Right, you cannot tell anyone about this matter or else you'll suffer bad luck. Zhao Hai, does anyone else know about this?"

Zhao Hai smiled, then the armor reformed back into a staff. After that, he said, "Rest assured, not a lot of people know about this matter. Only you, the Camp Lord, Tie Sheng, Tao Wang, and the Patriarch."

Margaret's complexion changed, then she said, "You told him?"

Zhao Hai knew that she was referring to the Patriarch. He nodded and said, "Right. The Camp Lord was the one who informed the Patriarch."

Margaret's expression turned difficult. Then she said, "Why did you tell him? Fat Uncle, sigh. Now that he knows, he will certainly find ways to snatch Liquid Silver away from you. Not good, Zhao Hai, you're in danger. You need to leave the Ashley Family as soon as possible."

#### Chapter 1134: Tournament

Seeing Margaret being anxious, Zhao Hai couldn't help but smile. Margaret's performance made Zhao Hai glad. However, he didn't say anything about it. Instead he smiled and said, "Alright, there's no need to worry about it. The Camp Lord has reached an agreement with the Patriarch. And the Patriarch already agreed for me to use Liquid Silver."

When Margaret saw Zhao Hai's confidence, she calmed down. But then her face turned red. She knew clearly that she had been naive. Since that person now knew that Zhao Hai had Liquid Silver, then it was already too late for Zhao Hai to walk away.

Moreover, her words looked like she cared for Zhao Hai. This caused her to blush. Zhao Hai looked at Margaret and said, "Margaret, thank you. Can I call you Margaret?"

Margaret discovered that she couldn't bear to look at Zhao Hai in the eye. She lowered her head and gently nodded her head. Then she turned and ran out of the villa, not even saying goodbye.

Zhao Hai looked at Margaret's appearance and smiled. Then his body flashed and entered the Space. Upon entering the Space, Laura and the others immediately walked over, grinning. Laura looked at Zhao Hai and said, "Brother Hai is truly fierce. You actually managed to make Margaret flee with a few words."

Zhao Hai looked at them and said, "I think its been a long time since I've dealt with all of you. And I'm feeling quite evil today." Then Zhao Hai waved his hand, releasing metallic ropes from Liquid Silver to tie



up Laura and the others. The women screamed and seem to resist. However, they had smiles on their faces.

.....

The next day, the stage was filled with people once more. Zhao Hai was also in his seat. With Cadjo's command, the computer began to roll for the participants in the first battle.

Zhao Hai just glanced at the battle and was quickly disinterested. On the other hand, the two contestants began to turn hectic. Their weapons and protective gear were swapped for better ones, causing the battle to be more dazzling.

The audience cheered for the battle. At this time, Zhao Hai also discovered that even if the battle had gone hectic, the two participants were holding back. The Camp Lords seem to have already told their members about not going extreme. The crowd's excitement was great, but the battle was measured.

Zhao Hai saw this situation and began to feel relieved. In fact, even he didn't want to kill people. If Luo Zhi didn't want to take his life, then Zhao Hai might have spared him.

Battle after battle quickly went by. Zhao Hai was chosen to fight in the ninth battle. His opponent was someone from the Ghost symbol Camp. But it seems like this person had already been talked to. His gaze towards Zhao Hai didn't have any killing intent, only a bit of provocation. Even if Dia told them to hold back, it seems like they were still not convinced.

Zhao Hai didn't care, he looked at his opponent and then gave him a short bow as he said, "Please."

Zhao Hai's opponent couldn't help but stare. He didn't expect Zhao Hai to be this polite. He returned the gesture and then quickly took his magic staff out.

Zhao Hai smiled faintly and then waved his hand to release a formation. Then Zhao Hai said, "Concealing Fog!" The formation proceeded to blow up, covering the entire life and death stage with a dark mist.

Right after the dark mist covered the life and death stage, explosions began to be heard. However, those outside the stage were unable to see what was going on. The audience began to drink and scold. Naturally, the target of their scolding was Zhao Hai and his opponent.

After some time, the fog on the stage dispersed, revealing the stage. The two participants were still standing. However, the person from the Ghost Symbol Camp was now wearing his protective armor. Then he looked at Zhao Hai and said, "I admit defeat!" After declaring his surrender, he turned around and faced Cadjo, "I surrender." Cadjo nodded, then he opened the barrier and let the two exit the stage.

The others were very dissatisfied. However, they knew that it was useless to complain right now. They only grumbled for a few moments before proceeding to watch the next fight. Fortunately, this time, there was no such thing like Zhao Hai's dark mist.

After this day's battles, there would only be 18 people left. Then tomorrow, these 18 participants will be reduced to nine. The day after that, the position for tenth place would be decided. Then after the tenth position was decided, the first place would be decided by a challenge tournament!

A challenge tournament was different from a normal tournament. Normal tournaments would have its combatants decided by a computer. On the other hand, in a challenge tournament, the computer would randomly select one person. Then that person would then accept challenges from the other nine. If nobody challenges this person, then he would be crowned first place and would claim the reward for being the champion. If people challenge him and he was defeated, then the winner would replace him on the stage. This cycle would continue until 9 people are defeated and one was left.

In such a competition, only the first place would be decided. The second, third, fourth place and so on weren't chosen. In other words, besides the first place, the other nine would have equal placement.

Desbarres and the others have also briefed the participants of this arrangement beforehand. However, Zhao Hai didn't care much about it. He was already settled on becoming first in this competition so that the Bone Symbol Camp would rise.

The next days, the 18 participants were reduced to 9. Naturally, Zhao Hai smoothly progressed. Although the others had their equipment changed, their strength still couldn't match up to Zhao Hai.

Zhao Hai didn't use too powerful formations. At most, he would use ten-layer formation sets. However, Zhao Hai's formation sets were very powerful. Moreover, they were interchangeable. Up until this point, Zhao Hai had already used dozens of unique formation sets. This caused everyone to be startled.

One must know that the oldest ascender in this competition had ascended three years ago. At most, they could cast one or two formation sets. But now, there was Zhao Hai who showed dozens of formation sets. It was terrifying to think about.

Moreover, Zhao Hai just ascended four months ago. How was he able to get dozens of formation sets in that short time? Even those who ascended for a year would find it hard to do so!

Although the challenge tournament had yet to happen, everyone present knew that the first place holder could only be Zhao Hai. It would be impossible for the others to snatch this position.

In the past few days of battles, Zhao Hai didn't use any weapon. He didn't even show his magic staff nor his protective gear. He defeated everyone with his own strength. Not to say about the Ashley Family, even in the entire Machine Field, Zhao Hai should be the most powerful beginner present.

The days quickly flew past and it was finally the last day. It was the last day for the family qualifiers and the most exciting one, it was the challenge tournament!

Zhao Hai and the others arrived at the life and death stage. Besides Zhao Hai, there were two from the Ghost Symbol Camp, two from Wicked Character Camp, then the other camps had one participant each. One could see from this point how close the strength of the Ashley Family's External Hall's camps was.

The day of the challenge tournament was also the day where the stage had the most people. Not only did Desbarres and the others came, Margaret also went to watch. However, Margaret didn't sit in the VIP room. Instead, she sat behind Zhao Hai's seat where she could speak directly to Zhao Hai.

Zhao Hai didn't expect Margaret to come. When he saw her arrive, he couldn't help but stare. Then he asked, "Why are you here?"

Margaret looked at Zhao Hai and smiled, "I want to see you compete. You need to get first place."

Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "Don't worry."

Those who knew Margaret couldn't help but be shocked upon seeing her interaction with Zhao Hai. Margaret's relationship with Thunder wasn't a secret matter in the Ashley Family. Because of this, people were clear about Margaret's situation.

Due to how Thunder acted, Margaret had a certain resentment towards other men. She barely spoke to the opposite sex other than her elders. But now, she approached Zhao Hai. Who knew how many men threw their glasses down in sadness.

Zhao Hai also felt people's gazes on him, but he didn't care. He already expected this to happen.

Naturally, being in the VIP seats, Thunder was able to see everything. His eyes couldn't help but shake as he turned to Desbarres and said, "It seems like what you said was true. Margaret indeed has a favorable impression towards Zhao Hai. Have you checked his background in the lower realms?"

It was clear that Thunder cared about Margaret. Therefore, he needed to investigate Zhao Hai's status in the lower realm. Desbarres hastily nodded and said, "I have checked it. But Patriarch, you should know that these things aren't necessarily accurate. What I know is that Zhao Hai is a Patriarch back in the lower realms. His clan is also a Dark Mage family. He's also known to specialize in Dark Magic. However, he is also an all-element Mage as well as a Warrior. He's both vicious and merciless. He uses his refining technique on people he killed. I'm afraid he had killed over a million people. Also, he has multiple wives in the lower realms. And it seems like he had a good relationship with his wives. The last time him and Margaret met, he still called her instructor. As for how it developed into this, I really don't know."

Desbarres didn't boast too much about Zhao Hai and just told what he found. He knew that Thunder hated being deceived. And if Desbarres lied, then Zhao Hai and Margaret's development would be cut short. Zhao Hai's merciless and vicious manner as well as his multiple wives might be a weak point to others, but this wasn't the case for Thunder.

This was especially true for Zhao Hai's vicious attribute. In Thunder's eyes, this wasn't a negative, instead it was a strong point. As for Zhao Hai's wives, Thunder didn't say anything. Instead, in the eyes of Thunder and Desbarres, Zhao Hai left his wives behind in the lower realms. Him getting another wife in the Machine Field wouldn't be an issue.

Thunder nodded and said, "I didn't expect this kid to be that kind of person. More than a million people? Hehe, great. This is the kind of person the Ashley Family needs."

Desbarres smiled and didn't say anything. Thunder turned to Desbarres and said, "Take him to me later, I want to see him personally." Desbarres nodded.

At this time, Cadjo arrived at the stage. He looked at everyone present before he smiled and said, "After several rounds of fighting, the Ashley Family's ten brave combatants have finally been elected. And today will be their most decisive battle, the challenge tournament! Select the first person receiving the challenge!"

The computer rolled through the participants before settling on one. Upon seeing the person chosen, Cadjo couldn't help but stare. His smile seemed to turn wider as he announced, "The first person on stage today shall be Bone Symbol Camp's Zhao Hai! I ask Zhao Hai to come to the stage!"

Zhao Hai didn't expect himself to be the first person on the stage as well. However, he just nodded towards Margaret before heading to the stage.

Seeing Zhao Hai arrive on the stage, Cadjo immediately said, "Good. Now, the challenge tournament begins!" Then he proceeded to leave the stage.

Zhao Hai calmly stood on the stage. Meanwhile, the other participants couldn't help but look at each other in dismay. They were clear about Zhao Hai's strength, and they already knew that they cannot win against him. Because of this, the one who went first on the stage would only consume Zhao Hai's spiritual force, making it easier for those following him.

Because the others knew about this, nobody wanted to be the first to issue the challenge. Cadjo didn't care about this as he looked at the other participants and said, "According to the family's rules, once a person stands on the stage for 1000 breaths then they would win. If nobody challenges Zhao Hai in 1000 breaths of time, then he will immediately claim victory. The timer starts now." After he said that, a timer appeared on the computer screen. It started from 1000 and slowly counted down.

The other nine knew that this wasn't Cadjo pushing them to fight. This was a well known rule of the Ashley Family. 1000 breaths of time was neither long nor short for these people to decide. The nine had ugly expressions after seeing the number on the screen counting down. They wanted to challenge Zhao

Hai, after all their equipment has been upgraded. And these people were talents in their respective camps. They weren't afraid of Zhao Hai, they just want to fight him.

When the number on the screen reached 300. One person could no longer keep calm. He stood up and said, "I'll go." Then he stood up and went towards the stage.

Zhao Hai looked at the man and identified him as a Warrior from the Wicked Symbol Camp. His strength was at level 3 and his fighting prowess was very good. His weapon wasn't a sword and instead it was a spear. This spear was long at three meters in length. If others used this kind of spear, then they might find it hard to fight. However, this person was clearly talented judging by the fact that he was able to place in the top ten.

#### Chapter 1135: Flawless

After the Warrior got on the stage, he looked at Zhao Hai quietly for a while. Then he said, "Zhao Hai, you're strong, very strong. But I'm not weak either. You've gotten arrogant. Refusing to use any weapon will be your biggest undoing. You should know that this is no longer the lower realms. Mages who don't use weapons will not have any achievements, even if you are a genius."

Zhao Hai just listened to the Warrior from the Wicked Symbol Camp. Then after the Warrior stopped talking, Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "I'm not refusing to use my weapon. But your strength is not enough for me to take it out."

Upon hearing Zhao Hai, the Warrior couldn't help but stare. His expression sunk, then he said, "Well then, let me make my move!" He raised his spear up and readied to attack.

When he saw this, Zhao Hai calmly waved his hand and muttered, "Shield" Along with his words, a shield appeared in front of him. This shield wasn't as thick as a five-layer formation shield, but it still didn't look weak.

The Warrior from the Wicked Symbol Camp sneered, then he thrust his spear forward, aiming towards Zhao Hai's shield. What he released was still sword qi. Sword Qi was just a general description, therefore it was used whenever a Warrior in the Machine Field released an attack.

Zhao Hai just stood behind his shield and greeted the attack with a smile. The attack didn't even budge the shield, there was no movement at all. When the Warrior from the Wicked Symbol Camp saw this, he couldn't help but stare. At this time, he suddenly heard a voice coming from behind him, "Spear!" He turned around since he felt a sharp chill behind his neck. He knew very well that the opponent had a weapon pointed at his back. If he dared to move, then the other side wouldn't mind attacking.

The Warrior from the Wicked Symbol Camp immediately held his hands up and said, "Alright, I admit defeat." When he said that, Zhao Hai withdrew his magic. Then his body flashed back to the front of the Warrior "I accept."

The Warrior from the Wicked Character camp muttered, "So this is Zhao Hai." As he said that, he proceeded to head down from the stage.

Zhao Hai stayed on the stage and didn't say anything. At this time, the eight remaining participants looked at each other. They seem to not know what to do.

Those watching at the side could see everything that happened. Zhao Hai just used two ordinary spells. One was a metal element shield while the other was actually a dark element spell.

Zhao Hai used his shield in order to distract his opponent. Then he used dark magic to attack the enemy with a spear from behind.

The entire process could be said to be very simple. However, this was the hardest thing a Mage could do when fighting.

All battles couldn't last for too long. Even warships have reactor furnaces that needed fuel. And this fuel was limited, placing a time limit on how long a warship could fight.

Experts were the same. Whether they be Mages or Warriors, their battle qi and spiritual force could run out. Because of this, they couldn't fight for a long time. A good example of this was Zhao Hai and Addison's fight, both of them almost killed themselves from exhaustion.

When the Warrior from the Wicked Symbol Camp left the stage, the others were at a loss for a while. Although the fight wasn't short, it wasn't as long as they expected either.

They already knew that Zhao Hai was strong, so they intend to have the first person consume his spiritual force. But now, it seems like this plan was useless. This caused the other challengers to be clueless about what to do.

Even if the challengers were stunned, this didn't mean that time wasn't counting down. The computer began to count down from 1000 once more. If nobody issued a challenge by the time the computer finished counting down, then Zhao Hai would be the champion.

The timer continued to count down. However, the eight challengers below the stage were still looking at each other in dismay, which was the same situation they were in at the beginning.

Cadjo couldn't help but commend Zhao Hai in his mind. Zhao Hai's first victory was so flawless. Not only had it ended swiftly, it was also so clean and neat which caused a lot of pressure on the other challengers. Now, they need to think deeply about challenging Zhao Hai.

It can be said that Zhao Hai used this tactic to gain time for himself. It could also be a tactic to put pressure on the next challenger.

Calm! Terrifying calmness! This was Cadjo's appraisal of Zhao Hai. Although the fight looked simple, Cadjo saw something different.

The challenge tournament could be said to be an unfair competition. The person on the stage would be repeatedly challenged by multiple people, wearing him out in the process. Therefore, the first person on the stage would generally be in the worst situation while the last man would benefit from it all.

However, Zhao Hai had been too calm in his first challenge battle. In turn, this created a huge pressure on the next challengers, causing them to hesitate. This allowed Zhao Hai more time to himself. This was the best method for someone who wanted to survive a situation that was designed to wear them down.

Finally, when the computer counted down to 200, the second challenger went up on stage. This person was also from the Wicked Symbol Camp. The Ghost Symbol Camp and the Wicked Symbol Camp both had two contestants in the challenge tournament. Now, both of the Wicked Symbol Camp's participants have gone to the stage.



To be honest, Zhao Hai didn't dislike the people from the Wicked Symbol Camp. In fact, he didn't care about the people from the other camps. He wasn't even resentful towards the Ghost Symbol Camp. It was only those who wanted to kill him that he needed to kill.

The person from the wicked Symbol Camp was also a Warrior. His weapon was a normal two-handed broadsword. When he got up on the stage, he pulled his sword out and calmly looked at Zhao Hai.

Zhao Hai saw that the other party seems to be disinterested in talking, so he decided to stay silent. He just gave the other person a bow and then gestured to begin.

The Warrior was still intently looking at Zhao Hai and didn't issue any response. When he saw this, Zhao Hai decided to make the first move. He waved his hand and released a magic formation. A spear began to depart from the formation and went directly towards the enemy.

The Warrior just stood there and didn't have any intention to escape. When the spear was close to hitting him, he swung his sword and sent a sword qi out.

Zhao Hai has to recognize that the Machine Field's metal element magic had very strong attacking strength. Although his spear couldn't compare to the enemy Warrior's sword qi, its might was equivalent to a level 1 Warrior. Seeing the enemy parry the spear effortlessly, Zhao Hai knew that the other was certainly an expert.

Zhao Hai's two eyes narrowed. He knew what the other party was planning to do. They were planning to hold on as long as possible to consume Zhao Hai's energy. However, Zhao Hai didn't care, he just waved his hand and released a fireball towards the Warrior.

The Warrior lit up with earth yellow battle qi. His broadsword also turned earth yellow before it sliced a fireball. But at the same time, Zhao Hai released a five-layer formation. However, this formation wasn't like other attacking formations.

Most attacking formations would release an attack towards the enemy. On the other hand, this formation would make the Warrior from the Wicked Symbol Camp sink into the stage.

When the Warrior saw this formation, he couldn't help but stare. He could identify that this was an earth element formation. However, the life and death stage was made out of metal. How could this earth element magic be useful?

When while he was puzzled, the Warrior suddenly felt the iron underneath his foot turn into quicksand, making his body sink down.

The Warrior was startled. He couldn't understand how Zhao Hai's spell could turn the metal stage into quicksand. However, he wasn't given time to think about this. The Warrior exerted his energy to fly out. But at this moment, the quicksand suddenly turned into a bed of thorns. It was actually a combined formation.

Just after the Warrior managed to fly out, the earth below him began to rumble. Then a huge metal thorn began to fly out, shooting towards the Warrior.

The Warrior was greatly surprised. But just as he was about to take action, he discovered that it was already too late. Zhao Hai just released a 10-layer formation, the fiery arrow rain!

This arrow rain was the same formation Zhao Hai used against Luo Zhi. Because of this, the Warrior was aware of its might. Seeing that Zhao Hai was about to activate the formation, the Warrior quickly raised his hand and said, "I admit defeat!"

Just as the Warrior's voice fell, Zhao Hai withdrew the formation. The life and death arena returned to its calm. The Warrior bowed to Zhao Hai and proceeded to get down from the arena.

Zhao Hai just stood there waiting for the next match. But this time, he didn't need to wait too long. The other participants seem to realize that waiting too long would only be beneficial to Zhao Hai. Because of this, another challenger immediately jumped on the stage. This time, it was a Mage from the Ghost Symbol Camp.

The proceeding battle didn't have any suspense. Although the Mage had a staff with a 10-layer formation inside, it still wasn't a threat to Zhao Hai. After all, a recorded formation wasn't part of a Mage's strength. Everything still depended on a person's combat ability!

## Chapter 1136: Not Too Difficult

No accidents happened in the challenge tournament. With Zhao Hai's overwhelming strength, he was able to become the last person up on the stage.

The challenge tournament allowed the Ashley Family's External Hall Camps to see Zhao Hai's strength. Without using any weapons nor supporting items, he was able to win against nine challengers. This was a first time for the Ashley Family's qualifiers.

Right after the tournament was the awarding ceremony, held on the life and death stage. Thunder personally gave the prize to Zhao Hai. Actually, the prize was just a formality. Zhao Hai already had Liquid Silver, so he really didn't need anything. However, it can be seen the Margaret had some influence on Thunder. Therefore, Thunder decided to give something to Zhao Hai. And the prize was also somewhat special. The first part of the prize was a sizeable bonus. While the second part wasn't actually an item. Instead, it was a chip that recorded the Ashley Family's secret formation sets.

This reward was proposed by Desbarres. And Thunder didn't have any problem with it. In Thunder's mind, Zhao Hai was already set to be a person of the Ashley Family. Zhao Hai was a member of the Bone Symbol Camp. At the same time, he had his relationship with Margaret.

Besides these two things, there was another reason for Thunder to give Zhao Hai the family's formation sets. Since he was given the family's formation sets, Zhao Hai could no longer think about leaving the Ashley Family. If he did, whether it be for Liquid Silver or the formation sets, Thunder would use the Ashley Family's entire strength to destroy him.

Zhao Hai also understood Thunder's message. Therefore, he wasn't too polite and happily accepted the chip. And thus, the Ashley Family's qualifiers was done.

As soon as the ceremony ended, instead of returning to the Bone Symbol Camp to celebrate with Tao Wang and Tie Sheng, Zhao Hai went with Desbarres to see Thunder.

Thunder received Zhao Hai inside his study. After Zhao Hai and Desbarres entered the room, they quickly gave Thunder a salute. Thunder nodded, then he waved his hand and said, "Sit." Desbarres allowed Zhao Hai to sit. Thunder stood there and sized Zhao Hai up. After some time, he opened his mouth and said, "I heard that you've been very close with Margaret?"

Zhao Hai couldn't help but stare. He didn't expect Thunder to be this direct. But he still nodded and said, "I am. Miss Margaret is my Instructor, and our relationship is very good."

Thunder raised his brows and asked, "Just your instructor?"

Zhao Hai shook his head and said, "Not just an instructor. I've come to care about Miss Margaret, she's a precious friend."

Thunder's eyes sparkled for a moment and asked, "So just a friend?"

Zhao Hao smiled bitterly and said, "She's just a friend now. But as for later on, who knows."

Thunder looked at Zhao Hai's expression and couldn't help but laugh, "Good. Kid, I didn't expect you to say that. Hahaha. Good."

Zhao Hai didn't make any noise. Desbarres turned to Thunder and said, "Young Master" Thunder looked at Zhao Hai and said, "I'll allow you to be close with Margaret. However, I have a request."

As he said that, Thunder's gaze went cold, then he continued, "You got your hands on Grandmaster Leng Wuyeng's ultimate weapon. And at the same time, you have the secret formation sets that the family collected for many years. You should understand that you're now one with the Ashley Family. If you dared to betray the Ashley Family, then I will do what I can to take your life!"

Zhao Hai nodded, but he didn't say anything. Thunder continued, "Recently, our Ashley Family hasn't been getting good results in the Six Realm Beginner Competition's realm qualifiers. I want to leave this matter for you to solve. From the 100 people that will qualify for the realm, I want you to place in the top 10."

Zhao Hai knit his brows. Seeing Zhao Hai frown, Desbarres's heart couldn't help but thump. He knew that Thunder didn't want people to disappoint him. If Zhao Hai couldn't achieve this, then Thunder would certainly be furious.

When he saw Zhao Hai knit his brows, Thunder couldn't help but feel his anger rising. But at this time, Zhao Hai opened his mouth and said, "Top ten in the qualifiers? That's easy, I will take top then in the Six Realm Beginner Competition!"

Thunder and Desbarres were stunned. They didn't expect Zhao Hai to have such huge ambitions. Desbarres quickly said, "Little Hai, you know how powerful the guys from the other realms are, right? Are you that confident in Liquid Silver?"

With Liquid Silver, Zhao Hai could now use 100 thousand-layer formations at will. However, what Zhao Hai told Desbarres and the others was that he could use 10 thousand-layer formations. One must know that this ability was at the top of the Machine Field.

However, Desbarres understood that even if Zhao Hai could use a 10 thousand-layer formation, fighting people from the Cultivation Realm would still be hard.

The people from the Cultivation Realm also regarded the beginner competition as a very important matter. They would deliberately train new ascenders just for the competition. They would select the participants the moment they ascend. Then they would train and provide them with countless pills, techniques, and resources. All of this just so that they could achieve a good result in the beginner competition. With this setup, Desbarres believed that Zhao Hai would still be defeated no matter how many layers his Magic Theory formations had.

After he heard Desbarres, Zhao Hai shook his head, then he replied, "Even if I can't cast that many layers of formations, I am still confident. I will try my best to win. I also want to see how Magic Theory fares against the other realms."

Thunder looked at Zhao Hai, then he laughed and said, "Good, that's what I want to hear. My request for you is the same. As long as you get top ten in the realm qualifiers, I won't put myself between you and Margaret. And if you can really place top ten in the beginner competition, then not only the Ashley Family, the entire Machine Field would give you a huge gift."

Zhao Hao nodded, then Thunder said, "Also, the realm qualifiers isn't a joke. There are more than ten million participants. If you don't take care, then you would certainly suffer a loss."

Zhao Hai nodded. Thunder waved his hand and said, "Alright, you can go back." Zhao Hai and Desbarres stood up and left after they gave Thunder a salute.

Once Zhao Hai and Desbarres were inside the car, Desbarres turned to Zhao Hai and said, "Little Hai, you're too reckless. If you don't reach the top ten in the beginner competition, then what would I do? You need to watch your promises next time."

Zhao Hai knew that Desbarres had good intentions, so he didn't refute his words. However, he was already settled on his decision. When the two arrived at the Bone Symbol Camp, they discovered that everyone was in a festive mood.

Everyone was so happy that one might think that it was themselves who won first place. Desbarres and Zhao Hai couldn't help but chuckle. However, Desbarres's smile was bittersweet.

Desbarres had done too much for the Bone Symbol Camp. But even so, the Camp was still doing badly in the past few years. Being suppressed by other people made him really uncomfortable.

Now, with Zhao Hai here, the Bone Symbol Camp was starting to go above other camps. This caused everyone in the camp to feel both proud and elated.

Seeing that Zhao Hai and Desbarres had come back, everyone in the Bone Symbol Camp cheered and welcomed them. Zhao Hai could not hear anyone. With too many people present, everyone sounded like they were mumbling.

Desbarres smiled upon seeing everyone. Then he loudly said, "Alright, everyone go to the dining hall. We're drinking until we pass out!" Everyone cheered. The Warriors came over and lifted Zhao Hai and Desbarres before carrying them towards the dining hall.

Tao Wang and Tie Sheng were already inside the dining hall. Moreover, the food had been prepared.

Besides Tao Wang and Tie Sheng, Margaret was also inside the dining hall. Naturally, the reason Margaret was here was Zhao Hai.

When he saw Margaret, Desbarres smiled faintly and then turned to Zhao Hai, he said, "Little Hai, go accompany Miss Margaret. Tao Wang, Tie Sheng, you're with me." Then the three proceeded to leave the area.

Margaret was somewhat embarrassed. But she still sat on the table with Zhao Hai. When everyone saw Zhao Hai and Margaret together, they didn't dare barge in.

After sitting down, Margaret turned her head to Zhao hai and said, "Did that person meet you?"

Zhao Hai knew that Margaret was talking about Patriarch Thunder. He nodded and said, "Yes, the Patriarch asked to meet me."

Margaret turned anxious, she asked, "What did you talk about?"

When he saw Margaret's tense expression, Zhao Hai couldn't help but smile as he gave his answer, "Not really that much. But the Patriarch gave me a task. He wants me to get top ten in the realm qualifiers."

When Margaret heard Zhao Hai, she couldn't help but relax. But she was still unconvinced, "Only that?"

Zhao Hai smiled and said, "Right, it's only that. But he said that if I get top ten in the qualifier, he wouldn't go in between us two." Zhao Hai's words made Margaret stare. Then her face turned red as she lowered her head and asked, "Did he really say that?"

Zhao Hai chuckled, "He did, you can ask the Camp Lord." Margaret just nodded and didn't make any noise. Zhao Hai looked at Margaret, then he smiled bitterly and said, "Margaret, I need to be honest with you. I have wives that I love in the lower realms. If you like me, then you need to prepare sharing me with them." Margaret nodded and said, "I understand." Her voice was very low, but it was firm.

Zhao Hai couldn't help but bitterly smile. He knew that Margaret was certainly thinking that Laura and the others were left behind in the lower realms. She might be thinking that he meant sharing spiritually. She wouldn't expect that Zhao Hai actually brought Laura and the others with him!

## Chapter 1137: Doing a mission

Three days have passed since the end of the Ashley Family's qualifiers. At this time, Zhao Hai was already a celebrity in the family. He was called the strongest beginner in the External Hall.

The reason why everyone added 'beginner' was because the External Hall's camps also had old ascenders who were very strong. Everyone thought that it would be impossible for Zhao Hai to defeat them. Therefore, they only gave him the title of strongest beginner.

It was only Desbarres and a few people who understood that not only the entire External Hall, but Zhao Hai would be one of the strongest experts in the Machine Field if he used Liquid Silver.

However, this matter was a secret; nobody would dare reveal it. Also, in the past few days, the Bone Symbol Camp was immersed in an endless mood of festivity. Of course, the most enviable thing in the Bone Symbol Camp was Zhao Hai's relationship with Margaret. By this point, everyone had regarded Zhao Hai and Margaret to be together. Everyone could see the both of them together almost every day.

The Machine Field's realm qualifiers would be held in two month's time. In these two months, the Ashley Family as well as the other families would collect information about the other contestants for the competition.

And in these two months, the family had limited Zhao Hai's activity. If Zhao Hai wanted to do something, then it needed to be approved by the family. In essence, Zhao Hai's life had turned back to normal.

Zhao Hai also found the chance to return to the academy to see Dins and the others. Dins and the others were also aware of Zhao Hai's achievements. They didn't think that Zhao Hai would be this strong just a few months after ascending. Their friend's progress naturally made them very happy.

Dins and the others were also doing very well lately. They already reached a state of being able to outdo others. Moreover, with how Zhao Hai was taking care of them, they had already regarded him as a friend and family member. Because of this, Zhao Hai's progress made them glad.

After a short reunion with Dins and the others, Zhao Hai returned to the Bone Symbol Camp to resume his training. However, Zhao Hai knew that closing up at this point would be useless. And now that he had become a member of the Bone Symbol Camp, he wanted to do something.



It was impossible for the Bone Symbol Camp to develop if they just relied on money. They still needed to do missions. And through these missions, they would slowly gain reputation. So when a special mission comes up, then someone might come and approach the camp.

After the family's internal qualifiers, the Bone Symbol Camp experienced a low-point in doing missions. Even Tie Sheng, the person in charge of missions in the Bone Symbol Camp, took a rest.

With the realm qualifiers happening in two months, Zhao Hai didn't want to spend the entire time practicing. Practicing wasn't productive to him. What's productive was doing missions and making contributions to the Bone Symbol Camp.

Because of this, when Zhao Hai returned from the Academy, he immediately went to look for Desbarres. Since Desbarres was the External Hall's manager and the Bone Symbol Camp's lord, it was enough for Zhao Hai to approach him.

Seeing Zhao Hai looking for him, Desbarres stared for a moment before he said, "Little Hai, why are you here? Do you need anything?"

Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "Camp Lord, I have something to discuss."

Desbarres frowned, "What is it? I'll do my best to help you."

Seeing Desbarres's reaction, Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "Camp Lord, ever since I entered the camp, I have yet to do a mission. I couldn't justify this. Since the Machine Field qualifiers isn't happening soon, I'd like to use this opportunity to do a mission."

When he heard this, Desbarres thought that he misunderstood. He frowned and said, "You want to do a mission? Don't you have to prepare for getting top ten in the realm qualifiers two months from now?"

Zhao Hai smiled and said, "That isn't an issue. I'm currently on a bottleneck. Even if I close up, it would be useless. It's better for me to do missions and experience actual combat. This way, I can also get more familiar with Little Silver."

Upon hearing Zhao Hai, Desbarres nodded and said, "Alright, I agree. But you need to consult Tie Sheng. The camp's missions are being managed by him." Zhao Hai nodded and went to find Tie Sheng.

Tie Sheng's office was also inside the camp's headquarters. He was tasked with picking and handing missions to the camp. There were also particularly important missions that needed to be personally managed by him.

Tie Sheng's missions weren't too crucial. Generally, he would handle group missions, taken in the name of the Bone Symbol Camp. He wouldn't participate in missions that were taken in his own name.

At this time, Tie Sheng was processing documents in his office. Then suddenly, the door opened and a person walked in. Tie Sheng looked up and gawked. He didn't expect Zhao Hai to come looking for him.

However, Tie Sheng quickly recovered. He looked at Zhao Hai in confusion and said, "Little Hai, what brings you to my office? You want to drink? Let me finish this first."

Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "Big Brother Tie Sheng, do I need to ask you for a drink whenever I see you? This time I didn't come for a drink, I want to ask for a mission."

Tie Sheng stared, he was puzzled so he asked, "You want a mission? The realm qualifiers is happening soon. It would be better for you to stay in the camp."

Zhao Hai replied, "Brother Tie Sheng, at this point, practicing is useless for me. Therefore, I want to do missions in order to gain battle experience. This would also allow me to be more familiar with Liquid Silver."

Upon hearing Zhao Hai, Tie Sheng nodded and said, "Alright. After all, with Liquid Silver, it wouldn't be a problem for you to survive in the beginner competition. I can give you a mission. What type of mission do you want?"

Naturally, Tie Sheng's confidence in Liquid Silver was much greater than his confidence of Zhao Hai. However, he still wasn't confident in the Machine Field's performance at the Six Realm Beginner Competition.

Zhao Hai didn't say anything about it and just smiled faintly and said, "I haven't taken any missions before, so I'll leave the choice to you. A group mission would be good. However, it needs to be a bit difficult. Or else I won't be able to familiarize myself with Liquid Silver."

Tie Sheng thought for a moment and said, "A group mission would be good, this way you can have people taking care of you. I'll see what missions we have available."

Tie Sheng opened his computer and searched for a while. Then his eyes suddenly shone. He turned to Zhao Hai and said, "Little Hai, this mission is very suitable for you. You can finally take revenge."

Zhao Hai replied, "Revenge? Does it involve the Zhang Family?"

Tie Sheng nodded, "Right. It's an internal mission of the Zhang Family. They need to escort a fleet of ten medium freighters to Luke Planet from their headquarters in Adam Planet. They would send people from their External Hall for this mission. What we need to do is to disguise as pirates to attack their fleet. There's no other purpose for this mission other than striking the Zhang Family. So are you interested? This will make you go against a battleship. Moreover, it's a group mission."

Zhao Hai's two eyes shone, he said, "Good, I'm interested. Right, who else will take this mission?"

Tie Sheng smiled faintly and said, "I'll be going. And besides the Bone Symbol Camp, other camps would also send their own people. The commander for this mission is a core member of the family. But the people from the Bone Symbol Camp will act together. Will you join?"

Zhao Hai laughed and said, "Of course I'll join. I wouldn't want to miss this opportunity. But if we take a battleship down, how will the accomplishment be handled?"

Tie Sheng looked strangely at Zhao Hai and said, "Good. It seems like you're prepared to go to extremes. Rest assured, as long as you're able to take a battleship down, everything left behind will be handed over to the Bone Symbol Camp. You might not know, but modified battleships can fetch a good price. And even if we don't sell it, we can still make use of it."

Zhao Hai nodded, "Then it's settled, I'll participate. When do we start?"

Tie Sheng smiled faintly and said, "We depart five days later."

Zhao Hao nodded, "Alright, then I'll be waiting." Then he turned around and left.

As soon as he got back to his room, Zhao Hai found that Margaret was already waiting for him. Upon seeing Zhao Hai, Margaret stood up and said, "Where did you go? Why didn't I find you?"

Zhao Hai smiled and said, "I went to see the Camp Lord. Since the qualifiers is still two months away, I decided to do some missions. I just met with Brother Tie Sheng, we'll be departing five days later."

When Margaret heard Zhao Hai, she couldn't help but say, "What mission is it? And the Camp Lord agreed?" Margaret already knew about Liquid Silver, so after thinking about it for some time, she said, "I'll take the mission as well."

Zhao Hai stared, then he quickly said, "Why do you want to take the mission, what if something happens? And even if you want to, the Camp Lord might not agree."

Margaret snorted and said, "Don't underestimate me. I'm a level 4 Mage. I'll go see Uncle right now." Then she turned around and left. Zhao Hai initially wanted to stop her but he decided to give up.

Zhao Hai smiled bitterly before his body flashed into space. Laura and the others immediately welcomed him. Laura looked at Zhao Hai and said, "Brother Hai, why don't you find an opportunity to take her to the Space?"

Zhao Hai looked at Laura and couldn't help but force a smile, "Let's wait. She's not suitable for the Space right now. Are you getting more anxious than me?"

Laura smiled and said, "We just want to see her reaction upon seeing the Space." Zhao Hai smiled bitterly, he didn't know how to respond.

Zhao Hai chatted with Laura and the others before going back outside. He knew that Margaret should be coming back by now. And just as Zhao Hai came out, Margaret knocked on his door with a smile on her

face. Upon seeing Zhao Hai she said, "I'll be going with you five days later. It's time for me to take my revenge."

Zhao Hai smiled bitterly. From what he saw during the Zhang Family's attack last time, he knew that Margaret's experience was still too low. She was dreaming if she really wanted to take revenge against the Zhang family.

However, Zhao Hai wouldn't tell her this. Instead he smiled and said, "Alright. We only need to follow Brother Tie Sheng's lead. He's quite strong and has a lot of experience in command. There shouldn't be any problems."

Margaret actually looked both excited and nervous. She was like a child that was waiting to do something evil. With her excited face, Margaret looked at Zhao Hai and said, "Hey, what if we take a ship by force? Do we sell it or use it?"

Zhao Hai smiled and said, "Relax. These things will be handed over to the camp to manage." Margaret's excitement didn't reduce at all. She kept discussing to Zhao Hai about keeping it.

Five days quickly passed by. This mission was kept in deep secrecy. Only a small number of people in the Ashley Family knew about it. Even those who accepted the mission were still unaware about what they would do.

This time, 200 members from the Bone Symbol Camp joined. The weakest of them was at level 3. After all, those less than level 3 couldn't survive going in outer space.

Although there were a lot of people from the Bone Symbol Camp, two people became the center of attention. They were Zhao Hai and Margaret.

Margaret's status in the Ashley Family wasn't a secret. Additionally, she had been visiting Zhao Hai recently. Because of this, the people from the Bone Symbol Camp knew about her. They just didn't expect Zhao Hai and Margaret to participate in the mission.

All those who participated in the mission were sent out to outer space by a small spaceship. Then they transferred to a bigger ship before heading to their destination.

Since this mission was kept secret, all camps involved would gather at the outer space base and take a medium-sized battleship.

For this mission, the External Hall dispatched more than 1700 people altogether. With so many people and only one ship, the rooms were very packed. Rooms originally for one person now had six people squeezed inside.

The room that Zhao Hai was in had the same situation, but fortunately he was grouped up with those from the Bone Symbol Camp. As for Margaret, since she had special status, she was allocated a room for herself.

After everyone had arrived at the outer space base, the spaceship immediately took off. Their destination was a place called Rainbow Meteor Field.

#### Chapter 1138: Ambush

The Rainbow Meteor Field, what a beautiful name! However, just like in the forests, the most beautiful things are the most dangerous. The Rainbow Meteorite Field might be beautiful, but it was extremely lethal towards fleets.

The Rainbow Meteor Field was an extremely huge zone. The countless meteorites here were magnetic and at the same time chaotic. Nobody would survive a journey to the middle of this zone. Even if a powerful Expert goes in alone, he still wouldn't be able to penetrate the meteor field.

The entire field had a radiance surrounding it. It looks beautiful and dazzling, but all fleets chose to stay away from it.

And don't think that it was safe to hide inside the meteorite field. In this area, meteorites would occasionally crash against each other and split. Then this would cause a chain reaction where more and more meteorites explode. The irregularity of this event made it dangerous to stay on the edge of the field.

However, this meteorite field was actually in the path between Adam Planet and Luke Planet. It was also impossible for the Zhang Family to go around it. There is only a small opening in the meteorite field that allowed for a fairly safer route. Zhao Hai and the others would stage an ambush in this place.

The Ashley Family's ship arrived at the area ahead of time. Then Zhao Hai and the others left the ship and went into groups to hide behind meteors. On the other hand, the battleship went to find a proper place to hide.

Because of the magnetic field as well as the energy storms present, most electronic equipment couldn't be used here. Ships would need to rely on the pilot's driving experience so that the ship could safely pass through. It can be said that this meteor field was the best place for staging an ambush.

Zhao Hai and the other people from the Bone Symbol Camp hid on a piece of meteorite. This meteorite wasn't far from the route. It was quite huge, to the point of reaching the size of a planetoid.

After Zhao Hai and the others arrived on the meteorite, they immediately dug open a cavern on it. Then they dug smaller caves inside. It didn't take long before it turned into a temporary base.

Besides staying in the temporary base, after discussions with Tie Sheng, Zhao Hai also made a small cave on a meteorite behind the base. This would be a key factor in their ambush.

After constructing the temporary base, Tie Sheng would regularly send people to monitor the situation of the passage. This way, they could immediately move once the Zhang Family fleet was discovered.

Although this mission was being headed by a core member of the family, the commander allowed each camp to move independently due to the mission's nature. Each group leader could make moves on their own discretion.

The Bone Symbol Camp's leader was Tie Sheng. And since these missions were the type he took more often, he was quite experienced about what to do. Because of this, he was able to command the group better.

However, very few people knew that Zhao Hai was also offering ideas about how to deal with the Zhang Family's fleet. Although Zhao Hai presented a lot of ideas, he didn't claim them for his own. Everything was seen as Tie Sheng's contributions.

Zhao Hai knew that even if he was very famous in the Bone Symbol Camp, this was only because he managed to bring honor to the camp. His reputation was still less than Tie Sheng's. If people from the Bone Symbol Camp knew that these ideas have been presented by Zhao Hai, then they might not be convinced about their effectiveness.

Because of this, Zhao Hai decided to step aside and credit his ideas to Tie Sheng. He would just offer ideas while Tie Sheng would make the final decision.

Days flew past as everyone cemented their plans. It was decided that the attack would happen ten days later once the Zhang Family's fleet enters the passage. The reason for this was because they were afraid that the Zhang Family might have made some preparations.

To be honest, there were a lot of people who felt uncomfortable about this mission. But the Bone Symbol Camp were able to endure since they knew that this was a family mission.

Most people from the Bone Symbol Camp didn't know about the hidden matter between the Ashley Family and the Zhang Family. What they knew was that the two families were allies. Because of this, they couldn't understand this action.

But after Tie Sheng told them about the reward for the mission, they easily forgot about these matters. For the External Hall, nothing was better than a solid reward. For them alliances between families were worth a fart. Only solid money can move their hearts.

People from the External Hall were mostly ascenders from the lower realms. They were prideful beings in their respective realms, but after arriving at the Machine Field, they found that their identity changed from a heaven's son to an inferior being. The natives in the Machine Field looked down on ascenders. Some ascenders found it hard to adapt to this change in status.

Ascenders who had talent were able to slowly adjust their mentality. With their hearts still resolute, with enough effort, they were able to become experts in the realm. However, for most people, this spirit



vanished. As they became members of External Halls, their pursuit changed from becoming strong to acquiring machine coins.

It can be said that these people had lost their ideals and were now chasing after money, which was sad.

Ambitious people would set goals, and those with enough talent would become strong. If you only live for money, then your life would be pitiful. However, the majority of people from External Halls were doing this exact same thing, living for the sake of money.

The Chinese used to say that poverty inhibits one's ambitions. This sentence can also be applied to the people in the Machine Field's External Halls. Mages and Warriors who didn't have enough income to support their lifestyle would end up chasing after money.

As the days went past, the Bone Symbol Camp also made exchanges with the other camps. Under the commander's orders, everyone made attack calculations from time to time.

The Bone Symbol Camp held a key position in this ambush as they would be the first group to launch the attack. However, their position was at the innermost part of the route. As soon as they attack, the other camps would follow after. This was because the Bone Symbol Camp was tasked with attacking the lead battleship of the Zhang Family's fleet. Doing so would force the other ships to stop.

It can be said that the Bone Symbol Camp's task was very heavy. Their attack on the lead ship would affect the outcome of the succeeding attacks.

Ten days went by in a flash. The people from the Bone Symbol Camp were tensed. They knew that the fight was coming soon. Sure enough, the Zhang Family didn't disappoint them. They arrived right on time.

The fleet comprised of ten ships. These ten ships weren't true battleships. Instead, they were merchant ships that were armed with weapons. They weren't combat-oriented and mainly served as transport. They were armed with a simple weapons system as well as a limited number of mechs. There were also Mages and Warriors on the ships to serve as guards.

Commanding the Zhang Family's ship was a man named Adams. He's a merchant captain with a lot of experience and had already made multiple trips safely through the Rainbow Meteor Field. Because of this history, the Zhang Family felt relieved leaving this matter to him.

Even with his status, Adams was still wary every time he went through the meteorite field. Adams knew clearly that the Rainbow Meteor Field was extremely random. It was a very dangerous zone that could randomly destroy ships.

Once the fleet entered the meteor field, Adams's relaxed expression turned stern. His two eyes were focused on the path.

This passage wasn't very long. Spaceships could pass through it in one hour with full speed. However, ships wouldn't dare traverse this passage in their full speed. This was because meteors would sometimes wander through the passage. If a ship manages to hit these meteorites, then a chain reaction would certainly occur.

Because of this, even if speed was crucial in passing through this region, haste was heavily discouraged. One couldn't go too fast nor too slow. With his experience, Adams clearly knew how to traverse this passage.

Adams was currently inside the ship right behind the lead ship. If the lead ship met an attack, then he could use the second ship to help.

After eyeing the passage for some time, Adams quickly said, "All ships slow down to twenty knots. Ready your system weapons and keep a steady communication with other ships."

The order was quickly passed down. Before long, the entire fleet slowed down. Then the lead ship began to enter the passage.

One by one, the fleet entered the meteor field. Adams was anxiously staring at the computer. At this point, the communication was beginning to be affected. Conversations were beginning to crack. However, Adams didn't panic. This was to be expected judging by the meteorite field's characteristics.

The fleet slowly advanced. Oftentimes, a ship would shoot some smaller meteorites that were on their way. But generally speaking, they were still safe.

Even if the fleet was halfway through the passage, Adams still didn't relax. As long as the fleet was still inside the passage, he couldn't lower his guard.

At this time, Adams's expression sank, then he yelled out, "Ship number 1, pay attention. Ship number 1, pay attention. Immediately descend, immediately descend!"

Adams's eyes were stuck on the computer. He could clearly see a meteorite not far away from ship number 1 suddenly moving. Then that meteorite hit a bigger meteorite, causing the latter to move towards the passage!

#### Chapter 1139: A Bait!

Adams always felt that the huge meteorite was very weird. It was massive, and yet it was able to be moved by a small meteorite. Why was this the case?

Just as Adams was puzzled, the back of the huge meteorite suddenly lit up like a rocket as it sped up and quickly hit the lead ship.

When he saw this, alarms began blaring up inside Adams's head. He suddenly thought of something as he ran to a table and looked at the red displays. At the same time, he yelled, "Enemy ambush! All personnel prepare for battle!"

As Adams shouted, the lead ship already shot at the huge meteorite. However, the meteorite was just too big. Although the energy beams hit the meteorite, the only thing it did was bore two holes on its surface. There was no change to the meteorite's trajectory.

The meteorite continued on before directly hitting the lead ship. Moreover, the meteorite hit the ship's bow. As soon as he saw this happen, Adams knew that the ship was finished.

Whether it be combat ships or commercial ships, their command room was placed at the same location, the front of the ship. This wasn't only for looks. Installed in each command room were tempered glass windows that allowed firsthand vision towards the outside of the ship. This was very beneficial to maneuvering.

But now that it was hit by a meteorite, this design became the ship's most fatal point. Although tempered glass was made with resilience in mind, it still couldn't block against a direct strike of a meteorite.

Generally, ship commanders would erect a metal plate outside the glass. However, this was only done during battles. In any other situation, the metal plate was hidden from sight.

It was obvious that the lead ship's commander didn't expect an assault. Because of this, he failed to put up the metal barrier beforehand. Once the meteorite hit the tempered glass, the ship was finished.

And just like what Adams thought, when the meteorite hit the tempered glass, it shattered instantaneously. And then the meteorite changed direction and flew to the opposite side.

And then from the meteorite, a large quantity of human shadows came out and flew towards the ship. But Adams didn't have the mood to ask who those people were. He just immediately said, "Erect the metal barriers. Mechs, Mages, Warriors, prepare to attack. Prime the weapon systems. Reduce speed to ten knots. Move slowly forward and attempt to push ship number 1 away. We're making an avenue for escape." The people in the ship immediately got busy. All of them saw the figures coming out of the meteorite. It was clear that they were being ambushed.

At this time, a large number of Mages and Warriors rushed out from both sides of the fleet. A lot of these people also used meteorites to approach the ships. However, these meteorites weren't as big as the one used by the Bone Symbol Camp. In the end, these meteorites were destroyed by the ship's weapons. There were even people who died from the attacks.

Meanwhile, after Zhao Hai and the others broke through ship number 1's tempered glass, they quickly boarded the ship. The command room had been completely abandoned. The instruments inside were on fire, rendering them useless. All of the staff in the command room were dead, their corpses littered across the room.

Tie Sheng looked all around and said, "Little Hai, you lead the way. Break through the cabin doors. Be sure to leave no survivors behind. We need to quickly eliminate everyone."

Zhao Hai nodded before flying towards the room's door. Then a 5-layer formation appeared, banging through the door. It didn't take long before the door got crushed. Then Zhao Hai led the people forward through the destroyed cabin door.

As Zhao Hai flew into the ship, he also used his spiritual force to scan the surrounding area. He was paying full attention to any enemies.

Then suddenly, Zhao Hai felt two people in a cabin in front of him. It was two warriors, they already had their weapons out as they nervously stared at the door.

Zhao Hai waved his hand to stop the people behind him. These people have witnessed Zhao Hai's strength, so they couldn't help but look at what's in front.

Zhao Hai turned to look at the others, then he gestured towards the door and said, "There are two people in the cabin up front, two Warriors. Once I open the door, immediately attack." Everyone nodded. Then Zhao Hai floated towards the cabin door. He waved his hand, making a 10-layer formation appear. When the cabin door was destroyed, the two Warriors inside couldn't help but let out a strange cry. As they were blocking against the broken shrapnels, one of them yelled, "Surrender, we surrender!" However, the people from the Bone Symbol Camp weren't polite. It didn't matter if they surrendered or not, the two Warriors were quickly eliminated.

The people from the Bone Symbol Camp knew that they couldn't leave any survivors due to the nature of their mission. Otherwise, the people from the Zhang Family would know who was behind the attack.

After the two Warriors were eliminated, Zhao Hai didn't care about them anymore. He flew forward and swept cabin after cabin. Mages and Warriors who weren't able to leave were immediately killed by Zhao Hai inside their rooms. Then Zhao Hai took them into the Space to be turned into Undead.

This merchant ship wasn't small, so there were quite a lot of cabins inside it. Under Zhao Hai's lead, they were able to clean the entire spaceship. Besides a little trouble in the room for mechs, the entire operation went with almost no resistance.

Before long, the entire spaceship went into their control. Then Zhao Hai and the others returned to the command room. Upon arriving at the room, Zhao Hai saw that the metal barriers of the ship had been forcefully taken out. Even if it was deformed, the Mages and Warriors could still make use of it.

After seeing Zhao Hai's group, Tie Sheng looked at Zhao Hai. Zhao Hai nodded and said, "It's done. Brother Tie Sheng, do we leave and help the others?"

Tie Sheng shook his head and said, "There's no use. Besides this ship, all others were prepared for the attack. The commander of this fleet is experienced. He used his own ship to push our ship away and then open a passage for escape.'

When he heard Tie Sheng, Zhao Hai nodded. But then he couldn't bear but ask, "So what do we do now? Do we stay here?" Tie Sheng shook his head and said, "We're leaving. Since the ship's engine had stopped working, we'll go behind and push it using magic. We need to leave this place as soon as possible."

Zhao Hai nodded, "Alright, then let's go now." After he said that, Zhao Hai led a group of Mages outside. When Tie Sheng saw that Margaret was about to leave, he quickly said, "Miss Margaret, you need to stay here. Since the battle is over, there shouldn't be any danger outside. Let Zhao Hai handle this." Margaret thought about it and decided to remain. She knew about the difference between her and Zhao Hai. Zhao Hai was merciless when the situation calls for it. And if any danger emerges, he could deal with it in less than ten minutes.

Zhao Hai led the Mages of the Bone Symbol Camp to the stern of the ship. All of them were wearing specially-made masks to hide their appearance from others.

When everyone got out of the ship, they saw that the ship was already pushed to the side of the passage. There were also a lot of mech fragments and dead bodies floating in space. Meanwhile the fleet had already disappeared.

By this time, there were a lot of Mages and Warriors around the ship. Naturally, these people were from the other camps.

Zhao Hai glanced at these people and whispered, "Everyone, let's get this ship out quick. We need to avoid any attacks as soon as possible."

The Mages and Warriors who surrounded the ship didn't have any identity on them. They were also wearing masks. As soon as they heard Zhao Hai, these people couldn't help but hesitate. This mission was a joint task between multiple camps. Normally, they would compete with each other and made sure that the Bone Symbol Camp gets the least benefit. However, a core member of the family was overseeing this operation. If they were caught causing problems, then their camps would be punished.

Seeing the Mages hesitate, Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "Everyone, let's move the ship so we don't have to deal with any counter-attacks."

Upon hearing Zhao Hai, those present couldn't help but stare. In this situation, most people would keep everything for themselves. People like Zhao Hai who allowed sharing the merit were too rare.

Not only the other camps, even those from the Bone Symbol Camp were shocked. They didn't expect Zhao Hai to ask others for help. Does he want to share the reward with the others?

Just as everyone was about to move, Zhao Hai's expression suddenly changed. Then his figure flashed and appeared inside the command room. Tie Sheng was currently busy commanding everyone to make repairs. When he saw Zhao Hai appear, Tie Sheng couldn't help but stare. Then he immediately asked, "What happened? Are the other camps making trouble?"

Zhao Hai shook his head and said, "Brother Tie Sheng, we need to leave immediately. Both sides of the passage have been blocked by warships. It seems like the Zhang Family is already aware of this mission. They allowed the fleet to come here so that we could attack it. This way, they could find a reason to openly declare war on the family. They've already began sending people in. We don't have enough time." When he heard this, Tie Sheng's expression changed, he said, "Are you sure?"

Zhao Hai nodded and said, "I'm sure. And we're going to be surrounded in about 20 minutes!"

#### Chapter 1140: Withdrawing from the Meteorite Field

When Tie Sheng heard Zhao Hai, he immediately shouted, "Everyone gather around. We need to escape, leave everything behind!"

Zhao Hai couldn't help but insert himself upon hearing Tie Sheng, "Brother Tie Sheng, there are a lot of good things in this ship including metals and some special products. How about I open the doors and we store those items in our spatial items. After that, we can leave this place and attempt to break through."

Tie Shen stared, then he shook his head and said, "We can't do that. We don't have enough time." But this time, Zhao Hai shook his head and said, "Brother Tie Sheng, don't forget that we're here as pirates. So we need to steal some things before entering the meteorite field. Even if we can't return to the family's ship in a short time, we can still be safe. After all, they cannot chase us deep into the meteorite field."

Tie Sheng thought about it for a moment before he said, "It's too risky. But we can't leave empty-handed. Alright, I'll go organize a group." Zhao Hai nodded before he turned and left the room. Margaret quickly followed behind him.

Zhao Hai didn't say anything upon seeing Margaret following behind. The group quickly flew throughout the ship, ransacking every room they could find.

And upon opening these cabins, Zhao Hai discovered that the ship contained more things than he imagined. There were some metal bars inside as well as specialties from Adam Planet. Most importantly, it had a stock of the latest models of cars and mechs.

However, these weren't Zhao Hai's priority right now. After opening the doors, Zhao Hai pulled Margaret over and entered another room. Then Zhao Hai didn't waste any time as he stored everything inside that room into the Space.

Margaret thought that Zhao Hai would take precious items. However, upon seeing Zhao Hai's actions, she found out that she was wrong. Zhao Hai didn't take precious items. Instead, he took all the food and water inside the ship. He also took the wine and other daily necessities.

After taking those things, only then did Zhao Hai and Margaret leave. Zhao Hai didn't take the metals and mechs. He didn't want to let others know that he had a lot of storage capacity inside his Space. Naturally, he took these things in preparation for later on. Since they had been surrounded, Zhao Hai knew that they wouldn't be able to escape the meteorite field in a short time. He didn't know how long it would take before they could return back to the family. In this case, they needed to stock up on food and drinks. Although the Space could provide food, Zhao Hai didn't want to raise any suspicion. Now that he showed that he took food from the ship, nobody would suspect him.



When Zhao Hai and Margaret returned, Tie Sheng and the others already ransacked the surrounding cabins. Seeing that everyone was here, Zhao Hai turned to Tie Sheng and said, "Brother Tie Sheng, let's go. We don't have much time left." Tie Sheng nodded. Then he waved his hand, commanding everyone to leave the ship. Then he greeted the other camps before he retreated into the meteorite zone.

While Zhao Hai and the others were ransacking the ship, Tie Sheng already informed the other camps about the situation. The other camp commanders were also aware that if they don't quickly escape to the meteorite zone, they would not be able to escape. Therefore, everyone followed Tie Sheng.

Not long after everyone entered the meteorite zone, about twenty thousand people comprised of Mages, Warriors, and Mechs arrived at the now empty ship.

There were two teams sent by the Zhang Family. The leaders of these teams were a Mage and a Warrior. While looking at the ship, the Mage opened his mouth and said, "It seems like they discovered us ahead of time."

The Warrior nodded and said, "Those fellows are truly sly. Since this is the case, make the mechs retreat first. Then we go and take a look at the nearby meteorites. They certainly haven't gone far." The Mage was in agreement, he said, "Right, with our fleets outside, they would certainly be courting death if they decide to leave the passage. Let's go into the direction the ship has floated to, then we'll slowly branch out."

The Warrior nodded. Then they walked towards the mechs and had them retreat. It can be said that mechs had much greater combat power than Mages and Warriors. However, their ability to stay in combat wasn't very good. Even if they can fight for two days straight, once their energy reserves were used up, they were no greater than scrap iron. And if there were any high-intensity fights, their operating time would be reduced further. This task couldn't be completed within a day or two. Because of this, it was best if the mechs retreat and save their energy.

Due to the nature of the area, most communication devices were rendered useless. Because of this, communication became a major problem. Otherwise, Zhao Hai and the others would've already informed the Ashley Family's ship to run on its own.

As soon as Zhao Hai and the others entered the meteorite field, they immediately went further inside. However, they didn't go too deep into the zone. Even almighty Experts from the Cultivation Realm wouldn't dare enter that area.

After Zhao Hai's group entered the field, they immediately turned towards the family ship. The ship had yet to leave the meteorite field but instead found a place to hide in. Zhao Hai and the others wanted to know how the ship was currently doing.

Tie Sheng and Zhao Hai took the lead. After flying for a while, Tie Sheng turned to Zhao Hai and said, "I'm almost certain that a spy has infiltrated the family. Otherwise, they wouldn't have known about this mission."

Zhao Hao nodded and said, "Not only an ordinary spy, but someone who managed to penetrate deep. It seems like the Zhang Family really had no consideration for the family's face. This is a dangerous time for the Ashley Family."

Tie Sheng knit his brows. This mission was considered top secret within the family. Even people from the Bone Symbol Camp didn't know about its contents up until the operation began.

Only the high-level members of the family knew about the time and scale of the mission. And even in such a case, the Zhang Family was still able to lay down a trap.

Also, the Ashley Family wasn't aiming to wage war with the Zhang Family with this retaliation. They just want to teach a lesson to the other side. But judging by the current situation, it seems like the Zhang Family was prepared for war.

One side was deliberately planning while the other had no preparations whatsoever. In this case, if war happened between the two families, then the Ashley Family would certainly suffer a loss.

Tie Sheng sighed and said, "Alright, even if something is happening to the family, we cannot do anything about it at this time. What we need to do is protect our lives. Let's hope that nothing happened to the ship, or else our lives wouldn't be good."

Zhao Hai nodded, then he turned to look at the others before saying, "Brother Tie Sheng, it would be best if you organize a group to clear out our traces. Otherwise, the enemies would quickly find us and give chase. I'll head out front first and explore the area."

Tie Sheng nodded and said, "I'll choose two people to go with you. It's better for your safety." Zhao Hai didn't object. Then Tie Sheng chose two people to go with Zhao Hai before he stayed behind.

Tie Sheng's status was quite substantial among the External Hall's camps. And with his position as the commander of the Bone Symbol Camp, the other camps began unconsciously to listen to his words.

Tie Sheng looked at everyone and said, "This time, we've been snared in the enemy's trap. Also, the outside passage has been blocked. Some of you might have already known this, but we might have to stay away from the family for a long time. We have people currently chasing behind us, so I ask each camp commander to work together and clean all of our traces. We cannot be discovered. This isn't the time to act on our own. If we are separated, then we'll all be captured." Nobody objected. They knew that what Tie Sheng said was correct. If they don't work together, then they would have no chance to fight back against the Zhang Family.

Seeing everyone agree, Tie Sheng nodded and said, "Then I ask every commander for a meeting. We need to discuss our further actions." After he said that, every commander went forward for the meeting.

Tie Sheng looked at the commanders and said, "The core member of the family is currently in the ship. I'm afraid we'll have to temporarily take responsibility for everyone. We've brought our elites to this mission, so if we all perish here, then the External Hall will be finished. What we need to do now is to survive. I've already sent people ahead to scout and look for the ship. If the ship is fine, then we can tell them about what happened. But if there's something wrong with the ship, then I'm afraid we'll have to stay inside this meteorite field for a while."

The camp commanders nodded. Just after the battle ended, the core member of the family returned to the ship along with some Mages and Warriors. Therefore, they weren't here now. Because of this, the people in charge could only be the commanders from the eight camps.

Seeing everyone nod, Tie Sheng said, "I suggest that we send people out to scout the nearby area and clean up any traces we might have left behind. After the person I've sent forward comes back, we'll discuss what to do once more."

Everyone nodded, then a Mage asked, "Tie Sheng, who did you send ahead? Is he good?"

Tie Sheng looked at the Mage and identified him as the Ghost Symbol Camp's commander. He's also the person responsible for their camp's missions, Charles.

Tie Sheng looked at Charles and said, "Of course. Zhao Hai personally went out. If he can't do it, then I'm afraid nobody else can."

When he heard Tie Sheng's answer, Charles couldn't help but stare. Then he nodded and said, "Right, if it's Zhao Hai, then he could certainly do it."

Tie Sheng agreed. Then he said, "Alright, then everyone, let's begin. Pay attention to the direction we came from. There may be troops chasing us. And make sure that no camp is left alone."

As soon as they heard Tie Sheng, the commanders couldn't help but stare. Charles looked at Tie Sheng and said, "No camp is left alone? What do you mean?"

Tie Sheng nodded and said, "It's possible that someone from the Zhang Family is with us. Therefore, it would be best if no camp goes on their own. Otherwise, the spy might use this opportunity to send word back to the Zhang Family."

The commander of the Upright Symbol Camp, Leo, looked at Tie Sheng and said, "Impossible. You're being unfair. My men will never betray the family."

Tie Sheng turned his head to Leo and said, "Don't talk about fairness. This mission is a family secret. However, it was still known by the Zhang Family, they even set up a trap. This only means that there are traitors among us. And how can you guarantee that your people are completely loyal?"

Leo couldn't answer. Charles nodded and said, "Tie Sheng is correct. Let's organize 50-people teams and disperse out. Nobody is permitted to be left alone." Everyone nodded.

While the camps were getting people ready, Zhao Hai continued flying forward. Zhao Hai's spiritual force was suppressed in outer space. Because of this, he only discovered the Zhang Family's fleet when they surrounded the passage.

Nevertheless, Zhao Hai's spiritual force was still the most powerful in the Ashley Family's External Hall. This was also a reason why he volunteered to investigate.

Following behind Zhao Hai were senior members of the Bone Symbol Camp. In the beginning, they weren't convinced of Zhao Hai. But after seeing Zhao Hai's strength, they couldn't help but get surprised. The power that pushed the meteorite towards the ship belonged to Zhao Hai. Additionally, Zhao Hai's early detection of the enemy ships saved them.

At this time, Zhao Hai suddenly stopped. Then he waved his hand, stopping those who were following him. One of them went to Zhao Hai's side and asked, "Little Hai, what's wrong?"

Zhao Hai turned to the man. He identified this person was one of Tie Sheng's aides. He also had some reputation in the family. He's a level 5 Warrior who had two blades as his weapons. His name was Richard.

Zhao Hai replied, "Brother Richard, it's no use. Let's head back. The ship has been occupied by the Zhang Family. If we go back, then we'll be ambushed."

Richard stared, he looked at Zhao Hai and said, "How did you find out?"

Zhao Hai smiled faintly and said, "My spiritual force is not a joke. Although the ship is quite a distance away, I could still see its current situation. Let's head back to report to Brother Tie Sheng. We'll have to make another plan."

Richard didn't doubt Zhao Hai. He just whispered and said, "Is the core member of the family fine? If anything happens to him, then we'll be in trouble."

Zhao Hai shook his head and said, "Let's go back." After turning around, Zhao Hai flew back the way they came.